

## #PLASTICFREEME LET'S FREE OURSELVES FROM SINGLE-USE PLASTICS!

Our over-reliance on single-use plastics has become an enormous problem.

Every year, Canadians go through 1 billion plastic bags, 2 billion plastic straws and 2.5 billion litres of bottled water, which overloads our landfills and clogs up our local and global water systems. If we don't change our ways soon, experts predict that by 2050, plastic waste in our oceans could weigh more than fish!

Did you know that less than 11 per cent of plastic waste in Canada is recycled? A lot of waste gets exported for other countries to deal with. We think it's time to expand our horizons beyond blue-bin solutions. We can start by reducing or, yes, even eliminating our personal use of single-use plastics.



### OFFICE & HOME HOT TIPS

- Keep a reusable water bottle or coffee mug on hand at all times or at your desk.
- Bring your own cutlery to work and remember to refuse plastic forks, knives and spoons from your favourite food spots.
- Reduce single-use bags and straws by using canvas tote bags and a reusable straw made from silicone, glass or stainless steel. There are so many great options to choose from nowadays!
- Be a more eco-conscious shopper by targeting products with less packaging.

### GET INVOLVED

At Epic Properties, we want to see how you're ditching the single-use life!

**Tweet a photo to @Epic\_AlwaysOn with #PlasticFreeMe to show off your reusable wares and inspire your friends to be #AlwaysSustainable.**

# GREEN TEAM ACTIVITIES AND CHECKLIST

When it comes to making your property more sustainable, putting together an enthusiastic green team will have the most impact by far on overall environmental performance. By gathering a group of self-directed employees to take ownership of your local green team, you can make a big difference in incorporating the principles of sustainability across all your operations!

## SEPTEMBER PROPERTY WASTE SYSTEM

In September, we're encouraging employees to think about how much plastic they use each day and to reduce their reliance on it. We focus on single-use plastics as a good starting point.

- 1. HASHTAG: Send an all-staff email to spread awareness of #PlasticFreeMe and to encourage employees to think about small steps they can take to reduce their plastic usage.
- 2. ACTIVITY: Hold an office-wide meeting that emphasizes the small changes everyone can make to reduce plastic consumption, such as using reusable water bottles and coffee travel mugs instead of to-go cups and lids.
- 3. OPTIONAL: Do a formal company purchase of reusable water bottles, straws and/or tote bags with the company logo on them to help employees move away from single-use versions.

## OCTOBER WASTE REDUCTION

In October, we're reminding employees just how important it is to properly sort their personal waste. Doing so reduces waste and contamination, improves diversion from landfill and helps Canadian recycling programs save money.

- 1. HASHTAG: Send an all-staff email to spread awareness of #BinSin vs. #BinWin and to inspire colleagues to dig deeper into their own sorting techniques and learn the local recycling requirements. Each green team can come up with its own way to use these hashtags to promote participation in a Waste Reduction Week event (October 21–27, 2019).
- 2. ACTIVITY: Take a random (relatively clean) trash receptacle at the end of a workday, display its contents and discuss openly with groups of office members whether the waste was properly sorted or not.

We have designed the #AlwaysSustainable program to give your green team one activity and social media hashtag each month to raise property-wide awareness of, and encourage involvement in, the monthly theme.

## NOVEMBER SPECIAL WASTE PROGRAMS

In November, we're showing Canadians just how much e-waste they generate. We're also offering tips and different strategies for motivating Canadians to recycle e-waste.

- 1. HASHTAG: Send an all-staff email to spread awareness of #dEclutter and to encourage employees to roll up their sleeves and finally recycle old e-waste that's just taking up space in their office or home.
- 2. ACTIVITY: Do an office-wide scan for old e-waste, and use it to demonstrate proper recycling procedures. All of our property managers can help you recycle your office e-waste.
- 3. OPTIONAL: Begin a small office-wide campaign to gather a specific type of e-waste (e.g., old smartphones) to recycle collectively.

## DECEMBER A YEAR IN REVIEW

In December, we're wrapping up the year with an earnest thank you for being #AlwaysSustainable! We're also encouraging participation in our holiday donation drives to help everyone in Canada #HaveAnEpicHoliday.

- 1. HASHTAG: Send an all-staff email to spread awareness of #HaveAnEpicHoliday and to encourage employees to donate in the lobby of the building.
- 2. ACTIVITY: Have an office-wide meeting to review the year's sustainability successes. Congratulate members of the green team for a job well done!

*The #AlwaysSustainable campaign is aiming for easy and practical solutions that can collectively reduce energy consumption. We believe that these green team activities are important steps in helping each Epic property across Canada control and reduce its energy costs.*

 @Epic\_AlwaysOn  Epic Investment Services Join the conversation: #AlwaysSustainable

If you would like to be on our green team distribution list, send your name, address and contact info: [as@epicinvestmentservices.com](mailto:as@epicinvestmentservices.com)

