

Landfill waste, in tons

	2017	2018	Decrease
July	434	261	40%
August	470	296	37%
September	373	286	23%

The Municipality thanks residents for their truly impactful individual efforts and encourages everyone to continue down the same path so that Val-des-Monts becomes an even more eco-friendly community.



WINTER COMPOSTING

Though composting works best during warm weather, it can continue in the winter as well, so you can keep “feeding” it even when temperatures dip. Despite the deep freeze, your organic waste will easily decompose once warmer weather sets in. If you’ve planned accordingly and kept leaves from the fall, you can continue adding a blend of one part green waste (e.g. fruit or veggie residues) and two parts brown waste (e.g. dried leaves, rice, coffee grinds).

COMPOSTING PRODUCES ACTUAL RESULTS

Each and every year, our consumer society generates massive amounts of garbage and waste products. The Québec government requires MRCs and municipalities to do their utmost to manage this waste in a more eco-friendly way.

As part of this broad collective challenge, the government’s action plan includes ambitious objectives, such as requiring us to recycle 70% of all paper, plastic, glass and residual materials, and by 2020 to eliminate all perishable organic waste from landfill sites.

The Municipality took action in the spring of 2018 by implementing a large-scale household composting project, well aware that achieving the government’s objectives required the commitment of all residents. We’re happy to announce that preliminary figures indicate we’re on the right track, with considerable savings already on the books.

Specifically, since July 1, 2018 (marking the launch of composting), waste sent to our landfills has decreased considerably, generating about \$60,000 in savings over the three-month period of July, August and September. A full report will come later down the road, but we’re pleased to pass along the following preliminary data for now.



PLANNING
DIRECTORATE
ENVIRONMENT AND
URBAN PLANNING



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TEMPORARY SHELTERS

Val-des-Monts has regulations on temporary or portable shelters used in the winter. For instance, Article 5.2 of *By-law 436-99* says that no more than two temporary vehicle shelters can be used between October 15 any calendar year and April 15 the following year. Outside of this period, these shelters must be disassembled and stored, except those granted year-round authorization under Article 5.3 of the *By-law*.

No other material can be added between the shelter structure and its canvas cover, as this can create excessive weight and damage the shelter. In addition, no other canvas cover can be added to the shelter, other than to replace the existing cover because of damage.

During the winter, you must work on the outside of shelters to clear snow from them, and never inside.



Finally, under our new policy on the application of by-laws tied to environmental and urban-planning violations, anyone not having removed their temporary shelter by April 16, 2019, can be issued a notice of infraction on the spot without any further warning or delay, and the fine ranges from \$500 to \$1,000.

NUISANCES

The Municipality of Val-des-Monts passed *By-law 823-18* to both clearly define what constitutes a nuisance and give itself the authority to require that property and building owners, tenants or occupants eliminate any nuisances by a certain deadline or conduct whatever work is needed to prevent the nuisances from reoccurring.

When individuals fail to comply with the by-law by either creating or neglecting nuisances, they can be fined. Below is a partial list of nuisances under the by-law:

- Neglectful property maintenance
- Neglectful building maintenance
- Appliances left outside on a property
- Improper management of waste, recyclables and compostables
- Dangerous or harmful products left on the property
- Unauthorized burying of products
- Non-functioning water-treatment system
- Construction materials left on the property
- Non-functioning vehicle left on the property
- Vehicle parts left on the property
- Lights projecting beyond property lines
- Dust



APPLYING THE COMPOSTING BY-LAW

To achieve our waste-reduction targets, Val-des-Monts adopted *By-law 820-18* on February 6, 2018. Section 8.4 of the *By-law* says that every building owner in the Municipality must have access to at least one composting bin on the property and **must use the bin to process compostable material produced by the building's occupants**. The number of bins must meet the actual needs of the building, and no compostable material can be mixed with waste or recyclables.

The preliminary inspection of bins takes place along with septic-system inspections. If officers don't find a bin on the property or if they see a bin is unused, they leave a courtesy notice on location. Another officer returns for a follow-up inspection and, if no changes have occurred, an official notice of infraction can be issued immediately, which entails a fine between \$500 and \$1,000 for the first violation.

INFORMATIONS

Waste management and recycling:

Public Works Service
819-457-9400, extension 2321

Sanitaires Richard Lanthier
819-664-2469

Composting, temporary shelters and nuisances:

Environment and Urban Planning Service
819 457-9400, extension 2315