

Saanich Zero Waste Strategy

Summary of Part 1 Engagement

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We heard you! Zero waste survey at a glance:

**August
2024**

894
surveys
completed

92% of
respondents are
concerned about the
impact of waste

The top 3 sources of household waste that
are difficult to recycle are: **soft plastics,**
Styrofoam, and **textiles**

90% of respondents reduce
their waste when and where
they can

‘Plastics’
were
mentioned
2,471 times

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1.0 Project Background

The 2020 [Saanich Climate Plan](#) identified the need to develop a community-wide zero waste strategy as part of the actions required to reduce Saanich’s greenhouse gas emissions (GHG’s) and work towards net zero. In May 2024, Saanich Council endorsed a [Terms of Reference \(TOR\)](#) to begin development of a zero waste strategy. The TOR defines the scope of work, key areas of focus, and deliverables for the Strategy. Development of the Strategy is divided into six phases (Figure 1) and is supported by two periods of comprehensive engagement. The engagement process was designed to collect input from the public and stakeholders at key milestones during the project timeline, so that feedback could be integrated into decision-making at each phase. This report summarizes the approach and findings from Part 1 Engagement which consisted of an online and in-person public survey conducted throughout August 2024. The results from this survey will help shape action items, set targets, and inform Part 2 Engagement which will occur in 2025.

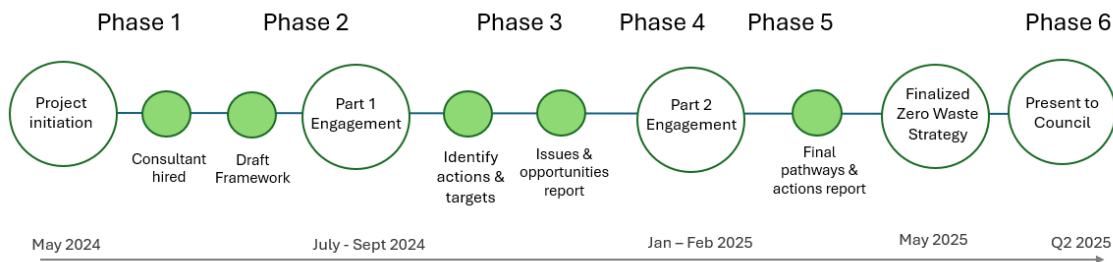


Figure 1: Saanich Zero Waste Strategy development timeline

1.1 Zero Waste Strategy Overview

The goal of the Strategy is to establish a vision and pathway for Saanich to become a zero-waste community. It will also provide a framework for community initiatives and a platform to advocate for zero waste policies. Getting to zero waste will require a collective effort from the community, all levels of government, and private industry. It will involve rethinking what we buy, what is considered waste, how we build, the food we eat, and how we manage the waste we generate.

As a District, we are moving in the right direction - but there is still a lot of work to be done. At current disposal rates, the Hartland Landfill is projected to reach capacity by 2100, if not sooner. Once full, it remains to be seen how and where we will dispose of our waste. Managing and transporting municipal waste imposes significant environmental and economic burdens for our region. By reducing consumption and adopting waste diversion strategies, we can protect green space and reduce waste management costs. These actions will also lower our GHG emissions and help us meet our Climate Plan targets.

2.0 Engagement Purpose and Overview

The purpose of the first phase of engagement was to ensure that the voices of the Saanich community were heard and included in shaping the direction of the Zero Waste Strategy. Follow-up engagement opportunities will occur during later stages of the strategy development process.

2.1 Engagement Approach

Engagement consisted of gathering input through a survey of 34 closed- and open- ended questions. Topic areas included waste and recycling habits, participation in zero waste initiatives, and barriers and opportunities to achieving zero waste. The survey was limited to residents of Saanich and Greater Victoria.

The survey was available online from August 1 – 31, 2024. Participation was voluntary and respondents self-selected for the survey. Most respondents completed it online with a small number answering via hard-copy at in-person locations.

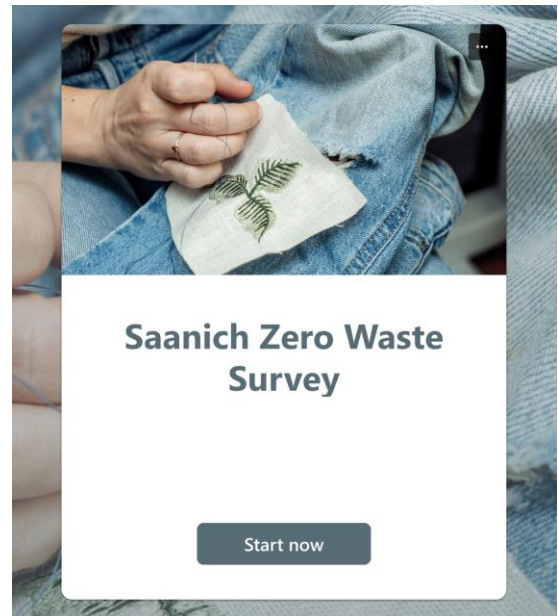
Public engagement opportunities were held at events, festivals, shopping and recreation centres, on major bus-routes, as well as through online platforms. The goal was to provide an opportunity for all Saanich residents to provide input.

A copy of the survey is provided in Appendix A.

2.2 Survey Promotion

A variety of promotional methods were used to publicize the survey across all demographics. These included:

- A **Program Webpage** (www.saanich.ca/zerowaste) was created to provide access to information about the Zero Waste Strategy, including ways to be engaged and tips on waste reduction.
- **Community Organizations** – survey information was shared with local organizations with a broad network, including Community Associations, post-secondary institutions, One Planet Saanich, and the Victoria Native Friendship Centre.
- **E-Newsletters** – survey information was shared via several e-newsletters such as Saanich's Climate Quarterly that has over 500 members.
- **Online Advertising** via social media outlets and HelloSaanich.



- **Regional Festivals & Events** were attended to directly engage with residents about waste and consumption habits and encourage completion of the survey.
- **Uptown Mall** – staff spent several afternoons engaging with the public and encouraging completion of the survey.
- **QR Code Posters** with a direct link to the survey were placed at recreation centres, golf courses, libraries, coffee shops, grocery stores, and the Saanich yard & waste drop off.
- **Engaging on Transit** – staff rode several main bus routes in Saanich to engage with transit passengers and gain feedback through discussion or completion of the survey.



3.0 Survey Findings

A total of 894 surveys were completed¹, with representation from each neighborhood in Saanich. Results were analyzed using a combination of quantitative analysis, thematic analysis, inductive coding, and word frequency analysis. Qualitative results were grouped into thematic sentences and synthesized to enhance understanding and practical application.

Table 1: Part 1 Engagement Response Rate & Key Statistics Summary

Part 1 Engagement Key Statistics	#
Number of engagement events	6
Number of comments regarding company providers for waste pickup	79
Number of comments regarding barriers to recycling	104
Number of comments regarding barriers to composting	68
Number of comments regarding shopping second-hand for items	319
Number of general comments submitted on the survey	345
Number of surveys completed	894

As participants self-selected for the survey and it was not completed via random sampling, results may be biased towards those with an interest in the topic. However, great care was taken to enhance the validity of the survey results via robust question and survey design, representative sampling, pilot testing prior to survey launch, and careful analysis and interpretation of the results. Moreover, the Capital Regional District

¹ 912 surveys were completed, but 22 were removed as they were from out of the Greater Victoria region.

(CRD) launched a similar [survey](#) around the same time and their survey findings point to corresponding results (see Section 4 for a summary of findings).

3.1 Summary of Key Findings

- The majority of respondents are **concerned about the impact of waste** on our community and environment.
- The top three sources of household waste that were identified as not easily recyclable are **soft plastics, Styrofoam, and textiles**.
- **Distance to recycling depots and inconvenience** are the main barriers for residents to drop-off recyclable items not collected in the curbside blue bin program. Many respondents advocated for more central drop-off locations.
- While 92% of respondents believed they should have **access to recycling and organics disposal outside of their homes**, only 50% reported having this access in their schools or workplace.
- The majority of respondents believe that **expanding the curbside blue box program** to accept more items and advocating for **provincial mandates for companies to reduce packaging** and recycle their products would be helpful in reducing their waste.
- **9 out of 10 respondents** already participate in online second-hand marketplaces or thrift shopping to save money or reduce waste, which indicates existing support for further development of a circular economy.
- A key word analysis showed **‘plastics’ appeared 2471 times** and **‘packaging’ appeared 740 times** in responses, indicating that these items are a critical concern.
- The majority of respondents (78%) lived in single-family homes, highlighting an opportunity in future engagement phases to focus on **multi-family dwellings** to gain a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities in these settings.

3.2 Demographics of Respondents

Overall, there was good representation from various groups. However, the results point towards the need to incorporate strategies in future engagement to reach a younger demographic and those living in multi-family housing.

Geographic location: the majority of survey respondents (87%) live in communities throughout Saanich, with the largest representation coming from Gordon Head (17%), Carey (13%), and Quadra (12%).

Age: apart from a very low response rate for those less than 25 years old (1%) and ages 26 – 35 (6%), there was good representation from older adults (38%) and those between the ages of 36 – 65 years old (50%).

Housing: 78% of respondents lived in a single-family dwelling with a fairly even split of the remaining 22% living in secondary suites, houseplexes, townhouses, or apartment buildings. 87% of respondents own their own home and 11% are renters. See image below for how this compares to Saanich’s housing demographics.



Figure 2: Saanich housing stock, adapted from the 2024 Saanich Official Community Plan

Income: The majority of respondents (26%) preferred not to disclose their income bracket. Of those that did respond, there was a relatively even distribution of household income levels, apart from only 3% in the lowest income bracket (<\$25,000/year).

Diversity statistics: respondents' identities included Indigenous (1%), visible minority (5%), newcomer or immigrant (4%), person with a disability (7%), and 2SLGBTQ+ (5%).

Gender: 61% were women, 30% were men, 1% were non-binary, 8% preferred not to say.

3.3 Attitudes and perceptions regarding waste

The first section of the survey aimed to gauge residents' level of concern for waste impacts on their community and the environment, and whether this concern corresponded to taking personal action to reduce waste.

Results showed that overall, respondents are very concerned about the impacts of waste on their community, with 92% expressing concern. Likewise, 90% of respondents said they reduce their waste when and where they can.

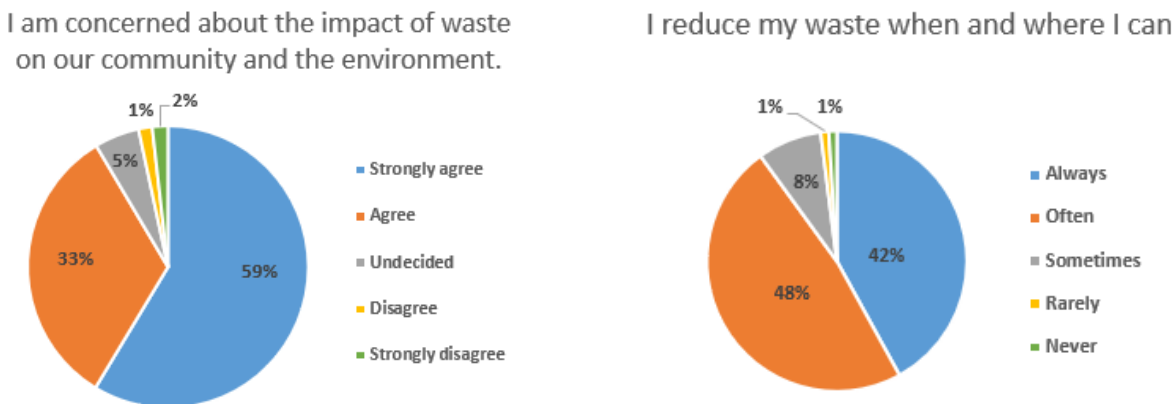


Figure 3: Attitudes and perceptions regarding waste

3.4 Recycling and Composting

Several questions in the survey sought to understand waste diversion behaviour, challenges, and opportunities.

3.4.1. Behaviours and Attitudes

This section of the survey aimed to gather information on people’s self-reported knowledge of waste sorting and their waste sorting behaviours.

Understanding of ‘what goes where’

Residents were asked whether they understand what is recyclable and compostable. While most people believe they usually know how to sort their waste, results in Table 2 indicate that further information and education is needed to reduce the likelihood of contamination by placing items into the wrong bins.

Table 2: Self-reported waste sorting knowledge

	Always	Usually	About half the time	Seldom	Never
I understand which items are <u>recyclable</u> .	25%	70%	4%	1%	0% (n=2)
I understand which items are <u>compostable</u> .	54%	44%	2%	1%	0% (n=2)

Waste sorting behaviours at home

The survey also inquired how often individuals dispose of recyclables or organics into recycling or compost bins, as opposed to placing them in the garbage. Table 3 below shows the results. Note that the items highlighted in blue are offered as a curbside service for single-family homes. Services for multi-family buildings are highly variable. The items highlighted in green are only available for recycling at select public drop-off depots and may be offered as a private service in some multi-family buildings.

Not surprisingly, the items that are collected by curbside pick-up or associated with refunds are recycled far more often (>90%) than those that require individuals to take the item to a drop-off depot. Food scraps also fall slightly below other “always” recycled/composted items (85% vs >90%), possibly an indication of some of the personal barriers to organics collection; e.g., the “yuck factor”. Likewise, hard plastic and metal containers also fall slightly below.

Table 3: Frequency of recycling/composting

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Cardboard	95%	4%	<1%	0	<1%
Refundable beverage containers	95%	4%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Paper	92%	6%	1%	<1%	<1%
Glass containers	91%	6%	<1%	<1%	2%
Yard waste	91%	6%	1%	<1%	1%
Metal containers	88%	8%	2%	1%	1%
Food scraps	85%	9%	2%	<1%	2%
Hard plastic	83%	14%	2%	<1%	<1%
Soft plastic*	43%	24%	14%	11%	8%
Styrofoam*	42%	18%	13%	13%	15%

**Only available for recycling at public drop-off depots unless offered via a private service*

3.4.2 Public drop-off depots and other services outside of single-family homes

In Saanich, the waste infrastructure and services available for those living in single-family homes is well established. However, with numerous private waste haulers, varied services, and mixed infrastructure, there remains a gap in knowledge outside of this setting. This section aimed to gain insight into the waste services offered in multi-family buildings, schools and at workplaces, and whether residents believe they should be able to recycle and compost their waste outside of their home. There were also two questions related to the use and ease of accessibility for the free public drop-off depots.

Services for multi-family homes

Most multi-family buildings in Saanich are not serviced by District of Saanich waste collection. Instead, they rely on private haulers for waste, recycling, and organics services. The graph below shows the survey responses regarding recycling materials picked-up for multi-family buildings, with cardboard, paper, and food scraps being the most commonly picked up materials and soft plastics and Styrofoam the least common.

My townhouse/strata/condo/apartment offers the following recycling and composting programs:

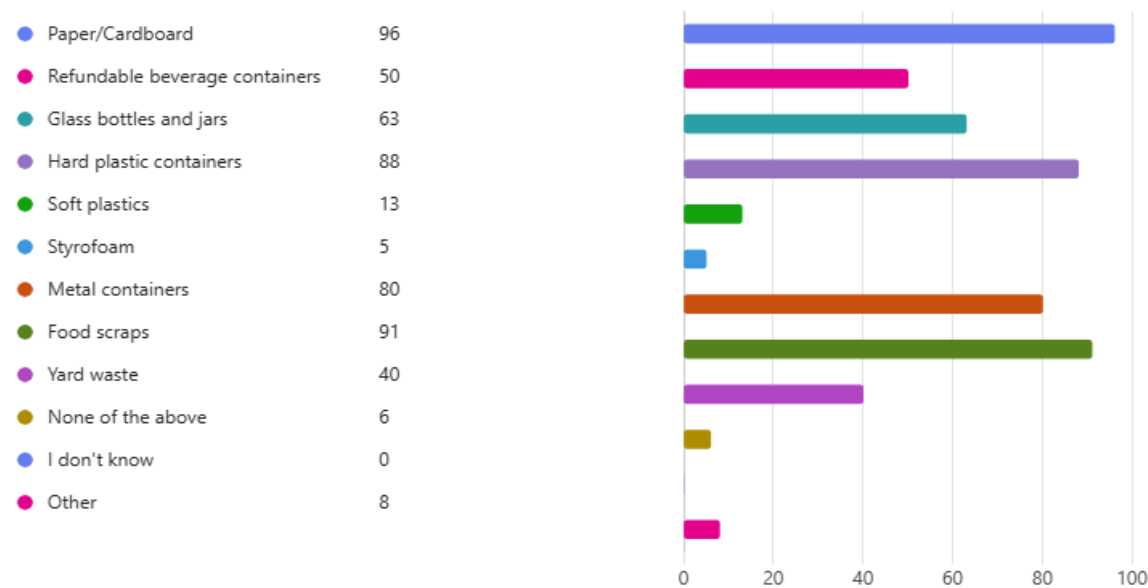


Figure 4: Material streams offered in respondents' multi-family dwellings

Recycling and composting in the community

When asked whether people should be able to recycle and compost away from home (e.g., at work, school, events, shops, parks), 92% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed. However, when asked whether they had access to recycling or composting while at work or school, less than 50% responded that they do.

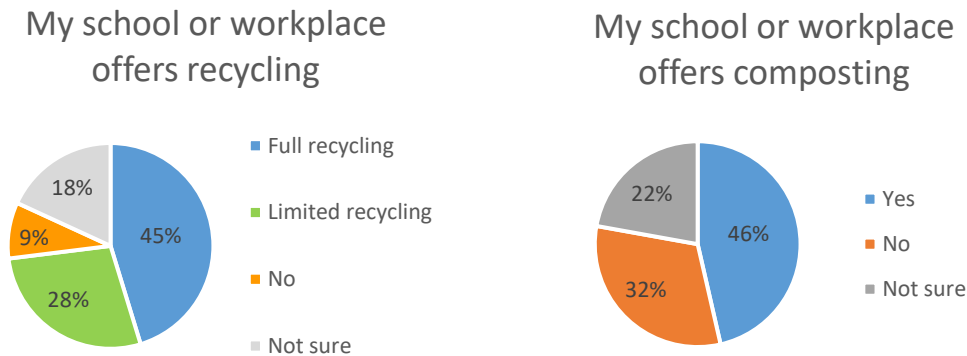


Figure 5 – recycling and composting at school and in the workplace

Public drop off depots for residential packaging

For those without access to curbside pick-up and for those who wish to recycle materials not accepted curbside, there are six free drop-off depots in Greater Victoria where residents can self-haul recyclable packaging and materials that are not picked up curbside or via private haulers. Survey results indicated that 75% of respondents use these services but many also reported multiple barriers to using the depots. The top barriers selected were inconvenience and distance to travel.

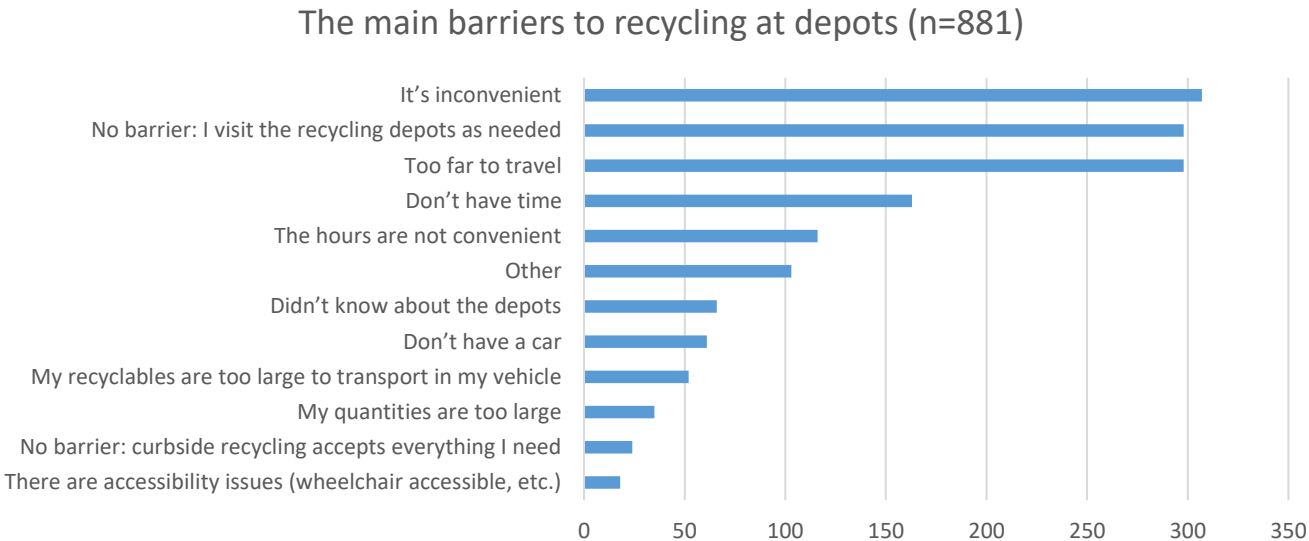


Figure 6 – Main barriers to recycling at drop-off depots

A review of the open-ended comments for this question provides further insight into additional barriers and opportunities related to using the depots. Below is a summary of the main topics which arose:

- Public drop-off depots have restrictions on quantities and are often unable to accept items because they are full.
- There is a desire for more central locations within communities and with easier access. Several comments suggested Saanich Recreation Centres and libraries should offer recycling drop off.
- Smaller depots do not take difficult-to-recycle items such as empty fuel canisters and other hazardous waste, which is a barrier.
- There were many concerns over the carbon footprint of being required to drive items to be recycled – either because depots are too far and/or quantities are too large.
- There were concerns over accessibility issues for those with mobility issues, those who do not drive, and those who prefer not to drive.
- Some found it challenging to understand which items can be taken to which locations; i.e., the smaller depots do not offer a one-stop service.

3.4.3 Barriers to waste sorting and reduction

The survey also sought to better understand Saanich residents' primary barriers to recycling and composting at home.

Recycling Barriers

The top two barriers identified for recycling at home were:

- 1) not enough waste streams are picked up curbside; and,
- 2) people are unsure what is recyclable.

Notably, 15% of respondents said these barriers stop them from recycling at home and 33% said these barriers sometimes prevent them from recycling at home.

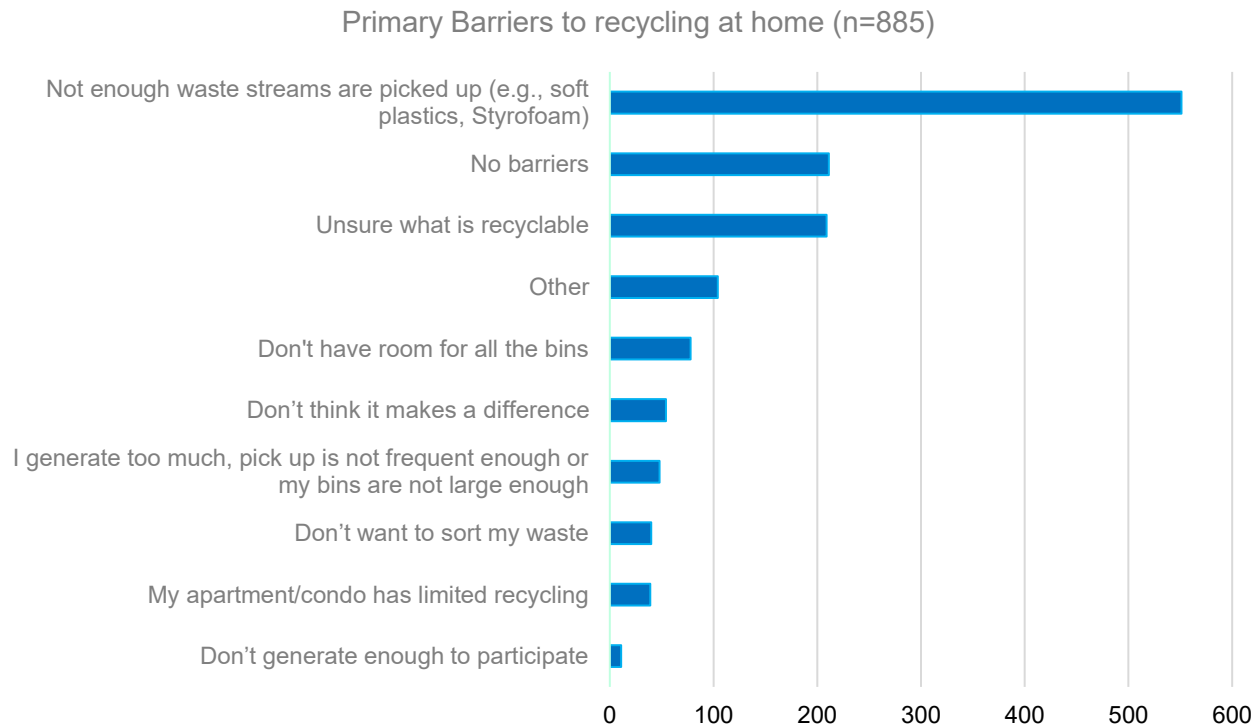


Figure 7 – Primary barriers to recycling at home

A qualitative analysis was conducted of the 104 “other” comments and the main topics that arose were:

- A mistrust of recycling information and a desire for transparency, e.g., to know whether plastics are actually being recycled.
- A concern whether soiled materials can be recycled and whether it is worth the extra water and energy required to clean them.
- Opportunities to improve recycling infrastructure in Saanich, e.g., more drop-off locations.

- Barriers and concerns related to plastics: the inability to easily recycle soft plastics, concerns over plastic packaging, and concerns regarding the percentage of plastics that are actually recycled versus sent to the landfill.

Organics collection barriers

Most respondents reported no barriers to organics collection from their home. Of those that did report barriers, the top reasons were:

- Not wanting to attract rodents or pests
- Smell of the bins
- Bins getting dirty
- Generating too much for curbside collection

Among the 68 “other” comments, several respondents noted that bear interactions in rural Saanich are also of concern.

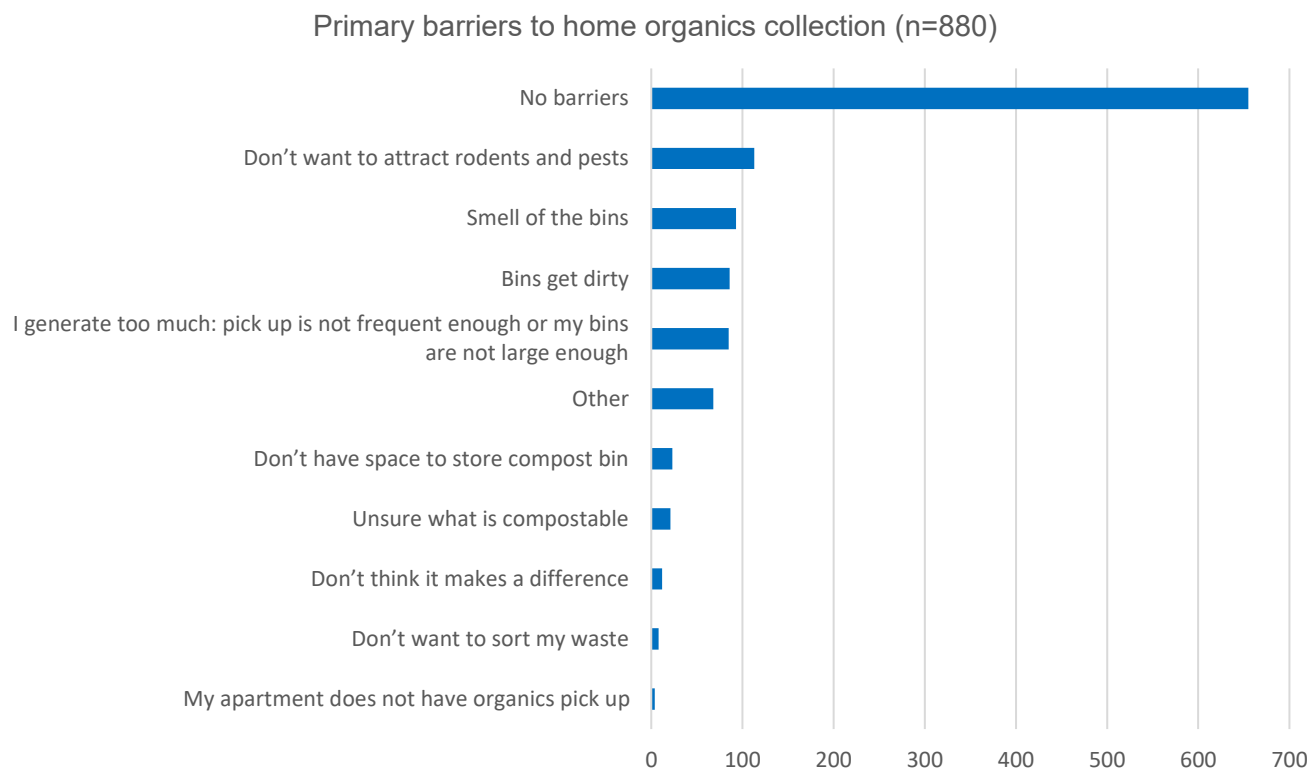


Figure 8 – Primary barriers to home organics collection

Difficult to recycle items

Residents were asked to select their top 3 sources of household waste that were difficult to recycle or compost. The top three materials were: soft plastics, Styrofoam, and textiles. Electronics was fourth.

Plastics and Packaging:

A word frequency analysis revealed that ‘plastics’ appeared 2471 times in responses, either via selecting closed-ended answers (i.e., in Q10, Q16, Q18, Q25, Q27²) which describe plastics as a barrier (n= 2251) or in questions with open-ended comments (n=220) where plastics were also described as a challenge to recycle. Likewise, ‘packaging’ was mentioned as a barrier 740 times via selecting a closed-ended response for Q27 (n=656) or via open-ended responses (n=84). No other materials streams or types were mentioned at the same frequency, indicating the concern for these specific materials.

Top 3 sources of household waste that is not easily recycled or composted (n= 891)

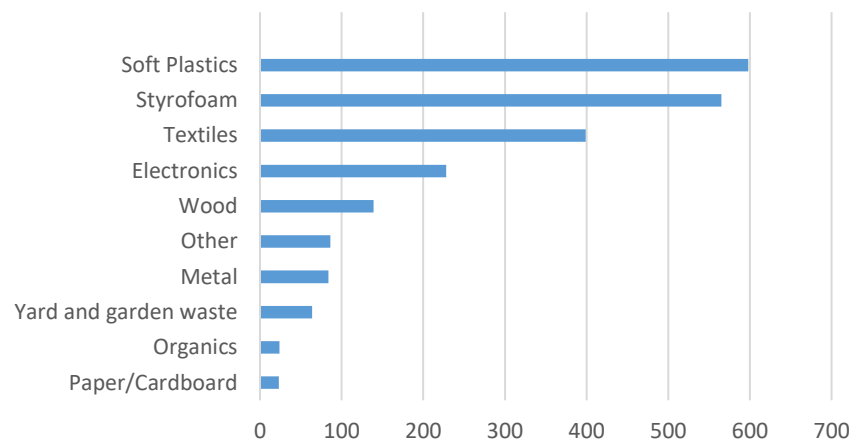


Figure 9 – Top sources of waste that are difficult to recycle / compost

“We recently started collecting our soft plastics for recycling, and I am amazed at how little garbage we have”.

3.5 Participation in reuse, repair, and share initiatives

Another important component of the survey was to gauge residents’ perceptions and current participation in reusing, repairing, and sharing items versus purchasing new.

The majority of respondents stated they currently participate in available initiatives such as second-hand online marketplaces, thrift store shopping, item swaps, and sharing platforms. Some respondents said they would like to, but these initiatives are not available in their neighbourhoods. Notably, 9 out of 10 respondents

“I always shop secondhand for kids’ clothes and toys as they grow out of them so fast and there are TONS of [online] groups for parents in Victoria that do trades, free exchanges, etc.”

² Q10 What are your primary barriers to recycling at home? Q16 My top 3 sources of household waste that are not easily recycled or composted are Q18 What are the main barriers to recycling items at depots? Q25 What are the main barriers preventing you from adopting a more zero-waste lifestyle? Q27 The following actions would be helpful in reducing my waste.

already participate in secondhand shopping or are interested in participating. The CRD’s [2024 Solid Waste Market Research Engagement Study](#) showed similar results:

- 70% of households visit secondhand stores and/or repair shops to extend the life of items.
- 71% of households seek opportunities to repurpose or reuse materials from products they have purchased.

These results support the findings of this survey and further suggest that expanding re-commerce and the sharing economy in Saanich would be an impactful initiative.

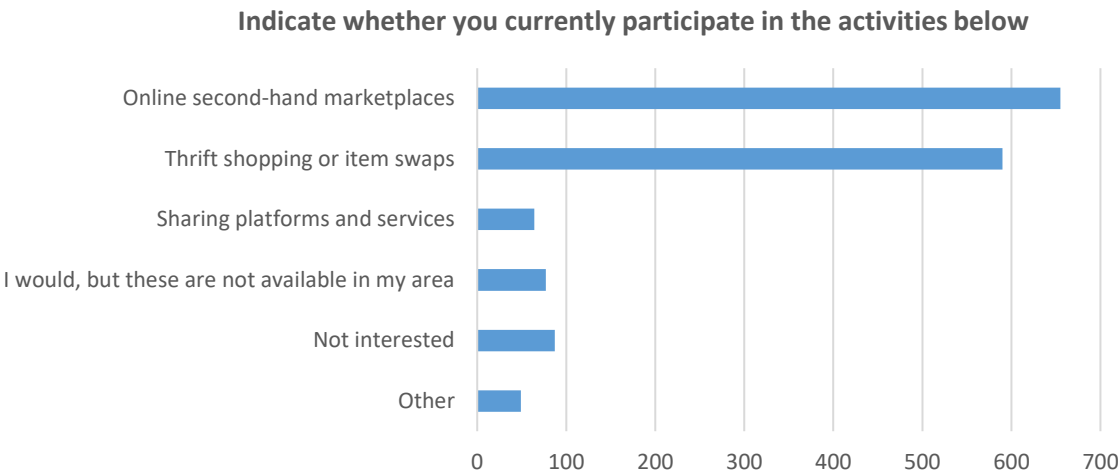


Figure 10 – Participation in reuse activities

Frequency of secondhand shopping

When asked how often people shop for second-hand goods, children’s items, clothing, furniture, and household items were at the top of the list³. The least sourced second-hand items were electronics and appliances.

Comments noted that this was due in part to a lack of trust in quality and a concern that the product may no longer be serviced or parts no longer available. Notably, some of the respondents that said they “never” shop for secondhand

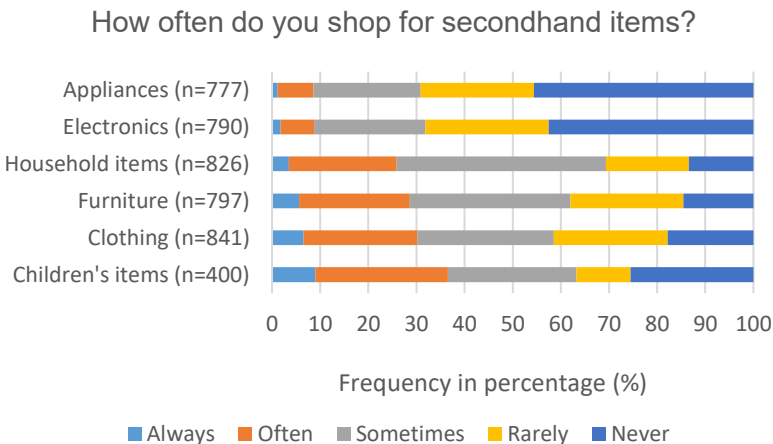


Figure 11 – Frequency of shopping for secondhand items

³ Note that N/A has been removed from the results. In displaying the results in this way, we are better able to see how each item compares relative to one another.

items is because they do not shop at all (e.g., “I don’t need to purchase items, have pretty much all I need”. “I rarely purchase anything besides food”).

There were 319 comments regarding ‘why’ people shop or don’t shop for secondhand items. These comments were grouped and synthesized into Table 4 below.

Table 4 – Factors that influence secondhand shopping

Why people shop secondhand:	Why people don’t shop secondhand:
Saves money.	Prices are increasing at secondhand stores.
Older appliances/items can last longer.	Cannot always find what they are looking for.
Many secondhand items are in great shape.	Inconvenient. It can take a lot of time.
It’s more sustainable and better for the environment to reuse.	Lack of trust regarding the quality of secondhand electronics and appliances, particularly since they have no warranty and repairs are expensive.
The thrill of the hunt.	Newer appliances may be more energy efficient.
More variety of unique and/or vintage items.	Not enough thrift stores in my area.
To prevent overproduction of new products.	Plus sized clothing options are limited in the secondhand clothing market.
It’s easier to look at used markets online than to go into Victoria to try and find something new.	Some prefer to buy less but purchase new, high quality items that will last a long time.
Helps build community.	Concerns over the cleanliness and condition of used items.
	Concerns regarding online safety and scams.
	Many older adults commented that they have greatly reduced their consumption as they have gotten older.
	Delivery may only be available for new items.

“The direction you are heading seems to expect the consumer to be the responsible one. We need to put pressure on the corporate and commercial groups to make products that produce less waste”.

“Please look to sellers who over package – ie: produce in clamshell packaging. Grocery stores could have return programs”.

Barriers

As seen in Figure 12, when asked what the primary barriers are to adopting a more zero waste lifestyle, the top responses were:

- 1) a concern that products are no longer supported or parts no longer available;
- 2) it's cheaper to buy new than to have something fixed;
- 3) zero waste is not adequately supported by businesses, products, and services; and
- 4) a lack of trust for the quality of used items.

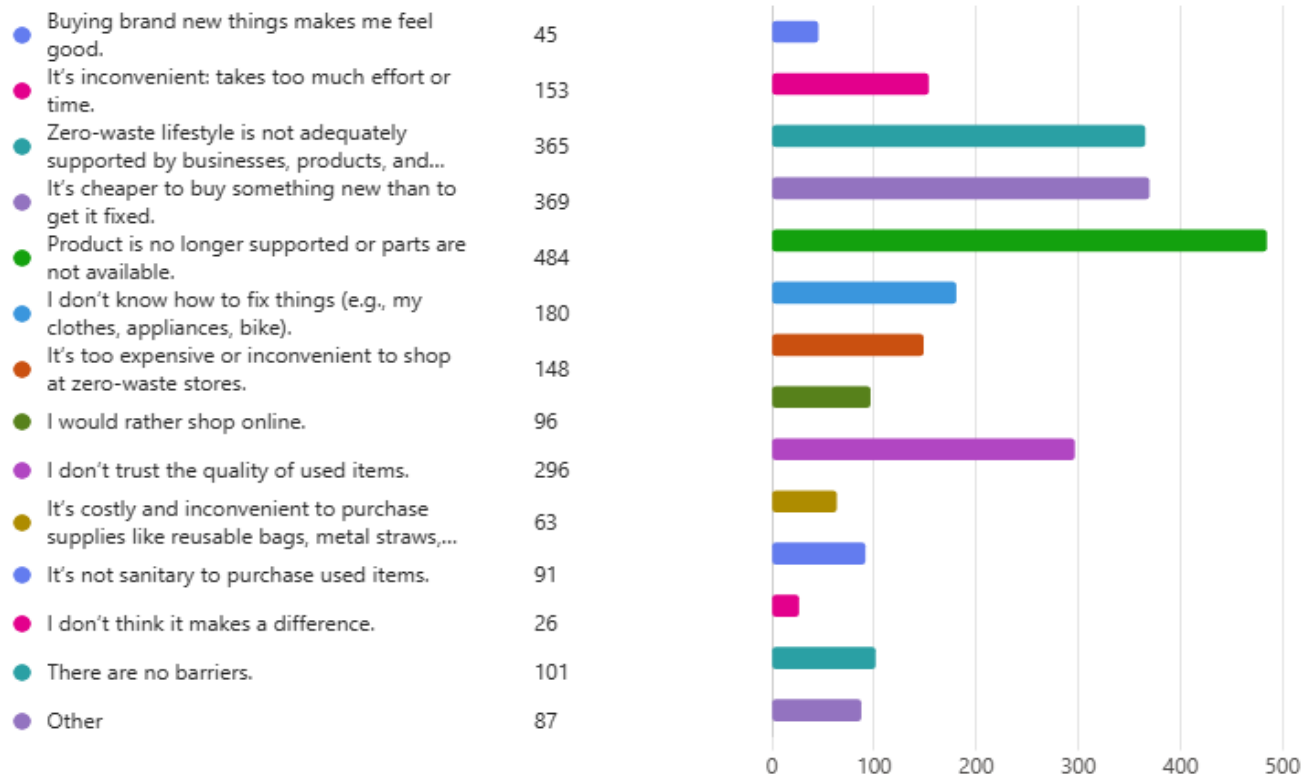


Figure 12 – Barriers to a zero waste lifestyle

Opportunities

If some of the above barriers were addressed, 69% of respondents said they are very likely and somewhat likely to change some of their current shopping and consumption habits to reduce waste.

Survey participants were also asked to identify the actions that would be helpful in reducing their waste. As seen in Figure 14, the top answers were:

- 1. Expand curbside blue bin recycling to accept more materials.
- 2. The Province should mandate that companies reduce packaging and take back and recycle their products.
- 3. The Province should establish minimum warrantees and produce support, including ‘right to repair’.

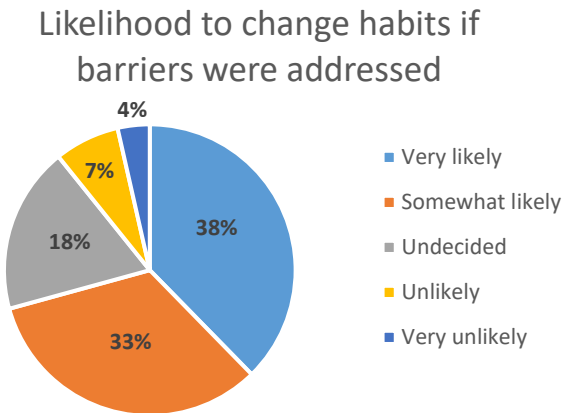


Figure 13 – Likelihood of change if zero waste barriers are addressed

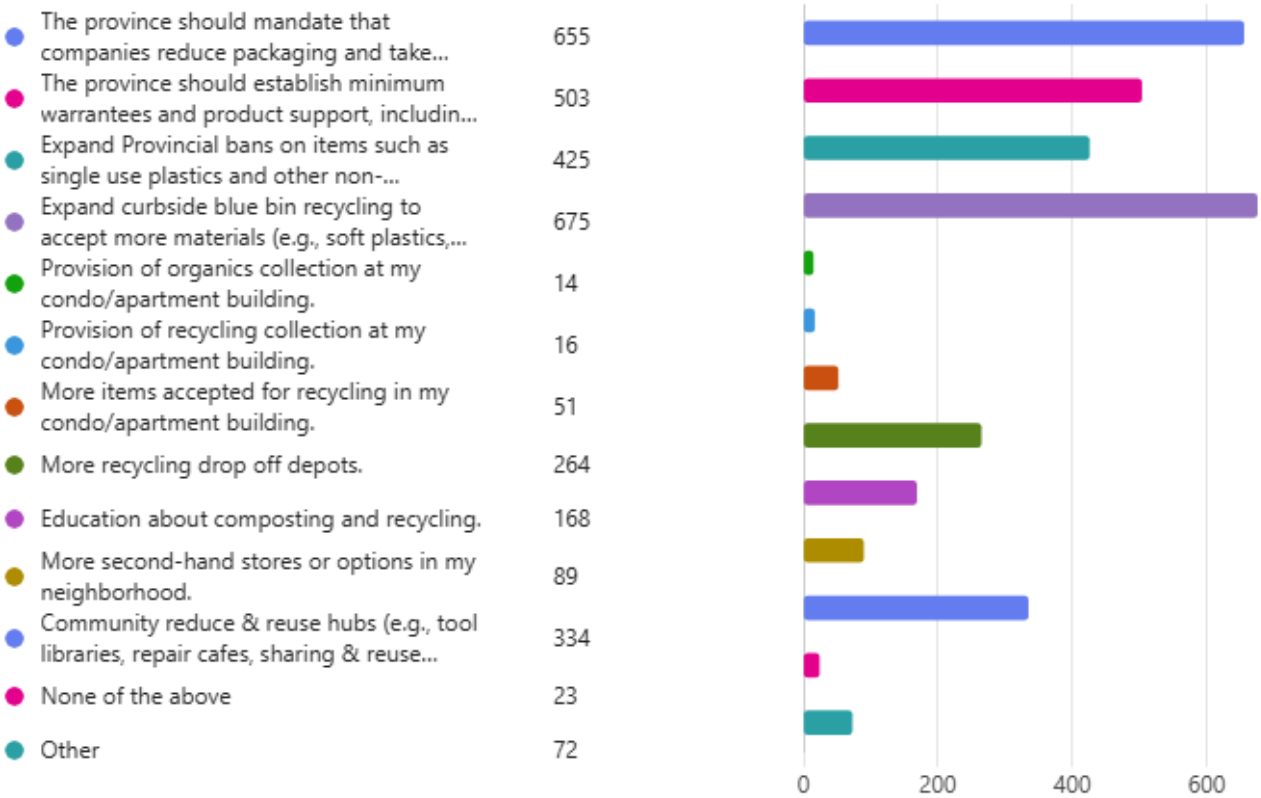


Figure 14 – Actions that would be helpful in reducing waste

3.6 Summary of Key Survey Comments

Out of 894 completed surveys, 345 respondents left general comments regarding zero waste. The main themes that emerged from these comments were:

1) Materials that are difficult to recycle:

- A desire to see curbside pick-up for soft plastics and Styrofoam;
- Ability to recycle textiles.
- Easier access to recycling programs.

“While I as an individual will strive for this, I think it is more crucial that businesses and organizations be accountable for their waste”

2) The responsibility of businesses and governments:

- Businesses and organizations should be more accountable for their waste.
- The onus of reducing and recycling should not only be placed on individuals.
- The government needs to put more restrictions on plastics and packaging.
- Federal regulations concerning right-to-repair and minimum warranties are critical.
- Businesses need to be required to recycle and compost their waste.
- More businesses need to offer refill programs.

3) A lack of trust and understanding of what happens to materials that enter the recycling stream:

- A desire to understand what happens to specific materials picked up for recycling, especially flexible plastics, hard plastics, Styrofoam, and glass.
- Concern that materials that are collected for recycling only end in the landfill.
- Uncertainty about whether using water to clean materials for recycling is offset by the benefits of recycling.

4. CRD Survey Results

The Capital Regional District (CRD) launched a [2024 Solid Waste Market Research Engagement Study](#) to explore residents' and businesses' attitudes and behaviours towards waste reduction and management practices. The results from this survey help validate some of the findings from Part 1 Engagement; for example:

- Most residents (74%) reported **positive attitudes** towards reducing waste, supporting the circular economy, composting, confidence in their waste disposal knowledge and supporting community initiatives.
- 64% of residents reported **significant barriers for recycling foam packaging and soft plastics**, including where and how to dispose of these materials and the difficulty of transporting them to drop-off depots.
- 70% of households visit **secondhand stores and/or repair shops** to extend the life of items.
- 71% of households seek opportunities to **repurpose or reuse** materials from products they have purchased.

The summary of recommendations from the CRD survey include:

- Addressing residents' **gaps in knowledge** via educational campaigns and practical tips; e.g., how to reduce waste and how and where to recycle specific materials.
- Addressing barriers related to the **limited recycling and composting services available in multi-family dwellings** and providing tips and strategies for how residents can deal with difficult to recycle materials such as foam and soft plastics.
- **Supporting local businesses** by developing training resources, providing detailed disposal guidelines, and updating them on changing regulations.

5. Next Steps

The findings from the Part 1 engagement survey will be used alongside the CRD survey, data analysis, background research and key stakeholder interviews to inform the development of draft strategies and actions for the Saanich Zero Waste Strategy. It will also inform the Part 2 Engagement which will occur in 2025.

APPENDIX A: Zero Waste Survey

The District of Saanich is developing a Zero Waste Strategy. Our goal is to drastically reduce the amount of waste our community generates and sends to the landfill. Getting to zero waste will require looking at what we buy, how we build, the food we eat, and how we deal with the waste we produce.

Waste is a collective challenge, but also an opportunity. Eliminating waste can be a great way to conserve resources, protect our natural spaces, and even save money!

Your participation as an individual or household is essential as it will help us identify policies and actions that can address needs and challenges in our community.

About the survey:

- The survey should take 5-10 minutes.
- It will be open until August 31, 2024. A What We Heard Report will be published in the fall of 2024.
- Please note that your responses are anonymous, and your participation is voluntary.
- If you have any questions, please contact sustainability@saanich.ca.

Disclaimer: This collection of personal information is authorized under the Local Government Act, Community Charter and section 26(c), (e) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information will be used for administering and evaluating the program. Questions can be directed to the District's Privacy Officer at 770 Vernon Avenue, Victoria BC V8X 2W7 t. 250-475-1775, e. foi@saanich.ca.

Confirm you have read and agree

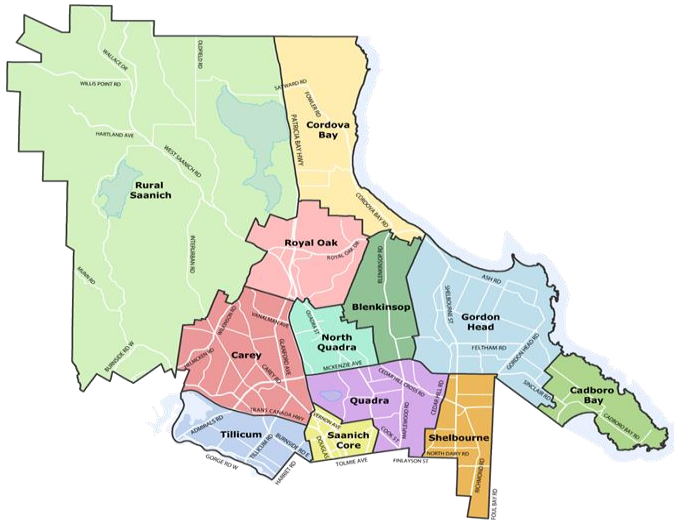
Where you live

I am a resident of Saanich

- Yes
- No, I live in Greater Victoria
- No, I live outside Greater Victoria

Which area of Saanich do you live in? (See map below if unsure)

If you are a resident of Saanich, what area of Saanich do you live in? (See map below if unsure).



- Blenkinsop
- Cadboro Bay
- Carey
- Cordova Bay
- Gordon Head
- Quadra
- North Quadra
- Royal Oak
- Rural Saanich
- Saanich Core
- Shelbourne
- Tillicum
- Not sure

I am concerned about the impact of waste on our community and the environment.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Undecided
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

I reduce my waste where and when I can (eg, using reusable bags, lunch containers, water bottles, refusing to purchase items, shopping second hand).

- Always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

Recycling and Composting At Home

I live in a:

- Single-family dwelling
- Secondary suite, includes laneway-, garden-, basement- or upstairs- suite
- Houseplex (ie, attached housing) with 6 units or less (e.g., duplex, fourplex, townhouse)
- Townhouse or strata housing complex with 6 units or more
- Condo/apartment
- Mobile home / movable dwelling

Please indicate how often you recycle or compost the following items (versus putting them in the garbage):

Refundable beverage containers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A 	Metal containers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A
Cardboard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A 	Paper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A
Glass jars & bottles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A Hard plastic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A 	Styrofoam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A Food scraps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A
Soft plastic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A 	Yard waste <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A

What are your primary barriers to recycling at home? Select all that apply.

- Unsure what is recyclable
- Don't want to sort my waste
- Don't have room for all the bins
- Don't think it makes a difference
- My apartment/condo has limited recycling
- My apartment/condo does not have recycling
- Not enough waste streams are picked up (e.g., soft plastics, Styrofoam)
- I generate too much, pick up is not frequent enough or my bins are not large enough
- Don't generate enough to participate
- Not interested in participating
- No barriers
- Other, please describe:

Do the above barriers stop you from recycling at home?

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

What are your primary barriers to household organics collection? Select all that apply.

- Smell of the bins
- Bins get dirty
- I generate too much: pick up is not frequent enough or my bins are not large enough
- My condo/apartment does not have organics pick up
- Don't want to attract rodents and pests
- Don't have space to store compost bin
- Don't want to sort my waste
- Unsure what is compostable
- Don't think it makes a difference
- No barriers, I use a backyard composter instead
- No barriers
- Other, please describe:

Do the above barriers stop you from composting at home?

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes
- N/A

I understand what items are recyclable.

- Always
- Usually
- About half the time
- Seldom
- Never

I understand what items are compostable.

- Always
- Usually

- About half the time
- Seldom
- Never


My **top 3** sources of household waste that are not easily recycled or composted are:

Please select at most 3 options.

- Soft Plastics
- Styrofoam
- Textiles
- Organics
- Electronics
- Metal
- Wood
- Paper/Cardboard
- Yard and garden waste
- N/A
- I don't know
- Other, please describe:

Recycling and Composting Outside of the Home

There are several free drop off depots in the region for recyclables that cannot be placed in curbside bins (eg, electronics, batteries, soft plastics, styrofoam). Do you ever use these depots? (Yes / No / Not Sure)



Residential packaging and printed paper
free drop off locations within Capital Region

ITEMS ACCEPTED

1. Glass Bottles and Jars
2. Paper and Cardboard
3. Plastic, Metal and Paper Containers
4. Foam Packaging (Styrofoam)
5. Flexible Plastics

Detailed items list at RecycleBC.ca

LOCATIONS

[Gulf Island Recycling Depots](#) **ALL ITEMS**

- Visit RecycleBC.ca for locations

[Hartland Depot](#) **ALL ITEMS**

- 1 Hartland Avenue (250.360.3030)

[Island Return-It](#) **ALL ITEMS**

- 935 Ellery Street (Esquimalt)

[Oak Bay Public Works Yard](#) **ALL ITEMS**

- 1771 Elgin Road (Oak Bay residents only)

[Sidney Return-It](#) **ALL ITEMS**


- 5-10025 Galaran Road (Sidney)

[London Drugs](#) **ONLY ITEMS 4 & 5**

- 3170 Tillicum Road - Tillicum Centre
- 911 Yates Street - Harris Green Village

*Contact London Drugs ahead to confirm they are accepting materials.

Want to recycle something not included here?
Check out Myrecyclopedia.ca or
Contact us: info@crd.bc.ca
250.360.3030



Making a difference... together

What are the main barriers to recycling items at depots? Select all that apply.

- Too far to travel
- Don't have time
- Don't have a car
- My recyclables are too large to transport in my vehicle
- Didn't know about the depots
- The hours are not convenient
- My quantities are too large
- There are accessibility issues (wheelchair accessible, etc.)
- It's inconvenient
- No barrier: curbside recycling accepts everything I need
- No barrier: I visit the recycling depots as needed
- Other, please describe:

I expect to be able to recycle and compost when I am away from my home (at work, school, events, shops, parks or cafés).

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Undecided
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

My school or workplace offers recycling:

- Yes, full recycling (i.e., what is included in the CRD blue box program or more)
- Limited recycling (e.g., only refundable beverages and paper)
- No
- Not sure

My school or workplace offers composting:

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Zero Waste Lifestyle

Please indicate if you currently participate in any of the activities below. Select all that apply.

- Online second-hand marketplaces (e.g., Craigslist, Poshmark, Facebook Marketplace, Used Victoria)
- Thrift shopping or item swaps (e.g., clothing swaps, book exchanges)
- Sharing platforms and services (e.g., car shares, furniture leasing, tool libraries)
- I would, but some of these activities are not available in my neighbourhood
- Not interested
- Other, please describe:

How often do you shop second-hand for the following items?

Clothing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A 	Appliances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A
Furniture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/ 	Electronics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A
Children's items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A 	Household items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always • Often • Sometimes • Rarely • Never • N/A

Additional comments on why?

What are the main barriers preventing you from adopting a more zero-waste lifestyle?

Please select at most 5 options.

- Buying brand new things makes me feel good.
- It's inconvenient: takes too much effort or time.
- Zero-waste lifestyle is not adequately supported by businesses, products, and services.
- It's cheaper to buy something new than to get it fixed.
- Product is no longer supported or parts are not available.
- I don't know how to fix things (e.g., my clothes, appliances, bike).
- It's too expensive or inconvenient to shop at zero-waste stores.
- I would rather shop online.
- I don't trust the quality of used items.
- It's costly and inconvenient to purchase supplies like reusable bags, metal straws, reusable produce bags, reusable containers, etc.
- It's not sanitary to purchase used items.
- I don't think it makes a difference.
- There are no barriers.
- Other, please describe:

If some of the barriers above were addressed, how likely would you be to change some of your current shopping and consumption habits to reduce waste? e.g., buy second-hand, buy less, repair items, less online shopping, etc.

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Undecided
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

The following actions would be helpful in reducing my waste.

Please select at most 5 options.

- The province should mandate that companies reduce packaging and take back and recycle their products.
- The province should establish minimum warranties and product support, including 'right to repair'.
- Expand Provincial bans on items such as single use plastics and other non-recyclable materials.
- Expand curbside blue bin recycling to accept more materials (e.g., soft plastics, small wood, styrofoam).
- Provision of organics collection at my condo/apartment building.
- Provision of recycling collection at my condo/apartment building.
- More items accepted for recycling in my condo/apartment building.
- More recycling drop off depots.
- Education about composting and recycling.
- More second-hand stores or options in my neighborhood.
- Community reduce & reuse hubs (e.g., tool libraries, repair cafes, sharing & reuse spaces).
- None of the above

About you

My age is:

- ☐ 15 - 25
- ☐ 26 - 35
- ☐ 36 - 45
- ☐ 46 - 55
- ☐ 56 - 65
- ☐ 66 and up
- ☐ Prefer not to say

My gender is:

- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Man
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Prefer not to say

My identity includes (select all that apply):

- ☐ Indigenous
- ☐ Visible Minority
- ☐ Newcomer or Immigrant
- ☐ Person with disability
- ☐ 2SLGBTQ+
- ☐ None of the above

- ☐ I choose not to answer

Which of the following best describes your household's total income last year?

- ☐ \$0 to less than \$25,000
- ☐ \$25,000 to less than \$50,000
- ☐ \$50,000 to less than \$75,000
- ☐ \$75,000 to less than \$100,000
- ☐ \$100,000 to less than \$150,000
- ☐ Over \$150,000
- ☐ Prefer not to say

My housing situation is:

- ☐ I rent
- ☐ I own

Including yourself, what are the total number of people living in your house? (Adults + Children)

Anything else to add regarding zero waste? (Please do not add any personal identifying information).

Thank you for participating in the survey. Your feedback is appreciated.

Visit www.saanich.ca/zerowaste to learn more about our plans and tips to reduce waste.