



Staff Report

Report Title: Waste Management June 2023

Prepared By: John Yungblut, Director of Public Works

Department: Public Works

Date: Jun. 5, 2023

Report Number: PW-2023-06-31

File Number: C11 PW 23

Attachments: FoodCycler Muncpal Resident Guide

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report No. PW-2023-06-31, prepared by John Yungblut, Director of Public Works.

Background:

Annual Monitoring Reports

In accordance with our Certificate of Approval, the Township is required to submit an annual monitoring report for the Kinloss and Huron Landfills to the Ministry. The 2022 reports are now available on the Township [website](#).

Food Cycler

The Township has chosen to participate in the Municipal Innovation Council's pilot project in partnership with Canadian company **Food Cycle Science Corporation**, to offer an innovative food composting solution in the form of **FoodCycler™** units. The purpose of the pilot program is to measure the viability of on-site food waste processing technology as a method of waste diversion. The partnership allows residents of Huron-Kinloss the opportunity to participate in an in-house food waste diversion solution that potentially reduces up to 90% volume of household organic waste headed to the landfill. See the **Municipal Resident Guide** for comprehensive details on the project as well as common FAQ's.

The Township has a contract with Food Cycle Science for 60 units subsidized by Impact Canada, Municipal Innovation Council, Bruce Power, and the Township. An additional 10 units were allocated to the Township from a municipality that decided not to participate. An

additional 60 units were contracted in anticipation of a positive response for a total of 130 units for sale.

Resident cost was dependent on the size of the unit:

- FoodCycler FC-30 (small unit for 1-2 person family) - \$150 (regular price \$500)
- FoodCycler FC-100 Maestro (large unit for 3-4 person family) - \$300 (regular price \$800)

This initiative was advertised starting March 20th, 2023 through press release, website news, and social media. Residents were asked to register to show their interest and intent to purchase. FoodCycle Science used the registration list to determine that all registrants were from within our Township before sending the Shopify link for purchase within a 2-week period.

Residents who purchased the units agreed to participate in a 12-week tracking program to determine usage with a closing survey in August. Statistics from the survey will be supplied to the Township by Food Cycle Science in the fall.

Electronic Waste Collection

Since 2018, the collection of electronic waste has transitioned from the Ontario Electronic Stewardship program to a program called Recycle My Electronics.

Township staff have been informed that this new program will now accept just about anything that has a cord or battery, except vacuum cleaners and appliances with freon. A poster with the various products that are now accepted is on the Township [website](#).

Discussion:

Annual Monitoring Reports

The key takeaway in the report is the estimated closure date of the Huron Landfill of March 2028 when using an average annual air space of 9,333m³. Township staff are expecting to continue to have annual volumes of 8,000m³ or less going forward, especially with a new compactor that should provide better compaction performance. If we are successful, this would result in a 2029 closure date or later.

Food Cycler

Response to the program was positive. In total 156 residents registered to participate, with the delay in payment some residents decided not to participate. After going through the initial list and waitlist only 115 registrants paid. The final 15 units were sent to the Township for direct purchase. These units sold within the first 2 weeks with an additional 15 inquiries following distribution. Out of the 130 units sold 80 were small, and 50 were large units.

Most feedback received after distribution has been positive with an additional 13 inquiries to purchase following distribution. The Township is aware of 4 residents who have experienced problems. These were resolved by FoodCycle Science Customer Service and their service has been very quick. The Township awaits the complete survey results in the fall.

Electronic Waste Collection

Township staff are pleased that the program has expanded beyond the limited products that were accepted under OES. Many of the items that were previously landfilled will now be diverted from the waste stream.

Financial Impacts:

Annual monitoring costs are funded through the Operating Budget. The expanded electronic waste program should increase the contributions we receive, which will help to offset the loss in tipping fees.

The Township's investment is \$100/unit regardless of size for a total cost is \$6,000 plus tax.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an environmentally conscious community that is a good steward of our natural environment by using our resources wisely, and by being aware and taking responsibility.

Respectfully Submitted By:

John Yungblut, C.E.T., Director of Public Works

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer