



# RAVEN REPORT

July 2014

## The Summer Edition

Summertime is festival time in the Yukon which means lots of recycling. Many festivals will offer recycling stations but this year the Frog Food Festival is going all out and has decided to be a Zero Waste event. While it's normally a good idea to take your own water bottle and/or beer mug to an event, this time it's really needed. If you're thinking that it's time to buy a new water bottle then aluminium ones are most recommended with stainless steel bottles coming in second. Some people like to buy a plastic bottle of water in the store and then refill it with tap water. Not such a good idea. Those bottles are made of #1 plastic and are designed to be single use. Depending on how they are handled and whether they are washed between uses, they can have bacterial growth from negligible to potentially hazardous, according to Health Canada. All in all, it's best to buy a good metal water bottle and keep it clean

Summer is also a good time to do your recycling, all that stuff that was frozen to the ground during the winter is now mobile and can happily blow around and provide useless food for animals feeding their young...Yeah, you really need to bring that in before it causes problems. Summer is another excellent reminder to rinse recyclables when you're storing them. A few hours in the summer heat can raise quite a stink and, if they're outside, even attract unwanted ursine visitors.

Summer is the best time for ice cream and popsicles, who wants to eat ice cream at Shipyards Park when it's -35? The problem with popsicles particularly is that they come with wrappers and sticks. What to do with them? Almost all the wrappers are made of plastic, they can be recycled. The sticks are, of course, made of wood and can be composted at home or in a municipal facility. Next time you feel the need for a popsicle remember to recycle. Calories don't count when you recycle...well, actually they do but you still feel better about them.

The summer heat can be hard on electronics. All electronic devices generate heat and even if they have built-in fans they can still get warm. Overheating can reduce the life of electronic devices, so if you're not using it then turn it off and maybe put it somewhere cool. Recycling is good but keeping things functioning for longer is better.

Tis the season for cutting grass, unless you're allergic to the stuff, and also the season for accidentally running over the extension cord with the mower. Once that's happened it's time for a new cord but what happens to the old one? Throwing it in the garbage? Why not throw some loonies in with it? It's the same thing. Honest, guv. Those cords are made of copper and not only is copper recyclable, but Raven pays money when you bring in copper and all non-ferrous metals.

### RECYCLING CLUB NEWS

The Recycling Club is going strong and the containers from all those cold drinks you're buying in this heat will earn points when you bring them in.

Points mean prizes! What do points mean?

If you just shouted "Prizes!" then it's time to get out of the sun.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Raven has sorting tables in the free store with running water. If there's a lineup ahead then feel free to sort your refundables before going to the staff. It'll speed things up for everyone.

Also, we're now removing the lids from plastic bottles to recycle them separately. Save time at the depot and remove lids at home.



**RAVEN RECYCLING**  
Your Community Recycling Center

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