

Waste Management – 2026 Workplan

Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

WMPSC-C 5-2026

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WM Services

Mission: We provide fiscally responsible waste management and resource recovery services to meet the needs of the community and promote environmental sustainability

Mandate: Provide safe, reliable, efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible waste collection and disposal services that meets the needs of the public, enhances resource recovery and ensures regulatory compliance. Also responsible for outreach and enforcement of the waste management bylaw



Strategic Context

- 2026 marks the start of implementation of the Niagara Region Waste Strategy
- Key legislative and market changes continue to affect waste collection, recycling/processing and disposal
- Infrastructure, contracts and funding decisions made now will shape outcomes for the next 10 - 25 years

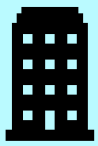
Targets Guiding the 2026 Workplan



Contribute to the Region's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2050



Increase capture of organic waste by 10% by 2035



Increase the number of multi-residential properties participating in the green bin program by 10% by 2035



Maintain the average rating of critical waste management assets in fair condition or better

Waste Reduction and Diversion

- **Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Strategy**
 - Food waste diversion from curbside, MR and IC&I
- **Illegal Dumping Strategy**
 - Prevention-focused, long-term reduction approach
- **Public Spaces and Parks Waste Strategy**
 - To meet growing waste collection needs from parks and public spaces
 - Collaboration with Local Area Municipalities
 - Service level agreements, container management and education



Service Delivery and Policy Modernization



- **Drop-Off Depot Levels of Service**

- Identify gaps and opportunities across the network
- Accessibility, hours of operation, service expansion and diversion improvements
- Negotiate agreement with CM for recyclables collection

- **Waste Collection Guidelines for New Developments**

- Updated standards for residential, multi-residential, commercial and mixed-use developments
- Ensuring new growth is designed for effective waste diversion

Collection Systems

- **Waste Collection RFP / Contract Optimization**
 - Operational efficiencies and evaluation of service models (e.g., automated cart collection)
- **Collection Contract Funding Strategy**
 - Planning for anticipated cost increases (50%+)
- **Blue Box Transition**
 - Collect data and prepare summary reports tracking producer compliance and trends/impacts
- **Garbage Bag Tag Fees**
 - Fee increase to support full cost recovery, with public communication as part of implementation



Disposal Planning

- **Excess Soil Management Strategy**
 - Reduce or eliminate soil disposal at Regional landfills
 - Operational, policy, and fee-based options
- **Short-Term Disposal Capacity Plan**
 - Planning for capacity following expiry of the Walker Landfill contract



Infrastructure and Facility Improvements



- **Paving Upgrades**

- Multiple sites, including drop-off depots; coordinated with Transportation's Hot Mix Program

- **Glenridge – Boardwalk Structure**

- Underwater condition assessment; scoping for rehabilitation or replacement

- **Landfill Gas Collection and Control System**

- Design following federal regulations

- **Humberstone – New Scales**

- Review and replacement planning

- **NR-12 – Cell #5 (Pre-Design Work)**

- Early work to support future disposal capacity needs

Digitization and Data Modernization

- **Digital Public Education Initiative**
 - Digitized waste guides
 - Public performance dashboards
- **Operations Software Assessment and Implementation**
 - Review of existing systems
 - Potential Geoware upgrade (weigh scale software)

