



### STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Council

**FROM:** Danyelle Smith, Waste Diversion Officer

**APPROVED BY:** Marcia d'Eon, Director of Operations and Protective Services

**DATE:** September 24, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Waste Diversion Officer Quarterly Report

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The past few months have been both busy and productive. Operational improvements and program development continue to advance. A significant portion of my time has been spent addressing inquiries regarding the upcoming closure of the West Green Harbour Transfer Station, as well as ongoing questions related to curbside collection. I have also participated in several online sessions focused on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). Additionally, I conducted site visits to local businesses and campgrounds with the R6 educator, introducing myself and opening lines of communication for any future waste management questions. I am registered for my first Waste Resource Association of Nova Scotia (WRANS) conference in Halifax on November 6–7, 2025, and I look forward to networking opportunities and continued learning in this dynamic field.

**Data Call:** Information gathering is ongoing for the September 30, 2025, deadline. Free online help sessions and support from R6 have been valuable in preparing.

**Curbside Collection:** Daily inquiries continue, primarily regarding waste separation. Rejections due to black bag use have decreased but remain an area of focus. Education efforts include regular updates via social media and the municipal website, along with promotion of the “R6 RECYCLES” app, which provides reminders, service notices, and disposal guidance.

**Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR):** The opt-in model has been selected, with active participation in working groups ongoing. Information gathering continues ahead of the official launch in December 2025.

**Fall Metal Cleanup:** Scheduled for October 7–17, 2025.

**Green Carts:** Inventory is becoming limited. Pricing and shipping quotes have been requested, and responses from suppliers are pending.

**Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):** Operations remain busy, with a shipment scheduled for late September 2025.

**Special Fall HHW Event:** Scheduled for October 4, 2025 in Lockeport. Discussions are underway with our HHW contractor to support the event and provide resident education on proper disposal.

**Battery Recycling:** The program continues to be successful, with a 24-box shipment recently sent to Call2Recycle, followed by another 10-box shipment on September 15, 2025.

**Paint Program:** A Product Care Recycling shipment is planned for October 2025.

**Light Recycling Program:** A shipment of lights was sent on July 15, 2025.

**RMRF Transfer Station:** Two trailer loads of tires, primarily from a demolition site, were temporarily stored before being recycled through a local garage. I attended public meetings on the closure, including a brainstorming session on alternative C&D waste solutions.

A larger bin for pressure-treated lumber was considered but deemed unsafe; the current bin size will remain in use, with more frequent pickups. Planning is also underway to address rope disposal, which may involve a special event.

Significant progress continues across multiple areas, from EPR readiness to public education on curbside collection. While challenges remain, particularly with waste separation and resource availability, ongoing efforts, partnerships, and resident engagement are helping us stay on track.