

On-line Waste Plan Consultation Survey Questions, Summer 2020

1. Regional Council endorsed the guiding principles to follow during the development of the Long-term Waste Management Plan on January 29, 2020. These principles are based on the Region's Strategic Plan, developed with public input in 2019, and will help shape the vision and objectives of the new Waste Plan.
 - a. Deliver cost effective waste management services to a rapidly growing and diverse population.
 - b. Work with producers and importers of designated products and packaging to implement "Extended Producer Responsibility" and adjust Region waste programs as required.
 - c. Apply innovative approaches to Region waste streams to manage them as resources in a circular economy.
 - d. Demonstrate leadership in sustainability to address the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from waste management activities.

Are there any other principles you think we should consider when developing the new Waste Plan?

2. Do you support the proposed new Waste Plan Vision?
Vision: The Region of Durham will manage solid waste as a resource through innovation and adaptability to enhance environmental sustainability.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No, please explain
 - c. Comment

3. Do you support the four proposed new Waste Plan Objectives?

Objective #1: Increase the diversion of waste from disposal

- a. Yes
- b. No, please explain
- c. Comment

Objective #2: Support the Region's greenhouse gas reduction and climate change mitigation efforts

- d. Yes
- e. No, please explain
- f. Comment

Objective #3: Reduce the quantity of waste to be managed

- g. Yes
- h. No, please explain
- i. Comment

Objective #4: Protect or improve water, land, and air quality in Durham Region

- j. Yes
- k. No, please explain
- l. Comment

4. Are there other important objectives we should consider? Please comment.
5. What are some things that stop you from re-using items and reducing waste? Select all that apply.
- a. It takes too much effort or time.
 - b. I don't know what to do with worn out things like damaged clothes or sheets and towels or broken appliances.
 - c. I don't know how to creatively use food scraps - I have good intentions, but food spoils quickly or I end up throwing out a lot of food at the end of the week.
 - d. It's cheaper to buy something new than to get it fixed.
 - e. I don't know how to fix things, so I end up throwing them out.
 - f. I don't know where to sell, swap, or give away my old stuff.
 - g. It's too expensive or inconvenient to shop at zero-waste stores; or take my own containers to bulk stores.
 - h. It's costly and inconvenient to purchase supplies like reusable bags, metal straws, reusable produce bags, reusable containers, reusable coffee cup, etc.
 - i. It's cheaper and more convenient to buy new things (e.g. browse and buy online through Amazon).
 - j. It's not sanitary to use re-usable items like straws and coffee mugs
 - k. Other issues, please specify:
6. What barriers prevent you from using the Region's Green Bin program? Select all that apply.
- a. I don't have a Green Bin.
 - b. My apartment/condo doesn't have a Green Bin program.
 - c. I don't know where to get a Green Bin.
 - d. I don't know what goes in the Green Bin.
 - e. It smells and/or attracts bugs/animals.
 - f. I don't have anywhere to store the Green Bin and/or kitchen catcher.
 - g. Compostable bags/liners are too expensive.
 - h. Why bother – it all goes in the garbage anyway.
 - i. I use my backyard composter.
 - j. I have accessibility issues.

- k. It takes too much effort.
 - l. No barriers – I use it all the time.
 - m. Other – please specify.
7. What barriers prevent you from using the Region’s Blue Box program? Select all that apply.
- a. I don’t have a/enough Blue Boxes.
 - b. My apartment/condo doesn’t have a Blue Box program.
 - c. I don’t know where to get Blue Boxes.
 - d. I don’t know what goes in the Blue Box.
 - e. It smells and/or attracts bugs/animals.
 - f. I don’t have anywhere to store the Blue Box.
 - g. It creates litter on my curb that I have to clean up.
 - h. I have accessibility issues.
 - i. It takes too much effort.
 - j. Why bother – it all goes in the garbage anyway
 - k. No barriers – I use it all the time.
 - l. Other – please specify.
8. What potential diversion options do you most prefer? Select your top three choices.
- a. Expand our recycling programs to handle new materials if markets exist (e.g. furniture, textiles).
 - b. Accept more items in the Green Bin (e.g. pet waste and diapers)
 - c. Wait for the province to mandate that companies recycle textiles, carpet, mattresses.
 - d. Develop a network of small-scale drop-off depots for recyclable or reusable items.
 - e. Develop more partnerships with non-profit organizations to collect recyclable items.
 - f. Encourage more backyard composting to reduce food waste.
 - g. Support provincial bans on items, so they cannot be thrown in the garbage – such as single use plastics.
 - h. Other – please list
9. What barriers prevent you from using the existing curbside or drop-off recycling programs? Select all that apply.
- a. I don’t have a car, so I can’t go the existing drop-off facilities to recycle electronics, appliances, carpets, drywall, furniture, scrap metal and wood.
 - b. The drop-off facility hours of operation are not convenient or it’s not open when I need it to be.
 - c. The drop-off facility locations are not convenient.

- d. I live in an apartment/condo and it's not convenient/there is no dedicated space for me to drop off recyclable/reusable materials (e.g. clothing).
- e. The materials I want to recycle are not collected at the curb or at drop-off facilities (i.e. plastic bags).
- f. I don't know how to recycle things at the curb except Blue Box and Green Bin materials.
- g. I don't know what materials the Region accepts at drop-off facilities.
- h. Other issues:

10. How do you regularly receive information about the Region's waste programs and services? Select all that apply.

- a. Local Newspapers
- b. Television
- c. Waste App
- d. Hardcopy Waste Calendar
- e. Durham Region Website
- f. Durham Region Social Media
- g. Radio
- h. Region Call Centre
- i. Public Service Announcements
- j. Friends and Neighbours
- k. Other- please list

11. To encourage our diverse community to use the waste and recycling programs more, choose the options that would be most helpful to you. Select all that apply.

- a. Provide more digital/virtual engagement options (i.e. live on-line meetings, how-to videos, etc.).
- b. Provide more in-person workshops and educational events.
- c. Expand printed promotion and education materials into other languages.
- d. Provide more tours of Region-owned waste facilities such as the Durham York Energy Centre.
- e. Expand the waste management social media presence.
- f. Provide more support for volunteer outreach for repair cafes, textile recycling, etc.
- g. Provide more support for student engagement from Durham Region schools.
- h. Other – please list.

12. Which of the following ideas do you think would be most helpful to increase recycling in apartments and condos? Select all that apply.

- a. I don't live in an apartment or condo.

- b. Better communications/education for property managers, landlords and tenants.
- c. Smaller Blue Box containers designed and sized for apartment living.
- d. Mandatory recycling requirements and use of by-laws and enforcement.
- e. Better tracking to know when collection containers are full and need to be picked up.
- f. On-site composting for food waste.
- g. Other – please list

13. Please provide any other comments you have.

14. Please provide the local municipality where you live.

- a. Pickering
- b. Ajax
- c. Whitby
- d. Oshawa
- e. Clarington
- f. Uxbridge
- g. Scugog
- h. Brock

15. Please indicate your age.

- a. Under 18
- b. 18 – 24
- c. 25 – 34
- d. 35 – 44
- e. 45 – 54
- f. 55 – 64
- g. 65 or older
- h. Prefer not to say