Solid Waste Management in First Nations Housing



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Why Solid Waste Management Matters for Housing :

- ✓ Clean communities support healthy living environments.
- ✓ Poor waste management can attract pests and wildlife.
- ✓ Illegal dumping can damage community infrastructure.
- ✓ Waste accumulation can create fire hazards near homes.
- ✓ Proper waste diversion reduces landfill costs.



Key Waste Management Challenges in First Nations Communities :

- ✓ Remote locations increase transportation costs.
- ✓ Limited landfill capacity.
- ✓ Lack of recycling infrastructure.
- ✓ Illegal dumping around housing developments.
- ✓ Construction and demolition waste from housing projects.
- ✓ Public awareness and education challenges.



Impact on Housing and Community Infrastructure :

Health Impacts

- ✓ Rodents and insects near homes.
- ✓ Increased risk of disease transmission.

Environmental Impacts

- ✓ Soil and water contamination.
- ✓ Wildlife attraction.

Infrastructure Impacts

- ✓ Damage to roads and drainage systems.
- ✓ Increased maintenance costs.



Household Waste Management Best Practices :

- ✓ Regular waste collection schedules.
- ✓ Community waste bins.
- ✓ Clear waste separation guidelines.
- ✓ Educational campaigns for residents.
- ✓ Youth engagement and community clean-up events.



Recycling and Diversion Opportunities :

- ✓ Paper and cardboard recycling.
- ✓ Plastic and metal collection.
- ✓ Electronics recycling.
- ✓ Tire recycling programs.
- ✓ Reuse centres for furniture and household items.

Benefits:

- ✓ Reduced landfill use.
- ✓ Lower disposal costs.
- ✓ Cleaner neighbourhoods.



Managing Construction and Demolition Waste :

Housing projects generate:

- ✓ Wood scraps
- ✓ Drywall
- ✓ Concrete
- ✓ Metal
- ✓ Packaging materials

Solutions:

- ✓ Waste management plans for housing projects.
- ✓ Material reuse programs.
- ✓ Contractor requirements for waste sorting.



Addressing Illegal Dumping :

Common Causes :

- ✓ Limited disposal options.
- ✓ Lack of awareness.
- ✓ High transportation costs.

Solutions :

- ✓ Surveillance and reporting systems.
- ✓ Community education.
- ✓ Designated disposal locations.
- ✓ Community clean-up initiatives.



Case Study – Community-Based Composting Program :

Example: Community Composting Pilot Project

- ✓ Food and yard waste were successfully diverted from landfill through the implementation of a community composting pilot project funded under the 2025-2026 First Nations Solid Waste Management Initiative (FNSWMI). The project was designed to provide residents with an easy and effective way to reduce the amount of food waste being disposed of in landfill sites. Through a partnership with Food Cycle Science Corporation, the community received 100 Eco 5 FoodCycler units, which were delivered in August 2025 and distributed to participating households in November 2025. The initiative represented an investment of approximately **$43,000** and provided families with a practical solution for reducing household food waste at the source. To support successful program implementation, educational materials and a user-friendly resident guide were developed and distributed to participants. The project increased community awareness of waste diversion practices, encouraged household participation in organics management, and demonstrated a scalable approach to reducing landfill waste while promoting environmental sustainability.

Results:

- Reduced waste volume.
- Supports local food security initiatives
- Lower disposal costs & Compost available for community gardens.

Action Plan for First Nations Communities :

- ✓ Conduct waste assessments.
- ✓ Develop a Community Waste Management Strategy.
- ✓ Improve recycling and diversion programs.
- ✓ Train housing and public works staff.
- ✓ Secure funding for infrastructure upgrades.
- ✓ Engage community members.



Benefits of Effective Waste Management：

- ✓ Healthier housing environments
- ✓ Reduced pest problems
- ✓ Lower environmental impacts
- ✓ Cost savings
- ✓ Improved community appearance
- ✓ Supports long-term housing sustainability



Thank You...

Working Together to Build Cleaner Communities, Better Housing, and a Stronger Future,

The success of our communities depends on responsible stewardship, meaningful partnerships, and a shared vision for sustainable growth.

"Progress is achieved when community needs, environmental responsibility, and future opportunities move forward together."

Thank You for Your Time and Engagement

Questions?

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