

ORGANICS (GREEN BIN) PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are we getting an organics program?

The Province of Ontario passed legislation requiring municipalities of a certain density and population to establish an organic program to divert organic waste from the landfill. In Essex County, four of our seven local municipalities met the density/population criteria. Essex County Council voted in 2022 to establish an organics program for all municipalities.

When will I get organics collection?

The Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) will be rolling out a County-wide organics program in 2025 to comply with provincial legislation.

How will the organics program work?

Beginning in 2025, residents in the program area will separate their organic material from their regular garbage and place it in a green bin that will be provided to each household. Once a week, the green bin will be collected at the curb like regular garbage.

What about the smell and pests?

Green bins will be chosen with odour reduction and pest control in mind. Weekly collection of organics also means your “icky” waste is collected more frequently.

Why are we focusing on residential organic waste? Other businesses and the agricultural sector contribute more organic waste to the landfill than I do.

The Province of Ontario hasn't yet passed legislation related to organic waste from non-residential sources. Legislation has been passed requiring municipalities to focus on residential organic waste. To meet legislative requirements, the County of Essex is moving forward with a regional organics program in 2025. Various provincial policy documents suggest that the Province may propose the implementation of a landfill food and organic waste ban by 2030. Should that happen, residents and businesses alike would need to participate in an organics diversion program.



/ewswaorg



/ewswarecycles

1-800-563-3377

ask@ewswa.org

www.ewswa.org

I live in a rural area, what will my organics service be?

It is recommended that the organic waste diversion program be rolled out in both urban and rural areas. A County-wide approach provides equitable service delivery to all residents. It also puts the County in a great position for when the proposed provincial landfill ban on organic material is implemented.

The decision to include rural households in the organics program has not been finalized. Regardless of whether your household is included in the organics program, if you receive garbage collection now and live in a rural area, you will continue to receive garbage collection services.

