



Proposed Food and Organic Waste Framework

Webinar

November 2017

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

Purpose

To provide an overview of:

- Action Plan
- Policy Statement
- Potential funding supports
- Next Steps



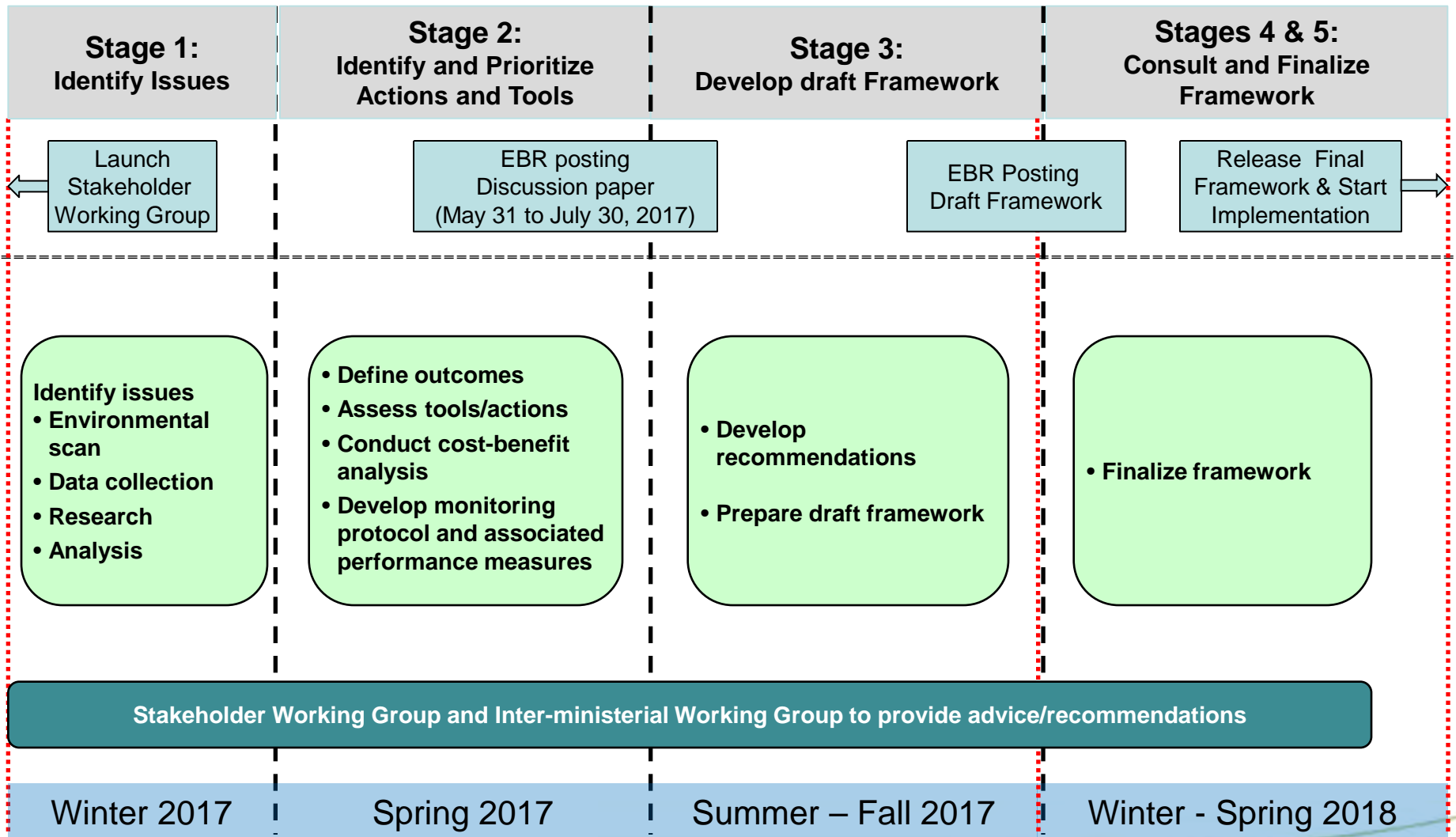
Government Commitments

- **Waste Free Ontario Act, 2016 – Proclaimed November 30, 2016**
 - Establishes policy interest and provides ability for the minister to issue policy statements to provide further direction on matters of the provincial interest.
 - The first policy statement to be developed and consulted upon within first year of proclamation.
- **Strategy for Waste-Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy Feb 2017** committed to:



- Develop an **action plan** aimed at reducing the volume of food and organic wastes.
 - Issue the first **policy statement** under Waste-Free Ontario Act to focus on reducing and recovering food and organic wastes.
- **Climate Change Action Plan June 2016** – commits to implement the Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario to reduce the amount of organic materials going into landfills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG).
 - **Minister’s Mandate Letter Sept 2016** – directed Minister to begin consultations on draft action plan to divert more organic materials from landfills in 2017 with implementation expected in spring 2018.

Timeline: Food and Organic Waste Framework



Consultations to Date

- Established two working groups to ensure a multi-faceted and cross-sector approach:
 - **Multi-Stakeholder Working Group:** municipalities, producers, retailers, waste management industry, agri-food industry, IC&I food and organic waste generators, NGOs including food rescue organizations.
 - **Internal Working Group:** provincial ministries with mandate and interest in food and organic waste.
- **Broad stakeholder workshops** were held to discuss the challenges and opportunities.
- **Discussion paper** titled “*Addressing Food and Organic Waste in Ontario*” posted on Environmental Registry (May 30 – July 30, 2017) to provide an early opportunity for input: 528 submissions

What We Heard

- Support for building a circular economy for food and organic materials and for the four key objectives of reducing food waste, recovering resources, supporting infrastructure and promoting beneficial uses

Reduce food waste

- Prevention and reduction efforts should cross the whole supply chain and all sectors
- Promotion and education is critical (including in schools) and through industry and municipal associations
- Safe rescue and redistribution of surplus food should be facilitated, including partnerships between the IC&I sector and food rescue organizations
- Data collection is critical to improving our understanding, assessing progress and developing effective policy

Recover resources

- All sectors should take extra effort to increase resource recovery
- Support for the establishment of targets for the municipal and IC&I sectors
- Use outcome-based approach, allowing flexibility for sectors to achieve targets
- Support for source separation as it creates high value end products while allowing other technology uses (e.g. mixed waste)
- Support for a disposal ban for food and organic waste
- Convenience and accessibility is key for consumer participation

Support resource recovery infrastructure

- Ontario needs increased processing capacity to support any future disposal ban
- Effective infrastructure planning and timely approval is critical for building processing capacity

Promote beneficial uses

- Ontario needs to create conditions to support sustainable end markets for beneficial uses (compost, biogas)
- Recognize and support innovative approaches to building end-uses for recovered food waste

Proposed Food and Organic Waste Framework

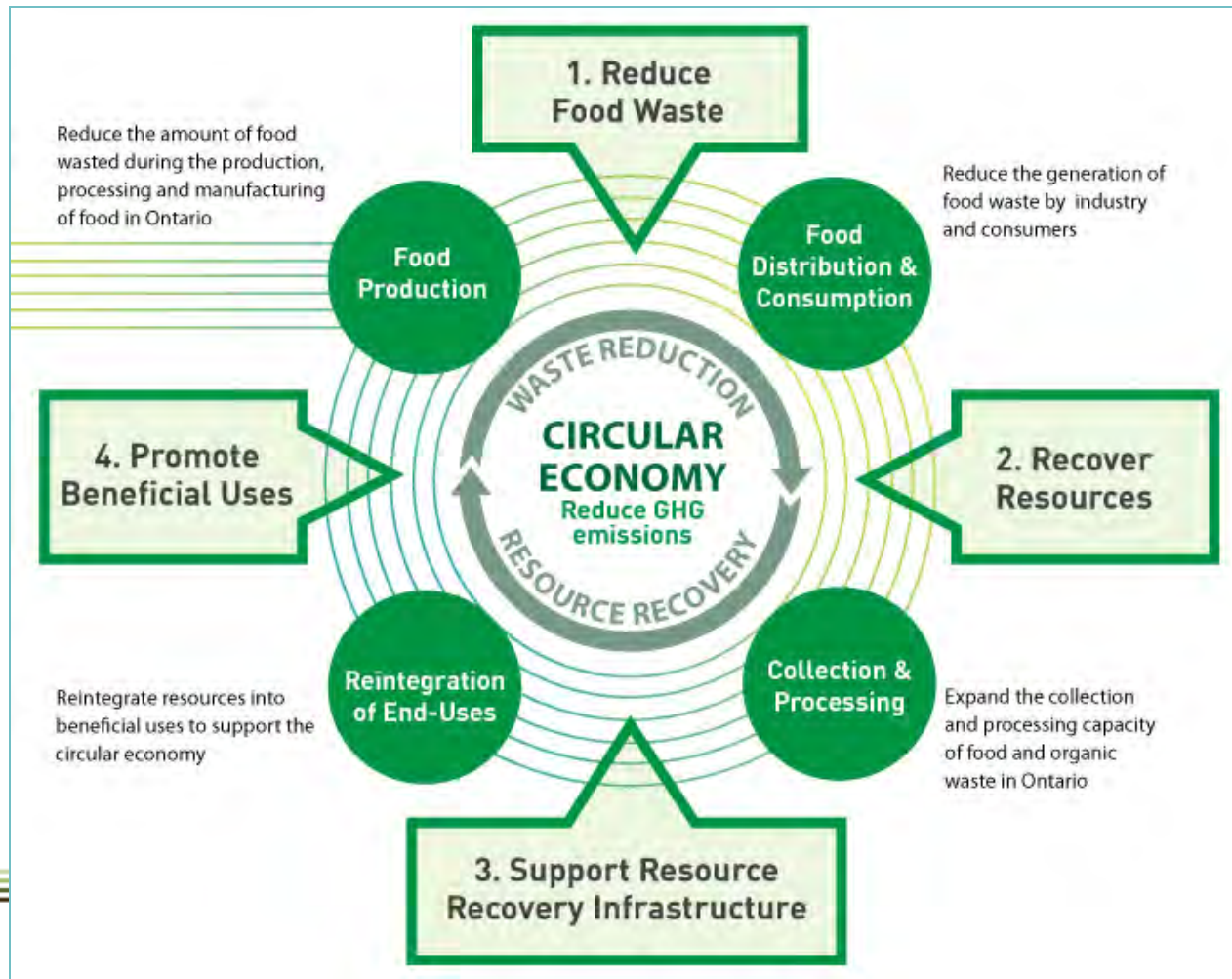
- Ontario's **Food and Organic Waste Framework** includes two components:
 - **Action Plan:** a plan containing strategic government commitments
 - **Policy Statement:** a legal document providing direction to public and private parties
- The Policy Statement provides direction to **both** the **public** and **private** sectors to implement the provincial interest in matters related to food and organic waste. This includes:
 - Provincial ministries;
 - Municipalities;
 - Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (IC&I) sector; and
 - Waste management industry
- These sectors must "**be consistent with**" any policies that apply to them when they perform their duties and exercise their power related to food and organic waste reduction and diversion
- Individual policies in the statement **clearly state** who they apply to



Proposed Framework – Vision and Objectives

Vision: Circular economy towards zero food and organic waste and zero GHG emissions

Objectives



Action Plan

Action Plan contains **strategic government commitments** to support a circular economy for food and organic waste in Ontario, including actions to:

- Reduce food waste
- Recover resources from food and organic waste
- Support resource recovery infrastructure
- Promote beneficial uses



Action Plan: Reduce Food Waste

1

Province to work with partners to develop promotion and education tools to support food waste prevention and reduction

- Work with Foodland Ontario, municipalities, the IC&I sector and non profits to develop standardized promotion, education and guidance materials

2

Province to enhance and incorporate waste reduction and resource recovery activities within schools

- Measures may include waste audits, skill-building initiatives, integrating waste reduction and resource recovery into teaching activities, and targeting rural, remote and Northern communities

3

Province to work with the Government of Canada on preventing food waste

- The province will co-ordinate food waste reduction efforts with federal food labelling and food policy initiatives

4

Province to work with partners to support innovative approaches and tools to rescue surplus food

- The province will pursue cross-sectoral partnerships to redistribute surplus food so that it does not become waste (e.g. supermarket recovery program), including developing a provincial food security strategy

Action Plan: Reduce Food Waste continued...

5

Province to develop food safety guidelines to support the safe donation of surplus food

- Safe donation guidelines could identify which foods are most in demand, outline food safety requirements for donors and rescue organizations, and detail unacceptable food donations

6

Province to support academic research aimed at reducing and recovering food and organic waste

- Ministries of the Environment and Climate Change, and Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to continue to fund academic and agri-food sector research

7

Province to develop data collection mechanisms for measuring progress in waste reduction and resource recovery of food and organic waste

- Enhanced data collection will help assess progress, focus efforts, understand gaps, and improve transparency. It would consider:
 - Scope and frequency of data collected,
 - Enhancing existing data collected by municipalities and waste management systems,
 - Building on existing best practices, and
 - Measures to ensure confidentiality and limit administrative burden

Action Plan: Recover Resources

8

Province to amend the 3Rs Regulations to include food and organic waste and increase resource recovery across the IC&I sector

- The review will include thresholds based on facility size or waste generates, breadth of food waste covered by the regulation, suitability of source separation or other processing technologies, and efforts to ensure beneficial uses, reduction of administrative burden

9

Province to ban food and organic waste from ending up in disposal sites

- Proposed future regulation would consider what sites would be impacted, implementation timelines, geographic phase-in, exemptions and compliance and enforcement

10

Province to support resource recovery of food and organic waste in multi-unit residential buildings

- The province will review Building Code to assess requirements for new construction and promote design to support resource recovery

11

Province to develop best management practices to support effective use of public waste receptacles

- The province will work to apply knowledge and methodologies from the behavioural sciences to optimize labels for public waste receptacles to help the public change behaviour

Action Plan: Support Infrastructure

12

Province to use modern regulator approaches to review existing approval processes and requirements for resource recovery systems

- New approaches to facilitate approvals will consider pre-determined setbacks and standards for low-risk sites, updating the Checklist for Technical Requirements for ECA submissions, and support for innovative demonstration projects

13

Province to require standardized training for owners and operators of resource recovery systems that undertake composting and anaerobic digestion

- The province will consider requiring facilities to have a certified “operator-in-charge” and promoting additional training for small scale and low-risk sites to minimize nuisance impacts and ensure high-quality products

14

Province to review its D-Series Land Use Compatibility Guidelines to support the development of resource recovery systems

- The review of the D-Series Guidelines will promote improved identification, review and assessment of compatibility, proximity and sensitivity impacts through buffers, setbacks, influence areas and feasibility analyses, including consideration for composting, anaerobic digestion, and other treatment

Action Plan: Promote Beneficial Uses

15

Province to support healthy soils with strong standards and clear requirements for the use of soil amendments, while protecting the environment and human health

- The province will review regulatory approaches related to soil amendments (both on- and off-farm), promote beneficial use of soil amendments for rehabilitation and align with Agricultural Soil Health and Conservation Strategy

16

Province to support development of renewable natural gas including consideration for linkages to food and organic waste

- The province through the Climate Change Action Plan provides financial support to encourage the use of cleaner, renewable natural gas and other low-carbon substitutes in the industrial, transportation and building sectors.

17

Province to support green procurement practices, including the use of products, such as compost and digestate

- Implementing procurement policies and practices to support the purchasing of green products and services including products made from food and organic materials.

Policy Statement

Policy statement contains **direction** on:

- Ontario Food Recovery Hierarchy
- Targets for waste reduction and resource recovery
- Reducing food waste
- Recover resources from food and organic waste
- Compostable products and packaging
- Supporting resource recovery infrastructure
- Promoting beneficial uses



Policy Statement: **Key Terms**

Waste reduction: means the minimization of waste generated at the end of life of products or packaging, including through activities related to design, manufacturing and material use.

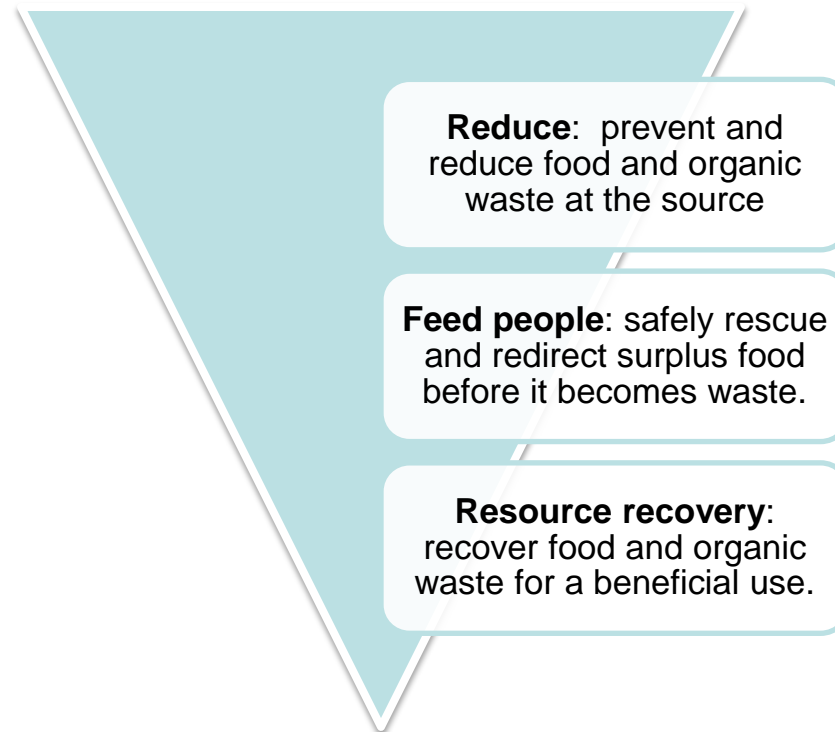
Resource recovery: means the extraction of useful materials or other resources from things that might otherwise be waste, including through reuse, recycling, reintegration, regeneration or other activities. This includes the collection, handling, and processing of food and organic waste for beneficial uses.

Beneficial use: means the use of recovered *food and organic waste* to recover nutrients, organic matter, or moisture to improve soil fertility, soil structure or to help build soils where they do not exist.

Policy Statement: Hierarchy

1.1

The Ontario Food Recovery hierarchy consistent of the following steps in order of importance (1.1)



1.2

Persons or entities engaging in waste reduction and resource recovery activities should consider prioritizing their activities according to the hierarchy. (1.2)

Policy Statement: Targets - considerations

Municipalities

- Geographic location
- Population size
- Density
- Existing services and capacity available
- Recognize unique considerations in the North, rural and remote Ontario

Industry

- Size of industry
- Type of industry
- Amount of waste generated
- Alignment with other jurisdictions
- Minimize impact to small business

Policy Statement: Targets

2.1



Single Family Residential

Existing curbside systems – by 2023

- 70% target

Southern Ontario – by 2025

- 70% target for large municipalities with higher density
- 50% target for large and medium municipalities with medium density

Northern Ontario – by 2025

- 50% target for large municipalities with higher density



Multi-Unit Residential

50% target by 2025 in Southern Ontario only



IC&I Sector

70% target by 2025 for large facilities which generate more than 300kg/week

50% target by 2025 for other facilities which generate more than 300kg/week

Policy Statement: Targets continued...

2.2 – 2.4

Shall include: Food waste, organic waste resulting from food preparation, soiled paper, and leaf and yard waste (2.2)

Encouraged to include:
Personal hygiene wastes
Sanitary products
Additional paper fibre products
Compostable products and packaging
Seasonal outdoor wastes
Pet waste (2.3)

Targets can be achieved through **waste reduction and resource recovery** activities, including (2.4):

- Prevention
- Rescue of surplus food
- Resource recovery

2.5

The direct discharge of food waste or organic waste to a sewer, including via garburators or grinding devices, is not considered for the purposes of achieving targets. (2.5)

Policy Statement: Reduce Food Waste

3.1 – 3.3

Promotion and Education

- Large IC&I facilities shall develop and implement education programs to consumers aimed at preventing and reducing consumer food waste. (3.1)
- Large IC&I facilities shall, in partnership with their industry associations, provide sector-based promotion and education to promote operational best practices that can prevent and reduce food waste. (3.2)
- Municipalities shall develop and implement their own promotion and education programs aimed at preventing food waste. (3.3)

3.4 – 3.5

Reducing Food Waste by Businesses

- Large IC&I facilities that generate more than 300 kilograms of food waste per week should identify where food waste occurs in their operations, conduct regular food waste audits and take measures to prevent and reduce the amount of food waste that is occurring. (3.4)
- Large IC&I facilities should incorporate use of imperfect produce and make available to consumers. (3.5)

3.6

Rescue of Surplus Food

- Large IC&I facilities should develop relationships and partnerships with food rescue organizations to facilitate the safe distribution of surplus food in a timely and effective manner and explore the use of technology to help improve logistics. (3.5)

Policy Statement: Recover Resources

4.1 - 4.5

Increasing Resource Recovery from the Residential Sector (4.1 to 4.5)

	Municipalities that currently provide green bin systems	Southern Ontario		Northern Ontario
		Large municipalities with higher density (>50,000 pop. & > 300 pp/km ²)	Large and medium municipalities with medium density (>50,000 pop. & < 300 pp/km ² or >20,000 pop. & > 100 pp/km ²)	Large municipalities with higher density (>50,000 pop. & > 300 pp/km ²)
Target	70% by 2023	70% by 2025	50% by 2025	50% by 2025
Scope	Continue to provide these services	Single family dwellings in urban settlement areas		
Curbside collection	Yes	Yes	Preferred	Yes
Source separation	Yes	Preferred	Preferred	Preferred
Alternatives	Yes, to supplement existing curbside collection	Yes, alternatives can be used if demonstrated that the targets can be achieved efficiently and effectively		

Policy Statement: Recover Resources continued...

Supporting Residential Resource Recovery Through Other Methods

4.6

Where collection of food and organic waste is not provided municipalities shall provide for home composting, community composting and local events days. (4.6)

4.7

Municipalities are encouraged to pursue regional approaches to facilitate collection from urban settlement areas. (4.7)

4.8

Municipalities, with municipal associations, should provide promotion and education to residents to support and increase participation in resource recovery. (4.8)

4.9

Municipalities should ensure that official plans, zoning by-laws, plan of subdivision approvals and site plan approvals support resource recovery. (4.9)

Policy Statement: Recover Resources continued...

Increasing Resource Recovery from Multi-Residential & IC&I sector

4.10 –
4.15

	Multi-Residential Buildings with 6 or more units in Southern Ontario (pop. > 5000)	Large IC&I facilities (as per O. Reg. 103/94) which generate more than 300kg/week	Other IC&I facilities which generate more than 300kg/week	All other IC&I establishments
Target	50% by 2025	70% by 2025	50% by 2025	None
Source separation	Preferred	Yes	Yes	Preferred

Multi-residential buildings with 6 or more units should implement best practices that support convenient access and promotion and education that increase participation in resource recovery. (4.11, 4.12)

All multi-residential owners and the IC&I sector shall ensure that collected food and organic waste is sent for resource recovery. (4.16)

Owners and operators of resource recovery systems shall limit contamination of source separated streams, shall not direct or send source separated food and organic waste for disposal, and may adopt financial measures to encourage generators to maximize resource recovery and discourage disposal. (4.17, 4.18)

Policy Statement: Compostable Products & Packaging

With the shift to greater amounts of compostable products and packaging being used in particular for food and food products, producer responsibility should be taken into account with regard to the waste reduction and resource recovery of the compostable products and packaging that producers sell in Ontario.

5.1

Persons or entities that are brand holders or marketers of compostable products and packaging should ensure they are certified according to international, national or industry standards and meet environmental standards in Ontario. (5.1)

5.2

Municipalities and owners and operators of resource recovery systems are encouraged to support new technology to recover compostable products and packaging. (5.2)

5.3

Persons or entities that are brand holders or marketers of compostable products and packaging should provide promotion and education to inform consumers on how to participate in resource recovery programs for compostable products and packaging. (5.3)

Policy Statement: Support Infrastructure

6.1 – 6.2

Strategic Infrastructure Planning

- Municipalities and other planning authorities should protect existing and planned resource recovery systems from incompatible uses and plan for new systems to meet projected needs. (6.1)
- Municipalities and other planning authorities are encouraged to pursue regional approaches to address resource recovery capacity, including supporting systems that build economies of scale for processing. (6.2)

6.3 – 6.8

Fostering Timely Approvals

- The province, municipalities and other planning authorities should co-ordinate and complement approvals, wherever possible, to facilitate timely decisions. (6.3)
- Proponents of resource recovery systems should provide complete submissions. (6.4)
- The ministry will consider the need to support regional approaches for increasing processing capacity and innovative methods in rural and the North, as well as climate change impacts, when reviewing approval applications. (6.5)
- Municipalities and the province shall ensure that approvals address the D-Series Guidelines and Compost Quality Standards and Guideline to ensure appropriate siting and compatibility. (6.6, 6.7)
- Proponents of new or expanded waste management systems for disposal should consider resource recovery opportunities. (6.8)

Policy Statement: Support Infrastructure continued...

6.9 – 6.11

Ensuring Long-Term Facility Sustainability

- Owners and operators of resource recovery systems are encouraged to reduce GHG emissions. Food and organic waste should be managed as close to the source as is realistically possible to reduce GHG emissions. (6.9)
- Owners and operators of resource recovery systems that create digestate are encouraged to maximize any energy captured. (6.10)
- Owners and operators of resource recovery systems should develop outreach plans that ensure engagement of local communities as well as processes to address complaints, resolve disputes and communicate mitigation measures. (6.11)

6.12 –
6.16

Recovering Viable Organics from Disposal Streams

- Owners and operators that undertake mixed waste processing should only accept source separated food and organic waste when contamination or availability issues arise. (6.12)
- Owners and operators that undertake mixed waste processing should demonstrate that recovered organic materials will regularly meet all applicable standards. (6.13)
- Owners and operators that undertake mixed waste processing should send recovered organic materials for further processing, such as composting or anaerobic digestion. (6.14)
- Wastewater treatment infrastructure may be considered for source separated food waste where excess capacity exists or can be created to create high-value end-products. (6.15)
- Municipalities are encouraged to plan for management and beneficial use of biosolids. (6.16)

Policy Statement: Promote Beneficial Uses

7.1

Owners and operators of resource recovery systems that compost should promote the use and benefits of compost, educate users on the rules and best practices for using compost, and make compost convenient and accessible to residents, community groups, farmers and services that could benefit from compost use. (7.1)

7.2

Owners and operators of resource recovery systems that create compost, digestate or other soil amendments should seek opportunities to increase the beneficial use of their products. This may include agricultural soil amendments, environmental remediation projects and mining and aggregate reclamation projects. (7.2)

7.3

Municipalities should consider how existing policies and procedures encourage the use of compost, digestate and other soil amendments, such as facility site maintenance, development, site and facility approvals, and green procurement. (7.3)

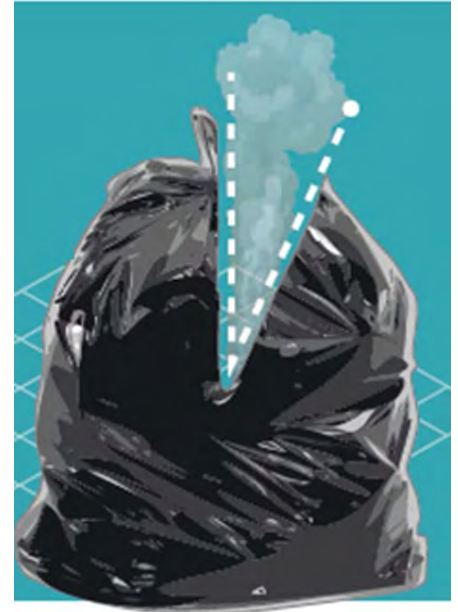
Policy Statement: Implementation

- The ministry may develop guidance materials by working with stakeholders, including municipalities, to assist in the implementation of the policy statement, including related to resource recovery targets and collection services
- The Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016 requires relevant instruments (e.g. environmental approvals, by-laws and Official Plans) to be consistent with appropriate policies in the Policy Statement.

Tool	Timeframe for Consistency
Prescribed instruments	Within two years of the Policy Statement coming into effect
By-laws relating to waste reduction and resource recovery	Within two years of the Policy Statement coming into effect
Official Plans	Aligned with timelines noted in the Planning Act
Zoning by-laws	Three years after related Official Plan amendment

Potential Funding Support

- The Province intends to work collaboratively with stakeholders to support the implementation of the Food and Organic Waste Framework.
- Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) identifies funding to support the implementation of the Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario, including the proposed Food and Organic Waste Framework. This is in addition to:
 - **Municipal Challenge Fund** - up to \$300 million supports eligible costs for GHG emissions reduction projects proposed by municipalities. Target areas include: buildings, energy supply, water, transportation and *waste management*.
 - **Supports for Renewable Natural Gas** – \$60-\$100 million to support use of cleaner, renewable natural gas
 - **Partners in Climate Change Grant Program** – up to \$3 million for projects that evaluate behaviour-based approaches to reduce GHG emissions
- **2017 Budget Talks/Supermarket Recovery** - \$600,000 to develop on-line platform to match surplus food with social service agencies



Next Steps/Contact

Environmental Registry posting of Draft Food and Organic Waste Framework accepting comments until January 15, 2018

<https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMzOTI0&statusId=MjAzNzAz&language=en>

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