

April 14, 2025

Dear Business Owner,

Re: Blue Box Regulation Impacts to Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Properties (ICI)

We're writing to let you know about upcoming changes to recycling services that may affect your business. We also want your input on how we can best support you during this transition. Please read this letter and fill out a short survey to share your thoughts.

What's changing?

The Ontario government has introduced new legislation called the Blue Box Regulation (Ontario Regulation 391/21). As of April 1, 2024, the municipality no longer responsible for curbside recycling collection because of this change. Producers of recycling products are now responsible for the management of these products.

Starting **January 1, 2026**, recycling pickup will also stop for business and properties in the following categories:

- Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) properties
- Mixed-use properties (both residential and commercial)
- Non-profit organizations

Why Is This Happening?

ICI properties are not included in the new provincial regulation. The municipality is concerned about the impact this will have on small businesses and non-profits. We've shared these concerns with the Province, but we don't expect any changes to the regulation at this time.

Since collecting recycling from ICI properties is not required by law, and without the ability to combine it with residential collection, it would be very expensive for the municipality to offer the service on its own.

Important Notes:

- **These changes only apply to recycling.** Garbage collection will continue as usual.



- The clear bag program and the limits on how much recycling can go in the garbage will stay in place, even after ICI recycling stops.

We know this change may affect how your business manages its waste. Moving forward, each business will be responsible for arranging its own recycling collection. The municipality is exploring ways to help make this easier, including:

1. **Working with nearby municipalities** on a joint plan to collect and process recycling from ICI properties.
2. **Supporting a joint private collection contract** if there's enough interest from local businesses.
3. **Issuing a Request for Information (RFI)** to learn about companies that may offer private recycling services to businesses. We could then share that information with businesses that are interested.

We Want Your Feedback

To help us plan and understand your needs, please fill out our short survey by **May 1, 2025**. Click here to take the survey: <https://jumpinkawarthalakes.ca/blue-box-regulation-impacts-ici-properties> or scan the QR code below.

Your feedback will help shape future recycling solutions for local businesses. Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you. Should you have any questions please review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the Jump In page or email kpantaleo@kawarthalakes.ca

Sincerely,

Kayla Pantaleo

Regulatory Compliance Officer
Waste Management, City of Kawartha Lakes



CC:

City of Kawartha Lakes, Waste Management Advisory Committee
City of Kawartha Lakes, Manager of Waste Management
City of Kawartha Lakes, Director, Public Works
City of Kawartha Lakes, Economic Development Officer