

Roadmap to a Circular Economy in the Region of Peel

Executive Summary

Introduction

The Region of Peel generates approximately 500,000 tonnes of residential waste each year and diverts 50% of it from landfill. As the Region witnesses rapid growth, the amount and type of waste generated will increase as well as the complexity of managing it. It is important to encourage a behavioural shift from mere disposal to resource recovery and programs that support healthy communities, help mitigate climate change and move towards a low-carbon economy.

The Roadmap to a Circular Economy is in line with the Region of Peel's vision of a Community for Life as well as the new provincial framework (Waste-Free Ontario Act, 2016). It has been developed to ensure that Peel's waste management system can handle continuous growth to reach the 75% diversion target by 2034. The Roadmap will allow Peel to move towards a circular economy, offer better economic and environmental outcomes by continually circulating resources, materials and nutrients to retain their value by reducing, reusing, recycling, and remanufacturing.

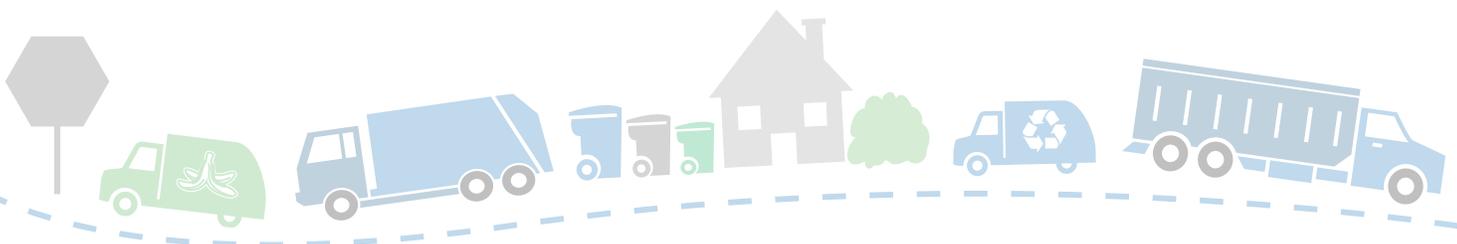
Mapping the Path Forward

The Roadmap has the aspirational goals of:

- A circular economy with zero waste from residential sources in the Region of Peel; and
- Zero greenhouse gas emissions from residential waste management.

To reach these goals, the Roadmap sets out the following objectives:

- Minimize waste generation;
- Maximize the recovery of resources from our waste in a way that fosters the growth of the circular economy; and
- Design and deliver waste management services that meet the needs of the customer in a cost-effective manner.



The Roadmap's Recommended Actions

Although the Roadmap outlines 17 recommended actions, it has been summarized below to better reflect our endeavors at achieving 75% diversion from landfill. These actions include improvements to existing programs, new programs and policies to recover materials currently in the waste stream, and new technologies to recover material post-collection. We believe it is a combination of these actions that will help the region achieve its diversion target.

Programs

- Promote benefits of waste reduction and reuse
- Increase resource recovery in Peel's Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Departments and Business Improvement Areas
- Expand existing and implement new curbside and multi-residential resource recovery programs
- Optimize Peel's Community Recycling Centres services to increase resource recovery

Policies

- Advocate for extended producer responsibility
- Update our approach to communications, education, outreach, and enforcement
- Consider the adoption of volume based user fee for garbage
- Regularly update Peel's Waste Collection By-law and Design Standards and review, assess and amend policies and programs

Processing Capacity

- Construct an Anaerobic Digestion Facility to process Peel's Green Bin organic material
- Develop Mixed Waste Processing capacity to recover additional resources
- Update Peel's Infrastructure Plan to include Mixed Waste Processing

Tracking Our Progress

The region is committed to monitoring its performance in waste generation, resource recovery, and customer service to remain on track, conserve natural resources and reach its target in the most cost-efficient way.

To obtain a full copy of the Roadmap to a Circular Economy in the Region of Peel, please contact the Waste Management Division.

