

What are Used Beverage Containers recycled into?



Aluminum cans (used for pop and other soft drinks) become new aluminum cans again, in a cycle that takes only 60 days! In **polycoat** containers (juice boxes) the paper pulp can be separated and used

to make cardboard boxes as well as toilet paper.

PET Plastic containers (pop bottles) are transformed into a fibre to make new fleece clothing, blankets and more. Most recycled plastic in B.C. is used to make new containers for things like motor oil or bleach.

Glass bottles are crushed and ground back into sand which is what glass is made of. The sand is used as mix in sandblasting material or made into fiberglass to insulate homes.



What can Used Oil, Filters & Containers be reused for?

Used oil, filters and containers can be useful in many different products. In B.C., much of the used oil is re-refined into new lubricating oil products, or used as a fuel in pulp mills, cement kilns and asphalt plants where contaminants are burned at high temperatures and emission controls protect the environment. Steel from used oil filters can be used to manufacture rebar for construction. Plastic containers are centrifuged to recover oil, washed and pelletized for use in new oil containers, drainage tiles and parking curbs.

What happens to Old Tires?

Old tires are broken down into crumb rubber after the steel and fibre are removed. Crumb rubber is used for flooring and mats, landfill construction material, rubberized asphalt, and materials for highway construction.



B.C. Recycles Old Products Into New

Tires → Rubber Mats
Glass bottles → Insulation
Scrap steel → Rebar



What about Electronics?

In B.C. old **electronics** such as desktop and notebook computers, printers, fax machines, and televisions can be recycled or reused. Often schools will take them, or they can be dismantled to salvage the valuable parts and materials inside such as metals and reusable components.



Is Paint recycled?

Paints can be reprocessed as paint as well as used in concrete and cement manufacturing. Solvents can be extracted from alkyd paints to be used in other processes such as asphalt production. There is also a “paint exchange” program run by Product Care, where paints are utilized by amateur theatre companies, farmers, charities and homeowners.



Do old Lead-Acid Batteries have a use?

Used **lead acid batteries** can be taken apart and almost entirely recycled. Lead plates from the batteries are smelted down and reused to make new lead acid batteries and other lead products. The sulphuric acid is used to make fertilizer products. The plastic is usually pelletized and sold as a raw material for various moulded plastic products.