

DRAFT 2012-2032
Waste Management Master Plan
Waste Recycling Strategy
Overview of Recommendations

Currently, the Township of Malahide and the Municipalities of Bayham and Central Elgin have a waste management system with average costs and an average waste diversion rate of 24% compared to the provincial average of about 37%.

A draft Waste Management Master Plan and Waste Recycling Strategy, with a twenty year planning window, has been completed 2cg Waste Management Consulting Services.

Key **recommendations** include:

- Achieve 30% waste diversion goal by 2014
- Achieve 40% waste diversion goal by 2016
- Assess future waste diversion goals in 2016

The following strategies to achieve these goals were **recommended** by the Consultant:

General

1. Joint tender/RFP for collection of garbage and Blue Box

***Rationale:** There are potential cost efficiencies that can be gained by working together. These can be determined by asking the marketplace for pricing collectively.*

2. Introduce a mandatory recycling by-law

Central Elgin currently has a by-law which prohibits the placing of recyclables in the garbage stream.

***Rationale:** If municipalities wish to increase waste diversion, a by-law that includes measures to prohibit or otherwise restrict the placement of recyclables in the garbage stream can be used to remind residents about using the recycling opportunities provided. This does not mean penalizing a resident for place placing a single can or sheet of paper in a garbage bag. But, it can be an effective tool for encouraging those residents that are not currently using the recycling program.*

Garbage Collection and Disposal

3. Make garbage collection, blue box collection, and other programs the same across the three municipalities

***Rationale:** There are potential cost efficiencies that can be gained by working together.*

4. Set a 3 bag and then a 2 bag weekly limit for waste for Bayham and Malahide

Rationale: To make garbage collection limits across the three municipalities the same. Central Elgin has the lowest weekly bag limit of the three municipalities as it distributes 95 bag tags per household (about 2 bags/week).

5. Use a bag tag system like that which is currently used in Central Elgin for garbage.

Rationale: A household would be able to use its annual supply of bag tags as they see fit. This provides residents with some flexibility in terms of how many bags can be placed at the curb on a given week as opposed to being confined to a fixed bag limit. On weeks of low waste generation, fewer bags would be placed at the curb. On weeks of higher waste generation, more bags would be placed at the curb. Municipalities that have implemented a bag tag program typically do not see an increase in illegal dumping of garbage.

6. Continue to work with the City of Toronto to maintain current and future access to the Green Lane Landfill

Rationale: The municipalities have a contract with the landfill until 2019. It is understood that the landfill will be filled at the earliest in 2024 and possibly as late as 2036. Annual communication with the City of Toronto can confirm remaining capacity and access to this landfill.

Blue Box Collection and Processing

7. Harmonize and expand the types of blue box materials that can be accepted so that it is the same for all three municipalities.

Rationale: Not all of the municipalities currently recycle the same items and obvious recycling opportunities (e.g. some plastics) are being missed. There is also an opportunity to expand the type of materials that are captured.

8. Implement weekly collection of Blue Box in Malahide

Rationale: To harmonize collection with Bayham and Central Elgin.

9. Distribution of additional Blue Boxes to single family households

Rationale: This will allow for additional capture of blue box recyclables. Funding is available to defray costs of new larger blue boxes.

10. Deliver Blue Box recyclables to new City of London Regional Materials Recovery Facility (open fall 2011)

Rationale: Municipalities will typically receive a rebate for recyclables delivered to this regional facility. This will result in a lower overall cost for the blue box program.

11. Enhance public space recycling

Rationale: Residents and visitors should have an increased opportunity to recycle wastes when in public areas (e.g. parks, urban public areas). There should be some consistency in the types of bins used for this purpose. There is an opportunity for municipalities to include messaging on recycling bins. There is funding currently available for public space recycling.

Organic Waste

Organic waste makes up approximately 40% of the waste stream.

12. Introduce backyard composter program

Rationale: Relatively inexpensive way to manage residential food wastes and leaf and yard wastes. Municipalities can sell subsidized or unsubsidized back yard composters to residents.

13. Expand leaf and yard waste collection to all urban areas

Rationale: Urban households typically have less options and space for dealing with leaf and yard waste. Some leaf and yard waste is currently ending up in the garbage stream and going to landfill. Fall leaf collection can help remove this waste from going to landfill, thus reducing tipping fees and extending the life of the landfill.

14. Hold annual leaf and yard waste drop-off depots

Rationale: Provides all residents with the opportunity to divert leaf and yard wastes. Some yard waste is currently ending up in the garbage stream and going to landfill. This increases tipping fees and reduces the life of the landfill.

Other Wastes

15. Continue annual waste electrical and electronics equipment (WEEE) and municipal household special waste (MHSW) drop-off depots.

Rationale: These programs allow residents to recycle materials for which there is not curbside collection.

Promotion and Education

16. Develop enhanced promotions & education programs.

Rationale: While current informational materials on the Township's website describe current garbage and recycling programs there is no information about current waste diversion, future waste diversion goals and a "call to action" on how residents can participate.