
Alberta
recycling
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

OUR VISION



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Recycling in Alberta

Regulated Models

Government defines the materials, who pays, and how performance is reported

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

- Producer funded
- Managed by Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs)
- Manage collection and processing
- Government sets targets and requires Producers to report results.
- ARMA is the regulator of the program

Stewardship

- Funded through eco-fees
- Managed by Designated Administrative Organizations (DAOs)
- Work with registered collection sites
- Report performance to Government

Voluntary Programs

Businesses, municipalities, collection sites, and consumers choose to participate in programs that are not required by recycling regulations.

- Funded through industry contributions, grants, municipal budgets, partnerships, etc.
- Participants establish how materials are collected, transported, and processed.
- Recycling system often has limited oversight and reporting requirements.

Examples:

- Agricultural plastics
- Canadian Tire car battery return

Market-Based Services

Recovered materials have commercial value and businesses can profit from collecting, processing, and selling them.

- Funded through the sale of recovered materials, service fees, or commercial agreements, etc.
- Private companies organize collection, transportation, processing, and sales.
- Recycling system does not have oversight and reporting requirements.

Examples:

- Scrap metal
- Cooking oil
- Mattresses

Regulated Recycling in Alberta

Regulated EPR Systems (PRO)

Regulated Stewardship Programs (DAO)

Pilot and Voluntary Programs

circular materials

productcare RECYCLING

call2recycle®
Leading the charge for recycling.

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bcmb BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD

cleanfarms

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ARMA's Role

Not-for-profit established in 1992 and has continuously supported recycling in Alberta.

- Delegated Administrative Organization
- ARMA acts on behalf of the province to oversee all aspects of end-of-life processing of materials in our Stewardship Programs
- Accountable to the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas
- In 2022, ARMA was named as the oversight body for Alberta's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulation







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EPR Overview

Extended Producer Responsibility

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environmental policy approach where producers (manufacturers, brand owners) are held financially and operationally responsible for the entire life cycle of their products, particularly the post-consumer, end-of-life stage.

It aims to reduce waste, increase recycling rates, and promote a circular economy by shifting recycling costs from communities to producers.

Single-use Products, Packaging, and Paper Products (PPP)

Includes materials from the **residential sector** such as:

- Newspapers, packaging, cardboard, printed paper and magazines;
- Plastics (both rigid and flexible)
- Metal and glass

Hazardous and Special Products (HSP)

HSP products include:

- Consumer-sized solid, liquid, and gaseous products that are flammable, corrosive, and toxic
- Batteries
- Pesticides
- Display CCCR Symbols

Stakeholders in Alberta's EPR System

Producers

Brand owners, importers, or retailers responsible for designated products and packaging supplied to Alberta consumers.

PROs

Manage the logistics (collection & processing) of the system on behalf of Producers. Must be Not-for-Profit and not vertically integrated.

Processors

Receive designated materials for recycling, downcycling, treatment or disposal, or exporting.

Communities

A municipality or other recognized local government or community in Alberta, including Métis settlements and First Nations. Community registration is voluntary.

ARMA

Registers Stakeholders • Confirms Obligations • Monitors Performance • Ensures Compliance

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EPR Take Aways

For First Nations, EPR creates opportunities to access **producer-funded** recycling services.

For communities with existing recycling services, this can mean reduced costs. For those without existing services, it can mean establishing recycling services for these materials at no direct cost to the community.



Producer Funded

PRO Manages Collection and Chooses Processor

Residential PPP and HSP

Does Not Cover All Costs

Stewardship Programs

Stewardship Programs

Helps ensure certain residential and commercial products are collected and properly recycled or managed after consumers finish using them.

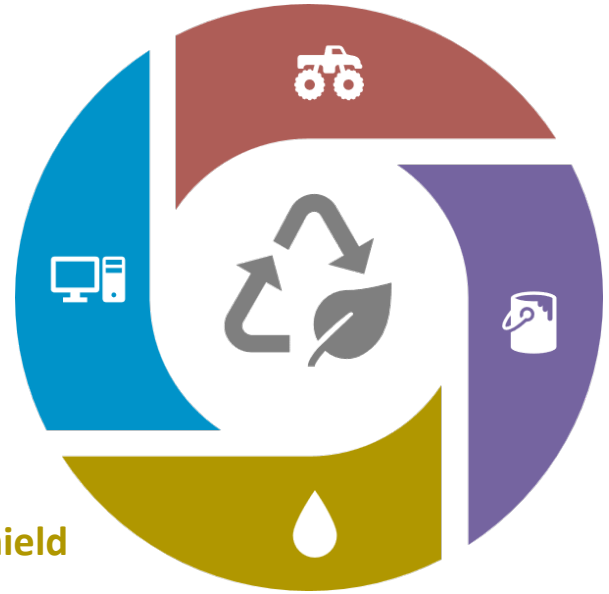
In Alberta, these programs are designed to reduce waste and help fund the management of materials that might otherwise be costly to recycle or dispose of.

Electronics

- Computer Equipment
- Home Small Appliances
- AV / Telecom / Toys / Music
- Tools / Lawn / Garden
- **Solar Panels**

Used Oil Materials

- **Antifreeze (Glycol)**
- Lubricating Oil
- Oil Filters
- Containers for Oil/**DEF/Windshield Washer**



Tires

- Passenger and Light Truck
- Medium Truck
- Off-the-Road (small/medium/large)
- Specialty, Industrial and Other

Paint

- Latex and Non-latex paint
- Primers and Sealers
- Aerosol Paint
- Solvents and Thinners
- Empty Paint Containers

Stakeholders in Stewardship Programs

Consumers

Albertan consumers purchase designated materials and pay the related eco fee to ensure the product is responsibly managed at end-of-life.

Registered Collection Sites

Almost 450 registered collection sites that manage electronics, paint, tire, and used oil materials collection throughout the province.

Registered Processors

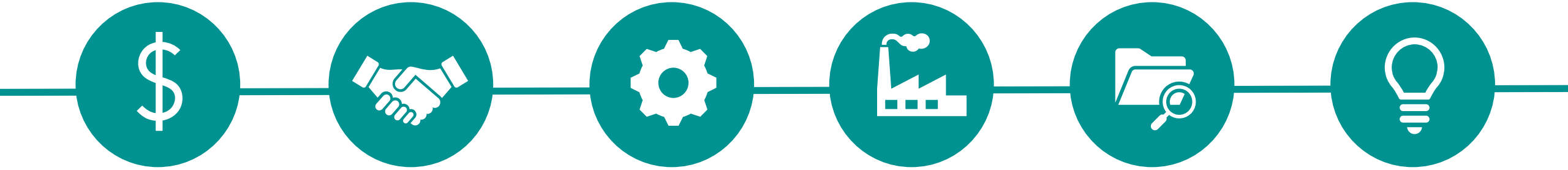
27+ registered processors manage the transportation & processing of the materials in the province.

Registered Suppliers

ARMA works with more than 5,300 registered suppliers and producers in the Tire, Electronics, Paint and Used Oil Materials Recycling Programs.

Registered Collection Sites

Municipalities, waste authorities and commissions, First Nations and Métis Settlements — collectively referred to as “Registered Collectors”— register the Collection Sites that are the front line of Alberta’s stewardship programs.



- Collection Funding
- Grant Opportunities
- Operational Support
- Access to Registered Processors
- Administrative Support
- Additional Resources

Collection Funding

Electronics

Volume-based for eligible electronics materials collected and shipped to a Registered Electronics Processor.

$155 per tonne (Net Weight)

Paint

Volume-based for eligible paint materials collected and shipped to a Registered Paint Processor.

Paint: $75 per full standard bin
($0.33 per container)
Aerosols: $75 per full standard bin
/ $15 per full drum ($0.08 per container)

Used Oil Materials

Population Funding Model:

Tier 1: $550 (1 – 5,000 people)
Tier 2: $975 (5,001 – 15,000 people)
Tier 3: $2,150 (15,001 – 50,000 people)

** Claims must be submitted each quarter*

Tires

ARMA's Tire Recycling Program helps communities, particularly rural and remote, avoid high material management costs, while reducing the risks associated with improper tire disposal.

Grant Opportunities

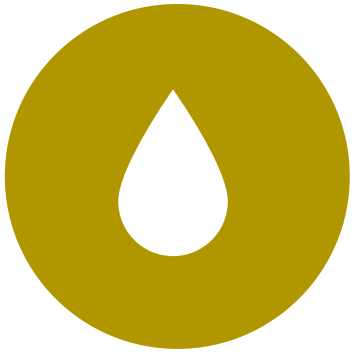
COMING: TDA for Civil Engineering Projects

Partial reimbursement of the cost of engineering design, 100% of the production cost and partial subsidies for the cost of delivery to the project site.



Electronics Recycling Roundup

Enables schools, non-profits, and community groups to work with registered processors to collect electronics material ($500/Tonne).



Used Oil Materials Support

Used Oil Materials Support Grant (50/50 cost share up to $15,000).



TDA for Landfill Leachate Collection Systems / Infrastructure

ARMA covers 100% of the production cost and partially subsidizes delivery to landfill sites.

Tire Recycling Community Grant

Projects using Tire-Derived Materials (50/50 cost share, ARMA pays up to $15,000).



Beyond the Bin Recycling Roundup

Provides advertising and event funding as well as funding for material collected.

Operational Support



INTERPRET REQUIREMENTS

Legislation, regulations, and industry standards



SITE SIGNAGE

Provides direction to the public for managing stewardship materials



SAFE STORAGE

Covered containers and secured lids



SPILL PREVENTION

Secondary containment and proper disposal



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Reduce contamination, dumping and standing water



SITE SECURITY

Strategies to prevent salvaging, theft and vandalism

Access to Registered Processors

- Program-funded transportation and processing services can reduce the costs communities may otherwise incur to manage designated materials.
- Ensures materials are managed safely and responsibly.
- Provides access to reliable collection arrangements.
- Processors link pickups to registered collection sites through ARMA Connect, supporting timely and accurate records of materials collected.
- Enables ARMA to provide assistance and resolve issues, if needed.

Administrative Support

REGISTRATION

Assistance with registering with ARMA or changing program participation

ARMA CONNECT

Establishing an account and providing training to new or additional users

CLAIM SUPPORT

Assistance with submitting claims or resolving data issues

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Guidance in completing and submitting grant applications

PROCESSOR COORDINATION

Coordinate support for regular pickups and stockpiled material

DEDICATED INBOX

To address questions, concerns and requests
Collection.sites@albertarecycling.ca

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In Summary

Key Differences

Focus Area	ARMA Stewardship Programs	EPR System
	**ARMA** administers the program.	A **PRO** manages the program for producers.
	Electronics, paint, tires and used oil materials.	**Residential** packaging and paper products; hazardous and special products.
	**Collection site registers** with ARMA directly to participate in relevant stewardship programs.	**Community registers** through ARMA but the relevant PRO establishes services.
	**Registered collections sites choose** a registered processor to manage materials.	The **PRO arranges collection** and downstream services.
	Eligible collection sites may access program-specific **collection funding and grants**.	**Producers fund the system**; service agreements define coverage.
	Follow **ARMA guidelines** for acceptance, storage, safety, and funding.	Follow the **PRO agreement**, material rules and regulations.
	Use **ARMA Connect** to submit claims.	Follow the **PRO procedures** for coordination and reporting.

Cleaner, Healthier Communities

Improved resource management—regardless of the recycling model—can deliver real benefits for collection sites.

Well-organized recycling programs help collection sites manage materials more efficiently, reduce operating costs, and make better use of limited staff, equipment, and storage space. Reliable collection and processing services can reduce material backlogs, while clear handling and storage requirements help improve site safety and prevent environmental contamination.



Increased Waste Diversion

Better Recycling Information

Extended Landfill Life

Reduced Disposal Costs

Reduced Environmental Risks

Additional Resources

- ARMA's website provides up-to-date information on the EPR System and Stewardship Programs, including applications, forms, publications, and contact information for registered processors and other recyclers.
- Training modules are available for all stewardship materials.
- ARMA holds annual Collection Site Awards to acknowledge and share examples of excellence.
- ARMA publishes two newsletters each year to share any changes and other important information.
- ARMA releases a series of reports and publications that provide a snapshot of our shared success.

Questions



Shannon Munday, Manager of Recycling Operations
SMunday@albertarecycling.ca
Office: 587.689.7016
Cell 780.905.2083

Darren Turner, Field Services Inspector
DTurner@albertarecycling.ca
Office:
Cell 780.905.2083

Thank you

Alberta Recycling Management Authority

Collection.sites@albertarecycling.ca

EPR@albertarecycling.ca

info@albertarecycling ca
Local 780.990.1111
Toll-free 1.888.999.8762
albertarecycling.ca