

Making an Impact



Thawing and repairing frozen water service lines can cost Canadian municipalities millions of dollars annually. Working with the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, NRC researchers have come up with a simple solution: the lines can be protected by covering them with an insulating layer of plastic chips made from recycled yogurt and margarine containers. Not only does the municipality save money on maintenance, but it is able to reuse a material readily available through its consumer recycling program.