

Environmental Stewardship Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee

Final Report February 2022





*Saugeen River Range Lighthouse (foreground) Chantry Island Lighthouse (background)
Photo by Catherine Tolton*

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Monarch Butterfly Photo by Neil Menage

Executive Summary

In Canada last summer and fall, we watched the devastating impact on fellow Canadians, the natural environment, regional landscapes, infrastructure and our economies caused by deadly heat domes, forest fires and floods. The vast majority of scientists agree that these events are more frequent and more extreme because of Climate Change.

The Environmental Stewardship Ad Hoc Advisory Committee first met in April 2021, tasked with assessing our existing environmental sustainability policies, and making recommendations for improvements and new initiatives. Even before the events of September 7th, we agreed that creating recommendations to address Climate Change would be one of our priorities, but our committee also identified other and often related priorities: protecting natural assets like our waterfront, trees and wildlife and strategies to reduce waste. Feedback from the 535 residents who responded to our survey informs our Final Report for presentation to Council in February 2022. In addition, our committee researched extensively and consulted with many experts.

We are excited about our partnership with Wilfrid Laurier University's Professor Robert McLeman and his students. As part of the University's Environmental Sustainability Department, Professor McLeman helped us to design the survey and he and his students enriched our research, providing valuable suggestions for improvement, particularly in how we can improve public communication of our related By-laws, policies, and programs.

In 2009, a previous Town of Saugeen Shores Ad Hoc Environmental Committee presented eleven recommendations to Council to promote environmental sustainability. That Committee's task was to investigate and research environmental initiatives that could be undertaken by the Town. Of their eleven recommendations, eight were adopted and six are still included in the Municipality's current environmental sustainability policies. Some of the most successful of these recommendations are the Environmental Calendar, the annual Town Tree Sale, installation of bike racks, and offering residents Blue Boxes, composters, and green cones at cost.

In addition to these initiatives, the Municipality has continued to add policies and programs which promote environmental sustainability. Examples are the Waterfront Master Plan, the annual Beach Maintenance Plan, Energy Management Audit policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, updates to the Official Plan and sections of the Drainage, Water and Wastewater, Waste Management and Transportation Master Plans and Environmental Assessments.

In 2017 and 2020 Council expressed its collective responsibility for the stewardship of our natural resources through its Corporate Strategic Plan written with extensive community consultation. The Guiding Principles of the Strategic Plan assert that

“We are a municipality that is conscious of our natural assets and resources in our care, and we are responsible stewards and trustees in their protection.”¹

The Town’s Mission Statement references:

“...protecting our natural resources and assets in a sustainable manner”²

In keeping with this commitment, Council appointed the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Ad Hoc Committee (ESAC) in April 2021. ESAC’s assessment of the Town’s existing environmental policies and programs concludes that the Municipality has invested in and achieved substantial improvements over the last decade, including but not limited to the following:

- Updates to the Official Plan which prioritize protection of the natural environment
- Integration of Climate Change mitigation measures into plans such as the Water and Wastewater Financial Plan (2019), the Water and Sewer Servicing Master Plan (2021), the Master Drainage Plan (2021) and the Class Environmental Assessment for the Southampton Water Pollution Control Plant (2021)
- Routine energy and greenhouse gas emission audits since 2012
- Retrofitting lighting in Town facilities and streetlights; new windows and doors
- Addition of electric and hybrid vehicles to the Town fleet
- Between 2013 and 2017, Town facilities showed a 11.6% decrease in energy consumption, and the Town overall showed a 42.3% reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions. This 183-tonne reduction is the equivalent of 38.9 cars removed from the road for one year, or the carbon sequestration of 3,000 additional trees.
- Waterfront Master Plan and annual Beach Maintenance Plans to protect, maintain and develop the Saugeen Shores waterfront
- The Town’s overall waste diversion rate is approximately 37.7% with an overall residential diversion rate estimated to be approximately 46.6%, similar to the Provincial rate of 49.7% in 2019.
- A film plastics collection pilot project started in 2019 has been very successful, diverting over 15,000 kg annually from the landfill, twice the amount originally intended. The plastics diverted are used to produce 100% post-consumer-recycled plastic products.
- In 2021, the Municipality reinstated a styrofoam recycling program which had been cancelled in August 2016 due to loss of market.
- The Town continues to promote active transportation to support environmental sustainability by reducing use of motorized vehicles and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Council appointed a Bicycle Friendly Community Ad Hoc Committee in 2021.
- This Report builds upon the work of a past environmental committee (2009) and considerable work of Councils and staff. The Committee recognizes that numerous Environmental and Climate Change initiatives are still needed.

¹ [Corporate Strategic Plan - Saugeen](#) Section 1.1.1., Page 6

² *Ibid*, p.7

Therefore, ESAC offers further recommendations for improvements within these five categories:

- 1.0 Prioritize Environmental and Climate Change Initiatives**
- 2.0 Protect Natural Assets and Resources**
- 3.0 Increase Public Awareness and Participation regarding Environmental and Climate Change initiatives, by-laws, policies and programs**
- 4.0 Enhance Waste Management and Diversion Strategies**
- 5.0 Conduct annual assessment and public reporting of progress towards full implementation of all approved Environmental and Climate Change recommendations**



North Shore Road Photo by Odette Bartricki

Mandate

“Environmental sustainability is a guiding principle of the Town of Saugeen Shores... In that spirit, the Environmental Stewardship Ad Hoc Advisory Committee will review existing municipal environmental stewardship programs, assess their effectiveness and recommend to Council changes where appropriate.

The Committee will also develop, for Council’s consideration, achievable recommendations for new municipal environmental initiatives. The purpose of these initiatives will be to aid the municipality in providing appropriate stewardship for the natural assets and resources in its care and to mitigate against the effects of climate change in the community. The Committee will prioritize its recommendations for implementation.”

The Committee

Chair: Cheryl Grace, Councillor

Members: John Rich, Councillor (December 2014 - September 2021)
Odette Bartnicki
Diane Huber
Neil Menage
Nancy Noble
Taylor White

Staff: Amanda Froese, Director of Infrastructure & Development
Allison Wiber, Administrative Assistant

The Environmental Stewardship Ad Hoc Advisory Committee met 22 times commencing on 28th of April 2021.

Supporting Staff and Experts consulted (Appendix C)

Consolidated Recommendations

1.0 Prioritize Environment and Climate Change Initiatives

- 1.1 Acknowledge that a Climate Change Emergency Exists
- 1.2 Adopt the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- 1.3 Review the Town of Saugeen Shores Official Plan/ Strategic Plan with an Environmental and Climate Change lens
- 1.4 Develop an Environmental and Climate Change Action Plan
- 1.5 Join Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP)
- 1.6 Dedicate staff to manage approved Environmental and Climate Change Initiatives
- 1.7 Establish an ongoing Environmental and Climate Change Committee and/or a series of Ad Hoc Committees
- 1.8 Establish an Environmental and Climate Change education and communication program
- 1.9 Initiate a program to recognize community members for Environmental and Climate Change action
- 1.10 Expand the existing Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan (ECDMP)
- 1.11 Engage with the County of Bruce regarding their 2022 Climate Change Action Plan
- 1.12 Consider Climate Change best practices applicable to all Municipal new builds and renovations
- 1.13 Create a five-to-ten-year Capital Plan for installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure for inclusion in the 2023 budget

2.0 Protect Natural Assets and Resources

- 2.1 Enhance/review Water Quality, Waterfront Protection and Maintenance Policies and Programs
 - 2.1.1 Update waterfront maintenance policies annually to include updated information and resources about Climate Change and other environmental stressors
 - 2.1.2 Promote eco-tourism and prevent tourism-related environmental damage/
 - 2.1.3 Strengthen and implement a no-smoking By-law at beaches, parks and playgrounds
 - 2.1.4 Investigate and fund strategies to improve Canada Geese control.
 - 2.1.5 Review best practices for road maintenance and potential alternatives to salt/calcium

2.2 Develop the Urban Tree Canopy Plan

- 2.2.1 Develop and implement tree protection By-laws applicable to public and private property within the urban area
- 2.2.2 Review and update the *Urban Forestry Management and Operations Plan for the Town of Saugeen Shores* developed by Kilgour and Associates Ltd. (May 2016)
- 2.2.3 Develop and implement a tree maintenance program
- 2.2.4 Develop a formal street tree planting program
- 2.2.5 Review and revise existing By-laws, policies and programs regarding protection of public parkland, sensitive woodlot properties and developer parkland requirements
- 2.2.6 Develop a toolkit of greenspace and parkland options for developers
- 2.2.7 Develop and implement ecological offsetting requirements for all new developments

3.0 Increase Public Awareness and Participation regarding Environmental and Climate Change initiatives, by-laws, policies and programs

- 3.1 Increase public awareness of existing Environmental and Climate Change By-laws, policies and programs and introduction of new initiatives

4.0 Enhance Waste Management and Diversion Strategies

- 4.1 Review current BASWR Blue Box program, and set diversion targets for 2022-2025
 - 4.1.1 Consider opportunities beyond Blue Box collection to meet and exceed Provincial requirements
- 4.2 Develop and implement a compost program to increase diversion of organic waste from the landfill
 - 4.2.1 Explore diversion options such as using the Southgate Compost Facility and/or the Alltreat Farms composting facility in Arthur
 - 4.2.2 Consider a pilot program where 100 FoodCycler household composting machines are offered at reduced prices
 - 4.2.3 Continue to offer composters and green cones to residents at cost, and enhance communications about their availability, as well as information about how to compost and other affordable types of household composting systems
 - 4.2.4 Consider the establishment of community composting centres, similar to those used in Canmore, Alberta
 - 4.2.5 Collaborate with the County of Bruce as it explores County-wide organics collections options

- 4.3 Raise public awareness of waste reduction and diversion opportunities
 - 4.4 Actively participate in the 2022 Bruce County Waste Master Plan for expansion of waste reduction strategies and implement the waste reduction recommendations in the Long-Term Waste Management Plan
 - 4.5 Review and implement a construction waste diversion program
 - 4.6 Develop and implement a single-use plastics reduction program
 - 4.7 Evaluate and report on the feasibility of a clear bag waste disposal program
 - 4.8 Investigate and implement programs for animal waste disposal in public spaces
 - 4.9 Review and consider membership in AECOM's National Solid Waste Benchmarking Initiative (NSWBI)
- 5.0 **Consider an accredited Environmental Management System, such as ISO 14001, to measure progress towards identified Environmental and Climate Change objectives**



Beach South of Port Elgin Photo by Odette Bartnicki

Current Policies and Programs

Town of Saugeen Shores Official Plan (2014)

The Town commenced its Official Plan - Saugeen Shores Review in August 2018 with extensive public consultation. In August 2020, staff presented a discussion paper on the three key issues identified through this consultation: housing and growth management, the environment and natural heritage, and urban design, place making and heritage. The recommendations for the key issue of ***“the environment and natural heritage”*** were as follows:

- Update Official Plan map with Province of Ontario mapping of natural heritage features, including wetlands, in coordination with Bruce County mapping data
- Incorporate relevant policies, goals, objectives of other Town planning initiatives and studies with bearing on the natural environment conducted since adopting the Official Plan
- Consider Official Plan policy opportunities to contribute to improving forest cover in riparian zones and surface water quality, in consultation with the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
- Consider concerns raised by survey respondents about tree removals and review the tree preservation policies moving forward with updated Official Plan
- Consider concerns raised by survey respondents about beachfront development

Environmental Calendar

An environmental calendar is published annually, as recommended by the Town's previous Environmental Stewardship Committee in 2009. The calendar presents information such as Municipal contacts and environmental policies, waste collection and diversion programs, lawn watering, winter preparation and safety and composting. The Town produces 3,500 calendars annually at the cost of \$4500.00. The calendar is very popular with residents and all calendars are usually distributed. The calendar is also available on the Town website: [Environmental CALENDAR](#)

Climate Change

The Municipality has taken some steps to mitigate the effects of Climate Change in recent years. For example, the energy management policies listed below to lower greenhouse gas emissions have been in place for the last decade. The Water and Wastewater Financial Plan (2019) and Water and Sewer Servicing Master Plan (2021) both include recommendations for mitigating the effects of Climate Change.

Considerations related to Climate mitigation and adaptation include:

- How vulnerable is the project to climate-related severe events?
- Are there alternative methods of carrying out the project that would reduce the negative impacts of Climate Change on the project?
- Section 2.3.6, p. 23/24 of the Water and Wastewater Master Plan: [Master Plan Link](#),
- The recently completed (Nov. 2021) Class Environmental Assessment for the Southampton Water Pollution Control Plant includes the following recommended changes to mitigate the anticipated effects of Climate Change (Section 18.5, p. 71 [Environmental Study Report Link](#)):

"Climate change impacts are addressed through the inclusion of the peak-flow attenuation tank, since this element is specific to management of peak flows resulting from extreme wet-weather flows. In addition, design of the proposed headworks facility and sewage pumping station incorporates a conservative peaking factor intended to provide spare capacity in the event of heavy or long duration rainfall, freeze/thaw cycles, or a combination of both."



North Shore Road September 7th, 2021, Photo by Odette Bartnicki

Energy Management

- Routine overall energy and greenhouse gas emission audits since 2012 (Ministry of Energy reporting requirements)
- Energy audits completed over the last two years at sewer and water facilities with recommendations for improvements
- Retrofitting lighting in Town facilities, streetlights to LED fixtures (e.g. The Town has an annual program to replace aging streetlights - all streetlights are now LED; the 2021 budget includes upgrades to install LED lights in the Saugeen Shores Medical Building and the Southampton Art Gallery; in the case of LED lighting energy savings can be considered at over 40-50%)
- Window and door replacements
- Replacement of hot water heaters with energy-efficient water heater
- Automating internal systems for maximum energy efficiency
- Addition of electric and hybrid vehicles to Town fleet with electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at municipal facilities
- Partnerships with Bruce Power and the County of Bruce to provide public-use vehicle charging stations in Southampton and Port Elgin
- The Electricity Act requires all municipalities to develop and publish a Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan every 5 years. Our most recent plan was published in 2018 [Energy Management Plan Link](#)
- Between 2013 and 2017, our facilities showed a 11.6% decrease in energy consumption and the Town overall showed a 42.3% reduction in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions. The GHG reduction is more significant than the energy reduction due to the higher proportion of natural gas conserved and the elimination of fuel oil. The 42.3% reduction in GHGs equates to a 183-tonne reduction, equal to removing 38.9 cars from the road for one year or the equivalent of planting over 3,000 trees.

Protection of Natural Environment and Resources

Source Water Protection

Ontario legislation (*Drinking Water Source Protection Act* for Clean Water) and Saugeen Shores' membership in Saugeen Valley Source Protection Authority (SVSPA) protects municipal wells and intakes. As a member of the SVSPA and through the Clean Water Act, 2006:

- A local committee was established to develop a Source Protection Plan to protect municipal sources of drinking water
- The Source Protection Plan determines the areas that are vulnerable or at risk of contamination
- The plan identifies potential threats and develops plans to deal with the threats to our drinking water sources. [Source Protection Plan Link](#)

Beaches/Recreation Water

The Grey Bruce Health Unit monitors [Recreational Water](#) quality of three Saugeen Shores' beaches: Gobles Grove, Port Elgin Main Beach and Southampton, on a

monthly basis. A beach is posted with extra signs when the Health Unit believes that there may be a risk to the public when the levels of E. coli exceed (or are predicted to exceed) the federal guidelines (200 E. coli per 100mL of beach water) and other factors such as the environmental conditions. Beach warning signs are removed after the E. coli levels or conditions return to acceptable levels.

Note: Beaches are only monitored for E. coli levels; there may be other harmful bacteria, viruses, or parasites in the water.

Waste Management

The waste-diversion target (from landfills) set out in Waste-Free Ontario legislation is 50% by 2030 and 80% by 2050. The [Town of Saugeen Shores Long-Term Waste Management Plan](#), presented to Council in August 2020, reported that our overall waste diversion rate is approximately 37.7%, with overall residential diversion rate estimated to be approximately 46.6% (more than half of this is diversion of organics).³ The provincial average was 49.7% in 2019.



Recommendations from the Waste Management Plan to increase waste diversion include:

- Expand public promotion and education re: waste diversion
- Bag tag program
- Start limiting garbage bags from unlimited to 2 bags weekly and implement at landfill as well as curb side pickup
- Consider increases to minimum tipping fee from \$10 to \$15
- Use clear bag system
- Increase collection of blue boxes to weekly, from bi-weekly, along with weekly waste collection
- Increase service level for blue box and waste collection during the peak tourist season for residential and retail (restaurants, etc.)
- Implement a more simplified blue box program: include a greater range of blue box (i.e. cardboard) and allow materials to be mixed
- Provide larger recycling containers for businesses, campgrounds, etc.

Organics Diversion

It is estimated that an additional 10-20% of waste diversion could be accomplished by using a green bin collection service. This statistic is illustrated in Table 7-1, p. 32, the

³ Long-term Waste Management Plan, Figures 6-1, 6-2, 6-4, 6-5, 7-1; This estimate is based on *Census Canada* figures, types of dwellings and *Statistics Canada* household composting rates.

[Town's Long-Term Waste Management Plan](#), which shows BASWR's residential diversion rate excluding organics at 23.8% compared to the Provincial average of 34% in 2017.

The above report concludes that in the future municipalities will be required to use green bins to meet provincially mandated waste diversion targets (the Province has reportedly committed to eventually banning food waste disposal to increase diversion and decrease greenhouse gas emissions). If the Town implements a green bin collection service now, estimated costs would be in the range of \$35-85 annually per household. Until such time as this is implemented, the Town will continue to promote backyard composting by offering composters (\$40) and green cones (\$130) at cost (2022 charges), with further recommendations in 4.2 of this report.

Recent Improvements in Waste Diversion include:

- The film plastics collection program started in August 2019 as a pilot project. Collection of items like produce and shopping bags has been very successful and is now diverting over 15,000 kg annually from the landfill, twice the amount originally anticipated. The cost is \$150 per bin per month, with a total of 6 bins now operating. One added benefit of this program is the reduction in the plastic blowing around and from the landfill site, and reduction in staff time needed to collect the plastic bags. The film plastic is collected by Grey Bruce Trash Taxi, a professional garbage collection company which sells to EFS plastics company in Listowel. EFS produces 100% post-consumer recycled plastic resin pellets which are used in the production of plastic products like lawn furniture. EFS, with another factory in Pennsylvania, diverts 60 million pounds from landfills annually.
- Reinstatement of Expanded Polystyrene (Styrofoam) (EPS) recycling program which was cancelled in August 2016 due to the loss of a receiver. Bruce County municipalities are now taking part in an EPS recycling pilot program through Second Wind Recycling. This will cost approximately \$6,000 annually and began in January 2021 to run for a minimum of 1 year, hopefully to be renewed. Staff report that the program was very successful in 2021. The service visits the landfill once a month and processes a full trailer load every time. Second Wind is now collecting from five municipalities throughout Bruce County. Staff will receive final EPS 2021 diversion rates shortly.
- Cardboard and leaf/garden waste can be diverted, but residents must take it to the collection sites themselves.

Waste Management Strategies

Staff worked through the [Long-Term Waste Management Master Plan](#) (LTWMP) process with GM BluePlan and presented the report to Council in the fall of 2020. Research shows that Pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) programs increase participation in the Blue Box program. Currently, bag tag revenue is greater than the cost of collection,

with the surplus going to partially offset expenses in recycling. The purpose of the annual landfill levy, which has been added to residents' tax bills, is to fund the expansion of the landfill for 2031 by adding to the landfill reserve. The estimated cost of the landfill expansion is \$10 million. At the end of 2020, the landfill reserve sat at \$2,394,691.55.

Staff investigated bag tag and levy options such as a 2.5% increase in cost per year, status quo, one free bag tag, and doubling the levy. The end reserve amounts projected for 2031 ranged from \$2.7 to \$12.6 million.

On Dec. 7, 2021, Council approved maintaining the current \$2.00 cost per bag tag, while increasing the annual landfill levy by 4.5% from \$55.09 to \$57.57 in 2022. If this fixed fee increases by 4.5% each year going forward, and the bag tag price remains at \$2, then the projected balance in the Landfill Expansion Reserve would be \$8.9 million by 2031 and would cross over the \$10 million threshold in 2033.

When population projections are considered, in 2020 the Town's Southampton Landfill site had an estimated 12 years (i.e., early 2032) of disposal capacity remaining based on the average waste disposal rates experienced between 2014 and 2019.

Concerned by the rapidly declining landfill capacity due to increased volume and construction activity, the Town increased landfill tipping fees in 2020. This resulted in an increase in the amount of construction waste diverted, particularly wood and bricks.

In the fall of 2019, Saugeen Shores Council approved its membership in the Municipal Innovation Council (MIC), an organization which includes lower-tier Bruce County municipalities as well as the County itself. The purpose of the MIC is to develop solutions to shared issues like waste management, shortage of attainable housing, municipal transportation, and sustainable development.

In early 2021, the MIC presented a Solid Waste Service report that integrates leading research, policy recommendations and suggested areas to focus additional strategies. Since Bruce County municipalities already cooperate in waste management issues through Bruce Area Solid Waste Recycling (BASWR), it should be easier and less expensive for municipalities to achieve economies of scale.

Water and Wastewater Management

The Water and Wastewater Financial Plans (2019) both address the issue of Climate Change by recognizing that we will be facing greater intensity and frequency of record setting weather events such as heatwaves, summer drought, severe thunderstorms/tornadoes, intense downpours and large ice storms/snowstorms. The challenge for the Municipality will be to update our infrastructure with as many green innovations as possible to decrease the use of hardscapes such as concrete and asphalt, and to rely more on permeable surfaces, rain gardens, and other natural drainage solutions.

The Master Drainage Plan, presented to Council in early 2021, concluded that future work on future work on municipal drainage projects must include adaptations to accommodate the effects of climate change Town Of Saugeen Shores Master Drainage Plan.

Active Transportation

In 2004, the Town published the [Saugeen Shores Parks and Trails Master Plan](#). Since then, the Town has continued to promote active transportation activities. The Committee recognizes that active transportation supports environmental sustainability by lowering residents' use of motorized vehicles and related greenhouse gas emissions. The Town of Saugeen Shores has over 40 km of trails, 9 athletic parks, 27 playgrounds and many green spaces. On the Town's website, there is a cycling page with bike-specific resources and an interactive cycling and trails map, as well as information about the Saugeen Rail Trail and the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail.

The Town has promoted cycling-focused activities and resources such as:

- Bike Month in June with school, family and adult activities, and information in the Environmental Calendar
- Events such as the *Gran Fondo Lake Huron* in support of the Saugeen Memorial Hospital Foundation have taken place in Saugeen Shores
- Bicycle repair stations throughout Saugeen Shores
- Bicycle racks and corrals throughout Saugeen Shores
- Increasing the number of trail counters to collect usage data
- Ongoing investment in trails and connectivity (e.g., Rail Trail annual grant, trail connections in Biener's Bush Trails in 2021)
- Transportation Master Plan alignment, and work on creating safe and active routes to school and making active transportation an easier option
- Reports following participation in Share the Road Bicycle Friendly Communities workshops in 2017
- Saugeen Shores Bicycle Friendly Communities Workshop, May 9-10, 2017 [Bicycle Friendly Communities Summary Report](#)
- Creation of the Bike Friendly Community Ad Hoc Committee in Fall 2021
- The Transportation Master Plan adopted by Council in November of 2020, presents sixteen recommendations to promote Active Transportation, including adopting and implementing a cycling network, designing and installing cycling facilities, improving cycling signing and pavement marking guidelines, and improving safety strategies. [Transportation Master Plan link](#), Chapter 7, p. 98





Death Camas or Dune Lily (Zygadenus glaucus) Eidt's Grove
Photo by Neil Menage

Recommendations

1.0 Prioritize Environment and Climate Change Initiatives

1.1 Acknowledge that a Climate Change Emergency Exists

Rationale

- ESAC's mandate requires the Committee to:

“...prioritize its recommendations for implementation” and “to aid the municipality in providing appropriate stewardship for the natural assets and resources in its care and to mitigate against the effects of climate change in the community.”
- Acknowledging that a climate emergency exists shows that Council demonstrates leadership in caring about our Environment and Climate Change.
- Stewardship of our environmental assets and Climate Change should be top priorities for Council and Staff each day in every department.
- The science is unequivocal regarding climate change and the need for significant action to limit global warming. 98% of global scientists (over 11,000 of them) agree that Climate Change threatens all life on earth and that Canada is warming at twice the global average. Acknowledging that a climate emergency exists shows that Council believes in settled science.
- In 2021 alone, Canada faced heat domes killing over 800 people, fires causing mass evacuations and significant loss of homes, livelihoods, and biodiversity. Droughts have significantly impacted agriculture and threatened water sources. Floods displaced thousands of people, killed livestock, and impacted agricultural operations. Disrupted transportation corridors impact the Canadian supply chain and the cost of living and Climate change is also responsible for rising costs for health care. Saugeen Shores is not immune to the impacts of climate change. Since September 2021, multiple severe weather events have caused significant damage to trees and property, disrupting lives and costing hundreds of thousands of dollars. Property Insurance costs are rising rapidly, and insurance may be difficult or impossible to procure along the waterfront in the future.
- By January 2021, 2,045 jurisdictions in 37 countries, including Canada, had already declared a climate emergency. By June 2, 2021, 506 municipalities in Canada had enacted climate emergency declarations, including Collingwood, Town of The Blue Mountains, Meaford, West Grey and Grey Highlands. ESAC recommends that Council show leadership across Bruce County by acknowledging that a climate emergency exists as soon as possible. Science shows there is no time for delay.

- Acknowledging that a climate emergency exists, demonstrates that Council recognizes the reality of climate change locally and globally and that Council is committed to taking proactive action to reduce negative impacts while seeking to implement best practices to mitigate and adapt for the protection of our environment and the well-being of current and future residents of Saugeen Shores.
- A Climate Emergency Acknowledgment signals to the public that Council is serious about climate change and provides focus for staff, suppliers, businesses, residents and visitors that environmental sustainability is a priority. Publicly acknowledging a climate emergency means that Council is committed to action and is willing to be held accountable. Council's leadership can have a significant impact on local businesses, citizens, visitors, and to Bruce County and beyond.
- Decisions will need to take Climate Change into account. Future budgets will be impacted by climate change initiatives as well and this may have an impact on local taxation. However, the cost to future generations and current citizens of not addressing climate change can far outweigh such investments.
- It is the responsibility of Council to effect strategies to reduce carbon emissions and take steps to mitigate and adapt to Climate Change.
- Council's leadership is essential to inspiring staff and community members to address Climate Change individually and collectively if sustainability is to be realized in Saugeen Shores. There is a moral imperative to do our part for our region, our country and globally.

Cost

There is no cost to making an acknowledgment beyond staff time to develop the declaration, of which there are already many models. However, an emergency climate acknowledgment signals that Council will take action to mitigate and adapt to Climate Change and dedicate resources accordingly in the future. Funding from Federal and Provincial Government sources may flow to municipalities who show awareness and leadership.

The cost of implementation of Climate Change strategies today far outweighs the costs of future Climate Change-related disasters, as has been seen in many places across Canada in 2021.

Resources

- i. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change <https://www.ipcc.ch>
- ii. Government of Canada: Climate Change [Climate change - Canada.ca](https://climatechange.gc.ca)

- iii. Government of Ontario: Climate Change
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/climate-change>
- iv. Grey Bruce Public Health Unit: Climate Change [Climate Change for Municipalities and Organizations](#)
- v. Intact Centre (University of Waterloo) on Climate Adaptation Our Environment | Intact Insurance
- vi. Why we are declaring a climate emergency, and you should too, Tom Greenwood, July 2019, Why we are declaring a climate emergency, and you should too
- vii. More than 11,000 scientist from around the world declare a 'climate emergency', Andrew Freedman, November 2019, Washington Post, Thousands of scientists declared a climate emergency, outline steps to address it - The Washington Post
- viii. Physicians concerned about climate change and its worsening impact on health: CMA Survey, December 2020 Physicians concerned about climate change and its worsening impact on health: CMA survey | CMA
Canada's Municipalities Push for Health-Based Climate Action; The Lancet, Volume 397, Issue 10268, P14-15, January 2021
- ix. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)32753-7/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)32753-7/fulltext)
- x. <https://www.cbc.ca/natureofthings/episodes/curb-your-carbon>
- xi. https://gem.cbc.ca/media/the-nature-of-things/s61e06?cmp=DM_DOCS_FEED_GEMCARD_curb%20your%20carbon_pri

1.2 Adopt the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Rationale

- ESAC's mandate refers to the Town's Corporate Strategic Plan which

"...asserts that the municipality is conscious of the natural assets and resources in its care and is a responsible steward in the protection of those assets."
- The adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will aid the Municipality in providing that stewardship while ensuring that attention to the basic needs of all citizens, current and future, are included in decisions of Council.
- Inclusion and participation of provincial, territorial, municipal and Indigenous governments are crucial for the achievement of the 2030 Climate Change Agenda in Canada. In addition, all citizens must be included in Climate Change initiatives in order to mitigate against future catastrophic consequences that will impact all people, regardless of socioeconomic status or background.

- The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all citizens of Saugeen Shores. They address global challenges that we also face locally, including poverty, inequality, Climate Change, environmental degradation, peace and justice.
- Goal 13 calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. It is intrinsically linked to all 17 of the other Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UN SDGs include the following:
 - Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms
 - Goal 2: Zero hunger
 - Goal 3: Health
 - Goal 4: Education
 - Goal 5: Gender equality and women’s empowerment
 - Goal 6: Water and sanitation
 - Goal 7: Energy
 - Goal 8: Economic Growth
 - Goal 9: Infrastructure, Industrialization
 - Goal 10: Inequality
 - Goal 11: Cities
 - Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production
 - Goal 13: Climate Action
 - Goal 14: Oceans
 - Goal 15: Biodiversity, forests desertification
 - Goal 16: Peace, justice, and strong institution
 - Goal 17: Partnerships



- While implementing the UN 2030 Agenda is primarily the responsibility of federal and provincial/territorial governments, many of the UN 2030 SDGs fall within the jurisdiction of municipal governments. Municipalities play an important role in coordinating resources to fulfill the SDGs in ways that make sense locally.
- Adoption of SDGs is a significant act of leadership. The By-laws, policies, programs, capacities, and initiatives of the Town of Saugeen Shores play an important role in linking the global agenda to our local community and priorities.
- Adopting the SDGs requires that Council consider all citizens in decision making, especially with regard to natural assets and Climate Change, to ensure that outcomes do not negatively impact the most vulnerable, now and in the future. Adoption of the SDGs invites inclusion and participation.
- Most of the SDGs are beyond the scope of municipal control. Goal 4: Education, for example, is a Provincial mandate.

- There may be circumstances where local citizens are disenfranchised economically and/or socially, or may be impacted by mental health and addiction, some of which may be beyond the scope of the Municipality and Council will not have the power, authority, or resources to address these at the local level. However, the Municipality can have a leadership voice at other levels on behalf of all people of Saugeen Shores.

Cost

There is no cost to adopt the written UN SDGs. There would be costs associated with the implementation of changes which support the SDG.

Resources

- i. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
[Take Action for the Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- ii. Localizing the 2030 Agenda in Canada, British Columbia Council for International Cooperation and Canadian Council for International Cooperation
[Localizing the 2030 Agenda in Canada](#)
- iii. Developing an SDG Index for Canadian Municipalities
[Developing a SDG Index for Canadian Municipalities | Sustainable](#)
- iv. Development Solutions Network, University of Waterloo, December 2018
[Development Solutions Network \(SDSN\) Canada | University of Waterloo](#)

1.3 Review the Town of Saugeen Shores Official Plan/Strategic Plan with an Environmental and Climate Change lens

Rationale

- The Town's Official Plan (2014) provides a vision for the future and a regulatory framework for the direction to staff, the development community and the public regarding land use policies. Municipal official plans must be congruent with the Bruce County Official Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement, which are also updated from time to time. Together, these documents guide land use over an extended period of years to decades and are updated as new legislation is enacted.
- These important documents dictate where and what type of development will be located, what services such as roads, water mains, sewers, parks and other facilities will be needed, how the community will grow and what community improvements will be initiated. It is essential that these documents anticipate the challenges of climate change and include strategies of mitigation and adaptation. Therefore, it is incumbent upon Council and Staff to ensure that the Official Plan reflects climate change.

- Using a Climate Change lens to make revisions is therefore imperative to the sustainability of Saugeen Shores if we are to avoid the high costs experienced by some areas of Canada due to climate change events. Proactive revisions of the Official Plan to reflect best practices will support the Town’s efforts towards sustainability and provide clarity for developers and the public.
- Public consultation for the current Official Plan Review indicates that Protection of the Environment and Natural Heritage is one of residents’ top three priorities.
- The Corporate Strategic Plan (2020) cites Environmental Sustainability as one of the Town’s Guiding Principles and this value is enshrined in its Mission Statement and Vision; however, the Plan’s review of regulatory and policy documents showed only half as many occurrences of the theme of Protect and Enhance the Natural Environment compared to themes such as Infrastructure, Quality of life, Economic Development, and Enhanced Communications.
- The Strategic Plan’s SOAR analysis cites natural beauty and waterfront assets as *Strengths* and *Aspirations*. *“Continued advancement of the Waterfront Plan”* is the only environmentally related *Result*. The *Opportunities* list does not include goals directly involving Environmental and Climate Change initiatives.
- The Strategic Plan states that the Vision will be met when *“Our environment and natural spaces are valued and visible through our waterfront, rivers, forests and environmental areas”*. Protection of environmental assets is only mentioned in connection with four of twenty-seven elements within the Plan’s concluding priorities:
 - i. ***“...update the language of the Waterfront Master Plan to speak to elements that reflect protection of the environmental assets”***,
 - ii. ***“uphold and update (as needed) the Beach Maintenance Plan”***
 - iii. ***“...effectively manage waterfront development investments and other natural assets”***, and
 - iv. ***“...ensure beautification and cleanliness are visible efforts across the municipality”***
- The Strategic Plan also suggests a list of future plans for the Municipality to consider, but other than a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and a Community Sustainability Plan, both of which should include Environmental elements, none of these are specifically dedicated to Environmental and Climate Change initiatives.

Cost

Staff time must be allocated to this review in order to determine what changes are needed to reflect a Climate Change lens. The requirement for Community Consultation may result in some costs.

Resources

- i. [Town of Saugeen Shores Official Plan](#)
- ii. [Saugeen Shores Corporate Strategic Plan](#)
- iii. [Bruce County Official Plan](#)

1.4 Develop an Environmental and Climate Change Action Plan

Rationale

- A Climate Change Action Plan demonstrates that Saugeen Shores is committed to decreasing our carbon footprint and to preparing the community for the effects of Climate Change.
- The Climate Change Action Plan includes actions to both mitigate and adapt to Climate Change and provides direction to Staff and clarity for the public regarding the Town's commitment, objectives, policies and procedures regarding protection and enhancement of the Environment and mitigation and adaptation of Climate Change.
- A Climate Change Action Plan is a strategic framework outlining strategies to be taken to reduce our contribution to Climate Change by reducing carbon emissions by 40 to 45 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 as per Canada's climate plan: *A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy*.
- Funding opportunities may be forthcoming from both Federal and Provincial sources and an **Environmental and Climate Change Action Plan** will most likely be required to take advantage of this funding.
- This **Environmental and Climate Change Action Plan** should incorporate best practices from:
 - Bruce County's Plan
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection
 - Saugeen Shores Strategic Plan (2017 updated 2020)
 - ISO 14001 Environmental Management System
 - Blue Dot Program
 - Recommendations included in this Report as approved by Council

- The use of an Environmental Management System, such as ISO 14001, (Recommendation 5.0) to measure progress towards objectives outlined in the Environmental and Climate Change Action Plan will enable Council, Staff and Community members to determine more effective and efficient means to achieving Environmental and Climate Change objectives by 2030 and 2050 respectively.
- As stewards of the environment of Saugeen Shores and with a moral and ethical responsibility to global climate security, an Environment and Climate Change Action Plan must be a priority for the Town to ensure that we can reduce overall carbon emissions and include strategies to mitigate and adapt to Climate Change.

Cost

Staff time required for development of the plan and community consultation.

Resources

- i. [A healthy environment and a healthy economy - Canada.ca](#)
- ii. [Canadian Province Climate Policy Maps](#)
- iii. [A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan](#)
- iv. Grey County Climate Change Action Plan (in progress) [Climate Change Action Plan | County of Grey - Colour It Your Way](#)
- v. Municipality of West Grey Climate Change Action Plan [Climate change action plan - Municipality of West Grey](#)
- vi. ICLEI - Huron-Kinloss Climate Change and Energy Plan [Township of Huron Kinloss Climate Change and Energy Plan | ICLEI Canada](#)
- vii. City of Mississauga Climate Change Action Plan [Climate Change Action Plan](#)
- viii. Climate Change Action Plan Examples
https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&sxsrf=AOaemvJaeWv3G7sLUJ6LCNzPWHjYou_MNA:1643156927743&q=Climate+change+Action+Plan+example&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&vet=1#imgrc=01tgPkvvXjSnm

1.5 Join Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP)

Rationale

From the Committee mandate:

“...aid the Municipality in providing appropriate stewardship for the natural assets and resources in its care and to mitigate against the effects of climate change”

- Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program is a national network of over 400 municipalities with the shared goal of taking action against climate change by reducing local greenhouse gas emissions. To provide dedicated support to PCP members across Canada, PCP has launched a new website offering tools, case studies and other resources that can help municipalities of all sizes meet their climate goals.
- PCP membership is free and gives you access to tools, networking venues, events, case studies and other informational resources. Members also have access to a PCP Secretariat which offers coaching and technical assistance support. Membership requirements include:
 - i. A joining resolution of Council
 - ii. Move through the Milestone Framework* within 10 years of joining
 - iii. Report on progress at least once every two years
 - iv. Email PCP to update contact information to receive PCP updates and opportunities
 - v. Actively participate in program activities and share your experience with other network members

*Milestones include creating a baseline emissions inventory and forecast, setting emissions reduction targets and developing and implementing a local action plan for achieving emissions targets.

- The 2009 Environmental Committee recommended joining PCP.
- The Committee supports PCP membership as it will provide significant resources and an organizational framework to assist the Municipality in mitigating against the effects of Climate Change.
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities also administers funding and grants through PCP.

Cost

Membership in Partners for Climate Protection is free but will require some staff time to administer.

Resources

[Partners for Climate Protection | Federation of Canadian Municipalities](#)

1.6 Dedicate staff to manage approved Environmental and Climate Change Initiatives

Rationale

- Stewardship of our environmental assets and Climate Change must be top priorities for the Town of Saugeen Shores. The success of our future cultural, environmental, and economic sustainability is dependent upon the decisions made by Council and Staff each day in every department.
- Climate Change is our biggest existential threat. 97% of global scientists report that if we do not address global warming effectively, reversing current temperatures by 2040, global disasters will become more extreme and more frequent, costing billions of dollars in response, clean-up, mitigation, and adaptation. Saugeen Shores will not be exempt from these costs.
- A commitment of appropriate staffing is required to acknowledge climate change as a top priority. Current staffing levels do not allow for the level of commitment and expertise needed to manage the many aspects of climate change and environmental protection effectively. Therefore, a dedicated position must be created to respond to many of the recommendations in this report as well as the anticipated requirements from both provincial and federal governments in the coming years.
- It is anticipated that funding for local initiatives will be made available. The Town of Saugeen Shores needs to be ready to take advantage of these opportunities.

Cost

In 2018, FCM provided funding in the form of grants of up to \$125,000 to be dispersed over a two-year period to help municipalities supplement the salary of a new or existing municipal employee who will work on initiatives to improve adaptation to local climate change impacts or reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It appears that this funding is not currently available, but based on this, a salary of \$62,500 would appear to be a minimum.

Resource

[Scientific consensus: Earth's climate is warming](#)

1.7 Establish an ongoing Environmental and Climate Change Committee and/or a series of Ad Hoc committees

Rationale

- Many municipalities have standing environmental advisory committees which successfully implement ongoing as well as simple one-off programs. ESAC has identified many attainable environmental initiatives that would see Saugeen Shores as an example of stewardship to other communities.
- A long-term ESAC would be able to utilize local contacts and resources and share responsibility with community groups to ensure success of environmental stewardship initiatives without great financial costs to the Town.
- Through the review of several municipalities' webpages and email correspondence with representatives of existing environmental committees, it was found that there are many municipalities with some form of an environmental committee. Generally, the mandates and terms of reference are similar to that of the ESAC.
- In the context of what other municipalities are doing, it was observed that there are several approaches to defining the lifespan of the Committee. Some environmental advisory committees are reviewed for membership with each new council (every 4 years) while others have a defined lifespan to align with the current council. Several committees have been established for decades.
- Committee composition was generally found to be similar to that of ESAC. In one instance, there is a "youth representative" on the committee, which would be an important addition to the Saugeen Shores ESAC. This would promote inclusion and engagement of an essential demographic.
- Some environmental advisory committees have a designated budget, whereas others had no budget and served an advisory function only for Council to consider recommendations on a case-by-case basis. Whereas this recommendation does not include the assignment of a budget to a long-term ESAC, the benefits of a small budget can be considered as a way for ESAC to potentially support ongoing initiatives that require minor financial inputs.
- A long-term ESAC can develop new relationships and strengthen existing relationships with local environmental resources and groups, such as the Grey Bruce Climate Action Network (now the Grey Bruce Sustainability Project), to aid the Municipality in providing stewardship for natural assets and resources in its care.
- For information, the following Bruce and Grey County municipalities have existing Climate Action Committees:

- Owen Sound does not have a Committee of Council, but an active citizen Climate Action Team (CAT) provides input to many matters including Official Plans, land use, etc.
 - West Grey has appointed a Committee of Council. An independent citizen CAT is also active. West Grey has declared a Climate Emergency.
 - Meaford has a citizen CAT but meets with the Deputy Mayor on a monthly basis and makes recommendations to Council, such as a film plastics recycling plan. Meaford has declared a Climate Emergency.
 - Georgian Bluffs has a citizen CAT and a Council-appointed committee.
 - Grey Highlands has both a citizen CAT and a Council-appointed committee and have declared a Climate Emergency.
 - Blue Mountains has both a citizen CAT and a Council-appointed Sustainability Committee. A Climate Emergency was adopted 2019.
 - Grey County has both formally appointed and citizen committees and is in the process of public consultation on its Climate Change Action Plan.
 - Kincardine has both a Council-appointed and a citizen CAT.
 - Huron-Kinloss, members of PCP, have a Climate Action Plan in progress.
 - North Bruce Peninsula has both Council-appointed and citizen committees and is a member of PCP.
- The following municipalities were consulted regarding the makeup of their committees:
 - Kawartha Lakes Environmental Advisory Committee has been in place for almost two decades and has been instrumental in several initiatives such as Lake Management Planning, the City's Sustainability Plan, the City Healthy Environment Plan, the Bee City initiative, active transportation, and working with the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks on new cover materials for a closed landfill site. The Kawartha Lakes Committee has an annual budget of \$7,000. To ensure accountability, the Committee must report to Council annually on their work plan priorities for the year and their accomplishments of the previous year.
 - The City of Orillia's Committee is advisory in nature and is supported by a staff resource (subject matter professional) from the Environment and Infrastructure Services Department, along with secretarial support from the Clerk's Division. New members are appointed every four years. The committee was established in 1999 and has been ongoing since then.
 - Port Colborne's Environmental Advisory Committee runs the term of Council and advises Council on environmental, energy conservation and shoreline protection issues that affect the City of Port Colborne, as well as those matters referred to the Committee by Council that promote the integration of environmental, energy conservation and shoreline protection considerations into the planning and development of City policies, programs and services.

- Stratford has a long-term Energy and Environmental Advisory Committee which includes a “youth representative”. The town has a strong focus on Climate Change and has hired a Climate Change Coordinator whose focus is the completion and implementation of the Perth County Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Plan. At present there are two rebate programs offered by the city to residents: a low-flow toilet rebate and a tree planting rebate.

Recommendation

The committee recommends that the Town establish an Environmental Committee, either a standing committee or a series of Ad-Hoc Committees to support the recommendations of ESAC.

Cost

Staff support time; budget for other supports; significant contributions of time and expertise by committee volunteers can benefit the Town.

Resources

- i. [Environment - City of Kawartha Lakes](#)
- ii. [Environmental Advisory Committee \(EAC\)](#)
- iii. [Environmental Advisory Committee - City of Port Colborne](#)
- iv. [Energy and Environment Committee - Stratford](#)

1.8 Establish an Environmental and Climate Change education and communication program

Rationale

- The results of ESAC’s public survey indicated that many members of the Saugeen Shores Community are not aware of existing programs, such as the RailTrail Association and SauGreen for the Environment tree planting initiatives, BASWR Waste Management specifics and other existing programs and local initiatives.
- Approximately 80% of survey respondents indicated that it was difficult to find information on environmental initiatives within Saugeen Shores and the same percentage of survey respondents expressed a desire for more information.
- The Town’s corporate strategic plan asserts that the municipality is conscious of the natural assets and resources in its care. This recommendation supports that mandate in promoting education and outreach to residents so that they are aware of the natural assets and resources in their community, how they

can participate in and enhance environmental programs and contribute to new initiatives.

- Education of residents about local programs and initiatives will aid the Municipality in providing appropriate stewardship of the resources and natural assets in its care since the success of environmental programs will depend on residents knowing about the programs and utilizing them to their full potential.
- Increasing awareness would likely improve compliance, increase diversion rates, heighten community engagement in climate action and enhance participation in an environmental sustainability program.
- With 155 participants, the January 19th, 2022, Carbon Calculator event, in partnership with Project Neutral, and with the support of the Nuclear Innovation Institute (NII) is an example of community education that could result in many participants taking steps to reduce their carbon footprint. It also demonstrates engagement of community partners.
- Regular and ongoing messaging, through a variety of media and communications platforms, can be used to communicate pertinent messaging to raise public awareness. In addition, a series of speaking events could be offered through a Zoom format or in-person meetings, when it is safe to do so.
- Increasing awareness of Grey Bruce Sustainability Network (events occur every third Thursday) and the Grey Bruce Climate Action Network (GBCAN), and by highlighting local action by groups such as Saugreen, Saugeen RailTrail, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation and other groups working in our area.
- Engagement of residents at all ages and stages of life, particularly students of local elementary and secondary schools to promote greater knowledge and awareness is likely to affect long-term life-style change that positively benefits our local and global environment.

Cost

Staff time through Communication Initiatives

Resources

Appendix D: Live Virtual Event: January 19, 2022, 7-8 pm
*Making a Difference One Person at a Time:
Measuring Your Carbon Footprint*

Appendix E: ESAC Survey and Results

Appendix F: Wilfrid Laurier Collaboration:

Memorandum, Professor McLeman to Saugeen Shores ESAC,
31Dec2021

Wilfrid Laurier University, Introduction to Sustainability Class
Student Reports:

- (a) A Communication Based Approach to Enhancing Sustainability Within the Community of Saugeen Shores
- (b) Saugeen Shores Report

Appendix G: Survey Responses – Written Comment



Dunes, Port Elgin Main Beach Photo by Neil Menage

1.9 Initiate a program to recognize community members for Environmental and Climate Change action

Rationale

- This recommendation supports the ESAC mandate as a community recognition program to foster environmental stewardship and

“...aid the municipality in providing appropriate stewardship for the natural assets and resources in its care”

- Local businesses and organizations have implemented environmental initiatives independent of the municipal programs, such as the wine cork recycling program through “Bottled Up”, composting programs at local schools, community gardens, butterfly gardens, and the Southampton United Church’s Green Boutique.

- In addition, some municipalities, such as Kawartha Lakes, have successfully implemented “Environmental Hero” recognition programs under their municipal environment program to recognize businesses, individuals, and community groups as well as students. King Township offers funding to assist community organizations with initiatives that support the Township’s sustainability goals, as outlined in King’s Sustainability Plan.

Recommendations

- Implement a program for the recognition of local businesses or individuals as stewards of sustainability and the environment for the Environmental and Climate Change initiatives that they implement. This could be similarly structured to how the COVID-19 business adaptation recognition program was rolled out through public nominations through local media and could include categories of nominees such as businesses, student and volunteer organizations as well as individual citizens.
- Consider an annual award or small grant program to support local businesses or groups to enhance their environmental initiatives (such as waste reduction through the use of compostable containers at a restaurant, zero-packaging initiatives, green roofs, energy neutral or carbon neutral building designs for example).

Cost

The Municipality may determine the frequency and method of a reasonable award/grant for recipients. Council should determine specifics by July 2022 for the 2023 budget and publish criteria early in the fall to enable students to participate.

Resources

- i. [Environment - City of Kawartha Lakes](#)
- ii. [King Township Sustainability Grant](#)
- iii. [Bottled Up Craft Winemaking](#)
- iv. [Kawartha Lakes environmental partners collaborate during Environmental Roundtable Summit - City of Kawartha Lakes](#)

1.10 Expand the existing Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan (ECDMP)

Rationale

- Regulation 507/18 of the Electricity Act requires all Ontario municipalities to develop and publish a Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan (ECDMP) every five years. The plan, which helps support energy conservation efforts at the Town, is accompanied by a regulated annual report which publishes the total annual energy consumed for each of the buildings and facilities at the Town.
- Regulation 507/18 specifies that the plan is to cover heated or cooled facilities currently owned and operated by the Town. The 2019 ECDMP report states that in future years the Water and Wastewater facilities operated by OCWA will be included in the list of facilities.
- The ECDMP includes:
 - (a) A clear corporate vision and policy that includes objectives, targets and strategic priorities
 - (b) A summary of past conservation improvements and success
 - (c) Detailed energy metrics summarizing energy consumed and progress towards targets
 - (d) Specific and actionable inventory of energy conservation projects planned for the next five years
- The Municipality has shown steady progress reducing energy consumption and reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions as outlined in the Executive Summary. Examples of successful energy-reduction initiatives are high-efficiency LED lighting, replacing older windows, doors and HVAC units, re-insulating walls, using renewable geothermal energy and waste heat to help heat and cool the Plex.
- The Finance Department is the designated leader for energy reporting requirements and holds overall responsibility for corporate energy management. The Infrastructure and Development and Community Services Departments are primarily responsible for recommending and implementing energy-reducing initiatives for operations and facilities throughout the municipality.

Recommendations

- Update carbon reduction targets to 2030
- Continue to expand the Town's Energy Management Plan (2019) beyond O. Reg. 507/18's mandate to monitor energy consumption for the Town's heated facilities to include targets and plans for OCWA - operated water and wastewater facilities, outdoor lighting and vehicles
- Publish annual reports on the Town's website (the last published is from 2018)

- Consider electric or hybrid (non-fossil fuel) options when replacing vehicles and equipment

Cost

Staff time; long-term costs will be offset through reduction of energy consumption.

Resources

- i. Town of Saugeen Shores Broader Public Sector Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan, Based on O. Reg. 507/18, 2019
<https://www.saugeenshores.ca/en/town-hall/resources/Documents/Energy-consumption-reports/Saugeen-Shores-Energy-Management-Plan-2019.pdf>

1.11 Engage with the County of Bruce regarding their 2022 Climate Change Action Plan

Rationale

- Saugeen Shores Council and Official Plan public consultation identified Natural Environment and Climate Change as one the top three land-use planning priorities for Saugeen Shores. Much of the municipality's land-use planning effort in the near future will be to ensure negative impacts to our natural features are mitigated.
- Bruce County provides planning services to Saugeen Shores. Therefore, learning the specifics of the County's Climate Change policies is important information for municipal staff, Council, and members of the public.
- A County Climate Action Plan is proposed in the 2022 Bruce County budget.

Cost

Staff time for review and collaboration.

Resources

- i. Plan the Bruce Natural Legacy Stakeholder Workbook, Saugeen Shores Sept. 27, 2021 COW Agenda [Natural Legacy | Plan the Bruce | Shaping Bruce County's Official Plan](#)
- ii. Plan the Bruce Natural Legacy Targets Discussion Paper, Feb. 28, 2020
- iii. https://ehq-production-canada.s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/bd35d54ce39311fee192679b778e5d7c8dca9432/original/1627994367/e08adf35c0eb2c172566f1e8a6f888e9_PTB_NaturalLegacy_TargetsDiscussionPaper_FINAL_28_02_2020-AODA.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAIBJCUK4Z04WUUA%2F20220124%2Fca-central-

[1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20220124T171321Z&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=1875da33bda3d0bd84f91203d79db18869c5815e630fcd2de0503946834da73b](https://pub-bucecounty.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=19934)

- iv. <https://pub-bucecounty.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=19934>, p. 15 and 102

1.12 Consider Climate Change best practices applicable to all Municipal new builds and renovations

Rationale

- Sustainable construction includes using renewable and recyclable materials when building new structures while also reducing energy consumption and waste, including features such as proper insulation, solar panels, green and cool roofs, and permeable surfaces.
- A green roof, or rooftop garden, is a vegetative layer grown on a rooftop. Green roofs provide shade, remove heat from the air, and reduce temperatures of the roof surface and surrounding air.
- Using green roofs in cities or other built environments with limited vegetation can moderate the heat island effect, particularly during the day. Green roof temperatures can be 30–40°F lower than those of conventional roofs and can reduce city-wide ambient temperatures by up to 5°F. In addition, green roofs can reduce building energy use by 0.7% compared to conventional roofs, reducing peak electricity demand and leading to an annual savings of \$0.23 per square foot of the roof's surface.
- Cool roofs present another option to reduce the heat island effect. Cool roofs are made of highly reflective and emissive materials that remain cooler than traditional materials during peak temperatures.
- While green roofs often have initially higher costs than cool roofs, green roofs typically have a longer expected life. Both cool and green roofs provide benefits of lower surface and air temperatures, and decreased energy demand. However, green roofs offer added benefits such as reducing and filtering stormwater runoff; absorbing pollutants and carbon dioxide; providing natural habitat; and in the case of intensive green roofs, serving as recreational green space. Cool roofs are best suited for projects with limited budgets and a primary focus on energy savings, while green roofs are preferred when lifecycle costs, public benefits, and broader environmental impacts are of interest. Both options are important strategies for mitigating heat island effects.

- Permeable pavement (also known as pervious or porous concrete) is a specific type of pavement with a high porosity that allows rainwater to pass through it into the ground below. Through this movement, pervious concrete mimics the natural process that occurs on the ground's surface, consequently reducing runoff and returning water to underground aquifers. It also traps suspended solids and pollutants, keeping them from the water stream.

Cost

Green roofs and conventional roofs can vary greatly in cost, but in very general terms, installing a green roof costs about twice as much as a conventional roof. However, based on experience in Germany, where green roofs have been widely used since the 1970's, green roofs are expected to at least double the lifespan of a comparable roof without greening (Porsche and Kohler, 2003).

Both pervious concrete and porous asphalt cost roughly 20 percent more to install than their traditional counterparts, with concrete costing slightly more to install than asphalt.

Resources

- i. [Cost-benefit considerations for green roofs - Minnesota Stormwater Manual.](#)
- ii. [Pervious concrete vs. porous asphalt](#)
- iii. [Benefits of a green roof - Sempergreen](#)
- iv. <https://sustainability.ncsu.edu/blog/changeyourstate/4-reasons-green-roofs-do-a-building-good/>
- v. [GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS RESEARCH REPORT FOR THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE](#)

1.13 Create a five-to-ten-year Capital Plan for installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure for inclusion in the 2023 budget

Rationale

- Beginning in 2035, vehicles with gas/ combustion engines will no longer be produced in Canada.
- A comparison of maintenance costs over the life span of a vehicle shows a significant savings for electric and hybrid vehicles.
- 70% of Canadian EV owners surveyed said they would only make daytrips and weekend excursions to destinations where EV charging stations are readily available.
- Drivers are concerned about being able to find a charging station during a trip, especially if they depend on public infrastructure.
- **"Range anxiety" also still exists, but big urban centres like Toronto can help address it.** (Theresa Di Felice, CAA, Assistant Vice President of Government and Community Relations)
- The recommendations in *Plugging In* (NII) include:
 - a) Develop a clear and coordinated strategy for installing EV charging capacity across the region, including Municipal commitments and collaboration to public charging infrastructure enhancements
 - b) Develop and share local expertise on EV technologies
 - c) Focus new public charging infrastructure investments on Level 3 highway stop charging locations
 - d) Work with local restaurants, tourism operators and other local points of interest to install Level 2 charging infrastructure
 - e) Work alongside regional partners to establish an EV charging station network
 - f) Communicate with EV drivers through tourism marketing network
 - g) Develop greater awareness with local auto mechanics about the emerging need for expertise in servicing EVs
- Commit to an annual increase in the number of available Level 3 EV charging stations. Include EV charging stations in all Municipal buildings, infrastructure changes such as a new pool facility.



- Investigate public/private partnerships to construct charging stations where they would benefit downtown access to shops and restaurants as well as other public parking areas.
- New business construction such as hotels/motels, grocery stores, residential housing subdivisions should be encouraged to include areas for Level 3 EV charging stations.

Recommendation

Explore options to annually increase the number of available EV charging stations and establish a policy to include EV charging stations in any and all municipal building infrastructure changes, such as a new pool facility.

Cost

Significant financial investment expected to be offset by user fees.

Resources

- i. [Canada to ban sale of new fuel-powered cars and light trucks from 2035 | Reuters](#)
- ii. [More Electric Vehicle \(EV\) charging stalls in new non-residential buildings will be plug-in ready to meet increasing needs | City of Vancouver](#)
- iii. [2021 BOMA Canada Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Guide](#)
- iv. [Toronto needs to speed up its electric vehicle infrastructure to meet targets, critics say | CBC News](#)
- v. <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/canada-ban-sale-new-fuel-powered-cars-light-trucks-2035-2021-06-29>
- vi. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2021/06/building-a-green-economy-government-of-canada-to-require-100-of-car-and-passenger-truck-sales-be-zero-emission-by-2035-in-canada.html>
- vii. [Plugging In: Why Bruce, Grey and Huron must prepare for an electric vehicle future by Ontario NII - Issue](#)

North Shore Port
Elgin Photo by
Odette Bartnicki



2.0 Protect Natural Assets and Resources

2.1 Enhance/review Water Quality, Waterfront Protection and Maintenance Policies and Programs

2.1.1 Update waterfront maintenance policies annually to include update information and resources about Climate Change and other environmental stressors

- In its Introduction, the 2021 Beach Maintenance Plan states:

“Effective waterfront stewardship is a function of balancing environmental, social, and economic interests. Often in the past, the environment was left out of the equation. In order to sustain our natural waterfront, we need to act now for the future.”

- Ontario's Protecting the Great Lakes website, published in December 2021, underlines this mandate with this statement:

“The health of the Great Lakes is under threat from a number of factors - increased levels of harmful pollutants such as excess road salt and plastic pollution, urban growth, managing nutrients, increasing harmful and nuisance algae, hardened shorelines and invasive species....

...Climate change is also challenging the ability of the Great Lakes to be resilient to the problems that can arise from severe weather and changes in water levels and in the thaw-and-freeze cycle. We must protect them and, where we find they are in decline, we must restore them to good health, so they remain drinkable, swimmable and fishable.”

Recommendation

Update waterfront maintenance policies and beach maintenance plan annually to include updated information and resources about Climate Change and other environmental stressors. To support this work, staff should annually review *Ontario's Protecting the Great Lakes*, including application for funding as outlined in this website. In 2021, Ontario invested \$10.9 million in multi-year funding which will support Ontario's commitment in the new Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health, a five-year agreement that sets out specific federal and provincial actions together with Great Lakes partners. Municipalities are eligible for this funding.

Cost

Staff time to review resources and update policies

Resources

- i. <https://www.saugeenshores.ca/en/explore-and-play/resources/Documents/Saugeen-Shores-Beach-Maintenance-Plan-2021.pdf>
- ii. [Ontario Protecting the Great Lakes](#)
- iii. [Great Lakes Local Action Fund | Ontario.ca](#)

2.1.2 Promote eco-tourism and prevent tourism-related environmental damage

Rationale

- Environmental sustainability can only be realized with changes to current practices and behaviours demonstrated by some residents, visitors and developers.
- Increase environmental awareness through education and communication.
- Survey feedback supports this recommendation.

Recommendations

- Increase awareness of eco-tourism and prevent environmental damage to tourism
- Implement an Environmental Ambassadors program to increase the education and information by dedicating summer students and By-law staff to this task

Cost

Staff time to develop expectations and provide training to ambassadors

Resources

[People have embraced Ontario's parks during the pandemic, but are they loving them to death? | CBC News](#)



*Saugeen
River
Photo by
Neil Menage*

2.1.3 Strengthen and implement a No-Smoking By-law at all beaches, parks and playgrounds

Rationale

- A review of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* (2017) and Ontario Regulation 268/18 and follow-up discussions with Grey Bruce Public Health on the requirements of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* and applicable regulations shows that the Town does not consistently enforce the signage requirements of the *Act*. Per Sections 8 and 9, smoking is prohibited within 20 metres of the perimeter of children's playgrounds, sporting areas and spectator areas of a sporting area.
- An onsite visit to some applicable public sites (Port Elgin main beach, Rotary skate park, Jubilee Park, Cameron Park, and Davey Park) demonstrated an absence of signage that complies with current regulations. As of August 31, 2021, Jubilee Park was the only venue of those listed that had no smoking signs, but these signs did not meet current requirements which address vaping and cannabis use as well. The only signage related to smoking at the Port Elgin main beach is a sign that indicates where to obtain a beach ashtray. Since then, three signs have been added to areas of Port Elgin's main beach.
- The Port Elgin main beach is used for the Saugeen Shores volleyball leagues and spectators. Therefore, these areas should be signed according to Provincial legislation.
- Cigarette butts on beaches are prohibited by By-law 54-2019, yet at the Port Elgin main beach, ashtrays are provided, and related signage directs beach goers to take an ashtray to the beach.
- By-law 54-2019 must be updated to comply with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* and applicable regulations to provide By-law enforcement personnel with clear authority for enforcement.
- Examples of no-smoking by-laws from other Ontario municipalities include:
 - a) Orillia has a By-law completely banning smoking on beaches (By-law 2019-37, article 2).
 - b) Lake of Bays By-law goes so far as to prohibit the littering of smoking-related items, as well as smoking itself through By-law 2019-034, Section 3.2 and bans smoking on beaches in Section 2.1.7.
 - c) Amherstburg By-law 2016-113 bans smoking on beaches.

- d) City of Kingston By-law 2018-173, Section 4.1.2 bans smoking on beaches. Regardless of the absence of signage, smoking in parks is prohibited. Beaches are included in the definition of “Park”.

Recommendations

- To ensure compliance with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* and associated Regulations, the Town must implement a non-smoking By-law at beaches, parks and playgrounds to protect the health of the beaches and beach users and to support the statement

“the town is a responsible steward in the protection of the natural assets and resources in our community”

- Consult with Grey Bruce Public Health regarding the requirements of the *Act* and Regulations
- Complete a comprehensive assessment of all playgrounds, parks, beaches, public sporting areas and spectator areas to ensure compliance with signage requirements of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* and applicable regulations
- Develop and implement a public awareness/communications plan regarding the requirements of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* and related legislation
- Reconsider beach ashtray program to ensure congruence with no-smoking legislation
- Enforce compliance with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* and applicable regulations
- Create designated smoking areas adjacent to areas where smoking is prohibited to facilitate compliance

Cost

Costs for updated signage, installation, communications and enforcement.

Some signage is provided by the Province of Ontario to facilitate compliance with the requirements, and if contacted may still provide a certain number of signs if available.

Resources

- i. Legislation – Smoke-Free Ontario Act, [Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017, SO 2017, c. 26, Sched. 3](#)
- ii. Regulation – Ontario Regulation 268/18 (last amendment O.Reg 197/20) O. Reg 268
- iii. [Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 - How the Act Affects: Sporting Areas](#)

- iv. [Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 - How the Act Affects: Children's Playgrounds](#)
- v. Examples of By-laws taken from the Ontario Public Health report on Ontario tobacco, cannabis and vaping by-laws (May 2020) [Ontario Tobacco, Vaping & Cannabis By-law Summary – May 2020](#)



Port Elgin Main Beach Photo by Neil Menage

2.1.4 Investigate and fund strategies to improve Canada Geese control

Rationale

- Staff have implemented a number of strategies to control the Canada Geese population along the shoreline. Canine control has not been used to date.
- Canada Geese populations can double in size approximately every three years.
- There is a documented correlation between geese droppings with beach closures.
- With increasing geese populations, there is also an increase in negative interactions with beach and walkway users, mostly in defence of their young.
- Canada Geese control is necessary to maintain recreational water safety and human safety. By controlling the geese population and their territory, the Town can manage the negative impacts of geese populations on human health, tourism and the local economy.

Recommendation

Investigate alternatives methods to control the expansion of the Canada Geese population, including canine control

Cost

Parks Manager, has advised that the cost of an experienced dog handler is in the range of \$1000.00 per visit.

Resources

- i. [Handbook for managing canada geese and cackling geese in southern Canada: chapter 3 - Canada.ca](#)
- ii. [E. coli | lhcc](#) (The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation)
- iii. [Best practices for capturing, transporting and caring for relocated Canada Geese : CW66-293/4-2011E-PDF - Government of Canada Publications - Canada.ca](#) (Government of Canada; Canada Goose Management)
- iv. [Geese Control](#) (City of Barrie)
- v. [Goose Management Program](#) (City of Oakville strategies)
- vi. [City brings back controversial geese management program | St. Thomas Times-Journal](#) (City of St. Thomas strategies)



North Shore Park Photo by Odette Bartnicki

2.1.5 Review best practices for road maintenance and potential alternatives to salt/calcium application

Rationale

- Recent studies show that salt concentrations in many lakes will exceed levels necessary for a healthy aquatic environment by 2050.
- Road salt applications started in Canada in the 1950s. Approximately five metric tonnes of salt are applied annually to Canadian roads. Annually Municipalities in southern Ontario use more than 100,000 tonnes of salt.
- Analysis of lakes in the Muskokas show that the remains of algae and microscopic animals (zooplankton) in lake sediment show changes coinciding with onset of road salt applications. There are now more salt-tolerant zooplankton species than before road salt was widely used, raising the question of how road salt application is affecting the biosphere.
- Some communities use beet wastewater as an alternative to road salt application. The sugars make it more effective at lower temperatures than salt water or brine, lowering the melting point of ice to below -20 C from -10 C and reducing the amount of chloride applied to the road. However, those municipalities who have used this type of application reported that residents didn't like the smell. Scientists say that beet wastewater also adds sugar to aquatic ecosystems, which may encourage bacterial growth.
- Some municipalities are looking at early tests with solar panels to replace asphalt and melt ice or heating water in pipes embedded in roads. Another method is to wet pavement and use brine, to prevent much of the rock salt from bouncing off road.
- The Committee was informed that Town staff investigated alternatives to salting and calcium a number of years ago, but since there have been technological advances in the interim, the Committee is recommending that staff review best practices for road maintenance and potential alternatives to salting/calcium.

Cost

Staff time to review alternatives

Resources

- [Use less road salt to protect Ontario ecosystem, urges WWF | CBC News](#)
- [Road salt is bad for the environment, so why do we keep using it?](#)

2.2 Develop and implement an Urban Tree Canopy Plan

2.2.1 Develop and implement tree protection By-laws applicable to public and private property within the urban area

Rationale

- Tree protection By-laws encourage the public to protect existing healthy trees and provide a deterrent to cutting, with reasonable exceptions and by permit only.
- Canadian legislation addressing tree protection is enacted and enforced at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels.
- Bruce County also has a Forest Conservation By-law applicable only to “woodlands” (defined by the Province) outside of the settlement areas.
- Because the urban forest is largely managed at the municipal level, it is municipalities who can pass these laws under the authority of enabling legislation from the Province of Ontario.
- The *Municipal Act* (2001) allows all municipalities to enact forest conservation By-laws to regulate tree cutting.
- Tree By-laws that apply to both public and private lands within the urban settlement area protect the urban tree canopy and deter needless destruction of healthy trees.
- The Committee has completed a comparison of municipal tree By-laws across Ontario for Staff reference.
- Responses to the ESAC survey indicate that the public has significant concerns about the loss of urban trees.
- Many municipalities in Ontario and across Canada have enacted or are in the process of developing tree By-laws so there is considerable experience upon which to develop a By-law for Saugeen Shores.
- Tree By-laws specify conditions for permits and exceptions for tree cutting.
- Arborists are sometimes employed to certify the health and integrity, or lack thereof, due to age or disease at the expense of the landowner.

Cost

Council may direct the development of a By-law to staff or to a committee appointed for such purpose. Costs for implementation would include permitting and enforcement by staff.

Resources

- i. [The Value of Trees October 20, 2021.pdf](#)

- ii. Trees the Miracle Municipal Asset (added with permission of Municipal World)
<https://www.municipalworld.com/articles/trees-the-miracle-municipal-asset/>
- iii. Bruce County Forest Conservation Bylaw
https://www.brucecounty.on.ca/sites/default/files/Blaw4071_updated%20July%202015.pdf
- iv. Tree Canada, Enabling Legislation, Municipal Bylaws and Regulations [05. Enabling Legislation, Municipal By-laws and Regulations – Tree Canada](#)
- v. Urban Forestry Legislation in Ontario, John W. Andresen, University of Toronto <https://pubs.cif-ifc.org/doi/pdf/10.5558/tfc53291-5>



River Road (Saugeen River) Photo by Neil Menage

2.2.2 Review and update the *Urban Forestry Management and Operational Plan for the Town of Saugeen Shores* developed by Kilgour & Associates Ltd. (May 2016)

Rationale

- A copy of a Draft *Urban Forestry Management and Operational Plan* prepared by Kilgour & Associates Ltd. in 2016 (Kilgour Plan) was shared with ESAC members. The document was never reviewed by Council and

is not a public document at this time. The document represents considerable work and is a good basis for the development of an Urban Tree Canopy Plan.

- Review of the Kilgour Plan, assessment and updating of 2016 data forms a baseline to measure current and future urban forest cover.
- The Kilgour Plan identified five goals:
 - a) Preserve and protect the urban forest
 - b) Enhance and expand the urban forest
 - c) Implement an efficient and effective tree management program
 - d) Work with partners to increase the urban tree canopy, its health and species diversity (increased tree planting and replacement)
 - e) Engage and coordinate stakeholders and citizens in the care of the urban forest
- The Kilgour Plan includes:
 - a) Detailed comprehensive tree inventory (completed in 2014/2015)
 - b) Detailed tree profile detailing types of trees and numbers
 - c) Community benefits of a well-managed urban forest
 - d) 20-year operational plan covering, among other things, an extensive implementation strategy, inspections and risk management, tree care and protection, tree planting and tree condition ratings.

Recommendation

Review the Kilgour Plan and determine which data remain relevant and Which measures need to be updated to provide a basis for the development of an Urban Canopy Plan

Cost

The Kilgour Plan contains valuable information and if used would reduce future costs. Staff time for review and assessment of data is required.

Resources

- i. *Urban Forestry Management and Operational Plan for the Town of Saugeen Shores*, Kilgour & Associates Ltd. (May 2016), Staff Files
- ii. [Forests Ontario](#)

2.2.3 Develop and implement a tree maintenance program

Rationale:

- Mature trees make an outstanding contribution to our natural environment and the aesthetic components of the Town for residents and visitors.

- They can sequester over ten times the carbon of 2-inch (nursery sized) replacement trees on an annual basis.
- Cutting down a 90-year-old tree will take 90 years for a replacement tree, or ten replacement trees, to perform the role of sequestering to an equal degree.
- Mature trees also provide tremendous value in terms of soil stabilization, ground water filtration, water and soil run off prevention, absorption of excess water after significant rains, noise buffering, shade and cooling, aesthetic value, human health and wellbeing, decreased crime, biodiversity and increased property values.
- Older legacy trees that are not sound can interfere with hydro lines and other infrastructure and can lose limbs during high winds, making them a safety concern. Proper maintenance significantly extends the life of mature trees.
- Protection of roots, strategic limb and/or partial crown removal can add two to three decades to the life of many mature trees.
- Protection and enhancement of legacy trees through the development of comprehensive tree maintenance will serve to enhance stewardship of trees by staff and community members.
- A qualified arborist is required to assess the health, size and likelihood of impact on specific trees by any proposed project and to perform maintenance work to extend the life of legacy trees. Some trees may need to be removed entirely when found to be unsound or unsafe. This may lead some members of the public to object due to strong emotional connections to these trees.

Cost

Council may direct the development of such a plan to staff, to a qualified arborist, or to a standing committee appointed for such purpose. Alternatively, Council would establish a connection with Tree Trust, a not-for-profit organization that assists communities in raising funds for the maintenance of legacy trees. While the current maintenance program is more reactive with regards to tree replacement, a proactive investment in tree maintenance is minimal in comparison to the benefits, including prevention strategies that may reduce insurance liability.

Resources

- i. Tree Trust, Elora Environment Centre, [About Tree Trust](#)
- ii. Tree [Preservation.org](#),
<http://www.treepreservation.org/maturetreepreservation.html>
- iii. A Guide to Preserving Trees in Development Projects, Larry Kuhns, Professor of Ornamental Horticulture, Pennsylvania University, 2017 [A Guide to Preserving Trees in Development Projects](#)

2.2.4 Develop a formal street tree planting program

Rationale

- Tree-lined streets enhance the aesthetic appearance of neighbourhoods, increase property values, improve economic outcomes by drawing in visitors, as well as providing a greater sense of health and wellbeing and crime reduction.
- A plan for planting common native species of trees along streets in all new developments as well as a renewal cycle for streets in areas with trees that are aging and beyond maintenance support will support the Town's urban tree canopy and enhance the value of trees for citizens and visitors now and in the future.
- A published plan for tree planting would guide projects, such as Saugreen for the Environment's annual tree sale, by setting priorities for areas and types of trees and where they are planted.
- Nurseries, conservation organizations and the SVCA may grow species that are native to the area or ones that have proven to be able to adapt to climate change.
- Biodiversity amongst tree species could be incorporated into the plan. A plan identifies for members of the public what is Town property and where street trees will be planted by identifying a clear setback distance.
- Developers and new homeowners would know the kinds of trees to be planted on specific streets to develop a coordinated appearance.
- A plan that indicates which streets would see renewal plantings over a 3-to-5-year term may deter homeowners from removing (unless for safety) or planting in the interim.

- Municipal tree planting plans can also assist with grant application.

Cost

Staff time will be needed to develop a comprehensive plan for development. Consultation with a local arborist may be required. Inclusion in the Official Plan may require community consultation which may carry costs.

Resources

- i. Street Tree Planting Program, The City of Hamilton, June 2021 [Street Tree Planting Program | City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada](#)
- ii. Tree Planting, City of Burlington, <https://www.burlington.ca/en/services-for-you/Tree-Planting.asp>

2.2.5 Review and revise existing By-laws, policies and programs regarding protection of public parkland, sensitive woodlot properties and developer parkland requirements

Rationale

The Town's Official Plan acknowledges the importance of tree preservation and provides in s. 6.8 that up to 5 percent of any new residential development must be designated parkland and up to 2 percent for any non-residential development. As an alternative, gross one hectare of land for every 300 houses may be accepted. Further, cash in lieu may be accepted with the Town's approval.

The Official Plan also promotes the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of trees in significant woodlands (4 hectares or greater).

The Subdivision and Site Plan Development Guide provides that a developer must plant one tree for each lot/block in the subdivision. The Town may accept cash in lieu of planting.

Recommendation

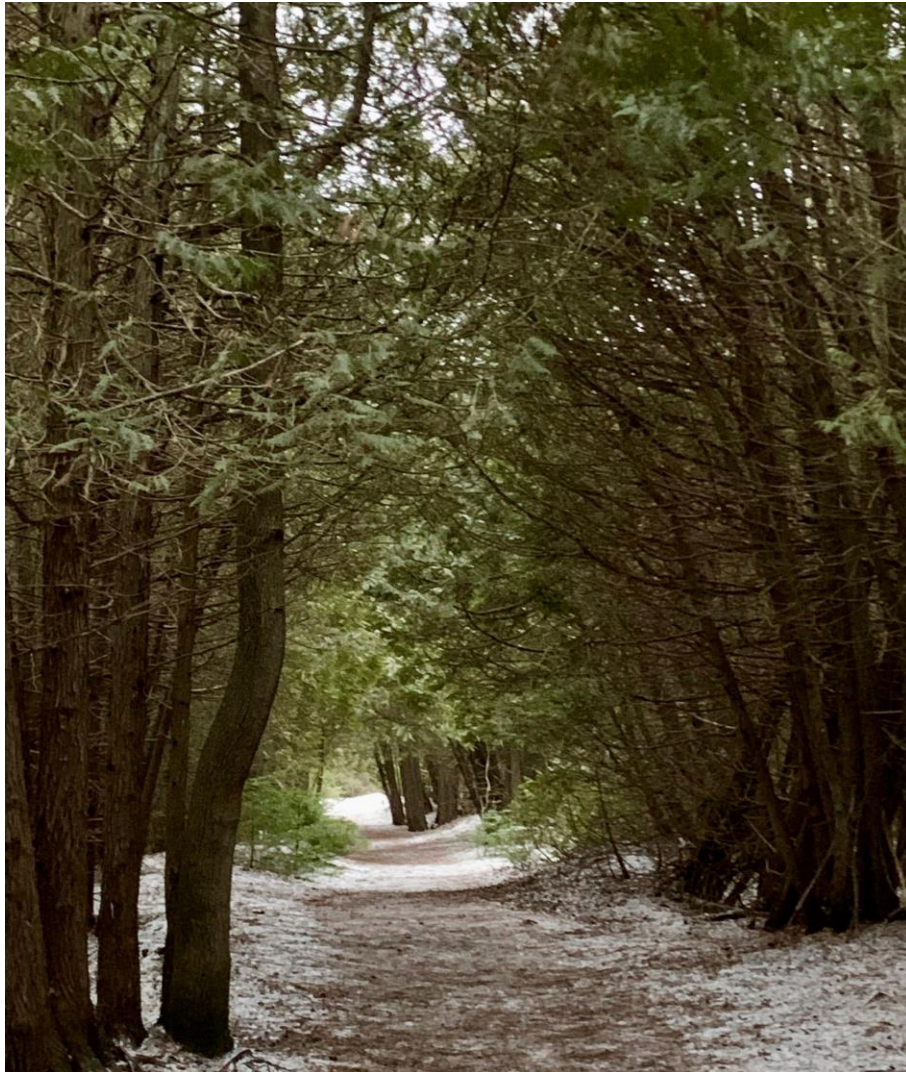
The By-laws, policies and programs should be reviewed and revised if necessary to ensure that the ratio of parkland, green space, wetlands and significant woodlands to developed lands within the urban area is maintained and increased where possible.

Cost

Staff time will be needed to review and revise as necessary By-laws, policies and programs.

Resources

- i. [Official Plan - Saugeen Shores](#)
- ii. [Subdivision and Site Plan Development Guide](#)



Biener Trail Photo by Andrew Bartnicki

2.2.6 Develop a toolkit of greenspace and parkland options for developers

Rationale

- During discussions in ESAC meetings, the Director of Infrastructure and Development Services suggested that a toolkit of greenspace/parkland options for developers would be a useful resource.
- In the nineteenth century, urbanists created large, landscaped parks in inner city spaces as “lungs for the city”. These green pockets of land enhanced the quality of urban life.
- Today, the pace at which current urbanization processes are taking place, poses urban challenges and enforces enormous pressure on the city, its environment and resources for making it a better habitat. Cities need to:

“include environmental and ecological concepts and to expand traditional disciplinary and professional frameworks for describing those urban conditions”.

- Urban green spaces play an important role in the sustainable development of cities. Green space interventions nourish the city’s existing character, improve environmental conditions, promote outdoor recreational spaces and active lifestyles, and protect biodiversity by creating wildlife habitats. On a larger scale, they also reduce heat island effects and reduce surface runoff. In recent years, emphasis is also given on their roles played to sequester carbon emissions and to improve the health of citizens. According to Haq (2011), benefits of urban green spaces are multiple and can be divided into three major categories:
 - environmental benefits
 - economic and aesthetic benefits
 - social and psychological benefits
- Develop a toolkit to be included in the Town’s Development Manual. Suggested options could include butterfly gardens, mini-forests with native species, green roofs, community gardens, parks, rain gardens, green walls.

Cost

Staff time to develop toolkit

Resources

- i. [Urban Green Spaces: Combining Goals for Sustainability and Placemaking – EuropeNow](#)
- ii. [Fast-growing mini-forests spring up in Europe to aid climate | Trees and forests | The Guardian](#)



Port Elgin Harbour Photo by Neil Menage

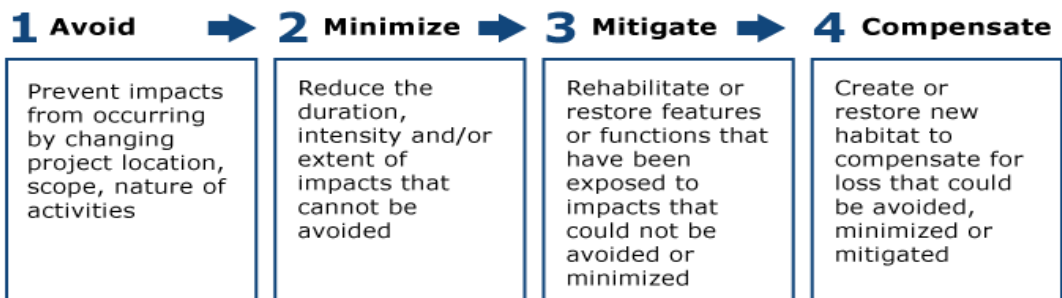


Port Elgin Harbour at Sunset Photo by Odette Bartnicki

2.2.7 Develop and implement ecological offsetting requirements for all new developments

Rationale

- Ecological offsetting policies require land developers to compensate for the environmental impact of their activities on the land. The goal is to maintain or increase the ecological features of the land.



- Ecological offsetting is a tiered system which seeks to:
 - Avoid environmental impact from development

- Minimize impact as much as possible
- Mitigation requires developers to undertake rehabilitation efforts to compensate for the loss
- Compensation is a last resort when none of the above steps is possible. Financial compensation based on an evaluation of the properties tree species, size and number is required and dedicated to rehabilitating or enhancing other property within the urban area
- Ecological offsetting differs from current Town practices which require developers to protect 5% of land under development in residential areas (2% in non-residential areas). Developers are required to compensate through cash in lieu when they are unable to meet these requirements. These funds go to the Parkland-in-Lieu Reserve and may be used for a variety of purposes, such as playground equipment, and are not specifically protected for natural enhancement of green space or for acquiring and protecting additional lands where significant forests and green spaces exist. The result of the current practice is that with continued development growth, Saugeen Shores could see a reduced ratio of green space per resident.

Cost

Staff time to develop new policy, consult with the development community, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority and community.

Resources

- i. Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority [Ecological Offsetting – Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority](#)
- ii. Credit Valley Conservation Authority [Ecosystem Offsetting Guidelines](#)
- iii. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority [Achieving Net Gains through Ecological Offsetting](#)

3.0 Improve Public Awareness and Participation

3.1 Improve public awareness of existing Environmental and Climate Change By-laws, policies and programs and introduction of new initiatives

Rationale

- ESAC Survey shows limited awareness of existing environmental programs.
- In response to the question: ***“Are you aware of any environmental programs or initiatives undertaken by the Town of Saugeen Shores?”***, approximately 70% answered ***“no”***.
- 88% of Survey respondents indicated that it is difficult to get information about local environmental initiatives.
- However, in answer to the question, ***“What services do you use?”***, respondents indicated high use (60-98%) of the following programs: Blue Box, cardboard recycling, leaf composting and hazardous waste recycling. (The discrepancy may be partially due to survey design.)
- Even popular initiatives, such as the Environmental Calendar and Plastic Film Recycling, were only used by approximately 35% and 45% respectively.
- The Committee worked with Wilfrid Laurier University to better analyze the results of the survey. Their analysis confirmed that a significant majority of the respondents indicated a limited awareness regarding environmental programs and initiatives, and they thought it was not easy to obtain information
- Another factor influencing these results may be that about one quarter of our residents are seasonal. As well, the Town hosts a large number of temporary tourists, many of whom are coming from larger municipalities with more inclusive waste diversion and reduction programs. Future communication strategies should take these factors into consideration.

Recommendations

- Continue to work on related commitments made in the 2017 Corporate Strategic Plan:
 - The implementation of a social media-oriented awareness building campaign, including a hashtag (#) branding exercise; and
 - Working with local school boards to build awareness about waste and waste-diversion best practices among students

- Review ESAC survey results as they relate to current communication strategies and implement improvements.

Example of community awareness communication signage:



*Courtesy of Salim Alibhai,
Director, Capital Planning &
Delivery, Transportation Services
Department,
The Regional Municipality of York*

Cost

Staff time to review and develop public communications policies

Resources:

- i. ESAC Survey Initial Results, ESAC Sept. 22nd minutes:
<https://saugenshores.civicweb.net/FileStorage/809304CFDA484CE187D75AA9A6EB1178-Minutes%20Sept%202022%20-%20Environmental%20Stewardship%20Ad-hoc.p>
- ii. [Town of Saugeen Shores Long-Term Waste Management Plan](#), Section 3.3.2
- iii. https://www.saugenshores.ca/en/town-hall/resources/Documents/Accessible-Reports-Plans-and-Studies/Saugeen-Shores-Corporate-Strategic-Plan_2020-update---web.pdf, Section 5.4, p. 39

4.0. Enhance Waste Management and Diversion Strategies

4.1 Review the current BASWR Blue Box program, including setting diversion targets for 2022-2025

Rationale

- Provincial Government data indicates that current practices have stalled with about 70% of our waste materials continuing to end up in landfills.
- Expanding the landfill will cost between 4 and 10 million dollars, which is an added burden on local taxation.
- The Town's landfill's lifespan can be extended significantly with improved waste diversion and reduction.
- Survey responses showed a desire to improve current waste practices to protect our environment and reduce impact on Climate Change.

4.1.1 Consider opportunities beyond Blue Box collection to meet and exceed Provincial requirements, such as:

- Consult with BASWR to assess the feasibility of collecting and stockpiling products not currently collected (e.g., Tetra Paks, waxed cardboard cartons) which will be included in enhanced Blue Box eligible recyclables in 2026
 - Conduct an analysis to determine costs of storage to 2026 compared to savings from extending the life of the landfill
 - Inform the public of why some types of packaging are not accepted by the Town's Blue Box collection program (e.g., Tetra Paks) so residents can make a fully informed choice as they purchase products
 - Investigate recycling opportunities beyond BASWR's current program
 - Consider solar trash compactors in popular public locations

Cost

Storage of currently unaccepted recyclables to December 2025; cost/benefit analysis should include savings from extending the life of the landfill; increased communications should be minimal cost

Resources

- [Ontario Enhancing Blue Box Program](#)
- [Blue Box Transition Schedule: Explanatory Note](#)
- <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2020/11/05/waste-diversion-reducing-emissions-the-focus-of-ontarios-proposed-blue-box-regulation.html?rf>
- <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?hl=en&shva=1#inbox?compose=DXDwSWwzpGMpkfjLRCFgFjVZkzJwTNslvhvnnVffPqbCdshcCMQMRNtwrpxwGntgrDvvlVrcDSITMnmxvNbnHqHKCQkScpMCTXkHsDHCmhDwbkpzCDHdfg&projector=1>

- v. <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?hl=en&shva=1#inbox?projector=1>
- vi. <https://grist.org/living/are-solar-compactors-actually-good-for-the-earth/>

4.2 Develop and implement a compost program to increase diversion of organic waste from the landfill

Rationale

- Decomposing food releases methane, a gas that is estimated to be 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Emissions from Canadian landfills account for 20% of national methane emissions. Methane also contaminates ground and water with leachate, liquid that leaks from decomposing landfill waste and eliminates any potential for reuse.
- 85% of the ESAC 2021 public survey respondents said they would make use of a municipal green bin collection program if available. The diversion of compostable material from the landfill would extend the landfill lifespan.
- The Town's 2020 Waste Management Master Plan reports that our overall residential diversion rate was estimated to be approximately 46.6% with greater than half of this due to diversion of organics. The Master Plan estimated that an additional 10-20% waste diversion can be achieved with a Green Bin collection program. BASWR estimates that collection, transportation and disposal fees for a Saugeen Shores green bin program would be in the range of \$35 to \$85 per household annually. The Town would benefit from some savings due to extension of the lifespan of the landfill due to reduced organics.
- In 2022, the Province of Ontario will start a phased-in ban of food and organic waste from landfill sites. This may not apply to Saugeen Shores for several years since it appears that the Province will allow for exemptions for rural, northern and remote communities. However, it is to the benefit of Saugeen Shores to extend the life of our landfill by implementing strategies as soon as possible.

4.2.1 Explore diversion options such as using the Southgate Compost Facility and/or the Alltreat Farms composting facility in Arthur

Rationale

- The Environmental Compliance Approval for the Municipality of Southgate composting facility permits acceptance of organics from within Bruce County and is not restricted to the Municipality of Southgate. "Alltreat Farms" in Arthur can accept material from Bruce County as well.

- The Township of Southgate provides an inspiring model for a small municipality using a successful green bin program. Seven years ago, Southgate's landfill life was estimated to be about 54 years – a healthy figure among Ontario landfills. Today, with improvements to its diversion programs, in 2017 Southgate looked at 74 years remaining in landfill life, a 37% increase in landfill lifespan from 2010. With a compactor and some other improvements to the site, staff are hopeful to see that number rise into the triple digits.

Cost

Southgate's 2020 total Solid Waste cost per household including compost collection was \$194.51. The population is 7,190. Costs over the last two years have increased significantly because of loads being rejected due to 'wish-cycling' and contamination.

Resources

- [One thousand tonnes a year diverted from waste to compost site | The Star](#)
- [Southgate Does More with Less – CIF](#)

4.2.2 Consider a pilot program where 100 FoodCycler household composting machines are offered at reduced prices

Rationale

- The FoodCycler FC-30 can process approximately two litres of food waste per cycle, converting it into a nutrient-rich soil additive for plants/ gardens or even pelletized for home heating purposes. It uses approximately 0.8 kwh of electricity per cycle (\$2 to \$4 per month).
- The FoodCycler is estimated to divert at least two tonnes of food over its expected lifetime, five to seven years.
- In September 2021, there were seven Ontario municipalities participating in this same project.

Cost

The cost to the Municipality could be \$12,995.00 (based on quote to Brockton).

Resources

- i. [South Glengarry implements FoodCycler pilot program](#)
- ii. https://www.brockton.ca/en/our-services/resources/Council/Council_Packages/Food-Cycler-Pilot-Program--Report-PW2021-19.pdf
- iii. <https://www.burksfalls.net/foodcycler-pilot-project>

4.2.3 Continue to offer composters and green cones to residents at cost, and enhance communications about their availability, as well as information about how to compost and other affordable types of household composting systems

Rationale

- The composter and green cone sale was suspended and reinstated a few years ago; therefore, increased publicity about their availability would be useful.
- ESAC survey respondents expressed an interest in green cones and said they didn't know they were available for purchase through the Town
- A number of ESAC survey respondents said that they didn't know how to compost. Consider adding 'how-to-compost' videos and articles on the Town website.

Cost Minimal cost using Communications staff and Town website

Resources

[How to compost at home: Rich soil for gardening | CNN Underscored](#)

4.2.4 Consider the establishment of community composting centres, similar to those used in Canmore, Alberta⁴

Rationale

- Neighbourhood collection depots could provide a more economical interim form of green bin collection until a Town or County-wide collection system may be implemented.
- ESAC survey respondents who live in condos or apartments commented that they are not able to compost, either because they don't have yards, or because they are not permitted to according to their leases. A neighbourhood collection depot system would provide food waste diversion options for a broader group of residents, especially as the number of residents who live in condos and apartments is expected to grow.

Cost

Implementation would result in extension of the lifespan of current landfill.

Resources

<https://fcm.ca/en/resources/gmf/cas-study-animal-proof-bins-wrapped-in-local-art-get-canmore-ab-composting>

4.2.5 Collaborate with the County of Bruce as it explores County-wide organics collections options

Rationale

⁴ 1 Communication with the staff of the Town of Canmore, Alberta (Nov. 2021) about their award-winning organics waste program resulted in the following information from Amy Fournier, their Energy and Climate Action Coordinator:

"We just added 10 new bins this September and while they are getting increased use it is too early to have meaningful stats, but we were previously achieving about an 11% diversion rate of residential garbage with the five pilot food waste bins. Capital costs include the haul-all collection bins, site preparation, an additional collection vehicle, and an expansion to our transfer station to manage the food waste separately from garbage, as well as free kitchen buckets for residents, plus there are operating costs for collection. Tipping fees for the processing facility (we don't have our own landfill or compost facility in town) are cheaper than landfilling and the compost facility is closer than the landfill, so we have some savings there. We operate on a utility model, meaning residents pay for the costs of waste collection, and the incremental annual cost increase for each household to have the five community waste bins was \$27.00."

- Economies of scale may be achieved through collaboration with other municipalities in Bruce County and possibly in Huron and Grey Counties as well.
- Both the Town's Long-Term Waste Management Plan and the MIC's Waste Management Services Review recommend waste-management collaboration among Bruce County municipalities.

Cost

Cost efficiencies should be able to be achieved in a County-wide green-bin program.

Resources

- [Town of Saugeen Shores Long-Term Waste Management Plan](#)
- Municipal Innovation Council's Dillon Consulting Waste Management Services Review, January 2021; [Waste Management Services Review](#)
- Waste-Free Ontario Act, section 2, [Waste-Free Ontario Act, 2016, SO 2016, c. 12 - Bill 151](#)
- Southgate certificate of approval A261602 [StormFisher](#)
- [Green Bin Recycling for Residents - Niagara Region, Ontario](#)
- [Food and Organic Waste Framework | ontario.ca](#)
- [The problem with Ontario's plan to ban food waste from landfills CBCNews](#)
- [Municipal solid waste and greenhouse gases - Canada.ca](#)
- [Recommendations for the Diversion of Food and Organic Waste in Ontario](#)
- [BIO-EN POWER INC.](#)

4.3 Raise public awareness of waste reduction and diversion opportunities

Rationale

- Survey results indicate limited public awareness of existing waste programs
- In answer to the question, "**What services do you use?**", respondents indicated high use (60-98%) of the following conventional programs:
 - blue box
 - cardboard recycling
 - leaf composting
 - hazardous waste recycling

- However, the survey showed that residents are less familiar with programs such as film plastic and styrofoam recycling.
- Seasonal residents and visitors may not be familiar with the Town's waste management strategies and may have expectations based on their home communities.
- Raising awareness should lead to improved compliance and further diversion from our landfill.

Recommendation

Publicize waste reduction and recycling opportunities, both public and private, in our community on the Town website and in the Town's Environmental Calendar.

Cost

Staff time to review and develop public communications regarding waste management and diversion strategies

Resources

- i. ESAC Survey Initial Results, ESAC Sept. 22nd minutes:
<https://saugeenshores.civicweb.net/FileStorage/809304CFDA484CE187D75AA9A6EB1178-Minutes%20Sept%202022%20-%20Environmental%20Stewardship%20Ad-hoc.pdf>
- ii. [ReCORK recycling drop-off and retail locations](#) (wine cork recycling)
- iii. [Every Contact Counts - Bausch + Lomb](#). (contact lens recycling)

4.4 Actively participate in the 2022 Bruce County Waste Master Plan for expansion of waste reduction strategies and implement the waste reduction recommendations in the Long-Term Waste Management Plan

Rationale

- The Town's 2020 Waste Management Plan (p. 87) suggests that the Town should consider opportunities for waste management partnerships with one or more local municipalities, at least in a preliminary manner, and be revisited when opportunity arises.
- In February 2021, the Municipal Innovation Council (MIC), of which Saugeen Shores is a member, presented its Waste Management Services Review to the Saugeen Shores Planning Committee. One of the main purposes of the MIC is to investigate opportunities for economies of scale.

- The Dillon Report discusses the following:
 - i. Potential to partner with other municipalities/organizations with high potential for cost sharing if implemented County-wide
 - ii. Examples of future County-wide programs could be reuse of materials, organics collection, recycling
 - iii. The report also recommends the following timelines:
 - 2022: enhance municipal collaboration and partnership
 - 2023: determine processing options for County organics
 - 2024: increase opportunities for reuse and sharing participation; implement County organics collection program
 - 2027: transfer all waste management roles to Bruce County

Recommendation

Participate in the 2022 Bruce County Waste Master Plan for expansion of waste reduction strategies and implement the waste-reduction recommendations in the Long-Term Waste Management Plan, as suggested in the MIC's Dillon report.

Cost

Staff time to collaborate with Bruce County and other municipalities

Resources

- i. [Town of Saugeen Shores Long-Term Waste Management Plan](#)
- ii. <https://saugeenshores.civicweb.net/FileStorage/A39701C68D954925B6B8D72DD81F2D2B-Dillon%20Consulting%20Limited%20-%20MIC%20Waste%20Management%20S.pdf>

4.5 Review and implement a construction waste diversion program

Rationale

- Increasing diversion rates and extending the landfill lifespan are both local and provincial objectives, especially with consideration to the amount of Construction, Renovation, and Demolition (CRD) waste in the Municipal waste stream. As of 2010, CRD represented 12% of the Ontario waste stream. Globally, 70-80% of CRD generated is being disposed of in developed countries.
- With a significant amount of material being sent to landfill, municipalities can direct CRD flow of material elsewhere through two means:
 - i. The creation of a municipal CRD program to recover and recycle materials. This opportunity often benefits from collaboration measures between municipalities to drive economies of scale.

- ii. The regulatory instruments and policy mechanisms designed to prevent waste, encourage reuse and mandate recycled content to drive a circular economy and greenhouse gas reductions.
- In Saugeen Shores, construction and demolition waste accounts for the rapid decrease in the landfill's life expectancy. Landfill tipping fees increased in 2020, and these increased tipping fees have increased diversion rates in the amount of construction waste with materials such as brick/concrete and wood. Although the Municipality is reusing construction waste for its own projects, e.g., crushing concrete for landfill roads, some municipalities have passed By-laws requiring that a large percentage of demolition materials are recycled or reused.

Recommendation

As outlined in the duties of the Committee, staff have already advised that they are exploring diversion of the Municipality's construction waste. Evaluating additional strategies will aid the Municipality in providing appropriate stewardship for the natural assets and resources in its care.

Cost

Staff time to explore construction waste diversion opportunities

Resources

- i. [The Role Of Municipalities In Driving Diversion and Recycling of Construction, Renovation and Demolition Waste - Reclay StewardEdgeReclay StewardEdge](#)
- ii. [Demolition Recycling Requirements | City of Surrey](#)

4.6 Develop and implement a single-use plastics reduction program

Rationale

- Single-use plastics are harmful to the Environment and contribute emissions that cause Climate Change at all phases of their life cycle.
- The manufacture of single-use plastics requires energy and materials including fossil fuels. Since these items have a relatively brief lifespan before ending up in our environment or in landfills.
- Less than 10% of all single-use plastics are actually recycled effectively and efficiently, even those collected through Blue Box programs.

- In October 2020, the Federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change released a list of single-use plastics to be banned in Canada by the end of 2021 based on three criteria;
 - Harmful in the environment
 - Difficult and/or costly to recycle
 - There are readily available alternatives to replace them
 - Plastic checkout bags, straws, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, food ware made from hard-to-recycle plastics.
- In 2019, the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016, was amended to eliminate the distribution and supply of single-use plastics in Ontario by 2025.
- Huron County, Ontario implemented a single-use reduction strategy in 2020 to help reduce single-use items at the corporate level. This strategy is not a policy or a ban, but to be used as a guide to suggest alternatives to many single-use items currently being used. Their strategy document describes common types of single-use items to be avoided: plastic straws and cutlery, disposable beverage cups, plastic shopping bags and take-out containers.
- The environmental impact of the disposal of single-use items is described, as well as recommendations and tips for implementation.

Recommendations

The Committee recommends that the Town of Saugeen Shores adopt a single-use item reduction strategy to encourage the reduction in the purchase, use, and disposal of single-use items among all departments under the Municipality. By adopting this strategy, employees of the Town of Saugeen Shores will help to minimize the municipality's environmental impact and improve its sustainability. This will also set an example for residents and businesses within the community. Consider a policy eliminating the sale of beverages in plastic bottles at Municipal facilities and installing more water-refilling stations at Town parks, trails and beaches.

Cost

Staff time to develop single-use item reduction strategy. Staff could consider expanding the memorial bench and tree sponsorship program to include water-refilling stations to defray costs to the municipality.

Resources

- i. [Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy](#)
- ii. <https://bluebayfield.ca/sample-page/>
- iii. [Single-Use Plastics 101 | NRDC](#)

- iv. [Canada officially bans single-use plastic and here's the list](#)
- v. [Single-Use Item](#)
- vi. *Sample Policies to Reduce Single-Use Items and Prevent Plastic Pollution* report, ESAC Agenda, Sept. 22, 2021

4.7 Evaluate and report on the feasibility of a clear bag waste disposal program

Rationale

- Clear bag waste disposal programs have been implemented in municipalities across North America for over a decade. Throughout Canada, over half a million households are involved in clear bag garbage collection programs. Within Ontario, approximately forty municipalities have implemented such programs, including West Grey.
- Potential to remove the regulatory bag limit or Pay As You Throw system (bag tags)
- The 2020 Town of Saugeen Shores Long-Term Waste Management Plan recommends that the Town eventually adopts a clear bag policy.

Advantages include:

- i. Increased diversion of recyclables and organic material from the waste stream
- ii. Removal of hazardous materials (i.e. batteries, paint, pharma, oil, etc.) from the waste stream
- iii. Increased worker safety by enabling the waste collector to see the contents of the bag and avoid hazardous waste items (i.e. sharp glass, needles, etc.)
- iv. Financial savings - Municipal experience has shown the inability to hide unacceptable materials in clear bags (including grass clippings, renovation debris, paint cans, food scraps and other items considered banned from the garbage stream) results in a significant reduction in general waste tonnage. Increased recycling of acceptable Blue Box items is also encouraged. When such material is removed from the curbside collection system there is a positive economic benefit to the municipality via avoidance/reduction of overall tipping fees and extension of landfill life.
- v. Overall diversion rates in municipalities using this show an average of 10% increase, but some have shown increases of almost 25%.
- Disadvantages include:
 - vi. Staff time and organization to implement public awareness and education and retailer interaction to ensure that the appropriate product (clear bags)

will be made available in the right locations at the right time to support the program.

- vii. Public concerns with privacy; most municipalities allow a privacy bag within the clear bag. Other options include filing a variance request form offering residents use of a periodic commercial document -shredding service.
- viii. This policy would require amending waste By-laws to define “clear” bag, allowable materials for curbside garbage, definition of a privacy bag and the allowable numbers of privacy bags.

Recommendation

Experience in other municipalities indicates that this type of policy is most effective when there is a green-bin program in effect. Consider adoption of a clear bag policy at the time a green-bin program is implemented.

Cost

The bulk of the cost occurs during the first year as promotion and education. A 2013 comparison of municipal costs showed a range of \$3,163 (household pop. 1537) and \$49,091 (household pop. 83,710). *Clear Bag Toolkit*, p.34

Resources

- i. [Clear Bag Garbage Program Implementation Toolkit: A municipal step-by-step guide](#)
- ii. Town of Saugeen Shores Long-Term Waste Management Plan, 2020, p. 79 and 83 [Town of Saugeen Shores Long-Term Waste Management Plan](#)
- iii. See *Clear Bag Report*, ESAC Agenda, Sept. 22, 2021

4.8 Investigate and implement programs for animal waste disposal in public spaces

Rationale

- Dog waste contains pollutants (nutrients and pathogens) that harm local waters. Nutrients cause excessive algae and weed growth and make water murky, green and foul smelling. Pathogens can make water unsafe for swimming and have been known to cause severe illness in humans. Dog waste leaches into soil and enters the water system.
- The Municipality’s *Animal Control By-law* (86-2015) requires dog owners to immediately remove and dispose of any feces left by their pet on any property other than their own. Despite this requirement, there are frequent public complaints about dog waste left on both public and private property. The Town By-law (86-2015) addresses the following:

- Dogs are prohibited from beaches from May 1 - October 1 (Part III, 5, a, i-iv)
- ***“Every owner of a dog, or person having custody of a dog, shall immediately remove and dispose of any feces left by the dog on any property, other than the owner’s property or the person’s property having care and control of the dog.”*** (Part VIII, 14. 1)
- A person who violates the above provisions may be guilty of an offence and on conviction may be liable to pay a penalty of not more than \$5,000 as provided in Section 61, *Provincial Offences Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P 33.
- While we encourage dog owners to “poop and scoop”, disposal in generic waste receptacles means it ends up in the landfill in bags which are often not biodegradable and therefore not compostable.
- The Town currently places eighteen dog waste bag holders throughout the Municipality. Bags are refilled regularly on a seasonal basis. Staff considered installing dedicated dog waste receptacles; however, it was decided dog waste can be disposed of in generic waste receptacles where contents go to the landfill.
- Vancouver has started using 30 dedicated dog waste receptacles which divert the waste from landfills (50,000 litres in 2019) by sending the collected waste to a wastewater treatment plant where it is repurposed as soil fertilizer and the methane is turned into biogas that powers the plant. Waterloo has a similar program.
- Providing reminders and easier options for dog owners to dispose of their dogs 'waste will protect our parks, trails and beaches.

Recommendation

Collect compostable dog waste bags, in dedicated dog waste receptacles which can be disposed of in the landfill.

Cost

Sutera In-Ground, Waterloo (www.sutera-inground.com) in an email to Parks Manager, January 7, 2022, wrote:

“I have been reviewing how we can best provide a solution for you to integrate our dog units into the Port Elgin park system. Below is an overview of what I have come up with and am looking for your feedback as to how this could work for you and determine if I am going the right direction with my thinking here. I was looking to offset the capital cost of

the unit itself to make it easier to work into your budgeting and approach it as a simple operating cost for the year.”

My plan would be to supply you with 10 units to start and amortize the cost of the units for a given period of time; I chose 3,5 and 7 years as options. The first amount is a variable price version with escalating increases to offset inflation and the other is a fixed price for the duration. I calculated this on a servicing program every 6 weeks which would have us come up with our truck and empty the units, a total of 8 collection dates for the year. We could play around with the frequency of collection, but I based it off what our busiest units fill up with in Waterloo & Mississauga and if servicing the area, we would want to get to all 10 to be efficient.”

- 7-year Service program - \$199 a service/unit Year 1 going to \$266/unit Year 7 or \$225 a service/unit fixed for the 7 years
- 5-year Service program - \$225 a service/unit Year 1 going to \$273/unit Year 5 or \$250 a service/unit fixed for the 5 years
- 3-year Service program - \$280 a service/unit Year 1 going to \$317/unit Year 3 or \$299 a service/unit fixed for the 3 years

So, you are looking at a program cost of roughly \$16-\$23,000/year to start depending on what amortization period. This removes and saves anyone from your end to handle this and they can be used elsewhere to help offset this cost.

The units themselves are \$3490/unit and for servicing aspects I start with a route of 10 so that was my starting point here.”

Follow-up context, total annual parks waste management budget is approximately \$35,000.

Resources

- [Do You Scoop The Poop?](#)
- [Keep dog poop out of landfill for the environment's sake, experts say | CBC News](#)
- [What to do about doggy doo-doo? Vancouver councillor has an idea | CBC News](#)

4.9 Review and consider membership in AECOM’s National Solid Waste Benchmarking Initiative (NSWBI)

Rationale

- According to its promotional materials, membership in the NSWBI provides tools and resources to allow municipalities to assess solid waste management systems’ performance more accurately against key goals, indicators, and criteria. The waste management sector is rapidly changing, especially as it relates to policy including product stewardship, Individual and Extended

Producer Responsibility and Circular Economy programs to drive Zero Waste Initiatives within Canada.

- The NSWBI was established in 2011 in response to an increasing number of requests for solid waste management benchmarking. Through the development of the initiative, municipal members have developed a number of performance measures to directly compare their solid waste management systems with other municipalities provincially and across Canada.
- Highlights of the NSWBI include:
 - i. Annual Summary Report consolidates all the Performance Measure data from each participating community in a series of graphs and tables and provides a snapshot of what is happening with Solid Waste Management across Canada
 - ii. Quarterly Technical Webinars – these webinars provide information on current and emerging waste management topics
 - iii. Annual Workshop - 3-Day In-Person Event hosted by a member community
 - iv. Communication forum to provide member communities with access to solid waste management information directly from other member communities across Canada
 - v. Anticipated improvements to this initiative include the planned consolidation with other AECOM initiatives including the Canadian Infrastructure Benchmarking Initiative (CIBI) and Water/Wastewater Benchmarking Initiative (WWBI). The integration of AECOM's web-based platforms and virtual benchmarking systems may provide added value to current and new NSWBI members.

Recommendation

Consider membership in the AECOM NSWBI program 2023 with evaluation of the program in 2022 (based on staff recommendation to ESAC)

Cost

\$9,500.00 plus HST (2022)

Resources

[National Water and Wastewater Benchmarking Initiative](#)

- 5.0 Consider an accredited Environmental Management System (EMS), such as ISO 14001, to measure progress towards identified Environmental and Climate Change objectives**

Rationale

- An EMS will facilitate the integration of environmental stewardship and sustainability into all Municipal processes to effectively achieve Environmental and Climate Change objectives.



- An EMS is a process that enables an organization to reduce its environmental impacts and promotes environmental sustainability. It is a framework that helps an organization achieve its environmental goals through ongoing review, evaluation, and improvement of its environmental performance.
- Ongoing review and evaluation will identify opportunities for continuous improvement in the environmental performance of the organization.
- ISO 14001 is the international standard that specifies requirements and provides audits for an effective EMS. It provides a framework that an organization can follow, rather than establishing environmental performance requirements. ISO 14001:2015 helps an organization achieve the objectives of its environmental management system.
- Benefits of a Municipal Environmental Management Plan certified to the ISO 14001 standard include:
 - i. Better environmental performance
 - ii. Reduction of environmental impacts
 - iii. More efficient use of resources, which leads to reduced operating costs
 - iv. Demonstrates commitment to reaching legal and government standards
 - v. Demonstrates commitment to the environment
 - vi. Better management of environmental risks, now and in the future.

Resources

- i. [What Is an Environmental Management System? | ASQ](#)
- ii. [Learn About Environmental Management Systems | US EPA](#)
- iii. [Environmental Management Systems for Municipal Infrastructure](#)
- iv. [ISO - ISO 14001:2015 - Environmental management systems — Requirements with guidance for use](#)
- v. [City of Edmonton's Environmental Management System](#)
- vi. [Environmental Management System - City of Richmond Hill](#)
- vii. [Environmental Policy Plaque 2021](#)
- viii. Bruce Power [Environmental Policy](#)
- ix. [Master List of EMS Documents](#)
- x. [Environmental Law](#)

Appendices

Appendix A: Glossary

Appendix B: Terms of Reference

Appendix C: Supporting Staff and Experts Consulted

Appendix D: Live Virtual Event: January 19, 2022, 7-8 pm
*Making a Difference One Person at a Time:
Measuring Your Carbon Footprint*

Appendix E: ESAC Survey and Results

Appendix F: Wilfrid Laurier University Collaboration

*Memorandum, Professor McLeman to
Saugeen Shores ESAC, 31Dec2021*

Wilfrid Laurier University Introduction to
Sustainability Class ES 296 Student Reports:

- (a) A Communication-Based Approach to Enhancing
Sustainability Within the Community of Saugeen Shores
- (b) Saugeen Shores Report

Appendix G: Survey Responses – Written Comments

Appendix A: Glossary

AECOM: Multinational Engineering Company - Acronym Name stands for Architecture, Engineering, Construction, Operations and Management

Blue Dot: A program within the David Suzuki Foundation to advance the legal recognition of every Canadian's right to a healthy environment.

Bruce Area Solid Waste Recycling (BASWR):

Formed in 1990, BASWR is a not-for-profit organization which delivers recycling services to its member municipalities: all lower-tier Bruce County municipalities except for North Bruce Peninsula.

Conservation Authority (CA):

Ontario has 36 Conservation Authorities, local watershed management agencies which are mandated to ensure the conservation, restoration and responsible management of Ontario's water, land and natural habitats. CAs are governed by the Conservation Authorities Act, originally enacted in 1946, and administered by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

EFS Plastics: Located in Listowel, Ontario, EFS Plastics Inc. is a recycler of post consumer 100% sustainable (PCR) resin pellets.

ESAC: Environmental Stewardship Ad Hoc Advisory Committee appointed by Council in April 2021.

Expanded Polystyrene (Styrofoam) (EPS):

A synthetic aromatic polymer made from the monomer styrene, which is derived from benzene and ethylene, both petroleum products. Polystyrene can be solid or foamed.

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM:)

An association of nearly 2,000 municipalities of all sizes representing more than 90% of Canadians. FCM works with local governments to tackle national and global challenges. The Town of Saugeen Shores is a member municipality.

GHGs: Greenhouse gases include water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone and some artificial chemicals such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) which absorb and re-radiate energy, warming the atmosphere and the surface of the Earth. This process maintains the earth's temperature at around 33 degrees Celsius, warmer than it would otherwise be, allowing life on Earth to exist. The current levels of CHGs in the Earth's atmosphere due to human activities – particularly burning fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas), agriculture and land clearing reducing natural carbon sequestering – are increasing the concentrations of greenhouse gases to a level that results in changes to the Earth's climate. This is often referred to as global warming.

Green Infrastructure: Elements include natural assets (wetlands, forests, parks, lakes/rivers, fields, soils) and designed and engineered elements that have been created to mimic natural functions s (rain gardens, bioswales, urban parks, stormwater ponds, permeable pavement, green roofs, rain barrels, green walls, cisterns).

Grey Bruce Trash Taxi: A professional garbage removal service which entered into an agreement with Saugeen Shores in 2019 to collect film plastic waste.

ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability):

An international non-governmental organization that promotes sustainable development. ICLEI provides technical consulting to local governments to meet sustainability objectives. Established in 1990, its original name was International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives.

Municipal Innovation Council (MIC):

Formed in 2020 under the umbrella of the Nuclear Innovation Institute, the MIC membership includes the County of Bruce and seven lower-tier Bruce County municipalities, including Saugeen Shores. MIC members work collaboratively to realize more efficient solutions to common municipal problems such as waste management, public transportation, attainable housing, etc.

Nuclear Innovation Institute (NII): Based in Saugeen Shores, the Nuclear Innovation Institute (NII) is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides a platform for accelerating the pace of innovation in the nuclear industry.

OMAFRA: Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Official Plan (OP): In Ontario, an official plan describes an upper, lower or single-tier municipal council or planning board's policies on how land in a community should be used. It is prepared with input from the community and helps to ensure that future planning and development will meet the specific needs of the community. The Official Plan shall be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) issued under the Planning Act and shall not conflict with any applicable provincial plans. OPs must be regularly updated ten years after a municipality prepares a new comprehensive Official Plan or every five years after an update done through an amendment to the plan.

Partners for Climate Protection (PCP):

A national network of over 400 municipalities with the shared goal of acting against climate change and reducing local greenhouse gas emissions. PCP has a website offering tools, case studies and other resources to help municipalities meet their climate goals and receives funding from FCM's Green Municipal Fund and ICLEI Canada.

Pathogen: A bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that can cause disease

Town of Saugeen Shores Senior Management Team (SMT):

CAO, Clerk, Directors of Community Services and Operations, Development Services, and Protective Services; Managers of Human Resources and Strategic Initiatives, and Chief of Police

Wish-cycling: Wish-cycling describes the act of throwing items that are not recyclable into the recycling bin because you think you are doing the right thing. Contamination of your recycling bin can effectively contaminate the entire load of recyclables headed to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF).

Zoning By-Law:

A zoning by-law controls the use of land in your community. It states exactly how land may be used, where buildings and other structures can be located, the types of buildings that are permitted and how they may be used, and lot sizes and dimensions, parking requirements, building heights and setbacks from the street.

Appendix B: Terms of Reference

Environmental Stewardship Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

1) Mandate

Environmental sustainability is a guiding principle of the Town of Saugeen Shores. The Town's Corporate Strategic Plan asserts that the municipality is conscious of the natural assets and resources in its care and is a responsible steward in the protection of those assets and resources.

In that spirit, the Environmental Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee will review existing municipal environmental stewardship programs, assess their effectiveness and recommend, to Council, changes where appropriate.

The Committee will also develop, for Council's consideration, achievable recommendations for new municipal environmental initiatives. The purpose of these initiatives will be to aid the municipality in providing appropriate stewardship for the natural assets and resources in its care and to mitigate against the effects of climate change in the community. The Committee will prioritize its recommendations for implementation.

2) Committee Composition

The Committee shall be comprised of the following:

- a) Two (2) Council Representatives (one of whom shall be a appointed Chair);
- b) One (1) Municipal Staff Representative;
- c) Three (3) citizen members (to be appointed from Council's approved Committee Pool);

The municipal administration will provide staff resources to record the proceedings of the Committee and to advise and assist the committee in achieving their mandate. Quorum for meetings will be 50% of the membership plus one.

3) Duties of the Ad-hoc Advisory Committee

- a) composters/green cones, in-house waste diversion programs (film plastic, e-waste, tires, light bulbs, cardboard, Styrofoam etc.), tree sales and the environmental calendar. This review will not include programs administered by third parties such as BASWR or the County of Bruce.

- b) The Committee will work with municipal staff to develop achievable recommendations for new, practical environmental stewardship initiatives. These initiatives should be offered to Council at a high level, seeking Council's approval at a conceptual level before staff time is committed to detailed work and execution.
- c) The Committee will present all recommendations to Council in their final form within 8 months of the Committee's first meeting after having been appointed by Council.
- d) The Committee will be dissolved when its final recommendations are presented at a meeting of The Committee will work with municipal staff to review the existing environmental stewardship programs that are run by the Town of Saugeen Shores; including the sale of Council.

4) Selection of Membership

The Members of the Committee will be selected by Council upon recommendation from the Striking Committee.

5) Authority

- a) The Committee shall adhere to a communications plan developed by the municipality in any effort to involve and/or receive public input.
- b) The Committee members shall only be appointed for the specific purpose of making the recommendations as described in these terms of reference.
- c) The Committee shall not have the authority to direct municipal staff in the carrying out of their duties.
- d) Approval and implementation of the Committee's recommendations will be at the discretion of Council.

6) Budget

- a) The Committee is not authorized to expend or commit municipal funds. All Committee members are volunteers and will receive no remuneration for their time. Remuneration for Council members shall be in accordance with the Council Remuneration Policy.

7) Reporting

- a) The Committee Chair and municipal staff will facilitate the final report to Council and any interim reports to Council that the Committee may wish to make from time to time.

Appendix C: Supporting Staff and Experts Consulted

Staff Support (provided through delegations, written reports, technical and investigative expertise)

- Lisa Billing, Manager, Recreation
- Frank Burrows, Manager, Parks
- Tracey Edwards, Deputy Clerk
- Amanda Froese, Director, Infrastructure and Development Services
- Heather Hyde, Economic Development Officer
- Laura Moscone, Communications Specialist
- Jill Roote, Manager, Strategic Initiatives
- Colin Saunders, Manager, Environmental Services
- Kara Van Myall, Chief Administrative Officer
- Linda White, Clerk
- Allison Wiber, Administrative Assistant
- Sarah Wilson, Executive Assistant

Professional/Guest Speakers and Support:

- Dela Avle, President, Saugeen Shores RailTrail Association
- Bill Bowden, President, Southampton Residents Association
- Luke Charbonneau, Mayor, Saugeen Shores
- Addison Frei, Perrin Grace, Matt Young: AMP Trio
- Anahi Reyes Gomez and Angelina Giordano, Partners for Climate Protection, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Anna Gordon, Engagement Coordinator, Project Neutral
- Mariana Higgins, Lead Community Animator, Project Neutral
- Janice Jackson, Warden, Bruce County and Mayor, South Bruce Peninsula
- Ben Lobb, Member of Parliament for Huron-Bruce
- Professor Robert McLeman, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University
- Jake Miller, Director, Project Neutral
- Matt and Drea Nelson, GM BluePlan, regarding Saugeen Shores Landfill Expansion
- Mike Rencheck, President and CEO, Bruce Power
- Chad Richards, Director, New Nuclear and Net Zero Partnerships, Nuclear Innovation Institute
- Jami Smith, Councillor, Saugeen Shores
- Catherine Tolton, Photography
- Dana Van Allen, Director of Communications, Nuclear Innovation Institute
- John Willets, regarding Tree Retention and Preservation Policies

Appendix D: Live Virtual Event: January 19, 2022

Making a Difference One Person at a Time: Measuring Your Carbon Footprint

Wednesday, January 19, 2022, from 7-8 p.m.

ESAC Partnered with the Nuclear Innovation Institute (NII) and Project Neutral to host an event for Saugeen Shores Community, Grey and Bruce Counties and beyond. The purpose of the event was to use a carbon calculator to raise awareness of one's personal carbon footprint and focus on lifestyle changes that can reduce the carbon footprint.

Councillor Cheryl Grace spoke about ESAC and various projects implemented by the Town.

Odette Bartnicki defined Climate Change and Global Warming and provided examples from across Canada in 2021.

Chad Richards spoke of the new not-for-profit Net Zero Nuclear Innovation Institute.

Anna Gordon of Project Neutral walked all participants through the carbon calculator.

Chad Richards moderated a panel of guest include:

- Dela Avle, President, Saugeen Shores RailTrail Association
- Bill Bowden, President, Southampton Residents Association
- Luke Charbonneau, Mayor, Saugeen Shores
- Janice Jackson, Warden of Bruce County
- Ben Lobb, Member of Parliament for Huron-Bruce
- Mike Rencheck, President and CEO, Bruce Power
- Jami Smith, Councillor, Saugeen Shores
- Taylor White, ESAC Member

243 registered for the event. 155 participants stayed on the program for the entire hour.

Feedback was generally positive and indicated that knowing the scores from the calculator encouraged people to initiate some changes to reduce carbon emissions.

A few people indicated that they experienced technical issues getting on to the platform. One indicated that they felt the carbon calculator was geared to high end purchases such as electric cars and failed to provide practical options. However, the Project Neutral site does allow participants to dig deeper into specific areas and find ideas and recommendations for reducing carbon emissions.

- Media Release: [Carbon Calculator Event Media Release.pdf](#)
- Video of Event: <https://youtu.be/ZonMnDxVqys>
- Project Neutral Carbon Calculator: [Project Neutral](#)

Public Feedback from Carbon Calculator Virtual Event; January 19, 2022, 7-8 PM

The following are comments and ideas from the Q&A and Chat during the event, and emails following the event sent to participants. They are unattributed for privacy reasons:

- Surprised that only 57% of survey respondents were concerned about climate change
- Is the calculator only intended for use in southern Ontario? Answer: It can apply to other geographical regions, but it was designed with southern Ontario in mind.
- Results of your own carbon calculator can be found in your Project Neutral account. The results are confidential, so will not be emailed to you
- It is expensive to buy an electric vehicle
- Long-term costs of owning and operating an electric vehicle shows a net savings over gas-operated vehicle.
- Political parties need strong climate policy to be relevant
- Federal action is important for climate action and should include incentives, expansion of the electric vehicle infrastructure and investments in clean energy
- Hope that industry and government will entertain work from home to cut down on commuting-related emissions
- We need public transit in the Bruce-Grey region
- Net Zero should be considered v Carbon Zero - there are ways to reduce carbon footprint by offsetting
- Resource for more plant-based meals [What You Need to Know About a Healthy Vegetarian Eating Plan - Unlock Food](#)
- "Flight allowances" for Canadians - a cap-and-trade system for flight allowances. Would need federal government support - https://www.thestar.com/local-guelph/opinion/2022/01/01/a-flight-allowance-system-for-canada.html?itm_source=parseapi
- Natural gas is still a fossil fuel so not good for home heating.
- It is a bit misleading to promote natural gas as a low emission source of energy. It is a fossil fuel, and a good electric heat pump system would be a much better solution. 2-3 times the efficiency but the cost of natural is still cheaper...
- In addition to supporting Hi-Berry Farms locally, supporting Eat Local Grey Bruce also helps to support all types of local producers in Grey Bruce so food not travelling from many parts of the world. <http://eatlocalgreybruce.ca/>
- Grey Agricultural Services has a course next week on understanding GHG emissions from animal agriculture: <https://www.greyagservices.ca/courses-webinars>
- The advantage of Green Cone Digesters is that you can put meat and dairy products into them. They are digesters, not composters. I do both, using compost bins for vegetable matter, so I can use that compost in my garden .

- Much of the ability to make impactful, responsible decisions are linked to privilege and income (e-vehicles/metal roofing). As a single parent with limited income, simple changes at home (compost, chickens, vegetarian...) is all I am able to do YET if there were more initiatives in the community to access and be involved in (sharing library, tree planting initiatives/native species in public spaces, low footprint living community teachings...) my family would be able to participate and contribute.
- We must get rid of bottled water-to see people with 4 cases of water in the grocery cart is unreal! That cost + fuel to transport it to the home + environmental costs + recycling the plastic etc. These are huge impacts on carbon scores!
- Have an order in for an electric snowmobile.
- Ford's decision to offer an electric F150 model is a big deal. They've picked their most profitable product line. The question will be whether F150 buyers and dealerships buy them. Ford sells \$42B annually in F150 trucks.
- Hybrid is a step in the right direction.
- We have amazing trails for active transportation in Saugeen Shores! Thanks to all.
- Excellent show streaming on CBC Gem ... Curb Your Carbon ... or We're Toast! Narrated by Ryan Reynolds. Uses humour and good information. Should be seen by all high school and elementary school students . . . as well as all their parents, uncles, aunts, and grandparents
- Strongly in favour of tree protection in Saugeen Shores
- We have to make environmental efforts affordable and accessible to all.
- Thank you very much for hosting this evening. Excellent discussion. The carbon calculator was insightful. Much appreciated! (many similar comments of appreciation)
- From Project Neutral: No shame, no blame, friends. It's all about awareness and taking the first step that YOU can. Don't dismiss the thing that you can do, however small you perceive it to be. :)
- Appreciate the idea of and effort displayed in bringing together a number of politicians, corporate and community leaders to discuss the work that we must all put in to reduce greenhouse gas emissions was an excellent one; however, we found that the carbon calculator survey seemed to be geared to leading one towards predetermined conclusions, i.e., buy an electric car, buy a heat pump
- There were too many variables not considered in the questions to make the results valid, i.e.. 'home size for a family of two" and it didn't offer any suggestions for small steps, i.e. the meat meal question was incomplete because it didn't take into account proportions, nor did they ask about meat-free meals per week. The emphasis seemed to be on major personal efforts
- The carbon neutral symposium was fantastic. The individual contributions and openness of the participants coming from different sectors was inspiring. The design of the calculator site is very well done. Nonjudgmental, intelligent, helpful, personalized actions. Really exciting!

Appendix E: ESAC Survey and Results

- The Environmental Stewardship Ad Hoc Advisory Committee's survey was available to the public from August 16 - September 17, 2021, in digital and paper form. The Committee received and analyzed 506 digital and 29 paper surveys.
- The survey was publicized by media release, posted on social media and through email distribution to local residents' associations and non-profit organizations, as well as Saugeen District Senior School (SDSS). It was digitally available on the Town's website. Paper copies were available at the Town office as well as at the Port Elgin and Southampton Library branches, Ralph's Hi-Way Shoppette, Southampton Arts Centre and ReMind Wellness.
- Committee members Odette Bartnicki and Cheryl Grace spoke about the Environmental Stewardship Committee and the survey to members of the Southampton Rotary Club and Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Southport.
- The Committee worked with Professor Robert McLeman, Wilfrid Laurier University, to design the survey and analyze the results. Professor McLeman's and his students' analyses can be found in Appendix F.
- The Committee is grateful to everyone who completed the survey and provided additional written comments. Responses were used by the Committee in preparation of this Report and will be further considered by Council and staff during their review of this report.

ESAC COMMUNITY SURVEY

Thank you for participating. Please know that all responses remain anonymous.

Purpose statement:

The purpose of this survey is to engage the community within the Town of Saugeen Shores, to seek input on community interests and needs in terms of local environmental stewardship and sustainability to inform the goals of the ESAC.

Environmental sustainability, meeting the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs, is a guiding principle of the Town of Saugeen Shores. The Town's Corporate Strategic Plan asserts that the ***"Municipality is conscious (aware) of the natural assets and resources in its care and is a responsible steward in the protection of those assets and resources."***

In that spirit, ESAC will:

- Review existing municipal environmental stewardship programs to assess their effectiveness and recommend to Council, revisions and additions where appropriate; and
- Develop, for Council's consideration, achievable recommendations for new municipal environmental initiatives.

Question 1a: Which of the following three statements best describes your home/household?

- My/Our Saugeen Shores residence is my/our primary home (this includes lease and rental)
- My/Our Saugeen Shores residence is my/our secondary home.
- I/We do not live in Saugeen Shores. I/We are a Friend of Saugeen Shores as visitor, business owner or other.

Question 1b: Please check one of the following, only if you own and operate a business

- I/We operate a community service business.
- I/We operate a community retail business.
- My/Our business is agriculturally based.
- My/Our business is based on tourism.
- My/Our business employment is related to Bruce Power.
- Other, the general nature of my/our business is:

Question 2: How long have you lived in or frequented Saugeen Shores or operated your business here (please check one)?

- Less than 5 years
- 5 to 10 years
- More than 10 years

Question 3: Please describe the people who live in your household by selecting all that apply.

- Infants or children of preschool age
- Children in elementary school (Kindergarten to Grade 6 or 8)
- Children in secondary school (Grade 7-12)
- Adult children living at home while attending post-secondary school or training
- Adult(s) of working age
- Retired adult(s)
- Adults (18+) who are cared for by others at home or by outside care providers
- I don't live in Saugeen Shores

Question 4: How satisfied are you with the quality of life in the Town of Saugeen Shores?

- Very satisfied
- Mostly satisfied
- Satisfied by some aspects, dissatisfied others
- Mostly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Question 5: Are you aware of any environmental programs or initiatives undertaken by the Town of Saugeen Shores?

- Yes
- No

If you answered 'yes 'please describe them in the space provided below:

Question 6: In a general sense, which of the following environmental challenges concerns you the most? Check all that apply.

- Greenhouse gas emissions/climate change
- Water pollution in rivers, streams and lakes
- Air pollution (from traffic, industry)
- Municipal waste disposal and management
- Protection of wildlife/endangered ecosystems
- Protection of beaches and shorelines from pollution
- All of the above concern me
- I am generally not as concerned about environmental challenges as I am with other issues

Question 7a: Which environmental programs/resources do you currently use? Check all that apply. Municipal programs:

- Blue box and recycling
- Composters and/or green cone composting (at-cost purchase from the municipality)
- Cardboard recycling
- Plastic film recycling
- Styrofoam recycling
- Annual spring tree sale
- Leaf waste compost yard
- Environmental calendar
- Hazardous waste collection
- Electrical and electronic equipment
- Fluorescent bulb recycling
- Used tire recycling
- Propane tank recycling
- Household battery recycling
- Parks and trails
- Active transportation (bicycling, rollerblading, walking etc.)
- Electric Vehicle charging station
- Mattress recycling

Private or business-run programs:

- Habitat for Humanity - Restore
- Wine cork recycling
- Green cone (not purchased from the Town)
- Composter use (not purchased from the Town)
- Rain barrel

- Beer store bottle return
 - Other: please write in any you use that are not on the list and/or suggestions for other environmental programs/services/resources you see a need for.
-

Question 7b: Do you find it easy to make use of the programs listed above?

- Yes
- No

Please explain your answer

Question 8: How do you feel about the extent of support from the Town of Saugeen Shores for existing environment-related initiatives?

- Existing initiatives are adequate, and the Town of Saugeen Shores should not devote additional resources.
- Existing initiatives are not adequate but despite this, the Town of Saugeen Shores should not devote new resources.
- Existing initiatives are not adequate, and the Town of Saugeen Shores should try to allocate more resources, without raising taxes.
- Existing initiatives are not adequate, and the Town of Saugeen Shores should allocate more resources, even if this requires a modest increase in taxes.

Question 9: How are you accessing information about local environmental resources and initiatives/stewardship programs? Check all that apply.

- Town website
- Specific environmental websites
- Newspaper
- On-line news media
- Word of mouth
- It is difficult to find information
- It is easy to find information

Question 10: Would you like to be able to access more information about local environmental resources and initiatives? Select one answer.

- Yes
- No
- Somewhat interested
- Very interested

Question 11: Which of the following do you consider to be the most important natural environmental assets and/or resources in the Town of Saugeen Shores? Select no more than 5 (five).

- Forests and street trees
- Air quality
- Lake Huron
- Saugeen River and its tributaries
- Beach
- Wildlife
- Walking/biking trails
- Wetlands (Marshes and Streams)
- Fields and soil
- Parks and green spaces

Please add comments if there are things that you think should be considered an environmental asset or resource not on the list above:

Question 12: The municipal landfill site has approximately 12 years remaining for use, after which expansion/creation of a new landfill is either not possible or would cost millions of dollars. A large quantity of compostable material continues to end up in the landfill. One way to help extend the lifespan of the landfill is to prevent compostable material from being combined with household garbage. Would you make use of a food waste composter if the Town of Saugeen Shores provided you one free of charge?

- Yes
- No

Please explain your selection (Why or Why not?).

Would you make use of a municipal green bin collection service if the Town of Saugeen Shores provided you with curbside pick-up?

- Yes
- No

Please explain your selection (Why or Why not?).

Question 13: Does the garbage collection program (including the bag tags) in general motivate you to use recycling or composting programs?

- Yes
- No

If no, please explain:

Question 14: Do you have ideas about how our community might further reduce the amount of garbage that ends up in landfill?

Question 15: How would you like to see the Town of Saugeen Shores support or enhance environmental stewardship and sustainability? Select up to 5 (five) choices from the list below.

- Implement municipal composting program (free for the backyard or curbside pick-up)
- Develop climate change initiatives. Develop and implement a climate change plan.
- Support businesses to encourage environmental initiatives
- Protect, preserve and restore the local tree canopy – forest and street trees
- Facilitate education and outreach to raise awareness of available resources and local initiatives, sustainability literacy, workshops, research
- Implement waste reduction strategies
- Strengthen environmental municipal policy – stewardship and sustainability-focused (sustainable purchasing, waste reduction, tree protections)
- Recognize and support people and businesses who are environmental stewards
- Enhance parks, conservation areas, trail systems, beaches and waterfront areas
- Protect Water Resources (water consumption, water pollution)

- Enhance initiatives and municipal policy on energy & buildings (green buildings, LED, lighting, energy efficiency projects, zero-waste buildings, net-zero operations)
 - Expand Electric Vehicle Fleet and EV charging infrastructure
 - Other (please describe):
-
-
-

Question 16: In your experience, how easy and safe is it to go to key locations within our community (e.g. beach, shopping, schools, parks, etc.) by cycling, walking, skateboarding, or other forms of active transportation? Check those that apply:

- I can get to most places I need/want to go easily and safely using active transportation.
 - I can get to some of the places I need/want to go by using active transportation, but not all.
 - I cannot get to most places I need to go safely or easily by using active transportation.
 - I do not feel that the cycling or other active transportation (skateboarding, rollerblading etc.) options in our community are adequate and/or safe.
 - I do not feel that the options for walking are adequate and/or safe.
 - It is not convenient for me to travel by bicycle and/or by walking or other active transportation regardless of the options. (Please explain in space provided below.)
 - Other: Please add comments regarding the active transportation options in Saugeen Shores.
-
-

Question 17: Are you a business owner?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please answer questions 18 – 22:

Question 18: As a business owner, which environmental programs do you make use of?

Question 19: As a business owner what environmental programs would you LIKE to make more use of?

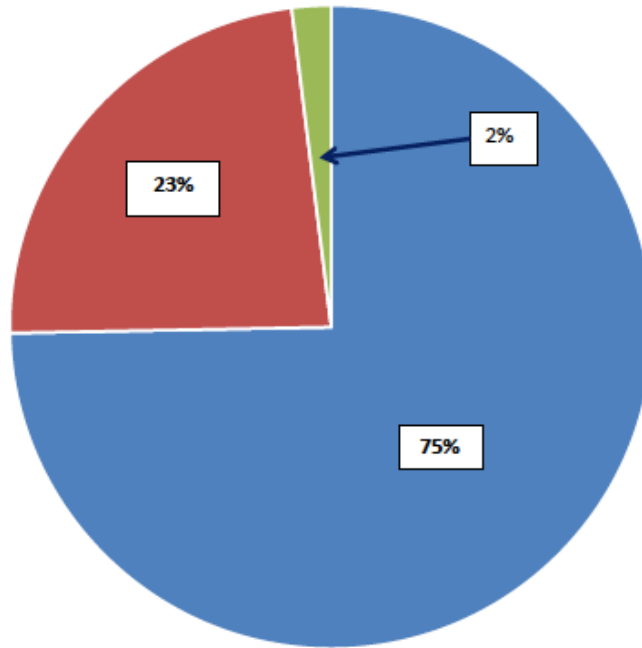
Question 20: What are the challenges you find (if any) to using municipal environmental programs as a business owner?

Question 21: Business owner – are there environmental stewardship activities or programs that you have implemented at your place of business that you feel could be implemented more broadly in the Town of Saugeen Shores? If yes, please explain.

Question 22: Business owner – is there opportunity for local businesses to improve environmental stewardship or sustainability? If yes, please explain.

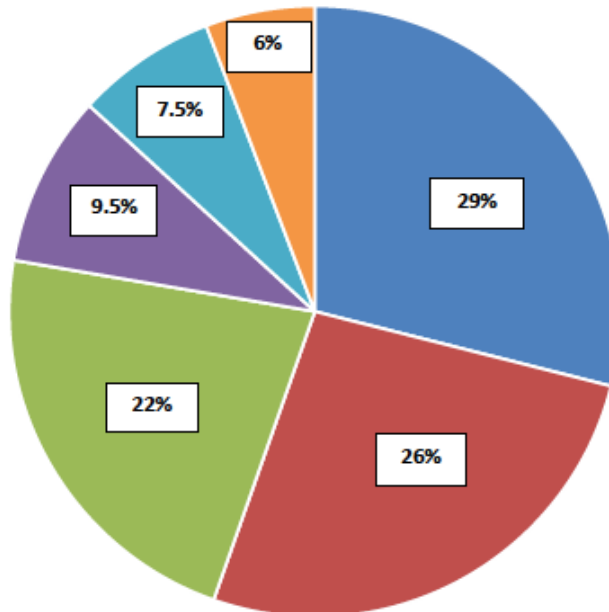
Survey Results

Q1a. What best describes your home/household?



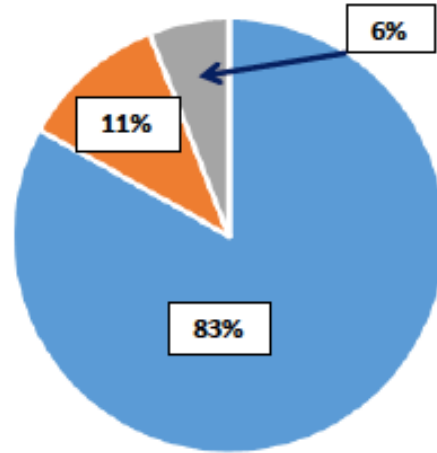
■ Primary home/residence ■ Secondary home ■ Do not live in Saugeen shores

Q1b. Business owner? Type of business (n =46)



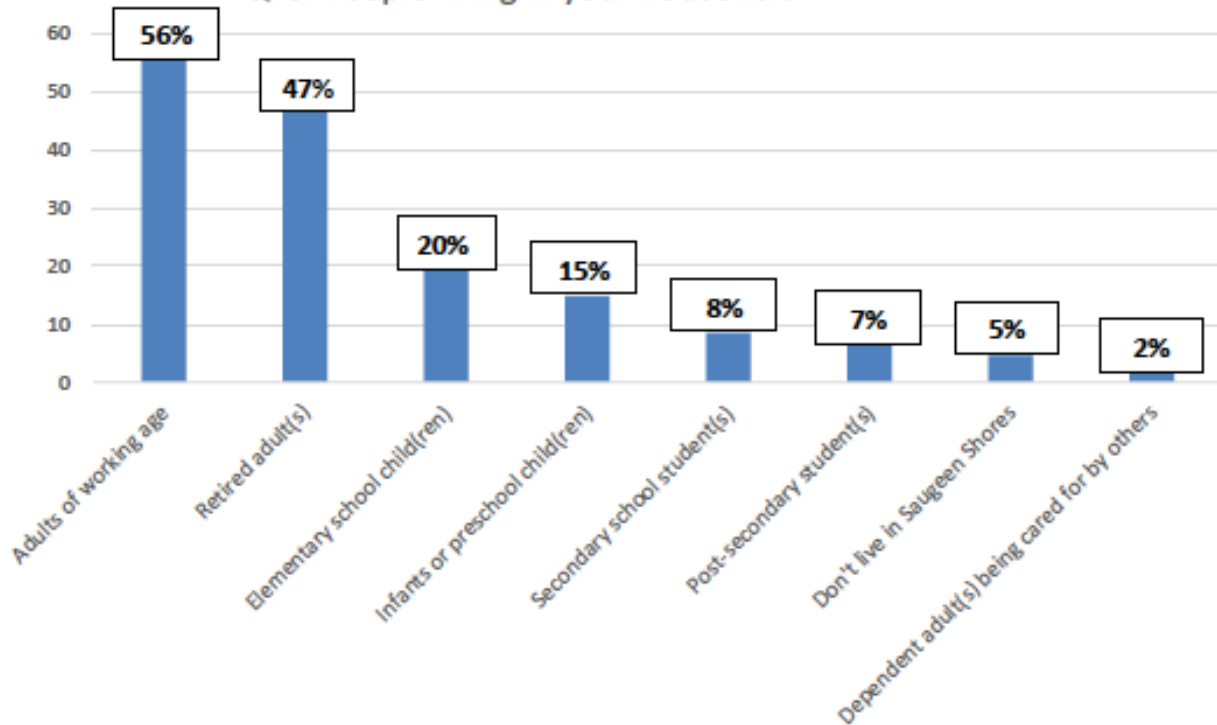
■ Community service ■ Bruce Power ■ Other ■ Tourism ■ Retail ■ Agricultural

Q. 2: How long have you lived in Saugeen Shores?

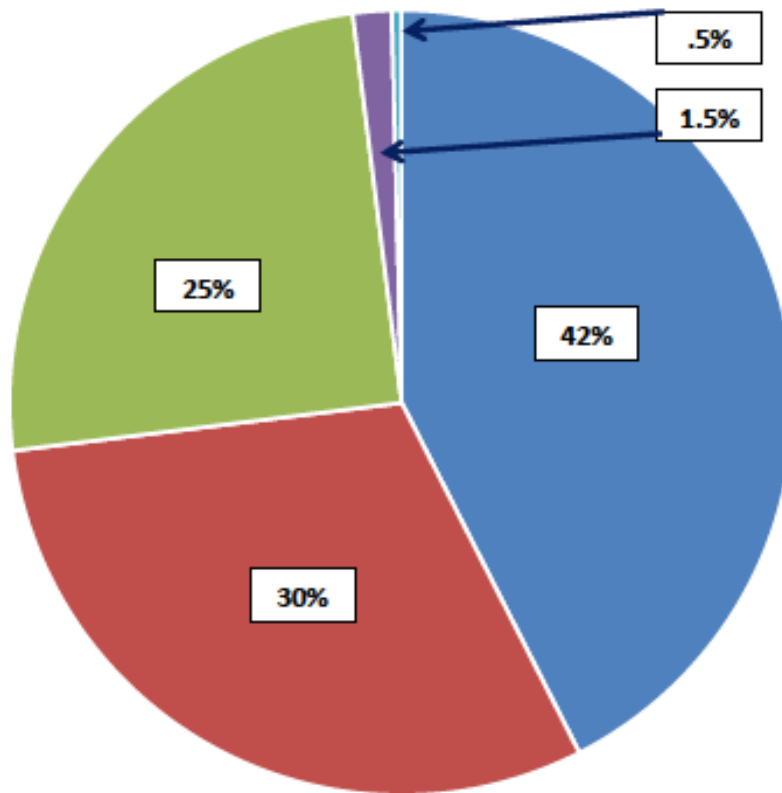


- More than 10 years:
- Between 5 and 10 years
- Less than 5 years

Q. 3: People living in your household?

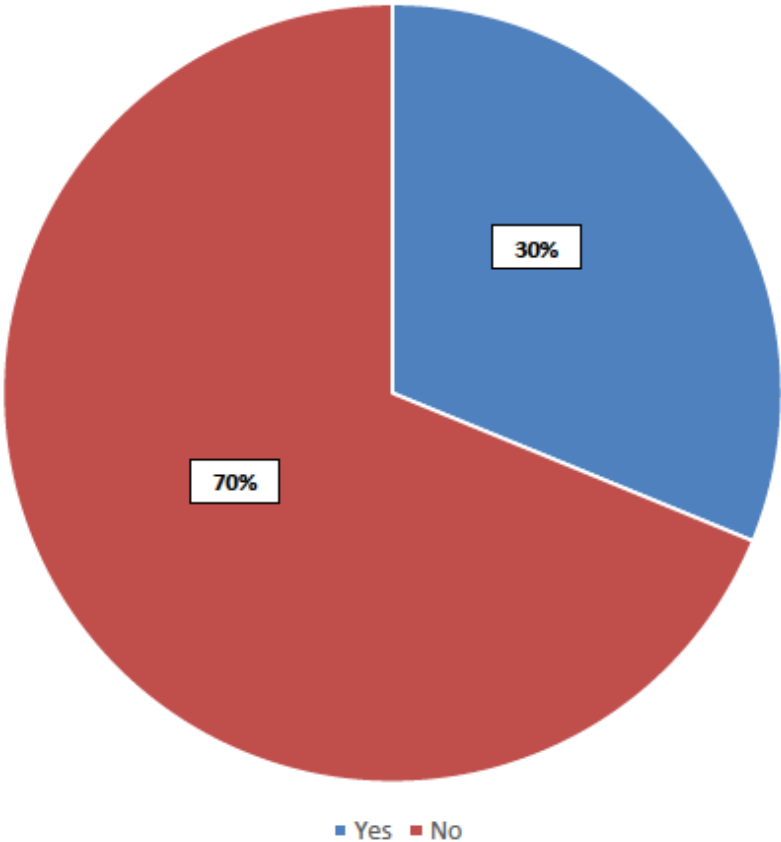


Q. 4: How satisfied are you with quality of life in Saugeen Shores?

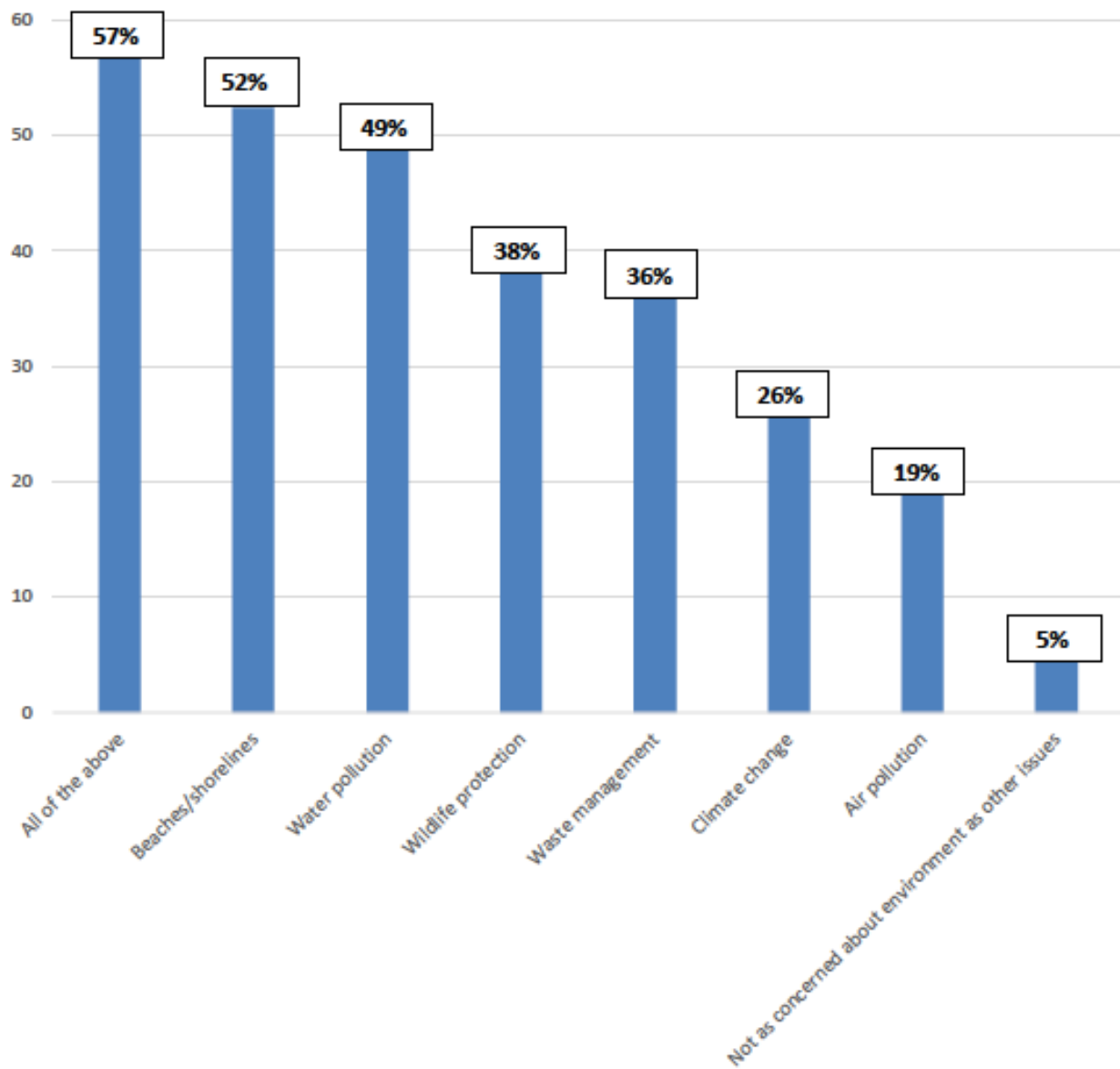


- Mostly satisfied
- Satisfied by some aspects, dissatisfied others
- Very satisfied
- Mostly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

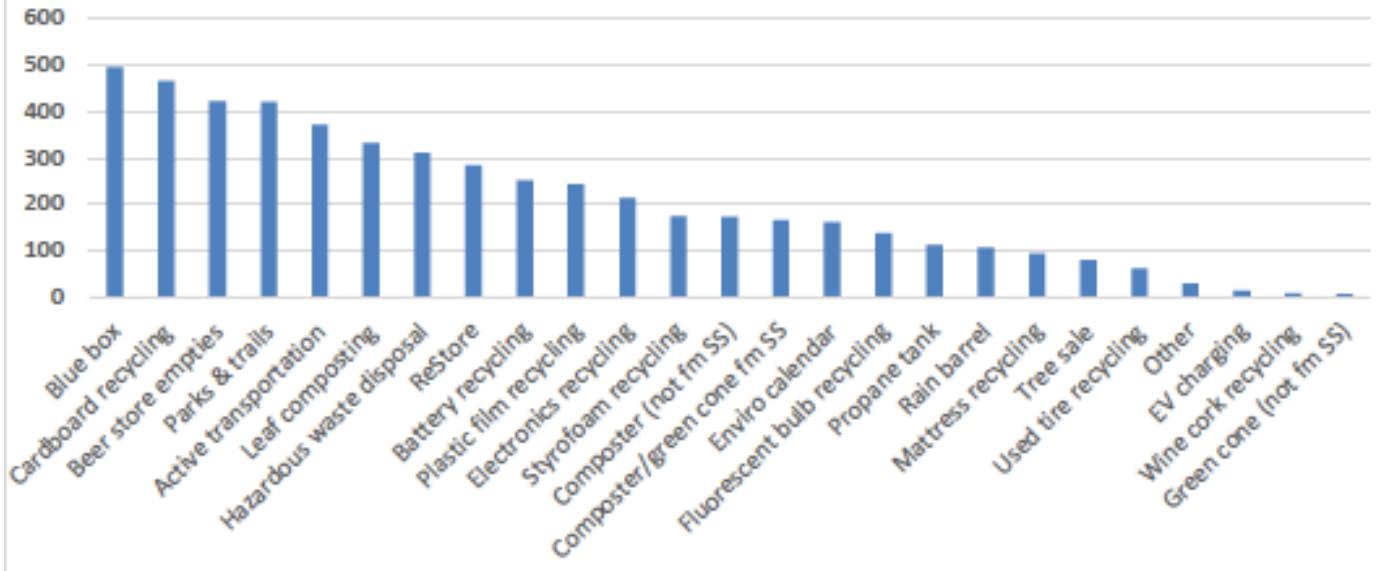
Question 5: Are you aware of any environmental programs or initiatives undertaken by the Town of Saugeen Shores?



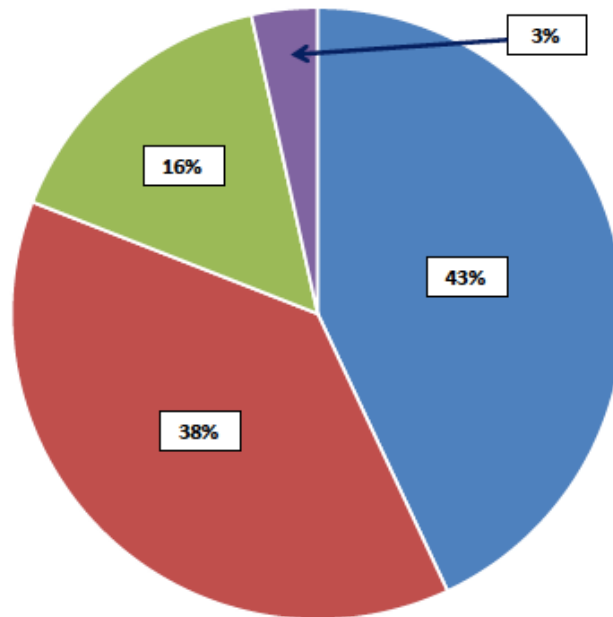
Q6: which environmental challenges concern you most?



Question 7A: What services do you use?

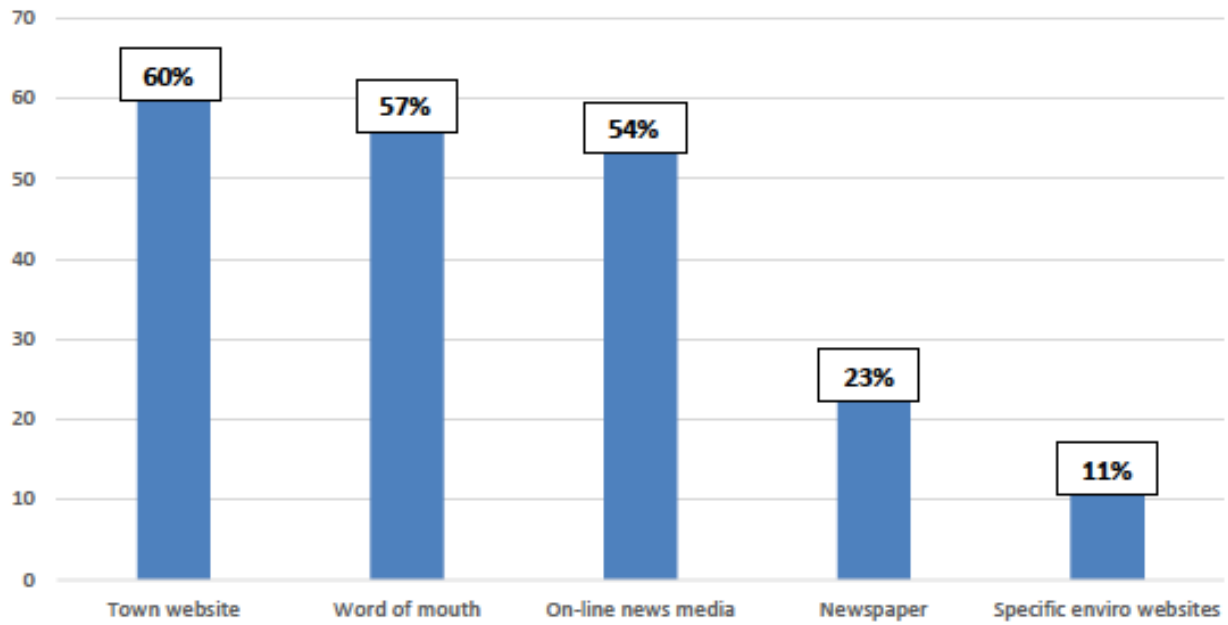


Q8: How do you feel about current support from the Town of Saugeen Shores for environment-related initiatives?

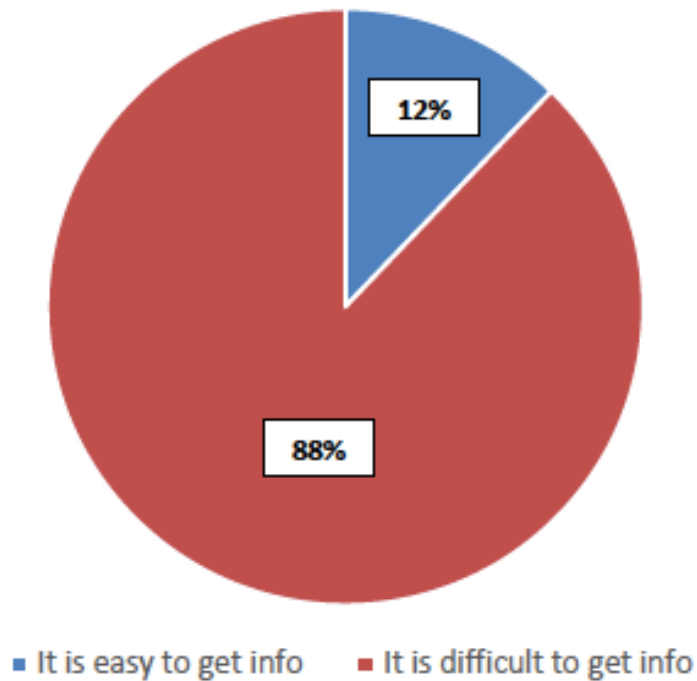


- Not adequate, but no new taxes
- Not adequate, modest tax hike ok
- Adequate, no additional resources needed
- Not adequate, but no new resources should be devoted

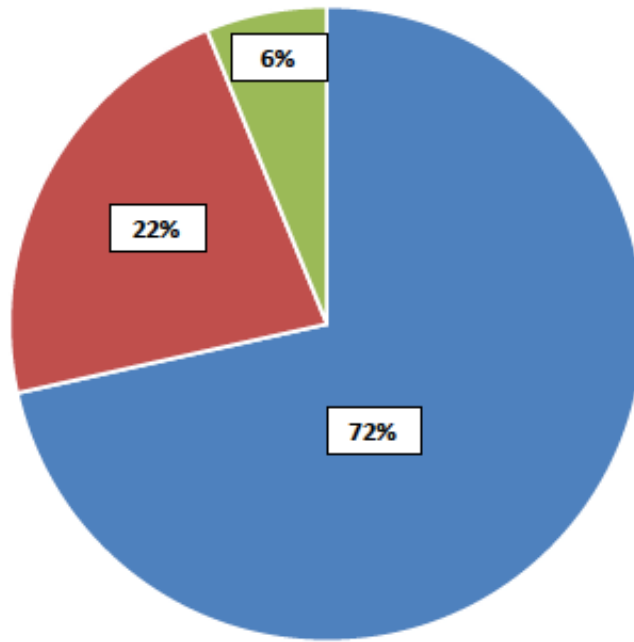
Q9: How do you get info about local enviro initiatives?



Q9: Is it easy to get info about local environmental initiatives?

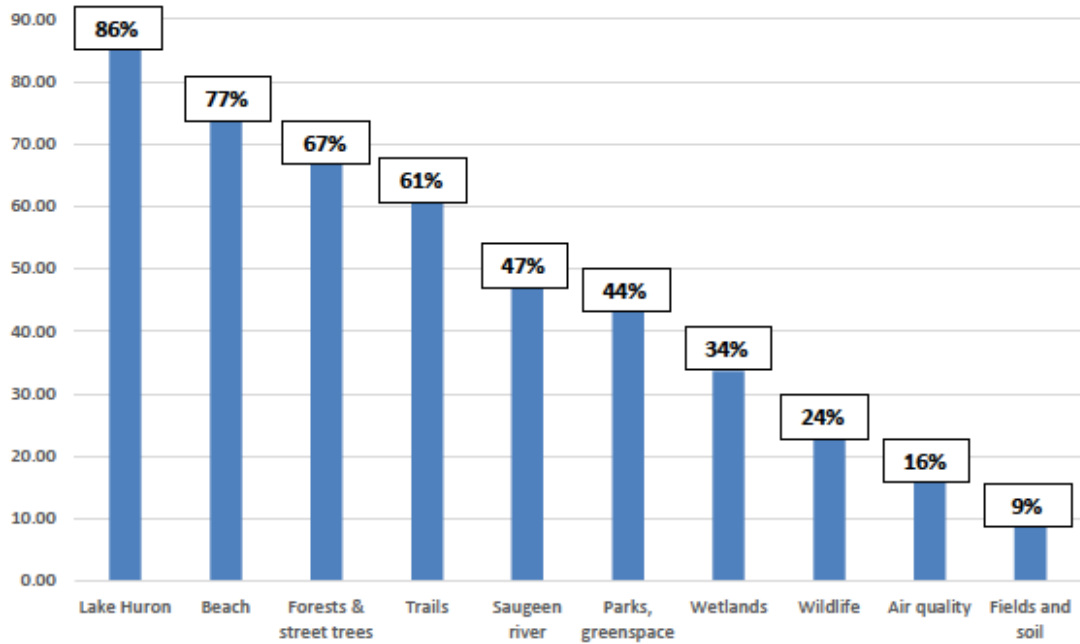


Q.10: Would you like more info re: local enviro initiatives?

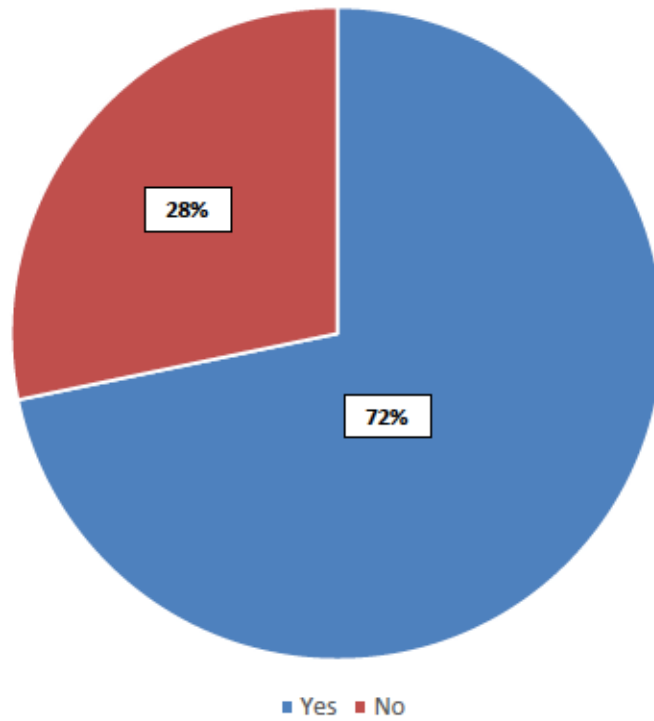


■ Yes/very interested ■ Somewhat interested ■ Not interested

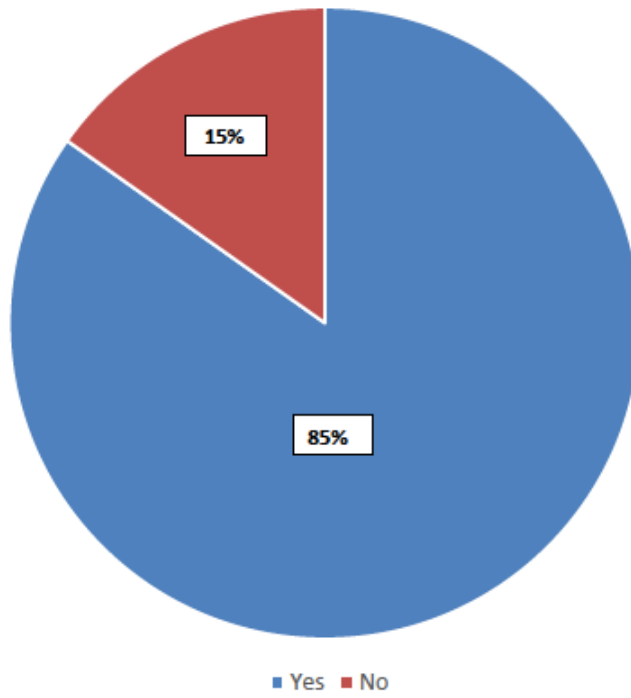
Q11: What are SS's most important enviro assets?



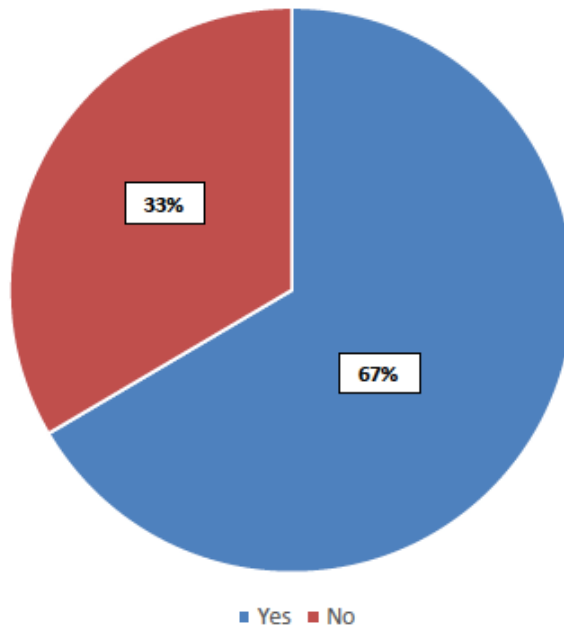
Q12: Would you use a free food waste composter?



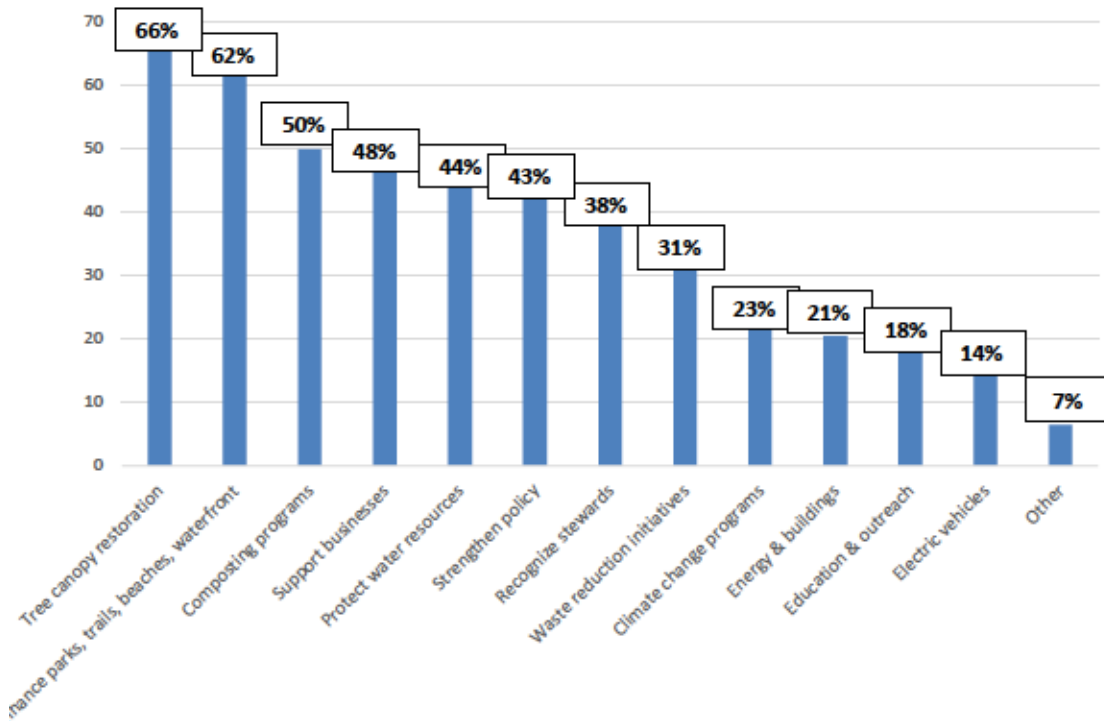
Q12: Would you use curbside green-bin?



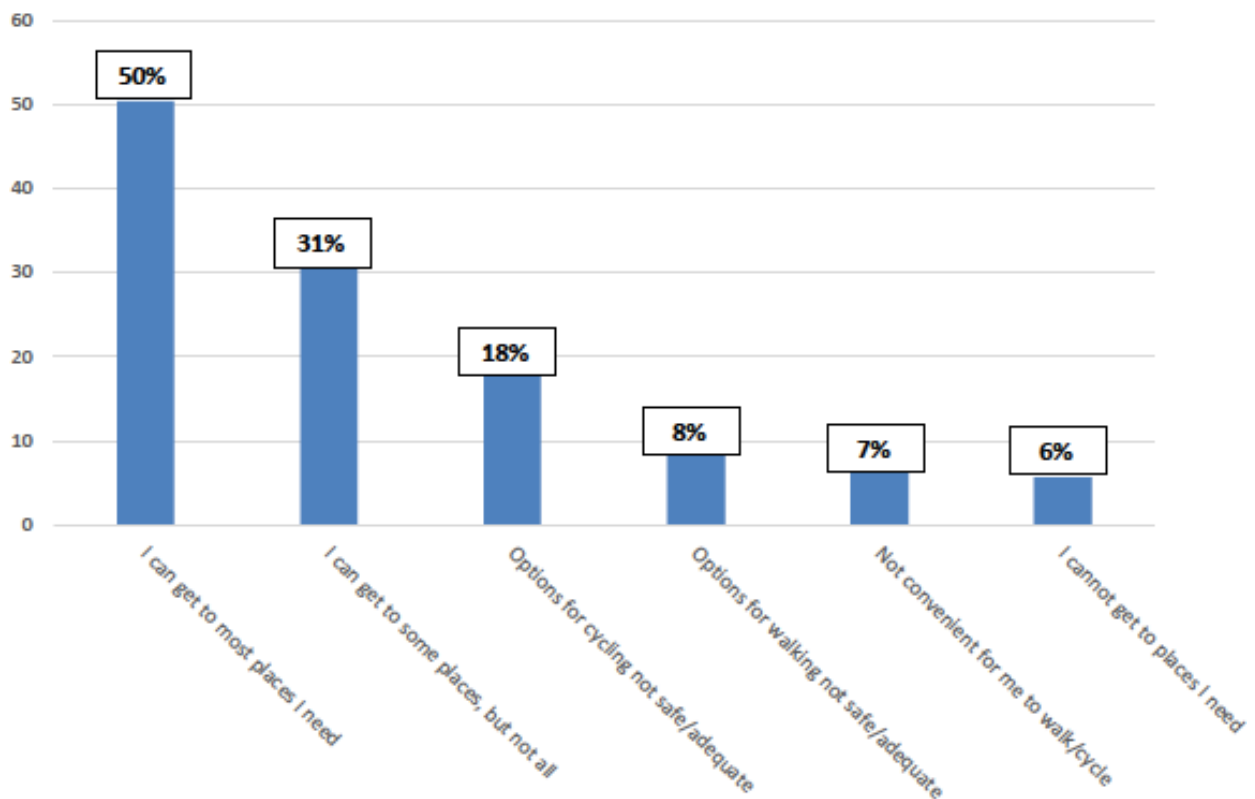
Q13: Does the bag-tag program motivate you to use blue bin/composters?



Q15: What would you like to see Town of SS focus on?



Q16: How easy/safe is it to get to key locations in SS by cycling, walking etc?



APPENDIX F: WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION

Memorandum,
Professor McLeman to Saugeen Shores to ESAC, 31 Dec 2021

[McLeman memo to ESAC re survey results\(1\).pdf](#)

Wilfrid Laurier University, Introduction to Sustainability Class
Student Reports:

- (a) A Communication-Based Approach to Enhancing Sustainability Within the Community of Saugeen Shores

[A Communication-based Approach to Enhancing Sustainability Within the Community of Saugeen Shores.pdf](#)

- (b) Saugeen Shores Report

- (c)

[ES 296- Saugeen Shores Report- Oranges.pdf](#)

Survey Comments: Themes

The Committee reviewed all of the write-in answers from the surveys, and we greatly appreciate the thoughtful suggestions and ideas offered by respondents. The following broad themes were noted:

- Limited awareness of environmental initiatives
- Blue Box and cardboard collection programs were the most popular
- Items which must be collected over time and dropped off at a designated area like batteries and hazardous waste saw less popularity
- Desire for additional/improved information (how to get green cones, where to take styrofoam, etc.)
- Frustration with having to sort recyclables for collection
- Frustration with fewer types of products eligible for Blue Box; e.g. Tetra Paks
- Desire for green bin/organics collection
- Visitors will take waste home with them as they find their home programs easier
- Increased monitoring of cardboard recycling area to prevent dumping of non-appropriate waste
- Re-establish reuse depot at landfill site
- Desire to protect the planet prevalent
- Some people are afraid of using a composter due to animal interference/attracting animals
- Some would like to compost but are not permitted to due to living in an apartment or condo
- Some people frustrated with bag tag system
- Swedish trash-to-energy program was mentioned several times
- Natural assets are viewed as valued
- Protection of beaches and water quality
- Appreciation for dune grass planting/dune protection
- Preservation of woodlands
- Tree canopy viewed as important
- Concern about development on Port Elgin main beach
- Desire for support/recognition of butterfly gardens
- Preserve farmland
- Desire for more garbage receptacles at beaches
- Desire for portable toilets in lesser frequented areas like Eidt's Grove
- Desire for road salting alternatives
- Increased enforcement of illegally disposed pet waste in public spaces
- Desire for electric vehicle incentives
- Desire for more bike-friendly routes with places to secure and lock bikes
- Some sense of safety concerns from bikers in terms of getting around safely in Saugeen Shores

- Desire for Trolley to return
- Desire for more bike lanes/paths
- Desire for more information about rules of the road when it comes to bikes
- Need for public transportation

Notable Comments - ESAC Survey (not edited for spelling and grammar)

While there were many useful and thoughtful comments, we chose these as being particularly notable:

Waste Reduction and Diversion

- Recycling plastic bags at the town works depot, south of town. This program is not well advertised by the town, and that's a shame, because more people would make the effort to recycle the plastics and prevent it from going into landfill.
- Southampton Residents Association has a "Green" membership option to collect funds that are used for environmentally helpful project such as water-fountains/bottle-filling stations to reduce the need for single-use water bottles.
- a re-garden depot where residents can bring their non-recyclable plant pots and trays, or pick-up pots and trays as needed.
- A FREE table at the end of the driveway for items not required. A few designated Goods Exchange Days should be on the calendar.
- Make clearer the difference between cardboard and boxboard for recycling.
- I wish we had weekly recycle pick up, green bin pickup and cardboard pickup (preferably all on the same day)
- I often wonder how much I am doing for the environment by recycling and visiting periodically the leaf waste yard carrying my garden waste in a few bags at a time in my car and doing several trips. Do I contaminate more by using my car for this task?
- Compost is not user friendly. Generally, when friends and family come to visit they are shocked we don't have curbside pickup of compost. As it seems this is offered everywhere else. This would cut down on our amount of garbage we have as well.
- I did not know many of the recycling options existed. The town does a very poor job on notifying residents of available programs and how to use them.
- We reside in a Townhouse where we would not be able to place a composter on our property due to breach of conditions.
- We already have composters at our house, but I would still use a green bin program. It would be awesome if the town could work with the schools to ensure their compost waste is involved too.
- It is an inconvenience to separate compostable, but if it would make a significant difference, I would. I would not, however, continue if I felt it was only a political or woke activity with no actual, definable merit.
- I would love to have compost picked up. Garbage could be bi-weekly if compost could be picked up weekly.

- I wish there was a municipal compost service with house pick up, similar to garbage and recycling. I'd be happy to pay more taxes to make that happen!
- I hate throwing food waste in garbage. This is my cottage; I often bring plastic dog kibble bins and fill them with compostable waste to take back home where we have a weekly program. The trouble with food waste composters in your backyard is they attract animals e.g. I already have foxes, skunks, racoons etc. in my yard almost nightly and I fear this would attract them even more.
- I do my own composting for soil addition. Years ago, the "Scout" composting site worked remarkably well, and the town would make a pile of mature compost available for homeowner's garden use - perfect 360 degree life cycle. Then new management took over and decided this was all wrong and put "don't do this" signs and barriers all over and ruined the whole compost concept since the "compost" heap is now completely full of tree chippings from tree companies that will take decades to compost. No usable compost is produced even if a tiny heap was made available for homeowners.
- Instead of spending energy, GHGs, and money on a green-bin collection program, spend less money and resources on education and promotion of green cones.
- I sure hope this happens. (green-bin collection) I also think as part of the Town's environmental strategy, garbage should be picked up bi-weekly and recycling (including compost pick up) should be picked up weekly. It's a mental shift for people and forces them to focus on separating their waste mainly into recycle/compost.
- Unless we have adequate recycling and compost collection (which we currently do not), it's not possible to recycle enough to make a difference in how much garbage we produce each week. Soymilk containers take up a lot of room for example.
- Simple garbage collection is not a motivator. Actually, we don't need weekly garbage collection. But we could use weekly recycling collection.
- No, it's just annoying to have to make sure you have bag tags. It's also frustrating that recycling is bi-weekly and on a different day of the week ... it leads to recycling ending up in my garbage when recycling is full.
- I find it offensive to not only pay for waste management through our property taxes but then to "tax" us again with a bag tag fee is double taxation. Since I'm paying for it twice I have little hesitation about throwing recyclables or compostable items in with the regular garbage.
- I do recycling for environmental impact, not price per bag.
- I choose to compost, and I choose to not recycle. You should not assume that recycling and composting are environmentally beneficial. Recycling is environmentally destructive, composting is much less so. Regarding garbage collection tags, it should be \$5 per tag, increasing to \$10 per tag by 2025, and \$20 per tag by 2030. Don't pussyfoot around. Take environmental protection seriously, and use the money generated from garbage tags to install hidden cameras to monitor roadsides where litterbugs dump garbage illegally.
- When I lived in Guelph they provided blue bins, black bins and green bins, and then would pick up black & green bins one week and then blue and green bins

the next. This definitely motivated recycling and composting as you only had so much room for garbage.

- And I tried taking recycling to the landfill - but they don't take it. They said we had to put it out for recycling collection. So it went into the landfill. What a shame!
- Reward certain areas for free bag tags for example 3 month intervals or 12 tags for a certain block radius if the garbage/recycling is done properly. Make them a gold star recycling bin area, then rotate communities so it makes people want to win and their block shine!
- Increasing the variety of items that can be placed in a blue box would be great. We have property in North Bruce Peninsula and the blue box there accepts far more items. As well, pick up of film plastics such as bags along with the education piece would enhance that program. Very few people even know it exists or where the bins are.
- I would like to see the resumption of recycling in the municipal trailer park. Currently it is not being collected and I have to take everything home.
- It is excellent that when picking up the bluebin, products that cannot be recycled are left behind, thus we learn what can be recycled in Saugeen Shores.
- Town website could have FAQ page for all home waste segregation and disposal method for everyday usage items.

Climate Change and Natural Assets

- It is important that this town administration including council take every initiative possible to improve the environment so the next generation can live in safety. This will cost \$\$ for many new programs, but if we can fundraise for sports, hospitals, splash pad - we could do the same to do our part so Saugeen Shores is a place that can be enjoyed for many years. Every new program initiative should be held to the highest environmental standard. Decisions we make as individuals and by our leaders should be measured against that standard. Sometimes we believe it is easier "to do things right" when we make small incremental changes trying to not upset our friends, constituents, and ourselves. Now is the time to lead us "to do the right things". I would encourage the town leaders to do just that. Make bold moves towards sustainability and we will back you. Thank you, thank you for allowing us to comment on this vital issue.
- A local EV-incentive program co-sponsored by the world's largest producer of clean, nuclear energy would encourage residents and visitors to purchase EVs at local retailers.
- Southampton Greenworks offers a tree sponsorship program for those wishing to support the sequestering of carbon through conversion of cropland to managed forest.
- A lawn-conversion incentive program to encourage tree planting, vegetable gardens, and habitat restoration on private property would result in: a reduction of CO2 emissions related to lawn maintenance; a further CO2 reduction due to increased growing and trading of local produce vs purchase of non-local transported produce; an increase in CO2 sequestration; an increase in

biodiversity; and a reduction in energy use related to household climate control (due to the temperature moderation benefits of tree canopy).

- improvements to local building codes and fee structures to: permit tiny-home construction; encourage green building methods and materials; discourage surface water run-off.
- It is very difficult to select only 5 most important natural resources as they are all interconnected and pollution or destruction to one resource will affect all parts of the environment. Saugeen Shores is fortunate to be situated in a beautiful natural area and the natural beauty is one of the main attractions for visitors to the area. It also provides a high quality of living for residents. Recent severe weather events both locally and around the world have proven no one is safe from the effects of climate change. We have an obligation to our children and grandchildren to act now to prevent the worst impacts of climate change. Preserving forests, woodlands, parks are important to help absorb carbon dioxide emissions. We must also find ways to reduce emissions in every way possible including encouraging electric vehicles, investing in energy efficient home retrofits, protecting shorelines and waterways and encouraging sustainable farming practices. We are all in this together. Thanks for taking this important step to move forward in this direction.
- Discontinue fishing at Fairy Lake and establish an area on the Saugeen. Ducks are being tangled in fishing line; turtles are being hooked & no one keeps the fish they catch. For being advertised as a natural area & people being asked to protect the wildlife, this activity is doing neither.
- Make the public more aware of how to contact the Wildlife Rescue people in the area. I did not know they existed till they were trying to extract a duck from fishing line at Fairy Lake
- Really THINK about why it is necessary to " butcher" roadside and walking trail borders, hacking down beautiful wildflowers, which not only provide food and habitat for butterflies and moths and bees, but also look SO MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL than the hacked down waste which is left behind, turning brown, and looking messy! Could we not just agree to TRIM a swath no more that 12", IF it is absolutely necessary??
- In terms of strengthening environmental municipal policy, mandating the planting of trees for every new build would ensure future cooler neighbourhoods as well as purifying and oxygenating our air. One tree for every set of lungs?

Active Transportation

- Bike-friendly access to the beach would encourage residents and visitors to be at the beach without driving a vehicle there and back.. Currently, bicycles cannot easily access the Southampton beach areas except at the road access points, and some of those (Lansdowne, Palmerston, Peel, South St) are sand or gravel that make it difficult to ride. Additionally, some of those locations have no place to lock a bike. In Southampton, a beach front bi-directional cycling path adjacent to the sidewalk, and bike-friendly access and locking facilities at all the beach access points, would be helpful.

- A bike lane adjacent to highway 21 from one end of Saugeen Shores to the other would encourage residents and visitors to access stores and services using active transportation rather than fossil-fuel vehicles.
- pedestrian walkways along the streets east of Victoria in Southampton would allow me to walk to downtown stores and services in the winter without having to step onto the snowbanks and icy shoulders to avoid road traffic
- definitely need a cheap bus service: a jump-on/jump-off type, especially for seniors who no longer have a licence, and want to stay in the area
- the Rail Trail and the Boardwalk are two of Southampton's finest features and I use them daily

**Written Comments, Electronic Responses, Town of Saugeen Shores ESAC Survey;
August/September 2021: 506 responses**

Saugeen Shores Environment survey – Descriptive Answers

Note: A number of questions in this survey invited participants to provide detailed written responses. The following are the responses to these questions.
(Responses have not been edited for spelling, grammar or content.)

Responses to question 1b: Please check one of the following, only if you own and operate a business

Types of businesses:

- Retail
- Tourism
- Agricultural
- Bruce Power
- Community Service
- Other

“Other” responses were as follows:

- Provincial Government - Public Education
- Private consulting
- Online Teaching
- I work for a local business.
- I run a small home business
- I do renovations, high end woodwork and trim install and make custom residential pieces
- Healthcare
- Health care
- Family physician office.
- Family Medicine
- E-commerce retail

- E commerce
- Culturally related with some retail

**Question 5: Are you aware of any environmental programs or initiatives undertaken by the Town of Saugeen Shores?
Yes or No**

Question 5 also asked, “If you answered 'Yes', please describe them in the space provided”. Answers received are listed below:

- Yearly tree planting incentive
- We support the green bin program. We have lived in an area with this type of program and fully support it.
- We participated in the purchase a native tree program a couple of years ago. It was a fundraiser in partnership with a local nursery.
- Waste management
- Shoreline protection
- waste diversion
- education ie the environmental calendar
- the film plastic diversion
- reuse material options
- collaborate with recycle businesses
- bag tagging to discourage landfill
- various recycling programs, tree retention plans in plans of subdivision, municipal bag tag program, transitioning to LED lighting in municipal facilities and assets, energy audits
- Trying to overturn the SVCA decision to not grant the CCV a permit to build on the beach
- Tree sale
- Parks and trails
- Beach
- Tree reforestation
- Town gardens
- Tree planting, Shoreline conservation (beach grass planting), Butterfly gardens, Recycling services, beach clean-up activities, roadway cleanup (with Bruce County and the Ministry of Transportation), phragmites removal from shoreline areas, dark sky compliance, LED lighting in light posts, less use of pesticides on municipal lands, tests of different ice removal products on sidewalks and roads in winter.
- Trail stewards
- Checking the water
- Waste programs/ recycling
- Cleaning/ raking the beaches

- The programs I am aware of show a total lack of environmental management. They are - Dumping surface water at Gobles Grove beach. Development plans against any environmental stewardship or sanity on Port Elgin main beach. Allowing clear cutting of trees in Southampton.
- The preservation of the dunes by planting dune grass
- The plastic bag drop off bins in town.
- The main beach development proposal
- The island
- The insane growing of grass on the sand beach and all the bad that comes from that.
- The green cone sales
- Plastic film recycling
- Styrofoam recycling
- The environmental "program" for dumping parking lot surface water into the lake on the beach at Gobles Grove.
- The environmental "program" for the Cedar Crescent Village - consisting of advancing the interest of the developer to circumvent the serious environmental concerns of the SVCA related to the large environmentally-unfriendly development near the water on the beach.
- The environmental "program" of allowing clearcutting of a property in Southampton by developers and ignoring an underground stream.
- The beach preservation initiatives performed by town staff.
- Invasive species program.
- Collection of town assets for environmental impact.
- Recycling program.
- Spring Clean Week, Beach Maintenance Plan, Sand Dune programme, Phragmites Eradication, Butterfly Gardens
- SoS
- Density measures
- Shore cleaning, beach grading and planting of species to help protect the dunes
- Sand dunes protection program
- Recycling program
- Hazardous waste days
- Safe Drinking Water Program
- Recycling program
- Shoreline conservation
- Wildlife conservation
- Water / sewage protection
- Recycling
- The ex-Boy Scout yard waste plot.
- The Spring tree purchase.
- Hazardous Waste Days
- Kudos to the gardeners and plant carers who grow and take care of the wonderful plants in beds and huge urns and hanging pots seen all around Saugeen Shores!!! Please thank them all.

- I am not in favour of pesticide spraying, but I think you do spray some roadsides of "noxious" weeds.
- Recycling. Recycling of plastic bags. Cutting down invasive weeds along shoreline.
- Recycling, tree planting, beach grass preservation, hazardous waste collection, water conservation, grass composite site.
- recycling, composting area, parks, tree plantings
- Recycling, compost, waste diversion, hazardous waste collection, water conservation.
- Recycling
- Tree planting In spring
- Recycling
- Preservation of the trails
- recycling
- others listed below are not well advertised and some are costly (mattress)
- Recycling
- Composting
- recycling programs, newly added plastics bin, municipal planning act reviews that consider environmental issues but need to be made stronger, tree planting initiatives, marine conservation, some protection of woods and wetlands but not nearly enough, clean water program, some community initiatives attempted such as organic gardens and pesticide-free zones, butterfly ways and gardens - we want to preserve, and stay rural, but town council wants to build and urbanize...
- recycling programs, dog park, trails,
- Recycling programs at the Southampton dump, green space requirements in subdivision developments (although extremely disappointed to hear that money in lieu of greenspace is allowed...defeats the purpose doesn't it??)
- recycling programs
- Recycling programs
- Recycling program
- Plastic bag program
- Tree planting on rail trail'
- Recycling program needs to expand. They won't take styrofoam even though they say they do. Boys scout leaf site needs cameras or staff to make sure patrons stick to the rules.
- Recycling program
- Recycling plastics, recycling batteries, boy scout compost.
- Recycling plastic bags at the town works depot, south of town. This program is not well advertised by the town, and that's a shame, because more people would make the effort to recycle the plastics and prevent it from going into landfill.
- Cardboard recycling... I hope people make the effort to use those receptacles, and don't just put it in their household garbage for pick up.
- E-waste for batteries, old computers, etc. at the landfill site.
- The hazardous waste program, which we have used for a few years now.
- Beach clean ups - advertised MOSTLY by the PE Beach Preservers.

- -recycling of plastics, including film plastic; paper; aluminum, etc.
- -promotion of trail use and maintenance of trails for carbon-free transportation
- - encouragement of tree planting, and maintaining municipal plantings of trees and other plants
- Recycling of plastics
- recycling of hard plastics, cellophane, glass, metal, paper and cardboard
- Recycling of film and styrofoam
- Recycling every other Friday
- Recycling cardboard, recycle of plastics, recycle of household items all of which reduces the amount of waste entering the landfill.
- Recycling blue box, cardboard, plastic
- Tree planting
- Recycling- blue box
- Tree sale
- Plastic film
- Leaf waste compost yard
- Styrofoam
- Hazardous waste
- Active transportation
- -recycling blue box
- -tree retention
- - upgrading municipal properties and public works equipment to reduce emissions.
- - energy conservation programs ,municipal building energy upgrades and vehicle fleet upgrades
- Recycling blue box
- Cardboard recycling
- Dune replenishment
- Nature trails
- Recycling and municipal waste management, Water conservation and clean water; planting trees, preserving pollination
- Recycling - which is archaic and does not make it as simple as it should be for residents/small business
- Recycling - glass, tinfoil, boxboard and plastic from home every two weeks
- Corrugated cardboard, flattened in bins at landfill site
- Plastic bags in yellow bins at landfill site
- Large styrofoam pieces out in landfill site
- Trees and brush free up to 500 lbs taken to landfill site
- Garden waste taken to compost pile at Boy Scout site
- Can pick up recycled compost, dirt or mulch from Boy Scout site
- Small batteries left in library bin
- Recycling
- recycling
- Recycle initiatives

- Recycle
- Rail Trails and walks. Shoring up Northshore road. Creating ball park on the 6th of Saugeen.
- Property developments in at risk environmental zones.
- Port Elgin Beach Preservers
- Pollinator gardens, cardboard and battery recycling
- Plastics at the dump
- Plastic wrap collection bin at recycling centre
- Plastic bag recycling bins
- Blue box program
- Trees to plant
- Plastic bag recycling
- plastic bag collection at Town dump
- Phragmites control and elimination
- Beach grooming to eliminate elements that might pollute
- Improved recycling
- Hazardous waste day
- Beaches posted re water quality and radio announcements
- Composting at Boy Scout place next to the Town Landfill
- Fairy Lake monitoring
- Encouraging and maintaining trails
- Many reduce and re-cycle opportunities at the landfill site
- Cardboard and plastics recycling depots in other areas of the municipality
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Tree planting in parks and other spaces
- Blue Box program
- This Committee
- Butterfly way stations
- Prohibiting leaf burning and providing a leaf composting venue
- Hazardous waste collection
- improving cycling trails
- I'm aware of and use battery recycling, and the recycling program (ie Blue Box)...although I've recently noticed and have used the Plastics recycle in addition to the cardboard recycle at the landfill site. For a fee one can dispose of electronics, mattresses, light bulbs, and styrofoam at the landfill. I've noticed charging stations at the information centre offices downtown Port Elgin for electric powered cars although I currently do not own such a vehicle.
- I have really love the Bruce trail, and all of the bike pump stations they have added.
- I commend the municipality for adding plastic film to its other recycling programs.
- I am aware of the strategic plan, the environmental plan regarding recycling etc. and climate change.
- I am aware of the proposed destruction of the waterfront.
- I am aware of proposed developments that involve the removal green space

- I am concerned about pipes along the waterfront
- I am shocked by the lack of insight with respect to shoreline erosion
- Protection of beach from development --- but we all know that isn't going to happen
- I am aware of recycling, yard waste composting programs
- We are greatly concerned by the lack of environmental stewardship exercised by the town. Several examples come to mind and I will pick on from each part of Saugeen Shores to demonstrate how widespread this lack of stewardship is: Gobles Grove - allowing discharge of untreated storm water onto the beach (my understanding is that the town chose to bypass public hearings on this), Southampton - allowing a clear cutting of trees for development in an area with a natural spring, disrupting the natural ecosystem of the neighbourhood and Port Elgin Main Beach - supporting a large commercial development in the dynamic beach area and seemingly using town resources to advance the interest of the developer (as opposed to the interests of the town and the environment) and doing everything possible to get around the SVCA. And this is what we know about - given how difficult it is to get information, I suspect there is a larger list of anti-environmental programs and initiatives.
- Hazardous waste collection days
- Waste diversion efforts at the landfill site
- hazardous waste days
- film plastics recycling
- styrofoam recycling
- electronic waste
- battery recycling
- compost bins and cones
- Spring clean-up
- Tree sale
- have heard there is a new committee/task force which followed the SVCA telling the Cedar Crescent Village proponents, including investors and council, that the project was not in compliance even with revisions
- Garbage and recycling programs
- Town has a poor record of environment protection of the beach - Goble's Grove surface water management, Port Elgin main beach development
- Town has a poor record of protecting water resources - Gobles Grove
- Town has a poor record of protecting trees - Southampton
- Environmental Youth Program
- Environmental products for sale
- Recycling
- Compost Site
- Environmental conservatory owned property
- Preservation of sand dunes
- Elimination of invasive plants such as phragmites
- Grooming of beaches
- Placement of garbage cans by beach entrances

- Water run-off solutions
- Recycling / waste management
- Environmental advisory ad hoc committee appointments, but not aware of any stewardship initiatives
- Dunes project. Wetlands protection. Blue bins.
- Dune protection and rehabilitation; butterfly gardens; recycling
- Dune preservation. Recycling- blue boxes. Composting.
- Dune grass project.
- Dune grass encouragement.
- Dune Grass
- Building a convention centre down by the beach
- Dune conservation
- Dune / wild grass preservation
- Depends how you define it. Does investing money in the Rail Trail count? Or the recycling program? Or contributing money to SVCA? Grooming the trees and placing planters on Main Street? Keeping the Cenotaph area nicely manicured and cared for? Nodwell park groomed?
- I suspect that a lot of these areas are looked after by volunteers.
- My concern is that the town of Saugeen Shores is doing very little to protect the green space areas. In some cases they do the opposite with no long term foresight when it comes to development.
- Curbside recycling, plastic & cardboard recycling. Sale of composting bins.
- Curb side recycling, film recycle drop off, cardboard drop off
- Corrugated cardboard box drop off by dog park
- Controlling invasive grass on beach. Reinforcing the shoreline eroded by high water.
- Continuing to provide new/upgrade bike paths in Saugeen Shores
- Conducting environmental studies regarding developable land within the towns borders for land that was previously determined to be undevelopable and deemed to be essential for woodland species and watershed issues.
- Compost bin option, tree sale, garbage clean up day
- Collection of plastic bags for recycling.
- Hazardous waste days.
- Clean up beach
- Hazardous waste drop off
- CCV- and I am not happy with where it is slotted to go and the fact that a convention center would come with it. We need to preserve and respect this beautiful family beach and keep the sandy parking lot.
- Bush lot protection, landfill, recycling, species at risk habitat protection, watershed protection
- Blue box
- Compost
- Battery recycling
- Mattress recycling
- Corrugated cardboard

- Hazardous waste
- Electronics
- Light bulbs
- Tree sales
- Blue box, leaf yard, cardboard bins, electric car recharge
- Blue box, hazardous waste days
- Spring beach/ rail trail cleanups
- Scout camp compost
- Tree sale in the spring
- Blue box, cardboard bins, toxic days, clean the beach, streets, flowers on main streets etc
- Blue box
- Cardboard collection
- Bike & walking trails
- Special collections..hazardous waste
- blue box recycling; corrugated cardboard recycling; clear film plastic recycling; compost at dump;
- Blue box recycling; styrofoam, plastic bag & cardboard recycling; Town runs the yard waste compost site
- Blue box recycling
- Other recycling programs such as those for styrofoam at the Southampton dump
- Blue box program, Hazardous waste day.
- Blue box pick up; film plastic drop off; cardboard drop off.
- Blue box
- Cardboard
- Plastic film
- Composting
- Styrofoam
- Hazardous waste
- E recycling
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Battery recycling
- Better recycling/garbage disposal, but would like green bins
- Beach weed control
- beach protections through sand dune reclamation, the beach walkway, beach wood boardwalks, stopping development on Huron st, beach clean-up, benches along the beach walkway. recycling, multi use trail between southampton and port Elgin, municipal trails.
- Beach preservation
- Beach naturalization -trying to keep natural formation of beach
- Beach trail- trying to reformat the path along the lake between port and south
- Beach grasses, battery recycling, plastic bag recycling
- Beach dunes

- As a past employee of the Town, where I was involved in waterfront care, I am aware of the initiatives to protect dune grasses and remove invasive species (particularly *Phragmites australis*). Other than that, I am not aware of initiatives.
- 1. *Phragmites* control
- 2. Piping Plover preservation of beach
- 3. Beach maintenance - and dune preservation
- 4. Preservation of green space near subdivisions
- 5. Recycling
- 1. One or two Town EVs
- 2. Reduced beach grooming, but I'm not sure if that is an environmental initiative or a COVID related cut-back in services.
- preservation of the dunes through planting grasses
- film plastic recovery
- blue box recycling
- cardboard recovery
- Master Drainage Plan
- Various environmental assessments for road reconstruction projects and storm drainage outlets
- On-site beach environment talks with knowledgeable guest speakers"
- blue box
- plastic bins
- cardboard bins
- composter sales
- blue box
- cardboard depot
- plastic depot
- bike trails such as the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail and the rail trail
- recycling programs
- I feel the programs are limited and there is limited environmental understanding when it comes to environmental protection. There is little appreciation of this

- **Question 8 asked: "Which environmental programs/resources do you currently use? Check all that Apply."**
- Blue box
- Cardboard recycling
- Beer Store empties
- Parks and trails
- Active transportation
- Leaf composting
- Hazardous waste disposal
- Restore
- Battery recycling
- Plastic film recycling

- Electronics recycling
- Styrofoam recycling
- Composter (not from Saugeen Shores)
- Composter/green cone from Saugeen Shores
- Enviro calendar
- Fluorescent bulb recycling
- Propane tank
- Rain barrel
- Mattress recycling
- Tree sale
- Used tire recycling
- Other
- EV charging
- Wine cork recycling
- Green cone (not from Saugeen Shores)

Question 8 also asked, “Please write in any environmental programs/resources you use that are not on the list and/or suggestions for other environmental programs/services/resources you see a need for”. Responses are as follows:

- Wood or lumber reuse, food garden, solar lighting for yard (not the garden stake lights). Building demo or construction waste diversion especially for ICI jobs because it is easier to not to even if it saves some costs. ICI mandatory business recycling and food waste diversions are big gains.
- We end up having to take things back to our primary residence to take advantage of better recycling programs. When the car gets full, then stuff ends up in the Port Elgin landfill.
- plastic and glass return reinstated at dump
- oil and gas depot- free
- more free dump days
- garbage collection sunday for seasonal residence areas
- revising rules related to dogs on the beach to allow daily access outside of peak hours
- free pick up days for mattresses and appliances
- more tree canopy on main street- consider several tree areas mid main street or better yet a green divide
- major increase in release of stocked fish;
- better dock facilities in the river
- emphasis on historical signage around waterfront
 - Southampton Residents Association has a "Green" membership option to collect funds that are used for environmentally-helpful project such as water-fountains/bottle-filling stations to reduce the need for single-use water bottles.

- Southampton Greenworks offers a tree sponsorship program for those wishing to support the sequestering of carbon through conversion of cropland to managed forest.
- the cost charged for plastic bags at local grocery stores (and the discount for using re-bags)
- municipal public garbage bins to encourage proper garbage disposal and discourage littering
- the (too often unenforced) no-idling areas at school pick-up/drop-off zones (not sure if the Town has an anti-idling program or not)
- bump-outs and cross-walks on High St. that make it easier for me to access the down-town area, stores and services by foot rather than vehicle.
- Salvation army thrift store (a great place to purchase used consumer products
- a) Bike-friendly access to the beach would encourage residents and visitors to be at the beach without driving a vehicle there and back.. Currently, bicycles cannot easily access the Southampton beach areas except at the road access points, and some of those (Lansdowne, Palmerston, Peel, South St) are sand or gravel that make it difficult to ride. Additionally, some of those locations have no place to lock a bike. In Southampton, a beach front bi-directional cycling path adjacent to the sidewalk, and bike-friendly access and locking facilities at all the beach access points, would be helpful.
- b) A bike lane adjacent to highway 21 from one end of Saugeen Shores to the other would encourage residents and visitors to access stores and services using active transportation rather than fossil-fuel vehicles.
- c) A local EV-incentive program co-sponsored by the world's largest producer of clean, nuclear energy would encourage residents and visitors to purchase EVs at local retailers.
- d) A lawn-conversion incentive program to encourage tree planting, vegetable gardens, and habitat restoration on private property would result in: a reduction of CO2 emissions related to lawn maintenance; a further CO2 reduction due to increased growing and trading of local produce vs purchase of non-local transported produce; an increase in CO2 sequestration; an increase in biodiversity; and a reduction in energy use related to household climate control (due to the temperature moderation benefits of tree canopy).
- e) improvements to local building codes and fee structures to: permit tiny-home construction; encourage green building methods and materials; discourage surface water run-off.
- metered parking, expensive fines, and EV-only parking spaces to discourage the use of fossil-fuel vehicles in the downtown areas, municipal facility parking areas, and beach areas.
- Lake waterfront restoration areas with trail-access and interpretive stations (partnered with LHCCC).
- groomed local x-country ski trails in the SS parks and trails, and partner programs with the world's largest producer of electric power and out-of-town x-country ski locations (Hepworth, Sauble Trails, MacGregor Point) to install EV-charging stations. Both initiatives would encourage me to participate in local skiing without the need to drive a fossil-fuel vehicle to get there.

- local bus service (with bike and board racks).
- pedestrian walkways along the streets east of Victoria in Southampton would allow me to walk to downtown stores and services in the winter without having to step onto the snowbanks and icy shoulders to avoid road traffic
- a coherent, networked set of routes to enable 4-season active transportation
- a re-garden depot where residents can bring their non-recyclable plant pots and trays or pick-up pots and trays as needed.
- Need to prevent development of environmentally hazardous areas. e. g. Swamp lands.
- -more incentive to reduce 'garbage' that includes recyclables and more incentive to use repurposed materials
 - more attention to stormwater management, keeping it away from beaches and requiring developers to take responsibility for wastewater generated
- light bulb recycling
- household battery recycling
- waste oil drop off
- I don't currently use these because they are not readily available to me as someone who lives in the municipal trailer park.
- Green bin
- Getting less cars on the road by making walking and biking safe and the most convenient way for people of all ages to get around town (getting to school, stores, libraries, work...). Perhaps make use of the new federal Active Transportation Fund to fund it.
- Composting
- Battery recycling, Ink cartridges recycling program
- Safer sidewalks - sidewalks should be on both sides of the roads - especially to lessen hazards of walking in winter and need to use road ways to walk on
- Bail wrap
- We use the location at Arran dump
- Limited Saugeen Shores dump hours - hampers styrofoam recycling. Relocating styrofoam recycling to a location where the cardboard recycling - may help this recycling program.
- Concern about water run off to the lake with the loss of trees. The sand makes an excellent filter, rerouting storm water will cause excessive water in certain locations, if a too much hard surface is too close to the harbourfront or lakefront."
- "A FREE table at the end of the driveway for items not required. A few designated Goods Exchange Days should be on the calendar.
- More clarity for the items to go in the Films bin and also what can be considered papers for recycling.
- Make clearer the difference between cardboard and boxboard for recycling.
- Could tetra-pak boxes be recycled? They were years ago in K-W.
- Recognition and maybe some support for the Butterfly Gardens of Saugeen Shores initiative.
- Is there recycling for bubble-wrap and bubble-wrap envelopes such as used in Amazon packages?

- We heard that "someone" wanted empty, clean egg cartons, but could not find out who or where.
- The trails and cycle-paths are crucial to the area, for local people and tourists.
- Farmland should be protected at all costs. We have very little of it for our own food production.
- Port Elgin beach is a massive resource. I do not understand how it is being given over for private profit for several generations.
- There needs to be lots of signage and disposal bins in many places for dog owners to put their bags of dog poop because it seems like a lot of them are thrown under bushes, beside trails, or on the beach etc.
- A curbside compost pickup program and weekly recycling along with cardboard recycling pickup.

Question 8 also asked, “Do you find it easy to use these environmental programs?” Responses are as follows:

Simple “yes” was the answer given 168 times

Simple “no” was the answer given 13 times.

Remainder of answers are as follows

- Yes. By the way, it would be helpful if the Town separated the material at the compost site to make it easier for residents to use it. For example, well-composted material can be more frequently turned over so that it can be more easily shoveled. Also, woodchips can be kept separate rather than mixing them in with other compost. Note that woodchips spread in residential gardens and along trail surfaces produce less methane (a harmful GHG) compared to woodchips that are pushed into piles where they heat up and decompose anaerobically.
- Yes. Very convenient.
- Yes. I would like to access rain barrels but they seem to be hard to purchase or if they are available are over priced
- Yes. I do feel like an improvement to the leaf waste yard could be a dedicated drop off for brush at that site. The dump is often closed when we are at the final cleanup stage of leaves and brush so it's two trips.
- Yes. I did not know about the wine cork recycling and only learned about the green cone a few weeks ago. The programs could be advertised more.
- Yes. But blue box recycling is so limited to what is taken. Green bins and more recycling would be better
- Yes. they all have a process and once you know what to do, then it is fine
- Yes, though some I did not know about.
- Yes, the programs we use.
- Would like to see recycling of kitchen waste (green bin). Also the pick up of plastic bags with regular recycling.

- Yes, so far
- Yes, other than had an appointment with Habitat to pick up furniture and they didn't show up which left me scrambling to get rid of furniture so it didn't have to go to landfill. Not happy with that.
- yes, most are common sense
- Yes, I do find it easy to use these programs. I feel alot of people can't be bothered to drive to the places to recycle certain items.
- yes, fairly easy
- Yes, easily.
- Yes, could be easier by having a town compost pick up
- Yes, but we take our wine corks to the city as we do not know where to recycle them here.
- Yes, but corrugated cardboard should be a curbside pickup with blue box.
- Yes, but Blue Box recycling should be weekly
- Yes, although I would like to see the implementation of a green bin program
- Yes- would prefer alternate locations to the cardboard recycling as traffic going down river street is dangerous at times where there are plenty of kids and no sidewalks. Also some municipalities allow blue bags where the items don't have to be sorted- i assume some people who don't recycle are put off by the effort and when we lived in chatsworth area this was way more convenient.
- Yes very easy.
- Yes very easy and accomodateing.
- yes relatively easy.
- Yes it is.....
- Yes I have a vehicle and am able to access dump sites
- Yes I do .
- Yes except for cardboard recycling as I am not always able to take it to the landfill
- yes but really hope a Green Bin service can be implemented in Bruce county
- yes but I would have to say that if I didn't have a car it would be more difficult
- Yes but I am concerned that requiring residents to use drop-off locations for cardboard and plastic bag recycling results in a lot of this waste going into regular garbage for curbside collection
- Yes but didn't really know about some
- Yes but definitely could be improvements. Most towns do not make you pay for garbage collection like we do so at the very least we should be able to have corrugated cardboard pickup on recycling day and maybe an additional composting program for curbside pickup. It's also disappointing to see all the proposed building lots on market street, mirimichi by the woodland trail and the proposed development backing onto Ottawa street in Southampton. We should be preserving our forests and trails not demolishing them for more building lots.
- Yes - the environmental calendar and other resources around town make it easy to stay informed.

- Yes - but curbside recycling of cardboard and plastic film would be easier than having to drive it.
- Would like to see enhanced recycling program and curbside compost program.
- Wish there was roadside leaf pickup
- When taking recycles to the spot the bins can be found overflowing otherwise usually easy to use most programs.
- We have had a 97 % tax increase in under 5 years and have not had a single increase in services . Even asking for weekly recycling hasn't happened . Not looking for programs but permanent long term solutions.
- We don't have a garden so send our yard waste to the compost site. Rest is easy peasy
- Wasn't aware all of them existed.
- It would be helpful if cardboard could be picked up, as well as a yard waste day.
- Very disappointed/surprised that SS does not provide green bin waste pick up
- The recycling program offered by Saugeen Shores is quite disappointing. If we want people to recycle we need it to easy and available. A few large bins at the dump that are instantly overfilled should show the town that we want to recycle as community members so give us the capability to do that. Weekly pick up to start..and maybe we need to find a different company to take it over. The town encourages waste production right now with pick up weekly.
- The recycling program is well behind other communities. Articles accepted in the blue box are limited (ie no waxed cardboard) and composting is not available. You should be collecting household compost and blue box weekly and garbage every two weeks as in other municipalities
- The programs that come to the household (e.g., waste management) or are connected to household waste (e.g., dump, compost, cardboard) are easy to make use of. The others are hard to use because of not knowing they exist.
- The Hazardous Waste Collection program needs to be improved. It should be available for residents to access on a regular basis, as once or twice a year for collection is insufficient for a growing community.
- The green cone and compost programs are not suitable for this area. A green bin would be more suitable.
- Sure. Unless there's no rain for the rain barrel! More curbside pickup options would be beneficial for items like cardboard and plastic film.
- Sure.
- sort of
- Somewhat.
- Sometimes the times that some services are available are poor.
- Other times recycling bins are overflowing.
- Some we didn't know about until reading this survey.
- Some of these I didn't know about.

- Some of the programs we make use of, but a few such as wine cork recycling I am not aware of. I do not know what the green cone is, nor can I find details easily on the Saugeen Shores website.
- It is difficult to find information
- Satisfactory
- Residential recycling is easy to use.
- Recycling in the town (specifically at the beach) is non-existent.
- Businesses are not doing a great job recycling. Garbages are regularly filled with recyclables.
- Recycling initiatives at landfill only are good for those residents who are highly motivated, but for the majority of residents it is not convenient or accessible
- Recycling is easy
- "Recycling
- Cardboard recycling
- pretty well
- Pretty much
- Prefer if curbside bluebox could be catch all for all recycling.
- Once you make the effort, these programs are easy to use.
- Not since the recycling was removed from southampton landfill
- Not really, since there isn't much to support it here.
- Not familiar with some of these programs.
- Not aware you had a green bin program
- Not aware of wine cork recycling or tire recycling.
- Not aware of Wine cork recycling and Green cone.
- Not aware of all of them.
- Not aware of all listed
- Question 7a is bizarre hiding parks and trails within.
- not always or as easy as it should be
- not all are aware locations
- None of these programs are easy to use and to be honest Recycling in Saugeen Shores is a joke. But if we took the paid staff that are now working on the proposed destruction of the waterfront and put them to work on making recycling work in this community that might be a benefit to us all.
- It's ridiculous that corrugated cardboard can't be curbside pickup.
- It's also ridiculous that we can't recycle tetra packs and milk bags with curbside pickup.
- "No. Where is the styrofoam recycling? Plastic film is always full it seems.
- Tree planting only happens once a year, and three municipality doesn't do much on the boulevard.
- Biking is nice but on road options aren't always great."
- "No. Some I did not know about. Some I have no idea where to go to deposit the items and other places are scary like the isolated non lit cardboard recycling depots. A couple of pole lights so you can actually see when it is dark after 5pm.

- Work on what you have and make better use of it."
- No. Our recycling program is seriously lacking and if you miss collection day it doesn't appear there is anywhere to drop off recycling. As well, there needs to be more that can be recycled ie tetra packs, milk cartons and we need a green bin program. When I lived in Toronto 10 years ago both were available - I cannot believe that in the 10 years since that it is still unavailable in Saugeen Shores.
- No. Not having cardboard pickup is awful.
- No. I wish there was more info on the programs. I wish the recycling program was more broad and less limited to very few plastics and fibers.
- No. I currently take all my recycling home to my primary residence in Perth County. There, they take all recycling in a big wheeled cart. There is no need to separate and they take all recycling. It is quick and easy to recycle. I do not have the time or space to separate all my recycling.
- "No. All waste services should be available continually. (Hazardous waste)
- I have no idea what services are available. And they cost a lot."
- No. The styrofoam, batteries, and electronic recycling should be available at the port Elgin cardboard station as well.
- No. The Recycling program complicated and far to limited. People just trash their recycling. Green cone would be nice but there is little information about it.
- No. I didn't know they existed.
- No, we do not find it easy to use the municipal programs. The hazardous waste dates are before we are there in the spring and after we have left in the fall. The leaf area makes it very difficult to compost leaves and cedar droppings. the special waste days are not convenient for cottage residents.
- No, the recycling stations at the landfill are gone and I end up taking my recycling back to my primary residence in another part of Ontario
- No, it takes effort.
- No, i did not even know we had some of these examples: wine cork recycling and green cone
- No! Your guidelines for sorting recycling are more complicated than other communities I've lived in. Our family was trying very hard to sort our recycling each week, and many times the people who pick up recycling would not take it with a sticky note saying we sorted something wrong. Over and over again. So we stopped trying and don't recycle anymore because my husband got so annoyed. I have a university education so am smart enough to know how to sort recycling, and haven't had this problem in previous communities.
- "no- you need a car/trailer to dispose of yard waste
- garbage removal is every two week and on days seasonal residents are not in town;
- same for blue box
- should have arrea where residents can dispose of residential garbage and recyclables without charge- (i.e. the tag is to cover cost of pick up)"
- "No for the following reasons:

- 1) Recycling pickup is once every 2 weeks. Should be weekly.
- 2) Hazardous material disposal is twice per year. Should have a permanent location at the waste disposal site.
- 3) Beach cleanup should be daily. The black scunge is along some of the shore of the main beach.
- 4) With the pandemic I do not return bottles anymore. If the pandemic ends I will start returning bottles again.
- 5) We should have a wet compost program."
- No - lived all over Canada and here it is the most difficult to dispose of waste and bulky items
- Never heard of wine cork recycling.
- Need to have more then a few hazardous wastes days
- My only issue with the beer store return is that it's the only time I go to the beer store to return containers from the LCBO
- My backyard compost bin is not a program, a compost (green bin) program is one that is desperately needed within Saugeen Shores.
- Mostly. The plastic bins are often too full to take more. Would like to see a green bin program.
- "Mostly. If find it difficult to utilize the programs that are not offered Mon-Fri. Hazardous Waste needs to be collected more often.
- Garbage Collection for small businesses downtown Southampton along the North side of the street needs to be addressed. Rent for small business is far too high in Southampton to not have garbage disposal options. Especially considering our communities heavy reliance on tourism. Finding a solution to this very basic need for businesses, should be a priority.
- More importantly, green space in this community needs to be a priority. The developments being considered in our woodland are irresponsible and will have both negative environmental impacts as well as reduce quality of life in Saugeen Shores"
- mostly, yes. Might be better to collect recyclables more often, 'garbage' less often
- mostly, although the hazardous waste recycling seems to slip by my radar and I have to save it for several months more!
- Mostly but wish they would pick up leaf, garden waste at curb side.
- Most programs are not easily known. There is little information if you don't know what you are looking for.
- "Most are quite easy.
- A more comprehensive list of what papers and films can be recycled.
- could you mail out the calendar (at no charge to you) to every year-round household in Saugeen Shores?
- Where is the cork recycling?"
- Moderately easy
- Mattress recycling shouldn't cost 20 dollars a mattress/box spring
- "Many options I am unaware of or process for this.

- Styrofoam where is this located? Wine cork? All the recycling programs and are the free?"
- Limited access to the dump hours -makes the styrofoam recycling hampered.
- It's not overly difficult but a bit of a challenge getting yard waste disposed of
- Indifferent
- If we had more electric cars we'd need more charging stations, the soon to be future requires us to do this
- I'd like to learn more about wine cork recycling
- I'd like to have all recycling picked up at curb
- I would like to see a compost pick up program much like the recycle program
- I would like to compost food waste but there is no spot on my property that would be suitable
- I wish we had weekly recycle pick up, green bin pickup and cardboard pickup (preferably all on the same day)
- "I wasn't even aware of some of them, such as mattress recycling.
- I find it relatively easy to participate in these programs, but I also have a car and work part time."
- I wasn't aware of many of them.
- I was unaware that the town had most of these programs
- "I was unaware that Saugeen Shores has a program for almost all of the items listed in 7a.
- As a former resident, and now part time resident, I have always wondered why Cardboard is not collected as part of the blue box program? I see people in the neighborhood either burning or throwing it away. Seems to be a miss for one of the more recyclable items in our system? Expecting people to separate it and deliver it to the dump themselves isn't a solution."
- I was unaware of the wine cork recycling
- I was not aware that the municipality provided used tire recycling, mattress recycling,, fluorescent bulb recycling, or propane tank recycling.
- I was not aware of the wine cork recycling nor the green cone nor the rain barrel. I have my own rain collection device..
- I use them at home with my self purchased products, it's easy. Except driving to the Restore to find pre-loved articles and save myself some money.
- I think the town could improve their communications on environmental programs available. The world is evolving and I find it hard to know what recycle options are available for pick up.
- I think its crazy to have to drive corrugated cardboard and that we dont have green bins. So outdated.
- I think hazardous waste days are few and far between..it makes for long line ups... why can't they be done monthly? I find this inconvenient and out dated.
- I should learn more as many I was not aware of. However, most seem to be dealing with waste and not much is being done to reduce CO2 emissions.
- I often wonder how much I am doing for the environment by recycling and visiting periodically the leaf waste yard carrying my garden waste in a few bags at a time in my car and doing several trips. Do I contaminate more by

using my car for this task? When it comes to the blue box, it is my understanding that not all of the plastic could be recycled and I wonder if it does not end in a third world country where more than likely they will burn it creating more damage to the global environment on our behalf.

- "I moved here from the city so it is hard getting used to not having cardboard , compost pick up etc I worry that people don't compost because of it, because they can't be bothered to do it on their own. I also used to be able to put all recycling out at the corner for pick up - super convenient! I also worry that having to sort and pack items into the car to certain drop
- Off stations is a deterrent for some people. They will just throw in garbage cause they can't be bothered. Finally I am troubled by how many items can't be recycled up here at all. I have had to completely change the way I shop. For example juice boxes, boxes of broth, cartons etc some things are unavoidable and I hate throwing them in the garbage"
- I have used the programs with great ease
- I have gone in to see what items are in the local Habitat for Humanity - Restore, but never purchased anything. I did want to donate to it, but was told they had no room for my donation, therefore I ended up taking it the Owen Sound location. I find the Beer Store Bottle Return confusing, so I wait until my kids are home and ask them to take care of any I have - if I do. I have no idea what the Green Cone is. Composter I've addressed before, I have had no luck in getting one going, therefore I utilize the leaf/yard waste drop off. I wasn't aware of the Wine Cork Recycling.
- "I find making use of the municipal recycling program extremely challenging because many items have to be brought to the landfill location.
- Curbside services need to be expanded at a minimum, to include cardboard. Recycling pick up should be weekly, not every two weeks I find my recycling bins are over flowing after one week and I resort to throwing the additional recycling in the garbage."
- i find it inconvenient to have to pack up my cardboard to take to the depot when it could be picked up with blue box. also by-weekly blue box should be weekly to encourage recycling over garbage.
- "I do what I can recycle here in SS and safe a take back other articles for recycling to my permanent residence.
- I feel we should alternate both garbage and recycling. We really should encourage reduction of waste as well save funds for collection every other week."
- I do not find that saugeen shores has an adequate recycling program, we ca. Do much better. The school systems recycling program is far more advanced than that of household programs which I find confuses children and creates too much avoidable waste.
- I didn't know many existed.
- I can't believe all recyclables are not picked up curbside. It is a farce that the trucks drive by our houses and dont pick up cardboard, Styrofoam and plastic film. How is it eco conscious for us to individually drive to the dump with this weekly waste?

- I am impressed and happy with the programs since my family has moved this spring of 2021, but we are VERY much hoping to get our hands on the city program green cone/digester (we have been trying to get one since April!) to reduce our weekly waste even more!
- Household green bin is needed.
- "Hazardous waste day is too busy and doesn't happen often enough.
- Davey park in port Elgin needs more equipment for different ages"
- Hazardous waste and batteries can be problematic if you're working on the day it's open
- Habitat is great to deal with.
- Green bin waste removal would be an added benefit, as it is difficult to keep a composter working properly, not to smell and attract animals.
- Generally yes. Was not aware of some of the programs.
- Generally yes programs are easy to use. It would be nice to have a recycling drop in a central location for cottagers who aren't around on recycling days.
- For the ones we use, yes. But we were unaware of the other programs entirely.
- For the ones I use, yes. Most of the others I've never heard of
- "For the most part. It would be more convenient to have cardboard/plastic film recycling pick up instead of having to drive to the nearest bins.
- Without a pick up truck I find it difficult to dispose of yard or household waste. This ultimately encourages people to buy big gas guzzling vehicles for convenience. This has a direct impact on emissions."
- For the most part, yes.
- "First of all, many of the above options I would not consider to be environmental programs/resources. Most of them are related to waste management. I think it's a stretch to call waste management options environmental programs/resources.
- I think many of these ""programs"" are not well advertised."
- Fairly easy.
- Fairly easy but have to drive for cardboard, plastic and styrofoam recycling
- Everything should be picked up by recycling instead of having to run all over town with cardboard etc.
- Easy for some. Never heard of wine cork recycling, green cone or rain barrel.
- Easy for some
- Easily accessible
- Didn't even know about some of them.
- Did not know about wine cork recycle. The composters are expensive and often attract rodents as we're 2 houses from river. Not familiar with green cone.
- did not know about some of them, not well advertised
- Could be more frequently accessible
- Compost is not user friendly. Generally when friends and family come to visit they are shocked we don't have curbside pickup of compost. As it seems this

is offered everywhere else. This would cut down on our amount of garbage we have as well.

- Cardboard recycling is a pain, would be nice to put it in the bin rather than drive to drop it off.
- Cardboard and recycling bins overflowing a lot of times. More effort should be made to keep ahead of the volume.
- Blue box works well as does alcohol bottles return. Cardboard recycling is not easy. Should be part of blue box.
- As a cottager who comes from a city that does green bin collections we are surprised that Southampton does not offer that service as it seems to reduce household waste dramatically.
- Absolutely.
- Absolutely.
- Absolutely not. I did not know many of them existed. The town does a very poor job on notifying residents of available programs and how to use them.

Question 11: Which of the following do you consider to be the most important natural environmental assets and/or resources in the Town of Saugeen Shores? Please add comments if there are things that you think should be considered an environmental asset or resource not on the list above.

**Lake Huron
Beach
Forests and trees
Trails
Saugeen River
Parks, greenspace
Wetlands
Wildlife
Air quality
Fields and soil**

Other answers provided:

- Zoned waterfront being sold and developed when it is a water way shouldn't be allowed . Protection for water ways should be a priority.
- Yard waste pickup
- Woodlands being considered for development.
- Why is this whole issue of Council approving a beach development on relic beach (recognized flood plan) not mentioned?
- What, exactly, is an environmental asset? Is it something that benefits the environment? Is it a part of the environment that we want to protect due to its biodiversity or carbon sequestering capacity? A park or greenspace could be environmentally destructive, or it could be an environmental asset. The designation depends on whether we manage it sustainably, and include in our

management strategy techniques to improve / restore natural biodiversity. For the purpose of question 11, my answer assumes that an environmental asset is a part of our local environment that is within our control to enhance, protect, preserve, or restore. For example, if local wildlife is an environmental resource, we should ban the hunting of foxes and coyotes within town limits. Without them, rodent and rabbit populations will get out of control and lead to defoliation of our green spaces. We need our top predators to maintain a healthy biodiversity.

- "We are a very wasteful community. There are a lot of items at the landfill site that could be repurposed with some effort and imagination. For example metal garbage receptacles often have used bikes that seem fixable.
- Supermarkets could start taking their day-olds and not-so-fresh products to food banks and to animal shelters.
- There could be shared public transportation for trips to the grocery store and doctor/dentist's offices. There are too many cars with one occupant... all these people are going in the same direction and could be sharing."
- Ways to enjoy the environment safely on bike or by foot.
- Vi Cottrell
- Urban wildlife
- Trees and wood lots should be left alone. We need the green spaces and trails they provide
- Trees and animal habitats should not be destroyed for multi residential in Southampton on copway.
- Trails
- "This is a very poorly designed questionnaire. There are many questions which require only a single response but you can select more than one. In addition, question 10 are NOT mutually exclusive responses. You will have problems analyzing this survey and most importantly you will be wasting valuable input from residents with no positive outcome to this extremely important community issue!! Seek professional help!"
- The very small isolated forests in our communities are important. Some of them may be up for development but they are also the most accessible forested areas for kids to have true nature play. In particular is the forested areas within the town of Southampton that are well with in the existing town boundaries. Development is better suited to annexing farmland that is treeless instead of razing trees to creat building lots.
- The trails are absolutely amazing. The main issue is hwy 21 near hi-berry that is a danger. This crossing needs to be addressed as someone may be injured or killed with the current situation.
- The town needs composting, green bins. Long overdue for a place of this size.
- The Market Street woodlands is the last remaining significant woodlands in the old settlement of Port Elgin. This woodland has thousands of carbon capturing mature trees that will be destroyed by a proposed development. All of Saugeen Shores previous climate change progress will be eliminated if this proposed development is approved. This area should be protected from such intensive development.

- The Market St forest should not be cut down for new development. It is so sad that this is not being fought by the town (from what I can see).
- The list was comprehensive; however I was only able to choose 5...I would have chosen additionally Wetlands (Marshes and Streams) as well as Saugeen River and its tributaries.
- The highest valued asset is our beach!! We enjoy; others from many areas come to enjoy the natural quiet beauty of the waterfront - day and night!
- The entire trail from Port Elgin to South Street (Biener/Woodland Trails etc) is such an exquisite and unique trail. It is a very special place. I would love to have it be Saugeen Shore's "Central Park" and preserved. I know much of it is slated for development which would be a tragedy.
- The condition of the beach in port elgin is embarrassing. The mess (sharpe stones, gravel, etc) left from the construction needs to be addressed. The beach needs to be maintained.
- "the beach is our most important natural environment that is currently most at risk from climate change and commercial development. The town's current plan to commercialize this fragile environment is unconscionable. Once it is destroyed by overdevelopment, this natural feature is gone forever.
- Similarly wetlands - once you drain the swamp, the environment is lost forever.
- Please stop the commercialization of these fragile elements of our environment."
- The beach is a huge environmental asset, and the scope and size of Cedar Crescent village not to mention the damage to the environment is uncalled for.
- Telling you is window dressing. How about some action? In 55 years of contributing to the development of S.S. and seeing what the present admin and Council is pushing on our beach and the re-zoning of every green space area makes me sick. I have seen no greater damage done than by the present attitude in our leadership. So, to answer the question, an environmental asset would be electing candidates that are not driven by profit but who are actual environmental stewards. Just because you sit on a Committee and go to conferences does not make you one. It takes action, and sometimes it means saying "No". At the rate we are going, there will be little green space left, especially with the attitude "intensification" is good and is equated with affordable housing. Get real. Some people would like to still see homes with back yards (green space although not profitable to the town) instead of lot splitting ruining the look and feel of this area. Not everything should be sacrificed for profit.
- Stop development on main beach.
- "Stop developing our forest areas. We are running out of habitat for wildlife within our town."
- stop approving new divisions by encroaching on forests and near the lake shore.
- Specifically: the shoreline along North Shore road .
- Should be requirement for new housing development to plant trees on properties. If clear cutting an area for new development it should be to plant 2x number of trees cut in another location. We are destroying animals habitats as well as losing key asset to cleaning our air.
- "Save Market street forest. Investigate archeological significance of land close to Nodwell in forest.

- Protect Bieners bush and expand trails.
- Maintain and protect the beaches
- Promote and allow clearly marked parking to secondary beaches such as Izzard, Shipley, Eidts grove.
- Repair shoreline bike path and remove invasive species.
- Allow home owners to groom and maintains trees to town specifications giving all enhanced lake views.
- Decrease average widths of roads and increase green space, slow traffic,increase safety."
- Sand - I think that it is called relic sand because it doesn't regenerate...we remove trees and grasses and we lose sand that never comes back. It is Saugeen Shores most precious resource
- Re think where the CCV goes and take into account the boaters in the harbour that bring support to the town year after year
- Protecting the sand itself - since it cannot regenerate and once it's gone, it's gone.
- Protect the relic sand on beach with minimal development.
- Protect the beach
- Preserve land. People complain that animals are coming into town - my family has been going to our cottage for more than my lifetime (40 yrs) and the building that is happening is legit pushing animals out. Not only that but things that we asked to do not even 10 yrs ago we were told we couldn't because of where our cottage is etc and lines... yet is it right that you are allowing monstrous cottages being built just steps from the road AND the septic system is on the WATER side of the property!? Come on... How about our town council acts with responsibility for ALL tax payers
- Preservation of these assets, notably wetlands (stop filling them in for developmemt - culverts cannot replace these natural water management systems) and tree cover.
- Pollution from the Saugeen River is a significant issue for safe swimming. The fact that water is not tested regularly is seen as a way to divert attention from the issue. Water testing at beaches should be done regularly to keep swimmers safe....and to raise greater awareness of the ongoing level of pollution. Ignoring the issue only makes it worse. The town should also re-evaluate their use of salt especially on sidewalks. It is excessive to the point where dogs can't safely walk. This all ends up in the water system and on our beaches. Use sand or an alternative more conducive to both people and animals

Please add comments if there are things that you think should be considered an environmental asset or resource not on the list above:

- Our beach areas are one of the most important asset we have so even to consider approving a lease for 50 years and approving the construction of the CCV is absolutely ludicrous. We need a counsel that is not just focused on dollars and cents but one that has a vision for the future while preserving our most important asset. Not many communities have a beach area like we have

so to destroy it by allowing the CCV to proceed is not in the best interest of the taxpayers or tourists.

- One aspect that should be considered is the 'carrying capacity of our local community to handle the increasing growth of new people and businesses. Large amounts of woodlands and precious topsoil are being displaced and removed in the name of 'growth'. What needs to be considered is if the growth is really necessary, and how can we still stay ahead but keep the priority on our environmental impact.
- Not pouring concrete over farmland! Coun Dave Meyette you are a hero for voting against the business park and pushing for these acreages to continue being farmed! Just a friendly reminder that here in Ontario in the last 35 years, we have lost 2.8million acres of farmland. This equates to a loss of about 175 acres of farmland a day. Farmable land is a finite and non renewable resource that is vital to our communities and our economy. Once we pave over it we can never get it back. COVID has put the spotlight on shopping local and supporting small businesses! Including local farmers. I remember as a young woman farmland at the top of my street in Mississauga, in less than 34 years (my age) it has become exceptionally urbanized and heavily populated. I moved to Port Elgin for a different pace of life and nature. I think we need to remember when planning development for saugeen shores - we like to talk about tourism being a driving force in our local economy - what draws people to our town (to either live or vacation) is the charm, the small town vibe, the unique one off small businesses to discover, and an escape the city. We don't leave the city to come here to build more Starbucks and bring the city with us. There has to be room for both. What we have here is very unique and precious.
- Not in favour of the large build on the beach in Port Elgin...not sure if this applies to this survey , but that is my comment.
- None.
- Nodwell park forest area should be a town maintained trail system instead of trying to sell commercial land that is so close to land that has native artifacts and the few green space the town has for biking and walking in the trees.
- Na
- N/A
- "More signage not to litter and smoke is needed.
- Bilaw enforcement should be ticketing people who litter, smoke, have their dogs off the leash, smoke weed on the beach."
- Minimize forest fragmentation
- Loss of farm land to developments
- "Local Farmer's Markets
- Lawnbowling fields/greens
- Some landfills have an open shed where people, for free, can donate unwanted usable items and pick up items they can make use of. I think there should be an easily accessible one at our landfill.
- The Re-Store is no longer accepting opened partly-used cans of paint. Where are these going? There should be a place where people can donate these for

- use by others. Sorry to keep harping on K-W (home of the blue bin), but the landfill there did have a small shed devoted only to partial or full cans of paint for donation or pick up."
- Light pollution, turn off the beach lights in Southampton after 11pm; little more star gazing would be nice
 - "Light pollution
 - Noise pollution"
 - Keeping the beach as a natural beach. No major development like CCV to ruin this natural resource
 - "Keep the beach natural. Leave the sand. Do not allow building too close to harbour or lakefront. Allow natural filtration of the sand for rainwater. Prevent flooding by not allowing buildings in a flood zone, or wetlands. There are many houses that have been built in areas that are in wetlands. Discontinue this practice.
 - There should be compost collection. This prevents a lot of problems with unwanted skunks and raccoons and bears in urban areas."
 - It's all tied together! There are three main components of life, air, water and soil, every thing on earth needs clean air, water and soil to survive and thrive. Why do I need to pick 5 items in the above list, the town of Saugeen Shores is mandated by federal and provincial legislation to maintain and provide all of the above to some state or level of acceptable standards.
 - It is very difficult to select only 5 most important natural resources as they are all interconnected and pollution or destruction to one resource will affect all parts of the environment. Saugeen Shores is fortunate to be situated in a beautiful natural area and the natural beauty is one of the main attractions for visitors to the area. It also provides a high quality of living for residents. Recent severe weather events both locally and around the world have proven no one is safe from the effects of climate change. We have an obligation to our children and grandchildren to act now to prevent the worst impacts of climate change. Preserving forests, woodlands, parks are important to help absorb carbon dioxide emissions. We must also find ways to reduce emissions in every way possible including encouraging electric vehicles, investing in energy efficient home retrofits, protecting shorelines and waterways and encouraging sustainable farming practices. We are all in this together. Thanks for taking this important step to move forward in this direction.
 - It is so important to protect our trees and green spaces. I am furious about the clear cutting for this new Southampton Landing development. Disgraceful!!!
 - "In my opinion, tracks of property that have been identified as 'sensitive' for decades already should not be up for debate as potential property for development. If it is environmentally sensitive decades ago, it is still environmentally sensitive now.
 - Those that wish to exploit the potential additional tax dollars, or developers fees should be looking a little farther into the future and consider why these properties have sat undeveloped for decades. It was not by accident."

- If the product container says it is recyclable it should be taken and recycled. Figure out a way to process more recyclable materials so I don't have to throw them in the trash.
- I would love to see a compost program started in the area and maybe community gardens.
- I would have liked to select more than five.
- I think we should charge \$5 to \$10 per day for parking at the beach. Many people come here only for the day, bring their own food, and make a mess. We should charge.
- I think that all of the items listed above are important environmental assets/resources. You can't just pick 5 as they all effect each other.
- "I think Saugeen Shores needs to devote more attention to developing greener building practices.
- That would include bylaws so developers have to preserve trees on properties and recycle building materials."
- I think noise pollution should be considered when thinking about air quality. With the amount of construction going on in town and the fact that every dump truck and tractor trailer and other heavy equipment has to drive through the downtown, it's SO loud, I cant even carry on a conversation with whomever I happen to be with any time I'm downtown.
- "I have no idea what you all do behind closed doors but the Saugeen Council is a disgrace. Surveys are your big thing but if you don't like how we respond you all go ahead with your backroom deals anyway. The surveys going out of this council are just window dressing and little substance.
- The natural beaches of Saugeen Shores are the biggest assets and you all sold that in a 50 year lease of public land in the ultimate ""bait and switch"" land transfer."
- I have always been shocked that there is no protection for trees. My husband and I had to go to OMB to get tree protection along our property line when somebody bought the lot beside us. There are over 15 old, large trees along the property line. We had to pay for an arborist to outline a tree plan and how close our neighbour should be building next to the trees. Despite living here for 20 years the town paid for the new owner's arborist report but not ours, does this make sense???? We were just trying to protect these very important and old trees but we received absolutely no help from the town, they would not even put our successful agreement on file for reference by future contractors etc. Very disappointing.
- Hopefully there will be efforts made to have Port Elgin beach, Gobles Grove and surrounding area as well as Southampton beach and flag area kept as an attraction for visitors and available to visit with guests and to meet and greet locals and maybe
- enjoy some ice cream.
- "Hello. I do not know what ""our"" stance is on the nuclear storage , but that might out weigh anything else. I hope our community is able to express concern. (not a scientist, just don't think we are capable of making decisions that could have impact for 10,000 years)

- Take care"
- have weed control in new subdivision
- Ground water
- green box
- Green bins for kitchen waste. Don't want a composter near house as it attracts animals
- "Glacial and post-glacial shorelines including remnant sand dune system and spring fed wetlands and watercourses.
- Ground water aquifer. (Should be protected by expanding the Sanitary Sewer service area to reduce the potential of ground water contamination as a result of subsurface sewage disposal systems)"
- "Further work to improve walking and cycling trails by paving into Southampton from Port Elgin.
- Improve walking and cycling access in southern portion of Port Elgin from Unifor centre area back towards Main Beach.
- More work to stabilize Shore Road trails for both walking and cycling.
- Improve visibility at some street corners by regular brush cutting.
- Town to improve after-winter median and curbside grass repairs from plow damage and faster street sweeping of gravel deposits."
- Flowers, including gardens and wildflowers.
- "Farms and farmland
- I also think the Beach, but I could only select 5. so I deselected it as it's obvious (I think)."
- Extensive cultivated sand dunes is unacceptable as they are shrinking the amount of useable beach and spoiling the view the lake
- Disheartened and disgraced to know Saugeen Shores Council would ever agree to a 50 year lease with private investors who plan cover up an incredible amount of precious waterfront square footage with commercial buildings that could easily have been constructed at an off-beach location. The CCV project is not revitalization. It's a profit driven venture hoping to capitalize this captivatingly beautiful natural waterfront area. This is Port Elgin's most valuable asset and an environmentally sensitive area. The CCV poses huge environmental threats to this natural waterfront. Our local beaches are made up of historic relic sand that is both non-renewable and irreplaceable. All of Saugeen Shores beaches should remain as natural as possible; protected not built upon to such extremes as the proposed CCV.
- "Discontinue fishing at Fairy lake and establish an area on the Saugeen. Ducks are being tangled in fishing line, turtles are being hooked & no one keeps the fish they catch. For being advertised as a natural area & people being asked to protect the wildlife, this activity is doing neither.
- Enforce the Walk your Wheels by laws on Southampton boardwalk and on the Fairy Lake path.
- Make the public more aware of how to contact the Wildlife Rescue people in the area. I did not know they existed till they were trying to extract a duck from fishing line at F Lake"

- Destroying our beach is almost criminal. It's a huge environmental asset that we will never get back once destroyed. While it's on the list the town is clearly unaware of the natural destruction they have undertaken with the massive complex set to break ground this fall
- "-Dark sky in rural area and within built-up parts of Town also
- - an informed citizenry practising good stewardship
- - mindfulness of negative impacts of acts and attitudes e.g. use of gas-guzzling vehicles, paving yard space"
- Clean streets and public spaces.
- "Better land use planning making more natural parks, green space and trails
- Protect existing natural areas such as Biener and woodland trail areas
- Leave waterfront and beaches natural, too much grooming is occurring
- A tree bylaw to protect trees and plant more"
- Being a Low Carbon Source
- Beach grass, so often trampled on by tourists
- All of the above are extremely important, not just as 'assets' but as necessary to preserve and protect, for now, the future, to mitigate climate change, to protect life itself, which has Rights as we do. In fact, the Rights of Nature should take precedence over human wants - if ever there was a time to learn this, it is now. Our lives depend on it.
- All of the above are environmental assets or resources this is an unacceptable that the survey only allows a person to select 5 items. Should of been able rank in order of importance to the individual doing the survey.
- All assets listed contribute to the health, beauty, wealth and success of Saugeen Shores. They are all important.
- All are equally vital in a thriving community
- "After glancing at the UN IPCC report, there needs to be a drastic change in the way we manage emissions: Carbon emissions:
- - reduce size and # vehicles we drive
- - reduce natural gas consumption
- - improve EV infrastructures
- - design neighborhoods around walking and biking to stores/services, etc
- - etc.
- Carbon absorption/sinks:
- - replant trees for every tree cut for development
- - manage green spaces properly
- - promote regenerative agriculture (as opposed to conventional predominantly), etc
- addition of recycling food wastes in green bins
- A healthy ecosystem in general should be the priority which includes all the things listed above. It should also be a priority of the town to continue to add green/natural space for residents
- "A concern is development permitted to clear cut land'
- Tree canopy on public and private lands is important for: air, maintaining community character, public satisfaction with environment, for wildlife home

(eg clear cutting beside Southampton's beer store has upset the local eco system a lot)"

Question 12: Would you make use of a food waste composter if the Town of Saugeen Shores provided you one free of charge? Yes or No and Why or why not?

Answers to “why or why not”?

- Yes. But not the best solution for our community.
- Yes, I think the town should do everything in its power to divert as much waste from landfill. Not only is this good for the environment but it will prolong the life of the landfill.
- Yes, however there is a concern for what I mentioned above. The town is allowing significant building, which is pushing animals out of their natural habitat. IF this means that by providing them to homes and cottages, that any animals that comes into town or near homes would NOT be harmed (because they are innocent), then yes all for it.
- YES PLEASE.
- Yes I would. Where I moved from has has greb bin collection for years. It is easy to do, cuts down significantly on waste going into the garage. I love to cook and having alot of little ones i have alot of food scraps and ends and would love to be able to put that into a collected green bin.
- yes !!!! I have had one in every other city I have lived in Diverting food waste reduces garbage !
- Yes -- compost for my gardens
- Would prefer to have green bin pick up and a compensating tax increase.
- Would not like to attract bears
- Would divert waste from land fill.
- Willing to help with waste management
- Will try be will become abandon or not cared for. Concerns about attracting wildlife - coyotes already ate my cat and some of of the neighbours little dogs. Had a bear walk down my street. Other smaller critters are always eating my garden. Don't need anything more attracting them. Most northern small cities and towns discourage composting for these reasons.
- Why wouldn't I?
- Why not use it.
- When in Saugeen Shores would use. Have to see the process or if there would be a centralized shared food waste composter where one could take their "offerings" if the viability of composting is limited by visits to property.
- "We would use a composter however our property doesn't have a very suitable location.
- Would a community compost drop off location be considered?"

- We would love a green bin. Would actually love green bin service in Saugeen shores. It would be so amazing for lowering the amount of compost bins in my backyard but also so great for the town/environment.
- We will need bins that protect from smells and wildlife.
- We use our composter all the time and use the soil in our box garden. Providing us with lettuce, onions, carrots, beets, radishes and kale. We could use a second composter as well as we keep the first one pretty well full.
- We use a food waste composter in our primary residence and would feel better if we could do so at the cottage
- We use a backyard composter but have had an incident where a black bear broke into it. A less attractive to wildlife composter would ultimately be safer if the design is right.
- We take food waste to the Southampton Compost pile whenever possible. And have past experience with home composter attracting pests.
- We should already have this program..not sure why it hadn't been already introduced.
- "We should all be doing our best to compost and keep the landfill at minimum.
- Also composting keeps the re cycling back to the earth at its best"
- We segregate our compost anyways would be good to take it away when we want it gone
- We reside in a Townhouse where we would not be able to place a composter on our property due to breach of conditions.
- We only compost vegetable matter any this time. What would a food waste composter be capable of accepting?
- We make our own compost to utilize in our personal flowerbeds and veggie gardens.
- We have two of our own composters and they are constantly full. We would definitely appreciate this as well as weekly recycling.
- We have two composters and use daily. Every household should have one if they use it.
- We have our own
- We have enough garden and kitchen "waste" to keep 3 compost bins going. Our home was built on rocks and gravel and to grow anything it is helpful to add the composted material. We would certainly use another.
- We have a rural property and compost all ready
- We had one and it kept being torn open by bears. Had to get rid of it.
- We farm so we have no problem getting rid of our compostable material. we also do not have much food waste.
- We don't compost because of the smell and not having enough space. If there were somewhere else we could compost that avoids those issues we would likely use it.
- we do this already
- We do not generate a significant quantity of food waste.
- We do NOT do composting due to wildlife (bears, racoons) in our area.

- We do compost food waste and use leftovers, save other to give to a relative for pets, so have very little more.
- We currently use our compost container for fruit/veggie garbage but would like to lessen other food waste/garbage and a green bin would be helpful...but where would the town dispose of it□
- We currently use one but it is not practical in winter and can only be used for vegetable & fruit waste.
- We currently take all our green bin items home for disposal.
- We currently compost some things at home. A town system that we could compost more things is more ideal
- we currently compost food and garden waste and would certainly use a town-supplied composter.
- We compost our scraps all of the time. It is easy to do! So far, where we are at the beach, we haven't had to worry about bears being attracted to the compost pile. This could change.
- We compost our own food waste ... been doing that since the town gave out composters 20 or so years ago! We use the compost to plant flowers in the spring . We also chop up all the leaves and use them in our gardens and lawns . Works great!
- We compost at our residence and should encourage all residents. However, some food caps such as meat and bones we do not compost for fear of attracting large animals.
- We compost already. However some food waste (bread, meat, bones...) attract animals, so we put it in the garbage instead.
- We compose already just not using the towns Program. Composing is an easy way to reduce garbage and the town should have done years ago
- "WE are only in the town from May to October, and take all our garbage (divided) back to the city for disposal.
- We visit 3 days a week."
- We are from Hamilton and they had green bin for years and I loved it. Have lived here for 8 years and it has always bothered me that there was no green bin program.
- We are currently using one but running out of space.
- We are currently using a personal composter for non-meat and bones composting because it only makes sense to redirect anything that is recyclable away from landfill, however, a communal composter with green-bin collection would be preferred.
- We already use a green cone and composters. If there is something else available we would use it as well
- We already use a composter in our back yard. Hopefully we'd be able to compost more though since we won't compost meat in ours because of animals.
- We already own 2composters and use them year round.

- We already have two composters so would not require one. Subsidized programs for rain barrels and composters have been very well received in other municipalities
- We already have one.
- We already have one but it rarely gets used.
- We already have composters at our house but I would still use a green bin program. It would be awesome if the town could work with the schools to ensure their compost waste is involved too.
- We already have and use a food composter so wouldn't need the use of another one.
- We already have a food waste composter, but it's uses are limited. Although it is better than having food waste end up in a landfill, it does not break down like a commercial composter. No meat or dairy products can be disposed of in it, as well as bones and compostable/ biodegradable packaging that requires commercial grade to decompose.
- We already do this. Religiously. Every day for all food waste except meat/fish scraps that would attract wildlife.
- We Already compost so adding a green cone would be easy to incorporate into our routines
- We already compost our plant based food waste. Are you referring to something more than that?
- We already compost on our own, but if this question refers to municipal composting of the kind available in big cities that allow foodstuffs such as meat and dairy. I would be interested.
- We already compost but would love to see a green bin program
- We already compost at home and would love to be able to divert more food products from the landfill, i.e., meat
- We already compost all food material other than meat products in our own backyard composter.
- We agree that it significantly reduces household waste.
- Using a composter significantly cuts down on our waste going to landfill, we have a family of 5 and generate one garbage bag every week or two because much of our waste is food prep stuff.
- Use at home and like it
- Too much wildlife
- Too much potential for pests
- Too difficult to match seasonal residents schedule
- To reduce waste
- To keep spoiled food out of the landfill which is not good food for wildlife to eat.
- To help divert items from the landfill.
- To extend the life of the current landfill as it will require more taxes to find new space once the current landfill is full!
- This would reduce landfill waste
- This would make composting easy.

- This would be beneficial but we feel that the green bin is a better choice.
- There is so much compostable items going into landfill. Town can use the compost for spring plantings or even sell it
- There is a lot of food waste
- The longer we extend the use of the current landfill site the better.
- The less garbage we make the better. This program is in place and works effectively by other communities.
- the complexity of running it, especially in neighborhoods is a deterrent. Would attract wildlife (Bears) into town.
- See above comment.
- See above answer to question 11
- Rodents
- Reduced garbage going in the landfill.
- Reduce waste to landfill. Currently use the service at my primary residence.
- Provided in every other town we are aware of. Long overdue.
- Probably not appropriate for condos or apartments.
- prefer it being collected
- Poor question when adding 'provided free if charge' now it's a different parameter unrelated to the initial question
- PLEASE! My family WANTS to compost and use the Green Cone! We are totally on-board with this initiative but we do need help in obtaining such a cone (even at a cost!).
- People generally will place the composters out of sight/smell range, on a far corner of their property. Which means in the winter they will not use them.
- Our recycling program is lacking all the way around. Many items could actually be recycled are not on our list and have a proper compost pick up would help with animal control in town and at the dump with all the bears ☐.
- Our personal composter does not allow for all compost product so we would use the town program for the rest
- Our landfill will not last forever and getting approval from residents for another location will be difficult. The more we can compost and recycle the better.
- Our in-town business would love this! We currently have our own at home compost.
- Our composter fills up and attracts wildlife
- Only if it is picked up regularly.
- Only because we already do have a composter. I believe a green bin or compost pick up program like in Guelph would be beneficial.
- Omygoodness. Please do it at home. Look at the probs Guelph had building rotted. Yikes
- Yard waste ok
- Kitchen compost no
- Of anything is free at least some people would use it
- Not sure if it would attract animals or smell. Don't have a lot of space in yard for one.
- Not sufficient for household needs and issues with rodents etc

- Not only does this help divert waste and reduce climate change but also provides valuable soil nutrients for gardening.
- not interested
- Not enough space on my property to effectively compost all material generated by our activities.
- not applicable
- Not a resident. Do use it at home.
- Not a concern for me.
- No. It attracts mice and rats.
- No where to store it. They get very messy....maggots, etc
- No where to put it outside in the condo
- No where to keep it so it wouldn't attract animals
- No we would not want to attract bugs rodents and foxes.
- No space attracts animals
- no room on my property
- No appropriate place to put it
- My wife fears that bears would be attracted.
- My family currently composts at home to avoid as. Cub waste as possible, throughout the year a household compost system is not big enough and less useful during the winter.
- Much of our domestic waste could be diverted for compost and / or digester as opposed to going to the landfill. I would estimate 40 to 50%
- Much of our diet are fruits and vegetables. It would be nice to not have so much of that waste in our weekly garbage collection.
- Moved here from St Thomas where we regularly used "roller green bin" pickup alternating with blue bin pickup on alternate weeks. Composted pickup was processed and made available as mulch or compost for gardens (at a reduced fee to homeowners). Composting reduced our normal garbage by directing it to a proper facility.
- Most other municipalities are already operating organic recycling
- Maybe - if it can be easy to use and not smelly to us or nearby neighbours. It cannot attract racoons. It has to be convenient collection dates for cottagers
- Many relatives and towns use green bins already. as long as they are picked up weekly we would save almost 30-40% of our household garbage alone.
- Makes common sense.
- Less other waste in bags to apply garbage tag tickets to and to put in landfill site
- Main reason....attracts coyotes, skunks and raccoons. My neighbourhood is full of pets that may be injured by wildlife. I would not want to attract them.
- Love to know more about the type of container you are talking about. Presently I have an open composter for yard waste, 2x black plastic ones for kitchen waste that is not digested by my registered backyard chickens
- Long time commitment to composting
- Living in a condo is not feasible for this

- Lived in areas that collected compost in green bins - much more convenient- just trash it now because we have no compost collection in Saugeen Shores
- Live in a condo building and would be smelly!
- Less material in our dump.
- Less material in landfill
- I've tried using a composter and have never had success. I make use of the yard/leaf disposal area, and If I had a food waste composter hopefully the food scraps I dispose of could be used in a larger compost area supervised by people far more experienced than I happen to be.
- It's important to extend the life of the landfill for as long as possible.
- It's a sad commentary when the only way to get people to use a service is to provide it to them for free.
- It's a huge concern — that so much food waste goes to landfill. I've tried to separate by putting appropriate food waste into compostable trash bags, but it's not at all a solution. The concern with a food waste composter on our property is that it will attract animals. Much prefer the Question 12 option below.
- It's a good idea.
- It'd give a use to all food scraps other than garbage.
- It would reduce landfill usage and extend its lifespan. If the town had a place to take the food waste or composted food waste it would be helpful.
- It would reduce garbage to landfill.
- It would reduce food waste in the landfill.
- It would help reduce waste.
- It would extend the life of the landfill
- It would depend on what food waste would be allowed. We have a composter, but due to raccoons, bears and deer, we only put out vegetable waste, but throw meat bits and kitchen scraps into landfill waste.
- It works in larger cities such as Barrie, and my sister finds that her waste is reduced substantially. With Saugeen Shores growing too fast we have to get ahead of it in all municipal areas.
- it works
- It reduces waste and composted material can be redirected to use in home gardens.
- It is smelly, prefer a green bin pickup
- It is more effort than I am interested in putting in. And I do not create enough food waste to be worth-while.
- it is crazy to throw out food/organic waste that could be converted and diverted.
- It is best to keep the actual waste separate from decomposable food waste
- It is an inconvenience to separate compostables, but if it would make a significant difference, I would. I would not, however, continue if I felt it was only a political or woke activity with no actual, definable merit.
- It is an easy way to cut down on waste.
- Indifferent.

- Increase in wild animals on the property that could pose a problem.
- In our experience, they smell. We had to ask our neighbours to move theirs away from our property line because of the smell.
- In our experience, food waste composters are difficult to use in our winter climate. They are difficult to keep hot enough to efficiently break down materials without attracting pests. Storing them far enough away from the house also makes them less likely to be used.
- Important to avoid unnecessary resources in landfills
- I'm shocked that the town is not currently using food waste green bins!!
- If you use green bins and pick up free of charge...you have a lot less regular garbage and you could pick it up every other week like KW does.....it makes people want tours the green bins
- If you research other towns of this size, composting is available and has been for years. It is long overdue and very hard NOT to compost if you have lived with green bins elsewhere. Many of your residents have moved here from cities and many vacation from cities. It is time. Spend the money to get it going.
- If you build it, they will come mentality
- If there is a pick up program.
- If the town provided compost pickup (similar in style to garbage and recycling) that would be the best-case scenario, and most of people would be interested. If the resident has to take their compost themselves, I do not think that it would be successful.
- If something can be composted then it should be composted. Bears make it difficult to put food waste into my backyard compost pile.
- If it was collected with my regular schedule.
- If is the current compost bins, I'm not sure my family would use it, as it attracts animals etc.
- I would use this if I had one.
- I would use it to help the environment more
- I would use it if available.
- I would rather save money on garbage tags by using a compact program
- I would rather put it to the curb then in my back yard.
- I would prefer the town to empty green bins from the house.
- "I would not use a home composter because of the animals in my area (skunks, raccoons, chipmunks,Etc)"
- I would need education about how to use a food waste composter efficiently and correctly before i could say yes.
- I would LOVE to put out green compost weekly!!
- "I would love to have compost picked up. Garbage could be bi-weekly if compost could be picked up weekly.
- I would be concerned a food waste composter would attract bears to my property."
- I would love to have a compost program in saugeen shores.

- I would love one but I don't have suitable space for one but a green pick up every second week would be great.
- I would love a compost bin to be picked up curbside as driving 20 minutes to drop of compost is not user friendly
- I would if I lived here full time and they were free. Currently I just pitch food waste in the bushes. Also I have a very small lot and typically the composters are quite large, wish they could be smaller.
- I would feel obligated to use the program.
- I would consider this but honestly it would have to be in an easily accessible spot for me to do this.
- I would absolutely use a food waste composted we currently have one and could use another
- I worry about increased animal activity with compost but I would use it if I had support
- I wish there was a municipal compost service with house pick up, similar to garbage and recycling. I'd be happy to pay more taxes to make that happen!
- "I will not go through the extra effort an hassle of composting in my own back yard.
- If the town of Saugeen Shores would like to implement a food waste collection service the way some other cities do (for example Waterloo Region) then I'd be willing to try that."
- "I want to to keep compostable waste out of the landfill.
- Want to extend the life of the landfill.
- Compost can be used."
- I want to divert compostable materials from the landfill.
- I use them in my home
- I use one now.
- I use a garburator in my home and recycle everything else to animals.
- "I understand how much food waste is in a garbage bag and could be removed if practical
- I see my adult children in the city use a food waste diversion curbside pick up"
- I think we need to be more aware of how we can reduce any type of garbage to allow a larger lifespan in our landfills. We of any community are not doing everything we can to recycle and it's mostly due to not caring or simply laziness
- I think it's so important to divert anything we can from landfill site. And it's a double benefit that kitchen waste can be turned into rich compost for our gardens
- I think it's phenomenal for the environment and sustainably.
- I think it would be a good program for stundets and seniors to run. To grow community gardens. Sell the decomposed compost for residents/community for back yard gardens. Make a couple differnet compost drop off spots throughout the town.
- I select "NO" only because of the concerns with wild animals in a cottage area.

- I prefer to compost, it has a lot of environmental benefits
- I live in the country and compost food waste on my property
- I like to use food compost programs when they are clearly outlined and don't end up strewn everywhere by animals.
- I imagine a lot of the waste at the dump is food waste. Recycling this will extend the use of the dump. In the city we used the wet composting green bin when we were in a single family dwelling.
- I have one composter but it is not enough to keep up with our family of five.
- I have no household garbage.....I recycle and green bin everything I bring mine to the cottage for the summer (Green bin)
- I have my own composter and use the compost on my gardens.
- I have my own composter - we purchased a barrel-style composter which is easy to turn and aerate. It was fairly expensive and because the expense may be a deterrent to other users, I would like staff to consider the cost of providing them for no charge.
- I have four composters on my property already, but they do fill up fairly quickly. The best way to make a difference, however, is to produce less food waste and learn more about how to prevent food waste. Videos, Contests, menu planning assistance, for example might help.
- I have composters now and use them. 2 big ones on our property
- I have been to other areas that have this and it is very time consuming and restrictive and collection would have to be frequent.
- I have another residence in a major city and regularly use blue boxes and green bins
- I have also already purchased one from the town.
- "I have actively composted on the past and would
- continue to do so in our new build if supplied a composer. We have used composters at our businesses in the past as well but have since moved spaces and no longer have access to one for the business."
- "I have a small lot and nowhere to put the composted material when it is ready,
- Therefore I would like a scheduled green bin pick up where the resulting product could be put to better use than me putting it in with regular household garbage pick up."
- I have a large enough lot that I would compost on my own property
- I have a garburator
- I hate throwing food waste in garbage. This is my cottage, I often bring plastic dog kibble bins and fill them with compostable waste to take back home where we have a weekly program. The trouble with food waste composters in your back yard is they attract animals e.g. I already have foxes, skunks, racoons etc. in my yard almost nightly and I fear this would attract them even more.
- I feel there would be a problem with attracting animals to the composter. Racoons , skunks and bears
- I feel that composters attract unwanted wildlife onto my property.

- I don't have the means to collect food waste to be collected one or twice a month
- I don't have need for compost
- I don't have a large backyard so would need a green bin (food composter) that was collected weekly.
- I don't have a site for one.
- I don't compost at my house because I don't have a green thumb to make use of the compost when it's ready. The less going into landfill the better if I can reduce my garbage output in anyway I am happy to do so.
- "I do my own composting for soil addition. Years ago the "Scout" composting site worked remarkably well and the town would make a pile of mature compost available for homeowner's garden use - perfect 360 degree life cycle. Then new management took over and decided this was all wrong and put "don't do this" signs and barriers all over, and ruined the whole compost concept since the "compost" heap is now completely full of tree chippings from tree companies that will take decades to compost. No useable compost is produced even if a tiny heap was made available for homeowners.
- So - because the original 360 degree life cycle has been ruined homeowners see no ownership in "composting", so the place is now just seen as a dumping ground. Well done."
- "I do actually use a composter in my backyard already.
- I know there are street side pickup compost bins in the city homes that take things like cat litter and dog waste and even meat scraps. That would be hugely beneficial to have but I realize it uses specific facilities to process which may not be nearby."
- I did it for years outside of Saugene and feel throwing the food in the garbage is a waste
- I currently own a composter so that I am able to divert some of my kitchen waste.
- I currently have a green compost bin and drive our compost to the Landfill compost area. I think the Town should implement compost pick up bi-weekly as part of our recycle pick up.
- I currently compost my own food waste.
- I compost regularly now but would benefit from additional information on how to improve my practice
- I compost now. I would use a town system to start a compost program for all citizens to use. It would save our landfill and give a product for people to use in their gardens.
- "I compost my food waste in my backyard as do many others.
- And to be honest I don't trust how you would tender that ... does someone's relative have a new business venture? Are you selling that in a 50 year lease?"
- I believe that it would attract to many scavengers. I like animals, but when people think that they are causing a problem they figure they should be killed

- "I back onto a forest and I am concerned about attracting wildlife to the composter.
- We moved here in 2007 from a larger municipality that had green bin collection. We used that a lot and more food waste that is not able to go in the regular compost is accepted in green bin programs."
- I am here part time and cannot maintain my own composter.
- I am afraid i would start then lose interest
- I am accustomed to using one in my other residence
- I already went out and bought one of my own but this would be a great thing to offer! It would encourage people to compost instead of putting in trash. Hesitancy though might be pest control (a fear of mine) which is why I so appreciated the compost pick up in the city. Other than that it feels great to do my part for the environment
- I already use one of my own.
- I already use a composter.
- I already have one and have been using it for over 10 years. Purchased from the town. Family of four and we usually only have one can of garbage a week.
- I already have one
- I already have my own composter
- I already have a composter. My concern is the animals that it attracts. They manage to get the lid off and get into the food scraps no matter what I do.
- I already have a composted system on my property.
- I already have a compost bin
- I already have a black composter for yard waste, and a green cone for food waste. The only reason I'd convert to a different type of food waste composter is if the combined lifecycle CO₂e plus methane CO₂e of the digester, was less than the methane CO₂e of the green cone.
- I already compost, but for those who can't, having green bins would make possible a much wider program that would have many benefits.
- I agree that we should have a green bin program in saugeen shores. Too much waste that we could divert from the landfill goes in the trash.
- How can it be free, the taxpayer would have to pay for it through an increase in taxes.
- Home waste compost is dangerous and not necessary. It is dangerous because it attracts animals such as rats that carry disease or could be infected with rabies. Putting compostable waste in landfills still allows the same amount of waste to compost -- only it is in one place and easier to manage. If the town is concerned about mixing compostable waste with non-compostable waste, they should distribute bins that hold compost only, the way Prince Edward Island does. Encouraging people to compost in their own yards does nothing to protect the environment, and is nothing but an attention grabbing smoke screen.
- having a large family who eats lots of vegetables and fruits. Lots of waste goes into garbage when it could be composted.

- Have very little waste. Our composted handles it all.
- Have used these in other communities and would enthusiastically endorse and use it here.
- Have tried before and it is difficult. Need to understand the importance of this.
- Have seen how successful the programme is in Guelph.
- Have a separate GREEN roll-out bin that would be picked up weekly.
- Had composted for many years until raccoons destroyed it.
- Green initiatives are important. Saugeen Shores taking a step in helping this become an actual initiative will encourage and lead others to making more green choices
- Green bins would cut down on a lot of the food waste that ends up in the garage
- "Green bin programs work in other municipalities.
- Diverting a waste stream from landfill while creating a compost is a win win for the environmental"
- Good for none vegetative material
- Food waste produces a large amount of greenhouse gases while decomposing in the landfill. To divert this waste to some other end would be a local reduction in emissions.
- Food waste minimal.
- Food waste makes up half the garbage put out, it makes sense to separate and have a pick up based on compost and garbage not together in one bag.
- Food waste composters can become a issue if not maintained properly and contained re rodent/pest control.
- Far too much food goes into the landfill. If a composer was provided by the town I would most definitely make use of it. I believe a lot of people would.
- Familiar and comfortable with green bin use
- Eco friendly
- Don't understand how to use it. Some concerns re: odours and attracting wild life
- don't know how they work; would have to research;
- Difficulty maintaining....
- Definitely. Compost is good to mix with soil for our raised vegetable gardens.
- Cut down on garbage
- currently we compost but there are many things such as meat, bones, corn cobs, egg shells etc that we cannot compost in our backyard compost but are able to send for municipal composting in the city.
- Currently use this service in primary residence in Toronto, and would like to continue in Saugeen Shores
- currently use one home-made one that is quite effective so know the benefit of using one.
- Condo doesn't presently allow.
- Concerned it will attract animals and result in odours.
- Compostung is tough if you dont know what you are doing

- composting works for all
- Composting should be made available to everyone that has the space, but few know how or where to start. It also shows that the town cares about the over use of landfills.
- Composting keeps things out of the landfill and is great for the yard or garden.
- Composting is good, saves landfill space
- Composting diverts waste from landfills and provides gardens with much needed nutrients.
- Composting at home is not working out well enough, so organic waste still goes into garbage/landfill. If town could do it and sell the compost at nominal or no cost will help gardens and soil.
- Compostable material does not compost in plastic garbage bags, buried under layers of other garbage in plastic bags! For how much we promote nature here (Lake Huron, Saugeen River, trails etc) it is embarrassing at how absolutely horrible we are at protecting this beautiful environment. A green bin is a no brainer and I cannot believe it is 2021 and we still don't have them.
- Compost is great for your garden or flowerbeds. If you decide to offer composters keep in mind that they need to be raccoon and other creatures proof.
- Common sense!
- But we are not in town very often and so this should be considered a weak yes. :)
- Because it is good for the Earth. It creates less garbage going to the landfill, and saving our Earth, reducing our carbon foot print.
- Because I believe in composting. Have always done so to provide nutrition for my garden.
- Because humans have tendency to cook and prepare too much food for their needs resulting in much food product being thrown in the garbage.
- Bc I would use it.
- Attracts wildlife. We use a sink aerator for food waste.
- Attracts wildlife.
- As long as instructions and aids for use were supplied along with it
- Anything to help divert waste from the dump is good
- Animals.
- An easy and sensible way to recycle and reduce what ends up in landfill..
- Although I'm not convinced that there wouldn't be significant nuisance from Raccoons, skunks, bears
- Already use a home composter, but would likely use town composter when the weather is colder and ours stops working
- already use 2 compost barrels for all food and vegetable waste
- Already have that at compost station. Huge expense with no real return-get lifeguards at beach instead
- Already have one
- Already have a food waste composted...for decades.

- Already have 3 composters which we use regularly and helps with the soil in our gardens. Not sure if we purchased through the town but maybe instead of free composters offer up turning them over and help repositioning
- Already have 2 composters in use, that produce the best soil.
- Already doing it
- Already compost- purchased my own- more people should utilize to decrease items in land fill - also if the municipality would actually use the compost site and chip wood for resale and turn over the compost heaps and bag and sell the black earth it could bring money to municipal offices. Also the area of use for compost would be better maintained and could increase capacity
- Already compost and would continue to compost.
- already compost
- Afraid of the smell to the area and attracting animals and insects
- AFRAID OF SMELLS, ATTRACTING ANIMALS and INSECTS.
- Accustomed to using composters provided by the municipality everywhere else we have lived!
- Absolutely yes - we already compost at home and think this needs to be a town wide initiative. Almost everywhere else in Ontario already does it. It is so important.
- Absolute yes.
- A waste composted cuts the amount of garbage that would normally go to the curb by more than half thus helping to cut back the size of the waste disposal sites.
- A simple way to keep the landfill cleaner and promote composting

Question 12 cont.: Would you make use of a municipal green-bin collection service if the Town of Saugeen Shores provided you with curbside pick-up? Yes or No

Responses to “Why or why not?”:

- "You didn't explain what goes in a green bin ??? Therefore I did not say yes or no.
- But the survey forced me to choose so I said, Yes."
- Yes. We do at our primary residence and would do so here. Seems absurd that they is not a conpost pick up
- Yes, this is a great idea!
- Yes, again this would make it easy to do.
- Yes, absolutely! We used to live in Waterloo. They would pick up the green bin weekly but reduced garbage pickup to every-other-week. It encouraged households to compost to get rid of the "smelly stuff" but kept it out of the landfills.
- Yes!! Backyard composting isn't accessible year round. This would be a wonderful option.

- YES! We need to support all people in their efforts to divert waste from the landfill and to make use of compost in our gardens. The more food we produce locally the better for our health and the environment.
- Yes! I did religiously in the city when it was available to me. I understand the benefits of composting and I am willing to do my part
- YES! Green bin is what we are used to from our previous property. It feels very wrong to be putting food waste into regular garbage. Garbage pick up could be less often (every other week?) if the food waste component was reduced.
- "Yes might be convenient and promote more people to use it.
- I'd rather see money go to enhancing and expanding trail systems."
- Yes if it is mandated the town will be implementing it.
- Yes I sure would. Easy to do and cuts back on my garbage and green bin items tend to be the bulk of our house hold waste
- Yes definitely. We are familiar with this program in KW and it is very convenient!
- Yes as long as it was weekly with garbage pickup.
- Yes - although we have a composter, I think the convenience of a green-bin collection service for those who don't want the bother of a composter will divert much more waste from the landfill. If I can support that service with using it to make it successful, I will do that. Also, our composter is often almost full.
- Year-round use and can handle meats, breads, etc.
- Would rather use composter then save and have picked up every two weeks, would attract wild life
- Would need a lot more information about such a service.
- Would make it very easy and no excuse for people not to compost
- Would like the animal problems to go away
- Would cost me less in bag tags and extends the life of the landfill! It's a win-win
- Would be useful in w yet when getting to my compost bin is more difficult or full
- Worthwhile to reduce landfill.
- Without curbside pickup, not sure how it would work
- With green initiatives taking off more companies are switching to compostable/ biodegradable packaging. This is great, however they are not designed to break down in household composts. Prior to living in a detached home, we lived in a townhouse on Joseph St. Part of the condo corporation's rules and regulations included no household composts in or outside of the home. There are hundreds of these housing options along with thousands of apartment living solutions, all of which are not able to have household composts. Suggesting that everyone get a free household compost is very nearsighted as it is not a one shoe fits all solution.
- With caution..... we need to be aware of raccoons, bears, etc which might become used to these handouts!
- when viable during visits to Saugeen Shores
- what is a green bin if it is not a town composter system
- we would use both pickup and compost organic waste ourselves
- We would love it because we don't have space for a composter and there is enough raccoons in town to be a problem.

- we visit Hamilton frequently and are delighted to be able to contribute to lowering their landfill size and know the waste is recycled to a new valuable resource.
- We use our own backyard compost bins to produce our own compost for gardening. So would not participate in curbside pickup.
- We use our composter for all green waste.
- We use all our waste for compost!
- We use a simple no aerator
- "We moved here in 2007 from a larger municipality that had green bin collection. We used that a lot and more food waste that is not able to go in the regular compost is accepted in green bin programs.
- Some programs are able to produce garden products from the collections."
- We have the 3 composters but I could see the smaller residents, people without gardens, or condos taking advantage. At least I hope they would
- We have our own composted but would still use the town's green-bin service if it was in place.
- We have our own and use the product it produces.
- We had this program before we moved here. Its really not difficult.
- We eat alot of produce every day so we have alot of garbage, unfortunately.
- We don't have a lot of garbage, only 1 small bag per week, but we do have lots of cat litter
- We don't compost because of the smell and not having enough space. If there were somewhere else we could compost that avoids those issues we would likely use it.
- We do not generate a significant quantity of food waste
- We currently use a composter in our yard but in the winter it gets too full (it doesn't break down in freezing temperatures) and so we end up using the garbage for our compostable goods. We would definitely take advantage of this program in the cooler months.
- We currently take all our green bin items home for disposal.
- We compost and use the compost ourselves, but a curbside pick up would be great for those living in condos/apartments where they may not have a composting program. Perhaps building approvals for new apartment blocks should specify that residents must have access to a green bin program.
- We can put vegetable matter in our own compute but not the kinds of materials that encourages pests, and we can't discard seeds there unless we want to grieve a vegetable garden in our compost bin. Which we do not.
- We are used to this in the city and would use it here.
- We are satisfied using the recycleable brown paper bags to dispose of leaves& branches.
- We are getting older and find forking over our own compost more difficult.
- We already do this at our home in Guelph now.
- Want a place to drop off. Fits me better than regular collection because compostable waste can decay.
- Used green bin where we lived in Waterloo. Once you get into the habit it is not that much work.

- Use at home like it
- Town will not service our townhouse complex so we end up paying for services we do not receive. If the town serviced my complex then my answer would be yes.
- To save money on bag tags and help preserve our landfill
- To reduce garbage.
- To lessen our garbage load. But I do not want an additional day for collection
- To encourage community use
- This would divert organic matter away from the dump.
- This would direct some of our compostable material to a public compost heap.
- This would be useful in encouraging more households to compost and kim waste as well as helping families who already do so.
- This would be more convenient
- This would be great!!
- This would be great especially in the winter when we do not compost at our home because of too much snow in our yard.
- This would be a more convenient option and better for not attracting wildlife
- This would be a great service
- This would allow me to compost more products than I am able to do now.
- This is top of our wish list. We would go to any lengths to divert food scraps to a green bin initiative.
- This feels like overkill in our small community and I like improving our own soil.
- There would be significant non-food waste in the Town-collected green bins, and the CO₂e cost of the collection, sorting, processing, disposal, and related equipment maintenance and resource use would far outweigh the CO₂ cost of using my existing green cone.
- Instead of spending energy, GHGs, and money on a green-bin collection program, spend less money and resources on education and promotion of green cones.
- there is value in this service
- There is additional compostable material that is not appropriate for a regular composter but could be put in a green bin rather than landfill
- There are other things to spend money on when there is another solution.
- The more we can divert from the landfill site, the better.
- The more environmentally friendly initiatives the better
- The less waste sent to the landfill the better, sorting waste is key
- The green bins have a strong clasp on them which prevents animals from getting into them.
- The green bin is the best option in our opinion.
- That would be convenient
- Separating waste to reduce the amount going into landfill is good practice
- Sensible system of care of the environment
- Seems like we are one of the only communities that still doesn't have green bins. Would encourage people to decrease garbage.
- See previous response

- See answer above
- See above. We do at home so would here as well.
- See above. I sure hope this happens. I also think as part of the Towns environmental strategy, garbage should be picked up bi-weekly and recycle (including compost pick up) should be picked up weekly. It's a mental shift for people and forces them to focus on separating their waste mainly into recycle/compost.
- See above.
- See above.
- see above.
- See above explanation.
- See above answer
- see above - my household would make use of a green-bin collection service! I think that this needs to be the solution, not having individual people responsible for taking their own, because people are busy and so may not have the time/feel the need to take it when they can just throw it out.
- See above
- See above
- Saves me travelling to tje recycle centres.
- Saves me a drive, handier
- Same as the above answer. A green bin would eliminate the garbage going to the curb by 50 percent and become useful to the homeowners when used in their flowerbeds or lawn.
- Same as question 11 explanation
- Same as above.
- Same as above, as long as animals are not made out to be the "bad" guy
- same as above
- Same as above
- Same as above
- Same as above
- Same as above
- Same answer as #11 - ultimately this might be safer than back yard composters.
- redundant
- Reducing trash is important to us
- Reduces garbage and better for the environment.
- Reduce waste.
- Reduce waste
- Reduce overuse of landfills
- Puts everything to good use and doesnt require me to figure out hoo make use of the compost on my end
- possibly yes - need to understand how it works and how much impact it would have
- Please see previous box.
- Participated fully in Waterloo Region program previously. Program should allow for a broad range of compost ales as well as non-paper compost bags

- Pardon the pun-waste of time. Only hire even MORE union workers. We are a small town, act like one!
- Other communities have proven this program has significant benefits for 20+ years we are behind the curve.
- One more thing to smell up the house during the summer. A Lot of money to collect it for what it saves the Town.
- Once again if instructions and aids were supplied
- Not necessarily for food waste because we compost but would love having the Town to pick up our garden waste instead of having to drive it out to the landfill.
- not interested
- Not everyone has space to make compost in their yard. With the town focusing on condos, most won't even have a yard. Composting helps reduce trash and the compost collection can be used by the town in the maintenance of local greenery. The town could even send composting to local farmers for fields.
- Not a resident. Do use it at home.
- Not a large backyard so would need weekly pick up.
- No where to store it. Very messy...maggots, etc
- My family separates organic waste in Toronto and it really reduces the amount of garbage that goes to the landfill. Their garbage doesn't smell as bad. It would also help with our seagull problem on garbage days!
- My daughter has this service in a community smaller than ours and it reduces her garbage to landfill by at least half! Also easy to use!
- My daughter has this available to her in a community smaller than ours and it has reduced her garbage by at least half!
- must be cost effective
- Municipal green bin collects more products than we are able to compost
- More likely to compost this way then just having a bin of my own.
- More convenient and I don't have to have a composter in my yard.
- Maybe for overflow composting
- May or may not use.
- Many people are not able to compost in their yards/households.
- Many cities and municipalities have adopted food waste collection systems and been able to able decrease the amount of garbage going to landfill.
- Makes sense.
- Make it happen. Southampton compost is not user friendly for Port Elgin
- Less garbage in landfill.
- keep in house in separate container but have it picked up along with waste
- Just use to it
- Just makes perfect sense
- Just another bin to put out. Easy routine change
- Ive never heard that we had a compost program. When i was in the city for college i learned about their program (very similar to our blue bin program) and shocked we didnt have that in our area. It really wasnt very difficult to become accustomed to it.

- I've had this in Toronto for years and it works very well. It considerably reduces the amount of garbage. I recommend it highly.
- It's my understanding that these bins take more than kitchen non-meat waste (which I already compost).
- It's good for the environment and it's free. It doesn't require any extra work on my part.
- It would reduce the need for an composter on site. The green bin would only be put out on the collection day and minimize access to local animals.
- It would help reduce the amount of compostable material that ends up in landfill and would help stop attracting animals and birds to residential garbage throughout the municipality.
- It would be very convenient.
- It would be EASY. No excuses!
- It would be easy
- It would be easier for my household if it was collected.
- It would be a great idea.
- It would avoid unwanted animals that can come with having a personal compost
- it works in many other municipalities and counties to divert garbage from landfills
- it will save many tons going to landfill!!!!
- It sure would be convenient if the dig curbside pickup.
- It needs to be convenient and yes I do want to recycle my food waste, I already do this at home and often cart it from here to home because I don't like to throw it out.
- It makes sense to lessen the amount put in the landfill. Have used one in the past in other communities and liked it.
- "It makes sense not to bury this material and to extend the life of our landfill site
- Probably better at curbside than run the risk of backyard rodent infestation if not looked after properly"
- It isn't any more convenient than usual a composter.
- It is so easy to use our own compost pile, and as long as vermin can't get into it, we will continue to do so.
- It is only practical.
- It is an inconvenience to separate compostables, but if it would make a significant difference, i would. I would not, however, continue if i felt it was only a political or woke activity with no actual, definable merit.
- It is a very expensive option as there are no local facilities to ship compost to. It does accept more materials (green bin) than a backyard composter.
- It is a good citizen's duty to take care of the environment.
- It helps to keep wild animals out of my yard by having the town take the compostable material to a secure and more rural location. Then the town could sell fresh compost to users for a small fee to help offset the cost of operating the green area.
- In different.
- If you build it, they will come mentality

- If this means yard waste and kitchen compostable scraps then yes - can reduce what goes to landfill and more convenient. Needs to be more than kitchen compost scraps - also need some way to get cedar droppings, branches, leaves, garden cuttings to centralized compost facility (property is not large enough to do it all on site).
- If the bin is secure against raccoons, bears, etc. we would use it.
- If not collected curbside, would give people excuse not to participate.
- If it was collected with my regular schedule.
- If a green bin collection service is a bin that holds compostable waste, then yes. If it is not this, I cannot answer.
- I would use this service because the food waste would be composted rather than going to landfill.
- I would use the service as it is environmentally friendly and keeps waste from the landfill. It is not a perfect process but way better than what we are doing.
- I would use it to help the environment more
- I would probably try to use the material produced on my own properties first.
- I would prefer to use my own composter.
- I would not, as I use my compost, but think it would be a good program for the Town. My composter produces the best soil, my plants thrive with it!
- I would fully support a household green bin compost program in Saugeen Shores. I think it is long overdue. With proper education and support for residents I feel it would be a huge improvement to our waste collection.
- I would consider this
- I would make use of it
- I will do whatever it takes to provide environmental protection and hopefully enhancement
- I use the green bin on a regular basis at me primary residence
- I use a green bin at home and find it significantly reduces the amount of garbage sent to the landfill, and is easy to do. At home I will put out 2 green bins weekly and 1 garbage bag every other week, instead of in SS where I put out 2 garbage bags a week.
- I think we would compost a greater variety of compostable stuff.
- I think this would encourage appropriate food and compost disposal for people who don't have the outdoor space for a composter/green cone. I have also lived in places where this system is in place, and it worked well.
- I think it's so important to divert anything we can from landfill site. And it's a double benefit that kitchen waste can be turned into rich compost for our gardens
- I think it's important to save room in the landfill area.
- I think household garbage would be greatly reduced. I would love to see my kids active in composting.
- I lived with a green bin pick up for years back home. It greatly reduced the amount of items that ended up in the landfill. I was completely shocked when i moved here and saw that there was no curbside green bin system in place. This area is so rich in forestry and waters, it doesnt make sense that we aren't doing the most we can to divert waste from going to the landfill.

- I live in the country and compost food waste on my property
- I like to use green bin programs when they are clearly outlined and don't end up strewn everywhere by animals.
- I have used the green bin in other municipalities and found it greatly reduced how much garbage was being put out. We had green and blue bin pick up every week with garbage every other week and only ever had one bin of garbage to put out. Here im putting a vin or garbage every week.
- I have used a green bin at our home for years and would be pleased to have one while in Southampton
- I have seen it in relatives homes. It takes a lot of food waste and uses it more effectively and environmentally friendly.
- I have not been successful with my green cone, so if a municipal green-bin took meat and other then I would use it.
- I have lived in Waterloo briefly for school and this was available. Fantastic initiative by the city, our town should follow suit!
- I have a compost barrel for vegetable waste - I would like to be able to recycle additional organic waste without inviting the bears to visit my garden
- I had one in Cambridge and loved it - used it ALL THE TIME. I compost now but it's a real hassle in the winter.
- I got used to green bins while living in Guelph in 1999, where we had three garbage sorting bins for waste pick up on a weekly (twice weekly?) basis.
- I feel the town needs to do a better job at eliminating waste and help support community members to do this. Curbside pick up would help encourage this
- I don't think the complex I live in would allow it. It would attract animals and birds.
- I don't know what green bin service is.
- I don't have room for yet another bin in the house
- I deal with green waste on my property.
- I currently use this in TO, so I would use it in SH, but the problem arises, is the pickup day working with my schedule. Right now neither garbage or recycle seems to be when I'm at my cottage.
- I am in favour of curb side green bins to element un eanted wildlife onto my property
- I am assuming that the municipal green-bin collection service is for compostable items without meat or bones in it.
- help reduce waste
- Having seen friends and family in the city have separate compost bins, that are collected by the city, I think we should have done this a while ago.
- Have experience in previous place we lived and we felt it worked well.
- Happy to divert compostable material from landfill
- Had it in Niagara region - almost 75 percent of my waste went into the green bin when living there
- Green bins really work at diverting trash. I have previously lived in a community where they are used. Residents will use them if there is a program implemented.

- For the items listed above but I would suggest every other week if the containers are animal proof.
- Food waste (bread, meat, bones...) attract animals, so it's not convenient to put in our compost.
- Experience with using this system in a different city and loved it.
- Even though I use a composter at home, I would use a municipal green bin program to encourage participation and the success of the program and as well, a useable end product is the result! I don't use my composted material at home .
- Especially in the summer there is a lot of organic food waste
- Easier than backyard composting
- Duh!
- Don't want rotting clippings sitting around for 2 weeks. Maybe if weekly and not mandatory like GTA. Will not support mandatory requirements.
- Don't need it
- Do not want to compost
- Do not know what a green bin collection collects. Need more information please in this service.
- Do it ourselves.
- diverts a great deal of waste from the dump
- Did above
- Depends what is allowed in it...as our own composted for food waste is excellent.
- Definitely! The Region of Waterloo has had this program for years and has become a very successful program. As with everything, there is a learning curve with the public, however, the program has lessened the impact on landfills. In fact, actual garbage is picked up bi-weekly but the green and blue bin programs are weekly.
- Currently use this service in primary residence in Toronto, and would like to continue in Saugeen Shores
- Currently doing this in Kitchener very successfully. Hope to see this implement in Port Elgin when I relocate in September 2021. Surprised you aren't already doing this. Little behind times.
- Curbside collection might work.
- Convenient.
- Convenience
- composting could be done outside of residential areas more safely.
- Composting at home is not working out well enough, so organic waste still goes into garbage/landfill. If town could do it and sell the compost at nominal or no cost will help gardens and soil.
- Composted organic matter makes excellent soil that could be made available to the local gardeners
- Compostable material does not compost in plastic garbage bags, buried under layers of other garbage in plastic bags! For how much we promote nature here (Lake Huron, Saugeen River, trails etc) it is embarrassing at how absolutely

horrible we are at protecting this beautiful environment. A green bin is a no brainer and I cannot believe it is 2021 and we still don't have them.

- Compost collection is needed for above stated reasons.
- compost
- But we are not in town very often and so this should be considered a weak yes. :)
- "Bins are useful and can protect garbage from animals
- , may help reduce use of plastic bags"
- Better for environment
- Because my recycling pick up experience is annoying so I would assume sometimes they wouldn't take my green box contents and my husband would get annoyed and throw out the green box.
- Because it a responsible thing to do to help protect our environment, reducing toxicity of landfill leachates and preserving precious space in existing landfills.
- Bc i would use this.
- Attracts less wildlife
- At the risk of sounding like a pompous bastard, we made great use of such a program in Toronto before we moved here and we genuinely greatly miss the Street pick-up green bin/composting program!
- As stated above we already do our own food composting and have for several decades.
- As stated above it makes sense and is what other municipalities already do for 20 years
- As long as it is free of charge I would make use of this program
- "As above: less bulky landfill waste disposal , fewer garbage tags to purchase.
- Makes common sense to aid public in general to put all food wastes in buckets to later have town dispose of"
- As above.
- As a seasonal resident I do not believe the town owned trailer parks could maintain a program
- Anything that helps, like education re: household waste and recycling. We need to pay attention and realize that we can help eliminate our garbage. It seems like too many people ignore the resources available, no matter how often we try.
- Any opportunity to take advantage of better waste management is a good idea.
- Any addition to our extremely lacking every other week program would be a asset for the town in the long run. Somebody educate them on environmental corporate responsibility and have an assessment done so that perhaps that knowledge will make them understand why recycling is an asset .
- Another way to divert from landfill
- Another container to find space for to keep insects and animals from
- Animals.
- Always willing to assist with waste management
- Although, I would prefer the composter.
- Although I'm not convinced that there wouldn't be significant nuisance from Raccoons, skunks, bears

- "Already use in my principal residence.
- Would like to divert this waste"
- Already participating at home with this type of program
- Already making use of left overs etc
- already have composter in back yard
- Already compost all veg materials
- Allows used bin in city - cut our garbage output by more than half. Green bin pick up was weekly. Regular garbage every two weeks. Really encouraged green bin use.
- Again, why wouldn't I?
- Again, using a green bin is not difficult and lessens the load on landfills.
- Again, separation of waste materials.
- Again, it is important to extend the life of the landfill site.
- Again this would be amazing! It would be so good to have a green bin to put compostable waste into.
- Absolutely. This would reduce garbage build up a ton and the green bins generally have a better compost system than at-home, and you can dispose of more items
- Absolutely. More people will use it if it gets picked up. People won't be bothered to use it if they have to drop it off somewhere.
- Absolutely.
- "Absolutely!! This would be fantastic
- I would love to have compost picked up. Garbage could be bi-weekly if compost could be picked up weekly."
- Absolutely! Our garbage is full of food waste and other compostables abs I feel horrible every time I put something in the garbage
- A) don't want food waste in my back yard so it's nice to have it picked up
- 100% yes! I wish we already had this! I'm terrible at maintaining my personal one and would love to pay more taxes to have it picked up!
- 100% yes
- 100% agree with green bins. Other municipalities have had these for decades we are so behind the ball when it comes to protecting our town from environmental issues

Question 13: Does the garbage collection program (including the bag tags) in general motivate

you to use recycling or composting programs?

Yes or No and If not, why not? Responses:

- We're a household of 2
- We'd use those anyways even if our garbage collection were "free"
- We would use those things regardless.
- we would use composting and recycling regardless of any incentives.
- We utilize recycling and composting because it is the right thing to do for this planet.

- We use recycling regardless of garbage collection.
- We try to use all recycling programs before garbage collection. Bag tags do not influence our behaviour.
- We try to minimize our household waste as it is the responsible thing to do. Enhanced recycling program would be great, it doesn't have anything to do with bag tags.
- We recycled prior to the bag tag system. It is frustrating that the town's recycling program is limited and that you have to drive to drop off items at bins.
- We recycle because its the right thing to do, not due to any tag programs.
- We recycle as much as possible (the odd time we are lazy and throw something out rather than wash it out like a peanut butter jar) but the cost of a bag tag doesn't really deter us from recycling more or less.
- We recycle and compost so less waste ends up in the landfill
- We recycle and compost as much as possible but there is still waste and it's frustrating to have to pay on top of high taxes.
- We purchase bag tags but feel it is our civic responsibility to recycle as much as is available. My family has been recycling for over 50 years!
- We pay both taxes and for bag tags. With increases in our taxes we shouldn't have to pay for bag tags. We already compost and it's not because we use bag tags or put out the garbage.
- we need blue bin weekly and garbage bi weekly to encourage recycling
- We have a toddler so have limited free time to think above and beyond. Waste is waste, we just deal with it afterwards it's just a pain in the ass buying bag tags.
- We don't generate much garbage because we purchase very little other than food. We don't need anything that's not essential.
- "We compost and recycle as much as the town will take away.
- Bag tags are an annoyance and only encourage garbage to be tossed away in inappropriate places, or hoarded in peoples backyards."
- We always composted and recycled before Bag Tags existed. Bag tags just make me angry and are a money grab for the town
- Was composting lomg before bag ties existed and learned to recycle from my parents living in a large city.
- Use recycling and composite programs to increase life of the landfill.
- Use of recycling is a good practice and bag tags are just an inconvenience
- Use as little garbage as possible in first place. Using reusable bags for groceries and lcbp purchases. Make good use of cardboard recycling depots, there should be more bins as most are always full.
- Use a dumpster for garbage
- Unless we have adequate recycling and compost collection (which we currently do not), it's not possible to recycle enough to make a difference in how much garbage we produce each week. Soy milk containers take up a lot of room for example.
- Town will not service our townhouse complex so we end up paying for services we do not receive If the town serviced our complex then my answer would be yes

- Too complex , often left on side of road due to non compliance with guidelines one doesn't even understand
- "To say that there is a program is a joke. Recycling in Saugeen Shores is so 1950's. My neighbour took down a shed and then proceeded to burn the entire thing in his fire pit. The smell of asbestos burning was awesome.
- Great bylaw enforcement said nobody ever."
- To much money for bag tags!
- There is no connection. I would hate to put recyclables on landfill.
- The town shouldn't charge so much for garbage just to try and increase use of these programs.
- The recycling program is too complicated and takes too much time to use. The fact that I cannot recycle plastic bags or cardboard at the curb is ridiculous. As mentioned earlier, I simply put all my recycling in a big bag and transport it to my primary residence and dump it into our all-inclusive recycling bins. The bag tags are a big inconvenience and seem like a tax grab.
- The recycling program is too limited and complex for it to be of much use to most people. Can't recycle corrugated cardboard at the curb? Come on. Trying to drop off recycling at the landfill is a joke. I have never arrived and been able to find bins that are not overflowing and the lot strewn with recyclables.
- The recycling program is difficult to work with. Some items that ARE recyclable are not collected and having the collection be biweekly is inconvenient.
- The idea of helping the environment where possible is a bigger motivator than having to buy bag tags.
- The garbage collection system which is partially subsidized by the bag tag system doesn't motivate me to recycle or compost, it's a system to get rid of the garbage that suppliers and importers should be factoring into their cost of doing business. If they use an in house product manufactured here or import said product into this country then they should also be expected to subsidize or pay for recycling of all packaging. The garbage that household produces is primarily plastic containers, bags and at present disallowed from recycling plastic films. If it is not a recyclable/reusable item product, then it should not be used or allowed in the country
- "The current cost of a bag tag doesn't deter me, I opt to compost or recycle to minimize waste going to landfill.
- If bag tags cost more (like more than 3 dollars) I would be financially motivated to reduce waste even further."
- The cost of bag tags doesn't actually help the environment.
- The cost of a bag tag is so minimal, how is that a motivator?
- The cost of a bag tag does not help. I would rather a program that picks up everything that is properly separated
- The cost is not high enough to motivate that.
- tags are a pain...
- So many items are not recycled so it's easier to throw most things into garbage.
- Since the dump removed the recycle program it's is easier to just throw the recycling in the trash, I have 3 blue boxes that fill up through a week, previously I

would go to the dump on a Saturday and empty them, not that recycling is not an option at the dump and pick up is only 2 weeks, some of my recycling makes it into the garbage.

- Simple garbage collection is not a motivator. Actually, we don't need weekly garbage collection. But we could use weekly recycling collection.
- See above responses
- Recycling rules are confusing
- Recycling pickup is every two weeks while garbage is weekly. I recycle due to my own beliefs and do so in spite of how difficult it is to do in Saugeen Shores. Bag tags have no impact on my behaviour
- Recycling needs to be weekly. Garbage collection every second week September to May. Weekly during the summer.
- Recycling is a responsibility so the cost is not the reason.
- Recycling I do all the time but composting animals get into it in my back yard and into the composter.
- Recycling and composting to me are valuable and necessary in themselves and not dependent on garbage. Creating as little garbage for the landfill is also important.
- Recycling and composting needs to be picked up every week. There is nowhere to recycle right now if you miss your day.
- Price too low. No regulation re size of garbage bag for \$2- tag. Lazy not caring people don't bother to recycle. Large amount of recycled waste end up in dump.
- Poor system - recycling collection is quite limited in what will be taken. It's confusing and hard to figure out what will be picked up. Pickup date is different than garbage pick up date which potentially spreads garbage in neighbourhood more frequently (garbage blown out of pick up trucks, bags break open, etc)
- Pick up of yard waste and cardboard would be supportive and would place the spotlight on recycling and composting. I believe current focus on garbage collection makes it easier just to send waste to the landfill.
- People who don't use the bag tags abuse business's by using their dumpsters. Bag tags cause more problems than solve them
- not interested
- Not big enough consequences
- Not at all. I do my own composting but recycling is still a mystery to me. Some times pizza boxes, or cereal boxes are collected while other times they are not. Am I supposed to take them to the cardboard municipal bins? I need to drive and leave my carbon foot print in order to dispose of such household waste.
- no, the system in Saugeen Shores is far more difficult to use compared to bigger cities like Ottawa or Toronto. The recycling only takes certain recyclables which other cities take. Glass is also difficult to dispose of in town.
- No matter what there are still items that have to get garbage because they can't be recycled or composted.
- "No it's just annoying to have to make sure you have bag tags. It's also frustrating that recycling is bi-weekly and on a different day of the week ... it leads to recycling ending up in my garbage when recycling is full.

- Our composting program is basically non-existent and makes it hard to get it started. I wish we had a green bin."
- "No because we are Already Very personally motivated
- Think one bag/week should be included in taxes.
- Taxes didn't go down with the tag system.
- Tag system seems to cause some people (not sure if it is financially motivated - I have no idea) to dump their garbage in rural areas, and then we end up picking it up on our farms or along our road."
- My own conscience is what motivates me to try to help our planet.
- "Look at Barrie's program.
- Recycling is picked up weekly, garbage pickup is every other week"
- I've grown up with recycling so just done it. If it's recyclable it goes in the recycling, if not, in the garbage
- It's habits, were grew up using the recycling and less waste idea. Not sure why we can't get 1 free bag a week if we live here.
- its called incentive
- It would be a far bigger motivator if garbage were picked up biweekly and recycling was picked up weekly. Failing that, at least having weekly pickup for both would be good. A commercial compost program would be ideal (and something that bigger centres like Richmond Hills have had in place for 15 years). We need to start taking a look at programs like this.
- It is seen as more of a bothering quality than an actual tool for change. Increasing the price probably will not help get people to change their behaviour and make life more difficult for certain groups in our community. More awareness and promotion is needed to increase motivation to change behaviour!
- It doesn't motivate me. It's just the way the program works. I try to reduce the amount of garbage generally not because of bag tags
- It doesn't motivate me as I would recycle and compost regardless.
- It doesnt matter if i didnt have to buy tags. I would still recycle its the right thing to do to try and decrease my and my families foot print.
- It costs \$2 per tag plus what we pay through property taxes for waste collection. If I am paying \$2 per garbage csn I will make sure it is full. Especially since the Town raised theminimum at the dump to \$10 per visit. Outrageous.
- Increasing the frequency of recycling days would increase the use of the program. Providing recycling drop off (24/7) for more than just cardboard would increase the use of the program.
- Implementation of a full weekly recycling program and increase the actual recyclable material to the full spectrum. Take away bag tags and allow one bag weekly per household and watch the landfill go down within weeks it will be noticeable and years will prolong the life of the landfill.
- I would recycle regardless. It maybe a motivator for others that wouldn't otherwise make the effort.
- I would recycle regardless and believe most people would do the same.
- I would recycle irrespective of the garbage collection program.
- I would recycle anyway. Even if garbage pick up was free.

- I would recycle and compost anyway.
- I was already try to reduce, reuse and recycle
- I understand the importance of a good composting program and would divert those materials from landfill with or without the bag tag fee
- I try to divert as much waste as I can
- I try to cut down on what I send to the landfill.
- I think it's our responsibility to recycle and compost without having a bag tag for garbage.
- I take advantage of the recycling and composting programs because I want to
- I recycle regardless
- I recycle because it is the right thing to do, not because I'm trying to save money on garbage tags.
- i recycle because I understand that I am responsible for the waste I create. Bag tags are not enough motivation to make most people cut back on what they throw out. In our community, we see people taking truck loads of items that they no longer want to the dump, rather than give away or donate them. The same seems to happen with house renovations- everything goes to the dump rather than donate or resell items.
- I recycle and compost for the environment - not to save \$2.
- I love to recycle everything anyways...the bagtags are just an inconvenience and annoying
- I have trouble filling a garbage bag once every two weeks. le: there is lots of space in my garbage.
- I have no household garbage.
- "I have been recycling since the 1970's so it is part of my lifestyle.
- The bag tags are a good idea, in my opinion as they make one realize how much one is throwing out."
- I have always used recycling so having bag tags or not does not change anything for me.
- I find it offensive to not only pay for waste management through our property taxes but then to "tax" us again with a bag tag fee is double taxation. Since I'm paying for it twice I have little hesitation about throwing recyclables or compostable items in with the regular garbage.
- I don't use bag tags anymore in the resident space that I live we have a private garbage collection service
- I don't compost
- I don't believe that I would choose not to recycle if I had unlimited trash collection.
- I do this regardless. I am strongly in support of a green bin program.
- I do recycling for environmental impact not price per bag.
- I choose to compost, and I choose to not recycle. You should not assume that recycling and composting are environmentally beneficial. Recycling is environmentally destructive, composting is much less so. Regarding garbage collection tags, it should be \$5 per tag, increasing to \$10 per tag by 2025, and \$20 per tag by 2030. Don't pussyfoot around. Take environmental protection

seriously, and use the money generated from garbage tags to install hidden cameras to monitor roadsides where litterbugs dump garbage illegally.

- I attempt to reduce the amount of waste we produce because I care about our environment and realize humans generate too much waste. It is not an incentive for me personally but I do think it is for some folks.
- I am motivated to recycle and compost due to environmental concern, not because of the cost of garbage tags.
- I am motivated to recycle and compost because it is the right thing to do for the environment. The pick up once every two week for recycling is fine. don't mind going to dispose of cardboard and plastic bags.
- I am motivated to recycle and compost anyway. I would do so regardless of the bag limit.
- I already recycle and compost
- Having to pay for bag tags does not encourage recycling, only complicates garbage.
- "Hate the bag tag system - just add a little to the tax bill and pick up the garbage!
- And I tried taking recycling to the landfill - but they don't take it. They said we had to put it out for recycling collection. So it went into the landfill. What a shame!"
- Expensive.
- "Even with no bag tag fee I would recycle because I believe in stewardship of this land.
- Educating people so they want to recycle is the way to go."
- Consequences is not a big enough deterrent
- Been using the composters for years
- Because you have the collection completely backwards. Every other town collects recycling weekly and garbage every other week. Also, You have to take more into your recycling program.
- Because of recycling and composting I barely have enough garbage to fill one bag a week.
- Because I would recycle and compost regardless of insensitive because it is the right thing to do.
- because i am still paying money (tags) to put out my garbage. i think we should be allowed 1 free bag of waste (excluding diapers...they need to put in a clear bag (free) so u can see that it is only diapers. extra bags you pay with a tag.
- bag tags only promote illegal dumping
- Bag tags make no difference to whether I recycle or not. I find them to be inconvenient, especially if I occasionally forget and realize I have run out of bag tags on garbage day.
- Bag tags do not motivate me one way or another. I choose to recycle.
- Bag tags are a rip off. We pay enough taxes. Encourages illegal dumping.
- Bag tags are a pain. Effort to go to store to pick up. I use recycling and composting because it's a choice and I want less in landfill
- As we no longer have a recycling program in our Town trailer park, we need to take our bags home to recycle.

- Already use composting
- Already recycle and compost. Bag tags do not change the amount of garbage we have (mostly food packaging). If we want change to the amount of garbage we have, push for legislation that would reduce or eliminate single use packaging in the food supply chain (especially grocery stores).

Question 14: Do you have ideas about how our community might further reduce the amount of garbage that ends up in landfill?

Responses:

- "Yes. Separate food waste from regular garbage and there should be less garbage.
- Encourage purchasing with less packaging.
- Fines for not separating garbage and recyclables."
- yes, add as many materials to the recycling program as possible. start a food waste collection program. The unfortunate truth is people waste a lot of food and the amount of food in the current garbage collection stream will surprise you.
- Yes! Implement a green bin program.
- Would prefer to not have to pay - I use it but make sure my bin is fully loaded each time I put it out - I would rather put it out each week for free.
- Would be nice to recycle more but I do understand the municipal costs associated with this
- When I lived in Guelph they provided blue bins, black bins and green bins, and then would pick up black & green bins one week and then blue and green bins the next. This definitely motivated recycling and composting as you only had so much room for garbage.
- Weekly recycling pick up.
- Weekly pickup would help. I try to be diligent but have too much for 2 weeks so some goes in the garbage. Less scary depots that don't look like where you go to get bludgeoned to death by some hatchet man. Wife refuses to go to them.
- Weekly compost and recycle pickup and bi-weekly garbage pick up. Also having designated cardboard pickup dates.
- We need to put more emphasis on businesses and contractors to convince them to increase recycling.
- We have become a materialistic society. I am not sure how to change this!
- We have a trailer to take garden debris to recycle. What do others without a trailer do???
- "Way more recycling, more ""free on the curb"" days, more green bins, more hazardous waste days, more education about the programs provided.
- And please bring back cardboard pickup!!!! It's a huge pain for small business to have to lug our cardboard to be recycled."
- Using reusable grocery bags instead of purchasing them at the store. Increased frequency for blue bin pickups (weekly instead of biweekly or using larger blue bin containers.
- Used products exchange day.

- "Use it as fuel - burn it (with proper environmental smokestacks)
- (Methane gas from dump/can be used for power generation).
- food waste decomposes, the real concern is about plastics and papers and products not recycled that end up in the dump."
- Until our stores change further their methods of packaging I do not see how the amount of garbage going into landfill can be lessened.
- Unnecessary packaging is a huge problem but how do you require corporations to do the right thing?
- "To be honest I cannot believe that I have to pay for garbage collection given what I pay in taxes. But I must say the police department has some nice automobiles.
- Recycling weekly"
- "This isn't so much a municipal jurisdiction, but the federal government needs to up standards for packaging by large companies. Start with Tim Horton's.
- Local landfill could develop social media connections to create awareness of possible available, reusable items. Perhaps having a sticker program of ""Reuse me"" allowing public to place on items that could be salvaged. This would require a separate collection program but might have a positive environmental impact on the landfill."
- There is no market for most things ie.plastic of any type . You collect it and it eventually goes to a dump somewhere. Dare I say we should be like the Swede's and have a REAL high efficiency incinerators and sell the ie, electricity made from the heat, the ash for asphalt, recycle the metal etc
- There could be a campaign that would encourage people to buy less, to reuse more. Currently, in my opinion, Canadians should avoid buying anything that is made in China (and that would reduce buying considerably) until Michael Spavor and Michael Kovrig are released from prison.
- the town should be like several other communities and mandate that only clear garbage bags be used and if recyclable in bag, it will not be picked up. This would force people to use recycle bin and other means to reduce garbage going to dump
- The cost of this is considerable, so we must work with other communities to lower the cost and then increase recycling or composting programs
- The city should provide large recycle bins with covers so we can recycle more. We should be to put cardboard in the recycle bin.
- Tell the tourists and the americans to take their garbage home with them instead of filling our landfill site, or better yet, just stay home.
- Talk about it more. But in English words so everyone in the community can understand. Also I'm sure the tourists don't help with our local dump.
- take out food containers are ridiculous in this town.
- Take EVERYTHING that has a recycling tag on it.
- Take cardboard milk containers in the recycling. Offer more frequent compost and recycling pick up and bi-weekly household garbage pick up.
- styrofoam recycling, a metals collection site, heavy items pick-up we could pay for if we need to take things to the dump but don't have the means

- Styrofoam pick up. Request that stores do not sell milk or juices in non recyclable containers. Waxed cartons or terrible, at least plastic or glass can be dealt with.
- stop the population expansion
- "Stop promoting consumption.
- Shift to a more eco friendly economic model. See attached link for example.
- <https://theyee.ca/Analysis/2021/08/10/Save-Ourselves-Need-Very-Different-Economy/>"
- Stop buying so much prepackaged foods.
- stop building hundreds of new houses all around town on good farm land which increases the population and increases garbage
- "Start accepting more types of recyclable materials
- I notice there is only one person working the recycling truck..... hand separating the blue bins.... This doesn't strike me as being very efficient."
- Start a free store where people can exchange goods for free.
- "Something needs to be done about the takeout container's that are not recyclable. ie black containers and styrofoam ones.
- I don't know if it's possible but if the food industry can't come up with something then places shouldn't give it to us"
- Slow down on development and building. Quit encouraging people and tourists from coming to Saugeen Shores. We have enough development. Stop the huge development planned at the Port Elgin beach.
- See above.
- See above.
- See above for repurposing bicycles, etc. Also, it would be great if upholstered furniture could be repurposed. The Restore won't take mattresses or upholstered chairs, couches. Ouch. What a waste. (Afghani refugees could make use of them.)
- See above
- school competition
- Same as above. Recycling and compost pick up every week.
- Reward certain areas for free bag tags for example 3 month intervals or 12 tags for a certain block radius if the garbage/recycling is done properly. Make them a gold star recycling bin area, then rotate communities so it makes people want to win and their block shine!
- Restrict single use plastics. Give incentives for local businesses to reduce their footprint.
- Require clear garbage bags as other communities have done to decrease recyclables being thrown in the garbage instead of recycling.
- repurposing wood and other materials, stop throwing out things that can be repaired to buy new ones
- Reinstate the Blue Box recycling depot at the landfill
- "Re-education campaigns via social media on refusing items in addition to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- Have some way of measuring public waste and have public display of waste reductions/increase to help raise awareness and encourage town discussion

- (ie. on side of store buildings at green and goderich - weekly announcements of successful decreases in waste reduction and education campaigns when waste increases) --> I also think public monitoring of environmental impact could be introduced for issues such as local solar power generated/consumed, carbon capture projects, etc."
- Reduce the packaging of goods... This is beyond what Saugeen Shores can do but campaigns to reduce heavily packaged goods for bulk goods may help.
- Reduce population. Composting for businesses, raise taxes, remove bag tag program find alternative program, composting for apartment buildings.
- reduce collection and the number of bags per household/ collection
- Reduce bag tag fees - if I'm paying for a bag and I don't want it sitting for a week, it may as well be full.
- Recycling weekly and garbage bi-weekly.
- Recycling should be picked up on a weekly basis at the same time garbage is. More items should be included in the recycling program (ie. Milk cartons) as in other municipalities.
- Recycling pickup every week I now fill 2 or 3 blue bins with the pickup every 2 weeks I am sure some people just throw recycling material in the garbage when the blue box is filled
- Recycling needs to be weekly - we always have more recycling than we can fit in our 3 bins which then overflows in my garage. Food waste municipal green bin programs should also be weekly.
- "Recycle more materials
- Cardboard pickup at curb side
- Charge more for construction waste to encourage reuse
- Reduce packaging at source"
- recycle cardboard milk cartons. Have hazardous waste/cardboard/styrofoam days at the landfill in June and August for cottagers, as well as other times during the year.
- Recently I had to dispose of two couches and one sofa that were, from my point of view, clean and in perfect state. The Habitat Store did not want them because the fabric was floral. I got a pretty sad and sickening feeling having to dispose of them in the landfill, making me realize what a waste society we are.
- Raise the bag tag price
- put the recycle bins in an area that we can access more readily....and maybe a few recycle cans throughout the town
- Push for legislation or by-laws that would reduce or eliminate single use packaging in the food supply chain.
- "Push back on the grocery stores; including Walmart and GT on the type of packaging allowed.
- Offer funding to local business to use recycled packaging for food takeout; incentivize by charging the ones who don't; ie the McDonald's and tim hortons. Independent, food land, circle k, rexall, and shopper should be pushed to reduce the waste. They are bringing it in.

- Bigger push on eat local produce with some helpful recipe guides and a refresh on the food guide for folks."
- Public education.
- Provide recycling options on the streets and beaches - we only have garbage and most people don't hold onto recycling to throw out at home.
- Provide Incentives - free garbage tags for a period of time if you take part in the program.
- Provide incentive
- Provide a green bin collection service. Reduce garbage pickups to once every two weeks. Recycling and compost weekly.
- Promote composting and recycling including all cardboard being picked up curbside rather than at the bins near the dump.
- "Promote composting (green bins)
- Pick up recycling weekly instead of bi weekly"
- Promote companies that offer less plastic useage (ie. shop downtown Southampton...can't recall the name that does refills etc., TruEarth Laundry (no plastic containers). Why not promote companies like this and their incentives.
- Placing recycling and organic waste bins around town would be helpful. I wish they were left out year round too. People still spend time outdoors in the winter.
- Pick up plastic bags with regular recycle. Green bins. Sell home composter bins at a reasonable price and publicize it well.
- Pick up more recycle curb side including compost and communicate better on recycle options in the town.
- Petition the politicians stronger with meaningful force to end the use of non-recyclable packaging and products
- "Perhaps advertise "" Exchange days"" where people could put out unwanted
- Items that could be used by others. I do this regularly and EVERYTHING goes!"
- PEI has 5 different bin choices for town pickup. We should too.
- Packaging is the big issue.
- Our blue bin program is minimal at best. Very little is accepted compared to other municipalities. A reintroduction of what can/cannot be put into blue bins needs to be done. To limit the amount being sent to landfill because of contamination.
- Offer more options (grocery shopping) that aren't covered in plastic, to be bought in plastic.
- Offer a restore type option right on site at the dump. In Australia, they have "op shops" right at the dump, so you take your stuff to one place, someone looks at what you have and they either take it for free to sell at the op shop or they send you to pay to dump it. I know many people who cant be bothered to drive to 2 places and have their stuff looked at first, so they just drive straight to the dump and pay to get rid of it! Brand new things. If it were in one spot, or if the staff at the weight scale looked at some of the things people were bringing in and suggested they take it to a specific bin (they could ask if it's broken or if anything is wrong) and then give them a deal or don't charge them to put it in that specific bin. Then that bin goes to the restore or somewhere to be reused.
- Not in Towns control, but manufacturers need to use less plastics.

- none
- No. Increasing the cost of tags might increase illegal dumping in ravines / trails etc.
- No.
- No.
- No.
- No, I don't.
- No
- No
- No
- no
- Need recycling bins on beaches and other public places
- Municipal tax on disposable fast food containers. Cut dowb on watebefore its garbage.
- More recycling options like milk cartons and juice cartons.
- "more recycling containers (in addition to garbage) on beach and downtown
- expand what can be put in blue box (as opposed to making a separate trip - eg cardboard)"
- more publicity and education regarding our existing initiatives; promote businesses that encourage waste reduction for example the refillery in Southampton called "Remind"; encourage businesses to use compostable take away containers
- More locations for cardboard recycling
- More information on recycling. education on what happens when we don't clean food from containers (some places have to throw the whole bin out apparently). I'm sure there are fun facts that would surprise residents and make them think harder in regards to what they are recycling.
- More frequent recycling pick up
- "More education on what is acceptable to recycle.
- This is an ongoing debate in my household.
- As a business owner the pick update is a day my business is closed and the recycling bins are closed which makes it much harder to get rid of the gathered items. When blue bins can open up again it would be nice to have larger bins, the rolling ones are always jammed."
- "More easily accessible recycling of old items - furniture, etc. Perhaps more days that people are encouraged to place items on the roadside for general sharing?"
- Places to repair things that should be easier to repair. Generally repairs are not easy - fewer knowledgeable repair people, fewer resources available. Even something as simple as finding small screws to repair the arms of glasses is an issue, it seems."
- More community share days...putting out unwanted items on certain days.
- Making garbage collection possible for all businesses.
- Make styrofoam recycling more accessible.
- Make recycling sorting easier.

- Make recycling pickup the same day as garbage, or at least make it weekly pickup as well.
- Make more materials part of blue bin program. It's not always easy to drive to landfill with a small amount of material. Include plastic bags in blue box.
- Make more items recycleable as in other areas that recycle more items ie: aluminum foil, milk cartons & styrafoam
- Make it more convenient for people by having more recyclable items for curb side pick up.
- Make bag tags for any additional bags over 1 . Increase dump fees. Increase accepted recyclable materials . This system is all proven and it works .
- Lowering dump fees a little. So many people end up dumping their garbage where they shouldn't be.
- "Limit garbage collection to biweekly. Change recycling to weekly and add compost collection weekly. Add to the recycling program so a resident can put cardboard and styrafoam at curbside pickup.
- They do this in the City of Guelph and it forces residents to be mindful about their waste and recycle and company as much as possible as garbage collection only occurs every other week."
- LESS PACKAGING.
- Less expensive.
- It's very hard as our society has become wasteful. As example, manufacturer packing.
- It would be great if our community could recycle milk containers. That is a big filler of our garbage can.
- "It could reduce the amount of plastic if the grocery store did not give out so many plastic bags. I have never seen a town use LESS recyclable bags than Port Elgin. It is a travesty to watch so many people leave with plastic. AND it is NOT the tourists! Watch when you check out or leave the store.
- I'm sure the same people are not recycling their plastic either.
- In other communities it is paper only and they charge a hefty price for those paper bags, so people soon learn to BRING THEIR OWN BAGS."
- Introduce various bins grey (cardboard) green (composite) and increase what can be recycled.
- Introduce green bins for compostable materials!
- Insisting all packaging is recycled or compostable
- Increase recycling opportunities. Put bylaws in place where businesses MUST provide recyclable packaging.
- Increasing the variety of items that can be placed in a blue box would be great. We have property in North Bruce Peninsula and the blue box there accepts far more items. As well, pick up of film plastics such as bags along with the education piece would enhance that program. Very few people even know it exists or where the bins are.
- Increasing promotion on when and where the special recycling programs happen, and possible increasing accessibility to those programs.

- Increase the streams of recycling. Still too much waste going to landfill. Pay a visit to Collingwood dump for additional waste diversion.
- "Increase the number of items for recycling"
- Add a green box program
- Add infrastructure for increasing recycling that provides convenience to the home owner
- Provide an incentive program to reward good behaviour and penalties for careless behaviour"
- Increase the bag tag fees and put increased revenue into supporting recycling programs. Provide households with additional blue boxes if they need them.
- Increase scope of recycling program
- Increase recycling programs
- "Increase recycling pickup frequency"
- Increase 24/7 recycling bin locations"
- "Increase recycling incentives"
- Recycle pickup every week
- Garbage collection 1 bag free, each bag after \$5."
- "Incorporate curbside green bin pickup, PLEASE."
- Also, increase what is accepted curbside for recycling, including cardboard."
- Include more items picked up during garbage collection
- Include corrugated cardboard in the blue box program.
- "In terms of making recycling part of everyone's habits, consistency and availability counts. Having easy access to ALL sorting bins in multiple locations, in businesses, schools and in community locations, especially for those who do not have a car (cardboard and cello wrap). In a perfect plan, consistent recycling across municipalities would make it easier to remember what can be recycled."
- Unfortunately, it may have to be more financially painful to send huge amounts of building materials or house contents to the dump, rather than take some time to recycle items that can be reused."
- "Improved recycling programs that do not require depot drop offs (not very accessible or convenient). I don't imagine cottage rentals are driving recycling to depot or even aware of existence."
- Subsidized program for rain barrels and composters.
- Improved recycling facilities in public areas (beaches, uptown).
- Improved communication and advertising regarding existing programs."
- Improve your recycling program to make it easier and more inclusive. Use Bluewater Recycling.
- Implement proper recycling pickup. Pick up corrugated cardboard and tetra packs such as soy milk & coffee cream containers.
- If you made compost every week and garbage pickup only weekly, people would be highly motivated to separate and do the compost as otherwise they have to store it for a long period of time. Also, requiring clear garbage bags for garbage can ensure that no recycling material or compost is put in the regular garbage and an infraction can be given if someone doesn't comply.

- "If there are things that should not be in the curbside garbage, make us aware what else we should be doing. Many people may not know what goes where.
- Generally, all the cheap crap that is sold breaks and needs to go somewhere!"
- If the Town of Saugeen Shores believe a local climate change plan is a viable option for it to pursue then consider a local mandate of stores and shops paying for all the recycling costs of product packaging they ship into this area or import to this area.
- If the cardboard and styrofoam etc recycling were wider know it would help. We bring home those items rather than putting them in with garbage.
- I would like to see the resumption of recycling in the municipal trailer park. Currently it is not being collected and I have to take everything home.
- "I see it year after year at the port elgin beach the amount of recycling containers going into the garbage bins
- Blue bins there would reduce landfill immensely"
- I find that what is allowed in the recycle box is very limited.
- I find alot of items that are recyclable arent accepted in the blue bins, so i end up throwing in the garbage.
- I don't think this is a practical question until a curbside green bin is implemented and we see how the End User Responsibility program for recyclables phases out.
- I am in no position to comment as we are very new to the area, but an education program encouraging a reduction in packaging (though Saugeen Shores offers many fresh local produce and meat options already - part of the draw to this area!) would be wonderful. There are weeks where I can't even understand how a family of four fills up recycling bins that fast!
- "I am extremely careful about recycling vs. landfill garbage.
- I feel strongly that, with the high taxes we pay here, each household should be permitted one free bag of garbage each week, or every two weeks if you move to that system. Paying for every bag, including your first one, is another tax grab."
- "Help to approach large corporations to be plastic free. Support higher levels of government for real change that's targeted towards large corporations.
- Electric vehicles aren't the answer and this town to shift its focus to something more practical."
- Having weekly recycle pick up, green bin pickup and cardboard pickup (preferably all on the same day). And have styrofoam included in recycle pick-up.
- Have recycling containers around Saugeen Shores but realize people would use as garbage containers. Defeats the purpose.
- "Have recycle bins available at the landfill.
- Have a large thrift shop that takes donations"
- Have more items collected in the recycling bins, ie. plastic bags, tetra drink boxes, garden plant pots. Have a green bin program setup within Saugeen Shores. Make green bin and blue box pickup weekly and garbage bag pickup bi-weekly. Residents will quickly learn to use the green bins as they won't want their garbage sitting in their garage for 2 weeks before its picked up.
- Have businesses offer a recyclable take out containers (that can be recycled within our community) stores could offer paper bags instead of plastic. I feel like

the amount that can be recycled here should be expanded to include other things that can be recycled (tetra packs). Guelph has a great program for waste management.

- Have blue bins at the beach.
- Have an outlet that would allow people to donate furniture and household items in good condition. Lots of people just throw stuff out because there are not a lot of places that allow you to donate used furniture.
- have a more elaborate recycling program similar to the city.
- Have a community week or day for bulk items to be put on the curb - allow residents to pick through them and reuse them instead of land filling them first
- Have 3 roll-out bins that would be blue, green and grey(garbage).
- Green bins. The recycling doesn't get picked up enough. Sometimes our bins get too full and we shove recycling into the garbage. Needs to be picked up weekly.
- Green bins. Somewhere to drop off recycling. Ability to drop off other non garbage items for disposal without having to wait in a line at the dump. It should be separate so when I want to drop off film plastic I don't have to wait with all the people dumping household or other garbage. With all the construction and new houses going up in Saugeen Shores we need to minimize the amount of construction waste going into our landfill.
- "Green bins!
- Goods -exchange days"
- Green bins cut down on landfill build up
- Green bin would definitely help.
- Green bin would be a big step.
- "Green bin recycling program.
- Not sure how bag tags encourage the reduction in waste. If you have more garbage, you just add another tag. Allow one garbage can of a designated size for 'free' but require a tag for additional bags/cans."
- Green bin program. And recycling pick-up should be weekly and garbage every second week. We have relatives in Muskoka and this is how it is there and people manage it just fine. Bag tags are just a cash-grab and do not deter people from putting out excess amounts of garbage. Making garbage pick-up less frequent and providing alternatives is the only way to get people to change.
- green bin program
- Green Bin collection is one good option. Offer textile (used clothing) dropoff locations, or other textile waste diversion programs. Allow cardboard pickup with recycling to reduce the chance people will just put it in the garbage to save a trip to the landfill.
- Green bin
- Green bin
- Go with the program that Southgate has - Bins for garbage, recycling and green. The bins are large enough that they can hold alot but maybe could also have a secure on the front of the lid to deter any larger animals. We have them at our main home and they are SO ideal. Cuts down on plastic going into garbage too as you dont always have to have bags!

- Go after or expose manufacturers that sell/create products with improper or unnecessary packaging
- Give us quarterly email on statistics. Keep same on web and update regularly with graphs showing how we are progressing. Web sites that have things that change are good source to get the word out.
- Get more materials recycled. Get producers of packaging to reduce packaging materials. It's nice to see the town is recycling plastic films now. It would be nice if they could find a recycling center for styrofoam peanuts. If no one wants to recycle them then the town should put pressure on the provincial and federal government to ban the use of styrofoam peanuts and I believe meat trays are also in the same boat.
- Get after the manufacturer's pocket books. Charge them for waste disposal.
- Garbage collection every other week and recycling weekly
- Garbage collection every other week and incentives for recycling and diversion efforts.
- "Garbage and recycling should be on same day as motivation for folks to ready their trash.
- Communicate what items are acceptable or not"
- Focus on more reusable products, have a campaign for not just recycled plastics but biodegradable products that break down easily and quickly if thrown in the garbage. Promote the right to repair. Have better campaign for E waste.
- Find a way to show people the positives of doing there part
- "Find a way to accept tetrapaks. They are recycled in other municipalities.
- I think green bin collection would make a huge difference."
- Far too many limitations on the list of acceptable recyclables in the current program. Visitor are always shocked to learn how little we can recycle here compared to recycling programs in their communities. An increase in acceptable recyclables would be a great place to start. Also re-open the recyclable drop-off area. People are not always able to utilize their assigned blue box day
- Eyes on polluters (paid staff) to ticket / fine those who discard waste on trails and roadways.
- Extend the types of plastics and other materials that are accepted in our recycling program, especially cartons.
- Expanding the recycling program would help. For example, I have been told that used tissues ('Kleenex') can't be placed in paper recycling — but paper towel is ok. Milk cartons (we try to always use glass, but still...) are considered garbage. And as mentioned above we'd be 100% on board with a green bin initiative.
- Expanding our recycling program (waxed cardboard, corrugated cardboard, styrofoam and more types of plastic) as well as a green bin system.
- Expand the recycling program. There are lots of items we are unable to recycle that are not accessible to us. Set up other drop off recycle areas.
- Expand the Blue Box recycle to include items not currently allowed. In addition to dropping off at the landfill site of such items as electronics, styrafoam, mattresses, etc. etc....make curbside pick up available - perhaps certain days, or perhaps for a small fee. It's possible items currently being sent to the landfill via

garbage pick up is due to the difficulty/inconvenience of making the trip to the landfill to utilize the recycle/disposal of those items.

- Encourage residents to reuse where possible rather than discarding.
- Encourage people to consume less products wrapped in unnecessary plastic or packaging, promote the use of thrift or second hand stores, promote the use of repair shops for people to get their items fixed instead of replacing them and throwing out the old one. The solution to this requires a circular economy, not just diverting waste.
- Encourage and promote certain days where you have a goods exchange at curbside. You need to promote this more and see how it goes. A lot of people do not have time to take large furniture to the Sally Anne etc. But would take to curb. Owen Sound does this once a month starting in the Spring and it is very popular. Would stop a lot of stuff from being tossed. Call it Upcycle Opportunity Day...if that appeals more. Promote it...a lot of people don't check the town calendar.
- Education to residents
- Education folks, education.
- "Education about what can be recycled and making it more convenient to drop off cardboard, styrofoam, yard waste etc.
- It is excellent that when picking up the bluebin, products that cannot be recycled are left behind, thus we learn what can be recycled in Saugeen Shores.
- Merchants should be discouraged from bagging products that are already wrapped. I understand that some of the shopping bags can be recycled, but we must reduce. Encourage reusable coffee mugs, take-out containers etc"
- Educate the population on its benefits. Not all our population think beyond current use.
- "Digital credit for recyclers to be used on either bag tags or other town services.
- Recycling education"
- Curbside pickup of cardboard
- Curbside composting.
- curbside cardboard service would help Otherwise many people burn it
- Create a bigger depot than the trailer where furniture, etc can be left for others to pick up. Create a separate depot for construction materials and debris that can be accessed by the public to be repurposed. Encourage contractors and developers to donate to the ReStore.
- Corrugated cardboard pickup, increasing what you can recycle like plastic bags, drink boxes.Green bin program weekly recycling pick up. Maybe we need to go back to basics and run a small program and educated the community how to recycle provide magnets or a flyer to each house hold of what can be recycled in our community.
- Contest on social media? School program - get kids involved to motivate their parents. Have them track what is being thrown in the garbage for a week, then look at alternatives.
- Construction waste is a major factor. The amount of new construction coupled with the easier to throw it out than reuse mentality is dangerous. Most

construction waste contains wood and metal and is never sorted, unsorted waste fees should be unreasonably higher to discourage the practice.

- Consider some kind of incentives to encourage businesses to recycle more.
- Composting.
- Compost program with curbside program.
- community recycle bins and bins at the beach ,parks and campgrounds
- "Collect blue box and green box materials weekly with non-recyclable garbage pickup by weekly. This will encourage people to use the green bin program rather than hold onto these materials for two weeks.
- Expand bluebox program to include curbside cardboard and plastic bag pickup,
- Expand blue box items to include paper drink cartons"
- Collect all recyclables curbside.
- Charge people that don't recycle.
- "Charge more.
- Measure the amount the Town itself puts there, set a goal to reduce it and report to us.
- Encourage swapping/re-gifting, donating to Restore of goods that are not really 'garbage'"
- Charge builder more money to dump there left over material so they could recycle more of there left over material.
- Can't think of anything .
- "By encouraging every restaurant and grocery business - specifically large corporations to package products in totally recyclable packaging. Cellulose packaging is manufactured which totally decomposes.
- Alsobegin to recycle waxed boxes like drink boxes, milk cartons, juice cartons,
- Broth and soup cartons. They consume a huge volume of landfill!"
- By accepting more types of recyclables for curbside pick up and adding a green bin program it would reduce landfill contributions in Saugeen Shores greatly. The variety of recycling programs across Saugeen Shores, have residents drive to multiple locations to redirect landfill waste. Throwing everything in the garbage is more convenient and saves on time/ space. Recycling needs to be made easier for our community.
- Build an incinerator?
- Broader recycling program to include milk cartons and more recyclables. Weekly compost collection program and a bi-weekly garbage collection cycle.
- Broader recycling acceptability; Take paper recycling and more plastic types.
- Bring back yard waste/leaf pick up. I currently put such waste in the garbage because I don't have a way to transport it to the municipal site.
- Bring back the landfill trailer. Where used items could be recycled - free
- Bigger bins for recycling. For paper, plastic,glass etc.
- "Better waste bin options in the downtowns. The single stream garbage bins end up being filled with bottles and other recyclables.
- le Bins with separate plastics, glass/metal, paper, and garbage"
- Better recycling that takes all things that can be recycled.

- Better options for what can be recycled and better drop-off facilities. The landfill is not well organized for accepting recyclables and often has overflowing bins.
 - "Because big chain stores aren't motivated by their corporate office to provide waste free packaging (and never will be because we keep buying packaged stuff), I think the town should come up with some incentive or local community event to challenge people and businesses to make one small change in their activities in order to reduce waste. This could be an annual event. A shift towards a focus on waste reduction is the only way we will succeed in tackling the excess waste problem. Recycling doesn't work as has been exposed recently.
 - A green bin collection program for compost would help. The municipality of Southgate is permitted to accept Bruce County compost."
 - Beach should have recycling bins, not just garbage bins.
 - "Ban single use plastics
 - Allow Tupperware at restaurants
 - Apparently there is evidence for clear plastic garbage bags instead of black."
 - "Awareness campaigns (signage at waste receptacles, encouraging/incentives for people who bring their own food take out containers/cups, create a competition in schools with a prize soliciting ideas). Create a sharing library within the community. recycling bins on the streets/parks. increase accepted recyclables.
-
- More on stewardship & reducing expenses/waste at the end of the summer season- consider ONLY using local perennial plants in any community gardens/planters - focus on native species and xeriscaping. Becoming a leader in reducing garden waste/fertilizer/watering and showcasing that local species can make AMAZING displays, could be another tourism draw. if the whole town (or even just Southampton) showcased native species with educational signage/interactive displays it would promote awareness/stewardship. Happy to help if you want!
 - also, encourage homes that rewild or naturalize areas of their yard.
 - plant more trees on public land! Consider a free tree for each lawn.
 - STOP huge real estate developers from breaking the rules around clearing land outright (repercussions too small) and instead preserve natural waterways rather than dredging creeks and putting in stone/material beds like near the beer store in Southampton (preserve a 5m distance from waterways for building). I am pro development - simply responsible development.
 - Rant over - wish I could have presented more thoughtfully but in a rush!"
 - As I have just discussed with Cheryl a controlled form of scavenging at the dump would be wonderful.
 - As above
 - Allow the recycling program to take more types of recyclable items such as cardboard and milk cartons etc. I end up throwing them away bc I never remember to go to the cardboard drop off

- Allow more recyclables to be collect. It is a very narrow offering of what can be collected and with compost pick up (has to be done weekly) the garbage will be significantly lessened.
- "Allow for more recyclable materials to be collected.
- People need to learn to sort materials — get schools and families involved."
- Allow for more items to be recycled (tetra packs, batteries, clothing, etc)
- "Allow for blue box pick up of sorted card board and plastic bags.
- Hire students in the summer to cull blue boxes and clear garbage bags of recyclable material and beer/wine/liquor bottles that are otherwise thrown in with garbage pick up. This is more prevalent in the tourist season when visitors who are unfamiliar with the town's services just throw everything out."
- All I can think of is somehow encouraging businesses to utilize more eco friendly packaging
- "All businesses and residential buildings - apartments included must begin using recycling programs/bins - often times these areas are not fully using what is currently available. I have 4 recycling bins filled weekly - we have only 1bag a week or less for house of 4.
- Need a program for pet waste so it's not going into a landfill that could be potentially poisoning water sources. Also need to have more trash/recycling bins out in community- too much trash/litter and left dog waste is left on our streets and trails."
- After composting & using Blue Boxes, most of what ends up in the garbage seems to be packaging, such as milk cartons. Many other municipalities recycle these things, so why are we still putting them in the garbage?
- afford more recycling options
- Addressing and reducing plastic consumption!
- adding another yellow bin...always jammed full and many don't use it as it is not advertised. the town could do a much better job of encouraging participation in all their programs.
- Add more items to recycling, eg milk cartons, corrugated card board
- Add corugated to blue box.
- accept more types of recyclable materials at curb side
- Accept more recyclables in the blue box. ie. Corrugated cardboard, plastic bags
- Accept more items for recycling. More frequent reminders about how to use blue box recycling. (Bin size & shape, allowable materials, common mistakes, etc.)
- Accept cardboard.
- A much better recycling program, easy to use (limited sorting), collect corrugated cardboard, start a green bin system (use the gas to create power)
- "A lot of material seen in the landfill is wood, construction debris, furniture etc.
- In Sweden there is a ""trash to energy"" program that turns a lot of their garbage into usable energy on the grid. We saw the amazing building in Stockholm. Maybe biomass/trash burning plants should be built around Ontario with short-distance access for towns and cities to ship some/all of their garbage to. Is there a small bio-mass burning plant design which could be used in Grey-Bruce?

Could Bruce Nuclear have a way of adding bio-mass trash burning to its source of energy?"

- A composting site or pick up could be beneficial.
- "A better system for people to pick up good material on site that people are throwing away. Example I saw 3 bikes in a garbage bin which someone could have fixed or at least used as spare parts. Those should have been put in an area where people can pick through and take what they want home. It's just like recycling. Years ago we always picked through the pile to see what we could use. Some stuff is another person's treasure!!!
- I throw everything at the curb with a free sign before going to the dump. You would be surprised how few times I have to make the trip to our landfill."
- 1. The town promotes recycling as an environmental initiative, but that is a deception that increases the quantity of material in landfill sites. Recycling is actually a waste diversion scheme, where material is diverted from our landfill to other sites. Until accurate, verifiable figures are published regarding the CO2 cost / benefit and the percentage of diverted waste that is actually used in place of raw materials, recycling should not be considered an environmental initiative. In fact, it is more likely that our recycling programs have resulted in an increase in environmental damage not a decrease, because it creates the misperception that everything that goes into the recycling containers is reused, when in fact, less than 20% (national average) finds its way into useful consumer products. Because of that misperception, we do not question our individual consumerism, nor the excessive use of packaging that comes with most food and consumer products. Furthermore, the other "R"s, reducing and reusing, are under-emphasized in Town policies. We think that the waste that we are recycling is being re-used in new products, but in fact, the majority of what we "recycle" simply goes to out-of-town dump sites. Not only that, we burn fossil fuels to transport it. To actually reduce the material we send to landfills, charge local retailers a packaging tax based on square footage of real estate, and charge a fee for recycling. For the long term, work with the local school board to develop K-12 curriculum materials related to the local environmental impact of the consumer product train (extraction-->manufacturing-->retail-->consumer-->landfill).
- "1. Segregation of items safe to go into landfill and those that cannot (like furniture/cooking utensils/shoes., etc.,) might help.
- 2. If town could provide services like a chipper, garden waste could be turned to mulch and reduce landfill items.
- 3. Encourage shops to use more landfill friendly packaging like beeswax wrapper/bags etc.,
- 4. Town website could have FAQ page for all home waste segregation and disposal method for everyday usage items."
- "- garbage pick up biweekly
- - recycling and green bin weekly
- - clear plastic bags and donor pick up if recycling or computable stuff in bag (this may result in people dumping somewhere)"
- "- encourage recycling, and have green bin program.

- - some places only permit clear garbage bags, and if there is recycling or compostable stuff in the bag, it is not picked up (outside Orangeville).
- - pick up recycling and green bins every week, garb"

Question 15: How would you like to see the Town of Saugeen Shores support or enhance environmental stewardship and sustainability? Select up to 5 (five) choices from the list below.

Tree canopy restoration

Enhance parks, trails, beaches..

Composting programs

Support businesses

Protect water resources

Strengthen policy

Recognize stewards

Waste reduction initiatives

Climate change programs

Energy and buildings

Education and outreach

Electric vehicles

Other

Responses to “Other”:

Work harder on protecting our beach and lake

Withdrawal of approval for the construction of the CCV and 50 year lease. How can council say they are environmental stewards when they have approved something that will destroy the natural beach environment. You can add stores and restaurants as you say people have asked for, but do we really need a year round conference building and everything else that comes with the CCV. A building of the size of the CCV is definitely not needed on the beach, let's preserve what we have.

"The water treatment plant is not up to the growth of Saugeen Shores. This is a not acceptable.

It needs to be expanded. This is not even mentioned in your survey. It's an incredibly unstated priority.

We live in rural Saugeen Shores and do not have access (for our personal use) to the water, sewer or urban trees and we know it is Very important to the community. We do the very most we can to be environmental stewards of the land. There is a lot of wildlife where we live and we benefit from the use of the natural Lake Huron beach and use of the Saugeen River for our own recreation, but we still value the parks highly for family and friends. There should be no building of hard surface trails along the shoreline below the high water areas. It's just common sense. Stop doing it. Lake Huron will be high again, those trails should NOT be rebuilt in the same high water locations. It is not environmental friendly to do so.

We recycle our batteries with companies that benefit from them. We do the same with tires."

Stop the widespread use of harmful commercial pesticides, such as those in use by local businesses like HiBerry farms. Businesses like that could be doing a far better job of leveraging public interest in organic and pesticide-free produce.

Stop commercializing of the beach and draining the swamps - their resources once destroyed are lost forever.

Some sort of tree retention policy on new development would be nice, if there isn't one already. Neighbourhoods without mature trees are depressing and don't support a healthy environment.

"Require EV charging but must be for pay.

Covered bike parking at ICI locations except smaller site businesses.

Building waste diversion."

Really THINK about why it is necessary to "butcher" roadside and walking trail borders, hacking down beautiful wildflowers, which not only provide food and habitat for butterflies and moths and bees, but also look SO MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL than the hacked down waste which is left behind, turning brown, and looking messy! Could we not just agree to TRIM a swath no more than 12", IF it is absolutely necessary??

Protect the shoreline from development

Protect the sand through trees, grasses, only essential development on beaches

Protect the sand on the beach - it is not renewable. It is not an enhancement to the beach to put a big development or cars on it.

Protect sand erosion.

Protect our beach from commercialization. It is our most valued natural asset!

Prohibit building on environmentally sensitive lands and beaches.

more trails

Making walking and cycling for transportation safe and convenient, for all ages, year round by building road infrastructure that prioritizes these methods of transportation over cars (reducing car traffic and CO2 emissions).

Low impact designs for storm water control and treatment to lessen the amount of contaminated surface water being discharged into the lake and to provide some water quality improvement

Look past what is "trendy" in environmental talks. Pick one thing that has more benefit than cost. I.e plastic free

Keep the beach area as natural as possible. Maintenance is of utmost importance.

More supervision with the increase in the tourists population. Fires, dogs drinking, rowdiness smoking and parking violations have been the worst I've seen in the last 40 years. I have rarely seen the bylaw officer or a policeman at the beach in 2021.

It's almost like the Wild West. Keep buildings off the beach. The town council needs to come to the beach and ask beachgoers what they like or want. It has been a

destination place for hundreds of years without buildings especially like the CC's proposal. Save the beach. The council is blinded by the money that might come their

way. The investors are trying to get rich. They are nothing more than a greedy special interest group. The council is selling their soul to the devil and turning their

backs on a beautiful natural beach that thousands of people have enjoyed for hundreds of years. No one comes to the beach to shop and be entertained! It's all

about sun surf fun and sand. Get it right,

Join other municipalities in becoming a Green Community. This initiative makes our community even more attractive and emphasizes on all signs what we expect as a town that takes our environmental protection seriously.

Introduce bins

In terms of strengthening environmental municipal policy, mandating the planting of trees for every new build would ensure future cooler neighbourhoods as well as purifying and oxygenating our air. One tree for every set of lungs?

Implement a "Dark Sky" program to reduce night time light pollution

Get rid of bag tags!!

Expansion of municipal sewers.

Enhanced protection of our greatest asset: Lake Huron AND it's shoreline.

"Encourage the reuse of many articles that end up at the dump site

Develop more bike lanes to encourage less auto traffic and more bike for transportation usage.

Slow development of environmentally sensitive areas such as the Biener Bush area and the bush area behind the Southampton Beer store.

Develop more parks

Use narrower streets with more trees. Trees should be native to this area

Stop single zone planning and encourage more dual commercial & residential areas much like our downtowns. Massive residential such as the former Biener Tobacco Farm areas only encourage the worsening of traffic and are a sad use of farm land.

Stop the commercial sprawl at the threshold of town. It's extremely unsightly and not welcoming to our lovely towns. Big box stores are a bad idea developed in the 1950s and if we look to developments in the USA they have ceased to function"

Eliminate current wind turbine by Unifor and do not allow further win turbines to be constructed within Saugeen Shores!!!!

Don't open a starbucks and dairy queen by the harbor! Right there you are going to have to deal with plastic waste and garbage everywhere from these establishments. Not good for the environment.

Don't allow forests, animal habitats and environmental land to be destroyed for housing when other options are available (ie. copway in Southampton should never be destroyed- it's environmental hazard).

Bilaw enforcement on those who polite, litter

"Better monitoring of cardboard recycling areas-people dumping all sorts of waste not accepted-looks like a dump most of the time.

Garbage cans in more strategic areas, i.e. on the railtrail beside the high school- currently a private citizen provides a blue box and large garbage collection receptacle in this area and when school is in session, the rail trail beside the school looks like a garbage dump. Perhaps a meeting between the students, teachers, and someone from your committee could come up with some solutions.

Increased awareness of spring clean up. Have more incentives for individuals who clean up the town all year long. This past year no spring clean up happened, apparently due to covid, yet our neighbours in Kincardine managed to make it happen.

Port a potties at main beach access areas plus garbage cans. There are port-a potties at Bay St. and South St. yet McKinnon Lane, Eidt's grove-very popular areas do not-imagine where the human waste ends up-in our water.

Ban personal fireworks. Not only to these contribute to material litter but noise pollution and major problems for those suffering from ptsd, agitation in many dogs and cats, disruption to sleep for folks who have their windows open. It is also extremely dangerous.

Not enough trees planted in new subdivisions.

Needs lids on blue boxes. Go out on a windy day when it is blue box collection and you will see the contents strewn all over the place-people do not have the common sense to put anything on top

Change beach development so has less environmental impact

Ban sale of plastic water bottles.

Increased fines for littering and increased monitoring by by law officer

Implement ""Butts at Beach""-a system of having a device for smokers to put their butts which are then recycled

Stop allowing the bushes and trails to be destroyed for building houses

More enforcement re: dog waste. Perhaps better education or fines for people leaving behind their ""doggie bags"" and letting dogs run loose without leashes -by law officer could raise lots of money by patrolling the trails and beaches for dogs running loose and urinating and defecating wherever they please

By law enforcement for backyard ""auto wreckers and accumulating garbage dumps and noxious weeds on private property"

Become a bike friendly city

"Again, until we see a shift in attitude from leadership this is just data collected.

Developers can not be given any go ahead in green areas without environmental studies and then say ""oops"" later.

It seems to be a theme in Saugeen Shores. And it seems our town council and Administrations loyalty is with developers. Example: CCV. Shame on them for taking on a Conservation Authority. This in itself makes this survey just a box you must tick to seem like you ""listen"" to the public. Window dressing."

Question 16: In your experience, how easy and safe is it to go to key locations within our community (e.g. beach, shopping, schools, parks, etc.) by cycling, walking, skateboarding, or other forms of active transportation?

- I can get to most places I need
- I can get to some places, but not all
- Options for cycling not safe/adequate
- Options for walking not safe/adequate
- Not convenient for me to walk/cycle
- I cannot get to places I need

Other responses:

- Your second choice does not include "safely". Unfortunately, the rail trail crossing beside Highberry Farms is quite dangerous. Some drivers become impatient

waiting for cars to turn into the parking lot. I wonder if the rail trail crossing could be moved over to a traffic light/crosswalk to make it safer for vehicles to enter the parking lot and for trail users to safely cross the highway.

- People need to know the rules of the road for active transportation. Too many walkers and cyclists are on the wrong side of the road for safety, are too close to the road centre, or wear headphones and do not hear vehicles or safety warnings.
- Also, drivers do not understand the rules that apply at 4-way stops, or 2-way stops. They do not understand who has the right of way.
- It will be great to have the North Shore Road repaired and safely wide again for all the users of this great paved path.
- Would be nice to see more supports for seniors and those with disabilities, visible or hidden
- Seems like this town is only interested in supporting young BP families. We are losing small town charm and turning into a mini-city.
- With the exception of the waterfront and rail trails there are no bike lanes in Port Elgin. Why have they not been implemented into the standard road cross section - Bruce street is wide enough to accommodate bike lanes, and needs them for driver and cyclist safety. There is a street near me that was reconstructed from the old cross section to the new and include sidewalks which is great! But for whatever reason the side walk isn't cleared during the winter - when they are the most important. If the town does not have the resources to clear the side walks a by law should be passed and enforced that the homeowner is responsible. Otherwise the sidewalks are useless 1/3 of the year.
- Winter walking has been much improved by the use of sidewalk snowplows
- Winter challenges make active transport difficult - ensuring sidewalks are kept clean and using pet safe salts on the side walls would encourage more active transport in the winter
- When it is a question of active transportation in the area there is a distinct lack of public transportation options albeit the population probably wouldn't be sufficient to support a business based on a public transportation in this area. Why is it when we have limited transportation options available to the full time residents that the Rail Trail to my knowledge is maintained by volunteers with the occasional hand out from the town council?
- When I'm out walking or cycling, I find the majority of other people walking and cycling do not know or obey the rules and regulations of the road.
- Wellington Street should extend out to the 10th concession of Saugeen. The grass boulevard on Wellington Street should be paved to provide parking for the extra vehicles that park on Wellington Street (especially in the summer) making it difficult to get through the street in some spots.
- "We would like kids to bike to school or access diff parts of community if proper crossings were made available
- Especially at Rexall on 21 and 21 McNabb
- We walk or bicycle any time we need to travel within the town of Port Elgin although we are more cautious as vehicular traffic has been increasing significantly since we moved here permanently in 2010.

- We take multiple walks a day as a family and with young children that will be soon going to school Arlington street is in desperate need of sidewalks & road repair. There are so many young kids and high school students in our area of town and I'm afraid one day there will be an accident. I pray not but kids walk on both sides of the road & cars are then weaving in and out.
- We stay on a concession road. As seniors, we prefer to drive the car.
- We need to have designated cycling lanes in and around our community.
- We need to get the shore trail fully repaired.
- We need more dedicated cycle and pedestrian lanes/paths.
- We had a beautiful trail running from South Street along the lake to Port Elgin. Placing rock to fill the spaces lost to water erosion reduced the trail to one lane in some areas and gravel in others, making it necessary to cycle on the road with the traffic. Some areas are still not repaired yet, and the road is the only option. To get from South Street into the town of Southampton, cycling on Huron can be very busy and unsafe with traffic. The path through the woods on Albert Street has arched bridges which are very slippery and dangerous when they are wet. They should be coated with non-slip material to prevent people from falling. I have known many people who have slipped and fallen on these bridges when they are wet.
- We feel very safe in our community.
- We bike everywhere
- We are too far away from anything than by car.
- We (my wife and myself) do not use active transportation due to health limitations and restrictions.
- walking, biking and vehicle access
- Walking to and fro.9
- Walking in winter is treacherous - not enough sidewalks are cleared properly.
- We need more biking lanes, better shoulders providing safety for cyclists and walkers.
- We also need more places to tie up dogs when we go inside a business that doesn't allow dogs.
- Walking during the summer is akin to participating in an extreme sport on streets without sidewalks. Cars speed, and stop signs are treated as an option by both cars and bikes. Cars are parked on both sides of the street near the beach making it impossible to walk safely. People are watching for a place to park instead of watching for a walker. Parents with young children regularly bike on sidewalks, so even on a sidewalk one is in danger of being hit.
- In the winter, sidewalks are not cleared in my area. Home owners do not shovel in front of their homes, so walking on the road is the only option.
- It is impossible to cross highway 21 from late spring to mid fall, so biking routes need to be planned around where one can cross.
- Walking around this town in the summer is crazy especially with people in cars not obeying the rules of the road. I am very nervous to take my children on bike rides through town. In the winter it's terrible walking my neighborhood has side walks on one side of the road and they are not plowed many years ago I took my

son for a walk and with his stroller I had to jump into a snow bank because someone was sliding down the hill and almost hit us.

- transportation between Port Elgin and Southampton is a challenge for those who do not have access to a motorized vehicle. I am not comfortable personally riding a bicycle off designated trails, and I am concerned for the safety of those trying to ride on the streets in the downtown areas.
- Trails are great
- Traffic volume this past year is unbelievable! It makes it much harder to ride a bike or walk most anywhere in town especially in the town core and along HWY 21. Many city people don't or won't use the rail trail and this summer I have encountered dozens of city people riding their bikes in the beach sidewalk in Southampton and they refuse to get off and walk their bike when meeting walkers. I also note many city people fail to stop at stop signs or cross walks. Most often speeding through town. How do I know they are city people? There vehicle dealer license plate holders or stickers tell where they are from. Plus you just have to go along where the "more seasonal" homes are to see they are not residents. Plus, they still empty household garbage into bins in the various parks around town so they don't have to take it back to the city.
- Traffic is too busy and fast to safely bike through certain areas of the town as the roads are wide and travelled on like highways. Enforcement appears to be happening but losing the overall battle.
- Traffic enforcement needs to be improved in order for cycling and walking to be safe for all members of the community. Drivers speed, pass cyclists on double lines going up hill (especially on North Shore Road), honk and shake their fists at people cycling and often ignore stop signs. We are experienced cyclists and have come frighteningly close to being hit by cars way too many times because of these driver behaviours.
- Traffic congestion on hwy 21 is unbearable at times in summer with tourists. Need lights, roundabouts, 4 way stops to stop all the speeding about.
- Traffic and speeders has become a huge problem, including very aggressive cycling "packs"
- Too old and too far to bicycle or walk
- too old
- Too many streets remain without sidewalks
- this is due to personal physical health restrictions
- This is a rural community. Many of us are living a great distance from much of urban Saugeen Shores. We do not live on a hard surface road. We must use our vehicle to attend activities. We need parking for said vehicle. We also have farm tractors that cannot run on electricity. There is a need to remember this in planning also. Put bike stands in and benches for people to rest if they are walking.
- Collect the garbage on the beach a little more regularly, during the spring, summer, and fall will help it from ending up in the lake. I am always surprised that people don't all take their garbage home, but some of them are walking or biking too so they need a place to put their garbage as do those who are visiting our community.

- "There needs to be bike lanes on major connecting routes between the Railtrail and the waterfront bike trail.
- It is unsafe crossing Hwy 21 at the RailTrail. This has been an issue for years and with the increase in traffic, especially in summer, this needs to be fixed now.
- The corner at Hwy 21 and McNab is also dangerous. There needs to be a stop light there.
- There needs to be a sidewalk on Arlington Street all the way over to the high school. I'm glad to see the new stretch but we need more. I have 4 kids aged 8 and under and Arlington street is a nightmare to travel with them on. It's busy and people go a good pace on it in their cars and I'll typically backtrack to go on the rail trail before traveling on Arlington. I'm hoping by the time they're going to SDSS there will be one since it was never there when we grew up. There's a lot of old neighbourhood areas that don't have sidewalks for the kids to get to school on either. Our street has a sidewalk but it doesn't get plowed in the winter and so the kids are walking on the street to get to their bus stop. That's not safe. We should have bylaws in place that if you have a sidewalk you have to shovel the section in front of your house. When I went to university in Waterloo we had to do that in front of the house we rented. It just makes sense to have people on sidewalks not the street, especially in winter.
- "There needs to be a better way to get between Port Elgin and Southampton (ie: utilizing the rail trail). The shore is becoming more hazardous despite the town's best efforts to lower the speed limit. It isn't safe to go along with small children on bikes. Motorists are far too impatient.
- There needs to be a better way to cross 21 on the rail trail next to Hiberry. It is nearly impossible to cross safely during tourist season.
- An accessible overpass would be the best option and is overdue.
- There is no public transportation and there is no safe means of active transportation past the summer. Debris from spring and fall and snow in the winter. Saugeen shores sweeps on but once in the spring and sometimes in the fall depending on the snow getting here first.
- There aren't bike lanes to be able to utilize. Cars drive too fast and close to bikes here.
- There are no bike lanes. The speed at which vehicles travel on albert st(hwy 21) thru south and port is too fast. Any traffic going south after the bridge should be 40 km. Speed and vehicle congestion on streets in southampton during summer months is not safe for bikers or walkers.
- There are no bike lanes (except North Shore but they are in disrepair right now) so it is dangerous at times especially with how people speed in Town. There are some newer streets where these would be easy to out in without widening the street (Bruce Street near Joseph for example). There needs to be a safer way to cross Hwy 21 on the Rail Trail. I won't even take the rail trail between Port and South anymore as it is way too dangerous.
- There are many streets with no sidewalks, my kids have to cross the highway to get to school, streets are busy with no bike lanes
- There are a great many ways to get around without an automobile. We should be proud of our wonderful selection of trails in Saugeen Shores.

- There are a few parts of town where walking feels dangerous. Bruce & Joseph is one intersection that needs a crosswalk, and another to look at would be the bottom of Market St to get to the walking trail. In both spots, cars just go through way too fast to cross safely.
- "The widening of streets and addition of sidewalks in the Southampton beach area seems to be increasing traffic speed and decreasing the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.
- The addition of easily traversable trails from Port Elgin main beach to Goble's Grove would be helpful. The trail through the woods is lovely and a good option for many, but difficult for some cyclists.
- The trolley was wonderful.
- The trails available need to be better maintained and more of them added. This includes the rail trail which would be great to see paved for better use. Also the rail trail has motorized vehicles using it and this can make it dangerous to use.
- The trail system is great, but we need bike lanes or more dedicated areas for cyclists to get around the more urban/downtown area of our community.
- The town gets awfully congested in the summer time which makes me not want to visit downtown or anywhere near there. I can walk there but it's very dangerous with traffic and covid.
- The town needs to re-think the walking/bike trail along the lake. Most cyclists use the road now that the speed limit was reduced to 30 km/hr. Whoever made that stupid recommendation and the recommendation to place the trail where it is should be let go. The police rarely, or should I say never, enforce the rules of the road on cyclists.
- "The summer months can be very dangerous re all the bicycles.
- I feel we should have more police presence to monitor all the illegal activities of bikers. Whatever age."
- The speed limits are good through town and have not had any problems. The north shore road and miramiche get some pretty long line ups of traffic because it is so slow so would prefer if it went back to 40 like it is on the other streets in Port Elgin. I don't feel as safe cycling on them as before because of the line ups of moving vehicles.
- The Southampton grocery store is not sufficient for our household needs that I need to drive to Independent in Port Elgin to get my groceries. Groceries is not something you can carry home via bike/walking. It would be great if the Southampton grocery store would expand.
- The shoreline path which is used by thousands of people year round is in need of repair. This is an important community asset that attracts people to come to our community. The town should also look at adding bike trails on Huron street and Bike racks at the beaches.
- "The rural roads are particularly dangerous because people don't know how to share the road. Public education that motorists are legally required to stay one metre away from cyclists, even when there is traffic in the oncoming lane, is needed.
- Some of the roads on the Rail Trail on Google Maps are indicated suitable for cycling when they are not. They are suitable for ATV's."

- The roads leading to trails should have a dedicated bike lane (10th concession, south street, etc)
- The rail trail needs to have a safe way to cross highway 21 near Hiberry. It is currently so unsafe and if not addressed I fear there will one day be a death there because of it.
- "The rail trail is not linked to other bicycle paths in Port Elgin.
- New sidewalks are built at the north end of Goderich street, but bicycles are expected to ride on the highway. That is just crazy. The sidewalks should be multi use paved paths."
- The rail trail is a wonderful asset but it is unsafe to cross hwy 21 with increased volume of traffic and the speed limit still at 80km/hr. A controlled crossing is necessary there to provide safety for cyclists and pedestrians.
- The rail trail is a gem for pedestrians and cyclists and keeps folks safe
- the options are fine as they are for walking, biking and there is no need to widen every cottage lane/street in the cottage area of Southampton. it is safer to keep the streets narrow so vehicle drivers must proceed slowly and cautiously. Widening Huron, Chantry and now Beach street is only resulting in faster cars which makes it less safe for pedestrians and cyclists. Look at all the 'slow down' signs that have popped up recently - they tell you that cars are going too fast. Wide roads make drivers feel they can drive faster - and they do. The town is now looking at adding more four way stops and dropping the speed limit to 40 km /hr - how is that going to help? There is no way to enforce that speed limit and drivers will just accelerate more between stop signs. Keeping the roads narrow with pedestrians, cyclists and cars all sharing the same road platform (ie not separate sidewalks) is the best way to go so everyone gets where they need/want safely. there will be no need to reduce the speed limits (which cannot be enforced) or to add more four way stops or other traffic calming measures like speed humps/bumps or chicanes.
- The only place I don't feel safe is on my bike on the main street of Southampton. Biking behind parked cars that may back out is a little nerve racking.
- The North Shore Trail needs improved safety measures. Just lowering the speed limit(often not obeyed] is not enough.Often there are bikes travelling on both sides of the road along with 2 lanes of cars. At the same time there can be bikes in both directions on the path along with walkers, motorized apparatus, other bikers , roller bladers etc. Certain sections are an accident waiting to happen! At times there are also cars parked on the side of the trail which adds to the danger!
- "The LED lights that replaced the previous lighting within the town only lights up the area around the light in the air.
- I do not feel safe walking in town after dark"
- "The cycling, walking etc is not always safe along the waterfront because in places it is one lane. This will hopefully be remedied with construction in the fall.
- The other reason it is not safe is the speeding vehicles, EVERYWHERE in the town. People need to understand this is a growing community and they just can't set their own speed to get places on time. Very bad accidents are going to happen. Spend the money fining the dangerous drivers. That fine money will help pay the police wages and the message will get out. We do not allow outlaw

drivers on our roads. Again, it is not the visitors. Visitors observe and enjoy. Residents want to get to work/school/shopping with no regard for cyclists or walkers. Share the road.....a joke!"

- The amount of crosswalks in Southampton is inadequate. There are only 3 places where there are controlled crosswalks and that is not enough. Families are risking their lives to try to cross 21 to go to the beach and the bike trails. The crossing of 21 on the rail trail is a nightmare (beside HiBerry), someone is going to die there. The highway effectively keeps ppl from the beach and the bike trails. Give us crosswalks at each intersection, Peel, Adelaide, Spence etc.
- The active transportation options have been severely impacted in some neighbourhoods in a negative way by the town's insistence on providing wider streets and sidewalks (which active transport users do not use for the most part) and providing greater access to motorized vehicles by opening up road systems directly to the highway. Where once children, families and adults could feel safe knowing that drivers were on the lookout for them and conduct themselves accordingly, we now endure speeders without a care in the world because the roadways are now wide enough for them, other vehicles coming the opposite direction and the groups of pedestrians heading to the beach or bikers heading to the tennis courts. Very disappointing.
- Take bikes off walking trails. Accidents waiting to happen. Built a trail and most bikers don't use it.
- Summer is difficult due to traffic
- "Summer here is the "avoid turning left" season...& the most hazardous for cars, biking, walking . Getting across hwy 21 is a risk we take every day and this summer has been much too crazy busy..thus making it much worse. There are no other options in Southampton except our one stoplight in the middle of crowded downtown.
- Most cars do slow down at the High street/Grosvenor corner, but this needs to be a 4 way stop...just turning it into what it's already becoming.
- Much as we love our community, the numbers in the summer are becoming over the top, the by law presence is non existent & most permanent residents breathe a sigh of relief when Labour Day arrives."
- Speeding is a problem, like of sidewalks only makes that more of a problem
- "Specifically the North Shore Rd trail needs improved safety measures. At times there are bikes going both ways on the road, along with cars, as well as bikers, walkers AND motorized vehicles on the path .It can get very congested. There may also be cars parked on the side of the road that inhibit movement and the ability to see pedestrians etc. Perhaps consider paving the gravel areas with much better painted markings as to what is allowed.
- Rollerbladers going up the middle of the 10 th Concession make for a dangerous situation as well...this happens frequently."
- Sidewalks just end at odd places or routes are broken up where a walk doesn't exist for a block or part block and then starts up again. They stop in the middle of a front lawn or 3 ft short of a driveway or many sidewalks stop at municipally owned property like parks or ROWs and start up on the other side. The Town is the worst offender of its own policy. Busy collector roads only have sidewalks on

one side and even worse shift from side to side of the street. Very poor access to or lack of sidewalks near schools and parks. Hard to cross busy collector roads due to lack of all way stops; some of these roads go almost half across town and not point where cars stop as a natural point to allow people and kids to cross. Street lighting is not good at all and the move to LEDs on street lights has made this worse as the light disbursement is not as effective so there are black sections even blocks with no street lighting in urban areas (not rural or edge of town).

- Sharing the road is a challenge when on bike. I do not feel safe trying to get around town on a bicycle due to drivers' lack of knowledge when dealing with cyclists on the actual road.
- "School parking hazardous.
- Bruce street/Joseph Street is dangerous and even more so being a through street from Devonshire to south end"
- Sauternes shores being a smaller municipality makes it easy to go place without requiring non-environmentally friendly transportation
- Saugeen shores has minimal sidewalks, which makes me very hesitant to actively take my children places.
- Saugeen Shores has an excellent trail system
- Saugeen Mobility Service exists for seniors. Bike paths exist.
- Safety for these types of activities is a major concern. We are struggling to manage the increase in population each Summer with active transportation routes becoming overcrowded. Maintaining green space and community trails in our woodlands rather than developing them should be a priority to support this initiative. Natural spaces for people to enjoy are already far too limited in our community.
- roads are too busy with traffic. also i would like more garbages around town and along side streets to encourage pet owners to pick up their dogs poop and place it in a waste bin.
- Right angle parking on High st. Is very dangerous. Three way stop at High St. and Huron St. should be 4 way. Many stop signs hidden by overgrown trees.. too many bikes on sidewalks and cycling on wrong side of road.
- Retired people cannot rely on walking due to age
- Reduce speed limits,add traffic calming measures.
- Really liked having the trolley. Would be nice to have some sort of bus/transport system even a couple of times per week.
- Put high density housing in commercial core
- Physical limitations
- Personally, I am able to get around, however my concern would be more so for seniors and those who do not drive
- Personal health reasons
- "Pathways between subdivisions could be better. Market street is a designated bike pathway but doesn't have any signage or infrastructure. Nor do traffic lights have bike induction sensors to trigger them. County Road 33 doesn't make bike lanes.

- There is no policy on road construction to mandate bike infrastructure."
- Overall the trails are good and safe. I do have a concern about the biking trail that crosses Highway 21 near Hi-Berry since this can be a high traffic area with vehicles moving fast and coming around a curve. Perhaps consider a pedestrian overpass in this location.
- Our trails are great but our in-town routes are lacking. Especially for winter travel.
- Our town, unlike other communities in the area, has been designed around car transportation, largely. There are not very safe strategies for youngsters and seniors to ride bikes on some of the streets in our town.
- Our system of trails could be much more than just a way to cut down on emissions. I would hope to see the trail and walk/bike even further. Perhaps more along the shoreline or following the Saugeen or Mill Creek. These forested areas and trails are or could be a major attraction to our area. I think we are lucky to have these for all the benefits they bring and hope we don't lose more of this space. A lit up cross country ski trail in the winter would be incredible.
- our community is largely geared towards transport by automobile. cyclists and skaters use the sidewalk because the road is dangerous. it is too far to the sources to buy food to go by active transportation for most residents. racks to lock up bikes are lacking. public washrooms are lacking, needed for those who want to use active transport, which takes longer, in the downtown and at the beach. we have an extensive network of trails for walking and biking, yet getting to services/stores by bike or on foot is impractical, sometimes difficult, dangerous, or both.
- Our community has put in some bike lanes and we love the network of trails here. Would love to see bike lanes added to even more roads, particularly in newer build areas. Having a direct trail system to the grocery store would be beneficial to so many people, and would encourage people to be more active. The lakeshore trail is obviously still in need of longer-term repair as well.
- Our car comes out of garage only for main grocery shopping. Love being able as seniors to walk the whole town to shop.
- older and physically unable to bike anymore so I have to resort to the car, especially for basic groceries
- Offer bicycle helmets to children.
- Not enough sidewalks to accommodate active transportation.
- Not enough sidewalks or trails in Southampton outside the downtown area.
- Not at my age.
- need shuttle bus for saugeen shores
- Need cycling lanes
- "Must use car transportation, as elderly- over 80, and have no choice.
- However, still feel walking and cycling trails are of the utmost importance."
- Mostly car and bike
- "Most places are accessible most of the year. Winter we just have to live through, but at some point maybe a covered walkway between key areas in the central part of each settlement.

- More bike racks/lockers would encourage more biking.
- More concern for cyclists using Goderich Street....bike lanes on parallel Bricker and Waterloo?
- Consider providing amenities for cycle-commuting into Port Elgin or Southampton...lockers, showers. Could be stand-alone or with present facilities such as Plex or Pool."
- More trails and trail link. An active transportation app.
- more side walks on our streets above highway not just at tourist areas we pay the taxes
- More places to park a bike and lock it! That is a limitation for me to use a bike. Example, going to the grocery store, no place to lock my bike. Should have a program with business to ensure that all have this facility.
- More initiatives on educating the public about bicycling rules and regulations would be helpful. It is somewhat dangerous to BE a bicycle and also many bicyclers do not obey the rules which makes it confusing and unsafe for everyone.
- More emphasis should be implemented to reduce or control speed on our streets and highway running through town. maybe time to look into cameras to reduce speeding.
- "More bike lanes needed.
- The traffic congestion that happens around Northport Elementary at drop-off and pick-up times is very dangerous. There is not adequate sidewalks for the parents to feel safe allowing their children to walk/bike alone and since the children don't qualify to ride the bus, there are too many vehicles and not enough parking."
- Mobility issues
- Make active transport a priority, reduce focus on cars
- Major concern is with regards to hwy 21 crossing
- Maintenance of a "slower, saner culture" allows safer active transportation
- Maintaining the trails (often with mulch laid down) is important and greatly appreciated. I like the bike maintenance stations.
- Love the trolley bus!
- Love cycling while here. Would never at home
- lots of good trails to get around on and plenty of sidewalks around town. Walking or biking downtown in the summer is a must because of the traffic congestion and lack of parking spaces.
- Learn from other communities about these things. Many are doing an excellent job already for several decades. SS is way behind.
- Larger paved road shoulders between towns perhaps a stop area rail trail and beach with water
- Lake road needs repaired
- "Lack of Parking in downtown Southampton in summer due to tourists prohibits driving downtown and increased traffic on streets is resulting in hazardous biking and walking conditions.
- Reducing speed limits and installation of 4way stops should help curb speeding contrary to the opinion of one town councillor."

- It's very difficult, but we need to try to convince the province to make the Rail Trail crossing easier for cyclists and pedestrians. I know the Town has tried a number of times. Also, we need to make sure there are safe pedestrian and cyclists pathways when the McNabb/Railway Street intersection is reconstructed.
- It's great to have bike trails, however for safety to businesses there isn't any bike lanes to use in town. We have to use the sidewalk.
- It would be nice to see for every new road development, a cycling lane added.
- It would be nice to have bike lanes for cyclists. We need more sidewalks...it is dangerous to walk on a lot of streets with no sidewalks especially in summer months
- It would be nice to have a bike path from the beach to the uptown shopping area. Now you have to bike on busy streets to reach the shopping area and other bike trails.
- It would be nice if there was more signage and town initiated communications to better portray and brand Saugeen Shores as an active transportation community. At present, many many people use active transportation and the newly painted bike lanes in the newer neighbourhoods are great, but there are so many people in town who don't understand that bicycles follow the rules of the road, so there seems to be an anger towards people using active transportation (I can speak from experience, unfortunately) so it would be nice to have a shift in mindset to one that we are an active community and not one where vehicles rule the road!
- It would be nice if Huron St sidewalks were plowed in the winter
- It is very easy to get places by bike or foot... but becomes more challenging in the winter. Bike lanes would also be nice as well as a campaign on bike safety and rules... I feel like there is often animosity between drivers and bikers (I am both and it is frustrating when bikers don't follow the rules, but terrifying when you are biking and almost get hit by careless drivers). It makes me worried for my son when he is older, especially biking in the busy summer.
- It is very concerning that there is limited ability to cross Hwy 21 on the rail trail by Hi-Berry with children. There needs to be a better place or some sort of a airy to cross without cars driving 80km/h at you.
- It is too far to get to shopping from Southampton. Too dangerous to cross Hwy 21 on rail trail.
- Into all sidewalks are accessible easily and safely- intersections are difficult to cross- sidewalks are undersized- often going halfway down a road then needing to cross or walk on the roadways. Side walks are uneven, not cleared of snow or gravel or debris. They are too narrow for safe passage of people going opposite directions without having one party stepping off. You need sidewalks down both sides at same widths uniformly across municipality
- Intersection of Joseph and Bruce is incredibly dangerous. Not adequate sidewalks places. Bike paths are not implements on major roads.
- "Intensification targets should only apply to properties in close proximity to the commercial core.Restricting intensification to commercial core will enhance active transportation resulting in less carbon emissions.

- A public transportation system is a huge undertaking for a municipality the size of Saugeen Shores. It would be much more proactive and sustainable to structure land use planning to support active transportation."
- Influx of people, erratic drivers makes cycling etc. somewhat dangerous
- Increased traffic and speeding is making cycling and walking, crossing streets more and more dangerous.
- In the winter sidewalks are not cleaned until 10 am. I work at 3 am and must walk to work on the highway. It is not safe at all. There are no active transportation that I can afford.
- "In the summer time it is extremely unsafe to get to the core of Southampton using active transportation (particularly bicycles) as there is so much traffic and unsafe driving happening on many streets and the downtown core.
- In the winter more sidewalks need to be plowed in order to walk safely and not to be forced onto the traffic area of the roadways."
- In the summer can be unsafe due to volume of cars.
- In new developments which are numerous active transportation lanes for cycling / skateboarding have not been included. Dedicated lanes are safe lanes.
- If the town could increase the number of sidewalks plowed in the winter months it would encourage more people to walk to various locations as it would be safer than walking on the road
- I would love to see dedicated bike lanes and separate pedestrian paths.
- I would like a side walk on Devonshire between Wellington and 21 to increase the ability to safely walk/
- I wish more cyclists using the shore road between South Street and Northshore park would use the trail. It's a much safer route for them and for motorists. I have seen the trail empty and recreational cyclists riding side by side on the road. Safer cycling doesn't necessarily mean build more trails, especially if the cyclists don't use them or obey the traffic laws.
- I walk, bike in Southampton where we live, but drive to Port Elgin to shop. During Covid, I tried to only go every 3 weeks.
- I walk my children to Saugeen Central daily and although the walk is mostly safe, the intersections at Waterloo and Green and Waterloo and Catherine make me feel unsafe when crossing with young children. The influx of seasonal residents make biking more dangerous as there are minimal bike paths for active transportation.
- I think the current situation is fine.
- I think having a skateboard park for young people is needed. There should also be more lights along 21 for people who need to cross it.
- I often find that there is confusion with how sidewalks, streets and trails are to be used by mobility scooters - I've been crowded off sidewalks and trails many times by fast moving mobility scooters. Where are they supposed to be????
- I love the rail trail! Lots of streets could use bike lanes. Crossing green street at Waterloo is impossible to see. I bike out past Walmart and have to either be on the sidewalk to be safe, or take much longer routes. As our town expands I believe we need thoughtful planning for bikes.

- I love our trails. I use them frequently.
- I live too far from the beach to bike or walk but sometimes we bike to restaurants
- I live on Bruce Road 40, and my safe bicycle route on sideroad 13/14 was removed when the Kolb bridge was closed due to the Municipality not performing maintenance.
- I live near Burgoyne.
- I live far enough out of the towns that I tend to drive the car.
- I like walking around town to get places but some of the intersections in town are ssssooo dangerous to cross with a stroller are smaller children. Some intersections are too wide or only have 2 way stops and the car speed are crazy.
- I just want to say if it wasn't for the beach assoc. I would not have known about this survey. Everyone does not get the local news paper or have a cell phone or computer.
- I have severe anxiety over biking around town with my three children 12 and under.
- I have always been concerned about senior's accessibility to grocery stores in this community. My elderly father, who could not drive, was always dependent on others to do his grocery, liquor shopping. The grocery stores are far out of walking range for many seniors. At one time these stores were all within the main downtown core (where the majority of seniors live within Port Elgin) and were much more accessible. The same applies to Southampton, however, the liquor store continues to be part of the main downtown core.
- "I find accessing the larger businesses on the highway (e.g. grocery stores etc) by bicycle difficult and unsafe. There are no bike lanes on the highway and there are few side streets in these areas to avoid biking on the highway.
- Also, I find cyclist frequently riding on sidewalks which makes it somewhat unsafe to walk."
- I feel getting around with active transportation very easy and safe but being physically challenged I cannot do it. I attempt to walk wherever I can whenever I can
- "I do feel that cycling, active transportation and walking are generally adequate and safe but there some exceptions to this that could be improved.
- Mitchell Lane is an example where it intersects Izzard Rd and is dangerous.
- Some parts of the North Shore Trail could be improved."
- I can get to coffee shops and restaurants in daylight hours in good weather by bike. Weather, time of day, time of year and the amount of articles I purchase are limiting factors. Also I have a road bike and there are areas of the rail trail that are not paved and I cannot ride on.
- I can bike anywhere I want and do..
- "I bike to work. But I wouldn't let my kids bike to school in this town. Please expand this infrastructure. Infrastructure is expensive but it has long term benefits.
- It helps with kids having an active lifestyle.
- It reduces car use (congestion and pollution).

- Perhaps have multi-use trails instead of sidewalks on one side of streets.
- Give these trails priority snow removal in the winter."
- I am terrified to bike in this town.... especially to cross 21, particularly at high berry or concession 10
- I am in my 80's. I can cycle to the beach and possibly to dinner in town. For any shopping I require to use a car.
- I am a new mom and the sidewalks are terrible to walk a dog and baby stroller on. I often find myself waking on the road with a baby and dog as sidewalks don't connect with each other or don't exist all together on some streets. As well it should be bylaw mandatory for residents to keep their sidewalks clean of snow in the winter to help keep pedestrians off the roadways.
- Have used Movin Grey Bruce. A good service
- Grocery shopping on a bike requires cycling on the highway and without bike lanes i think it is unsafe, especially with increased traffic volume. I would like to see more bike lanes and more promotion of active transportation. I also think there should be public transit.
- Grocery shopping is a necessity and the shops are not within walking distance for most residents.
- For the most part cycling in town is relatively safe, although some streets are so busy (eg., Goderich St./Main Street) I resort to using the sidewalk (which I know I shouldn't !) or walking my bike until I'm in an area where I can use the road.
- Fix the bike trails
- Finally the Town's biggest and most serious problem is allowing permanent and seasonal residents to expand with Town water and NOT Town sewers. More and more residents are adding multiple water consuming appliances (ie. Dishwashers, washing machines) with inadequate septic systems and with higher water tables due to higher lake levels. Consequently, residents don't realize that their system is out of view and out of mind is adding to water pollution. Sewage collection system should be planned, required and installed for subdivisions within a 1/2 kilometre from the high water mark or where the water table is within 20 ft of the surface.
- "Established bike lanes required on many port elgin streets.
- suggestion: partnering with a sport store (ie. Martins Bicycle Shop in southampton) where cycling road safety instruction/courses (esp. for younger people) can allow discounts. This could encourage safer cycling. But we also need the town to meet cyclists in the middle and have improved/actually established bike lanes for central port elgin."
- Enforce cyclist to use the cycle path rather than the 30 km/hr limit along Huron Street. Aldo enforcing the rules of the road on vehicles and cyclists, such as stopping at a stop sign. I have not seen many vehicles or cyclists come to a full stop rather the vehicles ignore the stop signs or do a rolling stop. Cyclist ignore the road signs altogether...it will get someone killed sooner or later.
- Do NOT install bicycle lanes!
- Do not have a bike or other items to meet above items. Walking is great. Driving our car is fine.

- "Do not do a another dirty backroom deal to provide a train to take folks to and from.
- How about crosswalks across Goderich Street? Have you tried to cross at Mill or Elgin to get your mail?
- Active transportation --- trail system at High Berry farms is a death trap why isn't there a crosswalk so families can cross the highway safely?"
- Disabilities prevent active transportation.
- Develop longer term plan for shoreline road between Port and South. Future might include one way traffic if more access points were available to support an inland road in the opposite direction.
- designated bike lane on harbour front rather than banning ridin
- You have not included space to address the CCV agreement that ignores any and all environmental concerns. If SVCA was not operating the CCV would already be building on a relic beach and recognized flood plan. As it stands the town is fighting SVCA position and yet this survey comes out. This survey, because of this exclusion of a highly controversially subject, casts doubt on how serious you are about the environment.
- Cyclists who do not have or use bells and cyclists who speed through public wooded trails are a major hazard to pedestrians. My son, dog and I do not feel safe to walk these trails based on previous near-collisions.
- Cycling routes to downtown from the south end is not adequate nor safe esp during spring/ summer months with increased traffic and parked cars.
- In a perfect world it would be lovely to have dedicated paved bicycle paths.
- Cyclers need to understand that they need to follow the rules of the road. Ie. Stop at stop signs.
- Crossing the highway is dangerous. There are not enough safe places to cross for pedestrians in Southampton.
- The rail trail crossing near Hi-berry farms is terrible.
- Sidewalks make people drive faster. Adelaide is a perfect example of this. Since the reconstruction and addition of sidewalks it has become a speedway.
- Cross town (east-west) bicycle routes should be established to interconnect the Rail Trail with north-south shoreline routes for those who find it desirable to travel a shorter loop.
- Biking is generally safe, but rollerblading or skateboarding requires being on the road, and most often tourists do not drive safe. There is few locations that skateboarders can play safely.
- Bike paths in town might encourage more people to cycle.
- Bike lanes need to be added to main transit routes from port elgin to Southampton...such as Doll sideroad and Concession 14 which experiencd very heavy bike traffic. Reduced speed limit would also benefit cyclists.
- Bike lanes are a wonderful addition. I ride to town many days between April and November. There are an awful love of drivers who would rather put me in an unsafe situation rather than have to slow down. The painted lines seem to work. I give the example of the highway to Sauble and from the Bridge to the native reserve.

- Saugeen Shores is the perfect community for biking, flat and wonderfully smooth roads
- Bicycling has become a major activity in recent years. We need marked and sometimes separated lanes to protect cyclists.
- Bicycle lanes would be beneficial in some areas - on the major cross town routes. Ensure that bicycle parking facilities are incorporated in all new developments.
- "Bicycle / walking is fine in summer - but car needed in winter"
- Reimplement the trolley"
- Best rec system in Ontario-paths are SUBERB
- As the amount of pedestrian traffic increases, it seems that the speed of vehicles, including heavy trucks and couriors, has also increased, especially on side streets. Would live to see more traffic calming measures taken. Not, however, 4 way stops as people tend to breeze right through them. Lower speed limits are ineffective without constant enforcement.
- As I live in the outskirts of the town, it would be very difficult to not use my vehicle to get into town
- As an adult it is easy however too many streets don't have sidewalks which makes us hesitant to let our young children walk to school alone rather than drive them.
- Although I can get to most places in Southampton using a bicycle (the notable exceptions are the boat launch and some of the beach access roads), I cannot easily get to Port Elgin. The rail-trail is not an efficient path for me to take, and the highway crossing in the summer is too dangerous. The only feasible route for me is Hwy 21, and that is almost suicidal at times, so I usually avoid Port Elgin, and if I must go there, I take a vehicle more often than I use the rail trail. One of the things that SS staff and council fail to understand is that the bicycle is not just a recreational toy. They need to see it for what it really is: the most efficient transportation vehicle our seniors, skateboarders, cyclists used to share tree lined roads safely, these roads are being turned into 2 block highways from Huron Street to Huron Lake complete with canopy reduction, curbs and sidewalks that will result in increased speed by motorists. We can't believe that council is so BLIND as to not realize their error of judgement and comply with the residents requests!!!

Question 18: As a business owner, which environmental programs do you make use of?

- All levels of planning and development in Saugeen Shores must support active transportation as a primary consideration for development approval. Our health and the well being of our environment are deeply connected to the reduction of fossil fuel use and the development of a culture that encourages active transportation. We must pass bylaws and policies that safely support active transportation. The waterfront multiuser trail is one example where planning, vision and use of public resources came together to support active transportation, while at the same time promoting tourism by connecting people to

the waterfront and natural beauty of Saugeen Shores. Tourism is one of the most important industries in the world and we must continue to promote an active lifestyle for all those living in and visiting Saugeen Shores .

- Active transportation options are much appreciated. There could be even more. Could add bicycle lanes in town.
- Active transportation in the Historical District of Southampton is being ruined! Where walkeWe recycle everything we can. Because of covid we aren't able to recycle or be as green as we usually are.
- We are agricultural business owners and Saugeen Shores doesn't and i am not aware of anybprograms for agricultural business owners
- Use environmentally safe items, recycle.
- The blue bin recycling and business garbage tags programs
- Recycling, solar panels, active transportation (cycling)
- Recycling, cardboard recycling.
- Recycling what I can. Reduce, reuse, recycle.
- Recycling sometimes
- "Recycling paper, packaging, e-waste;
- energy conservation, active transportation, using packaging made in Canada with recycled material, buying goods and services as close to here as possible to cut shipping/emissions.
- Encouraging customers and contractors to do the same.
- Having a home office with no asphalt-covered surfaces, no outdoor lighting, no lighted signage.
- Taking part in Farmers' Market and other outdoor or seasonal venues."
- Recycling of any materials accepted in the region.
- Recycling and garbage pick up, as well as the tree sale
- Recycling
- recycling
- Recycling
- Recycling
- Recycling
- recycling
- "Plastic recycling
- Compost
- Sorting the waste thrown into the landfill"
- Our own companies recycle approach, with is removed from our community by third parties
- Nothing extra (just teach online)
- I recycle but have to take everything other than corrugated cardboard home to recycle through my residential program
- I own a rental cottage for tourists and in the winter a Bruce Power employee. I make use of garbage collection and recycling.
- I am an OFA member, and try and recycle, compost and send as little as possible to the landfill.
- I am a healthcare worker - all

- Hazardous waste, recycling, cardboard recycling, garbage disposal in Port Elgin but our Southampton location is unable to do so.
- Habitat, the leaf yard and cardboard recycling.
- Green cone, composter, compost site, tire recycling, EV charging, rain barrel, Restore, Sally Ann.
- "Garbage pick up
- Recycling services- including cardboard, bottles, batteries, fluorescent bulbs,
- Business equipment and smoke detector recycling/hazardous waste
- composting, municipal leaf and garden waste
- LED bulbs use and waste
- Off peak water use for cleaning"
- Garbage & Recycling
- "Farm business
 - new bail wrap Bruce County recycling program at Arran dump
- Cardboard recycling
- All recycling - tires etc through businesses
- Styrofoam recycling"
- Compost, garbage, recycling
- "Cardboard recycling .
- Blue box recycling"
- Cardboard and styrofoam recycling.
- Blue box
- Blue bin recycling.
- Blue bin recycling
- Battery, cardboard, electronic waste, recycling
- All LED lighting, recycling

Question 19: As a business owner, what environmental programs would you like to make more use of?

- "Why is recycling of paper glass etc not picked up at our main businesses (no blue box) unless the business jumps thru hoops to arrange....seems backwards and counter productive.Should this not just be automatic for all business?
- Can larger blue box bins be used (taller wheeled type bins) to encourage more recycling"
- Recycling and compost
- Recycling
- recycling
- Recycle collection, compost
- Please pick up cardboard again!!!
- "Plant pot re-store.
- More bike lanes, especially along hwy 21, Carlisle, and All the way up high St.

- Public tool rental libraries - the hardware stores used to rent tools, so did a local business owner (Taun Frosst), but now there is only one tool/machinery rental outlet in Saugeen Shores and that is CRS, and I'm not even sure they are renting.
- A tree planting incentive program.
- Woodchips from the compost site (often, they are ploughed in with other organic waste and thus unusable for mulch, composting, and ground cover.
- Not applicable to my type of service.
- n/a
- N/A
- n/a
- Municipal garbage collection weekly
- More recycling options
- More bike trails and lanes and high speed electric vehicle charging stations.
- Local access to more packaging materials that are recycled. Easier recycling of e-waste. Co-operative buying of such materials.
- Less expensive to get rid of mattresses-should have scale to charge from crib to king
- Increase the type of materials picked up for recycling and make pick up weekly.
- I keep missing the hazardous waste days, I wish there could be a permanent spot for that activity.
- I don't know enough about them
- Haven't been here long enough to answer adequately
- Enhanced blue bin recycling accepting more recyclables.
- Easier styrofoam and plastic recycling
- as above, repair access for items that could be used longer if services were accessible.
- A full recycling program.

Question 20: What are the challenges you find (if any) to using municipal environmental programs as a business owner?

- Time. I don't have time to drive across Saugeen Shores to use all recycling programs. They are not made easily available I.
- The cardboard bins are often overflowing
- They need empties more often
- Taking materials to the dump and recycling sites.
- Some environmental ideas are not cost effective for small business.
- Similar to personal use. I would just like to see the programs expand.
- Services available appear to be easily accessible. Communication as to dates seem somewhat difficult to locate occasionally.
- Same as above
- Picky guy on recycling truck
- Not enough of them.

- Not applicable to my business model (teaching and consulting).
- None
- none
- "no toxic waste removal for business
- no blue box program unless arranged by the business
- recycling restrictions in our community"
- No garbage collection for half of the downtown Southampton businesses.
- n/a
- N/A
- n/a
- Limited points for drop off if required. Recycle trucks not picking up cardboard.
- I find it rather sad the our citizens really abuse the programs in place. Whenever, I go to recycle cardboard the improper use of that very elemental program appals and disappoints me. I wish I could come up with an idea on how to engender more civic pride and a sense of duty.
- I cant believe the cardboard recycling containers are routinely full! As a business owner i rely on the town to maintain space for new material
- Have to drive to take cardboard and styrofoam and plastic to drop off spots
- Don't know enough about them
- Doesn't apply to agricultural businesses
- Cost and manpower
- Accessibility, our Location has corrugated cardboard and garbage pick up it would be nice if we could have another bin that we can do all of our recycling and just have the truck pick the bin up instead of taking all the blue bins to the curb as the day my business is closed is our recycling pick up so we don't take it vantage of it because nobody is at the business.
- Access to them - hours of landfill
- 1. Our cycling infrastructure is so inadequate that I never ask my employees to use bikes or e-bikes, even though in my business they are perfectly adequate to serve 75% of my customers (I operate a tree nursery and landscaping service). It is simply too dangerous for them.
- 2. I use soil and woodchips as an input to the products and services I provide. The compost site could provide an excellent quality of organic soil, but too many residents dump plastic bags and other non-biodegradable waste at the site. Hidden cameras should be installed and fines imposed for illegally dumping non-biodegradable material at the site, In addition, improved management strategies might reduce the GHGs emitted by the town heavy equipment at the site, and might even create a sellable product of the woodchips and organic soil resulting from composted material."

Question 21: Are there environmental stewardship activities or programs that you have at your place of business that you feel could be implemented more broadly in the Town of Saugeen Shores? If yes, please explain.

- We have partnered with a company called Green Circle salons and are able to recycle everything we use but it's a program that we pay for
- Soap recycling program for partially used bars of soap - had to ship this to Toronto or Elmira, but programs are no longer available.
- See above re purchasing goods made close to home, packaging made in Canada with recycled materials.
- Also re non-asphalt, unlighted outdoor space, no lighted signage.
- Note- I recognize the Town has safety issues to cover with night-time use of some facilities.
- Same as above
- not sure.
- No. I have a home based business
- No.
- No
- No
- No
- No
- NA
- N/A
- n/a
- In healthcare, we talk a lot about the relationship between environment and health, and especially now, public health. Teaching ourselves and others to be conscious of our impacts on nature is crucial to shaping the healthy future we want for this planet and all beings, not just our own children, but all beings, and the planet.
- I have no idea.
- Could expand to use at all locations locally and a expanded recycling program would be useful in cutting the landfill down.
- Contact lens recycling program at our office
- Composting
- 1. Tree sponsorship program to support Green Memberships in local organizations - funds collected by the organizations go towards Green projects.
- 2. GHG free services - the Town could give tax incentives and promotion of local business that can demonstrate zero GHG products and services.
- 3. Carbon sequestering. Portions of the property used to conduct my business are permanently designated for carbon sequestering. The Town could require other businesses to do the same, or offer ""Town services credits"" such as bag tags, parking permits, free advertising on the Town website, ...) for business that include carbon sequestering in their business model.
- 4. Lawn conversion. Many lawns and gardens produce much more CO2 than they sequester due to maintenance. Converting lawns to natural habitat requires less maintenance, sequesters more CO2, and increases biodiversity, The Town could set an example by converting more greenspace around public buildings to natural habitat (i.e., native perennials, tree cover, drought tolerant species, ...)."

Question 22: Is there opportunity for local business to improve environmental stewardship or sustainability? If yes, please explain:

- Yes, very visible recycling and waste reduction protocols as the standard in all our businesses.
- Yes, if we have knowledge we need
- yes stop the food waste containers
- yes but it would start with council being more concerned with helping vs them always being focused on the beautificationOur council seems to be more focused on the look and feel of our community vs fixing problems like this that will extend our communities well being.
- "Yes - there must be better options for restaurants regarding containers and utensils, particularly ice cream parlours.
- If would be great to have recycle containers for cans and bottles at the beach and on High Street for those who choose to eat outside. Would also like to see mire main street garbage containers."
- There are many third-party programs available that recycle masks and any PPE that I don't think anyone is taking advantage of and that would be something nice to see with the current climate of how much waste where generating
- Same as above
- "Probably small businesses can do this more easily than corporate franchisees or branch-stores.
- But the big ones can definitely cut the light pollution and waste/stormwater load.
- Does the Town monitor who is putting recyclable cardboard in landfills here or trucked away?"
- NA
- n/a
- Many businesses relay on private dumpsters and trash pick ups as a means of coping with the lack of available service for recycling. The worst offenders of not sorting recycling are the fast food joints but with no other offered choices they are just trying to keep it all trashed and tidy instead of environment friendly and sorted and sustainable. Making the change to actually help people and the environment will take a miracle. Money to be saved and the town's longevity at stake.
- It is already great here
- Food waste is one of the biggest issues for environmental damage, and we all need to get better at this. Planning, portion control options are possible improvement opportunities.
- Beach and Shoreline Beach Cleanup
- Benches/Chairs on Sidewalks
- Encourage Businesses/Restaurants to Encourage Sidewalk Selling (eliminate sidewalk blockage bylaw)

- Close down the Entire/Partial Main Downtown to Encourage Southampton Sidewalk Sale Days one weekend (Saturday & Sunday) in July and August.
- Encourage more Pop Up Vendors/Artesians in Outdoor Alleys/Side Streets in the Summer in Southampton & Port Elgin.
- Encourage Pop Up Musicians Downtown and at Fairy Lake throughout the summer months.
- Absolutely. Businesses are often trendsetters and leaders in terms of showing residents a "Better" way to live. Up to now, "better" usually meant upselling and encouraging consumerism - witness the increase in house size and number of two- and three-car garages over the last 30 years. Sustainable and stewardship-focused business models can be profitable given the right municipal climate and policies. If businesses demonstrate sustainability and stewardship by example and through their products and services, then customers will follow suit.
- A green bin initiative.

Written Comments, Paper Responses, Town of Saugeen Shores ESAC Survey 2021: 29 paper responses (Not edited for spelling, grammar or content)

Question 5: Are you aware of any environmental programs or initiatives undertaken by the Town?

- beach grasses and other planting
- municipal waste
- butterfly pods
- flowers on High Street and good, ongoing maintenance
- street cleanliness and maintenance
- protection of Fairy Lake
- recycling programs
- shoreline beaches - spaces - lack of encroachment, especially Southampton
- Coastal Conservation Youth Programs; Coastal surveys, tree planting, Red Tree program - SFN, Butterfly gardens projects, recycling (multiple items), composting (Scouts)
- recycling
- garbage collection, dump management, recycling
- shore protection
- recycling, composting, plastic recycling of bags, etc.
- recycling and blue box, leaf waste compost yard, Hazardous waste: batteries, paint, etc, spring tree sale

Question 6: Which are your highest environmental priorities? (additional comments)

- continue to extend sewage

- to me it seems all of these are interrelated. Poor management of one part leads to destruction of another part!

Question 7a: Which environmental programs do you use now?

- over last 6 years of trying for the annual spring tree sale, sold out before deadline
- why don't they sell bags for the leaf waste compost yard - the end result

Other comments:

- Salvation Army store
- reusable shopping bags/containers
- Vitamix Food Cyclor
- would like to see packaged food wrapped in paper (meat) rather than plastic/styrofoam
- gardening for food production
- others that you use that are not on the list or those you see a need for:
- wax containers for milk, etc.; Tillsonburg allows us to place in blue box for recycle; Saugeen Shores vendor should investigate possible buyer for this product
- some not done on leased land
- cloth bags for groceries
- do we have a food bank here?
- eliminating plastic bags at retail stores
- stricter rules for dog freedom on beach
- more frequent water of trees on main street especially when there has been a very hot/dry stretch of weather
- use an electric composter - the outdoor ones are mauled by bears
- I leave the leaves on the yard to provide sites for caterpillar cocoons and other insects over winter; in late spring we cut them with a mower and leave them to decompose
- more recycling options are required
- green box for food waste as a service is needed
- yard sales

7b: Do you find it easy to make use of the programs listed above?

- beer store and Habitat Restore - time-consuming to go there, but I do it
- hazardous waste - not enough days; not enough advertising

8. How do you feel about the extent of support from the Town for existing environment-related initiatives?

- it is difficult to say that the existing initiatives are not adequate but I would support as many new programs as possible even if taxes need to be raised

- no more taxes

9. How are you accessing info about local environmental resources and initiatives?

- calendars aren't always available - not enough at the library

10. Would you like to be able to access more info about local environmental resources/initiatives?

- I am satisfied with the amount of information I receive and it's all quite helpful

11. Which of the following most important natural environmental assets and/or resources in the Town (no more than 5)?

Additional comments: things that should be on the list above

- Fairy Lake has become a disgrace over the years: requires more than 1 fountain to circulate water; tree removal unchecked; purple loosestrife weed left unchecked; weeds (water) not removed; selected weed spraying for better view from museum patio was not necessary to extent it was used, etc.
- I have seen people BBQ on beach. This should be stopped as doesn't support our businesses and is a hazard if coals are barely covered with sand and someone steps on them
- it would be great if the beaches could be left more natural. Grooming prior to the 24th of May weekend is problematic for shorebirds looking for nesting sites. Grooming the two meters from the water's edge is also problematic for shorebirds feeding
- Lawns: this is a controversial one, however, using pesticides and herbicides; digging up dandelions and other non-grass plants is not only time-wasting but it is harmful to the environment. The wildflowers (often called weeds) on the yard areas are a primary source of food/nectar for bees and other insects in the spring. Similarly, raking leaves in the fall destroys insect habitats
- keep some forest, wooded areas
- should be replacing our mature maples that are cut down 2:1 instead of 1:1, and hire someone to water them!!!
- wetlands - I would say this is too late as very few left
- land bordering Mill Creek that is being considered for "business park" - do we really need all that land to become an asphalt parking lot?
- all of the above, but have picked the obligatory 5

12. Would you make use of a food waste composter if the Town provided one free of charge?

Please explain. Why or why not?

- not recycled or (couldn't decipher writing) ?
- our landfills are filling up at an alarming rate; it's time to reverse the amount of garbage being dumped
- willing to compost; must be one that's easy to use, one that rotates; best option! Green bins as in Vancouver BC. Residents put food waste in (green) bins which are collected by the city
- it would be impossible, I believe
- because I try to recycle and compost everything I can so I only have to put a garbage bag out once a month
- yes, but would have to be electric
- preference is for green bin service/collection due to wildlife
- no, live in condominium
- no, it attracts mice and other rodents
- we already have one - cheaper than collecting and shipping to a central spot
- composting is recycling the asset
- beneficial to home, community
- we need to continue to improve in all environmental issues
- no, don't have a vegetable garden and my flowerbeds don't need more compost
- have composted for years - people are encouraged to eat healthier, which leads to more compostable materials
- at present I use an old water barrel
- to put the composted material back in the ground after all the bugs and things have broken it down

Would you make use of a municipal green-bin collection service if Town provided you with curbside pick-up?

- It is the most convenient option for our busy family. Composting takes a long time; the smell; the space for it; animals?; using the compost
- I don't live in Southampton
- It would reduce landfill garbage and after a few years of turning compostable material you would have excellent soil for our flower boxes, trees and parks
- in an apartment, it would not be possible
- I would make use of the green-bin collection service with curbside pickup if offered by the town and would pay for it
- using the green bin would make it easier to deal with bear problems and would give us a site perhaps to pick up composted materials for our gardens
- this is a missing need in our community!!
- would freeze it first
- did it in Orangeville
- ? I would like pickup of leaves, short branches, etc instead of taking them to the Boy Scouts. It is not close by and makes a mess of the car
- no, cheaper than collecting and shipping to a central spot
- yes, for the environment

- no, I have a composter, but it would be great for rental and seasonal if they use it
- Absolutely!! I know it would reduce our use of our dump!!
- a waste of money
- reduces waste going to landfill
- no, we compost on our own property with a small plastic composter - leaf and grass, then use on our own property, gardens, etc.
- as long as the collection is weekly. Leaving food around any longer is an enticement for animals to get into it
- anything that can be disposed of in a good environmental way should be done
- this would make it a lot easier in the winter to compost
- no, I know where it is going- what will Saugeen Shores do with the collection?
- no, current garbage/recycling collection meets our needs. Live with small footprint
- for those people that don't compost, would be a good way to divert material from landfill

13. Does the garbage collection program (including the bag tags) in general motivate you to use recycling or composting programs?

If no, please explain:

- Garbage needs to be disposed of anyway, we see this as another tax
- no, live in an apartment
- no, has no effect on using composting programs - we compost and would compost anyway; note: there are still people using garburators which should be discouraged
- as the other programs are not supported services there is no motivation to not put in garbage
- having food waste and more recycling options would reduce my garbage - please expand/bring these programs into effect
- use recycling anyway
- to a point

14. Do you have ideas about how our community might further reduce the amount of garbage that ends up in landfill?

- work with manufacturers to REDUCE packaging of goods. a lot of waste comes from packaging
- locate a use for wax containers (milk, etc)re: waste vendor
- if the public was allowed to pick up thrown-away items that could be used by artists and gardeners and those that don't have the money to buy new. I have seen bed frames and table and chairs, etc, that even I would take and refinish - they're in such good shape

- questions 12 and 13 about composting bins is a good way. They use it in our permanent home; it does reduce our output, and it actually is only plant material; therefore, no smell
- start giving people tickets who won't recycle or compost
- it would be great if the municipality could expand the recycling program for all waste; there will be costs involved but we need to keep the focus on an environment that is sustainable to future generations
- do more recycling options (e.g. cartons, egg containers, cardboard, plastic bags, coffee cups)
- add support for food waste collection
- weekly blue box
- limit size of town; reduce garbage produced; guaranteed success
- more donation places/programs for furniture, appliances beyond "place on curb with 'free' sign
- styrofoam needs to be recycled or not used at all by delivering large appliance
- I think it's time to look more at certain businesses that add to the increased amount of garbage (McDonald's, Tim Horton's, etc). Some say they have recycled products, but have yet to see any recyclable bins in these places. Most people now want to make a difference but packaging, etc. still remains a problem
- it is the old adage - lead a horse to water, etc.; you will always have yahoos that do not conform - other than fining them somehow?

15. How would you like to see the Town support or enhance environmental stewardship and sustainability? - up to 5 choices

If other, please describe:

- green private composting can cut down landfill garbage from 1/3 to 1/2 - we experience that; therefore, education and supplies in that area is advisable or advocated
- policy and initiatives on lawn maintenance in an environmentally sustainable manner. We cut lawns - adding carbon to the air, we encourage a monoculture of non-native grasses; we use herbicides to get rid of native wildflowers
- it is important that this town administration including council take every initiative possible to improve the environment so the next generation can live in safety. This will cost \$\$ for many new programs, but if we can fundraise for sports, hospitals, splash pad - we could do the same to do our part so Saugeen Shores is a place that can be enjoyed for many years. Every new program initiative should be help to the highest environmental standard. Decisions we make as individuals and by our leaders should be measured against that standard. Sometime we believe it is easier "to do things right" where we make small incremental changes trying to not upset our friends, constituents, and ourselves. Now is the time to lead us "to do the right things". I would encourage the town leaders to do just that. Make bold moves towards sustainability and we will back you. Thank you, thank you for allowing us to comment on this vital issue.
- do not enhance beaches and waterfront areas
- EV charging infrastructure - cost outrageous

- reduce the number of Saugeen Shores vehicles
- all of the above
- need to protect trees, especially after the tornado
- electric car out of the question - money for that?
- add EV bike parking
- ban fireworks > pollute air, water, beach, terrorize birds, wildlife, dogs; small pieces in water digested by waterfowl; IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE
- definitely need a cheap bus service: a jump-on/jump-off type, especially for seniors who no longer have a licence, and want to stay in the area

16. How easy and safe is it to go to key locations in our community by active transportation?

- bike path on the Shore Road in its present conditions in the section closer to Port Elgin is in dire need of repair and is unsafe
- I observe many year round residents having to walk to work, Foodland (wherever) every day - into town (west)
- the Rail Trail and the Boardwalk are two of Southampton's finest features and I use them daily
- a trolley bus of better quality and steadiness could be a possibility; transportation means between Southampton and Port Elgin; or else a taxi service could be helpful
- it's very safe from October to May; summer is terrible to try for parking spots; traffic is terrible
- we use bikes (ebikes) to get most places in the good weather. It would be good if there were secure bike racks for the larger tires on ebikes and if businesses would provide a secure or somewhat secure area for parking bikes
- I only walk or drive a car; I am old and would like to see a bus route started eventually
- we are retired
- distances make it difficult to use active transportation
- only feel safe on Rail Trail for walking or biking
- at the moment I drive; the problem will be in the not-too-distant future when I no longer can drive; how about using the school buses when they have delivered all the kids; put them to use in their given areas for shopping/library/bank, etc?

***"We do not inherit the earth from
our ancestors, we borrow it
from our children."***