

LAMBTON COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN

Newsletter

March 1993

Waste management is an issue that affects everyone living or working in Lambton County. The County is preparing a Waste Management Master Plan to determine the best ways to manage our wastes for the next 20 to 40 years.

We are sending you this newsletter:

- to provide an update on the progress of the Master Plan;
- to encourage you to be involved; and
- to invite you to the Public Information Centre on Tuesday, March 30, 1993 (see page 2 for more details).

An overview....

The central aim of the Master Plan is to define the best system for the long-term management of wastes within the County. Like many areas across Ontario, and throughout Canada, the production of waste has risen as population, industrial development and our consumer lifestyle has increased. It is estimated that each Canadian produces approximately 1 kilogram of garbage per day.

In 1992, the residents, businesses and industries of Lambton County produced approximately 100,000 tonnes of solid non-hazardous garbage. This figure does not include liquid industrial or hazardous waste. Although the production of some waste is inevitable, it is important for everyone, both individually and collectively, to find ways to first of all reduce waste and then effectively manage what remains.

The Lambton County Waste Management Master Plan (WMMP) is being prepared according to the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the Ministry of the Environment guidelines for waste management master plans.

Based on the work completed to date, it is recommended that the best waste management system for Lambton County would include:

- waste reduction, reuse and recycling at source (e.g. at home, work);
- backyard composting;
- a central composting facility;
- a materials recovery facility (MRF); and
- a central landfill.

Wastes would be collected and handled through curbside collection, direct haul, and transfer stations (if required).


MASTER PLAN PROGRESS TO DATE:

1986/87	Stage 1 completed
1987/88	Stage 2A and 2B completed
1988/89	Master Plan on hold
August 1989	Revised Master Plan initiated, to meet Environmental Assessment Act (EAA) requirements
1989 to 1991	EAA-level Master Plan in progress, including site selection for new long-term waste management facility.
July 1991	Master Plan put on hold to await Ministry of Environment funding
January 1993	Master Plan progress resumed; EAA-level Master Plan report expected to be complete in Fall 1993

CONSULTATION PROGRAM: IT'S YOUR MASTER PLAN . . . BE INVOLVED

Public and agency consultation has been a significant part of the planning process for the Master Plan. Residents from across Lambton County are encouraged to continue to be involved.

You are invited to attend a *PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE*

Location: MOORE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICE 1155 Emily Street Mooretown, Ontario (across from Moore Township Civic Centre) 	Date: Tuesday, March 30, 1993 Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (informal viewing session of displays) 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (informal viewing session of displays) Presentation: 7:30 p.m.
---	---

Information will be available on the past and future activities for the Master Plan. Representatives from the WMMP Steering Committee, the County of Lambton, and M.M. Dillon Limited will be available to answer questions. The Information Centre will be set up as an informal walk-in centre.

In addition to the upcoming Public Information Centre (PIC), members of the public will have the opportunity to be involved in the Master Plan through the following:

- resident meetings;
- municipal council meetings;
- workshops; and
- Public Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings.

The dates and locations of future activities will be announced as the Master Plan progresses.

The county will also continue to inform and involve affected government agencies in the Master Plan. Agency representatives will be invited to the Information Centre and other consultation activities, and will be invited to comment on the Master Plan process and recommendations.

PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In 1989, the Waste Management Master Plan Steering Committee established a Public Advisory Committee (PAC) to assist in the development and implementation of the Master Plan. The PAC consists of interested ratepayers from municipalities within Lambton County as well as representatives of industry and environmental groups. The PAC has 20 municipal representatives and 10 citizen representatives.

The PAC members review recommended Master Plan components, help to identify concerns and issues, and continue to assist in the selection of sites for new or expanded waste management facilities.

PAC meetings are held in the lunchroom at the Lambton County Administration Building in Wyoming at 7 p.m. on the last Wednesday of every month. Members of the public are welcome.

For further information, please contact:

Muriel Wright
Public Advisory Committee Chairperson
(519) 899-2345 (Home)

MINIMIZING OUR GARBAGE: THE 3Rs

The first priority in any waste management master plan is to find ways to reduce the waste we produce. At home, we can minimize our garbage by recycling cans, bottles and newspapers; reusing bags, plastic containers, clothes and other materials; using a garden compost box for kitchen scraps, garden materials and leaves; and by minimizing use of "throw-a-ways". As consumers, we can purchase food in reusable cloth shopping bags rather than plastic ones; buy fresh foods with no packaging, where possible avoid products with excess packaging, and buy "environmentally friendly products".

The actions of individual householders and consumers are very important, but significant waste reduction efforts must be made by industrial and commercial generators as well. At work, industrial, commercial and government employers need to inventory the type and amount of waste produced in industrial processes, "on the floor", and in offices, and identify ways to reduce the wastes produced.

In the Spring of 1989, the Minister of the Environment announced objectives to reduce the amount of waste going to disposal facilities such as incinerators or landfills. By maximizing the 3Rs (reduction, reuse and recycling) communities across Ontario are required to reduce waste disposal by 50% by the year 2000.

RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Local recycling programs are one way to promote the '3Rs' of waste management and reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal. Much of Lambton County is already served by recycling programs. Blue Box collection programs are presently operating in the City of Sarnia, the Town of Forest, the Villages of Alvinston, Arkona, Grand Bend, Oil Springs, Point Edward, Thedford, Watford, and the Townships of Bosanquet, Moore, Plympton and Sombra. Recycling depots presently serve the Town of Petrolia, the Village of Wyoming, and the Townships of Brooke, Enniskillen, Euphemia, Sombra, and Warwick. Local residents should attempt to use these programs as much as possible so as to maximize the amount of waste diverted from landfill disposal.

COMPOSTING

Composting allows the transformation of "waste" materials into a soil-like material. Leaves, lawn and garden cuttings, food scraps and other kitchen wastes can be composted rather than thrown away.

Each individual household is capable of composting up to 36% of their wastes. In a backyard composting program, households are supplied with a specially designed unit (a composter), in which to place compostable wastes. After a period of time allowing for the decomposition of the waste, the compost can then be used as a mulching agent and/or soil additive for the home and garden.

The City of Sarnia is currently operating a mass leaf collection and composting program. The County of Lambton has distributed a total of 6,960 back yard composters to date. The Master Plan may recommend the gradual extension of the program to include:

- curbside collection of lawn and garden materials; and
- collection of kitchen and food wastes.

MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY

A Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) is used to separate mixed waste materials into reusable, recyclable, compostable and residual components. Wastes are collected and transported to the facility where mass processing occurs. Recyclable materials, such as glass, tin, aluminium, newsprint, and plastics are separated and sent to appropriate markets. Compostable materials are sent to a composting facility. Residual wastes are then transported to a disposal facility such as a landfill.

The Master Plan will recommend the eventual incorporation of an MRF into the long-term waste management system for the County. This type of facility would significantly reduce (by up to 60%) the amount of waste requiring disposal and thereby reduce the need for facilities such as landfills.

MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY SURVEY

As part of Lambton County's WMMP, a study is being conducted to assess the feasibility of a materials recovery facility (MRF) and the collection system that would be compatible with such a facility. At this point, your assistance is appreciated by taking a few moments to fill out the survey below.

SURVEY

In completing the survey, please keep in mind the following notes.

A recycling depot is much less expensive to set up and operate, can be set up at convenient locations, and additional materials can be added more easily in the future. A Blue Box program is more convenient and results in more material being collected, but Blue Box programs are generally more expensive to operate on a per tonne of waste diverted basis.

A new type of waste collection system that is common in Europe is the wet/dry system. In this system, wet wastes, like food wastes and yard clippings, are placed in a designated container. Similarly, dry wastes, like paper, glass, metal cans and plastics, are placed in a second designated container. These containers, which can be bags (less expensive) or bins (more expensive), are collected on a regular basis.

A two container system would consist of one container for wet wastes and a second container for dry materials. In this system, all of your wastes would go into the two containers. In a three container system, you would be given a special container for your wet wastes and be expected to use your Blue Box for recyclable materials. The rest of your wastes would go into your regular garbage container.

The main advantage of this system is that much higher amounts of garbage can be diverted from disposal because it is much easier to process and recover the compostable and recyclable materials from the waste stream when the wet and dry fractions are separated.

The Cities of Guelph and Mississauga, the Region of Halton and the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto are presently conducting pilot studies to determine the feasibility of implementing a variation of the wet/dry collection system.

1. I prefer a blue box, emptied on a regular basis, in which to put my recyclables.
 YES NO Other _____
2. I prefer to take my recyclables to a recycling depot set up at convenient locations.
 YES NO Other _____
3. I prefer to haul my wastes to the local landfill site.
 YES NO Other _____
4. If Lambton County were to adopt a variation of the wet/dry collection program described above, I would be willing to participate in it.
 YES NO Other _____
5. For a wet/dry collection system, I prefer:
 a two container system a three container system
 other _____
6. For a wet/dry collection system, I prefer to use:
 coloured bags (e.g. blue for dry wastes, green for wet wastes)
 special containers/bins

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DAY-TIME PHONE NO.: _____

Please cut out questionnaire and return by March 31, 1993 (or drop it off at the Public Information Centre) to:

Mr. Jim Kutya, P.Eng.
Administrator, Waste Management
Lambton County
Highway 21, Box 3000
Wyoming, Ontario
N0N 1T0

Phone: (519)845-0801
Fax: (416) 845-3817

WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY SITE SELECTION PROCESS

One activity in the Master Plan process is the selection of a site for the new long-term waste management facility. The site selection process began in 1990 and 1991, and resumed in January 1993 following the receipt of Ministry of Environment funding. The new long-term facility will include:

- a Materials Recovery Facility;
- a central Composting Facility; and
- a Landfill.

The siting process aims to find the most suitable 75 ha site. Public workshops were held throughout 1990 to identify siting criteria, and to begin to identify possible areas and possible sites. "Constraint mapping" was conducted, which involves the gradual elimination of less suitable lands.

The following outlines the six main steps of the site selection process.

Step 1 - Identification of Study Area

The Study Area is the broad area within Lambton County in which the site selection process occurs. The study area was identified as clay-based lands designated for industrial type land uses, clay-based rehabilitated eroded lands and clay-based lands with Class 3 to 7 agricultural capability.

Step 2 - Identification of Candidate Areas

Candidate Areas are large areas of land within the Study Area considered to be more suitable for the development of the waste management facility. Candidate Areas were identified by applying constraints with respect to: natural environment and resources, land use, and the social/cultural environment.

Step 3 - Identification of Siting Areas

Siting Areas are smaller land parcels located within the Candidate Areas considered to be more suitable for the development of the waste management facility. Siting Areas were identified by applying constraints with respect to ground water, surface water, natural environment and resources, and the social/cultural environment.

Step 4 - Identification of Long List of Sites

This step involved the identification of 75 ha sites within the Siting Areas with emphasis on the following:

- minimizing the number of landowners and property owners affected;
- maximizing the distance from residential areas;
- maximizing the distance from sensitive natural areas; and
- maximizing the site accessibility.

The sites within agricultural designated areas under current agricultural use were eliminated. A total of 11 sites were identified.

Step 5 - Comparison of Long List of Sites

The long list of eleven sites were compared by specialists in: ground water, surface water, natural ecosystems, agriculture, social/cultural issues, land use, transportation and costs. As a result of this exercise, four sites were considered to be preferred: D, H, I and K (see map).

Step 6 - Comparison of Short List of Sites

Step 6 will involve the comparative evaluation of Sites D, H, I and K in order to identify a preferred site. This comparative evaluation is to be conducted at a greater level of detail involving on-site field visits and resident interviews. This activity is expected to occur throughout spring and summer 1993.

Waste collection and handling are necessary components of any waste management system. To date, the Master Plan studies have concluded that curbside collection, direct haul and transfer stations are recommended collection and handling approaches for Lambton County. Further studies will be carried out to refine the best options and the best mix of options for the collection of wastes in urban and rural areas. A conceptual design for an integrated material recovery and compost facility will be developed. This information will be used in the comparison of candidate sites D, H, I and K.

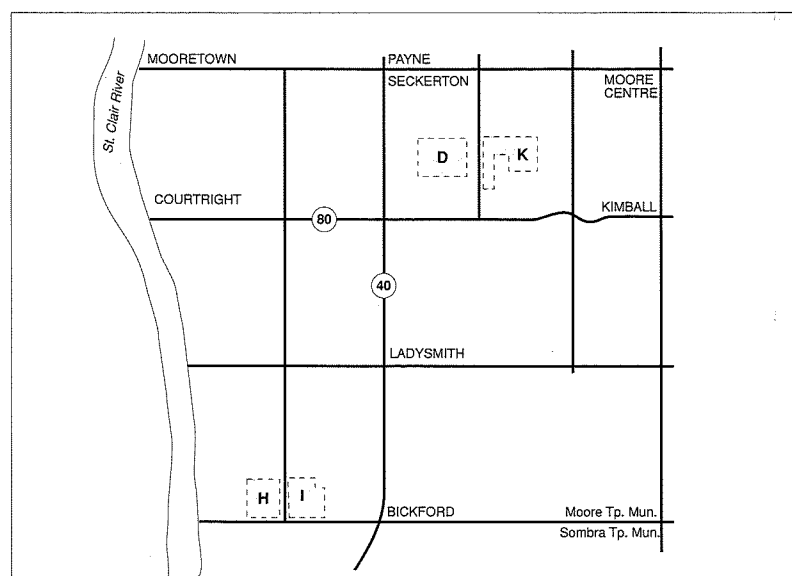


Figure: Location of Sites D, H, I and K

TRANSFER STATIONS

Waste transfer stations may be needed, particularly in areas of Lambton that would be distant from the new composite waste management facility. Studies will be carried out to investigate the economic feasibility of developing one or more transfer stations. The County will then decide on location(s) of the stations.

For further information, please contact:

Jim Kutyba, P.Eng.
Administrator, Waste Management
Lambton County
Highway 21, Box 3000
Wyoming, Ontario
N0N 1T0

or

Catherine Fletcher, M.Sc.
Senior Planner
M.M. Dillon Limited
Box 426, Station B
London, Ontario
N6A 4W7

Tel: (519) 845-0801
Fax: (519) 845-3817

Tel: (519) 438-6192
Fax: (519) 672-8209



This Paper is 100% recyclable

See you at the Information Centre!