



City of Richmond

TO: MAYOR & EACH
COUNCILLOR
FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Memorandum

Engineering and Public Works
Fleet and Environmental Programs

PHOTOCOPIED

AUG 30 2018

LP
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To: Mayor and Councillors

Date: August 27, 2018

From: Suzanne Bycraft
Manager, Fleet and Environmental Programs

File: 10-6370-04-01/2018-Vol 01

Re: **City's Recycling Depot to Begin Accepting Other Flexible Plastic Packaging
Commencing September 1, 2018**

Purpose

This memo advises that beginning September 1, 2018, the City's Recycling Depot will begin accepting Other Flexible Plastic Packaging (OFPP) as part of a pilot initiative with Recycle BC. OFPP will need to be separated from other plastic film brought to the Recycling Depot.

OFPP is one of the fastest growing packaging types on the market and the largest category of packaging that previously has not been collected for recycling. This pilot is part of a research and development project to determine how Recycle BC can best recycle this material.

Details on the materials accepted and more information are provided below.

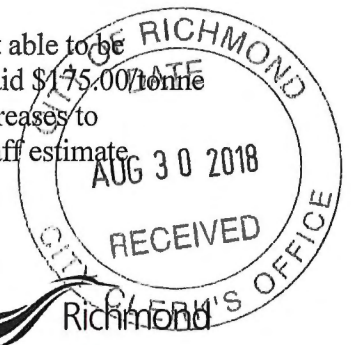
Accepted Materials

Other Flexible Plastic Packaging are essentially types of film and flexible plastics that often include multiple layers of different types of plastic. OFPP includes the following 5 main categories of materials:

- Stand-up and zipper lock pouches (seafood, frozen foods, candy, grated cheese, baby food);
- Crinkly wrappers and bags (chip bags, cereal bags, candy wrappers, cellophane wrap);
- Flexible packaging with a plastic seal (fresh pasta packaging, pre-packaged cheese);
- Woven and net plastic bags (fruit net bags, net bags for nuts, woven plastic rice bags);
- Non-food protective packaging (plastic shipping envelopes, bubble wrap); and
- Shrink wrap and plastic bags with code 5

Materials Management

Materials collected from the pilot will be recycled, where feasible. Any that is not able to be recycled will be recovered and produced into engineered fuel. The City will be paid \$175.00/tonne for accepting this material on behalf of Recycle BC during 2018. The amount increases to \$500.00/tonne in January, 2019. Due to the lightweight nature of this material, staff estimate approximately 10 tonnes will be collected each year.



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Awareness/Education

The City is communicating the acceptance of Other Flexible Plastic Packaging via the City's website, through social media posts, on the Environmental Programs automated information phone line, handouts at the Recycling Depot as well as notifications via the City's Collection Schedule App (and Waste Wizard).

A more detailed Frequently Asked Questions document is included as Attachment 1 for additional information.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at 604 233-3338.



Suzanne Bycraft
Manager, Fleet and Environmental Programs

SJB:la



City of
Richmond

Other Flexible Plastic Packaging

Frequently Asked Questions (Staff & Public)

1. Why is Other Flexible Plastic Packaging now being collected?

Other Flexible Plastic Packaging is one of the fastest growing packaging types on the market and the largest category of packaging that was previously not collected. Capturing this material will ensure it isn't going to the landfill and help the City reach its goal to achieve 80% diversion by 2020.

2. What is Other Flexible Plastic Packaging?

Other Flexible Plastic Packaging are essentially types of film and flexible plastics that often include multiple layers of different types of plastic, making it more difficult to recycle.

3. Where can these new materials be recycled?

Starting September 1, 2018, Other Flexible Plastic Packaging will be accepted for drop off at the Richmond Recycling Depot, located at 5555 Lynas Lane.

4. What kinds of materials are accepted in the program?

There are 5 main categories of Other Flexible Plastic Packaging:

- Stand-up and zipper lock pouches (seafood, frozen foods, candy, grated cheese, baby food)
- Crinkly wrappers and bags (chip bags, cereal bags, candy wrappers, cellophane wrap)
- Flexible packaging with a plastic seal (fresh pasta packaging, pre-packaged cheese)
- Woven and net plastic bags (fruit net bags, net bags for nuts, woven plastic rice bags)
- Non-food protective packaging (plastic shipping envelopes, bubble wrap)
- Shrink wrap and plastic bags with code 5

Please see attached Sample Material List for a comprehensive list of accepted items.

5. Is there anything that is not being collected as part of Other Flexible Plastic Packaging?

- Plastic squeeze tubes
- Plastic lined with paper
- Paper lined with plastic
- Plastic strapping
- 6-pack rings
- Biodegradable or Oxo Plastic
- PVC/Vinyl

6. What happens to the material once it's collected?

This new material is being collected on behalf of Recycle BC as part of a research and development project at Merlin Plastics. This material will be collected to try to determine how it can best be recycled. During this time, material that is unable to be recycled will be recovered and produced into engineered fuel. More information about the research and development project as well as engineered fuel can be found at <https://recyclebc.ca/flexiblepackaging/#1526665769653-8fa74925-3fdd>

7. Why isn't plastic strapping accepted if it can be recycled?

The plastic strapping gets tangled in the machinery at the recycling facility, posing safety concerns for staff which is why it isn't accepted.

8. Are zipper lock sandwich & freezer bags accepted?

Yes, residents can include these with Other Flexible Plastic Packaging at the Depot.

9. Why isn't this item being collected in the Blue Box/Blue Cart?

This item is collected under the Recycle BC program which requires the material be delivered to a participating Depot, similar to plastic bags and Styrofoam.

10. Can Other Flexible Plastic Packaging be mixed with Plastic Bags & Overwrap?

No, because Other Flexible Plastic Packaging is "multi-laminated plastic" and must be recycled differently than Plastic Bags & Overwrap, which are a single type of plastic. Separate bins will be available at the Richmond Recycling Depot for each type.

11. How can I tell if the item should go in the Other Flexible Plastic Packaging category, or Plastic Bags & Overwrap?

Here are the characteristics for each type of plastic to determine which category they belong to:

- Other Flexible Plastic Packaging
 - Crinkly (e.g. candy wrappers)
 - Doesn't stretch (e.g. cereal bags)
 - Foil lining (e.g. chip bags)
 - Sealed for freshness (e.g. stand up pouches)
- Plastic Bags & Overwrap
 - Not crinkly (e.g. overwrap on pop can flats)
 - Can poke your thumb through it (e.g. overwrap on toilet paper)
 - Single material (e.g. bulk or produce bags)
 - For carrying/keeping clean (e.g. plastic shopping bags)

12. How is the City communicating the new recycling option for Other Flexible Plastic Packaging?

- Details about the new material will be put on the website – www.richmond.ca/services/recycling/recyclingdepot.htm as well as the What's New page
- Recycle BC rack cards will be provided to the Depot staff for distribution
- The Recycling Wizard will be updated to reflect the drop off option for this new material stream
- The IVR will be updated to reflect the new material at the Depot
- We will consider a post for social media
- We will run a campaign on ReCollect so a message goes out to residents who subscribe to collection day reminders

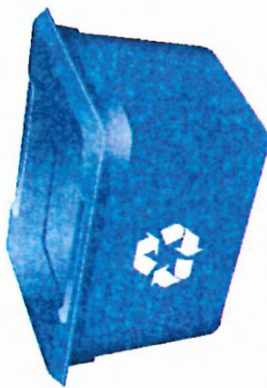
13. Who should residents contact if they have questions or concerns?

Please contact the Environmental Programs Information Line at 604-276-4010 or email garbageandrecycling@richmond.ca

OTHER FLEXIBLE PLASTIC PACKAGING

Sample Material List

MAY 17, 2018



RECYCLEBC™

CNCL - 348

Stand-Up and Zipper Lock Pouches

Stand-up and Zipper Lock Pouches

Pouches for frozen prawns, scallops, fish fillets, etc.



Pouches for frozen prepared food like gyoza, perogies, chicken wings, tempura shrimp, etc.



Frozen fruits and vegetable pouches



Dried fruit and nut zipper lock pouches



Granola zipper lock pouches



Candy zipper lock pouches



1 Photos from Google Images

Stand-Up and Zipper Lock Pouches

Stand-up and Zipper Lock Pouches:

Sugar zipper lock pouches



Oatmeal zipper lock pouches



Grated cheese zipper lock pouches



Quinoa, rice, grain zipper lock pouches



Coffee zipper lock pouches



Photos from Google Images



Stand-Up and Zipper Lock Pouches

Zipper Lock Bags:

Grape bags



Deli meat and cheese bags



Stand-up Pouches:

Baby food pouches



Soap refill pouches



Pet food pouches



Dishwasher pod pouches



Photos from Google Images



Crinkly Wrappers and Bags

Cellophane:

Cellophane for wrapping flowers, gift baskets, etc.



Foil gift wrap (not shiny paper wrap)



Crinkly Wrappers:

Cheese slice wrappers



Snack and chocolate bar wrappers



Candy wrappers



Individual cookie wrappers



5. Photos from Google Images



Crinkly Wrappers and Bars

Plastic Wrappers (non-stretchable):

Cheese wrappers



Plastic safety seal on bottles and jars



Vacuum seal packaging



Plastic inner seal on yogurt



Photos from Google Images

Flexible Packaging with Plastic Seal

Fresh pasta packaging



Pre-packaged deli meat packaging



Pre-packaged cheese packaging



Woven and Net Plastic Bags

Net Bags:

Avocado net bags



Onion net bags



Orange net bags



Lemon net bags



Lime net bags



Chocolate coin net bags



Nut net bags



Woven Plastic Bags:

Woven plastic rice bags



Photos from Google Images

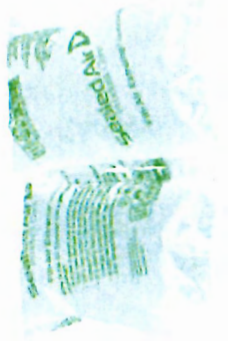


Non-food Protective Packaging

Plastic shipping envelopes



Plastic air packets



Bubble wrap



CNCL - 357



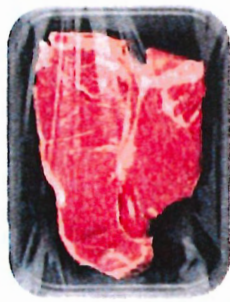
Photos from Google Images

Other

Plastic bags or wrap with resin codes other than 2, 3 or 4



Shrink wrap



10 Photos from Google Images.



Not Accepted

Plastic squeeze tubes



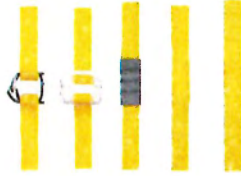
Plastic lined paper



Paper lined plastic



Plastic strapping



6-pack ring



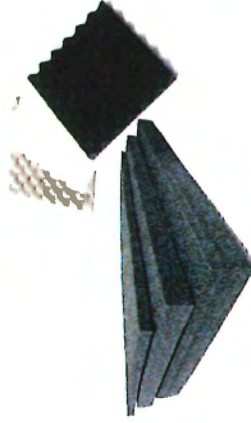
Biodegradable or oxo plastics



PVC/Vinyl



Squishy foam



1.1 Photos from Google Images



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