



# Nez Perce Tribe Recycling Program Newsletter—October 2020

'apaqa'áño' 'ee kaa 'epeqícxnu' wéetesne

- Respect and take care of the earth.

Nez Perce Tribe Water Resources Division - Solid Waste and Recycling Program

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## Is Recycling Cardboard (OCC) Worth It?

Consider this:

- ⇒ 1 bale of OCC weighs ~1,100 lbs. which in loose form would take up about 20 cubic yards (1 of our red waste bins)
- ⇒ We recently sent 30 bales (33,900 lbs.—the equivalent of 30 of our red waste bins) of OCC to a mill in OR; after paying the freight on that shipment out of the proceeds, we will receive \$514 of income, and the mill will reuse the cardboard to make renewable packaging, pulp and paper products.
- ⇒ If that OCC had gone to the landfill, it would have cost \$843 in tipping fees alone to dispose of and would have filled 600 cubic yards of landfill space, filling up the landfill needlessly and serving no purpose, just rotting.

Recycling cardboard not only saves space in the landfill and brings in some revenue to offset costs of recycling, but also creates and supports more jobs, an underlying benefit we don't always see.

- If you dispose of your material in a landfill you support:
  - The driver to haul your materials away
  - Landfill Operators and Staff
- If you recycle your material you support:
  - The baler operator at your facility
  - Equipment maintenance personnel for your baler
  - The driver that picks up your material
  - The recycling staff that collects, sorts and prepares baled goods for shipping
  - The truck driver or long haul driver that will deliver the commodity to a cardboard mill
  - The unloading staff at a mill or transloading depot, and in export cases, dock workers, steamship lines and container shipping companies
  - The paper-mill workers, staff and operators
  - The entire industry that will sell, transport, and convert cardboard into new packaging, paper, and so on.

The reality is that recycling is an infinite loop of job creation that can loop over and over again while materials are used over again.

So is cardboard worth recycling? **YES, YES IT IS!** Although it may be a small money maker these days, there are many more pieces to the puzzle that make it very valuable to recycle.

## “Talkin’ Trash”



**Reminder!**

**Nez Perce Tribe Housing Authority Cleanup**

**October 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Lapwai Recycling Schedule\***

**Community Recycling**

**October 8 & 22**

**Pineauwau Parking Lot 11 am -1 pm**

**Office Collections**

**October 1, 15 & 29**

*\*Subject to change due to COVID*

**Please - Wear your mask! mástay híikte'x & Stay healthy! wic'éetx wáaq'is**