

# RETHINKING Waste Journal!

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## 1. What is Waste

Make a mind map of what waste means to you

Give an example of something that is waste to you, but may not be to someone else. Why is it not waste to the other person?

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## 2. Inuit Values

A strong Inuit value that guides our relationship with the land is: “The land includes all of nature: the earth itself as well as the water, the ice, the wind, the sky, the plants and animals. The land has given life to Inuit, but it can also be harsh and dangerous and can take life away”. (pg. 91 - Inuuqatigiit Curriculum).

- *How does waste relate to this value?*

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- *What do you think your great-great-grandparents did with waste?*

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- *Interview an Elder about their ideas around waste and garbage. How have things changed?*

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## 3. What does “waste diversion” mean?

- *Why do people in the Nunavut produce more waste than the average Canadian? Why is there no calculated diversion rate?*

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## 4. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

- *Why is “reduce” at the top of the waste management hierarchy?*

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- Give examples of ways to reduce your waste, reuse your waste and recycle your waste.

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## 5. Waste Stream Composition

- *Has your community done a waste stream composition study? What types of waste do you think will be found in your community?*

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- Draw a garbage can with percentages of waste from the Hamlet of Arviat's Waste Composition Study represented.

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## 7. Litter on the Land Audit Tracking

Total garbage bags collected:

Total recycling bags collected:

*(What could have been done with this instead of throwing it on the ground?)*

Item category	Number of Pieces	Weight	Reduce, reuse or recycle?
Organics			
Paper Products			
Plastics			
Recyclables			
Cigarettes			
Styrofoam			
Other			
<b>Totals</b>			

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## 8. Waste Diversion In My Community

### Station 1: Beverage Container Program

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*When did this program start?*

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*How many containers have been recycled?*

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If you returned five pop cans, two one litre milk jugs, three juice tetra packs and four plastic juice bottles, how much of a return would the depot manager give you in dollars.

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Match items with what they get recycled for. Bonus: find out where they go.

Aluminum can	Car parts
Tins	Fibreglass insulation
Plastic bottle	Flower pot
Glass	Aluminum can
Tetrapaks	Cardboard boxes

### Station 2: Reusable Bag Program

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*When did this program start?*

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*How many bags has the program saved from our community landfills?*

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*If you needed 6 plastic bags and they cost \$0.25 each, how much would it cost you in dollars:*

Once

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(4 times) Each week for a month

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(52 times) Each week for a year:

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List 10 aquatic animals that plastic bags could harm as shoreline litter:

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### Station 3: E-waste Recycling Program

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*When did this program start?*

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*What communities are participating in this program?*

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*What are the two reasons for recycling e-waste?*

1. .... 2. ....

*Why is e-waste the fastest growing sector of waste in North America?*

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## 9. Waste Reduction and Recycling Initiative

Come up with an idea for a Waste Reduction and Recycling Initiative in your community. If you need some inspiration, see what residents in the Northwest Territories are doing.

<http://icarenwt.ca/waste-reduction-recycling-initiative>

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## 10. School Waste Audit

Track waste generated in your school or home using the School Waste Audit from Waste Reduction Week Canada.

[http://www.wrwcanda.com/uploads/File/WRW2012/School\\_Waste\\_Audit.pdf](http://www.wrwcanda.com/uploads/File/WRW2012/School_Waste_Audit.pdf)

## 11. Community Changes

*What do you think is the best change your community can make to help reduce waste?*

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Northern Canadian communities can find creative ways to inspire one another to divert waste and reduce, reuse, and recycle. At Mangilaluk School in Tuktoyaktuk, NWT, teacher Marilyn Cockney began a juice box recycling program with financial support from WWF-Canada. As part of the school breakfast program, 200 students were being given a juice box each morning; pre-recycling program, the tetrapaks ended up in the landfill, or in a neighbouring pond, where squirrels, beavers and muskrats live. Now, the school recycles over 39,000 juice boxes a year!



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