

# Waste Plan Regina

## 2018 Update



[Regina.ca/waste](http://Regina.ca/waste)



# Year in Review

## 2018 Accomplishments

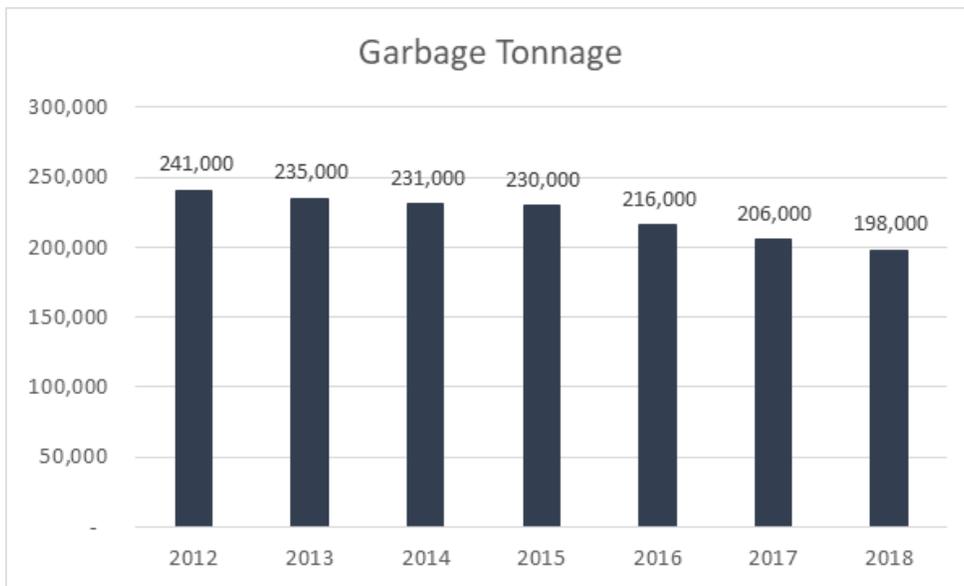
- Overall waste disposed at the landfill decreased by four per cent.
- Solid waste collection services were provided to over 66,000 single-family households.
- City Council approved a permanent yard waste site and a pilot for a residential curbside organic waste service.
- Diverted 839 tonnes of yard waste from the landfill.
- Established a permanent biweekly garbage collection schedule during the winter months.
- Residential waste diversion rate increased to 21 per cent.
- The Landfill Gas to Energy Facility generated 4,459 megawatt-hours of electricity.
- Added 39 bottle baskets to City waste receptacles in public spaces.
- Interacted with over 9,500 residents through face-to-face public outreach initiatives.
- The number of household waste items searched using the online Waste Wizard tool increased by 72 per cent.
- A new recycling re-education campaign received over 1.85 million online views with over 183,000 engagements.
- A total of 149 car seats were recycled in Regina through a partnership with the Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council.
- Recycling and garbage cart collection reminder sign ups increased by 26 per cent.
- Total volume of materials in the Blue Cart increased by 20 per cent.

# Residents are diverting more waste

In January 2011, City Council adopted Waste Plan Regina's (WPR) Enhanced Residential Service Option and set a target to divert 65 per cent of residential waste by 2020. This update summarizes accomplishments in 2018 and provides the priorities and work plan for 2019-2023.

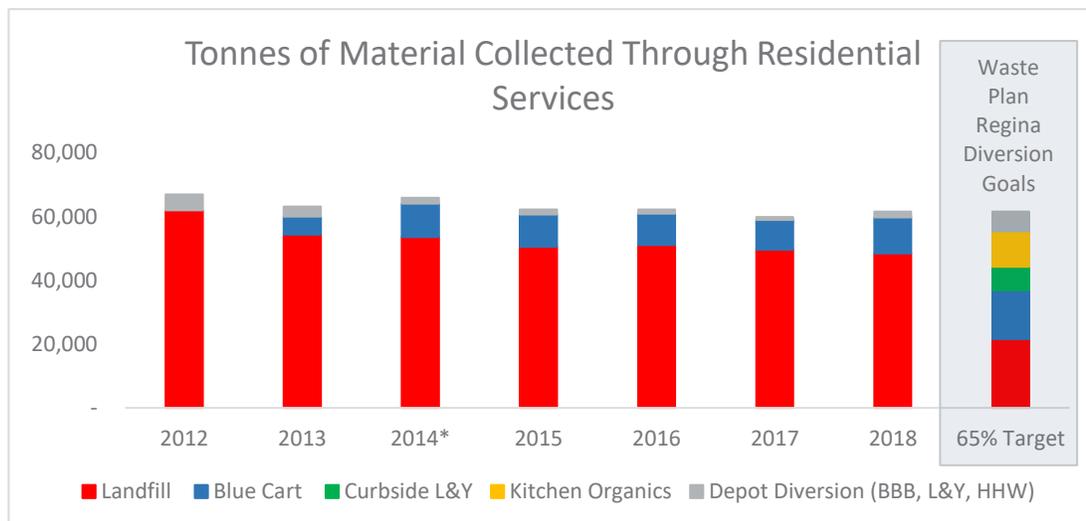
## Landfill Tonnage Trend

Overall the amount of garbage being disposed of at the Landfill has reduced by approximately 18 per cent from 2012.



## Residential Services

Residents diverted 22 per cent more waste through curbside recycling and depot diversion in 2018.



\*Recycling experienced an increase in 2014 as a result of the Blue Cart Recycling Program.

# Residential Waste Diverted from the Landfill

	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>City Program Diversion</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>(Reported in tonnes)</b>				
Blue Cart	7,914	8,074	7,796	9,344
Big Blue Bin	1,069	868	806	801
Leaf and Yard Depots	312	411	*N/A	839
Household Hazardous Waste	54	91	*N/A	77
Treecycle	76	44	27	28
Diversion at the Landfill	4,422	6,293	4,994	5,800
<b>Total Diversion</b>	<b>13,847</b>	<b>15,781</b>	<b>13,623</b>	<b>16,889</b>
<b>Garbage</b>	<b>64,601</b>	<b>63,439</b>	<b>62,149</b>	<b>61,377</b>

\*Related to the cancellation of Leaf & Yard and Household Hazardous Waste Depots in 2017.

## Diversion rate expected to increase with additional programs

In September 2018, City Council approved the development of a residential curbside organic (food and yard) waste collection service. This program will be designed to provide curbside collection of food and yard waste to residents. A pilot project is expected to begin in 2020. If the pilot is successful, the curbside organic service will be fully implemented in 2022 and 2023.

### Fun Fact

Organic waste makes up about 50 per cent of residential waste sent to the landfill. With a new curbside organic waste service, the volume of waste disposed at the landfill is expected to decrease by 18,000 tonnes annually. This will eliminate 760 tonnes of greenhouse gas emission, the equivalent of removing 140 cars from the road annually!

### Did you know?

An organic waste service will reduce stress on City wastewater treatment facilities, providing a safe alternative to dispose of fats, oils, grease, coffee grounds and other food scraps which are commonly disposed of through the sewer system.

# Curbside Collection Services

The City of Regina provides solid waste collection services to approximately 66,000 single-family residential properties. At each property, a 360-litre or 240-litre rollout cart is used for garbage collection and a 360-litre cart for recycling collection. Approximately 6,000 residents use the smaller 240-litre garbage cart.

- Garbage carts are **78%\*** full on collection day
- Garbage cart set out rate is **84%\***
- Recyclables placed in garbage carts decreased by **1%**
- Hazardous waste placed in garbage carts decreased by **1%**

*\*This increase may be related to the new biweekly garbage collection schedule.*

## What's in Your Garbage Cart?

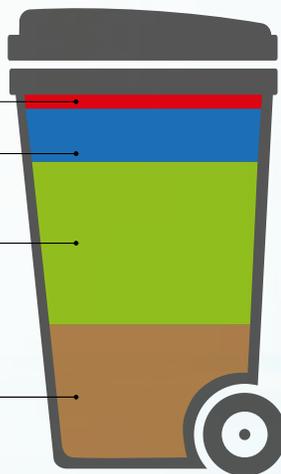
### 2017

Hazardous Waste 2%

Recyclables 12%

Organics 50%

Garbage 36%



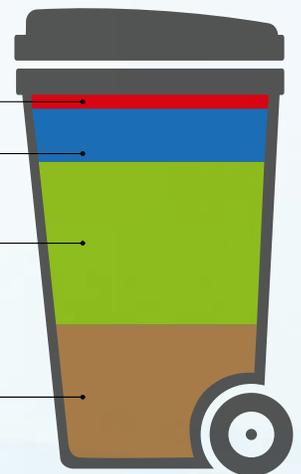
### 2018

Hazardous Waste 1%

Recyclables 11%

Organics 51%

Garbage 37%



## Biweekly Garbage Collection

In 2018, City Council approved a permanent biweekly garbage collection schedule for the winter months, November to the end of March.

Residents that cannot manage their garbage within the biweekly garbage collection schedule can add a supplementary cart for a fee. In 2018, 75 residents signed up for a supplementary garbage cart.

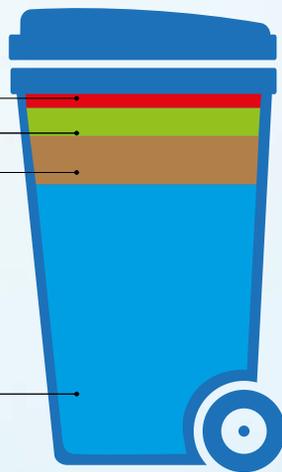
The City of Regina continued to study what material was being placed in garbage and recycling carts each week. Information from this study is used to inform future services and identify education and outreach opportunities.

- Recycling carts are **77%** full on collection day
- Recycling cart set out rate is **73%**
- Garbage placed in the recycling carts remained the same at **8%**

## What's in Your Recycling Cart?

### 2017

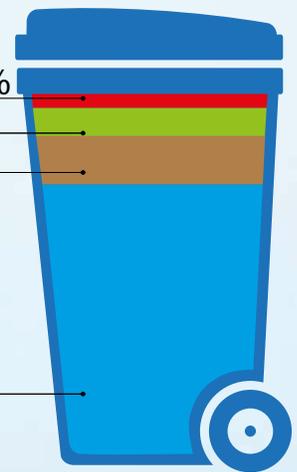
Hazardous Waste 1%  
Organics 3%  
Garbage 8%



Recyclables 88%

### 2018

Hazardous Waste 0.5%  
Organics 1.5%  
Garbage 8%



Recyclables 90%

## Big Blue Bin Depots

There are nine Big Blue Bin locations throughout the city where residents are encouraged to bring their excess paper and cardboard recycling. In 2018, 801 tonnes of material was diverted from the Landfill through the Big Blue Bin Program.

# Record breaking year for drop-off depots

The City's seasonal depots resumed in 2018 and collected record amounts of material. The programs diverted 944 tonnes of material from landfill. Thanks to all the residents who participated in the City's Leaf and Yard, Household Hazardous Waste Days and Treecycle depots this year!

## Depot Highlights

Over 9,400 vehicles visited the Leaf and Yard Waste Depots, diverting over 800 tonnes of organic material from the landfill - a 102 per cent increase from the 2016 depots!



Over 2,000 vehicles visited Household Hazardous Waste Days, collecting 77 tonnes of household hazardous waste. Material collected included chemicals, batteries, lightbulbs, propane tanks and scrap tires.



***The use of the Treecycle Depots increased by four per cent.***

## Permanent Yard Waste Site

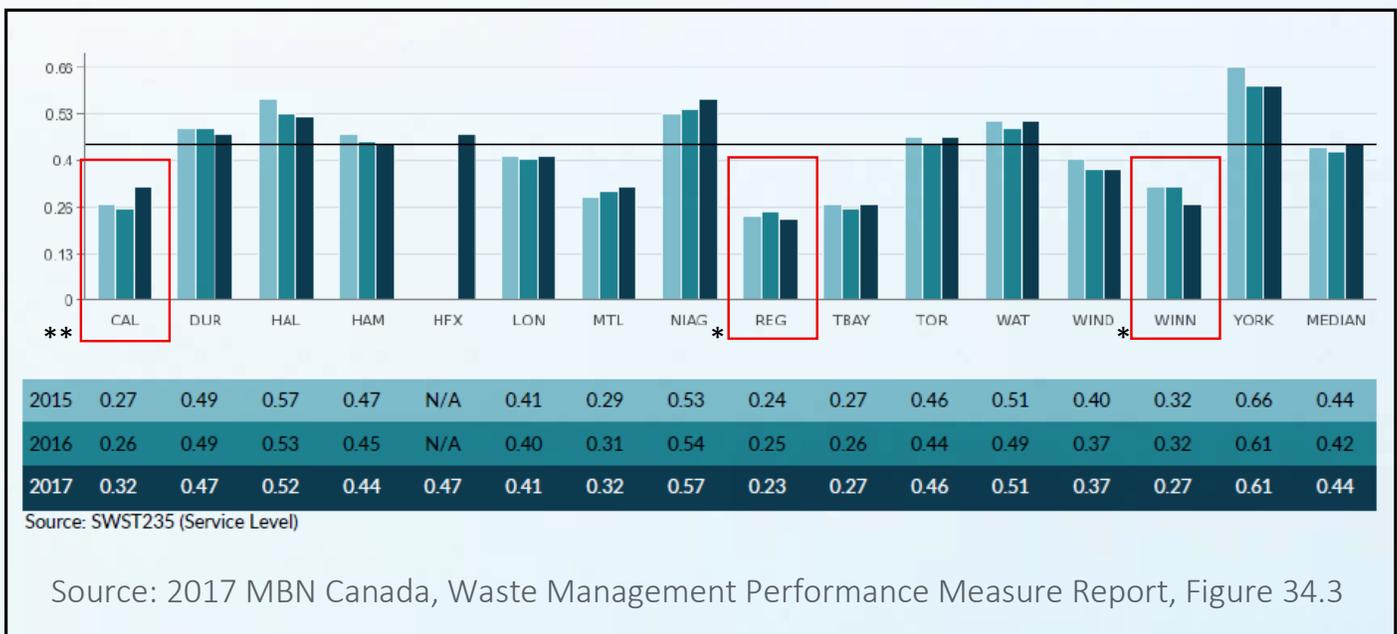
Due to the substantial increase in yard waste diversion by residents in 2018 and anticipated continued demand, the current yard waste depot service will expand to a single site that will operate throughout the growing season - April to November. The site will be operational in spring 2019, adjacent to the Fleet Street Landfill with a separate entrance allowing residents to drop off yard waste without interacting with landfill operations. The City of Regina is offering this free and convenient depot service to residents to help divert waste from the landfill.

# Municipal Waste Diversion Across Canada

The Municipal Benchmarking Network (MBN) of Canada provides a framework for measuring municipal efficiency and effectiveness on a wide range of services. In comparison to other MBN municipalities, Regina has the lowest diversion rate. The gap between Regina and other municipalities can be attributed to the absence of a curbside collection program for organic material.

Waste management is also heavily influenced by provincial regulations and stewardship programs.

Figure 34.3 shows 2016 waste diversion results as the 2017 results are not yet available.



\*These municipalities did not report curbside collection programs for organic material.

\*\*The City of Calgary began a phased roll-out of curbside collection for organics in July 2017; their diversion rate is beginning to increase.

# Public Outreach and Education

Throughout the year, the City continued to provide educational opportunities to residents regarding proper waste and recycling practices. City staff interacted with 9,500 residents at public education and outreach events, including information booths and corporate, community and school presentations.

## Recycle Re-Education Campaign

In Fall 2018, the City launched a Recycling Re-Education Campaign to encourage, motivate and increase recycling efforts. Local influencers discussed recycling with residents and found out why they recycle. Our residents became the positive voice of recycling to encourage messaging through peer-to-peer conversation. This helped drive the behaviour change to motivate and increase recycling efforts. Say **YES** to blue cart recycling! **#YesIRecycle**



### Campaign Results:

1. Over **1.85 million** online views
2. Over **183,000** engagements with the online ads
3. Social media post reactions were **99% positive**
4. Increased page views to Regina.ca/waste by **85%**

## Social Media Presence

With over 40,000 Facebook and 54,000 Twitter followers on the City's social media channels, social media continued to be a cost-effective and engaging way to educate residents about waste management programs.

Recycling polls, 'Waste Wednesday' and 'Unrecyclable or Recyclable Item of the Week' posts were a great way to communicate proper sorting and recycling tips to reduce landfill waste.



# Waste Reduction Week

The City of Regina participated in Waste Reduction Week, a national event that encourages waste reduction innovation and celebrates environmental achievements across the country. Focusing on reducing food waste in our homes, the City partnered with the Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council to kick-off the week with a free movie screening 'Wasted: The Story of Food Waste'. City staff visited local grocery stores and engaged with over 1,000 residents, giving tips and tricks to reduce food waste at home. Residents also had an opportunity to take the online 'Food Waste Challenge' testing their knowledge on the topic and committing to reducing their food waste.

Education efforts focusing on food waste gave City staff an excellent opportunity to discuss the recently approved organic waste collection pilot with residents.

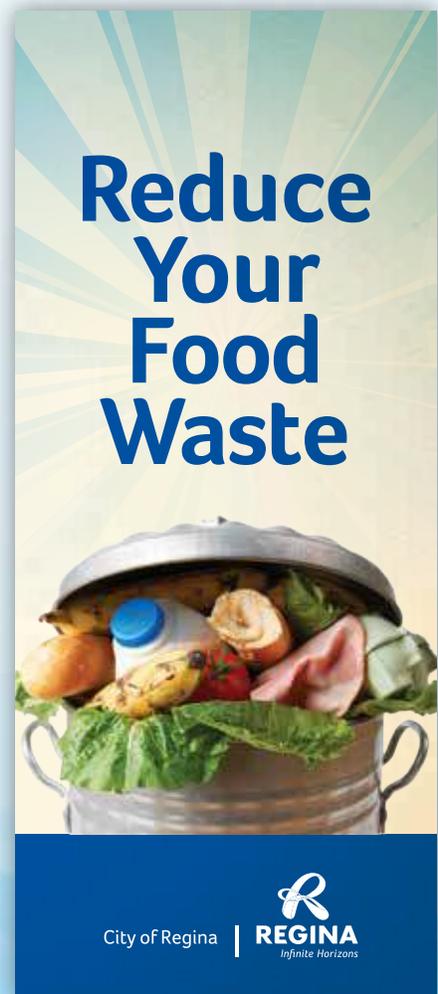
## Did you know?

The average garbage cart in Regina contains 30 per cent food waste. Of all the food we throw away, over 60 per cent of it was edible at one point.



## Fun Fact

Waste Wizard is an online search tool which helps residents put their household waste in the right place. In 2018 a total of 113,613 items were searched on Waste Wizard, a 72 per cent increase from 2017. The most commonly searched items included yard waste, motor oil, leaves, plastic bags and glass bottles and jars.



# Moving Beyond Residential Waste

In 2018, the City of Regina expanded waste diversion programs in the community. Advancing recycling and waste diversion initiatives into the non-residential sector aligns with goals outlined in Waste Plan Regina. The City is committed to priorities outlined in *Design Regina: The Official Community Plan* to promote conservation, environmental stewardship and sustainability through the adoption of leading practices in waste management.

## Expansion of Public Space Recycling

In 2018, 39 bottle baskets were added to City waste receptacles in public spaces, bringing the total to 65 baskets placed throughout the City. Bottle baskets provide residents with a convenient option to recycle beverage containers in public spaces, reduce litter and divert recyclable material from the landfill. The baskets require little to no maintenance as they are intended to be self-servicing, meaning that a passerby can collect the beverage containers from the baskets and bring them to SARCAN for a refund.

In addition to existing areas in Victoria Park, in front of City Hall and along Scarth Street and 13th Avenue, the new baskets service the downtown transit route along Albert Street, College Avenue, Broad Street and 11th Avenue. Results to date show that the bottle baskets are working as intended.



## City-Owned Facilities Recycling Pilot Project

The City is committed to adopting leading practices in waste management. In 2018, several City-owned facilities were selected to undergo waste audits, identifying the types and quantities of waste generated in these facilities. Based on waste audit results, multi-stream disposal options (garbage, recycling and organic waste) will be piloted at 12 City-owned facilities in 2019 including City Hall, the North West Leisure Center, Sportplex (Fieldhouse & Lawson), Sandra Schmirler Leisure Center, South Leisure Center and associated spray pads.

Information collected during the pilot will be used to identify waste diversion opportunities and challenges that exist for the broader Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (IC&I) sector, informing the development of future waste management policies in Regina. The pilot will also help form the basis of a City-wide waste management program. Upon successful completion of the pilot, a waste management program is intended to be implemented at all City-owned and operated facilities.



# Waste Industry Changes

The City of Regina continually monitors changes to the waste industry. These changes will have an impact on the City's future waste management programs.

## Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW) Program

MMSW's program is a shared responsibility program, with the goal of having stewards cover up to 75 per cent of the net costs of delivering efficient and effective recycling services to residents. In 2018, a new payment model was approved, increasing municipal funding for collectors providing curbside services from \$11.75 per household to \$25.75 per household.

## Provincial Household Hazardous Waste Stewardship Program

The Government of Saskatchewan is developing a province-wide household hazardous waste management program. Proposed regulations were reviewed by stakeholders and the public, with 2018 survey results showing widespread support for program development. Regulations are expected to be finalized in 2019. This program will guide the future of household hazardous waste programming in Regina.

## Federal Waste Reduction Goals

In November 2018, the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment set a goal of reducing waste in Canada by 50 per cent by the year 2040. A Canada-wide strategy on zero plastic waste was also approved. This strategy will drive innovation in waste prevention and recovery technologies across the country.

## Changes to the Recycling Market

China's strict new purity standard (The National Sword) on imported recyclable materials was imposed in January 2018. Currently, China is still accepting recyclables from Canada however they are more stringent on the amount of contamination (unacceptable materials) allowed in the recyclables. The City is committed to reducing unacceptable materials in the Blue Cart.

### Did you know?

The City of Regina has been selling electricity to SaskPower at the Landfill Gas to Energy Facility since January of 2017. In 2018, the Landfill Gas to Energy Facility produced 4,459 MWh of electricity that was sold to SaskPower. The electricity generated this year was enough to power approximately 619 homes!

# Moving Forward

Over the next few years, the City of Regina will focus on completing the roll out of residential services and develop diversion initiatives for non-residential properties. The City will continue to provide waste management programming and initiatives.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
UPCOMING INITIATIVES	Curbside Waste Services Funding Policy Decision				
	Permanent Yard Waste Drop-off Site Operational				
	Curbside Organic Waste Pilot Program - Development and Implementation				
	Curbside Organic Waste Program – Permanent Service Implementation				
	Solid Waste Master Plan				
	Household Hazardous Waste Service Assessment and Recommendation				
	Waste Diversion Opportunities at Landfill				
	City Facility Recycling Pilot				
	Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Service Development				
	Construction and Demolition Service Development				
CONTINUED INITIATIVES	Operate Household Hazardous Waste Days				
	Public Education and Outreach Diversion Programming				
	Monitoring and Evaluation of Diversion Programming				

■ Residential Services   ■ Non-Residential Services



City of Regina

**REGINA**  
*Infinite Horizons*