

Waste Management Services Overview of 2021 Divisional Initiatives

Waste Management Planning Steering Committee
February 22, 2021

Overview

Responsible for the planning, management and operations of waste management facilities, programs and services:

- Operation and maintenance of two Regional landfills, 12 closed landfills, the materials recycling facility (MRF), three household hazardous waste (HHW) depots, three waste and residential drop-off depots, and special diversion programs
- Management of private sector service contracts for collection services, organic composting and landfill disposal
- Capital program, asset management, and on-going environmental monitoring
- Enforcement, education and outreach programs

In addition to these core functions, 2021 divisional initiatives and areas of priority are highlighted in the following slides

Highlights of Completed Work in 2020

- Implementation of new curbside collection contracts
- Completion of public education campaign on service level changes
- Update to Waste Management By-Law
- Implementation of online sale of Blue/Grey Boxes/Bins/Carts and garbage tags
- Rollout of new online collection calendar and mobile app
- Finalized agreement for MRF Drum Feeders
- Completion of Phase 1 infrastructure upgrades at Humberstone Landfill, implementation of a SCADA system at closed landfills, and optimization of landfill monitoring programs
- Continued participation in extended producer responsibility transition consultations, ongoing reporting to Committees with recommendations

Tonnages Managed in 2020



- Processed 70,000 tonnes of material at Region's MRF (2020 draft tonnage)
- Composted 58,036 tonnes of residential organic waste (2020 draft tonnage)
- Disposed of 118,038 tonnes of waste (2020 draft tonnage)

Provincial Legislation

- Waste Management staff are actively involved in consultation, review and reporting on Provincial initiatives and legislation
- Ongoing divisional tasks related to this include:
 - Participation in consultation sessions with the Province, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and other organizations;
 - Review and comment on proposed and final regulations;
 - Providing reports and presentations to Regional committees with recommendations, financial analysis and implications for the Region.
- Key current and upcoming legislation includes:
 - Producer responsibility model for the residential Blue Box Program
 - Proposed amendment to the Food and Organic Waste Policy Statement

Provincial Legislation: Blue Box Program

- Ontario is shifting to a full producer responsibility model for the residential Blue Box Program
- On October 19, 2020 the Province released a proposed new regulation under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016 (RRCEA)* to make producers responsible for collecting and managing the full life cycle of designated products and packaging
- The draft regulation defines a timeframe for transition, ensures a common collection system, designates materials to be collected, determines responsible producers and sets effective targets
- Under the draft regulation, Niagara Region has been identified to transition in 2024. A specific date within 2024 was not provided

Provincial Legislation: Blue Box Program

- Timelines for new Blue Box Regulation:
 - 2021 - Approval of Regulation
 - 2021 to 2022 – Stakeholders organize and prepare for producer responsibility
 - 2023 to 2025 – Producers take full responsibility from communities
 - 2021 to 2025 – Stewardship Ontario implements Blue Box Transition plan, each community continues to be 50% funded until they transition



Provincial Legislation: Food & Organic Waste

The Food and Organic Waste Framework , released by the Province in April of 2018 is comprised of two components:

- Part A: The Action Plan - outlines strategic commitments to be taken by the province to address food and organic waste. Proposed actions in the plan include a phased-in ban on food and organic waste from landfills starting in 2022
- Part B: The Policy Statement – provides direction to the Province, municipalities, the industrial, commercial and institutional (IC&I) sector, owners and operators of resource recovery systems and others to further the provincial interest in waste reduction and resource recovery as it relates to food and organic waste. It came into effect April 30, 2018, under the RRCEA.

Provincial Legislation: Potential Implications of Food & Organic Waste Framework for Niagara Region

- **Diversion Target:** Would be set at 70 per cent waste reduction and resource recovery of food and organic waste generated by low density residential dwellings by 2023
- **Landfill Ban:** Proposed phased-in ban on food and organic waste from landfills starting in 2022
- **New/Upgraded Processing Technology:** Requirements for municipalities to support pilot projects, research on processing compostable products, in addition to being encouraged to examine feasibility of updating existing processing technology
- **Materials List:** Municipalities encouraged to make waste reduction and resource recovery efforts for items not currently compatible with Region's composting technology and that do not breakdown in a typical municipal composting facility
- **Promotion and Education (P&E):** Province-wide P&E messaging through brand holder requirements, however variations among municipalities' processing systems

Provincial Legislation: Additional Transition Timelines

- Other waste diversion programs are transitioning to a producer responsibility model. Regulations that make producers fully responsible for these programs come into effect the same day the current programs end. These programs include:
 - **Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) Program**
 - Battery materials transitioned on July 1, 2020 and the remaining program materials will transition on July 1, 2021
 - Final regulation still to be released
 - **Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Program**
 - Transitioned to the producer responsibility model on January 1, 2021
 - Niagara Region to release tender in 2021 for operation of multi-residential WEEE and depot collection

Provincial Legislation: *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020* (Bill 197)

- Enacted July 21, 2020, the legislation made substantial changes to the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) including:
 - **Project List:** Environmental Assessments (EAs) now only apply to specific types of projects on a prescribed regulatory list. Landfills are included in the proposed list.
 - **Streamlined EAs:** Replacement of 10 currently approved Class EAs with streamlined EA process
 - **Limitation of ‘Bump-up’ Requests:** Restrict grounds upon which residents can request elevation of contentious projects from streamlined EA to comprehensive EA
 - **Municipal Approval for New Landfills:** Proponent of new landfills must obtain approval of the municipality in which the landfill is located and adjacent municipalities if within 3.5 km of municipal border

Provincial Legislation: *On-Site and Excess Soil Management Regulation, O. Reg. 406/19*

- This new regulation sets out procedures for the management of excess soil in Ontario, including soil chemical sampling, haulage tracking (truck manifesting), and acceptance at a receiving site such as a Landfill
- The regulation is being phased in:
 - The chemical standards for appropriate reuse of excess soil came into effect on January 1, 2021
 - The requirement for detailed plans for tracking the movement of soil via manifesting and then registering soil movement onto a Provincially designated web-based database comes into effect January 1, 2022
 - Clean soil will be restricted from acceptance at Landfill sites on January 1, 2025 unless the Landfill has a beneficial reuse for the clean soil

Strategic Projects - 2021

- Long Term Strategic Plan
 - An RFP for development of a Waste Management Long Term Strategic Plan will be released in 2021
 - The plan will establish a framework and strategic direction for waste management in Niagara Region over the next 25 years
- Peel Mixed Waste Processing Pilot
 - Participation on mixed waste processing pilot to range from supplying tonnage to receiving data results

Strategic Projects - 2021

- MRF Opportunity Review – Phase 4
 - Finalization and issuance of Negotiated Request for Proposals (NRFP) in the spring of 2021
 - To determine the best future opportunity for the MRF and minimize risk of a potentially devalued facility considering the transition of the residential Blue Box Program
- Organics Processing Requirements Analysis
 - Evaluate future processing needs (i.e. potential increased tonnage due to every-other-week garbage, proposed ban on organics in landfills)
 - Review options including potential expansion of Walker facility in 2022



Assessments - 2021

- Every-Other-Week Garbage Collection Diversion Analysis
 - Tonnage analysis (6 months and full year)
- Diaper Exemption Collection Analysis
 - Complete one year analysis of program use over winter and summer months



Program Performance Monitoring

- Multi-Residential Building Recycling Audits
 - Determine baseline contamination and diversion rate in multi-residential buildings and develop campaign plan to improve diversion
- CIF 2020-21 Curbside Waste Composition Study
 - Four season study of low density residential waste composition
- Regional Building Waste Audits
 - Regional Headquarters Building

Enforcement

- Illegal Dumping Working Group Initiatives
 - Continuation of issuing offences, increase reports and compliances
 - Explore opportunities to participate in provincial working group and other partnerships
 - Ongoing Illegal Dumping Enforcement Plan
- Litter Bin Blitz
 - Continuation of litter bin blitz in local area municipalities to reduce illegal dumping in litter receptacles



Outreach Campaigns - 2021

- Green Bin Campaign
- Illegal Dumping/Anti-Litter Campaign



Capital Projects - 2021

- Drop-off Depot Improvements at Bridge, Humberstone and NR-12
 - Improvements to increase customer service, functionality and efficiency
- Humberstone Infrastructure Upgrades
 - Completion of upgrades required in order to utilize the additional capacity
 - Detailed Design of Phase III of the LGCCS in accordance with ECA req'ts
- Glenridge Quarry Naturalization Site
 - Review and design of existing and new Passive Gas Venting System on east and south side of site
 - Design improvements to leachate collection system to reduce leachate mounding
- Mountain Road Leachate Collection System Upgrades
 - Design of upgrades to existing system to remove flow and improvement to reduce leachate mounding



Questions?