

Challenges, innovations and opportunities

Recycling in Rural and Remote Regions

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Presentation Outline:

- Who is the Edson & District Recycling Society?
- What area of the province do we serve.
- What services do we provide and what materials do we process?
- What are the challenges to recycling in rural and remote areas? What are some of the tools that can be used to mitigate these challenges.
- Advantages to recycling in rural and remote areas.

Edson and District Recycling Society

- The Edson & District Recycling Society was officially formed on January 8th, 1990.
- The Society believes that every individual in our community should have the opportunity and the responsibility to minimize their waste production. The connection between individuals, our community and our environment must be maintained and strengthened. A healthy, fully functioning environment is essential to our social and economic wellbeing. Community actions taken to reduce waste must be sustainable or lead to more sustainable actions.

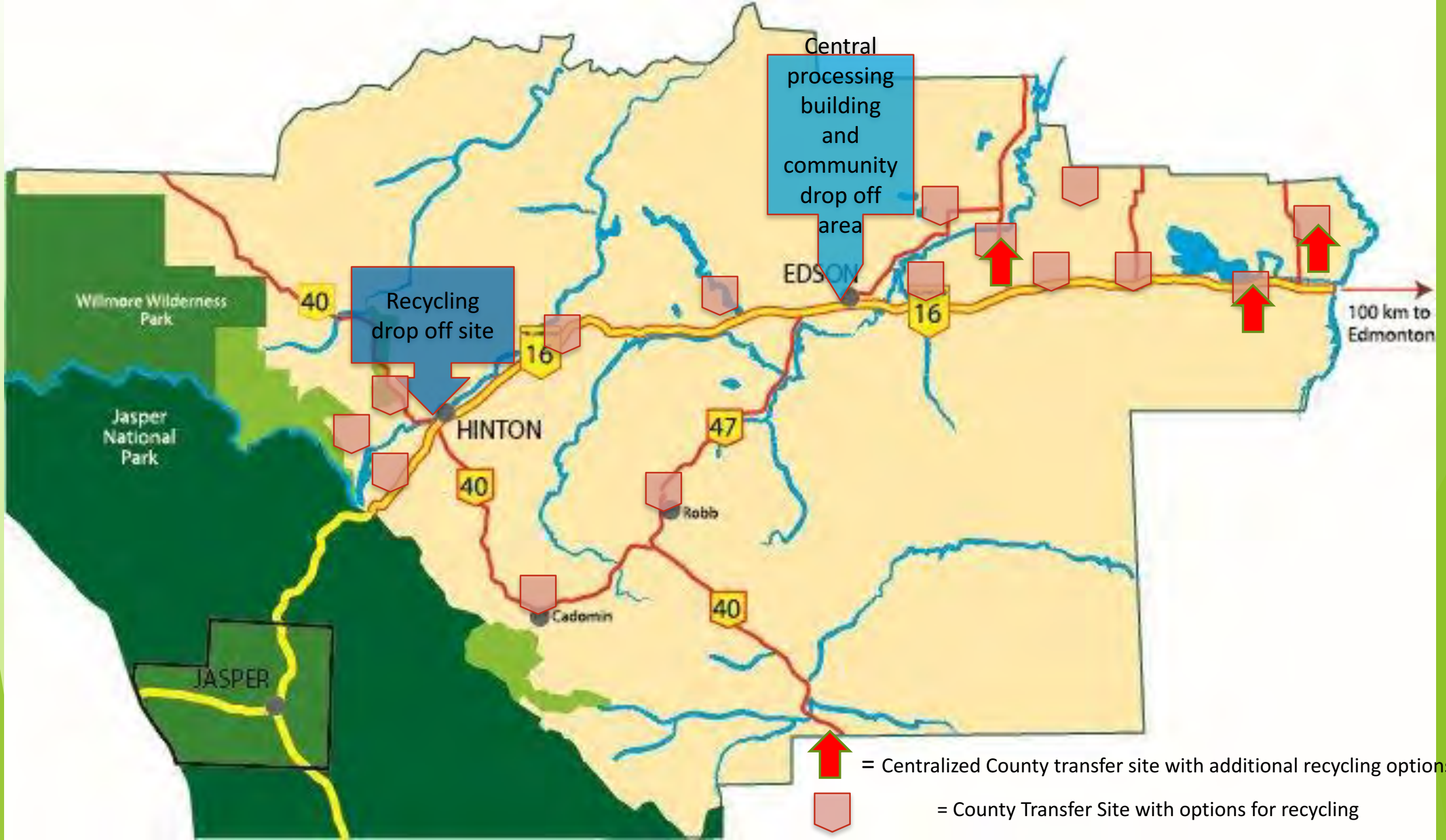
Mandate

- To educate citizens of Edson and district on the wise use of our environment.
- To provide the people and businesses of Edson and district with the opportunity to engage in environmentally sustainable practices.
- To facilitate public involvement in municipal and provincial waste management policy.



- Spans approximately 200 km, East to West and 120 kms north to south
- Serves the municipalities of Hinton, Edson and Yellowhead County
- One main processing area located in Edson
 - Two permanent drop off sites in Hinton and Edson
- 15 county transfer sites, with various options to recycle
- 3 main centralized county transfer sites that accept paint, electronics and agricultural plastics and clean farm items
- 6 mobile collection trailers in 4 hamlets.





What services do we provide and what materials do we process?

- All fibre materials
- Glass
- Tin
- Metal
- Oil (3 to 5,000 l per mth)
- Oil containers/filters (6 to 800 kg per mth)
- All plastics
- Electronics (4 to 5 mt per month)
- Paint
- Florescent light tubes
- House Hold Hazardous Materials
- Take it or Leave it
- Building and household materials reuse area
- Agricultural plastics (twine and wrap)
- Community Garden
- Monthly Seniors Days
- School recycling and Composting programs
- Community education and reuse educational programs





What are the challenges to recycling in rural and remote areas?

Central issue is that rural recycling programs need to serve large areas with low population densities.

- Low volumes which makes marketing difficult
 - Regional partnerships
 - Emphasis on quality of materials
- Multiple municipalities to coordinate with
 - Need for communication, co-ordination, cooperation and collaboration
- Different recycling needs within the service area
 - Residential, farm, industrial and commercial
- Building and equipment maintenance options
 - Make alliances with other partners
 - Network with others in the industry
- Increased transportation costs to ship in supplies.
- Competition for labor and management personnel

Advantages to recycling in rural and remote areas

- Greater sense of community
- Increased opportunities for community engagement. Work with schools, seniors groups, service groups (ie Rotary etc.), food banks, adult education, sports groups, government agencies etc.
- Impact of social marketing and educational programing is immediate and magnified.
- More buy in from the commercial sector and local businesses.
- Increase opportunities for original and unique solutions to challenges



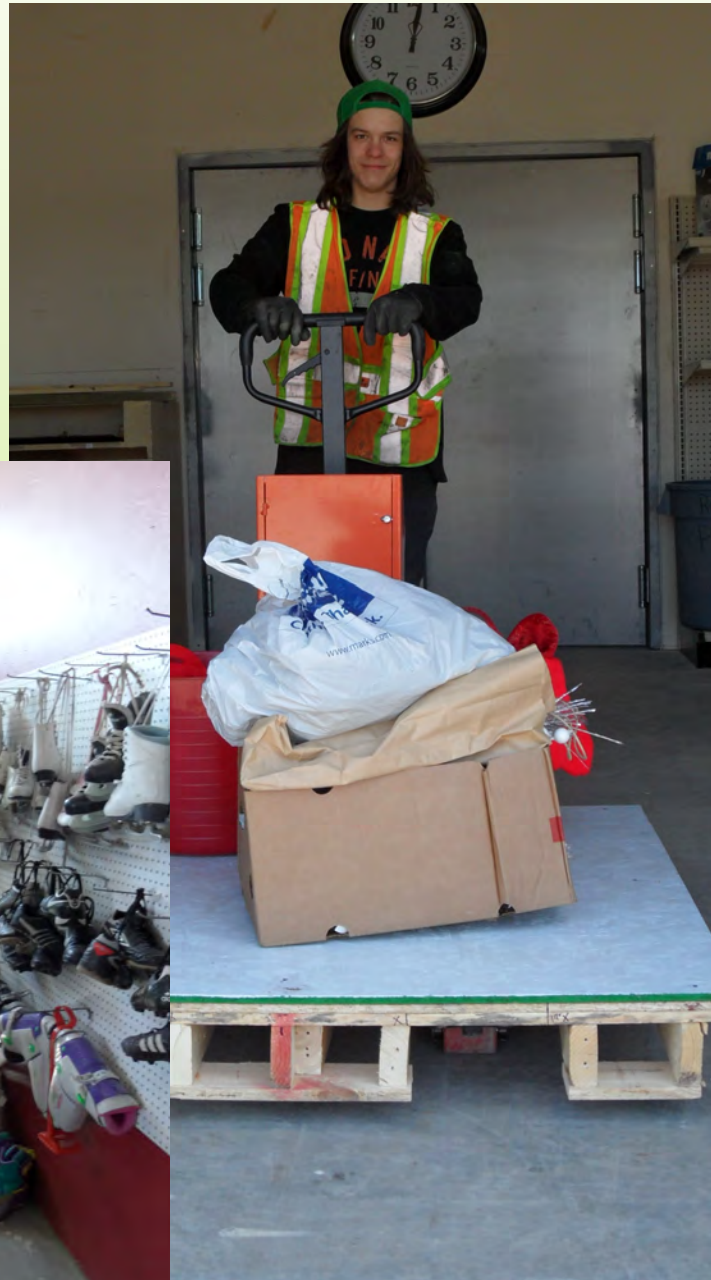


Community Garden

Re-connecting
people with the
environment they
live in

Reuse Center

Approximately 10,000 kgs
per month diverted from
the landfill





HAVE A LITTLE
TASTE OF
SUNSHINE

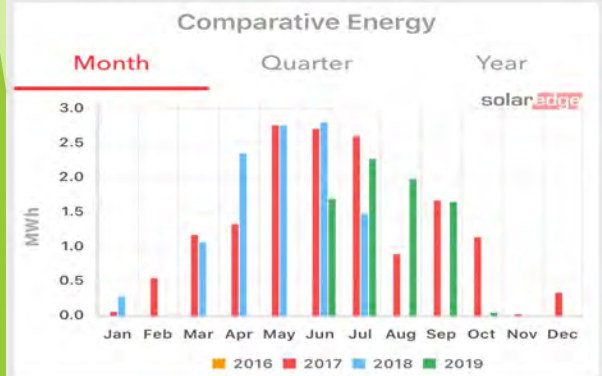
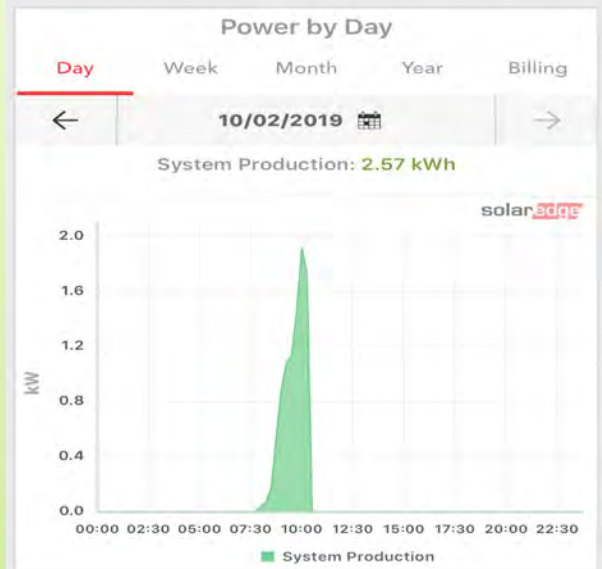
Special Event Trailer



School Environment Education Events







Powered by the
Sun!



School waste reduction programs



Edson and Area is noted for its:

Large number of :

- Gas stations
 - Churches
 - Liquor Stores
 - Big 4 by 4 trucks
- and the one and only.....
Oliver

