

# It's Our Own Garbage

## What We Did in 2012

By participating in Blue Box, GreenCart, Yard Waste, Reuse and Household Hazardous Waste programs, Halton residents are sending less garbage to the landfill.

In 2012, the overall waste diversion rate was 57.3 per cent. This rate applies to all waste material managed by Halton Region through our programs and services. It is important to note that 60 per cent of household waste (i.e. Blue Box, GreenCart, Yard Waste, Metal, Backyard Composting, and Grasscycling) was diverted from landfill in 2012. This is one of the highest residential waste diversion rates in Ontario! Thank you Halton residents!

## Joint Municipal-Regional Waste Management Committee

The Committee was established as a Condition of Approval for the Halton Waste Management Site when it opened in 1992. The Committee advises Halton Regional Council regarding programs and strategies to promote the 3Rs—reduce, reuse, recycle to minimize the amount of waste going to the landfill. The Committee is comprised of members from Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville.

In 2012, the Committee focused on supporting and reviewing the implementation of two Strategy initiatives commencing in 2013: expand Blue Box acceptable materials and enhance Blue Box capacity; and decrease garbage bag limit and introduce garbage tags.



## The Results

Summary of materials collected at the curb, depots, events and Halton Waste Management Site:

- Blue Box: 47,388 tonnes
- GreenCart: 26,402 tonnes
- Yard Waste: 30,526 tonnes
- Household Hazardous Waste: 796 tonnes (from over 41,789 vehicles)
- Electronic Waste: 611 tonnes

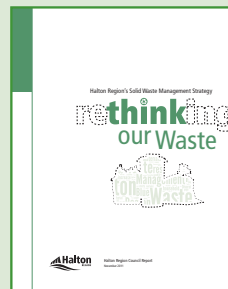
Total garbage landfilled at the Halton Waste Management Site: 73,304 tonnes.

Visit [www.halton.ca/waste](http://www.halton.ca/waste) to read PW-30-13, *Year-End Waste Management Report for 2012* for more information on Halton's waste diversion results.

## How We Did It

### Solid Waste Management Strategy

Halton Region began implementing the initiatives identified in its 2012-2016 Solid Waste Management Strategy. The goal of this Solid Waste Management Strategy is to reach a waste diversion rate of 65% by 2016. In 2012, Halton increased communications and outreach, promoted textile recycling and began to enhance multi-residential waste diversion. Visit [www.halton.ca/wastestrategy](http://www.halton.ca/wastestrategy) for more information.



### Communications & Outreach

- Award-winning communications program including WasteLess News and Waste Management Calendar
- Award-winning workshops for schools, community groups and apartments reaching 21,708 people
- Open house to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Halton Waste Management Site with over 600 residents participating in educational activities including site tours
- Participation in community events and open houses
- Online customer service tools
- "Calendar Cover Art" contest for youth
- Award winning social media program including Twitter @HaltonRecycles, blogging [www.haltonrecycles.ca](http://www.haltonrecycles.ca), YouTube [www.youtube.com/haltonrecycles](http://www.youtube.com/haltonrecycles), and Pinterest [www.pinterest.com/haltonrecycles](http://www.pinterest.com/haltonrecycles)



## Waste Diversion Programs

- Weekly Blue Box and GreenCart collection
- Every other week collection of garbage
- Yard Waste collection
- Metal & Appliance collection
- Battery Recycling Depots
- Household Hazardous Waste Depot
- Tires, drywall, wood, scrap metal, road building material, eyeglasses, natural cork, electronics, and plastic plant pots and trays recycling at the Halton Waste Management Site
- Paint and Stain Reuse program
- Salvation Army Reuse Depot
- Blue Boxes and GreenCarts delivered to new subdivisions
- Backyard composter sales
- Space-saving reusable tarps as an alternative daily cover at the landfill

## Extended Producer Responsibility (Industry Funded Programs under the Waste Diversion Act)

In collaboration with our neighbouring municipalities, Halton Region has advocated to the Provincial government resulting in legislation that has enabled increased support from industry for the proper recycling and disposal of material through the following programs:

- Take It Back! Halton ([www.halton.ca/takeitback](http://www.halton.ca/takeitback))
- Municipal Hazardous & Special Waste ([www.makethedrop.ca](http://www.makethedrop.ca))
- Used Tires ([www.rethinktires.ca](http://www.rethinktires.ca))
- Waste Electronics & Electrical Equipment ([www.recycleyourelectronics.ca](http://www.recycleyourelectronics.ca))

## Special Events

- Compost Give Away
- Special Waste Drop-off Days
- Waste Diversion Services for Community Events