

Department 33 – Waste Management

Overview

This Department captures costs of waste collection, the operation and maintenance of the Smith Landfill site and annual monitoring of the Smith and former Ennismore landfill site.

Waste Management also accommodates the costs related to waste diversion activities undertaken by the Township on its own or in partnership with other providers.

Curbside garbage collection throughout the Township is collected by Waste Connections of Canada Inc. and the costs related thereto are included in this Department. The waste collected at the curb is deposited at the County/City landfill site at Bensfort Road, except for statutory holidays when it is taken to the Smith Landfill Site.

Revenue

The major sources of revenue in this Department are tipping fees and taxation. Statistics show a reduction in overall tonnage being landfilled. Increased diversion options and transition to clear garbage bags are contributing to this reduced tonnage. This is positive in terms of preserving the life of the landfill site and decreased GHG emissions.

Since the completion of the Smith Waste Disposal Site Service Review by Cambium in 2021, the Township has phased in annual tipping fee increases in an effort to:

- better account for costs related to landfill administration, operations, closure, and post-closure costs;
- align with tipping fees at other neighbouring landfill sites, in particular Bensfort, in order to help ensure only waste generated within the Township is brought to the site as required by the Environmental Compliance Approval;
- encourage use of Bensfort Landfill Site and Waste Connections of Canada (WCC) facilities for disposal of construction debris thereby maximizing the life of the Smith Landfill Site;
- establish a reserve to support the eventual expansion or closure of the site.

The fees in 2025 reached the level where they are slightly higher (\$5.00 per tonne) than the Bensfort Landfill Site and are providing revenue that is sufficient to start building a reserve for the future needs of the site. The Tarriff of Fees By-law provides for an annual CPI increase (all items Ontario at December 3st) for many of the Township fees. A similar approach is recommended for tipping fees as a means to keep up with rising costs, avoid the need for significant increases

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at any given time and continue to meet the previously noted goals from the 2021 Landfill report.

The transition period for implementation of producer responsibility for packaging under the Resources Recovery and Circular Economy Act ended on December 31, 2025. This resulted in changes to the blue box depot agreements in place with Circular Materials Ontario (CMO), the organization which is responsible for establishing the common collection system for blue box materials under the new program. The budget accounts for the new compensation provisions provided for in the updated agreements, which are somewhat lower than the previous two years. There remains a degree of uncertainty around how this program will continue to unfold over the coming years.

Expenditures

Costs associated with the Smith Landfill Site include staff wages, equipment, materials and supplies required to provide for the daily operations, maintenance, and progressive closure of the site. The site is maintained in compliance with all requirements of the Environmental Compliance Approval. The site is inspected regularly by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks with consistently positive results. Beginning in 2026, a portion of the Sustainability Coordinator position will also be allocated to this Department for duties related to data management (diversion stats, GHG emission etc.), and waste audits as well as public education on waste and recycling diversion programs.

The costs for the waste collection contract are included in this budget. In 2024 this contract was extended to December 31st, 2026 with the option of continuing on a month to month basis through December 31, 2027. This extension will provide the additional time required for the County to pursue the next steps related to the review of uploading garbage collection, as a co-collection system with organics, for the municipalities that have opted in to this process. If ultimately the County does not move forward with the upload, the Township would then be required to undertake its own process to secure a new agreement for these services. These timelines would provide sufficient time for that work to be completed if necessary. A decision with respect to the potential upload by the County is expected early in 2026.

The budget also includes the costs of the monitoring programs carried out for both the Smith and Ennismore sites and the costs associated with waste diversion.

A portion (\$3,665) of the revenue received from CMO will be allocated to public education and advertising costs. This funding will be used to prepare recycling calendars including waste diversion information and updated blue box recycling messaging.

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Activity Update – Beyond Budget Dollars & Cents

Continuation of 2022 Waste Audit Plan: Reuse Centre and Waste Marketing Campaign

In 2022, Selwyn Township collaborated with Fleming College to conduct a comprehensive waste audit at the Smith Landfill. Based on the findings, an implementation plan was developed to address key areas of waste identified. For 2026, the primary priorities from this plan include continuing to review the feasibility of a Reuse Centre at the Smith Landfill. A report will be brought back to Council for consideration with these findings and staff recommendations.

Additionally, the plan recommends continuing the ongoing Waste Marketing Campaign. This supports initiatives such as Recycling Campaigns in collaboration with local communities, radio ads promoting landfill conservation and waste diversion, and the promotion of the monthly waste calendar.

In November 2025, the Township received notice of an opportunity to work with students at Trent University on a research project. The Township has proposed a literature review to investigate waste diversion and recycling options for the key waste categories identified through the 2022 audit, including bulky plastics, textiles, carpet, and some construction and demolition waste. The Township expects to hear back from Trent University in early 2026 about moving forward with this project.

FoodCycler Pilot Program

In 2025, Selwyn Township ran its second year of the FoodCycler Pilot Program resulting in 500 households using a Food Cycler. Subsidies were offered to residents in partnership with Food Cycle Science to offset the cost of a kitchen composter. This program supplements waste diversion efforts in the Township and reduces the amount of organic waste going to landfill. Each FoodCycler has the potential to divert 2 tonnes of food waste over its lifetime.

In 2025, participating homes are estimated to divert 57.3 tonnes of food waste from the landfill, which is equivalent to 27 garbage bags per household annually and 74.5 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

Call2Recycle

In October 2025 the Township received notice that Environmental 360 Solutions Ltd. (E360S) would no longer be accepting batteries free of charge for recycling. The Township investigated new opportunities to continue to provide battery recycling to residents at no cost.

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The Township plans to move forward in partnership with Call2Recycle. Call2Recycle is Canada's leading organization for household battery collection and recycling. The Township will have collection boxes at the Smith Landfill, Township Office, Ennismore, Lakefield, and Bridgenorth Libraries, and the Lakefield and Ennismore Arenas. The Township plans to promote this to the public, including why it's important to recycle batteries and how to properly dispose of them. All program costs, including shipment, are covered by Call2Recycle.

As a municipality, the Township will receive \$0.95 per kilogram of batteries that are collected for recycling.

**The Corporation of the Township of Selwyn
Budget Worksheets 2026**

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GL Account	Details	2023 Year to Date Actuals	2023 Approved Budget	2024 Year to Date Actuals	2024 Approved Budget	2025 Year to Date Actuals	2025 Approved Budget	2026 Proposed Budget
Revenues								
Grants and Receipts		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Sales - Revenues & Fees		659,059	477,518	611,536	539,255	629,056	557,052	608,623
Taxation		490,413	490,413	490,413	490,413	490,413	490,413	490,413
Transfers In		46,745	46,745	89,720	98,435	84,791	92,591	106,237
Total Revenues		1,196,217	1,014,676	1,191,669	1,128,103	1,204,259	1,140,056	1,205,273
Expenses								
Collection		390,686	415,253	399,638	401,500	402,102	418,484	410,669
<u>Disposal</u>								
Salaries & Benefits		326,556	294,372	317,489	347,383	339,056	339,761	371,070
Admin & Overhead		28,771	32,500	27,717	32,780	26,750	31,316	30,652
Services Hired		139,181	139,741	160,702	144,971	158,583	145,549	182,640
Communications		3,178	2,454	2,574	2,454	3,436	2,454	3,230
Service Charges		5,366	6,856	6,585	5,650	7,265	7,000	7,400
Recycling/Waste Diversion		104,440	123,500	150,962	125,668	119,030	122,935	135,589
Capital Purchases		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out		198,038	0	126,002	67,697	148,037	72,556	64,022
Total Expenses		1,196,217	1,014,676	1,191,669	1,128,103	1,204,259	1,140,056	1,205,273
Balance		0	0	0	0	0	0	0