

## Memorandum

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**To:** Operations Committee  
**From:** Heidi Jennen, Supervisor of Environmental Services  
**Date:** November 21, 2024  
**Subject:** Changes to Corrugated Cardboard Collection

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In July 2023, Circular Materials assumed responsibility for managing residential recycling in Owen Sound, as part of a gradual transition across the Province to shift recycling management from municipalities to the Producers on January 1, 2026.

As part of this transition, the City entered into an agreement with Circular Materials Ontario (CMO) to maintain certain responsibilities. One of these responsibilities includes continuing to show recycling collection dates on the waste calendar until December 31, 2025. After this date, Circular Materials will manage recycling information, and the City will no longer be required to include this information on its waste calendar.

One change Circular Material has noted is that all recycling, including corrugated cardboard, will be collected on the same day as the regular blue box pick-up. Currently, corrugated cardboard is collected once a month on a Monday, with the schedule occasionally disrupted by holidays when garbage collection takes place instead. Residents must consult the waste calendar to determine their cardboard collection day.

Staff are finalizing the 2025 waste calendar. During the review process with Miller Waste, they suggested implementing bi-weekly corrugated cardboard collection on the same day as regular residential curbside recycling collection starting January 1, 2025, rather than waiting until 2026. This change does not require Committee or Council approval and is being shared as an informational update only.

This update will be noted on the 2025 waste management calendar, and a Media Release will be issued within the next couple of weeks. This improvement will be well-received by the residents of Owen Sound, as it enhances service levels without additional costs to the City and eliminates the need for residents to track specific Mondays for corrugated cardboard collection.

Heidi Jennen  
Supervisor of Environmental Services