

Questions to Ask about Municipal Waste Disposal

- Available reuse & donation options
- Ask for an updated sorting guide
- De-packaging policy—food, papers, etc.
- What to do with hazardous waste including sharps
- What to do with medications
- Garbage bin rentals
- Disposal fees
- Facility hours: landfill, recycling, compost, hazardous waste depot
- Curbside collection options: days, rules & restrictions

Checklist

- Legal Document Review
- Determine Budget
- Decide if you require professionals or do it yourself
- Designate coordinator
- Coordinate helpers
- Coordinate materials and supplies
- Coordinate timing of events
- Coordinate rentals – bins, trucks etc.
- Designate rooms and areas for sorting
- Label materials and determine where they will be going

Contact Us

Please contact your municipality to ensure you are in compliance with local disposal regulations.

About WRANS

The Waste Resource Association of Nova Scotia (WRANS) is comprised of professionals from various sectors of the waste management industry. The association is focused on sharing knowledge to promote and advance best practices in waste reduction.

House Clean-Out Guide

Waste Management Information for Nova Scotia Residents



Property Assessment

- Walk through the property and visually assess what needs to be done.
- Determine if you will do the clean-out yourself or if you will hire professionals.
- Make a list of valuable or sentimental items that require special care.
- Make a list of the tasks to be completed and a list of those who have volunteered, match tasks to a volunteer. Choose a leader who is organized and comfortable making decisions.
- Designate the various rooms/area of the property where you want certain materials or streams of items to be placed. Post signs in these areas to make it easy for volunteers.
- Get out the Sticky Notes! - Stick these to items to make it easy for volunteers to know where items should go.

Legal Documents

Once material is removed, there is very little chance of getting it back if accidentally thrown away. Be sure to consider:

- Will & ownership of property materials
- Financial & tax papers
- Legal documents – passport, SIN etc.
- Insurance papers
- Mortgage/Condo/Rental documents
- Utilities – heating, power, telephone, internet
- Contracts – renovators, housekeeping
- Privacy & Identity theft considerations

Be cautious and seek professional advice if you suspect asbestos, bed bugs, mold or pests.

Property Considerations

Each property is different and will require different considerations when cleaning.

House

- Volume of material
- Garbage bin rentals, snow & ice
- Bin placement
- Medications
- Hazardous waste

Apartments & Condos

- Restrictions of elevator use
- Options for material removal
- Property manager/superintendent rules
- Medications

Barns/Garage/Sheds

- Hazardous waste
- Livestock, feed stock
- Tires, equipment, vehicles

Small retail/offices

- Merchandise
- Financial documents
- Electronics
- Protecting private materials
- Equipment rentals