

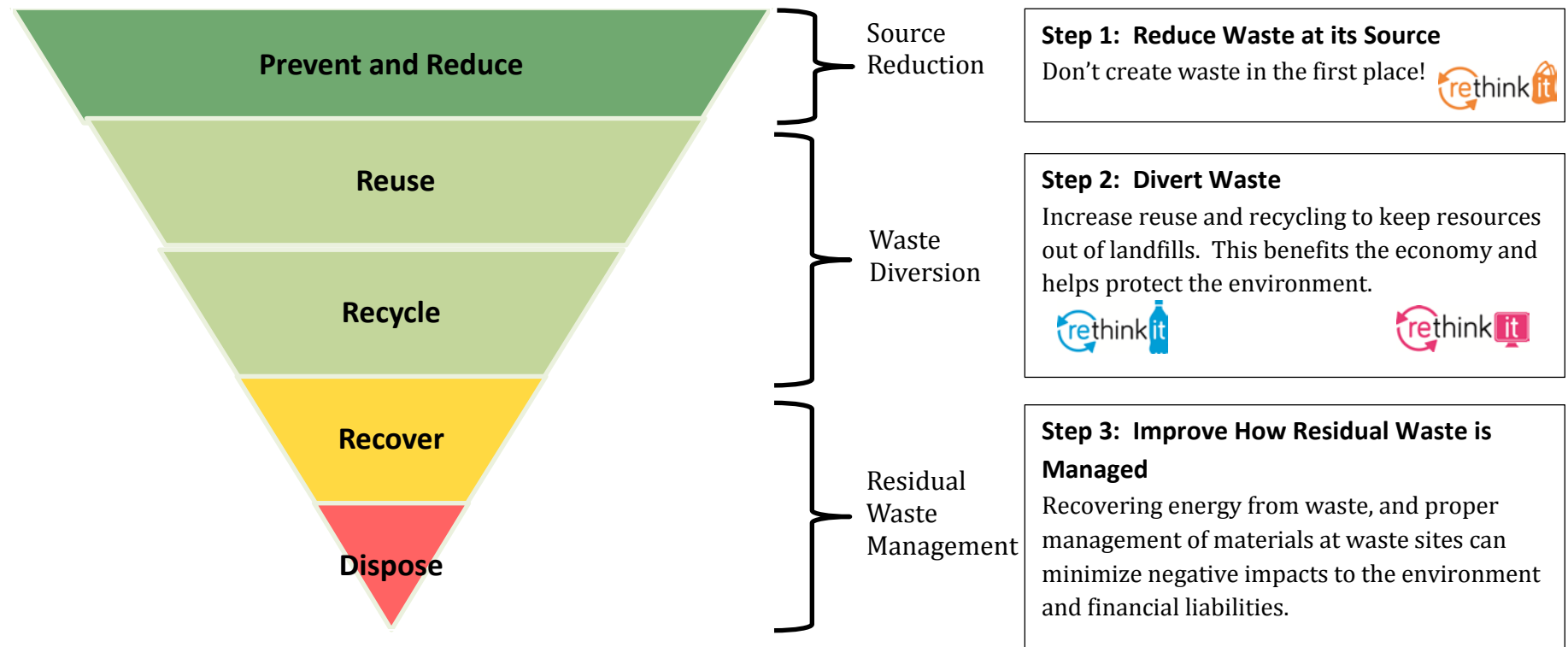
Developing a Waste Resource Management Strategy for the Northwest Territories

Waste, and how we deal with it, can impact the quality of our land, air and water, as well as the health of wildlife, plants, ecosystems and people living in the Northwest Territories (NWT). It can also impact the economic health of communities. In 2017, the Government of the Northwest Territories will engage stakeholders, Aboriginal and community governments to help shape the development of a Waste Resource Management Strategy (Strategy).

The Strategy will follow the waste management hierarchy (below) to foster a shift in how waste is viewed and managed in the NWT. It will serve as a ten-year road map for improving waste resource management.

Waste Management Hierarchy

The more waste we can prevent and divert from landfills, the better it is for people, the environment and the economy.



Add your Voice to the Development of a Waste Resource Management Strategy

Stakeholder, Aboriginal and community government engagement will begin early fall. To ensure you are included when a Discussion Paper will be circulated, please contact:

Michelle Hannah,
Waste Reduction Specialist
Michelle_Hannah@gov.nt.ca, or
(867) 767-9236 ext. 53201

The Strategy will aim to improve residential and non-residential waste management while realizing economic and environmental benefits.

Economic benefits can include:

- prolonged lifespan of landfills;
- reduced financial liability of contamination from hazardous waste; and
- job creation in the recycling sector.

Environmental benefits can include:

- preventing contamination of land and water;
- less harm to wildlife and people if animals are not drawn to landfills; and
- reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Tips for Improving Hazardous Waste Management

Hazardous waste can harm the environment and result in significant financial liabilities. Some things that can help communities reduce the risks associated with managing hazardous wastes include:

- be clear with residents and businesses on what types of hazardous wastes are acceptable at your landfill; and
- store hazardous waste at landfills properly
 - this on-line video can help:
“Managing the Hazardous Waste in your Community”
<http://ecologynorth.ca/resources/audio-video/>

If your community is interested in

- developing a hazardous waste management plan;
- setting up a household hazardous waste collection event;
- obtaining signs and equipment to help segregate hazardous and other waste at landfills; or
- discussing hazardous waste concerns,

Contact: **Gerald Enns,** Hazardous Waste Specialist
Gerald_Enns@gov.nt.ca, or
(867) 767-9236 ext. 53187

Funding Opportunity to Reduce and Divert Waste in the NWT

The Waste Reduction and Recycling Initiative accepts proposals annually in April for projects focused on reducing and diverting waste. See www.rethinkitnwt.ca for more information, including guidelines and an application form.

