

ECO⁵: Waste management program

Objective: To minimize the amount of waste being sent to landfill.

Technology Disposal Program

BMO's Technology Disposal Program is designed to safeguard the privacy and confidentiality of our customer and employee information, while also disposing of unwanted electronics in an environmentally sound manner. When possible, we donate equipment – including computers, fax machines and cell phones – to charitable organizations, thereby also helping those in our community. We partner with Compugen, our preferred supplier, to facilitate the refurbishment and resale of a portion of these technology assets via their Green4Good CarbonBank™ program. We use environmentally friendly methods to dispose of equipment that cannot be reused. [Over four years, we have successfully diverted 685 tonnes of office equipment from landfill.](#) In 2014, BMO earned the Compugen Green4Good Visionary Award for demonstrating a strong commitment to social good and sustainability.

Waste audits

BMO annually conducts waste audits at several large, owned office and special-purpose facilities (e.g. processing centres, learning centres). The result of these formal reviews is a waste audit report and waste diversion work plan. We are using this information to better understand our current waste practices and implement improvements. To identify even more opportunities for improvement, we also completed waste audits for a small number of retail branches across Canada. For leased facilities, we continue to work with landlords to promote awareness of building-specific waste practices, and we encourage our employees to take advantage of waste reduction and recycling opportunities.

Paper shredding and recycling

BMO has partnered with Iron Mountain to provide secure shredding at all BMO facilities in North America. Not only does this program provide added security for the disposal of customer and employee information, it also recycles all the shredded materials. Iron Mountain also provides us with a detailed tally of all paper captured, shredded and recycled, enabling us to accurately measure our paper recycling efforts and progress towards our paper reduction target. We have collected and recycled 26,750 tonnes of paper in the past four years. In addition, we continuously support the reduction of paper use in the office via employee education and collaboration with our technology team on the roll-out of new tools.

Organics composting

We provide and promote organic composting in a number of our major office facilities to divert kitchen food waste and soiled kitchen/washroom paper towels from landfill. Of particular note is the organics composting program at our Institute for Learning (IFL) facility in Scarborough. In September 2010, the IFL was certified to the internationally-recognized standard, ISO 14001, for its Environmental Management System (EMS). This is BMO's second facility to be certified. When the EMS was first implemented, a waste audit of this facility revealed that a significant portion of waste going to landfill comprised of compostable materials. As part of the Waste Reduction Work Plan, a cooled storage area was installed to store food waste and other compostable materials. The results of our initial waste audit showed a marked improvement in the diversion of compostable waste from landfill.

THINK! Ink & Toner Cartridge Recycling Program

In partnership with OfficeMax Grand & Toy, we keep office ink and toner cartridges out of landfills by offering the THINK! recycling program. When a cartridge is depleted, office staff request a pickup online. Old ink and toner cartridges are either recycled or manufactured.

Big Five E-waste Collection

BMO partners with the other major Canadian banks and Global Electric Electronic Processing (GEEP) to help employees and the public recycle their old personal electronics by offering a biannual e-waste collection in downtown Toronto. At our most recent event in 2017, we diverted over 2,700 pounds of e-waste from landfill – more than twice the weight of what we collected at the previous e-waste event!

Other employee waste programs

In addition to these initiatives, BMO also offers:

- E-waste Recycling Drives for employees' old personal electronics.
- Office Supply Exchanges to enable employees to swap supplies they no longer need and donate the remainder to local schools.
- Annual Waste Reduction Week events challenging employees to cut waste, use fewer resources, recycle more and re-think their habits.
- Blue Jeans Go Green Denim Recycling drive where employees donate old jeans and denim wear for recycling into UltraTouch™ Denim Insulation, which is distributed to Habitat for Humanity affiliates and civic buildings around the U.S.
- Our Eyeglass Recycling Program, which enables employees to donate their used prescription glasses to individuals who have limited access to vision care through the

charity One Sight. Over the course of the program, employees have donated over 1,200 pairs.

- Cell Phone Recycling Program, which allows employees to recycle their used personal cell phones. All donations are sent to the Toronto and Brookfield Zoos for recycling, with proceeds going to lowland gorilla conservation efforts.