

It's Our Own Garbage

What We Did in 2011

By participating in Blue Box, GreenCart, yard waste, reuse and household hazardous waste programs, Halton residents are sending less garbage to the landfill.

In 2011, the overall waste diversion rate remained constant at 57.6 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 2011. 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 Region 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 2011, the Committee focused on supporting and reviewing the development of the 2012-2016 Solid Waste Management Strategy.

The Results

Total material diverted from landfill through reuse, recycling and composting programs: 124,654 tonnes

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

- Blue Box: 48,879 tonnes
- GreenCart: 25,933 tonnes
- Yard waste: 30,502 tonnes
- Household hazardous waste: 796 tonnes (from over 42,464 vehicles)
- Electronic waste: 711 tonnes



Total garbage landfilled at the Halton Waste Management Site: 73,247 tonnes (lowest amount of garbage landfilled in a single year since the site opened in 1992).

Visit www.halton.ca/waste to read Report PW-39-12 for more information on Halton's waste diversion results.

What's Next

On November 16, 2011, Halton Regional Council adopted the 2012-2016 Solid Waste Management Strategy. The goal of this Solid Waste Management Strategy is to reach a waste diversion rate of 65 per cent by 2016. A number of initiatives identified in the Strategy are being developed in 2012.

Visit www.halton.ca/wastestrategy for more information.



How We Did It

Communications & Outreach

- Award-winning communications program including WasteLess News and Waste Management Calendar
- Award-winning workshops for schools, community groups and apartments reaching 27,772 people
- Participation in community events and open houses
- Online customer service tools (www.halton.ca/wastetools)
- "Calendar Cover Art" contest for youth
- Launch of social media program using Twitter @HaltonRecycles and blog www.haltonrecycles.ca



Waste Diversion Programs

- Weekly Blue Box and GreenCart collection
- Every other week collection of garbage
- Yard Waste collection
- Metal & Appliance collection
- Tires, drywall, wood, cell phone, eyeglasses, natural cork, electronics, and plastic plant pots and tray recycling at the Halton Waste Management Site
- Battery Recycling Depots in community centres, arenas and libraries
- Household Hazardous Waste Depot
- Paint 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)
- Municipal Hazardous & Special Waste (www.makethedrop.ca)
- Used Tires (www.greenmytires.ca)
- Waste Electronics & Electrical Equipment (www.recycleyourelectronics.ca)

Special Events

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