



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Waste Management Report September 2025

Date: Sep. 3, 2025

Report Number: PW-2025-45

Department: Public Works

File Number: C11 PW25

Prepared By: Cory Dulong, Manager of Environmental Services

Attachments:

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report PW-2025-45 prepared By Cory Dulong, Manager of Environmental Services.

Background:

Blue Box Transition

As the Province of Ontario continues to transition the Blue Box Program from being operated and funded by municipalities to producers, concern is now focusing on how small non-eligible sources (ie. Commercial, industrial, institutional properties) who will no longer have access to recycling services through the Blue Box Program can be supported and keeping their recyclable materials out of the landfill. '

Bruce Area Solid Waste Recycling (BASWR) have set forth a proposal to support non-eligible commercial, industrial, and institutional properties in Bruce County by providing curbside blue box collection after Jan. 1, 2026. No final costs have been defined, however BASWR has projected a potential cost of \$52.14 a month at \$625.64 per year for each non-eligible property. This would result in a total annual cost of just over \$63,000 to operate the collection program in Huron-Kinloss.

On June 4th, 2025, the Ministry of Environment Compliance and Parks (MECP) announced the consultation on proposed amendments to the blue box regulation which closed on July 4th. A proposal for the blue box services for small industry commercial and institutional facilities has been developed and currently being reviewed.

2025 Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

The Hazardous Waste Collection Program is operated by the County of Bruce with collection events held at various location across the county. The 2025 schedule is available on our website: <https://www.huronkinloss.com/live-here/garbage-and-recycling/>

Lucknow's hazardous waste collection date will be on Sept. 6th from 8:00am-12:00pm at Lucknow Bruce County Transportation Services Yard.

Discussion/Analysis/Overview:

Blue Box Transition

The concern many municipalities currently have is how to keep these non eligible sources of recycled materials out of the landfill. Potential amendments to the legislation that will allow some small businesses to be considered as eligible for the program is a positive development for municipalities in Ontario.

The Ministry of Environment and Circular Materials are currently fine tuning their proposal on how small non-eligible commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities will be added into or secluded from the blue box collection service. Further information will be added as it comes forth.

As a result of the potential changes to the Blue Box Program, the cost to operate a non-eligible source collection program may be less than originally determined.

If the Township chooses to participate in the collection of non-eligible recycling materials, it will be our decision as to how the program is funded. We could elect to continue funding blue box collection though our operating budget as we have done since it’s inception or recover the costs through a user fee system.

Township staff are in the process of contracting businesses to determine their recycling needs and determine what the demand will be for blue box collection services for non-eligible properties after Jan. 1, 2026.

Financial Impacts:

The blue box collection program cost the Township just under \$220,000 in 2024. Any post transition costs for the blue box program will need to be accounted for in the 2026 budget.

Performance Measurement:

None at this time.

Strategic Area:

- Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle
- Enhance Municipal Service Delivery
- Prepare for Inclusive Growth
- Ensure Financial Stability

Strategic Goal: Protect, promote and restore our natural environment

Respectfully Submitted By:

Cory Dulong, Manager of Environmental Services.

Report Approved By:

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer