



What's New?

This is not all, don't miss our special E-Waste collection events coming to a community near you on page 7. More services for you!

Expanding Acceptable Materials

We can finally accept more plastics. We have worked with our end market partners to develop new markets for plastics that were previously not recyclable. Some of the developments are still very much experimental and subject to change, but we thought it was important to bring it to you as soon as possible. In the past, we collected plastics that had an identification code of 1 or 2 for bottles and 1 through 7 for tub/container lids. We will now be accepting identification numbers 1 through 7 for most rigid plastics. Some common items included in these new acceptables are ketchup squeeze bottles and clam shell trays - often used for fruits, salads and food storage. Please note that certain materials such as styrofoam are not accepted.

Turn to **page 5** of this newsletter for an updated acceptables list and **page 4** for a special section on plastics. We hope you enjoy the newly accepted plastics and know that we are constantly trying to accept as many different products as possible!



Automated Recycling Coming Soon!

With the current success of the automated recycling programs in St. Marys, Goderich and Seaforth - we are excited to announce that new areas will be added to the growing list of communities. Automated recycling is more efficient, cost effective, safe, environmental and the smarter choice for both residents and staff. We invite you to turn to **page 13** to read more on the program itself, including benefits and interesting statistics we have collected. An interesting section on the automated trucks can be found on **page 12**. We are very excited to be moving into a new era of recycling and waste management - and anticipate that you will be too!



Our New High Tech Sorting Facility!



The Association upgraded its Material Recovery Facility in the last quarter of 2009. The new Material Recovery Facility processes single stream materials meaning that it can sort fully commingled recyclables. The single stream collection system enabled us to facilitate changes in our collection procedure and the technology used to collect materials significantly cutting collection costs.

We have the most advanced facility in Ontario, if not Canada. The new facility processes single stream materials using equipment such as five disc screens, five air classifiers, two optical sorters, two overhead magnets, and two eddy currents to separate the materials with the assistance of personnel in a quality control role only.

While the changes have improved the efficiency of the systems, they also enhanced the quality of the jobs and the safety of our employees.

With a capacity of over 40,000 tonnes per year, the Association is poised for handling more sources of recyclables which will provide further economies of scale and lower overall processing costs. Turn to the centerfold of our newsletter on **page 8 and 9** for an informative flow chart on how the system works!

New Website Launching in Fall 2010!

Our first website was built in 1999 and met the needs of our members at the time. It supplied information on collection schedules, special dates and a variety of helpful tips for recycling. In 2004 we expanded the site and added more graphics to make it more user-friendly for everyone. In recent years, the site has grown with more information than ever before but was getting harder to navigate.

In a constant effort to deliver important information to you in the most accessible and appealing manner possible, we have updated the site. We have a new materials sections to help you manage better. Handouts are readily available, as are frequently asked questions. There are more ways to find what you need with links to contact us a simple click away. On **page 14** you will learn more about the new look, features and improvements we are implementing. As always, our website address is www.bra.org and we invite you to visit in the coming months to view and review the next phase of Bluewater online!

