



Staff Report

Report Title: Waste Management November 2023

Prepared By: John Yungblut, Director of Public Works

Department: Public Works

Date: Nov. 6, 2023

Report Number: PW-2023-11-54

File Number: C11 PW 23

Attachments: Blue Box Transition Letter

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report No. PW-2023-11-54, prepared by John Yungblut, Director of Public Works.

Background:

MECP Inspection

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) conducts annual inspections of the Huron and Kinloss Landfill sites, which typically results in several action items of areas that are not in compliance with our Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).

The Ministry conducted an inspection of the Huron Landfill on July 25, 2023 and found several items that were deemed to be out of compliance.

Since this report was received, Township staff have been in contact with the Ministry and our consulting engineers, WSP Canada, to address these issues. The following is an update on the status of the action items.

Item # 1 - Disposal operations not being adequately or continually supervised.

This is a work in progress. It is our preference to not have staff working alone on site on a regular basis, so we are looking at the possibility of changing our curbside collection service to align with the Huron Landfill operating hours and our staffing schedule. The Ministry have provided us some time to explore our options.

Item # 2 - Waste not compacted twice per day.

This issue has been resolved.

Item # 3 - Daily cover not applied adequately (Provincial Officer's Order)

Township staff are trying to comply with the resources we have in place. The Ministry has since clarified that they require Township staff to document when cover is not applied and for what reason.

Item # 4 - Stormwater Management Plan not fully constructed, and leachate collection tank not included in ECA. (Provincial Officer's Order)

Township staff have submitted a work plan for review by the Ministry. The only task that we are committing to implementing in 2024 is a stormwater runoff sampling program in March and April. This will have to continue each spring until the site is closed. We are also working on an amendment to our ECA to include the leachate collection tank.

Item # 5 - Burning of brush and leaf and yard waste disposal area.

This issue has been resolved, although we will be looking the possibility of including this area in our ECA.

Blue Box Transition

Township staff received the attached letter from our blue box collection contractor, BASWR regarding the blue box program transition to producer responsibility. The transition date for the municipalities in Bruce County is Dec. 31, 2025.

Leaf Collection

The Township provides a one day curbside leaf collection areas within the communities of Ripley, Lucknow and along the Lakeshore. The collection dates for this year are scheduled for Nov. 7th in Ripley and Lucknow and Nov. 8th for the Lakeshore. This is subject to change if our staff are deployed for snow plowing on those dates.

Yard Waste Depots

The Township provides two yard waste disposal sites for the disposal of leaves, brush and yard waste. One is located south of the Lucknow Soccer Fields and the other is location east of the Huron Landfill. The sites are open to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from April to November. The opening and closing dates are subject to weather as we try to

keep them open as long as possible. This year, the Lucknow site will close Nov. 16th and the Huron Landfill site will close Nov. 20th.

Kinloss Landfill

The Kinloss Landfill is now closed for the winter. It will reopen April 6, 2024.

Discussion:

MECP Inspection

Township staff have not received a response from the Ministry regarding the stormwater management plan as of Nov. 1st. The only operational improvement that we have committed to so far is the stormwater sampling program.

Blue Box Transition

Township staff are in the process of discussing this process in more detail with BASWR. It is noteworthy that municipal buildings and facilities will not be eligible for curbside collection after the transition date.

Financial Impacts:

Township staff are looking into the potential of increasing waste disposal fees in 2024 to help offset the anticipated increased operating costs of the Huron Landfill as a result of the actions requested by the Ministry.

Yard waste depots and leaf collection service is included in the Operating Budget.

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