

For Immediate Release

November 29, 2016

City Encourages Residents to Donate Used Clothes during Holiday Season

Audit shows that 62 per cent of clothes in landfill could have been reused

MOUNT PEARL, NL – The City of Mount Pearl is launching a curbside clothing collection pilot for one week in December to help reduce the amount of garbage that ends up in the landfill. During December 12 - 16, residents can simply place unwanted clothing and gently used textiles at the curb on their regular waste collection day, and the city will collect these items for reuse. Donated items will go to the Canadian Diabetes Association.

“In our last waste audit, it was determined that 62 per cent of our textiles that made it to the landfill could have been reused. The curbside clothing collection is a great way to help the environment. It also provides an opportunity to donate items that may be exactly what others are looking for,” says Mayor Randy Simms.

According to the City of Mount Pearl’s waste audit, 280 tonnes of residential waste fell into the category of textiles. Approximately 170 tonnes were fit for reuse. To encourage residents to recycle, the City will be distributing information brochures to each household, along with two clear bags that can be filled with clothes.

The Canadian Diabetes Association says that their clothing donation is typically slower in December, and is excited to see the City pilot the collection of used textiles at the curb.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. Fill clear bags with clean, unwanted clothing, shoes, belts, handbags, wallets, linens, bedding, towels, curtains or clean rags.
2. Securely tie the bags and place them at the curb any time before 8:00 a.m. on your collection day, next to your blue bag recyclables.
3. If you need additional bags, please use your regular sized garbage bags. Make sure they are clearly marked with the word "TEXTILES".

WHAT IS ACCEPTED

- gently used clothing
- shoes
- belts
- handbags and wallets
- gently used linens and bedding
- gently used towels and curtains
- clean rags

WHAT IS NOT ACCEPTED

- textiles that are badly stained or damaged
- pillows
- furniture
- appliances
- rugs

Items in good condition will be donated to the Canadian Diabetes Association and the rest will be recycled into wiping rags. Residents are reminded that they can donate to the Canadian Diabetes Association at any time through scheduled pickups or by dropping off clothing to their locations. This pilot program is supported, in part, through funding provided by the Multi-Materials Stewardship Board's community waste diversion fund. For more information visit mmsb.nl.ca.

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