



CITY OF ORILLIA

**2025 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
OPERATIONS ANNUAL REPORT**

**April 2026
Environmental Services Division
Environment and Infrastructure Services Department**

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CFC – Chlorofluorocarbon
ECA – Environmental Compliance Approval
EPRA – Electronic Products Recycling Association
HHW – Household Hazardous Waste
ICI – Industrial, Commercial & Institutional
MHSW – Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste
MECP – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
RPRA – Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
WDS – Waste Diversion Site
WMAC – Waste Management Advisory Committee

CORRECTIONS TO 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

There are no corrections to the 2024 Annual Report.

CHANGES FOR 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

There are no changes for the 2025 Annual Report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report provides a review of solid waste management activities carried out in 2025, including Waste Diversion Site operations, curbside collection services and programs, composting operations, Household Hazardous Waste Depot operations and promotion and education activities. Recommendations for the 2026 operating year are also provided.

The annual report is required by Condition 61 of the Waste Diversion Site's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) and is prepared in two separate documents including the Solid Waste Management Operations Annual Report (this report) and a separate Annual Monitoring Report that is prepared by an outside consultant. The 2025 Annual Monitoring Report for the Waste Diversion Site has been prepared by WSP.

2.0 LANDFILLING OPERATIONS

This section describes Waste Diversion Site (WDS) landfilling operations.

2.1 March 2025 Ice Storm

On March 30, 2025, the City of Orillia declared a State of Emergency because of the ice storm where the area experienced a prolonged period of freezing rain over two days, which resulted in significant tree damage throughout the City and neighbouring municipalities. The entire city was without power and restoration took up to week in some areas due to the scale of damage.

Regular curbside waste services were impacted with collections being suspended for the week of March 31 to April 4, 2025. Subsequently there were two consecutive weeks of curbside garbage collection during which time the requirement for garbage tags was waived to help residents to dispose of spoiled food.

The WDS operations shifted to manage the significant volume of brush from public drop off and storm specific curbside collection contracts. Additional staff from other departments were brought in for the first few weeks to help direct traffic. Residential and small commercial vehicles were directed to drop off storm brush in a separate area from where large commercial and contractor vehicles/dump trucks were unloading. On a number of days between April 5 to 12, staff maintained a temporary drop off bin system at Kitchener Park so residents could drop off their non-brush storm debris at no charge (e.g., packaged spoiled food and storm damaged debris). The setup allowed residents to easily drop off materials while minimizing any wait times at the Waste Diversion Site for those dropping off storm brush and tree wood from the ice storm. Over 59 tonnes of storm debris waste was collected at the temporary Kitchener Park drop off bin area. This material was not sent to the WDS but rather was landfilled outside of Orillia. The Household Hazardous

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Waste Depot remained closed for two week(s) as staff were busy manning the temporary depot at Kitchener Park and directing traffic along Kitchener Street and at the WDS. Fees for storm brush were waived until the end of May while fees for other storm impacted material were only waived until the end of April.

To manage the storm brush, an excavator was stationed at the WDS to receive and stockpile the material. Additional City forces including an additional loader and operator were also deployed to help manage the incoming storm brush and so that normal operations could be maintained as much as possible. A contractor was bought in to chip and haul the storm brush off site. Some of the large tree trunks that could not be chipped were hauled off site by the contractor for processing. Once the contractor arrived on site to begin chipping operations any incoming brush was kept separate and managed as part of normal operations.

Storm brush tonnages are included in Table 2 but are not included in diversion calculations as they were segregated and consolidated on site temporarily as part of a State of Emergency event and are not reflective of normal operations.

2.2 Quantity of Waste Landfilled

In 2025, the total waste landfilled or used as cover or road building material at the City of Orillia's WDS was 6,857 tonnes including 4,573 tonnes of. A total of 1,478 tonnes of cover fill material was also received (a decrease of 42% from 2024). Historically, clean fill and soil generated from other City departments was brought to the WDS to manage and use as cover, however in preparation for Regulation 406/19 (Excess Soils) and to reduce unnecessary use of valuable landfill capacity the WDS, the City is moving towards only accepting clean fill as needed. Landfilled garbage consists of curbside collected garbage as well as drop-off garbage received at the WDS.

Garbage received at the WDS from ICI sources totaled 523 tonnes in 2025, which represents about 27% of the total drop-off garbage. Many ICI sector locations have private waste management companies collect their garbage and haul to disposal sites out of our area. The extent of the waste being shipped out of our jurisdiction is difficult to estimate.

Table 1: Summary of Total Waste (Garbage & Fill) Landfilled

Year	Garbage Buried (tonnes)				Waste Generation		Cover Fill/ Buried (tonnes)	Total (tonnes)
	Curbside Collected	Dropped Off		Sub Total	Total Population*	Per Capita (kg/yr)		
		Residential**	IC&I					
2021	3,778	1,784	826	6,388	33,411	191	15,788	22,176
2022	2,397	1,755	401	4,553	35,906	127	24,734	29,287
2023	2,440	1,760	527	4,727	36,502	129	6,677	11,404
2024	2,493	1,674	340	4,507	37,108	121	2,545	7,052
2025	2,600	1,450	523	4,573	37,724	121	1,478	6,051

Notes:

- * Population: 2020 based on Development Services & Engineering Department. 2021 based on census. 2022 - 2025 based on Development Charges Background Study.
- ** Weight of household items diverted through Reuse Depot removed from residential garbage dropped off.

2.3 Cover Fill

The City does not purchase cover material, instead it uses a variety of substrates available on site at any given time to create a mix to use as cover fill. Cover fill includes spill cleanup material, street sweeping sand, clean fill, compost overs, and wood chips.

3.0 WASTE MINIMIZATION PLAN

In 2021, the City developed an updated five-year waste minimization plan and implementation strategy in response to Condition 11.2 of the WDS's consolidated ECA. This condition requires the City to develop a five-year waste minimization plan and implementation strategy by June 30, 2021, and every five years thereafter. The purpose of the plan is to identify methods to further maximize waste diversion from landfill through the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, and recycle) programs in Orillia.

Fifteen recommendations were presented in the report and are divided into two categories including those that were recommended for immediate implementation (i.e., Recommendations 1 and 2) and those that should be considered by Council in the future when staff and/or the Committee bring them forth for consideration (i.e., Recommendations 3 to 15). The overall goal of the plan is to meet a stable diversion rate of at least 75% by the end of 2025. The Plan was submitted to the MECP in June of 2021. A review of the status of all 15 recommendations in the 2021 Plan is provided in Appendix C.

Through this plan (in 2025):

- The City had a target waste generation rate of 156 kg per person per year. The actual waste generation rate for 2025 came in at 121 kg per person per year which is about 22% lower than the target rate.
- The target curbside waste diversion rate was 75% and the actual curbside diversion rate was 72% as per Table 2.
- The target overall waste diversion rate was 75% and the actual overall diversion rate was 67.0 % as per Table 2.

Diversion rates are often the metric most used to determine successful waste management programs; however, when considering the hierarchy of the 3 R's (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) the waste generation rate, and whether it is increasing or decreasing, is also a significant measuring and monitoring tool although it is a more difficult metric to influence as it is reflective of consumer purchasing habits.

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A new five-year waste minimization plan is currently being developed for the 2026-2031 planning period.

Table 2 provides a detailed summary of all curbside and depot materials. The table summarizes curbside tonnages and waste diversion rates, WDS tonnages and diversion rates and overall (combined) diversion rates. Separate breakouts for cover fill, capping material and road building materials are also provided. In the past, asphalt, concrete and woodchips (lumber) were included with WDS diversion programs; however, these materials are utilized at the WDS for cover fill or road building material and occupy landfill space. While they are not diverted off site they are utilized (reused) for daily site operations. In the future, if these materials are marketed for off-site use they will be reported as diverted.

Table 2: Annual Collection & Diversion Summary

		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
CURBSIDE COLLECTION	Garbage	3,778	2,397	2,440	2,493	2,600
	Recycling ¹	3,021	3,180	3,083	2,969	2,948
	Green Bin Organics and Yard Waste	3,237	3,710	3,733	3,739	3,605
	Christmas Trees	11	9	7	9	7
	Clothing/Textiles	-	-	-	6	11
	Batteries	2	2	2	1	1
	Curbside Diversion Program (Tonnes)	6,271	6,901	6,825	6,725	6,574
	Total Curbside (Tonnes)	10,049	9,298	9,265	9,217	9,173
	Curbside Diversion Rate	62.4%	74.2%	73.7%	73.0%	71.7%
WASTE DIVERSION SITE (WDS) DROP-OFF	Garbage	2,610	2,156	2,287	2,014	1,973
	Recycling ¹	118	114	116	82	71
	Green Bin Organics and Yard Waste	882	1,019	1,200	1,082	896
	Brush/Brush Chips	712	727	600	823	757
	Household Hazardous Waste ^{1,4}	129	142	120	105	114
	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment ¹	50	55	70	66	42
	Used Cooking Oil ¹	-	1	2	2	2
	Scrap Metal (includes decommissioned CFC's) ¹	109	158	136	154	120
	Tires ¹	73	64	37	42	53
	Shingles ¹	-	184	59	99	108
	Drywall ¹	103	96	57	125	388
	Mattresses & Box Springs ¹	56	30	24	28	24
	Clothing/Textiles ¹	-	-	-	9	5
	Re-use - Fire Wood/Logs ¹	40	13	13	28	4
	Re-use - Lumber ¹	7	3	-	1	-
	Re-use - HHW/Re-use Depot ^{2,7}	2	2	2	3	3
	WDS Diversion Depot (Tonnes)	2,280	2,608	2,436	2,648	2,587
	Total WDS (Tonnes)	4,890	4,764	4,723	4,662	4,560
	WDS Diversion Rate	46.6%	54.7%	51.6%	56.8%	56.7%
COMBINED (COLLECTION & WDS)	Total Garbage - Landfilled (Tonnes)	6,388	4,553	4,727	4,507	4,573
	Total Diverted (Tonnes)	8,551	9,509	9,261	9,372	9,161
	Total Collected & Dropped Off (Tonnes)	14,939	14,062	13,988	13,879	13,734
	Overall Diversion Rate	57.2%	67.6%	66.2%	67.5%	66.7%
DAILY COVER FILL	Wood Chips (lumber)	381	432	532	442	400
	Clean Fill	12,804	6,226	5,266	874	422
	Street Sweepings	2,079	3,220	474	204	320
	Spill Cleanup Material	14	14,575	-	390	-
	Compost Overs ³	510	281	405	634	336
	Total Daily Cover Fill (Tonnes)	15,788	24,734	6,677	2,545	1,478
FINAL CAPPING MATERIAL	Protective Fill (clean fill, sand, gravel, etc.)	45,983	-	-	6,220	-
	Topsoil	-	-	-	-	-
	Total Final Capping Fill (Tonnes)	45,983	-	-	6,220	-
ROAD BUILDING MATERIAL	Asphalt	17	119	328	878	433
	Road Building Fill (gravel)	6,793	534	10	2,809	2
	Concrete	1,442	471	1,747	511	372
	Total Road Building Fill (Tonnes)	8,252	1,124	2,085	4,199	807
STORM DEBRIS MATERIAL	Storm Brush/Storm Brush Chips	-	-	-	-	4,908
	Total Storm Debris (Tonnes)⁸	-	-	-	-	4,908
POPULATION	Population	33,411	35,906	36,502	37,108	37,724
	per Capita Waste Generation (tonnes/person/year) ⁵	0.45	0.39	0.38	0.37	0.36
	per Capita Diversion (tonnes/person/year) ⁶	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.24

Notes:

Reported Tonnes are based on inbound weights unless indicated otherwise. All material categories are inclusive of residuals (where applicable).

¹ Diversion program material reported as marketed (outbound scale records/processor records).

² HHW and Re-use Depot reported tonnages are based on estimated weights.

³ Compost Overs. Reported Tonnages are calculated based on the volume of material after the screening process (residual). For 2024, stockpiled compost was screened to allow pad maintenance.

⁴ Includes batteries collected at other City of Orillia facilities such as ORC, Rotary Place, Fire Stations and City Centre.

⁵ Per capita waste generation includes all collected tonnes (curbside programs and Waste Diversion Site drop off) divided by total population.

⁶ Per capita diversion rate includes all diversion program collected tonnes (recycling, green bin organics and yard waste, brush, HHW, electronics, used cooking oil, scrap metal, tires, shingles, drywall, mattress & box springs, clothing & textiles, firewood/logs and lumber sales, and HHW/Reuse Depot) divided by total population.

⁷ Household items diverted through the Reuse Depot were recorded as regular garbage when dropped off by customers. This tonnage is removed from WDS Drop-off Garbage total.

⁸ This category is used to track Storm Debris Material from State of Emergency or other significant weather events. Materials reported under this category are not included in Curbside Collection or WDS Drop-off reported tonnages and are not managed through the City's regular operations or through existing contracts. Storm Debris materials are segregated and managed through event specific contracts.

3.2 Waste Reduction and Diversion Programs

A number of programs are in place that encourage reduction of garbage and diversion of materials from landfill. These programs have been developed over the years as markets have become available or as cost-effective uses of the materials have been found. These programs will be discussed in greater detail further into this report. Programs include the following:

- Waste Diversion Site Depots
- Garbage Tag & Clear Garbage Bag Programs
- Recycling Box Program
- Green Bin/Yard Waste Program
- Household Hazardous Waste and Reuse Depot

Figure 1: Overall Diversion from Waste Diversion Site/Landfill

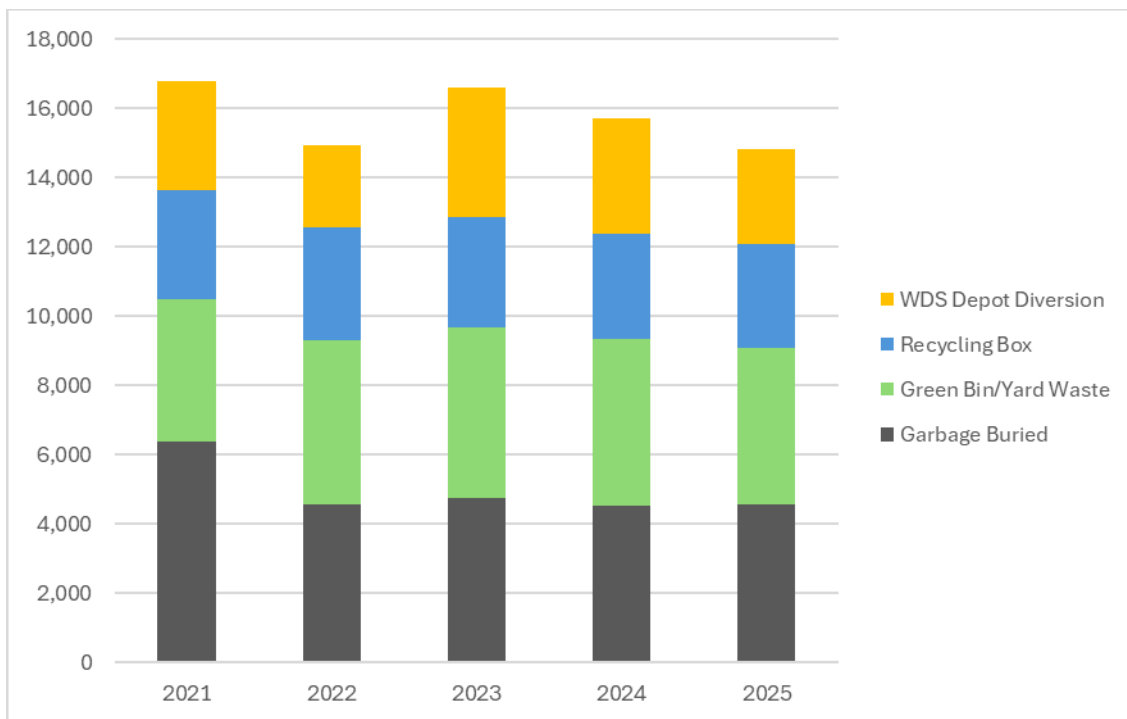


Figure 1 shows this diversion in graphical form with diversion broken out into WDS Depot diversion and the green bin and recycling box collection diversion. Figure 1 shows that since the clear garbage bag program was implemented in 2022, a larger portion of the collected materials are green bin organics.

Effective January 1, 2025, the WDS operating hours were reduced with the site being closed to the public on Mondays. This change in operating hours may be a contributing factor to the lower drop off tonnages received compared to those reported in 2024.

4.0 WASTE DIVERSION SITE DEPOTS

A number of diversion depots are operated at the WDS. Most diversion depot materials have tipping fees that are less than the cost of garbage disposal or are no charge. Customers who do not separate their waste for diversion are charged a mixed waste rate at double the base tipping fee. This fee structure encourages customers to divert recyclable and compostable materials. In 2025, the following depots were operating at the Waste Diversion Site:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Asphalt | 10. Reuse Depot (incl. HHW, household items, and plastic pails) |
| 2. Brush/Tree Wood | 11. Recycling Box Depots |
| 3. Green Bin/Yard Waste | 12. Refrigeration Equipment |
| 4. Concrete | 13. Scrap Metal |
| 5. Electronics | 14. Shingles |
| 6. Drywall | 15. Clothing/Textiles |
| 7. Household Hazardous Waste | 16. Tires |
| 8. Mattresses & Box Springs | |
| 9. Other Wood | |

4.1 Diversion Depot Highlights

- Over 1,500 mattresses and box springs (13 tractor trailer loads) were diverted.
- Over 300 refrigeration appliances were received. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) were removed before the units were recycled as scrap metal.
- 120 tonnes of scrap metal were collected and sent for recycling.
- Nearly 115 tonnes of Household Hazardous Waste was collected and kept out of the City's landfill.

Additional collection and diversion information can be found in Appendix A.

5.0 GARBAGE TAG & CLEAR BAG PROGRAMS

5.1 Garbage Tag Program

The City operates a partial user pay garbage tag program whereby all garbage bags, cans, or bundles require a City of Orillia garbage tag to receive curbside collection service.

The garbage tag program began on July 1, 1997, and is structured such that a set of tags is mailed out to each household in the City and extra tags may be purchased in lots of five. Since 1997, the annual allotment of tags has decreased from 52 to 20 tags per year with the most significant decrease occurring when the City switched to every other week garbage collection in 2015.

In January 2005, Council adopted a medical exception program, which allows residents with medical conditions that result in the creation of extra waste (e.g., home dialysis) to, upon approval, receive up to 15 additional tags prorated through the year.

Table 3 lists the number of tags sold or given out (over and above those mailed to residents) over the past 5 years.

Table 3: Summary of Garbage Tags Sold

Year	Number Sold	Medical Exception Program	Total
2021	87,315	75	87,390
2022	50,550	100	50,650
2023	42,800	85	42,885
2024	41,690	90	41,780
2025	33,575	70	33,645

Garbage tag sales continued to decrease in 2025. This may be partially attributed to lightweighting of non-recyclable packaging in the garbage stream and to the 2-weeks in the spring when garbage tags were not required to aide residents with disposal of spoiled food from the ice storm. The City plans to conduct curbside set out inspections throughout 2026 to ensure untagged garbage is not being collected.

5.2 Clear Bag Program

The clear bag program for garbage began on February 7, 2022. Clear garbage bag programs discourage residents from setting out recycling and compostable materials in their garbage as it makes it more apparent who is participating in diversion programs and who is not.

The program was highly successful in its first year with a 38% reduction in the amount of garbage collected at the curb. A substantial portion of this material moved to the green bin program with a 16% increase in green bin and yard organics collected at the curb as well as an almost 5% increase in blue box recycling material collected. These levels remain consistent into 2025 although the added tonnage from the ice storm did lead to an increase in the amount of garbage collected in 2025. Overall, the clear garbage bag program has been successful and is having the intended effect of encouraging diversion while significantly reducing the amount of garbage being collected and landfilled in Orillia.

6.0 RECYCLING BOX PROGRAM

The City operates a dual stream, weekly recycling box collection program for residential households and a recycling cart program for apartments and businesses. Current

program requirements are outlined in the City's Solid Waste Collection Guide (Appendix D). Recyclable materials are collected in a two-compartment vehicle (split truck). One compartment holds fibrous materials including mixed paper, boxboard, and corrugated cardboard.

6.1 Quantities of Recycling Box Material / Collected Quantities

In 2025, a total of 3,019 tonnes of recyclable material was collected in the recycling box/cart program. This represents a slight decrease (by weight) of 1% compared to 2024. Additional information on the Blue Box transition and capture rates can be found in Appendix A.

7.0 GREEN BIN & YARD WASTE PROGRAM

The City operates a weekly green bin/yard waste collection program year-round. Material collected for this program is windrow composted at the Waste Diversion Site. Current program requirements are outlined in the City's Solid Waste Collection Guide (Appendix D).

7.1 Quantities of Green Bin and Yard Waste Organics

A total of 4,501 tonnes of compostable material was received in 2025 at the WDS from the collection program and through direct drop off by residents and the ICI sector. This represents a 9% decrease compared to 2024 and may be a result of economic impacts and the rising cost of food resulting in less wasted food. A significant amount of spoiled food was temporarily thrown away as garbage due to the impacts of the ice storm.

A total of 467 tonnes of finished compost was sold, primarily to landscaping companies, and another 768 tonnes of surplus compost was given away to residents and commercial haulers in 2025. Additional information can be found in Appendix A.

8.0 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Depot accepts hazardous and special wastes at no charge and operates six days a week during regular operating hours. Materials collected include paints, pesticides, automotive products, solvents, household cleaning products, batteries (all types), propane cylinders, and pool chemicals. The HHW Depot serves residents of Orillia and residents from the Townships of Ramara, Severn and Oro-Medonte through an agreement with the County of Simcoe.

8.1 Quantities of HHW

The following is a list of the Top 5 materials received (by weight) at the HHW Depot and the tonnages that were managed in 2025.

1. Paints (35.8 tonnes)

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2. Bulk Waste Oil (26.5 tonnes)
3. Lighting and Fluorescent Lamps (12.4 tonnes)
4. Propane Tanks (5.2 tonnes)
5. Mixed Single-use Batteries (4.9 tonnes)

These figures are calculated based on the number and weights of HHW packaged items sent for recycling/disposal each year. Quantities include items collected from both Orillia and the Townships. Overall, the HHW Depot saw an increase of approximately 8.5% in collected tonnage compared to 2024.

Table 4: Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Quantities Diverted

	Quantity (tonnes)				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total HHW Collected	129.1	142.4	120.3	105.5	110.4
Orillia Share*	97	109.8	91.6	81.0	89.5
Simcoe County Share*	32.1	32.5	28.7	24.4	20.9

Notes:

- Used oil filters not included as they are included in outbound scrap metal tonnage.

*Based on the proportion of HHW Depot site users from Orillia and Simcoe County for each year (averaged by quarter)

8.2 Usage

The HHW Depot served 6,748 users in 2025, which is consistent with the previous year. Table 5 displays a breakdown of usage by origin for the past five years. Based on visitor usage in 2025, just over 18% of the material dropped off was from Township residents and nearly 82% was from the residents of Orillia.

Table 5: Usage of Household Hazardous Waste Depot

Year	Orillia	Twp. Ramara	Twp. Severn	Twp. Oro-Medonte	Total
2021	5,293	779	689	280	7,041
2022	5,448	162	837	611	7,058
2023	5,186	197	811	610	6,804
2024	5,186	192	770	602	6,750
2025	5,508	142	645	453	6,748

8.3 HHW Reuse Depot

Household Hazardous Waste reuse is operated at the Waste Diversion Site to contain costs as well as reduce the amount of material sent for recycling/disposal. In 2025, 431 visitors removed just over three tonnes of materials for reuse. Most of the material (76%) diverted through the reuse depot were paints and stains and other reusable hazardous waste products. Household items such as furniture, books, tools, dishes/cookware, and toys, etc. accounted for the remaining 24%.

9.0 CURBSIDE COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Curbside services include every other week garbage collection, weekly green bin/yard waste collection and weekly recycling box collection. The City also offers several seasonal collections, such as Christmas Trees, batteries, and clothing and textiles as well.

- Curbside garbage collected was 2,600 tonnes which represents a 4% increase over 2024 (2,493 tonnes).
- The amount of curbside recycling box materials collected totaled 2,948 tonnes, which is consistent with 2024 collected tonnages which were 2,969.
- Curbside green bin and yard waste decreased by approximately 3.5% with 3,605 tonnes collected in 2025 compared to 3,739 tonnes in 2024.

9.1 Seasonal Collections

- *Clothing and Textiles* - 2025 was the second year of the curbside clothing and textile collection program which occurred in early June. Over 11 tonnes of used clothing and textiles were collected which is an increase of approximately five tonnes compared to 2024.
- *Christmas Trees* - During the first three weeks in January, Christmas trees are collected as part of the curbside program. In 2025, nearly nine tonnes of trees were collected and dropped off at the WDS.
- *Batteries* - The City runs an annual curbside battery collection event in November on the week following the daylight savings time changeover. In 2025, just over one tonne was collected through the curbside program. The quantity of batteries collected the last five years is included in Table 2.

10.0 PROMOTION & EDUCATION

This section addresses the City's promotional efforts for its waste reduction and diversion programs along with measures of performance. Examples of promotional items referenced below are provided in Appendix D.

10.1 Print Advertising

10.1.1 Solid Waste Collection Guide and Calendar

The 2025 waste collection guide and mini collection calendar was distributed in January 2025 to Orillia residents and businesses. The mailout which usually occurs in early December was delayed due to the Canada Post strike.

The calendar included the schedule for every other week garbage collection. The guide provided detailed information about the City’s waste minimization programs. Topics include the garbage tag program (including how to tag), holiday collection information, Waste Diversion Site and HHW Depot information, and information on curbside set out requirements. This guide is also available at the Waste Diversion Site and the City Centre throughout the year for new residents to pick up. The guide and calendar are also available on the City’s website. A copy of the guide/collection calendar can be found in Appendix D.

10.1.2 Garbage Tag Letter

With the mailing of garbage tags each year in June, a letter is included that provides a list of where residents can buy additional garbage tags and information promoting the City’s diversion programs and WDS information. In 2025, the letter included information on the Recycle Coach app, where to recycle household batteries, the difference between certified compostable bags and biodegradable bags and what is acceptable in the green bin program, and that pet waste belongs in the garbage not in the green bin.

10.2 City Website & Recycle Coach

The City’s waste management services webpage provides easy to find information on curbside waste collection and Waste Diversion Site programs. Table 6 provides website usage for the collection and landfill solid waste websites. The average engagement time was one minute and twenty-three seconds, which suggests visitors are reading or actively using the content. These results show that the website is actively being used.

Table 6: Waste Management Services Website Usage

Month	Number of Hits*				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total	22,746	22,894	24,570	23,362	22,169

In 2023, Waste Management Services launched the Recycle Coach ‘What Goes Where’ search tool. The tool allows residents to search from hundreds of items to determine how and where to properly dispose of or divert waste. In 2024, the City upgraded their subscription to include the collection reminder service.

10.3 Waste Diversion Site Tours, School Visits & Other Presentations

Tours or presentations on the Waste Diversion Site are available to interested groups. Information on waste diversion operations at the site and the City's waste diversion programs are provided. There were no tours in 2025.

The EIS Department is looking how to develop online learning resources that would include Waste Management Services program information.

11.0 SUMMARY

This report provides a review of Solid Waste Management Operations activities undertaken in 2025 and addresses operational requirements of the Kitchener Street Waste Diversion Site Environmental Compliance Approval No. 5204-B4RRK2.

During 2025, the total waste landfilled was 4,573 tonnes. Of this, 2,600 tonnes of garbage or about 69 kg per person per year, was collected in the curbside clear bag program. Overall, residential garbage collected at the curb increased by approximately 4% in 2025. Total garbage landfilled at the WDS (includes curbside collected and depot drop-off) increased by 1.5% in 2025 to 4,573 tonnes from 4,507 in 2024. The increase in garbage collection and drop off is largely attributed to the temporary waiving of tagging requirements and tipping fees as a result of the cleanup from the 2025 ice storm. An additional 2,285 tonnes of material was received at the WDS for use as cover fill and road building fill. This is a significant decrease from the 6,743 tonnes of cover fill and road building materials received in 2024 due the management of excess soils off site.

In 2025, a total of 3,019 tonnes of recyclable material was collected in the recycling box/cart program. This represents a decrease of about 1% compared to 2024.

A total of 4,501 tonnes of compostable material was received in 2025 at the WDS from the curbside collection program and through direct drop off. This represents a decrease of nearly 7% compared to the 2024 tonnage. Compostable material collected at the curb decreased by about 140 tonnes compared to 2024 while WDS drop off increased by about 200 tonnes. In part, this is believed to be a result of the amount of spoiled food that resulted from the spring ice storm and resulting power outages across the City. Many residents that made the effort to bring their spoiled food waste to the WDS separated food from packaging while much of the spoiled food collected at the curb was placed out as garbage during the two-week period where no garbage tags were required. Compostable material was diverted from disposal through the City's open windrow composting program.

The Household Hazardous Waste Depot served 6,748 customers and diverted approximately 114 tonnes of material (with approximately 93 tonnes being dropped off by Orillia residents). The HHW Depot saw an increase in tonnage collected by about 9%.

Overall, the City is meeting its waste diversion targets listed for 2025 in the 2021 Waste Minimization Plan.

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following actions are recommended for 2026:

1. Focus promotion and education efforts on the following items:
 - a) Recycle Coach App
 - b) Compost and Green Bin Program
 - acceptable items
 - beyond food waste (kitchen waste)
 - c) Curbside Program Set-out Requirements
 - garbage tag requirement
 - weight limit
 - special collection events
 - d) Changes to the residential Blue Box program
2. Development of the 2026 Waste Minimization Plan:
 - a) Provide opportunities for public engagement and feedback. To include:
 - Two open house sessions
 - Online survey
 - Allow for a public review and comment period of the draft report
 - b) Provide the draft report and list of recommendations to the Waste Management Advisory Committee for review and comment.
 - c) Provide a copy of the final report and recommendations to Council for approval.
 - d) Submit final report to the MECP by June 30, 2026.
3. Address initiatives scheduled for 2026 in the updated Waste Minimization Plan.

Appendix A
Supplementary Information

Appendix B
Compliance with Environmental Compliance Approval

Appendix C
Status of 2021 Waste Minimization Plan Recommendations

Appendix D
Solid Waste Management Promotional/Educational Material

Appendix E
2024 Spill Clean-up/Contaminated Material Summary