

Solid Waste Management Strategy Fall Workshop 2023

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
October 3 and 5

Solid Waste Management Strategy: Progress Update

- Saskatchewan's *Solid Waste Management Strategy* strives for a practical, sustainable and integrated solid waste management system.
- The strategy commits to reducing waste sent to landfills.

Target: Reduce the amount of waste generated per person by 30 per cent by 2030 and 50 per cent by 2040 from 2014 baseline levels.



Solid Waste Management Strategy: Progress Update

The strategy outlines six goals and 39 commitments along with **performance measures** to ensure we meet its vision and goals.

- 1 Enhance education, awareness and technical understanding of waste management best practices and the risks of improper practices across Saskatchewan.
- 2 Encourage regional collaboration to enhance the cost effectiveness of waste management infrastructure.
- 3 Provide a modern, efficient and effective regulatory system for waste disposal and management.
- 4 Enhance waste diversion across Saskatchewan.
- 5 Foster innovative and sustainable solutions to manage waste.
- 6 Demonstrate government leadership in waste management.

Highlight of Completed Projects 2022-23:

1



Enhance education, awareness and technical understanding of waste management best practices and the risks of improper practices across Saskatchewan.

- The ministry implemented the first year of the Education and Awareness Communications Strategy (December 2022 – March 2023).
 - The focus was on recycling and composting.
 - Eight activities and a paid ad campaign #KnowItBeforeYouThrowIt were completed.
- The ministry completed the second public awareness survey to measure familiarity with the strategy and gather trend data on stewardship programs.

Next step: Implement year two of the communication strategy, which includes the development of a municipal waste reduction toolkit.

Highlight of Completed Projects 2022-23:

4

Enhance waste diversion across Saskatchewan.

- The new *The Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations* came into force on March 30, 2023.

Next step: Explore regulatory options for Extended Producer Responsibility for other types of materials.

6

Demonstrate government leadership in waste management.

- Government Relations approved 72 projects, of which 48 are completed. Projects were for the decommissioning or expansion of landfills and the development of new transfer stations under the Canada Community-Building Fund (formerly Gas Tax Fund) and the Northern Capital Grants Program.

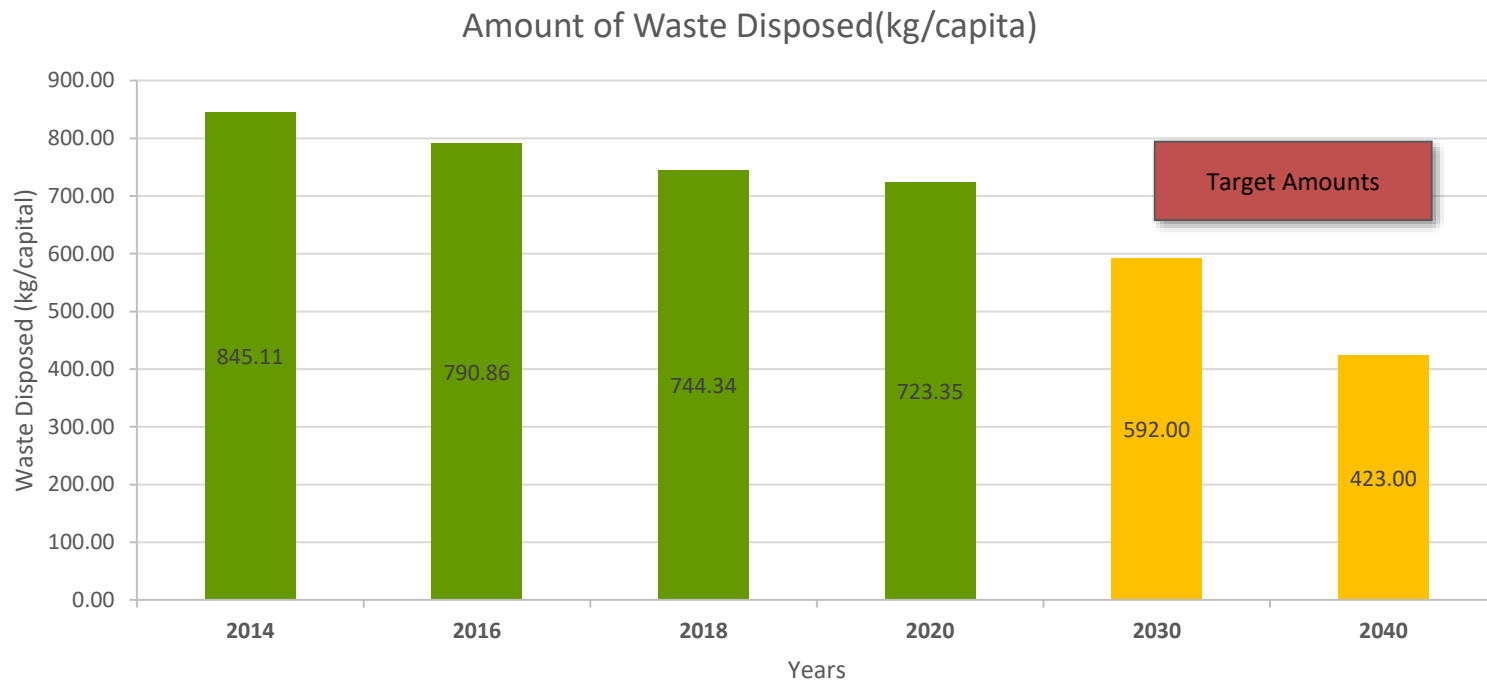
Next step: Continue the northern regional landfills and transfer stations construction projects in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada.

2022-23 Performance Measures

1. Amount of waste disposed in kg per capita;
2. Percentage of the population served by a regional landfill model;
3. Number of landfills closed and decommissioned;
4. Percentage of populations aware of provincial waste reduction and recycling programs;
5. Amount of new investment to reduce, manage and divert solid waste from landfills;
6. Number of landfill operators with landfill operator certification; and
7. Percentage of population with access to recycling programs.

2022-23 Performance Measures

- Amount of waste generated (kg/capita)*



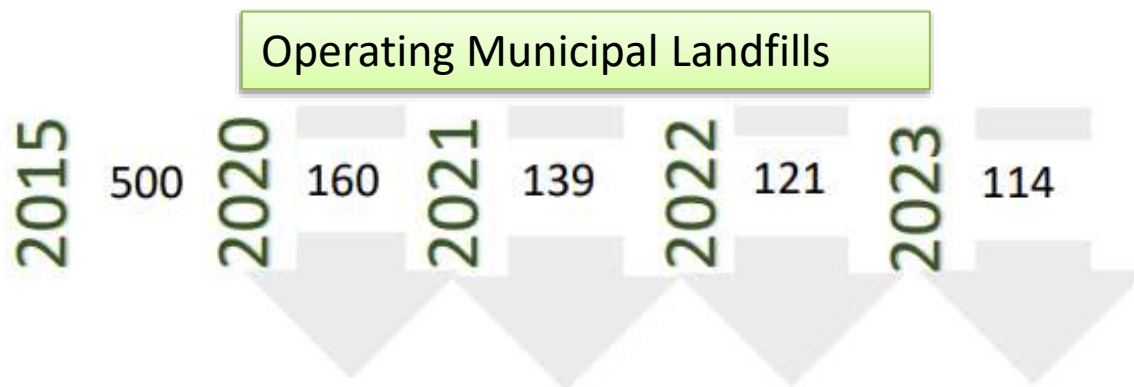
- Percentage of population served by a regional landfill model: 14.4 per cent.

*Data is mined from Statistics Canada and has a lag of about 2 years.

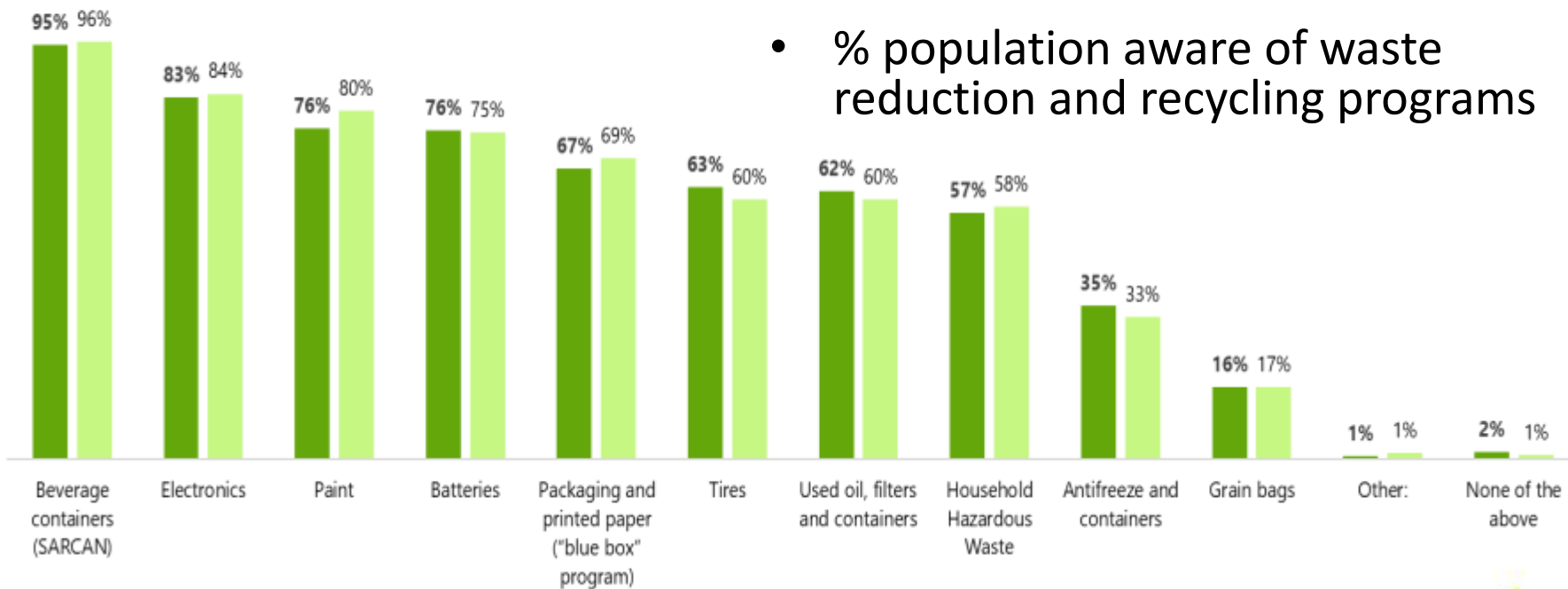


2022-23 Performance Measures

- Number of landfills closed and decommissioned:



- % population aware of waste reduction and recycling programs



Ministry of Environment

Update from Compliance Assurance

- Construction and demolition waste.
- Groundwater monitoring at landfills.
- Compost myths and tips.
- Compost facility code chapter update.

Inert Material

- Bulk refuse originating from construction, demolition, renovation and re-development projects such as:
 - Concrete, bricks, mortar;
 - Rubble, construction debris;
 - Wood scrap, trees, stumps;
 - Minimal scrap metal;
 - Non-recyclable plastics;
 - Tiles, ceramics, glass;
 - Drywall; and
 - Asbestos may be authorized.

Construction and Demolition Material Disposal

- Segregate, reuse or recycle before disposal.
- Asbestos needs to be removed from buildings before demolition.
- Burning of inert wastes is allowable, but open burning of unsegregated waste is not.
- Inert Landfill:
 - Fewer requirements than a municipal solid waste cell.
 - Guidance Document available.



Groundwater Monitoring

- We have heard concerns from stakeholders regarding costs associated with groundwater monitoring.
- We are working to reduce groundwater monitoring frequency at low-risk operating landfills and closed landfills.
- The decision is based on several factors.

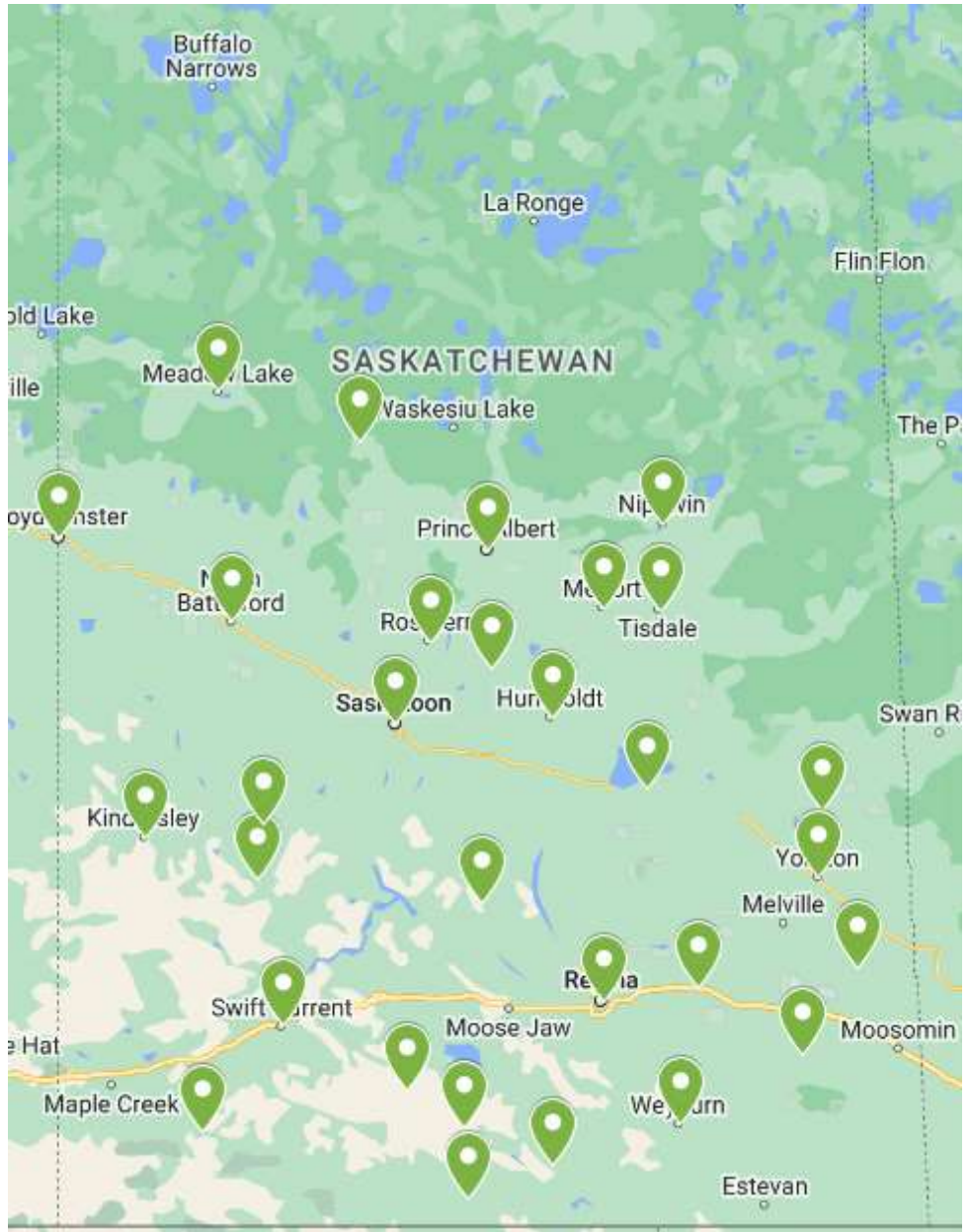
Groundwater Monitoring

- Landfills are requesting to do their own groundwater monitoring to reduce costs.
- Requirements for monitoring include:
 - Documented procedures.
 - Quality assurance and quality control procedures.
 - Staff training.
- A summary of the monitoring is required in the groundwater report.
- A qualified person is required to write the report and provide interpretation of the results.

State of Organic Waste Management in Saskatchewan

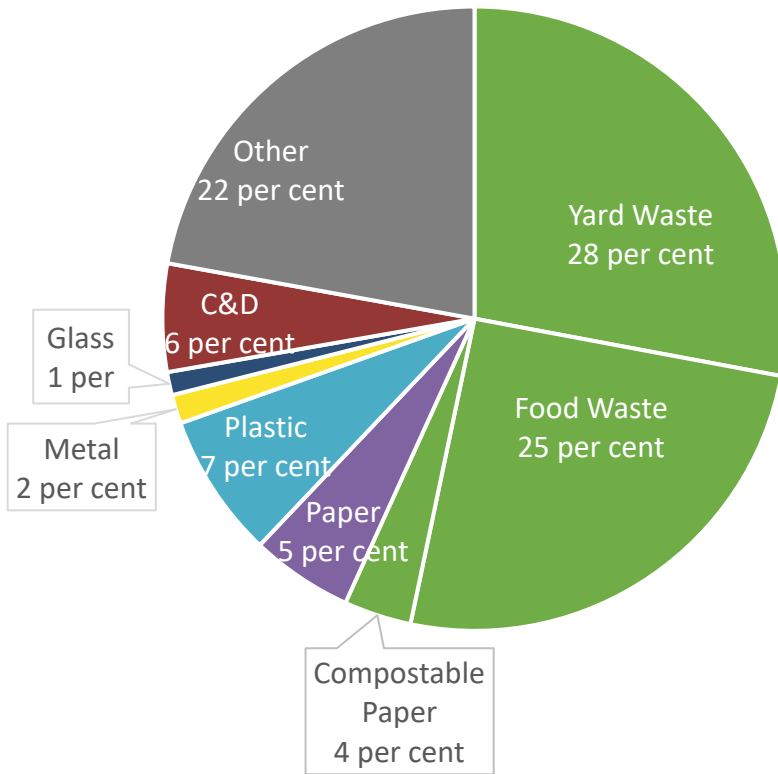
- Organic waste characterization, disposal and diversion data is available from municipal waste audits and permitted composting facilities.
- Statistics Canada, 2020:
 - Saskatchewan diverted approximately 41,000 tonnes of organics waste.
- Compost Council of Canada and the Environmental Education Research Foundation, 2019:
 - Saskatchewan has 31 organics waste management facilities.
 - Processed 27,000 - 48,000 tonnes of organic waste.

Organic Waste Management Facilities in Saskatchewan

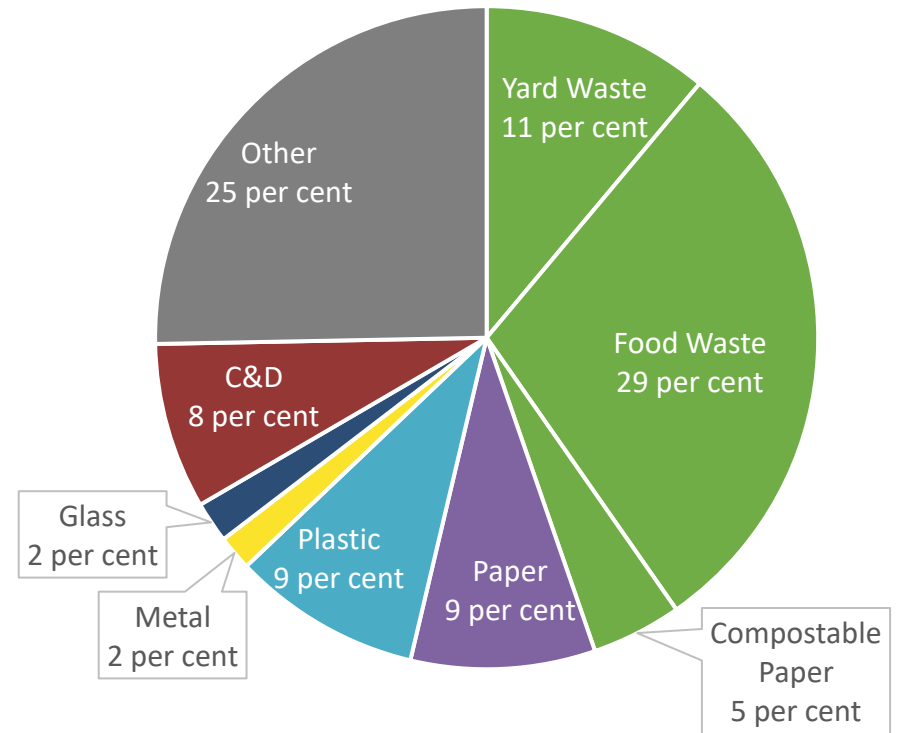


Residential Waste Composition

Curbside Single Family Residential
Garbage Stream

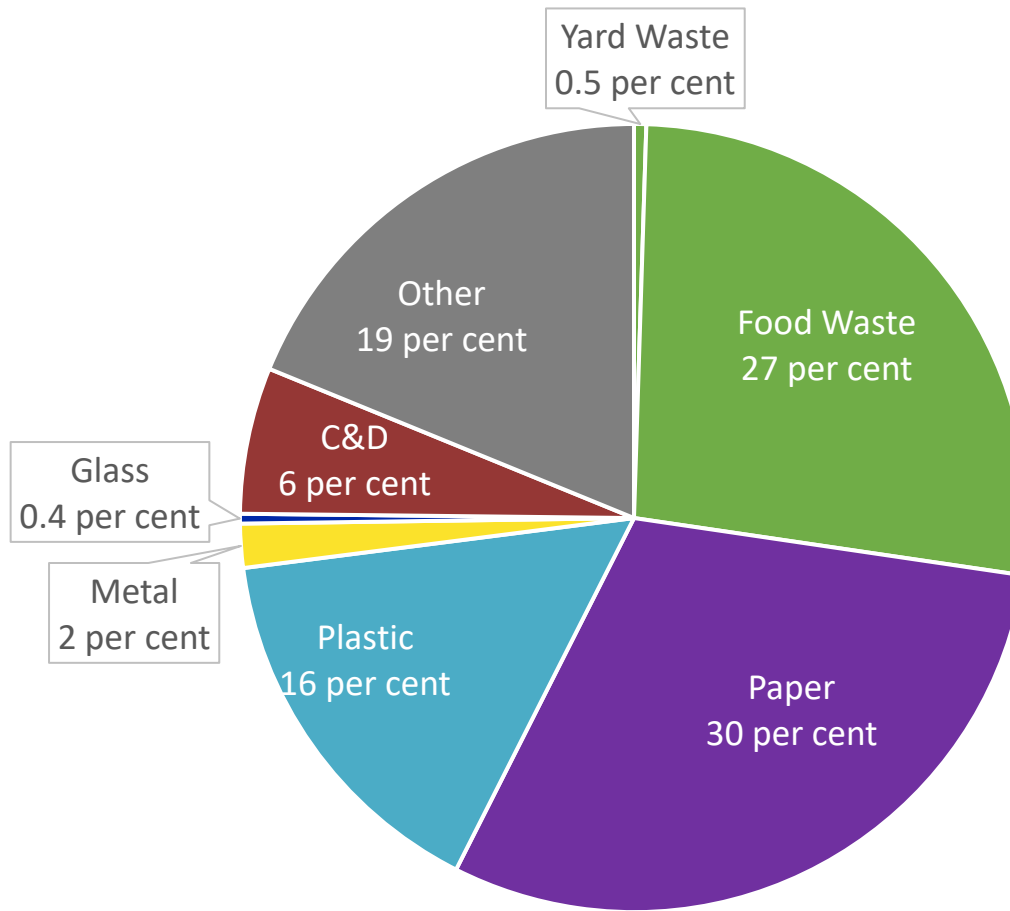


Multi-Unit Residential
Garbage Stream



* Data taken from 2019 City of Saskatoon Waste Characterization Study: Summary Report

Institutional, Commercial & Industrial Waste Composition



* 2016 data taken from Environment and Climate Change
Canada's 2020 National Waste Characterization Report

Accessibility to Organic Waste Management

Program Type	Saskatchewan		Canada	
	Number of People Living in Area with Program	Per cent of Pop.	Number of People Living in Area with Program	Per cent of Pop.
Organics Management Program (any)	808,425	69 per cent	31,642,932	84 per cent
Leaf and Yard Waste Program	808,425	69 per cent	31,650,056	84 per cent
Source-Separated Organics Program	576,515	49 per cent	25,823,031	69 per cent

Composting Myths

- Compost requires a lot of water!
- Compost is a high-risk activity!
- Compost attracts insects and animals!
- Compost stinks!
- Composting is a waste of time and money!

Composting Tips

- Add water to your backyard composter as needed.
- Use a compostable liner in your tabletop container.
 - Some stores provide compostable bags when you purchase meat products.
- Keep the lined container in a cool area.
- Line a bucket with newspaper and keep the food waste in a freezer until collection day.
- Keep the green cart in the shade if possible.

Composting Myths and Tips

- Myth: Composting is a waste of time and money!
- In general, household yard and food waste can make up 60 per cent of the total waste.
- Diverting organic waste from the landfill extends landfill life and lowers associated costs.
 - The Solid Waste Management Strategy's goal is to enhance waste diversion.

Composting

- Diverting organic waste lowers methane generation at landfills.
- Future methane regulations could be costly for those who will meet the threshold.
- Composting is part of a larger strategy and benefits everyone.

Commitment

Saskatchewan Solid Waste Management Strategy

3



Provide a modern, efficient and effective regulatory system for waste disposal and management.

- Develop a Saskatchewan Environmental Code chapter for transfer stations and compost facilities for implementation in 2022-23.

Next Steps

- Code drafting.
- Minor amendments to *The Municipal Refuse Management Regulations*.
- Communications prior to enforcement.
- Anticipated proclamation target – 2024.
- A “phase-in” period will be built into the code chapter.

Solid Waste Management Website

The screenshot shows the Saskatchewan government website's page for Solid Waste Management Facilities. The page features a navigation bar with categories: Residents and Visitors, Business and Industry, Government, and Services. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area includes a breadcrumb trail: Home > Residents and Visitors > Environment, Public Health and Safety > Solid Waste Management Facilities. The title of the page is "Solid Waste Management Facilities". Below the title is a large photograph of a yellow bulldozer at a landfill site, with a white sign in the foreground that reads "HOUSEHOLD WASTE". At the bottom of the page, there are two green call-to-action boxes. The first box is titled "Solid Waste Management Strategy" and contains the text "A practical and sustainable strategy for short and long-term waste management goals over the next 20 years." with a yellow button labeled "Read the Solid Waste Management Strategy >". The second box is titled "Landfills" and contains the text "A landfill is a facility that permanently disposes of refuse and other non-hazardous materials." with a yellow button labeled "Find information about landfills >".

saskatchewan.ca/residents/environment-public-health-and-safety/solid-waste-management-facilities

Resources

- Client Support Services: 1-800-567-4224 or centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca.
- Solid Waste Management Facilities Guidance Documents: saskatchewan.ca/residents/environment-public-health-and-safety/solid-waste-management-facilities

Questions?

saskatchewan.ca