
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report ENV-02-2021 Results of the Rural Leaf and Yard Collection Pilot Program



For Consideration by Council in Committee on March 2, 2021

OBJECTIVE:

To provide Council with the results of the 2-year Rural Leaf and Yard Collection Pilot Program and to make recommendations to discontinue rural collection and return to urban area collection only for leaf and yard waste curbside collection.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report ENV-02-2021 Results of the Rural Leaf and Yard Collection Pilot Program be received;
2. AND THAT based on the findings of the pilot program, rural area collection not be included in the Leaf and Yard Waste Collection Program.

Prepared by: Nancy McKinnon, Solid Waste Technologist

Reviewed by: Brandon Hedges, Manager, Environmental Operations

Respectfully submitted: Philip Mete, P. Eng., General Manager of Public Works Operations

Approved: Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Upon Council's approval of Report PW-SW-02-2018 Rural Leaf and Yard Collection Program Pilot and the related 2018 Tax Operating Budget amendment, Environmental Operations executed a 2-year curbside collection program for leaf and yard waste for predetermined rural properties. Based on the significant cost and low participation, staff do not recommend continuing with the rural program and that leaf and yard waste collection continue only in the urban centres of the County. Going forward, rural residents have the option of taking their leaf and yard waste to the Canborough Waste Management Facility free of charge during the eleven week collection period.

BACKGROUND:

Haldimand County has provided leaf and yard waste curbside collection services to the urban centres within the County for many years. The urban centres include Caledonia, Cayuga, Dunnville, Hagersville, Jarvis, and Townsend. The current program has grown to curbside collection for 5 weeks in the spring and 6 weeks in the fall.

At the December 5, 2017 Council in Committee meeting, staff were directed to prepare a brief for consideration that would expand the leaf and yard waste curbside collection to a 2-year pilot program that would include Hamlets and Lakeshore Nodes as described in the Haldimand County Official Plan. The pilot program for the rural properties was to run parallel to the already designated 11 weeks of the urban collection.

Report PW-SW-02-2018 outlined staff benchmarking the current program and collecting key data points throughout the pilot to measure its success. Examples of key performance indicators included, participation rates, set out quantities, kilograms per household collected, communications and assessment. Upon completion of the pilot program, staff were directed to report back to Council with recommendations for continued services.

ANALYSIS:

Project Initiation

In August 2018, Agreement PW-SW-03-2018, Leaf and Yard Waste Collection and Processing was awarded to Grand Disposal Inc., a local service provider. The Agreement included the scope and cost of rural collection and processing as a provisional item.

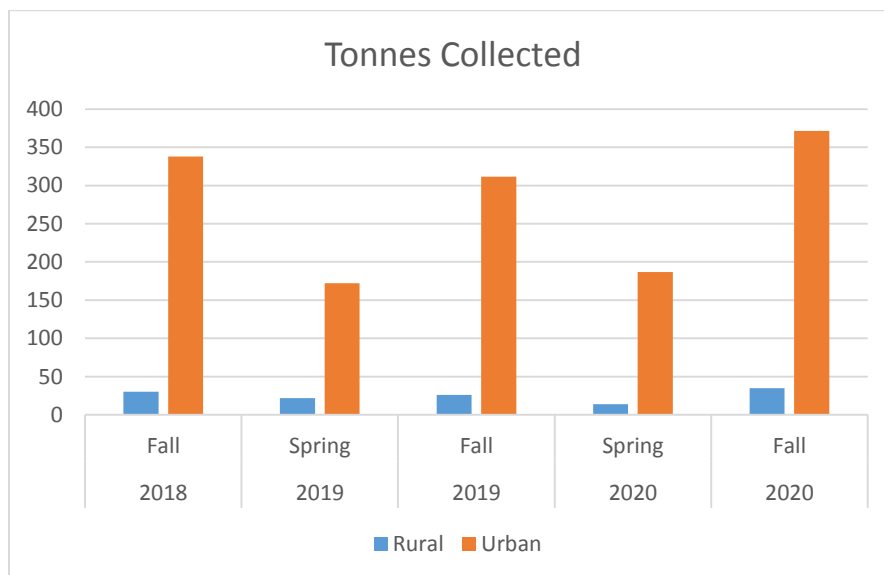
The following Lakeshore Nodes and Hamlets were approved to start receiving curbside collection of their leaf and yard waste commencing October 22, 2018.

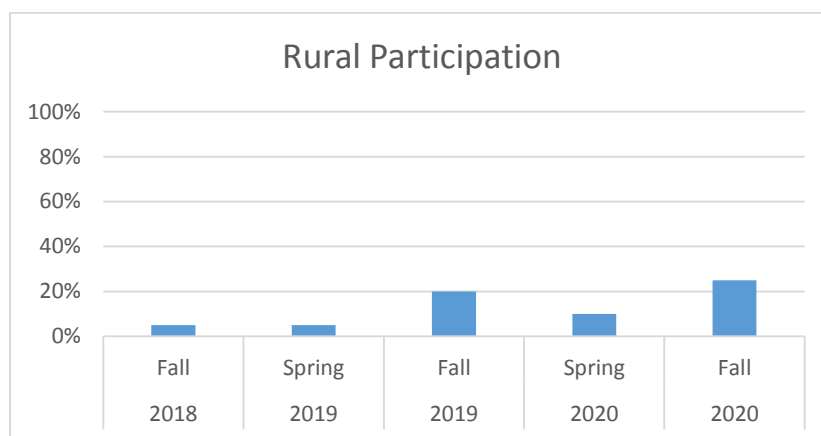
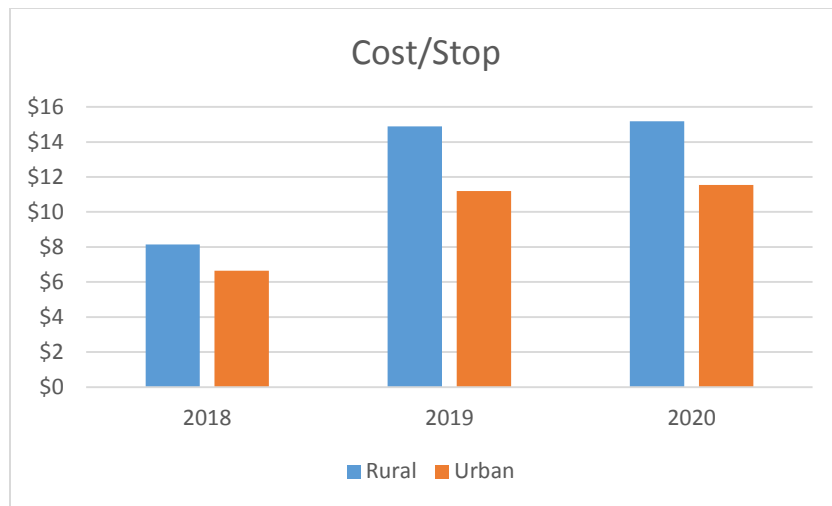
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Nanticoke Selkirk Lakeshore (starting at Peacock Point and ending at Blott Point)	Byng	Springvale Fisherville York	Unity Side Road

Data based on total collection weight, weight per stop and number of stops per Hamlet or Lakeshore Node were recorded in order to determine participation rates and costs per stop.

Project Summary

The charts below illustrate the amount of material collected and cost per stop for the rural program versus the urban program. Rural participation rates have also been charted for reference.





The figures presented for the leaf and yard waste collection pilot program are the results of 28 weeks of collection by Grand Disposal Inc. Initially, the program was to be piloted for a total of 22 weeks, however, due to the storm in October 2019 and COVID in the spring of 2020, approval was given to include an additional season, therefore, increasing collection by six weeks into Fall 2020. Storms encountered in 2019 and then again in November 2020 account for the increase in participation during those time periods.

The tonnes collected is very low (126 tonnes) and the cost per stop is approximately \$3.00 more per rural stop when compared to an urban stop. And without the 6 week extension, the participation rate only got as high as 20%, and that was during the 2019 fall storm occurrence.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

As the Rural Leaf and Yard Collection Program Pilot is now complete, an increase of \$35,160 (including non-rebateable HST) to the 2021 Tax Operating budget would be required if the program was to continue. As staff are not recommending the program to continue, there are no financial obligations going forward.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

Not applicable.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

ATTACHMENTS:

None.