



Brant County Waste Diversion Plan Process

**Community Workshop #1
January 17 & 25, 2007**

**“Achieving 60% and More...
A Waste Diversion System for
the Future”**

Moving Towards the Future

Understanding the Concern

- **The County has set a goal 60% diversion of waste from disposal**
- **This is in line with the new Provincial 60% waste diversion target for Ontario**
- **The County will have to increase its efforts of diverting waste if it is to reach its goal**
- **Currently, Brant County recycles and composts 36% of its waste**

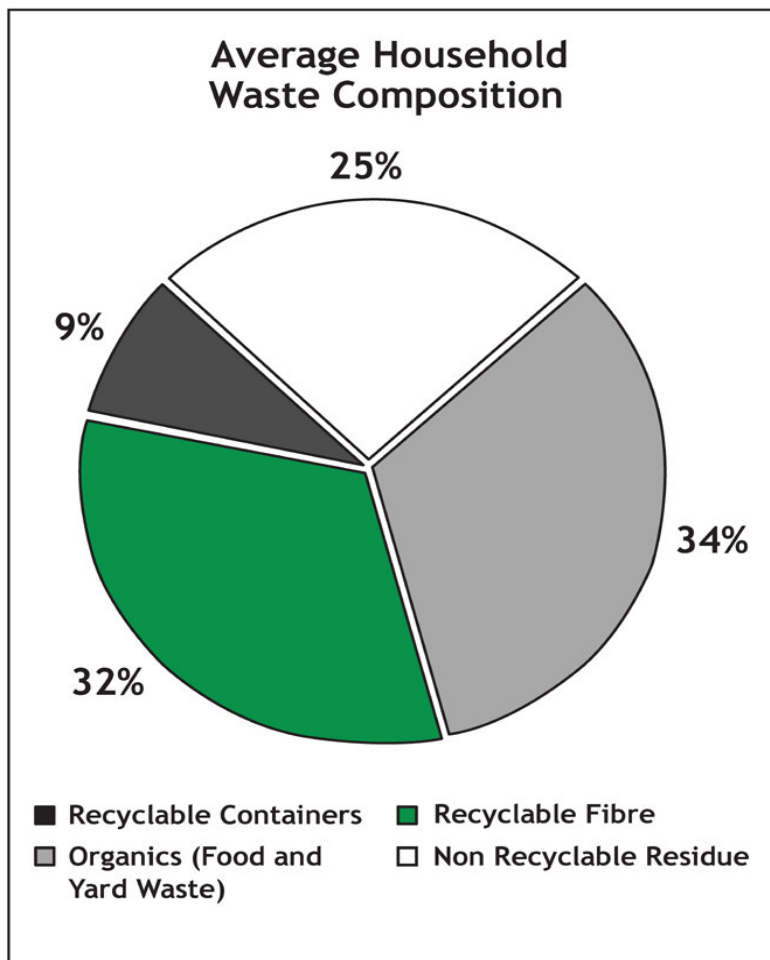
Moving Towards the Future Current System

Brant County's current waste diversion system consists of:

- **Bi-weekly collection of recyclables (separated newspaper, glass, metal food and beverage cans (steel and aluminum), PET plastic, and cardboard)**
- **Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**
- **Fall Collection of Leaf and Yard Waste**
- **Municipal and IC&I waste and recyclable materials, from the County, can be dropped off at Biggars Landfill and the Paris Transfer Station.**

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Understanding the Goal



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Potential Diversion Options

Waste Minimization

Reducing the amount of waste at the source through initiatives such as backyard composting, and changing purchasing behaviour can divert approximately 5% to 10% of waste material before it reaches the curb. Waste reduction initiatives can be quite challenging and require continual public engagement and reinforcement. Waste reduction initiatives can include:

Backyard Composting

Use of reusable goods vs. disposable products

Reducing the purchase of over packaged goods

Grasscycling (leaving clippings on the lawn)

Use of cloth bags for shopping instead of plastic



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Potential Diversion Options

Source Separated Organics

A source separated organics program includes the collection of household compostable material such as food waste, pet waste, diapers and soiled paper products. Like recyclables, household organics are source separated from regular garbage and put into a special bag or container. The organics are then collected at the curb to be composted at a central composting facility.



Typical municipal waste composition studies show that food waste makes up approximately 30% of the residential waste stream. The costs to offer collection of source separated organic waste can range from \$60 to \$100 per tonne and the costs to process or compost the material will range from \$80 to \$150 per tonne depending on the composting technology selected. Implementing a source separated organic program must also consider the initial start up costs coupled with the annualized operating cost of the service. For example, the capital cost to roll out a source separated organic collection program including the purchase and delivery of containers and promotion and education materials can range from approximately \$20.00 to \$25.00/household.

Moving Toward the Future Potential Diversion Options

Optimized Blue Box Program

Optimization of the existing blue box program could include a number of alternatives ranging from the addition of new materials to the use of alternative collection containers and increasing the collection frequency from every other week to weekly collection. Some of the issues regarding implementation of this initiative include the cost to enhance the collection frequency, debugging recyclables, constraints of existing waste collection contracts and the need to ensure new materials have stable long-term markets before they are added to the recycling program.

Optimizing the Blue Box program could divert an additional 8% of material from disposal and could require increased collection and processing costs of 10% to 30%.



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Potential Diversion Options

Bag Limits and Financial Incentives

In recent years, many communities in Ontario have implemented systems that limit the number of bags/items that can be set out for collection as garbage and/or initiated some type of financial incentive that imposes a fee for each item of garbage placed at the curb. Many municipalities have implemented what they

consider to be an appropriate and effective mix of bag limits and financial incentives to promote increased waste diversion.



The cost of implementing this program may involve additional communication materials and therefore, would mostly be absorbed by existing communications budgets. The type of program is estimated to divert approximately 5% more material from disposal. One time implementation costs are estimated to be approximately \$2.00/household. Ongoing costs are not, however, significant making this option the lowest cost options to divert significant additional tonnage.

Moving Toward the Future Potential Diversion Options

Community Environmental Centres

In recent years, some municipalities have created Community Environmental Centres to provide drop-off recycling and reuse opportunities to residents in addition to those provided by curbside programs. The centres should reflect the siting and operational preferences of the local community and can be used to explore creating opportunities to service small commercial waste generators.

The implementation of Community Environmental Centres could potentially divert approximately 5% of recyclable and reusable materials from disposal. The capital and operating costs to develop the Centres will depend on the location, type and size of facility required.



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Potential Diversion Options

Enhanced Communication and Public Outreach

Communication strategies are an integral component of any successful waste management system. A comprehensive communication and outreach program promotes and encourages proper participation through the development of initiatives that:

- Facilitates progress toward achieving the waste diversion target by engaging and encouraging the public to incorporate waste diversion initiatives in daily practices;
- Builds awareness by educating and informing residents and businesses in advance about changes to existing services and new services that will become available;
- Obtains input and feedback from residents and businesses regarding the development of the system and service specific issues;
- Provides the answers to commonly asked questions; and
- Potentially reduces the number of inquiries following implementation of new initiatives.

The cost of an effective communication and public outreach program ranges from approximately \$1.00 - \$2.00 per household a year. A program of this nature can help to increase the diversion of materials from disposal by 3-5%.

Moving Toward the Future Potential Diversion Options

Enhanced Yard Waste Collection

Improving the collection frequency of leaf and yard waste could divert approximately 8 to 10% of the waste stream. The main issue regarding the implementation of this initiative would be the potential cost increase that could be associated with the enhancement of this service.

Waste composition studies show that leaf and yard waste makes up approximately 17% of the residential waste stream. In 2005, approximately 340 tonnes of yard waste was collected in Brant County and composted. Based on the performance of other municipal yard waste diversion programs that collect material every other week from spring through fall, an improved yard waste collection program could divert an additional 500 tonnes of residential material from disposal. The cost to collect leaf and yard waste ranges from \$70 to \$120 per tonne and the cost to compost the material is approximately \$60 per tonne.



Moving Toward the Future Methodology

Brant County will complete the study in 3 phases:

Phase One - Solid Waste Diversion Plan

- Document the Current Situation
- Access the gaps between the current situation and the goal;
- Determine viable waste diversion program components, waste streams and participants required to bridge the diversion gap (36% to 60%);
- Consult the Public/Stakeholders;
- Develop preferred program.

Phase Two - Solid Waste Management Rate Study

- Determine the total cost of the preferred option
- Develop alternatives for financing the 60% diversion goal, including external funding assistance
- Develop preferred methods of financing

Phase Three - Implementation Plan

- Discussion with County staff
- Discussion with Approval agencies
- Discussion with External Funding Sources

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Process Timeframe

Deliverable/Task	Technical Component	Committee/ Public/Stakeholder Consultation and Communications	Deliverable and timeline
Commence Project	Waste Characterization Review of Program Components (Waste Recycling; SSO) Benchmarking		September 2006
Assessment of Current Situation/Vision and Goals for Sustainable Waste Management Plan	Identify public vision, goals and objectives	Promote Stakeholder/public forum #1	December 06/January 07
		Stakeholder Forum #1 Vision/Goals/Options (all components)	January 2007
Identifying and Evaluating Alternative Solutions	Identify Options (Policy, waste reduction, recycling, SSO) Rate study	Promote Forum #2	Late February 2007
		Stakeholder Forum #2 (Review/Select Options)	Early March 2007
The Path Forward	Draft Integrated Report (Policy/WR/SSO)	Draft Report	March 2007
		Council Presentation	Early April 2007
		Public Review	April 2007
		Finalize Report Notice of Completion	End of April 2007

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Please take a moment to participate in the public forum or take a workbook home with you and complete it

Please ask questions and provide your comments to the meeting organizers

Thank you for your time and consideration