

OTHER INITIATIVES

DUTCH ELM DISEASE

The City operates a Dutch Elm disease control program to prevent the spread of disease to boulevard trees. The City also assists the Province of Manitoba to coordinate a Dutch Elm disease program for trees on private property. The City supervises the burning of removed diseased trees. Dutch Elm wood is not to be stored or used for firewood.

LARVICIDING

The City applies larvicide to specific mosquito breeding habitat each Spring for the control of nuisance mosquitoes. The City also applies larvicide to a wider area in mid to late summer as part of a Provincially funded program for control of West Nile virus carrying mosquitoes. The larviciding program results in a reduced reliance on the use of Malathion for mosquito control.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The City has undertaken several projects to increase energy efficiency in City facilities including lighting upgrades at the Arena, Wastewater Treatment Plant and City Hall. In the construction of new facilities at the Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant, energy efficient motors, pumps and lights were utilized.

LANDFILL DIVERSION

The City and Rural Municipality jointly operate a Regional Landfill Site. Tires; hazardous waste such as batteries and paint; metals; chemical containers; and agricultural waste are all separated and diverted to recycling programs or to appropriate disposal methods.

The City also takes other measures to reduce waste going to landfill such as the re-use of asphalt millings from road construction, re-use of tree chips for mulch, re-use of excavated material from construction and concrete rubble from demolition for filling low areas and lake bank stabilization.



Water Pollution Control Facility



Water Treatment Plant



CITY OF PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE

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CITY OF
PORTAGE LA
PRAIRIE

Environmental Initiatives

DEDICATION TO THE

ENVIRONMENT

The citizens of the City of Portage la Prairie entrust their elected and appointed officials to make decisions that will reflect the true value of our scarce environmental resources and fragile ecosystem on which we depend for our health and well being.

In order to accomplish this it will require a commitment to identify, preserve, protect and rehabilitate our natural environment, open space, and public and private properties within the corporate limits of Portage la Prairie.

We encourage and support those sustainable development opportunities that will provide for ongoing wealth and goods and services for both present and future citizens of our community. This will ensure that we meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.



PROUD OF OUR PAST . . .
BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Environmental Initiatives



CITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

Solid Waste

- ◆ Solid waste reduction has been just as significant as liquid waste reduction. In 1995, the City instituted a two bag garbage limit, in conjunction with a recycling program.
- ◆ Portage la Prairie is fortunate to have a recycling company that provides this service not only to City residents, but also to municipalities throughout Manitoba. To ensure the future viability of this company, City Council sole sourced a long term recycling contract to Portage and District Recycling Inc. in 2007.

Composting

- ◆ The City of Portage la Prairie operates a Compost Site at the corner of 4th Avenue N.W. and 15th Street N.W. The site accepts all yard and garden waste (no tree trimmings). The site is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Please remove your bags!
- ◆ Each spring and fall the City provides a curb side yard waste pickup, free of charge (no tree trimmings). Yard waste must be in clear bags (not coloured transparent bags). Specific dates are advertised. Each bag must weigh not more than 18 kg. (40 lbs.). Finished compost is available for use annually, when advertised.
- ◆ The City offers backyard composters for sale, with instructional material, at the Operations Dept office at 495-11th St NW.

Recycling

- ◆ The City contracts with Portage & District Recycling Inc. who operate a Recycling Depot at 700 Phillips Street. All items that are accepted in the green box can be dropped off at the Depot, 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. For more information call the Operations Department at 239-8346.
- ◆ Reusable/Recyclable Item Directory—the City has a directory on their website listing items that can be recycled.
- ◆ The City provides curb side collection of recyclables to single and multiple family dwellings on regular solid waste collection days, on a bi-weekly basis. All recyclables must be placed in a green box. First time and existing recyclers are entitled to one free green box, with a ten dollar refundable deposit required on additional green boxes, with a maximum of four green boxes allowed per single-family dwelling.

Electronic Waste Collection

- ◆ Portage and District Recycling Inc. will be accepting electronic waste at their depot, 700 Phillips Street, for residents of the City of Portage la Prairie from Saturday, May 1st through to Friday, October 29, 2010. Hours of collection are: Monday to Friday (excluding holidays) from 8 am to 3 pm and the first Saturday of each month from 8 am to 12 pm. The purpose of the program is to collect E-waste for proper recycling, and prevent it from being deposited in landfills. Generally, E-waste includes TVs, VCRs, stereos, microwaves, phones, computer equipment, laptops, printers, scanners, fax machines and copiers.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

- ◆ Once a year the City of Portage la Prairie, in partnership with the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie, hosts a Household Hazardous Waste Day at the Operations Department office at 495-11th St NW. Items included in the collection of household hazardous waste are: anything that is flammable, corrosive, reactive or poisonous – such as old paints, paint strippers, oils, antifreeze, household cleaners, toilet and drain cleaners, acids, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, furniture polishes, solvents, medicines, etc.
- ◆ The City works with a private company contracted by the Provincial Government to dispose of the hazardous waste in an environmentally safe way.

Wastewater Treatment

- ◆ The City has focused heavily on liquid waste treatment over the last 14 years. Over \$55 million has been spent on upgrades and expansions to the wastewater treatment plant to ensure that it meets environmental license requirements.
- ◆ Future environmental initiatives for Portage la Prairie will focus on future upgrading of the wastewater treatment plant to remove nutrients (phosphorous and nitrogen) at an estimated cost of \$25 million.
- ◆ In 2006 the City recycled 1200 tonnes of wastewater treatment residual bio-solids back to farmland by subsurface injection.

Water Treatment Plant

- ◆ As part of the upgrade to the Water Treatment Plant in 2003, lime sludge drying beds were constructed to discontinue discharge of lime slurry into the Assiniboine River, at a cost of \$600,000.



PAPERLESS COUNCIL MEETINGS

- ◆ All reports and minutes are completed digitally
- ◆ Paper reduction by increase use of computers
- ◆ Cost savings for paper annually is \$3,000.00

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- ◆ The offices in City Hall have recently been fitted with energy saving lighting.
- ◆ All offices with the City are recycling paper as well as aluminum.
- ◆ With electronic filing there is approximately 40% less paper filed in the Finance Department.

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

- ◆ Vehicle Oil Recycling
- ◆ Scrap Iron, Copper Recycling
- ◆ Asphalt Millings re-used
- ◆ Tree Mulch from tree chipper used for landscaping
- ◆ Vehicle Battery Recycling

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