

RECEIVED VIA EMAIL

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

Hello Mr. Fletcher:

Thank you for your email response.

Currently, I am a volunteer, and lead person on the issue of sups, in the newly formed organization Climate Change Action Team (tentative name) in Thornbury, chaired by Diana Dolmer.

Hope that the following info. will be useful, and help delve deeper into the "archaeological trash pit of unwanted plastic" in the Clarksbury Landfill.

The following is a list of answers to your questions:

(info. sources are referenced):

1. Define SUPs: single use plastic or disposable are: used 1X and trashed or recycled such as: plastic bags, straws, coffee stirrers, soda/water bottles, most food packaging, black plastic, polystyrene (styrofoam), plastic cutlery, take out containers.

2. Understand the town does not have budget for the sup issue, other than a direction to staff by the Mayor and council to investigate ways to implement the approved motion to Reduce/eliminate sups, as per Deputy Mayor, Odette Bartinicki. the sustainable committee is entrusted with this task

3. To what extent are sups in the Clarksburg landfill a %:

- info. is based on a national average:

1.) 9% of all plastic produced is recycled

2.) most ends up in: landfill, some incinerated, some in unmanaged dumps

3.) In Ontario 3/4 of plastic packing goes to the landfill

- for more detailed statistics goggle:

The Globe & Mail article: "Canada's planned SUP Ban; what we know so far & what we can do".

Environmental Defense Canada: "Protect Ontario's land & Water from Plastic Pollution.

4. Define the issue:

- accumulation in landfill is increasing with:

detrimental environmental effects

financial expenses on Waste Mgt. budgets,

- most plastics leach toxic chemicals into the landfill, that must be contained

5. What Needs to be Captured:

- non recyclable sups without triangle #'s such as:

1.) food containers, coffee cup creamers, coffee stirrers, takeout food containers

Plastic shopping bags, food packaging (Ziploc-type bags), bread bags, plastic liners from cereal boxes (do not include if tears like paper), produce bags, dry cleaning bags (remove: staples, receipts, hangars), product wrapping (such as covers a case of water bottles, etc.), bubble wrap and air pillows (popped), plastic shipping envelopes (labels removed), frozen food bags, cereal box liners that tear like paper, biodegradable bags, pre-washed salad bags, candy bar wrappers, chip bags, six pack rings, black plastic nursery plant containers (currently only Canadian Tire Nursery will accept any container from any other Nursery)

(reference: [solutions.recyclecoach.com-all-you-need-to-know-about-plastic-bags](https://solutions.recyclecoach.com/all-you-need-to-know-about-plastic-bags))

- Why: plastic recycling is a limited method to reduce the plastic glut in landfills:

- not all plastic is: reusable, recyclable, dirty, or broken down easily at the recycling collection and recycling facility.

- the triangle numbers identify the plastic used to help recycling facility to sort

- a reference guide to identify triangle numbers, safety, alternative solutions see: [learn.eartheasy.com-plastic-by-the-numbers](https://learn.eartheasy.com/plastic-by-the-numbers)

6. Achievable Goals:

1.) the ultimate long term goal: ENSURE 100 PER CENT OF SUPS ARE CAPTURED 85% RECYCLED

(reference: Environmental Defense Canada: Protect Ontario's land water from plastic pollution)

2.) short term goal:

- find a way to capture the current TMT waste management sups, as listed above

- (this would remove a substantial amount of unnecessary waste)

7. How to Achieve Short-term Goal:

1.) - edit the current Waste Resource 2019 Guide to:

- clarify more specifically the #'s 1-other recycling items, not make clear in the diagram (containers are identified as e.g. margarine, salad dressing, squeeze bottles etc.)

- should include the blue box collection sups listed above

- include alternatives to AVOID THE USE OF PLASTICS MARKED Triangles 1-other as outlined in [eartheasy website](https://www.eartheasy.com/)

- emphasize: the plastic reduction motto/mantra: refuse, reuse, recycle, repurpose, find alternatives to plastic

2.) - hold townhall waste mgt education to increase public awareness of this critical problem (see recyclecoach.com) or enlist a local volunteer group such as ours and/or others more qualified.

3.) encourage, provide incentives for local businesses to reduce their use of sups:

- our Action Team sup volunteers (me) have already been surveying, canvassing, helping local business to do same

- a city council incentive: seal of excellence as a model environ. friendly business, indicated by a decal or an award, with media coverage (locally & regionally). This in turn could be used by the business to create more business by advertising such

4.) listing local businesses/food chains that accept currently non recyclable material such as plastic bags, and sell substitutes for sups such as: Foodland, Thornbury - Bags for Life, The Refillery, in Thornbury,

- currently researching this in more detail. Can cc a completed list

Hope this is useful to assist/decipher a complex problem with simple solutions.

Would look forward to meeting with you personally.

Would be willing to be available to assist you in this matter, on behalf of Climate Change Action Team, and perhaps do more research into the finer details such as: how successful is the recapture facility in Orillia in actually sorting/sending recyclables to the recycling facility in Hamilton.

Would be interesting to investigate.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Carry On the Good WORK,

Stella Juhasz, Single Use Plastic Committee, Lead, (Thornbury Climate Change Action Team)

P.;S.: other interesting solutions to investigate:

-the use of the ultimate recycling of problem plastics:

incineration (best example model is Stockholm in Sweden)

recapture methane gas from the landfill to use for fuel, heating (see models in Hungary)