



## Tour Vocabulary List

**The 4Rs:** Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot; four ways of conserving natural resources and making less waste

**Bale:** a large quantity of recyclables that has been compressed into a cube shape to be transported to the recycler that will create new products

**Bauxite:** the mineral that is mined and used to produce aluminum, primarily found in Australia

**Community:** a group of people living in one area or place

**Compost:** the product of decomposed organic material; a nutrient-rich fertilizer that creates a healthy growing environment for plants

**Conserve:** to be wise and efficient with the use of natural resources so they won't be used up

**Cycle:** a periodically repeated sequence of events

**Decomposer:** an organism, including fungi, bacteria and invertebrates, that consumes and breaks down rotting organic material and helps return the nutrients back to the earth

**Engage:** to participate and take part in conserving our environment

**Explore:** to investigate, study, and examine in order to discover new information

**Footprint:** the impact our activities make on the environment, in particular climate change

**Hazardous Waste:** material that is unfit for curbside bins because it may contain toxic chemicals or substances that need special handling and disposal

**Healthy:** to have physical, spiritual and mental well being

**Imagine:** to form a mental image; imagine our environment with zero waste and everything is reused

**Journey:** to travel from one place to another

**Landfill:** an area of land designed to handle the disposal of solid waste. The garbage is usually spread out, compacted, and covered with dirt or other material in order to protect the environment in and around the landfill. The landfill is the final destination and the permanent home for anything we put in our garbage bin.

**Materials Recovery Facility (MRF):** a facility designed to recover and sort materials that can be recycled, using machines and manual labor

**Natural Resource:** a material, organism, or element that is naturally occurring and is harvested and used by humans for food, energy, manufacturing, or other purposes. Examples are minerals, plants, animals, water, air and sunlight.

**Nature:** the world of living things and its elements

**Neighborhood:** people forming a community who live near each other within a city or town

## Pre-Tour Activity

**Non-renewable resource:** minerals or sources of energy that can be mined or collected from the Earth, such as coal, petroleum, iron ore, copper etc. The processes needed from these natural resources to form are so slow they may be considered gone forever once they are used up.

**Nurture:** to care for and encourage development

**Participate:** to become active in taking part to conserve our natural resources and environment

**Preserve:** to help protect the environment for future generations by doing acts such as recycling

**Protect:** to conserve the quality of our environment

**Reclaim:** to make useful again, such as reusing water for irrigation

**Recycle:** to make new products from used materials

**Reduce:** to make less waste in the first place by using fewer resources

**Reflect:** to think and look back upon

**Refresh:** to bring energy and freshness

**Regenerate:** to give a new life or bring energy

**Renew:** to make new; to restore

**Renewable resource:** natural resources such as plants and animals that can be harvested and reproduced again and again within a specific amount of time

**Renewable:** can be replaced within a short amount of time; renewable resources such as water, wind, plants and animals

**Resource:** an available supply of something that can be used when needed

**Respect:** to show appreciation and consideration

**Restore:** to bring back to its original condition such as restoring old furniture

**Rethink:** to think again, for example, wasteful habits such as wasting water, wasting energy, and wasting food

**Reuse:** to extend the life of an item by using it over and over again or thinking of new ways to use it

**Rot:** to decompose organic waste (yard trimmings, food scraps, or food-soiled paper) which is made into compost to use for plant growth

**Stewardship:** to be responsible for the use and protection of our environment and sustain our natural resources

**Transfer Station:** a centrally-located facility that receives, sorts, and transfers municipal waste to its next destination, such as landfills, recyclers, or composting facilities.

**Watershed:** an area of land that drains into a lake or river