CONSTRUCTION DRYWALL WASTE: A THREAT TO OUR LANDFILL SITE?

CLIMATE ACTION NOW NETWORK
ROSEMARY GOSSELIN, BARRY TATCHELL, PETE RUSSELL
NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION WASTE
DRYWALL OVERVIEW

• Construction and Demolition waste has been a serious issue for many years, and landfilling is clearly not sustainable.

• Approx. 12% of new home construction drywall is wasted.

• This equates to 460,000 lbs. in ytd Sept. in TBM.

• Drywall consists of the mineral gypsum (hydrated calcium sulfate) and paper.

• Hydrogen sulfide gas is produced when drywall is landfilled.

• We also know that sulfates from wet gypsum will dissolve and contribute to toxic leachate.
WHAT CAN BE DONE??

• New drywall is 100% recyclable.

• Paper is separated and sent to paper recycling companies.

• Gypsum is crushed and sent to drywall manufacturers.

• New West Recycling, located in Oakville recycle drywall. Website www.nwgypsum.com.

• Only clean segregated drywall should be accepted for recycle.
GREY COUNTY OVERVIEW

• Three of the nine municipalities in Grey recycle their new construction drywall waste through New West Recycle.
• Grey Highlands, Southgate, & Hanover.
• New West Recycling in Oakville recycles 100% of this waste.
• Meaford and Owen Sound contract Miller Waste to send drywall waste to landfill.
• West Grey/Durham not currently recycling.
SUMMARY

• There is a wide variance within Grey County how drywall waste is dealt with.

• Opportunity to reduce drywall waste going to landfill in many Grey municipalities.

• Efficiencies can be gained by working with other municipalities.

• Current practice of landfilling drywall in Town of Blue Mountains is clearly not sustainable.

• The Town of Blue Mountains needs to take action now and become better stewards of our land.

1- REDUCE

2- REUSE

3- RECYCLE