



Waste-Free Ontario Act Updates

Item 8.2

Waste Free Ontario Act – Waste Program Transition

Blue Box Program Transition

- AMO requested Municipal Council resolutions by June 30, 2020 to identify the municipality's preferred transition year (2023, 2024, or 2025), rationale, and interest to provide recycling services
- The City's requested transition date is between April 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 which requires the early termination of the contracts for the City's Material Recycling Facility (MRF) operations and recycling collection
- Stewardship Ontario will submit its proposed Blue Box Program Wind-up Plan to the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) expected September, 2020
- The RPRA expects to review, consult on and approve the proposed wind-up plan by December 31, 2020. Release of the final regulation is anticipated in early 2021

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Battery Program (O. Reg 30:20)

- As of July 1, 2020, battery producers are responsible for collecting and reusing, refurbishing or recycling their batteries. The new regulation applies to single-use and rechargeable batteries weighing 5 kg or less sold separately in Ontario.
- Battery producers will need to establish 34 collection sites within City of Hamilton based on our population calculation.
- Impact for Municipalities:
 - If municipalities want to collect used batteries as a service for residents, their sites need to be included in a collection network set up by a battery producer or Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO).
 - The City will establish an agreement with a PRO to continue battery collection at the CRCs and receive compensation.

Waste Free Ontario Act – Waste Program Transition

Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste Program (MHSW)

- Ontario's MHSW program to manage all designated materials except single-use batteries will cease operation on June 30, 2021
- On April 1, 2020, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks directed Stewardship Ontario (SO) to develop amendments to the MHSW Program Wind-Up Plan concerning the return of surplus funds
- The Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority recently approved SO's proposed ISO Surplus Fund Transfer Addendum to the Wind-Up Plan for the MHSW program
- The proposed MHSW regulation will be released in fall 2020 for public consultation on the Environmental Registry