

CIF Project #394 - Chippewas of Nawash First Nation Increase Curbside Collection Capacity

Summary

When the blue boxes were first received – a notice was put out to the community for those members (who did not already have a blue box) to put in a request to have one unit/household delivered. The response was very good!

Following the initial distribution a few more notices were sent out to the community via community newsletter “Nawash Ezhewebak”. These notices mainly addressed community concerns (i.e. acceptable/unacceptable materials), tips for successful recycling and general reminders (i.e. blue boxes still available, etc.).

All of this came in good time along with the completion of a transfer station to aid in waste diversion at the Chippewas of Nawash Landfill. This helped to positively transform how the community treats waste by fostering a proactive solution to waste management – “something so simple which anyone can do” that greatly reduces the environmental footprint.

The community of the Chippewas of Nawash, also known as “Neyaashiinigiing”, is home to approximately 700 band members who have all begun to adopt the practice of recycling which has further generated a keen interest in the community to advance the program. Hopefully, as funding opportunities become available, our community will be able to enhance our program to include organic waste collection (this was a strong community interest) and to expand on what materials are presently acceptable at curbside collection. At this time we are unable to stream Styrofoam or paper products as we are unable to process these items with cost efficiency or function (no curbside capabilities). Our operation remains at best a “small time operation” in the sense that man-power and function has been greatly limited due to budget constraints (again a process that with time may expand should funding become available).

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