

Ministry of Environment Update: Solid Waste Management Strategy And Packaging and Paper Regulations



May 2023

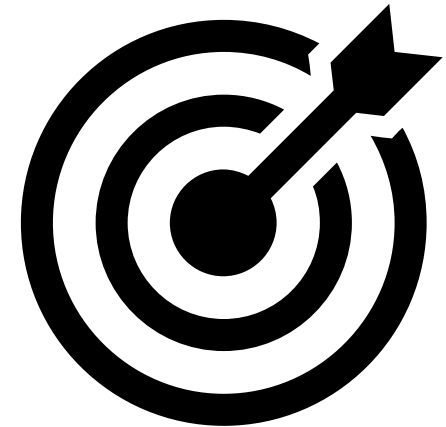
Solid Waste Management Strategy

Waste reduction targets of **30%** by 2030 and **50%** by 2040



Strategy Goals

1. Enhance education, awareness and technical understanding of waste management
2. Encourage regional collaboration to enhance the cost effectiveness of waste management infrastructure
3. Provide a robust and flexible regulatory system for waste disposal and management
4. Enhance waste diversion across Saskatchewan
5. Foster innovative and sustainable solutions
6. Demonstrate government leadership



2022-2023 Progress

- Education and awareness efforts aimed at the general public
 - Media event, news articles, presentations
 - Ad campaign
- Encouraging regional collaboration
 - Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program
 - Approval for over \$50M in investments
 - 71 projects recommended for federal funding
- Demonstrate government leadership
 - Completed the comprehensive waste diversion pilot program at the Ministry of Environment's building in Regina.



2022-2023 Progress

- Environmental Code Chapters
 - Transfer Station Code: Finalized
 - Compost Code: Public engagement underway
- Multi Material Recycling Program
 - Amended regulations approved March 31, 2023



Next Steps

- Communications strategy and education campaign implementation
 - Year two is focused on municipalities
- Compost Environmental Code Chapter Finalization
- Implementation
 - New household packaging and paper regulations
 - Transfer Station Environmental Code Chapter



The Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations, 2023



Key Regulatory Changes

Regulations and Guidelines

- **Regulations**

- Came into force on March 31, 2023
- 180 days to submit a program plan

- **Product Stewardship Program Guidelines**

- Clarify and provide additional details about what is expected in a program plan

Program Model

- **Shifting to full producer responsibility**
 - Producers assume operational and financial responsibility
 - Producers responsible for providing recycling services and marketing materials
 - Standardized list of accepted materials
 - Producer responsibility organization to consult on program plan
 - Transition timeline to be proposed in program plan

2(1): Definitions

- New terms
 - Collection rate, recycling rate, diversion rate, recycle, residence
- Producer responsibility organization
 - Guidelines require operation as not-for-profit
 - Ministry may request a list of supporting stakeholders

2(1): Definitions

“household packaging and paper products” includes:

- packaging composed of any material that is used for the containment, protection, handling, delivery or presentation of a product that is provided to an end user
- packaging-like products that are:
 - purchased by or supplied to end users expressly for the purpose of containing, protecting or transporting commodities or products; and
 - ordinarily disposed of after a single use or short-term use;
- paper of any description

2(2): Definitions

“household packaging and paper products” does not include:

- Beverage containers prescribed in EMPA, 2010
- Containers that are part of an operating reuse program (i.e., refillable beer bottles)
- Containers from products prescribed in the regulations for paint, petroleum and antifreeze or HHW
- Health, hygiene or safety products
- Bound reference books, literary books and text books

3: Determination of Producer

An obligated producer is:

- Brand owner resident in Canada;
- If no brand owner, then importer into Saskatchewan;
- If these two situations do not apply, then the obligated producer is the retailer.

Franchises

- The obligated producer is the franchisor.

Marketplace seller/facilitator

- If a retailer is a marketplace seller, the marketplace facilitator is the obligated producer.

6(4): Business Exemptions

A producer is exempt if they:

- Generate less than \$1 million in gross annual revenue;
OR
- Supply or distribute less than 1 tonne of packaging and paper annually

Onus of proof

- A business claiming an exemption may be required to provide proof that it is exempt from compliance.

7(1): Requirement for a Program Plan

- Producers are required to submit a program plan to the ministry for approval
 - Due by September 27, 2023
 - Must comply with regulations and guidelines
 - Include an implementation schedule for phasing in the program
 - Considers recycling service providers and municipal contracts, assets and partnerships
 - Provides evidence of public and stakeholder consultation

7(2): Program Plan Requirements

- The program plan to provide details on:
 - How materials will be collected in all areas of Saskatchewan
 - The criteria used to determine service types and service levels
 - The rationale for the proposed collection system
 - How remote, northern and First Nations communities will be included in the program
 - How the program will coordinate with other municipal waste management services

7(2): Program Plan Requirements

- **Categories of packaging and paper products**
 - Paper
 - Metal
 - Glass
 - Multi-material
 - Plastic
 - Rigid plastic
 - Flexible plastic
 - Bio-based plastics
 - compostable
 - not compostable
- **The program plan must include:**
 - Description of how each category will be managed by the waste management hierarchy
 - Targets for recycling rates and diversion rates (overall and by category) that improve over time
 - Description of how the targets were determined

8: Program Review

- Program review every 5 years by the producer responsibility organization and the ministry
- *Product Stewardship Program Review Guidelines* available upon request
- Purpose
 1. How effective and efficient is the program?
 2. Are there ways to improve the program?
 3. How does the program contribute or support the waste diversion goal in the Strategy?

11: Annual Reporting

- For each category, the amount of material:
 - Supplied to households
 - Collected by the program
 - Recycled by the program
 - Recovered for energy
 - Disposed of in a landfill
- For each category:
 - Collection rate, recycling rate, recovery rate
- Comparison of performance against targets
- Number and location of collection services
- Level of public awareness of the program
- Efforts to reduce environmental impacts

The ministry did not include...

- Single-use and disposable products
 - “Packaging-like products” that are disposed of after a single-use or short-term use are included
- Registration of exempt businesses
 - Reverse onus clause as an alternative solution
- Public spaces and schools
- Non-financial audits

Next Steps

- Producer responsibility organization develops program plan in consultation with stakeholders and municipalities in 2023
- Submit to the ministry for review and approval
- New program begins phased-in implementation in 2024

Questions?