

Minutes – Public Liaison Committee Meeting

Date/Time	2026-JUN-15
Attendees	PLC Members: Frances Gilgunn, Katherine Ketis, Anna Hohenadel, Anton Lamers, Forrest Smith City Staff: Dan Turner (Environmental Management System Specialist), Heather Connell (Manager Technical Services, Solid Waste Resources), Steve Yessie (Waste Program Coordinator) Other: N/A Matt Weissmann, Mackenzie Nelson (Convertus)
Regrets	PLC Members: Jocelyn Phillips, Gordon Price Other: Joel Ruddy (Convertus) Jackie Lamport (Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks)
Location	Virtual (MS Teams)
Chair	Anton Lamers

Agenda Items

Item #	Description	Actions
1	7:04 PM Meeting opened by Vice Chair Lamers Land Acknowledgement – Read by Member Gilgun	
2	Approval of Previous Minutes Motion – Member Lamers, Seconded – Member Smith, motion passed	
3	Operations Update Dan Turner provided a presentation on the WRIC site operations, including: • Tonnage reviewed • Members asked about the difference in incoming tonnage to OWPF vs. outbound compost. City indicated this is due to moisture loss • Asked if there are other water streams discharged. City noted facility is net water user. There are some sanitary discharges but mostly water is retained and used in composting process. • Asked if compost rate is good compared to industry. Convertus noted it is right on par with others.	

Item #	Description	Actions
4	Organic Waste Processing Facility Future Operation Council Report. Heather Connell provided an overview of report sent to council. https://pub-guelph.escrimemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=74451 Member asked about what third party processors are considered. City noted there are other, existing organics facilities, including those that use anaerobic digestion. Also exploring if there is business interest in doing something different at the WRIC. Member Smith – there is a big difference in tonnage between what Guelph produces (approximately 10,000 tonnes) and what the facility is designed for (nominally 30,000 tonnes) City – yes, also open to interest in contracts that consider guaranteed tonnage, either using ours or bringing in from elsewhere. Member Ketis – seems like a tight timeline for an important decision. City – Yes. Currently going through the series of tasks needed and reporting to council. Member Ketis - Are we considering making the facility bigger? City - No decision on that yet. Would be dependent on interest of the market. At this stage we are only doing an expression of interest. Member Ketis - Will residents get input into what happens City – this has not been built into the schedule yet. PLC is part of the community input. Also the Planning, Environment, Water Advisory Committee is also used for public input. Can also take this suggestion back and see if there is other opportunity. Member Smith - How much did new SCADA system cost? City - approximately \$2M	

5	Guelph Waste Disposal Performance Measurement, Audits, Education and Outreach. Steve Yessie provided a presentation on: • Overview of current data gathering and education campaigns • Discussion on Guelph waste metrics and messaging Member Hohenadel – are the audit locations randomized or are people informed? City – we do not notify people we are auditing. We make purpose available if people ask but we do not want to influence habits. Neighbourhoods are also diversified. Also have curbside inspection program 2017-2024 (no budget in 2025) which is also varied across City of Guelph. Member Smith – Multi-residential is mixed from several locations. Why? City – multi residential waste is mixed because we are trying to get something representative of all multi-residential waste, not individual buildings. Also there is too much material in a load so we mix and then take a sub sample. Member Gilgun – Bins located at parks are used for pet waste. Does that go into landfill? City - Yes anything in a garbage bin goes to landfill Member Gilgun – see most people walking dogs without compostable bags so education on that is important Member Lamers – How much is all that worth? The cost difference between material locations. City – An informal look at historical numbers shows roughly \$600k per year in landfill tip fees from improperly sorted waste. Note however that composting can be more expensive than landfill so there are more things to consider than just cost such as policy and environmental requirements. Also note that recycling in the grey carts is a tax payer cost to landfill that material but properly sorting to blue cart saves tax dollars as that is now a producer-responsible system. Member Smith- clear bags is a requirement but stores still sell black bags. Hard to force a change but is there a way to encourage it? City – we have been looking at getting into stores to try and have a presence to encourage selling clear bags only but can be difficult to get permission from large chains. Member Hohenadel – Cat waste is acceptable in green but are there any restraints on litter type? City – no restrictions Member Hohenadel – there are tubes in parks for dog waste. Where does that go? City - Not run by SWR but can get in touch with parks/energy	
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Item #	Description	Actions
	Regarding the Environmental Sustainability Reports: Member Smith - Message that jumps out is that Guelph is doing better than Ontario and Canada and there is no need for improvement. City – Methodology changed on per person calculations. Is it useful to measure per person waste and compare it to the province and country when those numbers may not be an apples to apples comparison? We also hear sometimes that people feel waste diversion is hopeless. So is it important to give some hope with a metric that shows we are doing well? Members - Not sure it is a valid comparison anyway. Can be helpful if there is a corresponding strong message. Guelph was a leader but now waste management methods are common across the board. Maybe interesting to compare to neighbours like Kitchener/Waterloo etc. or others that are a similar size. City - We are part of working group discussing continued data sharing but with the changes to Blue Box it is not regulatory required anymore. Members - Change main metric so that message is more motivating. Pick out specific messaging for specific waste stream. The single greatest thing you could do to improve. Could analyze various waste streams and opportunities for improvement in contamination. Also recommend 3-5 years of trend lines over time in each report. Consider showing cost in dollars of improper disposal and messaging about methane generation of organics improperly disposed in the grey carts	
6	8:50 Adjournment Motion - Member Lamers Second – Member Smith Motion passed	

Attachments:

1. Operations Update

Operations Update - Public Liaison Committee (PLC) Meeting – June 15, 2026

Waste Quantities

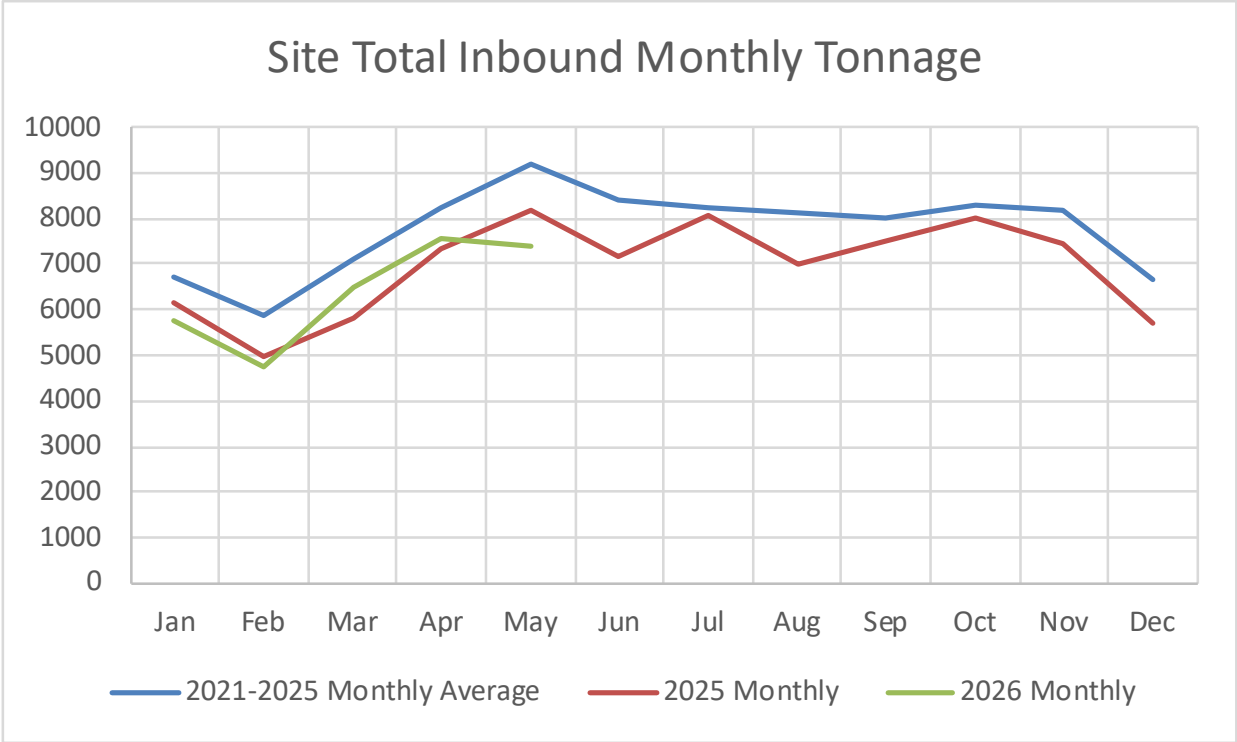
Site Total Inbound

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the site received **31,937** tonnes of material, as shown below. Reduced tonnage is attributed to the Blue Box transition.

Table 1 - Site Total Inbound Monthly Tonnage

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	6693	5746	6693	5746
Feb	5889	4727	12581	10473
Mar	7122	6519	19704	16992
Apr	8247	7547	27950	24539
May	9175	7398	37126	31937
Jun	8378	-	45504	-
Jul	8225	-	53729	-
Aug	8118	-	61847	-
Sep	8022	-	69869	-
Oct	8284	-	78153	-
Nov	8168	-	86320	-
Dec	6640	-	92961	-
Monthly Average	7747	6387	-	-
Total YTD	92961	31937	-	-

Figure 1 – Site Total Inbound Monthly Tonnage



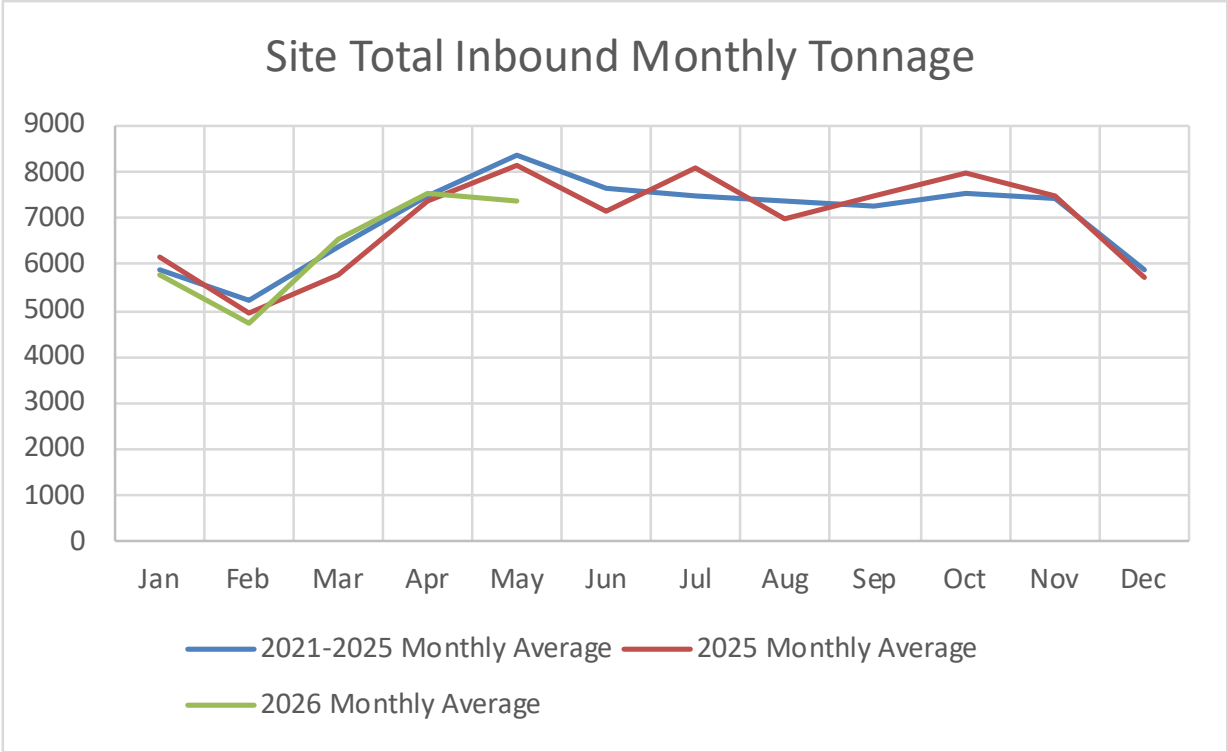
Site Total Inbound – Less Material Recovery Facility

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the site received **31,937** tonnes of material, as shown below. This is compared to historical data excluding the inbound material to the Material Recovery Facility, since it no longer operates as of the January 1, 2025 Blue Box transition.

Table 2 - Site Total Inbound Monthly Tonnage Less MRF

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	5910	5746	5910	5746
Feb	5235	4727	11145	10473
Mar	6376	6519	17521	16992
Apr	7499	7547	25020	24539
May	8380	7398	33400	31937
Jun	7649	-	41049	-
Jul	7490	-	48539	-
Aug	7372	-	55911	-
Sep	7277	-	63188	-
Oct	7550	-	70738	-
Nov	7400	-	78138	-
Dec	5863	-	84001	-
Monthly Average	7000	6387	-	-
Total YTD	84001	31937	-	-

Figure 2 – Site Total Inbound Monthly Tonnage Less MRF



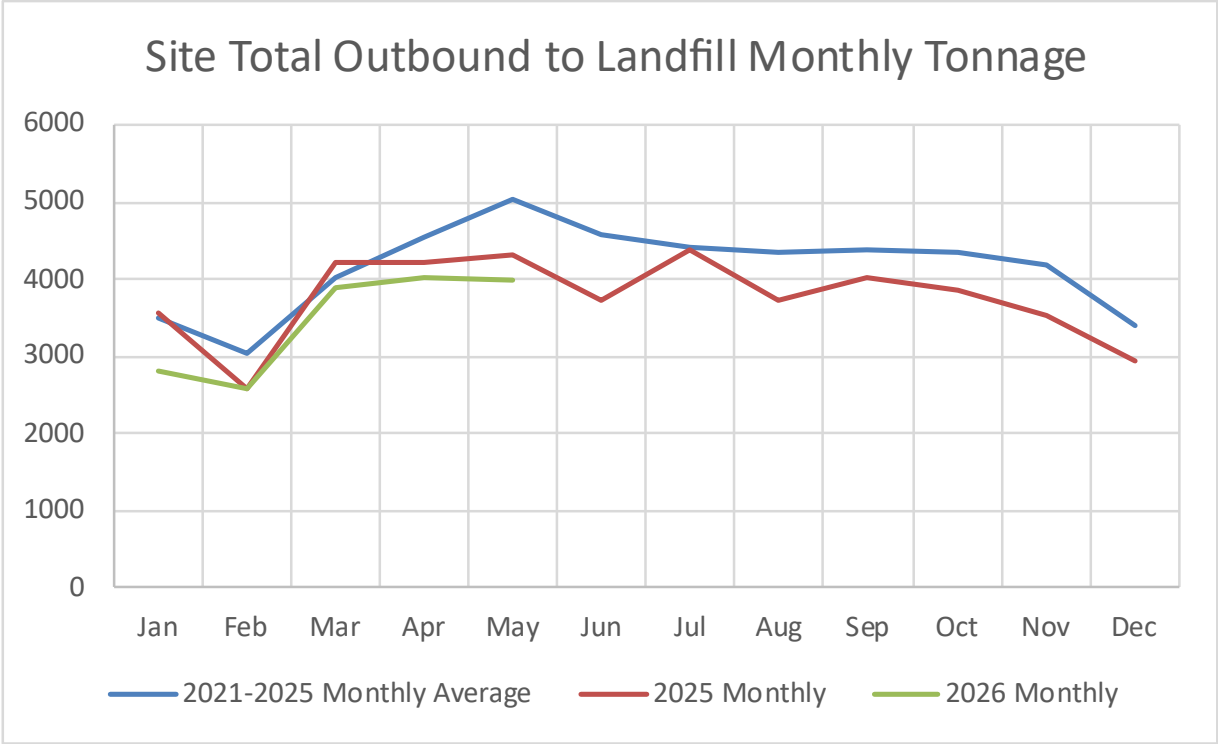
Site Total Outbound to Landfill

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the site has shipped **17,308** tonnes of waste to landfill, as shown below.

Table 3 - Site Total Outbound to Landfill

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	3492	2809	3492	2809
Feb	3033	2587	6525	5396
Mar	4030	3887	10555	9282
Apr	4557	4026	15112	13309
May	5035	4000	20147	17308
Jun	4586	-	24733	-
Jul	4403	-	29135	-
Aug	4333	-	33469	-
Sep	4385	-	37854	-
Oct	4347	-	42200	-
Nov	4173	-	46373	-
Dec	3409	-	49782	-
Monthly Average	4148	3462	-	-
Total YTD	49782	17308	-	-

Figure 3 – Site Total Outbound to Landfill Monthly Tonnage



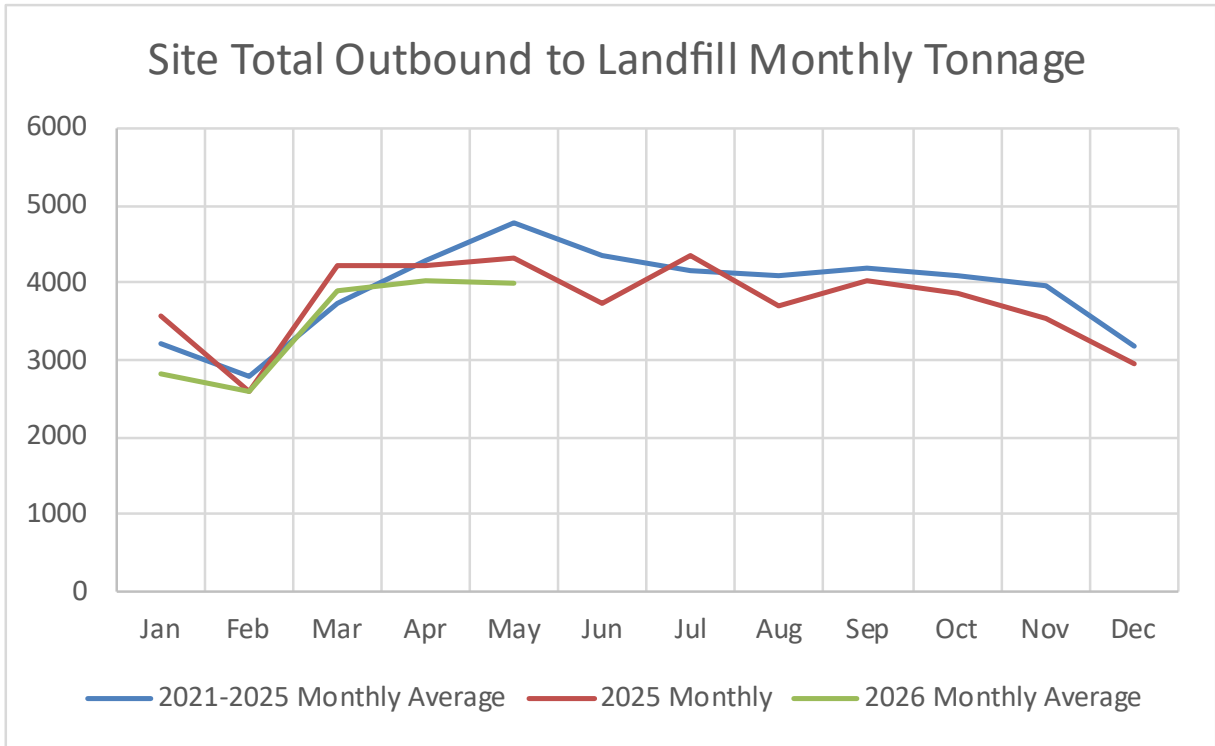
Site Total Outbound to Landfill – Less Material Recovery Facility

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the site has shipped **17,308** tonnes of waste to landfill, as shown below.

Table 4 - Site Total Outbound to Landfill Less MRF

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	3212	2809	3212	2809
Feb	2780	2587	5992	5396
Mar	3742	3887	9734	9282
Apr	4292	4026	14027	13309
May	4784	4000	18811	17308
Jun	4362	-	23172	-
Jul	4170	-	27342	-
Aug	4099	-	31441	-
Sep	4182	-	35623	-
Oct	4099	-	39723	-
Nov	3956	-	43679	-
Dec	3166	-	46845	-
Monthly Average	3904	3462	-	-
Total YTD	46845	17308	-	-

Figure 4 – Site Total Outbound to Landfill Monthly Tonnage Less MRF



Organic Waste Processing Facility

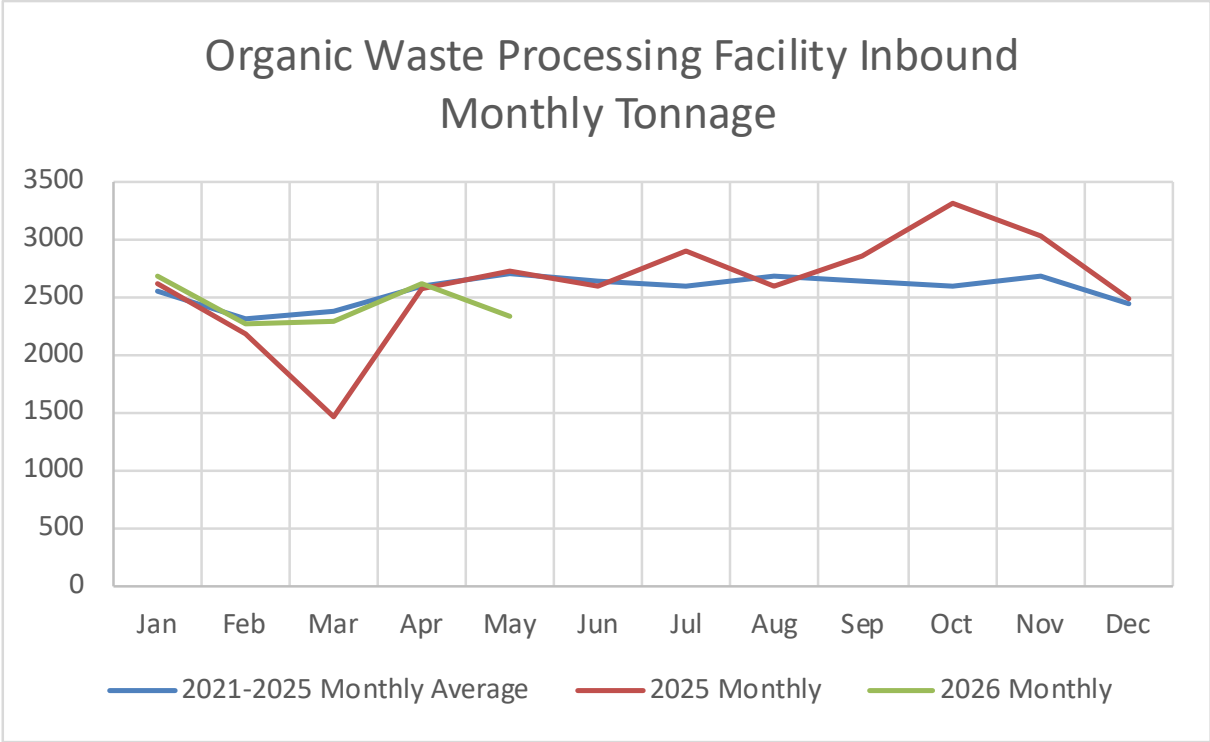
Inbound

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the organic waste processing facility (OWPF) processed **12,183** tonnes of combined Source Separated Organics (SSO) and amendment as shown below. The OWPF has been operating, taking waste from the City of Guelph and the Region of Waterloo in this timeframe.

Table 5 - Organic Waste Processing Facility Total Inbound Tonnage

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	2552	2671	2552	2671
Feb	2299	2273	4851	4944
Mar	2372	2281	7223	7225
Apr	2590	2621	9813	9845
May	2692	2338	12504	12183
Jun	2643	-	15148	-
Jul	2593	-	17741	-
Aug	2672	-	20413	-
Sep	2625	-	23038	-
Oct	2598	-	25637	-
Nov	2678	-	28315	-
Dec	2432	-	30746	-
Monthly Average	2562	2437	-	-
Total YTD	30746	12183	-	-

Figure 5 - OWPF Inbound Monthly Tonnage



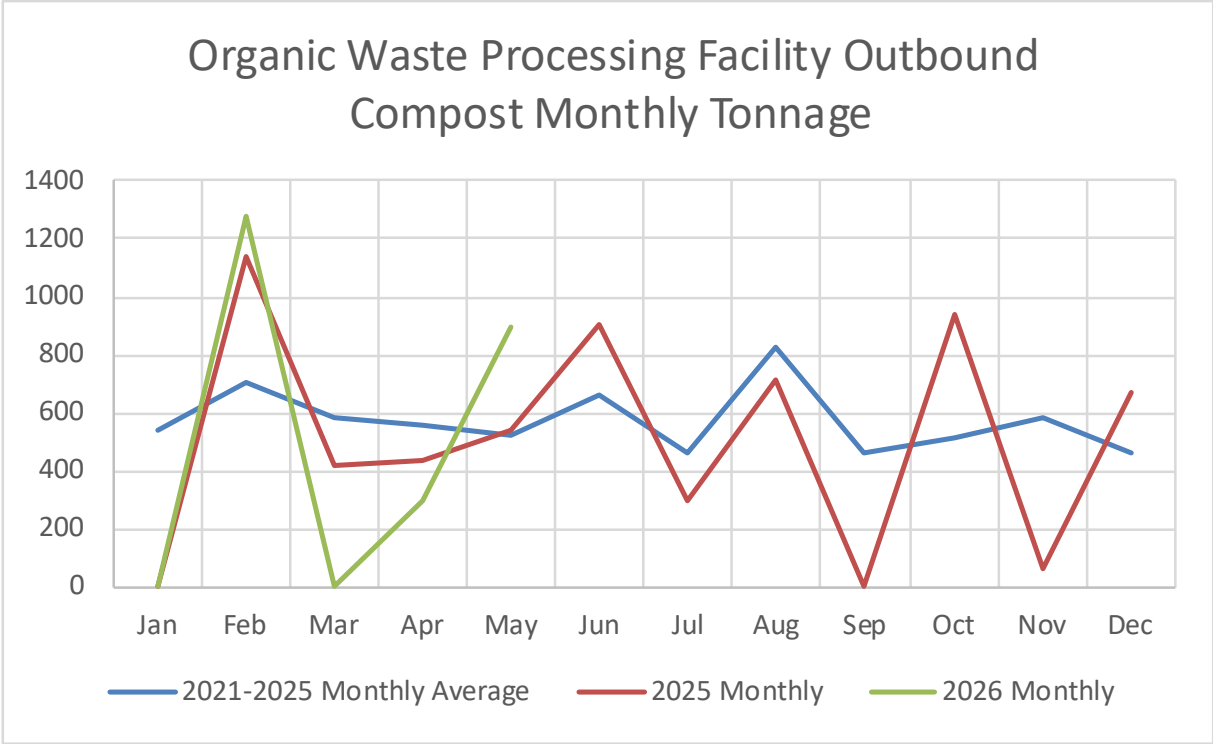
Outbound

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the OWPF has shipped **2,466** tonnes of compost as shown below.

Table 6 - Organic Waste Processing Facility Outbound Compost Monthly Tonnage

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	537	0	537	0
Feb	701	1275	1238	1275
Mar	581	0	1818	1275
Apr	562	297	2380	1572
May	523	895	2903	2466
Jun	663	-	3566	-
Jul	465	-	4031	-
Aug	828	-	4859	-
Sep	460	-	5319	-
Oct	517	-	5836	-
Nov	579	-	6415	-
Dec	463	-	6878	-
Monthly Average	573	493	-	-
Total YTD	6878.2	2466	-	-
Percent of Incoming	22.37%	20.24%	-	-

Figure 6 - OWPF Outbound Compost Monthly Tonnage



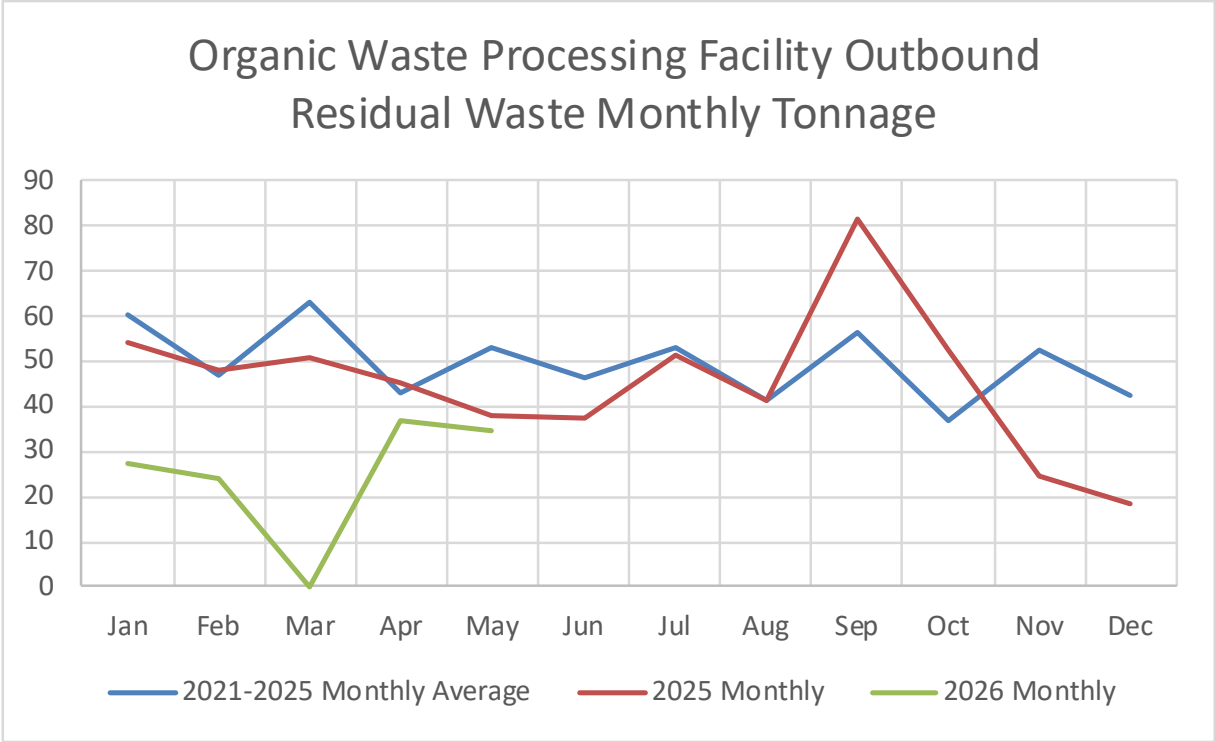
Residual Waste

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the OWPF has removed **122** tonnes of residual waste (screening material) as shown below.

Table 7 - Organic Waste Processing Facility Residual Waste Monthly Tonnage

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	60	27	60	27
Feb	47	24	107	51
Mar	63	0	170	51
Apr	43	37	213	88
May	53	35	266	122
Jun	47	-	313	-
Jul	53	-	366	-
Aug	41	-	407	-
Sep	56	-	463	-
Oct	37	-	500	-
Nov	52	-	552	-
Dec	43	-	595	-
Monthly Average	50	24	-	-
Total YTD	595	122	-	-
Percent of Incoming	1.93%	1.01%	-	-

Figure 7 - OWPF Residual Waste Monthly Tonnage



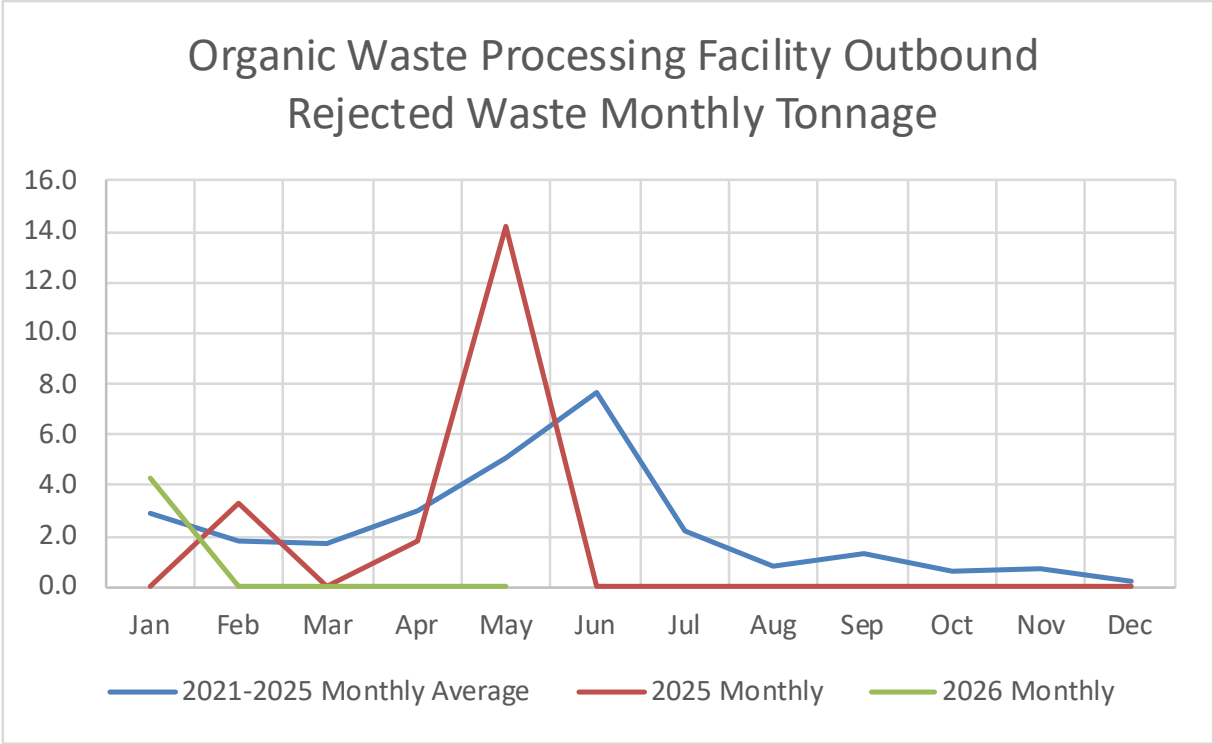
Rejected Waste

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the OWPF has rejected **4.28** tonnes of waste (due to contamination with blue box material) as shown below.

Table 8 - Organic Waste Processing Facility Rejected Waste Monthly Tonnage

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	2.9	4.28	2.9	4.3
Feb	1.8	0	4.7	4.3
Mar	1.7	0	6.4	4.3
Apr	3.0	0	9.4	4.3
May	5.1	0	14.5	4.3
Jun	7.7	-	22.1	-
Jul	2.2	-	24.3	-
Aug	0.8	-	25.1	-
Sep	1.3	-	26.4	-
Oct	0.6	-	27.1	-
Nov	0.7	-	27.8	-
Dec	0.3	-	28.0	-
Monthly Average	2	1	-	-
Total YTD	28	4.28	-	-
Percent of Incoming	0.09%	0.04%		

Figure 8 - OWPF Rejected Monthly Tonnage



Public Drop Off

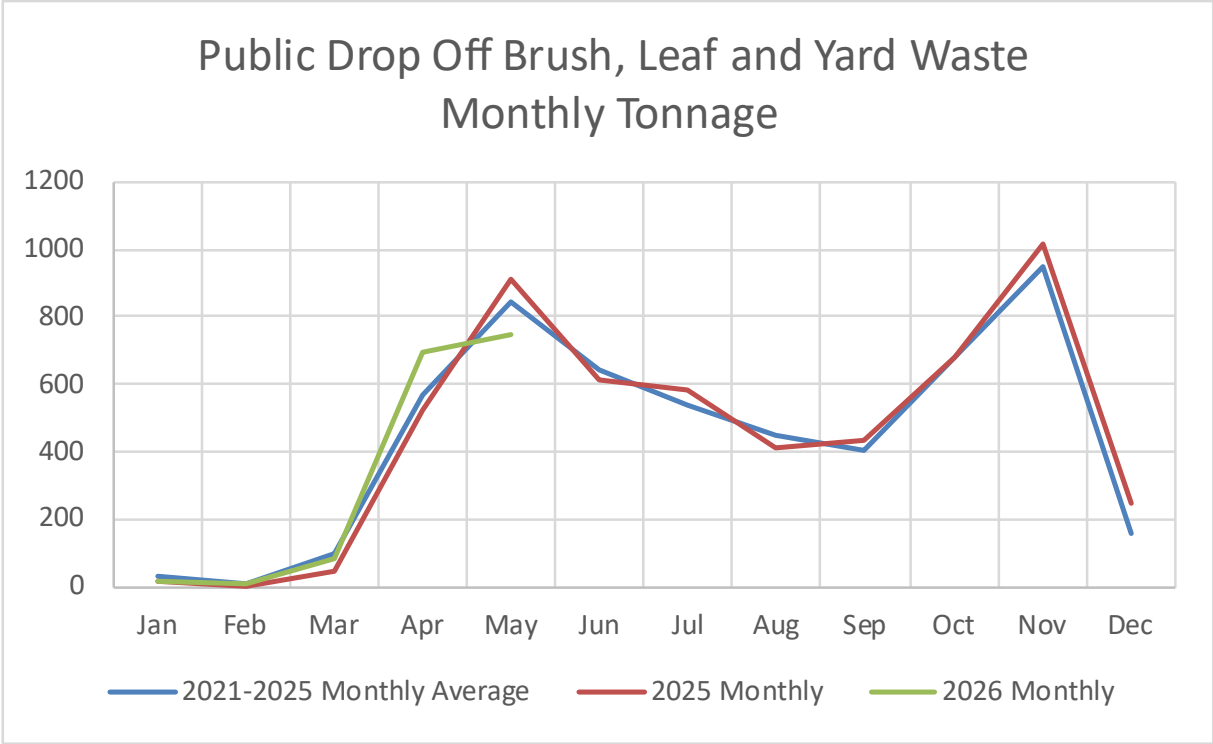
PDO Brush, Leaf and Yard Waste

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the Public Drop Off (PDO) has shipped **1,559** tonnes of brush, leaf and yard waste, as shown below.

Table 9 - Public Drop Off Brush, Leaf and Yard Waste Monthly Tonnage

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	29	18	29	18
Feb	9	12	38	30
Mar	99	87	137	117
Apr	567	696	704	813
May	842	746	1546	1559
Jun	644	-	2190	-
Jul	535	-	2725	-
Aug	450	-	3175	-
Sep	407	-	3582	-
Oct	678	-	4261	-
Nov	947	-	5207	-
Dec	155	-	5362	-
Monthly Average	447	312	-	-
Total YTD	5362	1559	-	-

Figure 9 – PDO Brush, Leaf and Yard Waste Monthly Tonnage



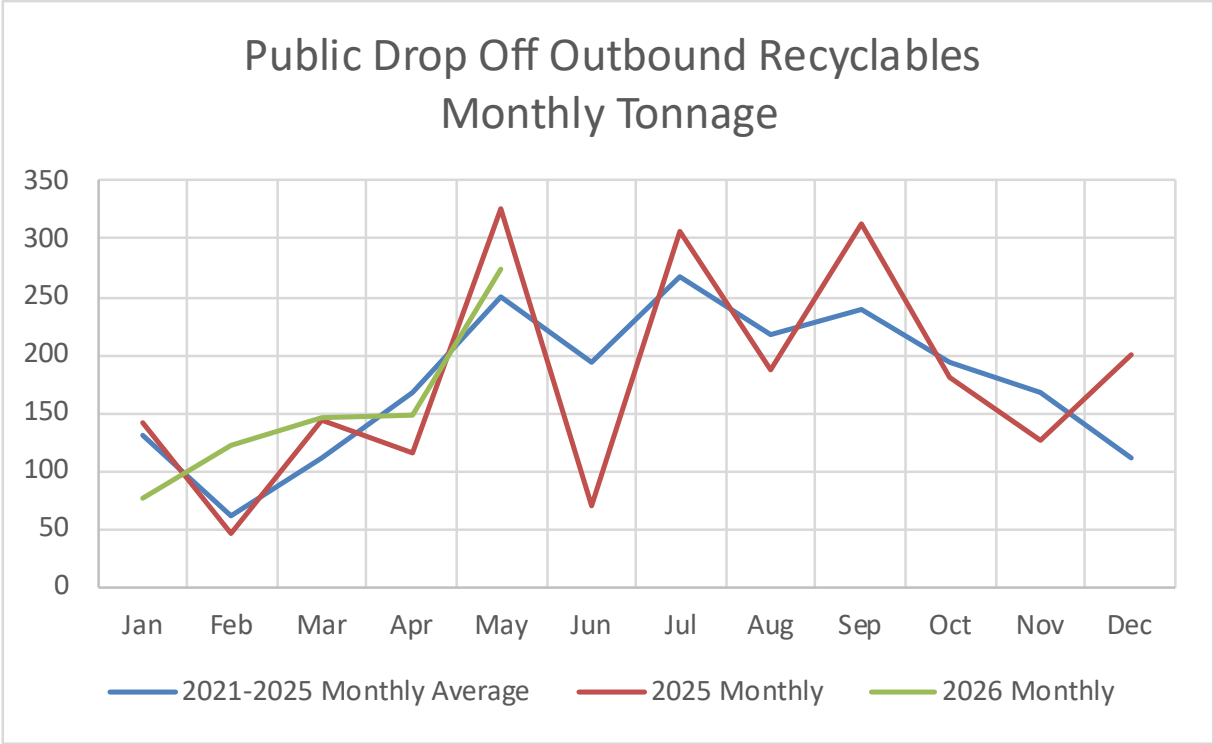
PDO Outbound Recyclables

From **January 1 to May 31, 2026**, the PDO has shipped **766** tonnes of recyclables directly to end markets, as shown below.

Table 10 - Public Drop Off Outbound Recyclables Monthly Tonnage

Month	2021-2025 Monthly Average	2026 Monthly	2021-2025 Average Annual Cumulative	2026 Cumulative
Jan	132	76	132	76
Feb	61	121	193	197
Mar	111	146	304	344
Apr	167	149	471	493
May	249	274	721	766
Jun	193	-	914	-
Jul	268	-	1182	-
Aug	217	-	1399	-
Sep	240	-	1639	-
Oct	194	-	1833	-
Nov	167	-	2001	-
Dec	111	-	2112	-
Monthly Average	176	153	-	-
Total YTD	2112	766	-	-

Figure 10 – PDO Outbound Recyclables Monthly Tonnage



Environmental

Spills on site

SAC Ref. #	Date	Description
1-QTAMF	June 9, 2026	Hydraulic line failure on loader pushing down bins at PDO. Approximately 2 litres to asphalt contained and cleaned.

Complaints

A year-to-date summary of complaints received is provided below.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOT
Max.	1	1	12	9	15	11	18	14	7	2	10	3	53
Med.	0	0	0	1	1	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	17
2024	1	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	2	1	2	0	11
2025	0	0	2	0	0	0	7	4	2	0	0	0	15
2026	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Projects Update

Material Recovery Facility

The Materials Recovery Facility will be repurposed and used post blue box transition. Removal of unneeded equipment is underway.

Administration Building

Some minor alterations to the admin building have been recently completed. Further alterations in staff areas are in design.

ECA for Downtown

The City has applied to amend its Waste Management System Environmental Compliance Approval for the downtown communal collection locations to include the existing temporary sites and new, permanent sites that are being installed within the streetscape re-construction.

OWPF SCADA Replacement

The Supervisor Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system at the Organic Waste Processing Facility is being replaced with a modern system. Installation is complete and transition/commissioning began in May 2026 and is scheduled for completion in June 2026.

Annual Report

The Waste Resource Innovation Centre Annual Report was submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks on March 31, 2026.

Site Boundary ECA Amendment

As a result of the Guelph Transit and Fleet Services facility in development on the undeveloped portion of the property to the south, the City has applied to amend the Waste Resource Innovation Centre ECA to change the definition of the site boundary to exclude the new facility lands to the south. This area is not used for waste management purposes. The application was submitted May 2026.