



Green City Challenge | Reuse Centre Group Program

For Kids & Youth: Ages 6 - 17 years (1.5 hour or 2 hours)

Program Objectives

1. Introduce participants to the Reuse Centre, the different streams of Edmonton's Waste Management System and how the Reuse Centre fits into the system.
2. Introduce and discuss the importance and different types of reuse and become an Eco-Agent.
3. Stimulate an initial and lasting excitement, joy and appreciation for reusing and reducing waste.
4. Encourage attitudes of respect and concern for waste management and the importance of diverting waste from landfill.

Program Activities

What can be reused? How can we reduce our waste? How does the Reuse Centre play an essential part in the waste system?

Participants will become Eco-Agents by completing several waste challenges. Challenges may include sorting items into their appropriate waste stream, rethinking standard uses for household items, inventing new creations from reusable materials, digging through a vermicompost bin to discover what worms eats and solving the puzzle of the 5 Rs. Then, participants will complete Eco-Agent pledge cards to continue reducing waste while helping to teach others to do the same.

Program Leader Contact

Your Program Leader will contact you by phone a few days prior to your program to confirm details. If you have not heard from them at least 48 hours prior to your program and have questions, please call the Programs Coordinator at 780-944-7424.

Information for Group Participants

There are a few things to go over with your participants beforehand to ensure they are ready to learn during the program.

1. Crafting can get a little messy! Have participants bring an old paint smock or shirt from home.
2. Participants have the opportunity to collect and drop off accepted donations for free just prior to the start of the program. Please see our [Accepted Items List](#) for more details.
3. Programs include a free, 15 minute group shopping experience for participants towards the end of the program. It is recommended that the group select a craft and/or activity in advance, so participants already have an idea of what supplies they want or need.



Planning Info for Group Leaders

Maximum Group Size: 30 participants per program.

Adult Supervision Expectations: Please ensure a proper ratio of adult helpers to children. We have a recommended supervisory ratio of:

- One adult per 5 children (Ages 6-11 years)
- One adult per 10 children (Ages 12-17 years)

Supervising adults must remain with the group at all times. Their role is to actively participate in the program, assist children with activities and keep an eye on the group to ensure everyone remains together. During the program and shopping trip, all participants must stay together as a group, to ensure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable program experience.

Be enthusiastic – you and your adult helpers' encouragement and active participation in all activities will help to make this learning experience a truly positive one for your group!

Special Needs: To help us deliver the best program we can, please inform your Program Leader about any special needs participants may have including learning disabilities, mobility issues, medical concerns (including allergies) or behavioural concerns. Activity options can be modified to accommodate special needs.

Arrival/Pick-Up Times and Locations: Ask participants to arrive about 10 minutes before the program start time. If your program starts after-hours, early arrivals will need to wait at the front doors until the room is ready.

- **Meeting location is in the Workshop Room (during store hours).** Come in the main front doors (facing the parking lot) and follow the signs to the Workshop Room on your right. Please go directly to the Workshop Room. If the Program Leader is not there, they will be there promptly.
- **Meeting location will be at the front doors (after-hours).** If the Reuse Centre is closed, come to the right side door and ring the doorbell. The Program Leader will let you in. Please go directly to the Workshop Room to wait for the remaining participants. For safety reasons, participants are not permitted to wander around the Centre on their own after-hours.

Please ensure that you have scheduled transportation to pick up participants promptly at the end time of the program. Otherwise, the group may need to wait for their transportation outside of the Reuse Centre.

Use of the Workshop Room: Some parts of the program may take place in the store; therefore, the room may not be a dedicated or guaranteed space to leave your things for the entire duration of your program (depending on other programming needs). We recommend not leaving any valuables in the room. The Reuse Centre is not responsible for lost or damaged items.

Payment Procedure



To secure your spot, full payment is required at time of booking.

Payment can be made by cash, debit, Visa, MasterCard, American Express or business cheque. Personal cheques are not accepted. Business cheques should be made payable to the City of Edmonton and booking confirmations should be written on them. Payment can be made at the Reuse Centre or by mail to Reuse Centre 6835 83 Street NW, Edmonton, AB, T6C 2X9.

Cancellation Policy

- You are to provide written notice of cancellation of your program via email at reusecentrebookings@edmonton.ca
- Cancellations with 4-15 days' notice are subject to a fee of 50% of the program cost
- Programs cancelled with less than 3 days (72 hours) notice will be charged the full program fee
- Programs run rain or shine. In the event of poor weather, you must call 780-944-7424 or email reusecentrebookings@edmonton.ca. If you cancel due to weather conditions:
 - You will not be charged for re-scheduling in the same year, OR
 - You will be charged 50% of the program cost if the program is not rescheduled

FAQs

Can I schedule a snack/bathroom break during my program? Yes, you can ask the Program Leader to allow time for a snack/bathroom break (either at time of booking or when they call to confirm details). However, the **program time will not be extended to allow for extra breaks**. Groups must book a longer program if they want to extend their time.

Can I book the room for extra time before/after my program? Yes, the Workshop Room is available for rentals for \$40/hour. Rental fees and policies apply. Please inquire at time of booking for details.

Am I expected to clean up afterwards? Yes, groups are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. This includes properly disposing of garbage and recycling in bins provided. Make sure to take all belongings with you. Your Program Leader will put away your tables and chairs for you. Please inform staff immediately for any large messes/spills.

Some Learning Resources for Group Leaders

A. Mini Glossary

It may help if your group is familiar with the following terms before attending the program.

Reduce: To make smaller, decrease amount. Responsible consumers try to limit the amount of items they purchase in order to have a positive impact on the environment and create less waste.

Reuse: To use an item more than once - ie: reusable water bottle, lunch containers, batteries. The Reuse Centre allows citizens to donate items for others to repurchase and reuse in the future.



Recycle: To convert waste into reusable materials. In Edmonton, you can put your paper, cardboard, plastic, metal, glass and beverage containers in the recycle and those materials will be reused into new materials.

Eco Station: A City of Edmonton waste drop-off facility where you can bring electronics and household hazardous waste such as paint, batteries, chemicals and large items.

Composting: A natural process that breaks down organic kitchen scraps and yard waste materials. It turns organic materials into dark, earthy material called compost.

B. Optional Preparatory Activities (Pre-Visit)

1) Intro to the Reuse Centre

- a) Review these interesting facts about the Centre with your group.

Did You Know...

- The Reuse Centre is a public City of Edmonton facility that exists to help divert waste and promote the concept and practice of Reuse.
- The facility accepts various items from Edmonton residents free of charge and makes them available to organizations and individuals for reuse.
- In 2017, the Reuse Centre accepted 323 tonnes donations, 94% of which was kept out of landfills.
- Each month, the Reuse Centre accepts over 27 tonnes of donations. That's the weight of almost two ETS buses!
- The Reuse Centre is supported by more than 300 volunteers and had over 31,000 customer visits in 2017.

- b) Look over the Reuse Centre's [Accepted Items List](#) and discuss what can be donated to the Reuse Centre for the purpose of reuse. Where do you put these items right now (ie: recycle, garbage, donations)? What other items could be reused that may not be on the list?

2) Make a Reuse Centre Donation

Ask participants to bring items from home and/or put together some items at your place of work to donate to the Reuse Centre during your program. Just make sure they are on the [Accepted Items List](#)!

3) Thinking About Reuse...

There are many different ways we can reuse ordinary items, such as crafting, repairing, borrowing and exchanging items. Before coming to the Reuse Centre, ask each participant to think of one item you currently reuse at home and one item you'd like to be able to reuse. As a group, consider brainstorming some easy and simple ways you may be able to reuse those items.

C. Optional Follow-Up Activities (Post-Visit)

1) Make a Reuse Centre Donation Box

A great way to encourage your group to reuse is to start collecting donations for the Reuse Centre as a team. Go over the [Accepted Items List](#) with your group and give examples of items that can be brought to



the Reuse Centre. Label a box and place it near your garbage and recycle bins (at home, school, work, etc.). Encourage your group to think about whether an item can be donated to the Reuse Centre instead of being disposed of as waste.

For items not accepted at the Reuse Centre (e.g., household wares, clothing, toys), you can make a charity box. Donating gently used items to places like Goodwill or many other not-for-profit organizations is a great way to promote reuse and divert waste from landfill.

You can add an Eco Station box beside your Reuse Centre, Recycle and Garbage bins as well. Any household hazardous waste (ie: batteries, light bulbs, paints) and electronics can be put in the box. Once the box is full, drop it off at your local [Eco Station](#) and dispose of waste responsibly!

2) Organize/host an informal group item swap

A fun way to promote reuse of items is to organize or host an item swap (for clothing, household wares, books, movies, toys, you name it). This can be a large or small event and can be done as a group, in your neighbourhood, as a group of friends or at school. All you really need is to decide on a date, time and location, then promote the event. Everyone brings a few items they would like to give away or exchange.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Reuse Centre!

For any questions, modifications, or cancellations, please contact our office directly:

EMAIL reusecentrebookings@edmonton.ca

PHONE 780-944-7424