# Material Stream Contamination

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Why is Material Contamination important to Waste Management industry?

- Safety impacts on collection equipment
- Drivers
- Processing Equipment
- Teams working in a processing facility

### **Bear Spray**







In 2023, Urban Impact had over 50 staff on 10 occasions

Impacted by discharged bear spray.

First Aid Treatment required for all, and 1 trip to Emergency.



Its going to take many levels to reduce contamination and solve the safety concerns.

#### Consumer

Businesses

Collectors

Processors

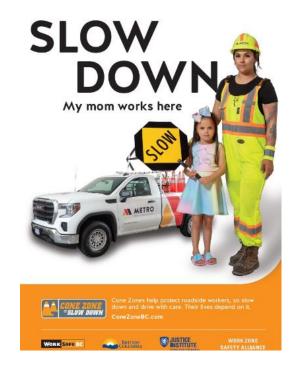
**Municipal & Government** 

**Regional Districts** 

**Stewardship Agencies** 

#### **Consumers & Businesses**

Public interest and "buy in" on the importance of making the right choices waste and recycling material sortation.



# How can Collectors help in cleaning up Material Stream Contamination?

- Clear and continuous communication with your customers when there are contamination issues.
- Clear signage on bins and containers.
- Can you make it easier and automation communication with customers?
- Your websites should include information what can and cannot be put into the waste streams.

#### How can Processors help?

#### • Timely <u>Receiving Reports</u> and <u>Pictures</u>

Contaminated load		
Date	12 FEBRUARY 2024	
Truck # & Trailer #	225	
Collector / Hauler		
City		
Cietrade Ticket #		
Total weight of load		
Weight of contaminated		
Time of Dumped		
Subject line email:		

#### Description:

• Contaminated with blue nitrile gloves in bags and loose throughout the load.



#### How can Processors help?

- Invest in further technology and processes to try and intercept contaminated materials.
- Upgrade Fire Safety Systems and Training

#### **Stewardship Organizations**

- Include action plans in the Stewardship Plan to get their producers hazardous products <u>out</u> of the material stream.
- Invest in the retrieval of their product. If the steward needs to use deposit to incent consumers in getting their materials out of the waste stream, they should do so.
- Create the right incentive program for the consumer or businesses to return their product to the right location and keep it out of the waste stream.

#### Municipalities & Government

- Support in any way possible for getting hazardous products that they represent out of the material stream.
- Communicate actively with their constituents.
- Resources online.
- Ensure that Stewardship Plans really support safety for all.

How far can Education get in solving Contamination issues?

### **Sharing Resources**

Over the last few years Urban Impact has initiated a social media campaign using the #hastags #recycleitright #recyclesafely.

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uirecycling W Fireworks are always fun, especially during Halloween. When used safely, fireworks can create a magical night. However just as we need to be careful when using

fireworks, we must be as equally careful when disposing of them.

As fireworks are flammable by nature, they are at a high risk of starting fires or exploding when processed in recycling trucks or facilities. Fireworks do NOT go in your recycling bins The best way to dispose of used fireworks is to soak them over night and

then put them in your waste bin. Unused fireworks can be dropped off at your local police or RCMP station. When dropping

them off, always call ahead and do not bring them into the station, leave them in your car. For more information in your area, please call the Recycling Hotline at 604-732-9253 or 1-800-667-4321, Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm. #recycleitright

#recyclingsafe #safetyisourpriority

#### **Recycle Safely**

Do your part and Recycle Safely. This item does not belong in your #bluebin. Please #recycleitright #recyclesafely

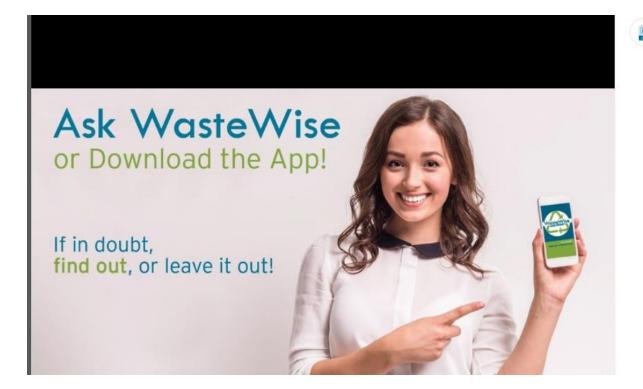
## Keep these items out of your Blue Bin.



Fireworks

#### **Sharing Resources**

#### #recycleitright #recyclesafely.



lanecountygov Do pizza boxes go in the recycling or garbage?

Now you can have the answer at your fingertips with our FREE WasteWise Lane County app. Available in English and Spanish.

Links to download the app for iOS and Android from the app stores are available at www.lanecounty.org/wastewise.

#ItsEasyItsFree #WasteWiseLaneCounty #ReduceReuseRecycle #CommunityResources #IfInDoubtFindOutOrLeaveItOut #RecycleitRight

Edited · 181w

#### Here is how Urban Impact would like to help!



# What are items that need to stay out of the waste and recycling loads?

- Ammunition
- Antifreeze
- Anything explosive
- Bear Spray
- Butane & Lighter Fluid
- Batteries, Car Batteries
- Fire Extinguishers
- Fireworks
- Fuel cannisters & tanks
- Helium cannisters & tanks
- Kerosene tanks

- Lithium battery
- Lighters & matches
- Oil containers
- Paint & Solvents & Paint Thinner
- Pesticides
- Propane Tanks
- Toys with batteries
- Vape cartridges