



Fundy Region Waste Composition Study

Funded by the Environmental Trust Fund

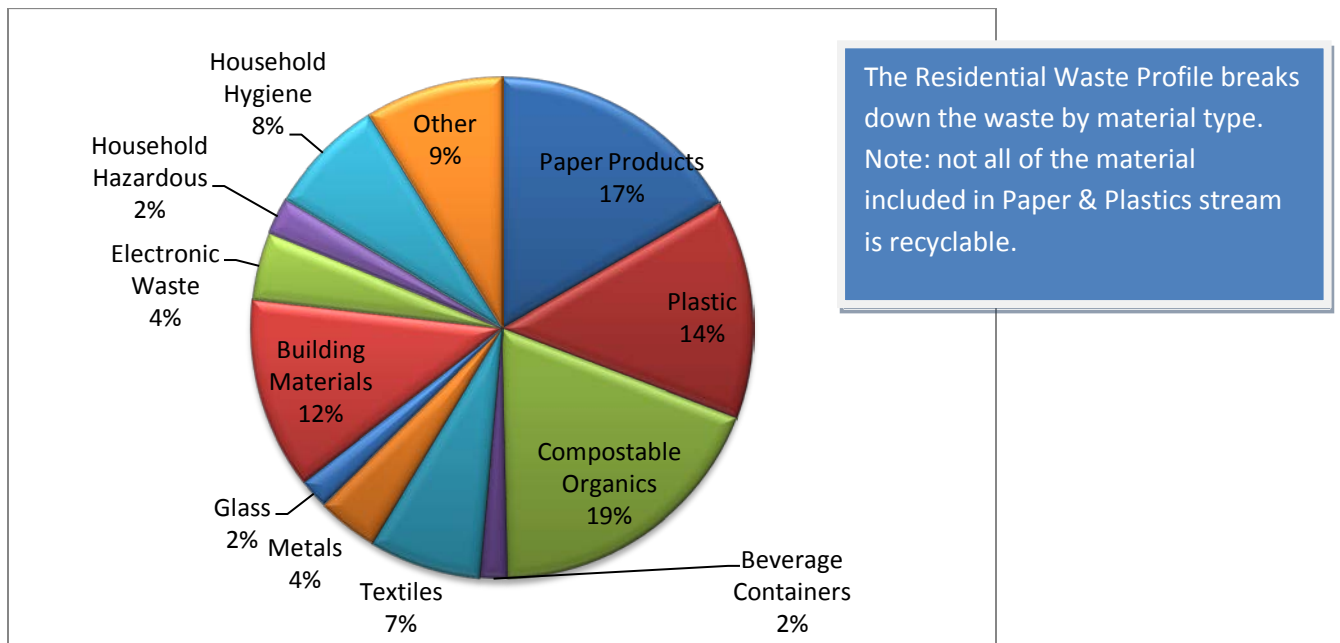
Conducted: November 3 - 14th 2014

Fundy Region Solid Waste hired AET Group Inc to conduct a waste composition study of the material entering Crane Mountain Landfill. The study, conducted over two weeks in November, looked at the composition of waste from four different waste generation sectors: Residential, Institutional Commercial and Industrial (ICI), Multi-family and the Public Drop off (or self-haul). 50 samples in total were collected, sorted and analysed.

Residential Waste Generation

To determine the waste profile of the residential waste, fifteen samples were randomly collected from each of the municipalities in the Fundy Region including: Saint John, Rothesay, Quispamsis, St Martins, Grand Bay-Westfield, Hampton & a Local Service District.

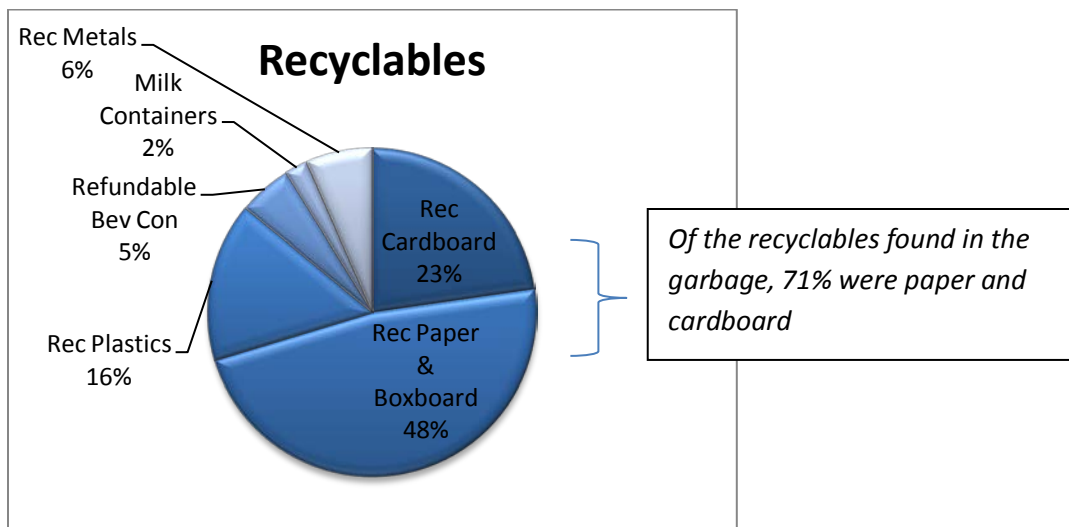
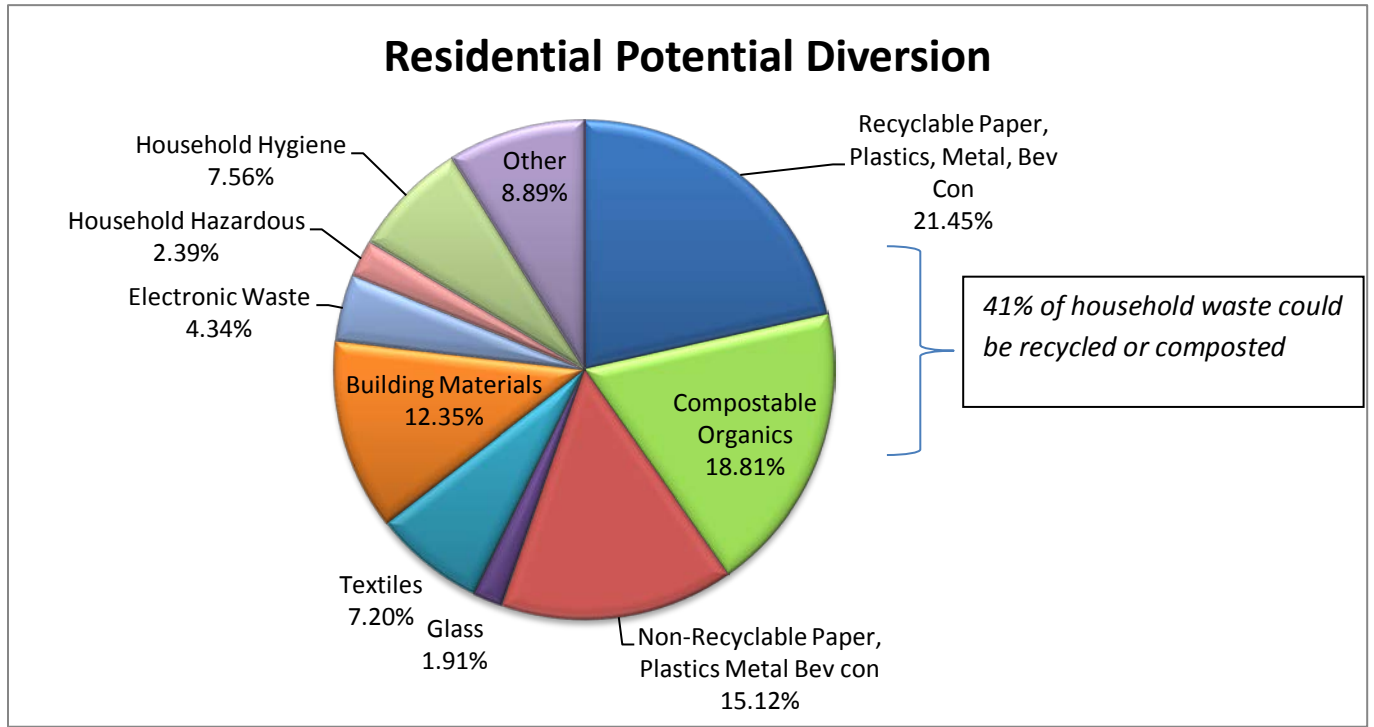
Overall Waste Profile for Residential Sector



Within the residential waste profile, Compostable Organics is the number one item found in the garbage, followed by Paper & Plastic materials.

While all of the organics in the garbage could be diverted through the compost program, and 90% of the paper & cardboard could be recycled, only 23% of the plastics are recyclable. Other plastic material such as toys, durable plastic products and mixed plastics which are not recyclable, make up the majority of the plastics.

Potential Additional Diversion - Residential Sector



Recycling found in residential garbage is equivalent to 4,660 tonnes per year. Compostable food and yard waste make up 19% or 3,910 tonnes per year still being tossed in the garbage.

	Fundy Region Program 2014	Waste Audit estimates /year	Potential Additional Savings to Municipalities
Recycling	Depots: 7,600 tonnes	Residential: 4,660 tonnes	@ \$108/tn = \$503,280
Compost	Green Carts: 7,800 tonnes	Residential: 3,910 tonnes	@ \$108 - \$28/tn = \$312,800

Leaf & Yard Waste

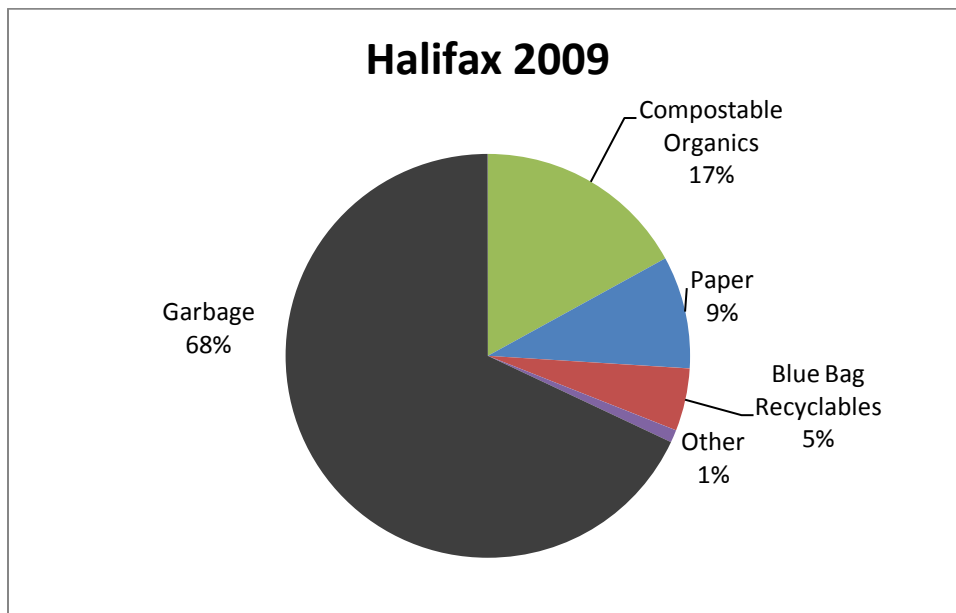
The waste audit suggests the Leaf & Yard Waste program is working. In 2012, Fundy Region Solid Waste imposed a restriction on leaf & yard waste entering the landfill. Garbage loads containing leaf & yard waste could be charged double the rate of garbage, \$216 /tonne.

Leaf & Yard Waste made up 2% of the overall residential waste. The audit was conducted during the first two weeks of November, a time when lots of leaves are being collected. The restriction is helping keep the leaves where they belong, in the compost or backyard composts.

Halifax

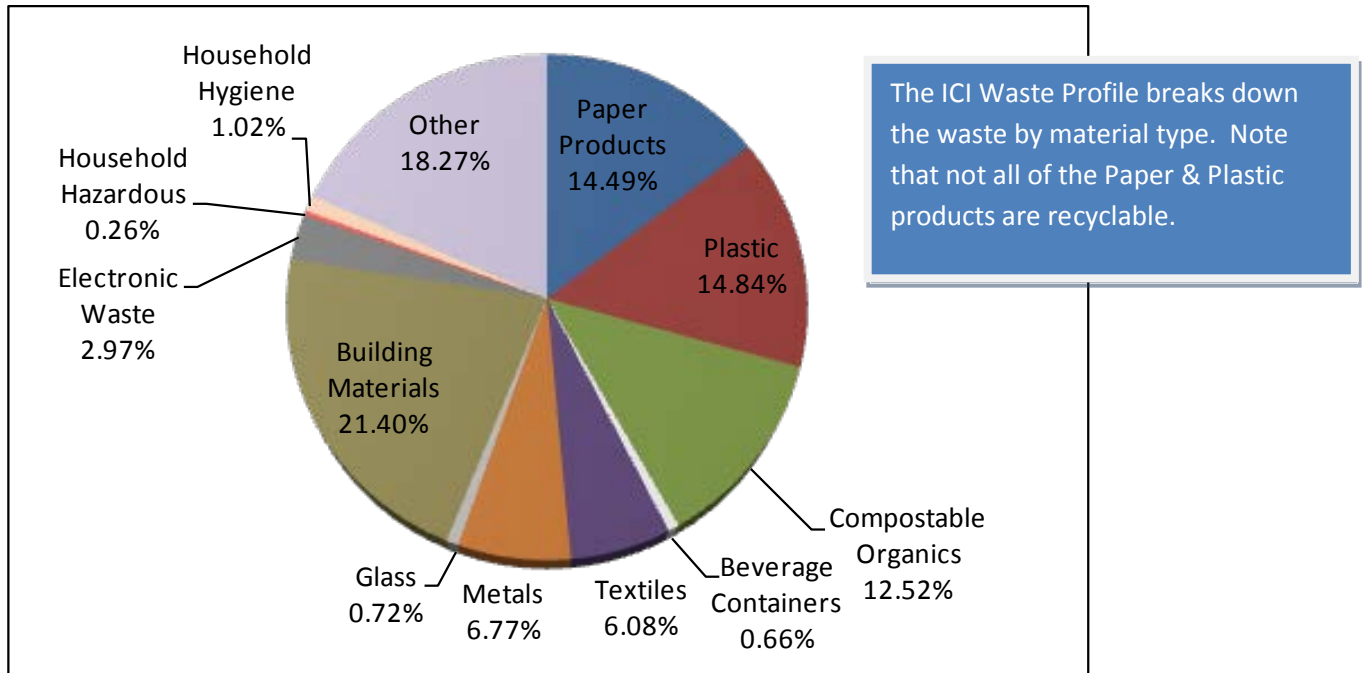
Looking outside the region to Halifax, where a waste composition study was completed in 2009; Fundy Region, in comparison, is performing fairly well considering we have voluntary programs and a recycling depot program.

Halifax offers curbside recycling and green cart collection. In 2009, they had a bag limit of 6 bags / 2 week collection as well as provincial restrictions on organics & recyclables in the landfill. With these programs and restrictions they have 17% compostable organics left in the garbage, compared to the Fundy Region’s 19%. The amount of paper still in the garbage in Halifax is 8% less than in Fundy, where we don’t have a curbside recycling program, or restrictions on the amount of garbage permitted at the curb.



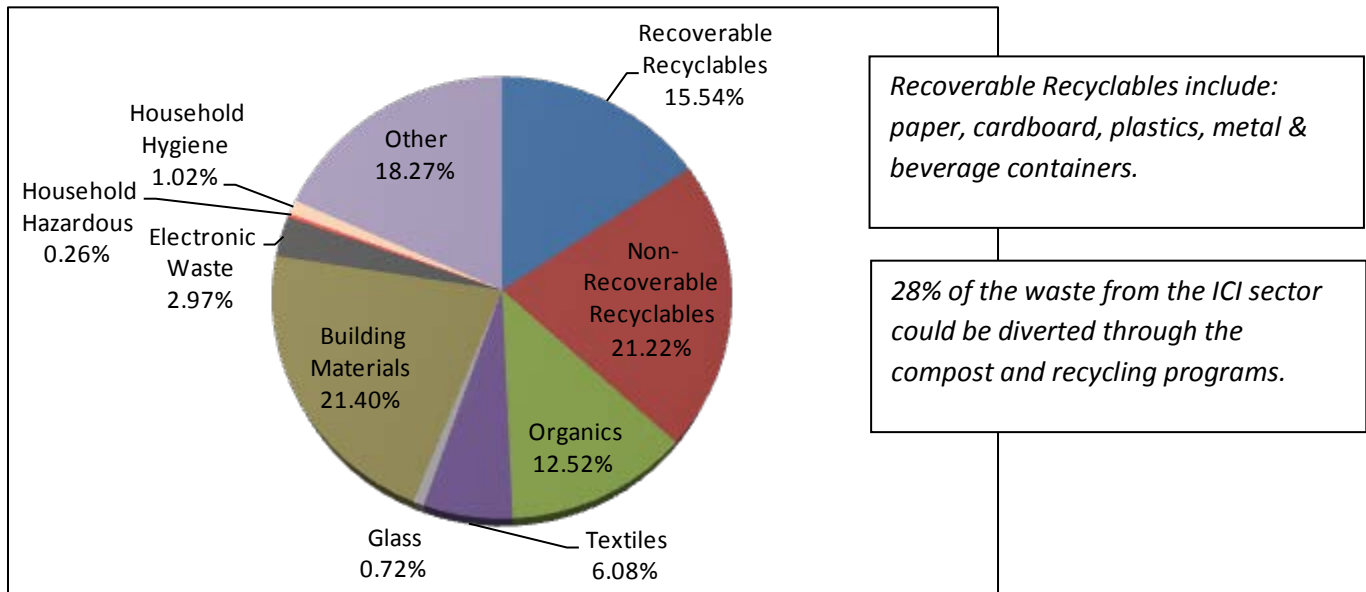
Industrial, Institutional and Commercial (ICI) Sector

Twenty-one loads of garbage from a variety of randomly selected businesses & industrial setting were sorted, weighed and analysed over the two-week waste audit.



Building Materials such as treated or painted wood, along with clean lumber and drywall, make up the majority of the ICI sector waste at 21%. Other waste which includes furniture, tires, and other rubber products is the second largest contributor at 18%.

Potential Diversion ICI



Overall Potential Addition Diversion

Combining all the waste entering Crane Mountain Landfill from all sectors, Residential, Industrial, Institutional & Commercial (ICI), Multi-family and the Drop-off or Self Haul sector 29% could be recycled or composted. That is equivalent to 10,248 tonnes of recyclables per year, and 9,053 tonnes of compostable organics per year.

