



Loyalist Township

Waste Recycling Strategy

Prepared by:

AECOM

654 Norris Court

Kingston, ON, Canada K7P 2R9

www.aecom.com

613 389 3703 tel

613 389 6729 fax

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AECOM Signatures

Report Prepared By:



Anne Kloosterman, E.I.T.

Report Reviewed By:



Guy Laporte, P.Eng.

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1. Introduction

This Waste Recycling Strategy is a comprehensive assessment of the existing recycling program in the Township and a guide for changes and improvements. While many practices will remain unchanged, new initiatives will result in increased levels of service, efficiency, and stewardship in various sectors. Some initiatives are immediate while others will guide the Township's decision making process over the next five years. This strategy will be reviewed and updated regularly.

This project has been delivered with the assistance of Waste Diversion Ontario's Continuous Improvement Fund, a fund financed by Ontario municipalities and stewards of blue box waste in Ontario. Notwithstanding this support, the views expressed are the views of the author, and Waste Diversion Ontario and Stewardship Ontario accept no responsibility for these views.

2. Overview of Planning Process

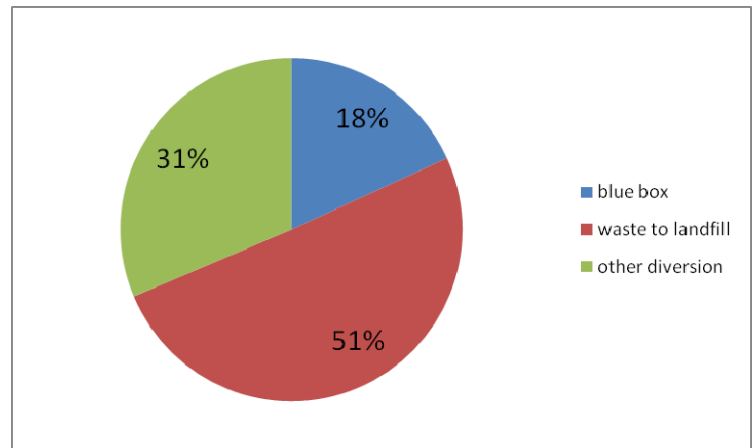
This Waste Recycling Strategy was initiated by Township staff in 2009. The creative process has been guided by members of staff and Township councillors, with assistance from consultants from AECOM Canada Ltd. Funding for this Strategy has been provided by the Continuous Improvement Fund through Waste Diversion Ontario and by the Township.

Background research and initial evaluations were carried out by staff and consultants. Public consultation and feedback are incorporated in the later phases of the strategy preparation.

3. Definitions

While waste management is not usually a highly technical field, there are some industry-specific terms which may not be familiar to the public at large. As many of these terms are used throughout this report, a brief list of definitions is included in this section.

- **Waste** includes all materials that an individual discards in day-to-day life. This is a broad term which includes recyclables, compostables, re-usable material, and garbage.
- **Waste Disposal Site** is a municipal facility where garbage is permanently disposed of, usually buried. The term is often used interchangeably with landfill, though waste disposal sites typically include other facilities such as separate collection areas for recyclables.
- **Waste Generation Rate** is the total quantity of waste generated per capita per year. A waste generation rate of 351 kilograms of waste per capita per year has been assumed for this report, based on CIF Guidelines for Municipal Diversion for a “Rural Collection South” municipality.
- **Waste to Landfill** is the portion of the total waste stream that is permanently disposed of. In Loyalist Township that portion currently amounts to 51%.
- **Recyclables** are items which, after disposal, are processed and marketed for their raw material, such as aluminum, steel, and various types of plastic. Recyclables do not include reusable materials, such as reusable shopping bags, or hazardous materials which require special processing for safe disposal, such as paint or oil.
- **Blue Box Recyclables** are those materials that are typically collected in blue boxes. In Loyalist Township blue box recyclables currently amount to 18% of the total waste stream.
- **Other Diversion** is created by practices such as back yard composting, material reuse, HHW and e-waste diversion, and reduction in personal waste generation. Loyalist diverted a total of 49% of all wastes in 2009
- **Household Hazardous Waste** is material which would be toxic or damaging if it were to enter the environment. HHW is typically leftover cleaning supplies, paint, motor oil and batteries.
- **E-waste** is discarded electrical and electronic materials such as television and computer parts.



4. Study Area

The primary focus of this study will be Loyalist Township and its waste management program. Though the Township receives services from another municipality – The City of Kingston – the operation of these services is beyond the control of the Township and the scope of this study. The Township does not provide any services to other municipalities nor is it engaged in any partnerships or joint ventures at this time. This study will briefly investigate the possibility of entering into such partnerships with the two other neighbouring municipalities.

Within the municipal boundaries of the Township, the study area can be further divided between Amherst Island and the mainland, being the former Township of Ernestown and Village of Bath. Amherst Island is only accessible by a toll ferry which limits some of the services available to residents. Some issues considered in this report will apply across the township regardless of location, while others will require different solutions on and off the island.

Within Loyalist Township there are various sectors, each with its own requirements for waste and recycling management. This report will focus on sectors which the Township is somewhat if not entirely responsible for, including single and multi-family residential properties and Township owned facilities. This report will investigate opportunities for assisting local businesses and institutions with their recycling practices though these sectors are required to utilise private contractors.

5. Public Consultation Process

Public consultation and involvement are crucial to the success of any service strategy. This Waste Recycling Strategy is meant to guide the Township's recycling policy over the coming years and will directly affect how recycling service is offered to the Township's residents. Direct consultation with members of the public at large will insure that critical issues are addressed and new ideas are considered.

For the purpose of this Strategy, most of the public consultation will be targeted towards specific individuals or groups with a high level of involvement with recycling services in the Township, such as departmental managers from the City, contract managers, institutional directors, and local community leaders. This streamlined approach will provide valuable information while maintaining the scope of this exercise.

Input from the general public was sought through a variety of sources, particularly through the Township's website, during the creation of the strategy. Numerous comments were received and were carefully considered by the steering committee. A copy of the response letter to all participants is included in Appendix A for reference.

6. Problem Statement

Management of municipal solid waste, including the diversion of blue box materials, is a key responsibility for all municipal governments in Ontario. The factors that encourage or hinder municipal blue box recycling endeavors can vary greatly and depends on a municipality's size, geographic location and population.

The key drivers that led to the development of this Waste Recycling Strategy include:

- WDO Requirements – Municipalities are required to report information pertaining to their recycling program to Waste Diversion Ontario each year, including qualitative questions regarding the development and implementation of an up to date blue box recycling strategy. In future years, the portion of funding allotted to a given municipality will be increasingly dependent on the implementation of a recycling strategy.
- Increasing Population and Demand – Loyalist Township has seen steady population growth over the past decades and anticipates further growth in the future. A larger population will produce more waste and recyclables and existing practices may not be sufficient for the long term.
- Improved Efficiencies – Loyalist Township has established the various components of their waste management program one by one over many years allowing different services to operate independently of each other or possibly in conflict. This strategy will thoroughly review all of the components and their relation to each other and will lead to improved cost and service efficiencies in all areas. Though the primary focus of this report is blue-box recycling, many other aspects of waste management have significant effects on the blue-box program and will therefore be noted in this strategy.

7. Relevant Legislation

Environmental Protection Act

The Environmental Protection Act (EPA) provides the legislative framework for the establishment of waste management facilities. The establishment, operation, management, alteration, enlargement and/or extension of waste management facilities in the Province of Ontario requires a Certificate of Approval under Part 5, Section 27 of the EPA.

Ontario Regulation 347

Regulation 347 (formerly Regulation 309) under the EPA is the primary regulation for controlling the handling, disposal and management of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes in the Province. Under the regulation, wastes are classified into categories that stipulate handling requirements. The Regulations specify control measures for disposal facilities.

Ontario Regulation 101/94

Ontario Regulation 101/94 is also known as the 3Rs Regulations. It, and accompanying regulations, became law on March 3, 1994. The regulations are an integral part of Ontario's Waste Reduction Action Plan. The plan was aimed at reducing the amount of waste going to disposal by at least 50 per cent by the year 2000 compared to the base year of 1987. The objective was achieved through a strategy based on the 3Rs — reduction, reuse and recycling.

The 3Rs Regulations were designed to ensure that industrial, commercial and institutional (IC&I) sectors, as well as municipalities, developed programs to reduce the amount of valuable resources going to disposal.

Regulation 101/94 requires specified municipalities to implement recycling programs, including collection of Blue Box wastes, home composting of organic wastes, and composting of leaf and yard waste. Municipalities with populations greater than 5,000 are required to establish blue box collection systems. These municipalities must also provide rear yard composters at cost or less, along with educational material. Municipalities of greater than 50,000 people must provide a central leaf and yard waste composting facility.

Bill 90, Waste Diversion Act

Bill 90, an Act to promote the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste, was given Royal Assent on June 27, 2002. The Act created Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO), a non-crown corporation. WDO was established to develop, implement and operate waste diversion programs for a wide range of materials. The Act empowers the Minister of the Environment to designate a material for which a waste diversion program is to be established.

Once the Minister has designated a material through a regulation under the Waste Diversion Act, the Minister asks Waste Diversion Ontario, working co-operatively with stewards, to develop a diversion program. The Minister has designated Blue Box Waste, Used Tires, Used Oil Material, Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste under the WDA. The Minister has indicated that the Used Oil Material designation has been set aside and development of a diversion program for Used Tires has been deferred.

The Blue Box Program Plan was approved by the Minister on December 22, 2003 and commenced on February 1, 2004. WDO is currently developing diversion programs for Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment and Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste.

Ontario Regulation 101/07

Ontario Regulation 101/07, the Waste Management Project Regulation made under the Environmental Assessment Act, makes it easier for municipalities to find viable solutions for managing waste. The regulation sets out the EA requirements for waste diversion and disposal facilities. Accompanying regulations under the Environmental Protection Act are intended to streamline the approval process for recycling certain materials.

Other Regulation

Waste management facilities, particularly new waste landfill sites, may also be subject to approval under the Environmental Assessment Act and the Ontario Water Resources Act.

Operating waste disposal sites must comply with the Federal Fisheries Act.

8. Current Practices and Future Needs

8.1 Community Characteristics

8.1.1 Mainland

The 'mainland' portion of Loyalist Township includes the former Township of Ernestown and the Village of Bath. With a total population of 15,165 in 2009, the mainland is primarily rural in nature with larger settlements at Bath, Odessa, and Amherstview. In recent years the population of the mainland has increased more rapidly as the City of Kingston continues to expand westward toward the Township. Over two-thirds of the mainland population is employed within the City.

Violet Waste Disposal Site, the larger of the two Township waste disposal sites, is located on the mainland about 10km west of Odessa. Violet receives all the curbside collected garbage for disposal and has approximately 28 years of capacity remaining.

8.1.2 Amherst Island

Amherst Island is home to approximately 400 permanent year-round residents with a significant cottage-only population. The equivalent total population is estimated at 560 persons. Amherst Island is accessible only by toll ferry and has limited municipal facilities. There is one elementary school and some commercial businesses in the hamlet of Stella, near the ferry terminal. The population of Amherst Island has not varied significantly in the last twenty years.

The Amherst Island waste disposal site accepts waste and recyclables dropped off by Island residents. The garbage is disposed of on-site while the recyclables are sorted and transferred. Amherst Island waste disposal site has approximately 22 years of remaining capacity with potential for another 9 years in a secondary phase.

8.2 Current Waste Generation and Diversion

As part of its annual reporting program for its two waste disposal sites, Loyalist Township calculates a recycling diversion rate and total waste diversion rate each year. This rate is calculated from an assumed waste generation rate of 351 kilograms of waste per capita per year, which includes all refuse, recyclable or otherwise. This figure is based on CIF Guidelines for Municipal Diversion for a "Rural Collection South" municipality. Based on recent population estimates, the total potential waste generation from all sectors was 5,478 tonnes in 2009.

In 2009, Loyalist Township collected 994 tonnes of blue box recycling from its residents. This equates to a recycling diversion rate of 18%.

Weigh scale records and topographic surveys indicate that 2,762 tonnes of garbage was disposed of at the two Township waste disposal sites in 2009. Any waste which does not end up buried at a waste disposal site is considered 'diverted', giving the Township a total waste diversion rate of 51% in 2009. The difference between the recycling rate and the total waste diversion rate is created by practices such as back yard composting, material reuse, HHW and e-waste diversion, and reduction in personal waste generation.

An informal waste survey was conducted in 2010 to determine how much recyclable material was being disposed of at the waste disposal sites. Approximately 11% of the waste examined during the survey could be classified as recyclable. This equates to about 6% of the total Township waste stream.

8.3 Potential Waste Diversion

According to Waste Diversion Ontario, the average residential waste diversion rate for municipalities of the size and location of Loyalist is 21%. The Township's recycling diversion rate was 18% in 2009, slightly below the provincial average. The Township has decided that a 25% recycling diversion rate is a reasonable goal to achieve within 5 years.

The Province of Ontario has set a total waste diversion goal of 60%, though achieving this rate almost always requires a three-stream collection of waste, recycling, and kitchen organics. Loyalist Township diverted approximately 50% of all waste in 2009.

8.4 Existing Programs and Services

8.4.1 Collection

'Curbside' collection of blue-box materials is provided to all mainland residential properties. The recycling is split into two streams – fibers and containers – which are collected on alternating weeks. The collection is by BFI Canada as part of the Township's agreement with the City of Kingston. BFI also collects for City residential properties in former Kingston Township. The Township pays for its share of the collection costs based on their share of the total collected tonnage in a given year. In 2009, Loyalist accounted for 16% of the total tonnage collected by BFI for a total expense of \$210,700. Residents of Loyalist Township may also drop off recyclables at the KARC facility free of charge.

The collection contract with BFI expires in 2012, with an option to extend for another year at the City's discretion. Loyalist Township cannot withdraw from this contract before its expiration.

Garbage collection on the mainland is similarly provided by BFI Canada, formerly Waste Services Inc., which won the open tender in 2009. This agreement is also in place until 2012.

On Amherst Island, residents must bring both their waste and recyclables to the Amherst Island Waste Disposal Site. The garbage is disposed of on site while recyclables are sorted for later transfer. In 2008, Manco Recycling was awarded the contract for supply of recycling bins and periodic hauling of the material to its facility in Napanee. This contract totalled \$5,480 in 2009.

Amherst Island was not part of the pre-amalgamation agreement with the City and was not included in the BFI collection contract due to logistics and additional cost. BFI was invited to bid on the Amherst Island Services contract but declined.

8.4.2 Processing

Similar to the curbside collection, the City of Kingston provides processing of all recyclables collected on the mainland. Loyalist pays its share of the processing costs based on their share of the total tonnage of material

received at the Kingston Area Recycling Centre (KARC) in a given year. The Township also contributes to capital cost recovery. In 2009, Loyalist's recycling accounted for approximately 8% of the total residential recycling received at KARC and was charged \$133,127 by the City.

Loyalist also received the same proportion of the revenue from sale of materials, which amounted to \$101,473 in 2009. Market prices plummeted in late 2008 but have been slowly recovering since.

Recyclables collected on Amherst Island are processed by Manco recycling. While the Township is charged for the use of the collection bins and the transport of the materials to Napanee, there is no tipping fee or rebate for the receipt and processing of the materials. Manco reported receiving 18 tonnes of fibres and 3 tonnes of containers in 2009. Based on recent fee schedules at competitive local recyclers, the net rebate for this amount of material would have been approximately \$500 last year.

8.4.3 Administration

Loyalist pays a share of the administration fees of KARC which includes overhead costs, building and equipment maintenance, and some staff allocation. These costs are built into the collection and processing fees. In addition to their share of the administration costs, Loyalist Township is charged a contract administration fee on all service areas, totalling \$25,355 in 2009. This fee structure is part of the ongoing agreement with the City.

The Township also allocates its own staff, administrative, operation maintenance costs to the recycling program, both on the island and the mainland.

8.4.4 Household Hazardous Waste

Loyalist Township receives household hazardous waste disposal services from the City of Kingston. The City operates a HHW depot at its Lappan's Lane facility which is open two days per week during the summer. Residents of Loyalist may drop off small quantities of HHW free of charge. The City receives funding for the operation of the depot through Stewardship Ontario. This program is currently undergoing changes though the level of service provided to residents of either municipality is not expected to change as a result.

8.4.5 Electronic Waste

Loyalist Township offers e-waste drop-off depots at both Violet and Amherst Island Waste Disposal Sites free of charge to Township residents. Collected e-waste is periodically transferred to appropriate recyclers or processors.

8.4.6 Organics

Curbside collection and chipping of clean brush and lumber is provided twice per year by the Township. The Township also offers twice-annual collection of bagged yard waste. Additionally, Township residents may bring brush and yard waste, including grass clippings, to the City of Kingston yard waste depot on Lappan's Lane free of charge. The Township pays a share of the operational costs of this facility based on participation rates. The material collected at Lappan's Lane is transported to the Norterra facility on Joyceville Road for composting.

The Township subsidizes back-yard composters to its residents. Composters are available for purchase at the municipal office in Odessa for \$20. The Township subsidizes about half the cost of composters to residents.

The Township does not offer any source separated organics (Green Bin) collection at this time. The City of Kingston recently initiated a Green Bin program, and several other municipalities in the area are investigating such a program as well.

8.4.7 Promotion and Education

Much of the Township's Promotion and Education (P&E) material is provided by the City of Kingston since the recycling collection and processing services are shared. A Curbside Guide detailing acceptable materials and collection procedures is available to residents in various locations and on the Township's website. The Township also produces an annual calendar which includes information about a variety of municipal services including garbage, recycling, and composting. The calendar is distributed to all residents once per year, and the Loyalist Information Guide is distributed twice per year.

Additionally, the Township keeps its website up-to-date with waste management information. Additional questions can be emailed to info@loyalist.ca. City of Kingston staff will also field questions relating to recycling on behalf of the Township.

8.4.8 Funding

The Township receives revenue from materials sold at KARC – \$101,473 in 2009 – and grants from Waste Diversion Ontario which are intended to offset the cost of recycling in a municipality. The WDO grant received in 2009, based on 2007 figures, totalled \$148,000. Remaining costs are funded through the general tax roll.

Funding for garbage collection is partially funded through a Pay-As-You-Throw program which began in 2001. All garbage bags must have a Township-issued bag tag to be collected. Bag tags can be purchased for \$2 each at the municipal offices and at several local businesses.

8.4.9 Cost of Recycling

The following table is compiled from the Township's General Ledger for 2009 and exclude capital costs. The cost of garbage disposal has been added as a comparison.

Table 8.1 - Garbage and Recycling Operational Costs, 2009

Item	Garbage	Recycling
Revenue		
Bag Tags	(\$362,340.00)	
Tipping Fees	(\$52,822.00)	
Sale of Scrap		(\$1,618.00)
Recycling Stewardship Fees		(\$148,009.00)
Sale of Blue/Grey Boxes		(\$6,418.00)
Sale of Materials		(\$101,473.29)
Expenses		
Labour	\$194,426.00	\$9,367.00
Admin / Operations	\$190,665.00	\$34,282.86
Waste Disposal Site Contracted Services	\$72,330.00	
Garbage Collection (WSI)	\$219,720.00	
Recycling Collection (BFI)		\$210,699.18
Recycling Processing (KARC)		\$133,127.43
Amherst Island Recycling (Manco)		\$5,481.00
Total		
	\$261,979	\$135,439
Tonnage	2,762	994
Cost /Tonne	\$95	\$136

Table 8.1 illustrates that the net cost per tonne for garbage was less than recycling. As mentioned previously, the commodity markets for recycled material plummeted in late 2008 and have been slow to recover. The net cost per tonne for recycling varies significantly depending on the market value of processed materials. The cost of garbage is essentially fixed though may change slightly with the cost of fuel and inflation.

8.5 Anticipated Future Needs

The population of Loyalist Township is expected to increase steadily over the coming years. It is unlikely that the mainland population will 'explode' though it will likely increase at an above-average rate as Kingston continues to expand westward. The population of Amherst Island is unlikely to change at all as long as it is serviced only by a ferry.

With increased population there will be increased garbage and recycling production. The gradual population increase, however, will allow the Township and its partners to accommodate the growth.

The two waste disposal sites within the Township are both expected to last until at least the year 2040 and even longer if recycling practices improve and the diversion rate increases. In the event that one or both of these sites become unavailable, the Township will need to make alternative disposal arrangements, likely with a private contractor such as BFI, which is already responsible for garbage collection on the mainland. The switch to a private contractor may make garbage management more costly and recycling a more advantageous opportunity.

Increased interest in recycling, both from the general public and from oversight agencies such as WDO, will certainly be a driving force for ongoing assessment and improvements in the Township's management program. As recycling gains prominence in the public sphere, and funding is increasingly allocated based on management practices, recycling will gain a higher priority on the municipal level. This will affect the scope of recycling, the approach to new opportunities and services, and attitudes towards cost vs. benefits.

9. Goals and Objectives

9.1 Diversion Goals

There are two approaches to increase waste diversion – increase the amount of diversion through existing programs, or initiate new programs. The two are not mutually exclusive and Loyalist Township should pursue both to reach their goals.

Currently, Loyalist Township diverts 18% of its total expected residential waste generation through 'blue box' recycling and a further 32% through other diversion such as composting, hazardous waste recycling, brush burning, and personal waste reduction – simply 'making less garbage'.

WDO Guidelines indicate that the average blue box recycling diversion rate is 21% for municipalities of Loyalist's size and setting. A recycling diversion rate of 25% is feasible for Loyalist Township. A 7% increase over the existing 18% recycling diversion equates to 376 additional tonnes of material or 24 kilograms per person per year.

A further 1 or 2 % diversion increase may be gained from increased participation in HHW, e-waste, and yard waste programs. Reduction in personal waste generation is difficult to measure and for the municipality to influence as the diversion would occur well before the point where the Township is involved.

9.2 Service Objectives

Loyalist Township provides garbage and recycling services to all its residents and is committed to maintaining this level of service, if not better, in future years. Whether services are provided by the Township itself or through contractors may be adjusted from time to time.

10. Planned Recycling System

10.1 Collection

Loyalist Township will remain with the City-provided recycling collection on the mainland for the duration of the contract. The Township will endeavour to synchronize the expiration of the recycling and garbage collection contracts so that a unified contract may be pursued in 2012/2013. Such a contract could be economically beneficial to the Township.

The Township will remain in the contract with Manco for provision of bins and hauling of recyclables from Amherst Island. The cost of including Amherst Island recycling depot to the mainland collection contract is prohibitive for the amount of recyclable material collected. The Township will competitively tender this contract again upon its expiration.

The Township will not be pursuing curbside collection on Amherst Island in the near future. This issue should be revisited periodically with input from Island residents.

10.2 Processing

Loyalist Township will remain in the agreement with KARC for processing of mainland recyclables with periodic agreement reviews. KARC is the largest and closest regional recycler and can provide an economy of scale that is beneficial to the Township.

Loyalist will encourage KARC to add additional recyclable materials to its processing program, such as #1 Non-bottles, #3 and #7 plastics.

Loyalist will discourage KARC from dropping materials from its collection list. In the event that a market collapses and a material is no longer worth collecting and processing, continued collection at the curbside will avoid resident confusion and encourage continued recycling participation. Un-marketable materials will have to be disposed of as garbage and the cost absorbed by the municipality until the market recovers.

The Township will also remain in their agreement with Manco for processing of Amherst Island recyclables. A cost/revenue sharing agreement will not be pursued at this time as the benefit to the Township will be minimal at best and may result in increased hauling fees.

The Township will not pursue the founding of a Municipal Recycling Facility as the capital and operational cost would be prohibitive and excellent alternatives are available.

10.3 Administration

The Township will accept the administrative levy from KARC which applies to all City-provided services. This fee is part of the ongoing agreement with the City and is unlikely to change in the near future.

The Township will continue to designate a specific staff member to oversee all waste management programs in the Township and another to field all public inquiries relating to waste and recycling.

10.4 Promotion and Education

The Township will continue to provide calendars, service guides, and City-prepared recycling flyers to residents free of charge. These materials, as well as the Township website, will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis to ensure correctness and clarity.

The Township will develop a recycling education package aimed at school-age children for distribution to all Township schools. This package will be developed with assistance from school-board officials and includes curriculum material, posters, and blue and gray boxes for the classroom.

The Township will pursue a promotion & education campaign relating to the implementation of this Waste Recycling Strategy. This campaign will outline the Township's goals for its recycling program and the upcoming changes for residents.

10.5 Diversion Initiatives

In order to encourage recycling, the Pay-As-You-Throw program will continue to be mandatory for all bags, whether picked up curbside or delivered to a waste disposal site.

To further encourage recycling, Loyalist Township will investigate a broad array of initiatives to encourage diversion such as public education, bag-tag fee increase, and mandatory clear garbage bags. A bag-tag fee increase would encourage residents to recycle and reduce their personal waste output by making garbage disposal a more expensive option. Mandatory clear plastic bags – which would be purchased from the Township in lieu of bag-tags – would help collectors and attendants enforce existing waste by-laws which prohibit the disposal of recyclables in the garbage stream.

The Township will also investigate reducing the frequency of curbside garbage collection, thereby decreasing the level of convenience of garbage disposal and making recycling a more feasible option.

Such initiatives may require budgetary and legislative changes before implementation and are therefore beyond the scope of this study and not explicitly detailed in this report. A broad range of waste diversion initiatives and management practices will be investigated by the Township's Waste Management Committee, which will be established by Council in 2011.

11. Monitoring & Reporting

This Waste Recycling Strategy will be submitted for adoption by Loyalist Township Council and will be submitted to the Continuous Improvement Fund.

This status of the proposed initiatives and the state of recycling in the Township will be reviewed on an annual basis. The Township will prepare a brief report which will include

- Recycling statistics from the previous year, including blue box diversion rate
- Comparison to the previous year and identification of any trends over several years
- Status of all proposed initiatives
- Identification of any new opportunities

This report will be prepared in conjunction with the annual reports for the two waste disposal sites.

The entire Waste Recycling Strategy will be reviewed and updated every five years. This review will consider changes to the Township population and service demands, local and regional opportunities, effectiveness of initiatives, and the status of recycling across the province. This review will be a substantial undertaking and will be budgeted for in 2016.

12. Conclusion

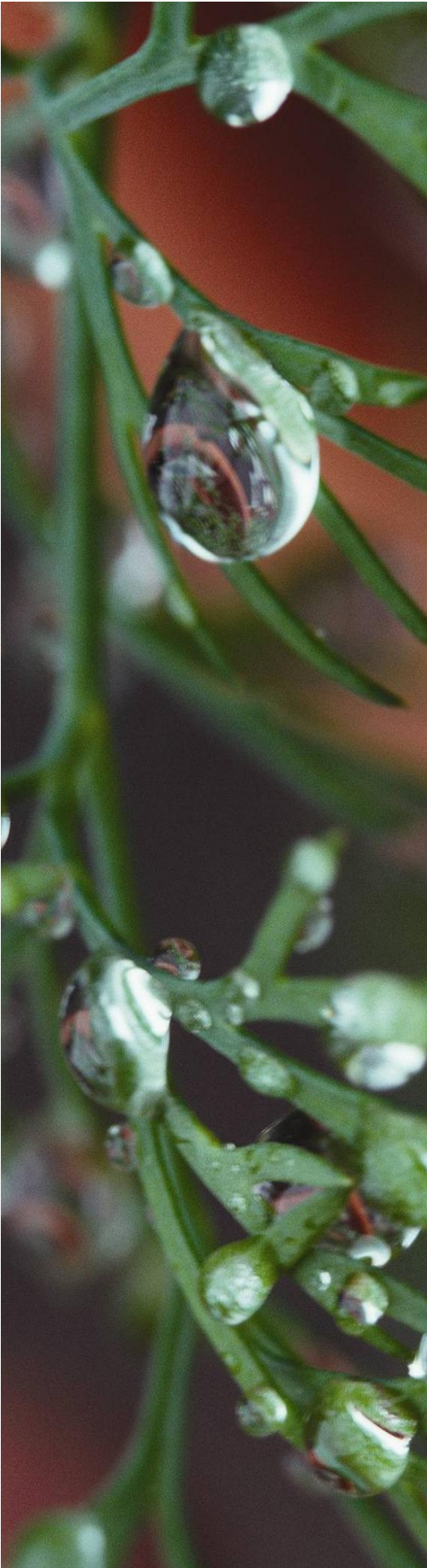
This Waste Recycling Strategy will be presented for adoption to Loyalist Council and submitted for review to the Continuous Improvement Fund, with council's endorsement.

Upon its acceptance by Council, Township staff will begin the process of implementing the planned initiatives, some of which may require many months or years to achieve. Of immediate importance is the promotion of this strategy and ongoing public education on the importance of recycling and services offered by the Township.

This strategy is intended to be a guiding document for ongoing improvement and should be considered flexible and adaptable to the changing needs and ambitions of the Township.

Appendix A

Public Consultation Response
Letter



Loyalist Township Waste Recycling Strategy

We would like to take this opportunity to thank participants for their comments on the Loyalist Township Waste Recycling Strategy. Your comments were carefully reviewed by the project steering committee which has prepared a final Strategy for presentation to Council in March.

The four most common comments were:

- opposition to clear plastic garbage bags,
- opposition to increased pay-as-you-throw fees,
- opposition to decreased garbage collection frequency, and
- comments in favour of initiating a 'green bin' (organics) program.

The steering committee has not proposed any immediate changes to garbage bag rules, pay-as-you-throw, or collection practices, however, these options are recommended for further consideration if diversion targets are not met.

The Loyalist Township Waste Recycling Strategy has been funded by Waste Diversion Ontario as part of their mandate to optimize the Blue Box program. A recycling strategy does not address all of the waste management issues that have been raised. For example, a green-bin program falls outside of the scope of this study.

Loyalist Township Council has recognized this limitation and intends to strike a new committee to consider a broader range of issues related to waste management and diversion. Any changes will require careful deliberation, planning, and budgeting, and final decisions rest with Township Council. Your input will be a useful starting point for the committee.

Thank you again for your continued interest in the Township's recycling and waste management program.

