

County hosts public consultation session on its Waste Management Strategy

The County of Simcoe is hosting public consultation sessions to obtain input on the update for the Waste Management Strategy. The next session takes place May 17, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at the Simcoe County Museum. Residents can also join and provide input from home through a live webinar, which can be accessed at www.simcoe.ca/wastestrategy.

The Waste Management Strategy was first approved by County Council in 2010, with updates at various times. After receiving initial direction from County Council, these proposed options will now be presented to residents for their feedback. Updates to the Strategy will guide waste management operations over the next 5-year planning period.

"Help us shape the future of our waste programs and services," said Warden Gerry Marshall. "Last year our Council provided initial direction to a long list of creative options. Now we're looking for your feedback on the remaining initiatives aimed at identifying efficiencies, managing our own waste more responsibly and increasing our diversion."

The proposed initiatives will be presented for public consultation as:

"Pay as you throw," and a bi-weekly garbage collection, along with a provision of a standard sized garbage container.

Expansion of the green bin program; expansion of yard waste collections; expansion of waste facility diversion programs.

Implementation of disposal and diversion bylaws; continued political advocacy; food waste reduction, textile diversion and rewards programs.

Public feedback will be considered in the final recommendations presented to County Council later this year.

A live webinar can be accessed at www.simcoe.ca/wastestrategy

The County of Simcoe is composed of 16 member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit their website at simcoe.ca.