

WASTE COMPOSITION STUDY

In July and August of 2018 the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) conducted a waste composition study. Over this period, 78 loads were targeted, sampled, and sorted.

The loads were identified based on region of origin (Central subregion, Columbia Valley subregion, and Elk Valley subregion) as well as the waste sector (rural transfer station, urban transfer station, commercial, and construction and demolition).

The samples were sorted into 13 primary categories and 89 secondary categories. In total, 78 loads were examined, resulting in a total sample weight of 602,500 kg; a total weight of 9,772 kg of material was extracted from the loads and manually sorted into the sampling categories. The average sorted weight of each sub-sample was 132 kg.

Here are some of our findings:

How does the RDEK stack up?



Divertable Waste

Textiles, including clothing and footwear, made up approximately 5% of the sorted materials. Much of this material was donatable or reusable. In addition to local thrift stores, the Canadian Diabetes Foundation (CDF) operates a donation bin program that funds \$5,000,000 dollars per year annually in diabetes research from clothing donations. There are multiple thrift stores and CDF donation bins already in place in the RDEK that could be utilized by residents.



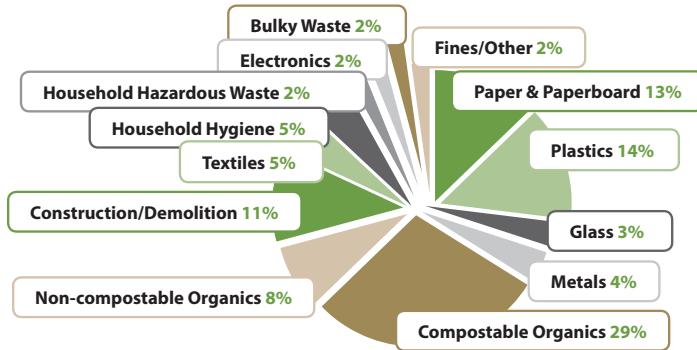
Several mattresses were observed in waste loads from the Cranbrook Transfer Station. This is interesting as that transfer station offers a mattress diversion program at no charge.

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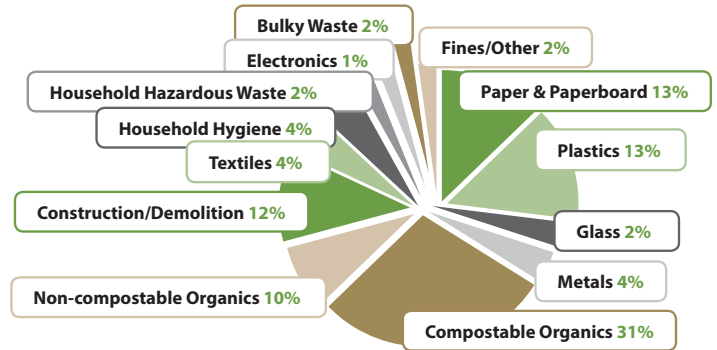
Overall Waste Composition



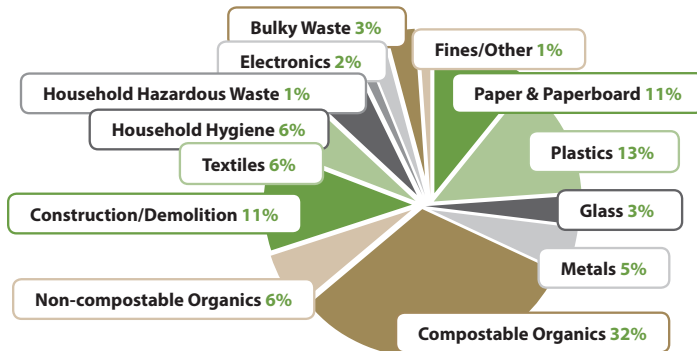
Regional District of East Kootenay



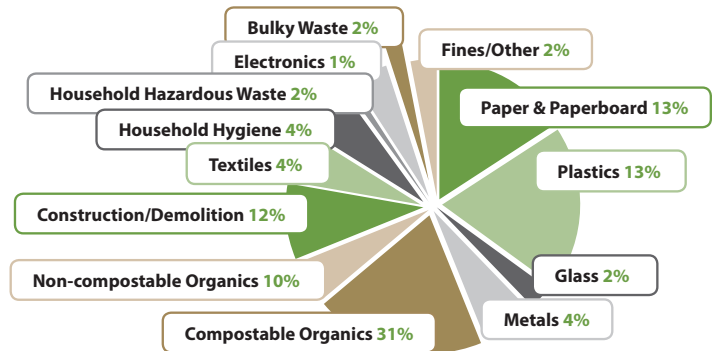
Central Subregion



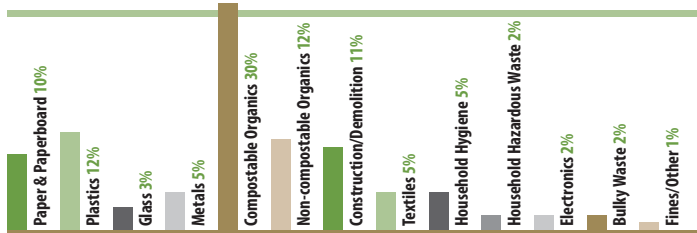
Columbia Valley Subregion



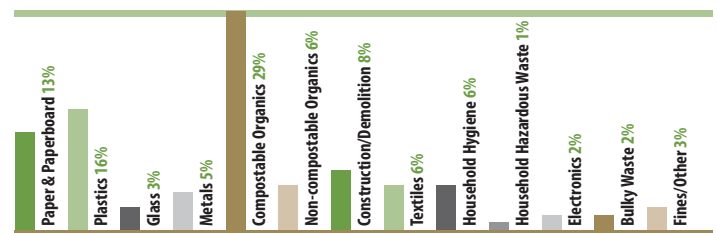
Elk Valley Subregion



Rural Waste



Urban Waste



Construction & Demolition Waste

