



## WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

|                                      |                                                    |                                           |                                              |
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| Information <input type="checkbox"/> | Recommendation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Decision Request <input type="checkbox"/> | Councillor Activity <input type="checkbox"/> |
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**To:** West Hants Regional Municipality Council

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Richard, Director of Public Works

**Date:** February 25, 2025

**Subject:** West Hants Regional Municipality Solid Waste Bylaw

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### LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act, Section 23 authorizes Council to make policies for municipal purposes.

### RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

It is recommended that:

**Council approves the West Hants Regional Municipality Solid Waste Bylaw RO-001, substantively the same as the draft in Attachment A of the Report as presented at the January 28, 2025, Council meeting which would include the repeal of the Municipality of the District of West Hants Solid Waste Management By-Law and the Town of Windsor Bylaw #16 Solid Waste Bylaw.**

### BACKGROUND

|                                   |                                         |                                                 |                                 |                                   |                                              |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Property <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Opinion <input type="checkbox"/> | Environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Social <input type="checkbox"/> | Economic <input type="checkbox"/> | Councillor Activity <input type="checkbox"/> |
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On September 10, 2024, staff presented a Draft Solid Waste Bylaw to the Committee of the Whole. Based on discussion from that meeting, the following changes were recommended and considered:

- Update the Private Road Curbside Collection definition to better reflect a Private Road Curbside Collection Policy
- Five (5) clear garbage bags are not enough
- Three (3) leaf and yard waste bags are not enough and would like to keep the special collections for leaf and yard waste in Windsor
- The bulky item weight of 75kg is too heavy for haulers, would like to see this reduced
- The number of Green Bins per unit and maximum number of units
- The definition of single-family unit does not specify secondary suites
- Eligible premises for green carts does not specify secondary suites

After the COTW meeting on September 10, 2024, the Draft Solid Waste Bylaw was reviewed by Public Works staff again, and changes were made to reflect the concerns of the Council. Those changes were presented to the Council on September 26, 2024. Deputy Mayor Morton and Councillor Sherman moved that Council approves the new West Hants Regional Municipality Solid Waste Bylaw with the addition of the improved language to ensure the Bylaw reflects the Municipality's ability to collect solid waste curbside on private roads. That motion was carried.

At the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council meeting, Council requested additional wording in the Solid Waste Bylaw regarding private road curbside collection. The Private Road definition was updated, and a Solid Waste Curbside Collection & Transportation Services on Private Roads Policy Recommendation Report was presented to Committee of the Whole on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Mayor Zebian & Councillor Jannasch moved that Committee of the Whole Recommends Council approve the new Private Roads Solid Waste Curbside Collection Policy and approve the additional annual operational expenses needed to fund the increase in current service level for applicable curbside collection of solid waste collection on private roads that qualify as per the attached policy. That motion was defeated.

On January 28, 2025, the First Reading of the Solid Waste Bylaw took place at the Council Meeting. Councillor P. Morton and Leary-Pinch moved that council give first reading and proceed to a Public Hearing and Second Reading for the West Hants Regional Municipality Solid Waste Bylaw RO-001. That motion was carried.

The progress to move forward with the West Hants Regional Municipality Solid Waste Bylaw changes were delayed. September should have been the first reading; however, Council's motion was unclear to send it to Public Hearing and First Reading. Due to the change in Council Members in October, there was no Council meeting and Public Works staff was asked not to bring the recommendation to Council in November, but to focus on the Solid Waste Curbside Collection & Transportation Services on the Private Roads Policy Recommendation Report.

## DISCUSSION

The following are changes recommended to Council for the West Hants Regional Municipality Solid Waste Bylaw:

| Updates to the WHRM Draft Solid Waste Bylaw                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Before                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | After                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p><b>Section 3 (41) Definitions:</b><br/> “private roads” means roads, including privately owned roads or roads not maintained by the government owner, where the Municipality's collection contractor does not travel down the road and provide curbside collection services, unless otherwise approved by the Municipality. For private roads not approved, they will receive all eligible collection limits at the nearest public road, as outlined in Section 12 of this Bylaw.</p> | <p><b>Section 3 (41) Definitions:</b><br/> “private roads” means roads, including privately owned roads or roads not maintained by the government owner, where the Municipality's collection contractor does not travel down the road and provide curbside collection services, <b>unless otherwise approved by the Municipality and mutually agreed upon with the collection contractor.</b> For private roads not approved, they will receive all eligible collection limits at the nearest public road, as outlined in Section 12 of this Bylaw.</p> |
| <p><b>Section 3 (45) Definitions:</b><br/> “single-family dwelling” means a dwelling as defined herein occupied by a single-family unit and includes a mobile home and a dwelling within a multi-unit residential dwelling, such as a duplex, rowhouse or townhouse.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>Section 3 (45) Definitions:</b><br/> “single-family dwelling” means a dwelling as defined herein occupied by a single-family unit and includes a mobile home and a dwelling within a multi-unit residential dwelling, such as a duplex, rowhouse or townhouse. <b>This includes a second suite within a single-family dwelling.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>Section 8 (1)(a) &amp; (c) Eligible Premises</b><br/> (a) single-family dwellings, including mobile homes or grouped single-family dwellings on a lot.<br/> (c) multi-unit apartment buildings.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>Section 8 (1)(a) &amp; (c) Eligible Premises</b><br/> (a) single-family dwellings, including mobile homes or grouped single-family <b>detached</b> dwellings on a lot.<br/> (c) multi-unit apartment buildings <b>which have a maximum of six (6) units.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>Section 9 (1)(a)(i) Collectible Material – Preparation and Restrictions</b><br/> a maximum of five (5) residual waste regulation bags</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>Section 9 (1)(a)(i) Collectible Material – Preparation and Restrictions</b><br/> a maximum of five (5) residual waste regulation bags <b>per unit;</b></p> <p>*If residents are sorting properly, this should be enough bags for every two weeks.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

| Updates to the WHRM Draft Solid Waste Bylaw                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Before                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | After                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>Section 9 (1)(a)(ii) Collectible Material – Preparation and Restrictions</b><br/>a maximum of one (1) bulky item other than white goods not exceeding more than 75kg (165lbs) in weight per item;</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>Section 9 (1)(a)(ii) &amp; (iii) Collectible Material – Preparation and Restrictions</b><br/>(ii) a maximum of one (1) bulky item other than white goods not exceeding more than 34kg (75lbs) in weight per item;<br/>(iii) certain large items, such as furniture, may weigh up to 75kg (165lbs). Items weighing more than 75kg will not be collected.</p>                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Section 9 (1)(a)(ix) Collectible Material – Preparation and Restrictions</b><br/>a maximum of three (3) paper bags of leaf and yard waste in addition to the organics cart.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>Section 9 (1)(a)(ix) Collectible Material – Preparation and Restrictions</b><br/>a maximum of <del>six</del> (6) paper bags of leaf and yard waste in addition to the organics cart.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>a) single-unit building – (1) green cart per dwelling unit<br/>b) duplex building - (1) green cart per each unit<br/>c) semi-detached-building - (1) green cart per each unit<br/>d) manufactured home - (1) green cart per unit<br/>e) buildings of 3 to 6 units - (2) green cart per building<br/>f) buildings of 6 to 10 units - (2) green carts per building<br/>g) buildings of 11 to 20 units - (4) green carts per building<br/>h) buildings of over 20 units - (4) green carts per building<br/>i) senior’s apts. Of more than 20 units - (4) green carts per building</p> | <p>a) single-unit building - 1 green cart per unit<br/>b) duplex building - 1 green cart per unit<br/>c) semi-detached-building - 1 green cart per unit<br/>d) manufactured home - 1 green cart per unit<br/>e) buildings of 3 to 6 units - 2 green cart per building</p>                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p><b>Section 22 (1) Administrative Ticketing</b><br/>In lieu of prosecution under this Bylaw, the Municipality may, in its sole and absolute discretion, issue to any person it believes upon reasonable grounds has committed an offence under Section 21(1) of this Bylaw, a Notice of Violation, which Notice shall require the person to whom it is directed to pay to the Municipality within 14 days of the</p>                                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>Section 22 (1) Administrative Ticketing</b><br/>In lieu of prosecution under this Bylaw, the Municipality may, in its sole and absolute discretion, issue to any person it believes upon reasonable grounds has committed an offence under <del>Section 21(1)</del> <b>Section 19(1)</b> of this Bylaw, a Notice of Violation, which Notice shall require the person to whom it is directed to pay to the Municipality within 14 days of the</p> |

| Updates to the WHRM Draft Solid Waste Bylaw                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| Before                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | After                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| issuance of the Notice the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) for contravention of Section 21(1) of this Bylaw, provided that such person has removed the illegally dumped solid waste and cleaned up and restored the site to the satisfaction of the Director of Public works or his/her Designate, and further provided that no person, animal or property was injured or damaged by such illegal dumping, and if the person pays within the said time, they shall thereby avoid prosecution for that contravention. | issuance of the Notice the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) for contravention of <b>Section 19(1)</b> of this Bylaw, provided that such person has removed the illegally dumped solid waste and cleaned up and restored the site to the satisfaction of the Director of Public works or his/her Designate, and further provided that no person, animal or property was injured or damaged by such illegal dumping, and if the person pays within the said time, they shall thereby avoid prosecution for that contravention. |
| Nothing noted to reflect replacing the previous solid waste Bylaws for Windsor and West Hants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Section 23 Repeal and Replace</b><br>The previous version, and all other versions of the Municipal Solid Waste Bylaw, are repealed and replaced by this Bylaw.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## CIRCULAR MATERIALS

Circular Materials (CM) are currently taking steps toward implementing extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs for packaging, paper products and other blue bag materials with an implementation date of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. CM requires revisions be made to Solid Waste Bylaws to not have restrictions on recyclables (e.g. source separation, frequency of collection and flow control). Below are the recommended changes to the Solid Waste Bylaw to comply to these requirements:

| Current Proposed WHRM Solid Waste Bylaw                                                                                                                                                         | Revisions to WHRM Solid Waste Bylaw as required by Circular Materials                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Definition</b><br>N/A                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Definition</b><br>“Materials Recovery Facility” (MRF) means a specialized plant that receives, separates, and prepares recyclable materials like paper, plastic, and glass for sale to end buyers |
| <b>9. COLLECTIBLE MATERIAL – PREPARATION AND RESTRICTIONS</b><br><br>1) No person shall place or caused to be placed out for municipal collection any solid waste except in accordance with the | <b>9. COLLECTIBLE MATERIAL – PREPARATION AND RESTRICTIONS</b><br><br>2) No person shall place or caused to be placed out for municipal collection any solid waste except in accordance with the      |

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| <p>following:</p> <p>a) For any one eligible premise under section 8(1)(a) or (b) waste shall be placed for any one collection day only in accordance with the following limits or conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) a maximum of five (5) residual waste regulation bags per unit;</li> <li>ii) a maximum of one (1) bulky item other than white goods not exceeding more than 75kg (165lbs) in weight per item;</li> <li>iii) certain large items, such as furniture, may weigh up to 75kg (165lbs). Items weighing more than 75kg (165lbs) will not be collected;</li> <li>iv) a maximum of ten (10) regulation bags of recyclables;</li> <li>v) one (1) organics cart of organic waste;</li> <li>vi) a bundle of brush not exceeding 25kg (55lbs) in weight per bundle, no longer than 4ft (1.2m) and no bigger than 3 cm in diameter;</li> <li>vii) a bundle of cardboard not exceeding 22kg (48lbs) in weight and no bigger than 1ft x 2ft x 3ft;</li> <li>viii) paper recyclables must be placed in <b>separate</b> watertight transparent blue bags or clear transparent bags, except corrugated cardboard, which may be placed in securely tied bundles not greater than 2 ft x 3 ft x 8 in; and</li> <li>ix) a maximum of six (6) paper bags of leaf and yard waste in addition to the organics cart.</li> </ul> | <p>following:</p> <p>a) For any one eligible premise under section 8(1)(a) or (b) waste shall be placed for any one collection day only in accordance with the following limits or conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) a maximum of five (5) residual waste regulation bags per unit;</li> <li>ii) a maximum of one (1) bulky item other than white goods not exceeding more than 75kg (165lbs) in weight per item;</li> <li>iii) certain large items, such as furniture, may weigh up to 75kg (165lbs). Items weighing more than 75kg (165lbs) will not be collected;</li> <li>iv) <b>no limit to the regulation bags of recyclables;</b></li> <li>v) one (1) organics cart of organic waste;</li> <li>vi) a bundle of brush not exceeding 25kg (55lbs) in weight per bundle, no longer than 4ft (1.2m) and no bigger than 3 cm in diameter;</li> <li>vii) a bundle of cardboard not exceeding 22kg (48lbs) in weight and no bigger than 1ft x 2ft x 3ft;</li> <li>viii) paper recyclables must be placed in watertight transparent blue bags or clear transparent bags, except corrugated cardboard, which may be placed in securely tied bundles not greater than 2 ft x 3 ft x 8 in; and</li> <li>ix) a maximum of six (6) paper bags of leaf and yard waste in addition to the organics cart.</li> </ul> |
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| <p><b>10. REGULATION BAGS AND CONTAINERS FOR MUNICIPAL COLLECTION</b></p> <p><b>b) Recyclable materials regulation bags</b><br/>Only the following recyclable materials regulation bags shall be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. general recyclables must be placed in watertight transparent blue bags or clear transparent bags with an overall length of not more than 3.28 ft (1 m) when empty and requires sufficient thickness to prevent breakage, tearing or splitting upon collection;</li> <li>ii. paper recyclables must be placed in <b>separate</b> watertight transparent blue bags or clear transparent bags, except corrugated cardboard, which may be placed in securely tied bundles not greater than 2 ft x 3 ft x 8 in;</li> <li>iii. the weight of each bag, including contents, placed for recyclable materials collection must not exceed 22 kg (48 lbs.);</li> <li>iv. all material must be securely contained to prevent material from escaping into the environment;</li> <li>v. the filled bags shall not enclose other filled bags, and its contents shall be reasonably visible without the bag being opened; and</li> <li>vi. general recyclables and paper recyclables must be separated into separate bags for collection.</li> </ul> | <p><b>10. REGULATION BAGS AND CONTAINERS FOR MUNICIPAL COLLECTION</b></p> <p><b>b) Recyclable materials regulation bags</b><br/>Only the following recyclable materials regulation bags shall be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. general recyclables must be placed in watertight transparent blue bags or clear transparent bags with an overall length of not more than 3.28 ft (1 m) when empty and requires sufficient thickness to prevent breakage, tearing or splitting upon collection;</li> <li>ii. paper recyclables must be placed in watertight transparent blue bags or clear transparent bags, except corrugated cardboard, which may be placed in securely tied bundles not greater than 2 ft x 3 ft x 8 in;</li> <li>iii. the weight of each bag, including contents, placed for recyclable materials collection must not exceed 22 kg (48 lbs.);</li> <li>iv. all material must be securely contained to prevent material from escaping into the environment;</li> <li>v. the filled bags shall not enclose other filled bags, and its contents shall be reasonably visible without the bag being opened; and</li> <li>vi. general recyclables and paper recyclables <b>to be sorted as required by the Materials Recovery Facility.</b></li> </ul> |
| <p><b>13. COLLECTION TIMES &amp; FREQUENCIES</b></p> <p>1) The following provisions apply to municipal collection times and frequencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Collection will commence at 7:00 am in all areas of the Municipality, except where circumstances warrant from time to time;</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p><b>13. COLLECTION TIMES &amp; FREQUENCIES</b></p> <p>2) The following provisions apply to municipal collection times and frequencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Collection will commence at 7:00 am in all areas of the Municipality, except where circumstances warrant from time to time;</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. No owner shall permit solid waste to remain in front of the building or adjacent to or curbside except between 7:00 p.m. the day prior to collection and 9:00 pm the day of collection;</li> <li>c. Collection shall occur bi-weekly and may alternate or have material collected the same day. The current collection schedule shall determine what materials are collected on which day;</li> <li>d. When a regularly scheduled day for collection falls on a Federal, Provincial or Civic holiday, the collection may be modified to occur on an alternate day as designated by the Administrator;</li> <li>e. No person shall permit any materials or rejected waste to remain at the collection spot after 9:00 p.m. on the day of collection unless otherwise directed by the Administrator or its contractors; and;</li> <li>f. Free-standing collection containers used to store residual waste and recyclable waste bags, and organic collection carts must be removed from curbside by 7:00 a.m. of the following day.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. No owner shall permit solid waste to remain in front of the building or adjacent to or curbside except between 7:00 p.m. the day prior to collection and 9:00 pm the day of collection;</li> <li>c. <b>Solid waste and organic</b> collection shall occur bi-weekly and may alternate or have material collected the same day. The current collection schedule shall determine what materials are collected on which day;</li> <li>d. <b>Recycling collection shall occur as required by the contracted Collector;</b></li> <li>e. When a regularly scheduled day for collection falls on a Federal, Provincial or Civic holiday, the collection may be modified to occur on an alternate day as designated by the Administrator;</li> <li>f. No person shall permit any materials or rejected waste to remain at the collection spot after 9:00 p.m. on the day of collection unless otherwise directed by the Administrator or its contractors; and;</li> <li>g. Free-standing collection containers used to store residual waste and recyclable waste bags, and organic collection carts must be removed from curbside by 7:00 a.m. of the following day.</li> </ul> |
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## NEXT STEPS

Following an approval, updates will be made to the website as well as the 2025 Solid Waste Calendar reflecting the changes noted above.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- Following adoption of the Bylaw, staff could experience more frequent phone calls; a major change in collection can result in an increase in residents calling with questions.
- Possible door to door canvassing, public speaking and printing of information sheets to notify residents.
- Ads for Newspaper.

Cost associated with updating the Bylaw are within the 2024-25 operating budget and, depending on the timing of approval, any additional costs will be included in the 2025-26 operating budget.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

There are no alternative recommendations.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A copy of the Proposed Bylaw

Report Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jenny LaPierre, Waste Services Coordinator

Report Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Richard, Director of Public Works

Report Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Phillips, CAO