

City of Saskatoon 2023 to 2025 City Wide Waste Characterization Study Summer 2025



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tetra Tech Canada Inc. (Tetra Tech) was retained by the City of Saskatoon (City) to conduct a multi-season City-Wide Waste Characterization Study. The scope of the study consists of nine seasonal waste sorting events over a three-year period from 2023 to 2025. This seasonal report summarizes the eighth sampling event conducted for garbage, recycling, and organics from the single family (SF) residential sector in July 2025 (Summer 2025).

Section 1 of the report identifies the scope of work, project limitations, and an overview of waste collection services in the City.

Section 2 identifies the methodology that was undertaken for the Summer 2025 Study, including waste collection, sorting, and data analysis. A detailed description of material categories is included in Appendix C.

Section 3 includes an overview of set out rates, types, and amounts of materials collected, and an estimate of cart fullness. Waste composition results for garbage, recycling, and organics for the SF sector are also presented in Section 3 along with diversion potential, contamination rates, capture rates, and a bag count for the organics stream. A detailed breakdown of waste composition results by stream is included in Appendix D. Highlights of the results are as follows:

- The average percentage of carts set out for bi-weekly collection was 84% for all three SF waste streams.
- On average, the total amount of materials disposed from all three streams on a bi-weekly basis was approximately 46 kg/household.
- On average, carts that were set out were 84% full. The majority (76%) of SF garbage carts were the 360 L size, 16% were the 240 L size, and 8% were the 120 L size. All recycling and organics carts were 360 L.
- The SF garbage stream was primarily composed of food waste (18%), household hygiene (17%), yard waste (15%), plastics (14%), paper (8%), and construction and demolition waste (8%).
- Organic materials accounted for 38% of the SF garbage stream, primarily composed of yard and garden debris (14%), avoidable food waste (13%), unavoidable food waste (5%), tissue/toweling (5%), and brush and branches (1%).
- The diversion potential for the SF garbage stream based on existing programs and services was 61%.
- The recycling stream was primarily composed of paper packaging (50%), paper (18%), and plastic (15%). These three primary categories represent 83% of the SF recycling stream.
- The contamination in the recycling stream was 13%.
- The organics stream was mostly composed of yard waste (79%) and food waste (18%).
- The contamination in the organics stream was 1%.

Section 4 summarizes the interesting finds in the Summer 2025 Study and Appendix B includes selected photographs for reference.

Section 5 includes initial comments and preliminary recommendations based on the findings from the seventh sampling event:

- The bi-weekly collection frequency appeared to be sufficient for garbage, recycling, and organics.

- The cart sizes worked well for most households; however, 4% of carts were overfilled and 44% of carts were filled to half capacity or below.
- Additional education and communication on the green cart program may be beneficial to reduce the amount of organic waste in the garbage stream. The garbage stream was comprised of 38% organic materials.
- Additional education and communication on the recycling program may be beneficial to reduce the amount of contamination in the recycling stream.

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Appendix D Waste Composition Results

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ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

Acronyms/Abbreviations	Definition
City	City of Saskatoon
HASP	Health and Safety Plan
HDPE	High-density Polyethylene
ICI	Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional
kg	Kilogram
L	Litre
Landfill	Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Centre
LDPE	Low-density Polyethylene
PET	Polyethylene Terephthalate
SARCAN	Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres
SF	Single Family
Tetra Tech	Tetra Tech Canada Inc.

LIMITATIONS OF REPORT

This report and its contents are intended for the sole use of the City of Saskatoon and their agents. Tetra Tech Canada Inc. (Tetra Tech) does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy of any of the data, the analysis, or the recommendations contained or referenced in the report when the report is used or relied upon by any Party other than the City of Saskatoon, or for any Project other than the proposed development at the subject site. Any such unauthorized use of this report is at the sole risk of the user. Use of this document is subject to the Limitations on the Use of this Document attached in the Appendix or Contractual Terms and Conditions executed by both parties.

NOTE TO THE READER

The samples collected and characterized for this study are “snapshots” in time, meaning the reported quantities are estimates and only represent the conditions for the period in which they were collected. Annual variability, weather, and other factors can affect the amount and composition of waste and recyclables generated by the various sectors at any given time. Even with combined educational, regulatory, and financial initiatives, the reader should not assume that it is necessarily easy, practical, or economical to recover a substantial portion of a disposed material from a mixed waste stream or at its source.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Tetra Tech Canada Inc. (Tetra Tech) was retained by the City of Saskatoon (City) to conduct a multi-season City-Wide Waste Characterization Study from 2023 to 2025. This project consists of nine waste sorting events over a three-year period. This report represents the eighth sorting event and was conducted from July 21 to August 1, 2025 (Summer 2025). This event sorted garbage, recycling, and organics from the single family (SF) residential sector.

The purpose of this study is to identify trends and changes in the City's waste profile and provide benchmarks as new programs are implemented. The following are considerations for this report:

- In 2023, the City launched a mandatory curbside organics (green) cart program for the SF sector and a mandatory organics diversion program for the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector.
- In 2024, the City implemented a variable rate fee structure for curbside garbage (black) carts. New garbage carts were rolled out in the spring of 2024 to households that requested a smaller cart size (i.e., 120 L or 240 L).

The Summer 2025 audit represents the fifth waste sorting event where different garbage cart sizes were available. It is understood that results from the study are intended to improve understanding of program use, identify changes over time, identify areas for program improvement, and to inform public communication campaigns.

1.1 Scope of Work

This study characterized the composition of garbage, recycling, and organics streams from curbside SF households. The fieldwork involved the following:

- Collect garbage, recycling, and organics from select SF households;
- Document waste stream set outs and fullness of the materials in the SF carts collected;
- Transport collected materials to a designated sorting area; and
- Sort and weigh the collected waste streams.

The objectives of this study include the following:

- Document the amount and types of materials discarded in the recycling, organics, and garbage waste streams to gauge progress from the SF residential sector.
- Determine the amount of contamination found in the SF recycling and organic streams, and the amount of divertible materials in the SF garbage.
- Estimate SF waste generation rates for the three waste streams.
- Determine the capture rates for SF recyclables and organic materials relative to the generation rate.
- Document the observed level of fullness in the SF cart prior to collection.
- Estimate diversion potential for other waste that could be diverted through depots such as household hazardous waste, construction waste, and textiles.
- Assess service level suitability (i.e., collection frequency and cart size) for SF residents.

For the SF curbside collected waste streams, a sampling plan was prepared in conjunction with City staff. A total of 100 households were selected from ten neighbourhoods for the Summer 2025 sorting event and included the same set of households that were selected for the previous three events, with the exception of one neighbourhood (Willowgrove). Table 1-1 summarizes the selected neighbourhoods, collection route number and code, number of households selected, cart set out location, and description.

Table 1-1: Single Family Households Characterized

Neighbourhood	Collection Route	Route Code	Number of Homes	Set Out Location	Description
Nutana	1	NUT	10	Back Lane	10 homes in a row
Nutana Park	2	NPA	10	Back Lane	10 homes in a row
Eastview	3	EAS	10	Back Lane	10 homes in a row
Rosewood	4	ROS	10	Front Street	10 homes in a row
Willowgrove	5	WIL	10	Front Street	10 homes in a row, two households with two sets of recycling carts
City Park	6	CIT	10	Back Lane	10 homes in a row, one household with two full sets of carts
Silverwood Heights	7	SIL	10	Front Street	10 homes in a row
Mount Royal	8	MOU	10	Front Street	10 homes in a row
Dundonald	9	DUN	10	Front Street	10 homes in a row
Parkridge	10	PAR	10	Front Street	10 homes in a row
Total			100		

1.2 Overview of Garbage, Recycling, and Organics Collection

1.2.1 Single Family Residential Garbage, Recycling, and Organics

The City provides SF households with curbside collection services for garbage, recycling, and organics waste streams.

Garbage (black cart) is collected on a bi-weekly basis year-round. Collection is conducted in-house by the City. The default cart size is 360 L; however, households have the option to request smaller cart sizes (240 L or 120 L carts). In 2024, the City implemented a utility fee system for garbage collection that is based on the variable cart size. Smaller carts receive a reduced utility fee rate.

Recycling (blue cart) is collected on a bi-weekly basis year-round. The default cart size is 360 L. Collection operations are conducted under contract with a third-party service provider. Recycling collection is funded through a recycling utility fee and residents have the option to pay for an additional cart, if desired.

Organics (green cart) is collected on a bi-weekly basis during the spring, summer, and fall seasons and on a monthly basis during the winter. Organics includes yard waste, food waste, and food soiled paper. The default cart size is 360 L. Organics are collected in-house by the City. Prior to 2023, the green cart program was a voluntary, subscription-based program. In the spring of 2023, the green cart program became mandatory and was expanded

city-wide to all SF households. The organics program was funded through property taxes in 2023 and changed to a utility fee in 2024.

All three waste streams are collected on different days of the week (e.g., no more than one cart is placed out for collection on any given day). Set out locations for carts vary depending on the location in the City but include both front street and back lane. Front street collections occur on both sides of the street; however, back lane collections occur on only one side of the lane. Materials placed outside the carts are not collected.

1.3 Project Limitations

The findings of this study may be limited by the following factors:

- **Sampling Methodology:** Results from this sampling methodology are directly correlated to the households that were selected for collection. It was assumed that these households would be representative.
- **Residential Behaviour:** A few residents approached the collection crew and asked questions about the project. This may have affected residents' behaviour patterns with respect to waste disposal practices for other waste streams and future sorting events due to their awareness of the waste characterization study.
- **Diversion Potential:** The diversion potential is calculated based on an ideal scenario where residents are correctly utilizing all waste diversion options that were available at the time of the study. Diversion potential is considered a theoretical maximum and represents the upper boundary of what could be possible given the current waste composition and waste diversion programs.
- **Set Out Rates:** Residents with back lane collection could be skewed to show higher participation. Carts at these locations are usually kept adjacent to the back alley, providing an impression that the cart is being set out for collection even when no waste is placed inside the cart.
- **Waste Produced Per Household Estimation:** The amount of waste produced every two weeks per household is calculated by dividing the total weight collected by the total number of possible households. It does not take into account the set out rate.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

The following section describes the methodology that was undertaken to conduct this study. Appendix B includes photos that highlight some of the activities.

2.1 Health and Safety

A Health and Safety Plan (HASP) was developed for this project to identify potential hazards in advance of the waste composition study. The HASP was reviewed and updated to account for seasonal changes (e.g., weather conditions) as well as inputs and lessons learned from past sorting events. Tetra Tech staff conducting field work for this study were required to have up-to-date safety certifications and training for waste sorting activities. Personal protective equipment, including face masks, safety goggles, gloves, steel toe boots, coveralls, and hi-vis vests, was worn by all field staff according to Tetra Tech's HASP.

As the waste sorting was conducted at the Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Centre (Landfill), all Tetra Tech staff completed a landfill safety orientation required by the City to understand site-specific hazards, controls, and expectations. A safe working location was selected and clearly demarcated. Safety meetings were conducted by Tetra Tech at the beginning of each day to review and identify key concerns and hazard mitigation strategies,

including how to handle material hazards such as sharps or hazardous materials, lifting of heavy material, working around large vehicles, and driving.

2.2 Seasonal Weather Conditions

Table 2-1 documents the weather conditions in Saskatoon during the Summer 2025 sorting event. The City experienced warm temperatures typical for the season during the fieldwork.

Table 2-1: Weather Conditions – Summer 2025

Date	Temperature (°C) ¹		
	Average	Min	Max
Monday, July 21, 2025	17.1	13.3	20.9
Tuesday, July 22, 2025	11.7	9.3	14.1
Wednesday, July 23, 2025	14.2	7.2	21.1
Thursday, July 24, 2025	19.4	11.6	27.1
Friday, July 25, 2025	19.6	13	26.2
Monday, July 28, 2025	14.4	8.7	20.1
Tuesday, July 29, 2025	14.5	6.5	22.5
Wednesday, July 30, 2025	17.5	9.6	25.4
Thursday, July 31, 2025	18.4	10.5	26.3
Friday, August 1, 2025	22.1	12.9	31.3

Note:

¹ Obtained from Government of Canada Climate for the City of Saskatoon.

2.3 Sampling Plan

2.3.1 Single Family Households

Tetra Tech worked with City staff to select households for the study. During the Summer 2025 event, a total of 100 households were selected from ten neighbourhoods with different collection routes in the City. Table 2-2 summarizes the collection days, routes, and waste streams from the Summer 2025 sorting event.

Table 2-2: SF Collection Days and Waste Streams Sampled – Summer 2025

Collection Day	Neighbourhood	Waste Stream
Monday, July 21, 2025	Nutana	Garbage
	Rosewood	Recycling
	Nutana Park	Organics

¹ Government of Canada. (2025). Daily Data Report for July 2025. Accessed August 8, 2025.
[Daily Data Report for July 2025 - Climate - Environment and Climate Change Canada.](#)

Collection Day	Neighbourhood	Waste Stream
Tuesday, July 22, 2025	Eastview	Garbage
	City Park	Recycling
	Rosewood	Organics
Wednesday, July 23, 2025	Willowgrove	Garbage
	Mount Royal	Recycling
	City Park	Organics
Thursday, July 24, 2025	Silverwood Heights	Garbage
	Parkridge	Recycling
	Mount Royal	Organics
Friday, July 25, 2025	Dundonald	Garbage
	Nutana Park	Recycling
	Parkridge	Organics
Monday, July 28 2025	Nutana Park	Garbage
	Eastview	Recycling
	Nutana	Organics
Tuesday, July 29, 2025	Rosewood	Garbage
	Willowgrove	Recycling
	Eastview	Organics
Wednesday, July 30, 2025	City Park	Garbage
	Silverwood Heights	Recycling
	Willowgrove	Organics
Thursday, July 31, 2025	Mount Royal	Garbage
	Dundonald	Recycling
	Silverwood Heights	Organics
Friday, August 1, 2025	Parkridge	Garbage
	Nutana	Recycling
	Dundonald	Organics

2.4 Sample Collection Methodology

2.4.1 Single Family Curbside Collection

Each day, Tetra Tech arrived at the first collection location no earlier than 8:00 a.m. (note that carts are required to be placed out at the curb for collection by 7:00 a.m. as per the City's Waste Bylaw). Prior to material collection, Tetra Tech field staff recorded the number of garbage, organics, or recycling carts that were set out from the selected households as well as the estimated percent cart fullness. Cart fullness was estimated by visually comparing the height of materials to the height of the cart. If there was a low number of carts set out

(e.g., less than 70%), staff recorded this and returned at a later time that morning to collect materials from any additional carts set out. During collection, staff also recorded general observations and resident encounters. Recorded observations would include any additional materials placed outside of the garbage cart or if there was a large amount of contamination (e.g., building materials) in or around the cart. During the Summer 2025 sampling event, cart sizes (e.g., 360 L, 240 L, or 120 L) were noted for the garbage stream.

Tetra Tech field staff collected contents from each household's carts. Only materials that were placed inside the carts were collected and characterized. Materials collected from carts in each neighbourhood were combined and represented a single sample. Tetra Tech labelled material while collecting to make sure samples were not mixed or co-mingled. All home addresses were confidential and were only provided to the field supervisor for coordination purposes. Measures were taken to ensure all data collected remained anonymous and results were aggregated.

Once the samples were collected, Tetra Tech staff transported the materials to the designated sorting area at the Landfill. Samples were then unloaded, and the sorting team organized the materials to make sure samples were not mixed or co-mingled.

2.5 Waste Characterization Approach

SF loads were collected and transported by Tetra Tech staff and taken to the designated sorting area.

2.5.1 Hand Sort

All SF loads were hand sorted. For all waste streams, staff weighed each sample to determine the pre-weight. For the garbage streams, the field team took a subsample that was approximately 100 kg for hand sorting, collecting material from each collection bag to minimize potential bias. For the recycling and organics streams, the entire samples were sorted. Each sample was then hand sorted into its respective material categories.

All samples were sorted as per the categories agreed upon with the City. Each categorized item was placed into respective bins. The contents of each bin were then weighed and recorded to determine the weight for each secondary category. Details of the sorting categories are included in Appendix C, along with their description, and preferred diversion/disposal method.

The waste streams were characterized into 13 primary categories, which were then further divided into 67 secondary categories. Primary categories include the following:

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| ▪ Paper. | ▪ Paper packaging. | ▪ Plastics. |
| ▪ Metals. | ▪ Glass. | ▪ Household hazardous waste. |
| ▪ Food waste. | ▪ Construction and demolition waste. | ▪ Waste electrical and electronic equipment. |
| ▪ Yard waste. | | |
| ▪ Bulky waste. | ▪ Household hygiene. | ▪ Other materials. |

Note that the term “household hazardous waste” is an industry term that refers to household products that may be flammable, corrosive, or toxic under certain conditions, but are generally safe to handle under normal conditions. The “household hygiene” category includes materials such as diapers, sanitary products, and pet waste. The “other materials” primary category includes materials such as textiles, tires and other rubber, other waste, and wooden utensils.

2.6 Data Analysis

Data analysis was performed using Tetra Tech's spreadsheet analysis tool. Data was compiled into primary and secondary categories by weight. The composition for each stream was calculated as weighted averages.

The types of data analysis undertaken by Tetra Tech include the following:

- Set out rates, fullness, and cart size of curbside carts.
- Bi-weekly generation rates.
- Composition of materials by material type and weight.
- Diversion potential or contamination rate of materials.
- Capture rates of recyclable and organic materials.
- Counts of plastic film bags (non-packaging) and compostable/biodegradable bags.
- Notable items.

3.0 RESULTS

The following summarizes the waste composition results for the various streams investigated. Results are presented by primary category. Primary category percentages were calculated by aggregating all sample data for each stream. An average percentage by weight was determined for each stream. Waste composition results for all samples by material categories are presented in Appendix D. Selected photographs of samples are shown in Appendix B.

Following the waste composition results, the proportion of materials that could be diverted from disposal was estimated and presented as the diversion potential or contamination rate. Classifications for the diversion potential of each secondary category can be found in Appendix C. The diversion potential had changed from the first five seasons as plastic film and #6 polystyrene – expanded were updated to being accepted at recycling depots as of December 2024. The materials were categorized as follows:

- **Organics:** materials accepted by the City's composting program (e.g., yard waste, food scraps, and food soiled paper).
- **Recycling:** materials accepted by the City's curbside collection services or at recycling depots.
- **Depot:** materials accepted for drop off at a depot or other drop off location for diversion (e.g., the Recycling Division of Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres [SARCAN], Material Recovery Centre).
- **No Program:** materials that do not currently have a diversion program in the City but could theoretically be diverted from landfill with future diversion programs.
- **Garbage:** materials that do not fall within the above diversion options and would be landfilled.

The diversion potential is calculated based on an ideal scenario where residents are correctly utilizing all waste diversion options that were available at the time of the study. This is the theoretical maximum and represents the upper boundary of what is possible given the current waste composition and waste diversion programs.

3.1 Single Family Overview

3.1.1 Set Out Rates

Table 3-1 summarizes the set out rates from each stream in SF residential carts during the Summer 2025 sorting event. The average total percentage of carts set out was 84% for all three streams and the average set out rates in the garbage, recycling, and organics streams were 88%, 86%, and 79%, respectively. The range of set out rates for routes with all three streams collected was between 52% and 97%.

Table 3-1: Cart Set Out Rates – Summer 2025

Route	Set Out Location	Garbage (%)	Recycling (%)	Organics (%)	Average (%)
Nutana	Back Lane	100%	100%	90%	97%
Nutana Park	Back Lane	90%	70%	90%	83%
Eastview	Back Lane	90%	90%	90%	90%
Rosewood	Front Street	90%	100%	90%	93%
Willowgrove	Front Street	-	100%	70%	85%*
City Park	Back Lane	64%	64%	27%	52%
Silverwood Heights	Front Street	100%	90%	90%	93%
Mount Royal	Front Street	90%	80%	60%	77%
Dundonald	Front Street	90%	80%	100%	90%
Parkridge	Front Street	80%	90%	80%	83%
Average		88%	86%	79%	84%

Notes:

* Garbage sample was not included as it had been collected by the hauler.

3.1.2 Waste Collected Per Household

Table 3-2 summarizes the amount of material collected per household for each stream in SF residential carts during the Summer 2025 sorting event. The average amount of materials for all three streams over a two-week period was 46 kg/household. The average amount of materials collected per household in the garbage, recycling, and organics streams was 20 kg/household, 5 kg/household, and 23 kg/household, respectively. The generation rate for homes with all three streams collected ranged between 18 kg/household and 70 kg/household (over a two-week period).

Table 3-2: Amount of Waste Materials Disposed per Household per Two-Week Period – Summer 2025

Route	Number of Carts	Garbage (kg/household)	Recycling (kg/household)	Organics (kg/household)	Total (kg/household)*
Nutana	10	15.57	5.82	14.27	35.66
Nutana Park	10	25.12	5.06	24.97	55.14
Eastview	10	17.50	3.02	34.97	55.49
Rosewood	10	24.58	6.65	23.64	54.87
Willowgrove	10**	-	5.14	10.48	16.65***

Route	Number of Carts	Garbage (kg/household)	Recycling (kg/household)	Organics (kg/household)	Total (kg/household)*
City Park	11	9.62	3.55	3.36	18.19
Silverwood Heights	10	14.98	5.34	18.94	39.25
Mount Royal	10	26.62	5.44	27.79	59.85
Dundonald	10	23.01	4.47	42.25	69.73
Parkridge	10	20.86	4.68	28.06	53.60
Average		19.76	4.92	22.87	45.84

Notes:

*Total kilograms collected divided by total number of carts per route (regardless of the number of carts set out).

**Two households had two recycling carts each, totalling 12 recycling carts.

*** Garbage sample was not included as it had been collected by the hauler.

3.1.3 Cart Fullness

Table 3-3 summarizes the average cart fullness from each stream in SF residential carts during the Summer 2025 sorting event. The average fullness of carts was 58% for all three streams and the average fullness in the garbage, recycling, and organics streams was 67%, 63%, and 43%, respectively. The average fullness for households with all three streams collected was between 45% and 69%.

Table 3-3: Cart Fullness – Summer 2025

Route	Set Out Location	Garbage (%)	Recycling (%)	Organics (%)	Average (%)
Nutana	Back Lane	79%	75%	29%	61%
Nutana Park	Back Lane	71%	78%	48%	66%
Eastview	Back Lane	52%	43%	49%	48%
Rosewood	Front Street	71%	73%	43%	62%
Willowgrove	Front Street	-	69%	33%	51%*
City Park	Back Lane	69%	53%	13%	45%
Silverwood Heights	Front Street	56%	54%	37%	49%
Mount Royal	Front Street	71%	69%	67%	69%
Dundonald	Front Street	73%	60%	53%	62%
Parkridge	Front Street	63%	58%	61%	61%
Average		67%	63%	43%	58%

Notes:

* Garbage sample was not included as it had been collected by the hauler.

3.2 Single Family Garbage

The following summarizes the waste composition results and diversion potential for SF garbage.

3.2.1 SF Garbage Composition Results

Figure 3-1 illustrates the average waste composition of the garbage stream from the SF sector in Summer 2025. This is a snapshot of the types and relative quantities of materials that were discarded by residents at this time of the year.

The overall SF garbage stream was primarily composed of food waste (18%), household hygiene (17%), yard waste (15%), plastics (14%), paper (8%), and construction and demolition waste (8%). The remainder was comprised of paper (8%), other materials (6%), metals (6%), paper packaging (4%), waste electrical and electronic equipment (2%), household hazardous materials (1%), and glass (1%). The most prominent six primary categories represent 80% of the SF garbage stream and are broken down as follows:

- Food waste was composed of avoidable food waste (13%) and unavoidable food waste (5%). Avoidable food waste included edible food (e.g., whole fruits and vegetables, prepared meals, meat, and bread) and unavoidable food waste included inedible food (e.g., peels, bones, solidified fats, and coffee grounds).
- Household hygiene was composed of pet waste (9%), diapers (7%), and sanitary products (1%).
- Yard waste was composed of yard and garden debris (14%) and brush and branches (1%).
- Plastics included durable plastic products (4%), plastic laminates and other film packaging (3%), plastic film (2%), low-density polyethylene/high-density polyethylene (LDPE/HDPE) film – products (non-packaging) (1%), #5 polypropylene (1%), #1 polyethylene terephthalate (PET) thermoform (1%), and other rigid plastic packaging (1%).
- Paper was composed of tissue/towelling (5%), mixed paper (2%), and other paper – non-obligated (1%).
- Construction and demolition waste included dimensional lumber-treated (5%), composite wood (2%), and dimensional lumber-untreated (1%).

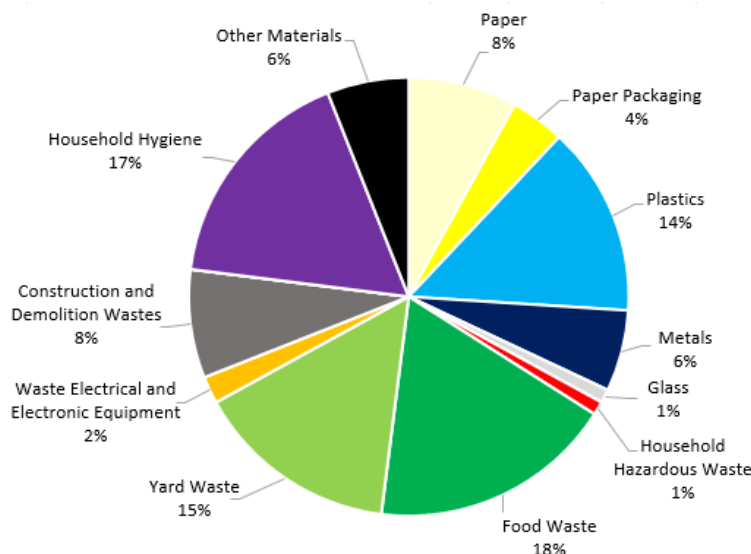


Figure 3-1: Overall SF Garbage Composition

3.2.2 Diversion Potential

Figure 3-2 summarizes the diversion potential of the SF garbage stream. The diversion potential represents the percentage of materials that could be diverted from the garbage stream through the City's organics, recycling, and depot programs. The 'No Program' category represents the theoretical diversion potential of materials from the garbage stream, but no corresponding program or service is currently offered (e.g., construction and demolition wastes). The total diversion potential for the SF garbage stream was calculated to be 69% and consisted of 38% organic materials, 14% depot materials, 9% recyclable materials, and 8% no program materials. The diversion potential for the SF garbage stream that is based on existing programs and services is 61%.

The diversion potential may be broken down as follows:

- Organics are primarily composed of yard and garden debris (14%), avoidable food waste (13%), unavoidable food waste (5%), tissue/toweling (5%), and brush and branches (1%).
- Depot materials were primarily composed of other metal (5%), textiles (3%), electronics (2%), plastic film (2%), and household hazardous waste (1%).
- Recycling included mixed paper (2%), polypropylene (1%), boxboard and cores (1%), #1 PET thermoform (1%), aluminium non-beverage (1%), glass non-beverage (1%), and kraft paper (1%).
- No program materials were composed of dimensional lumber-treated (5%), composite wood (2%), and dimensional lumber-untreated (1%).

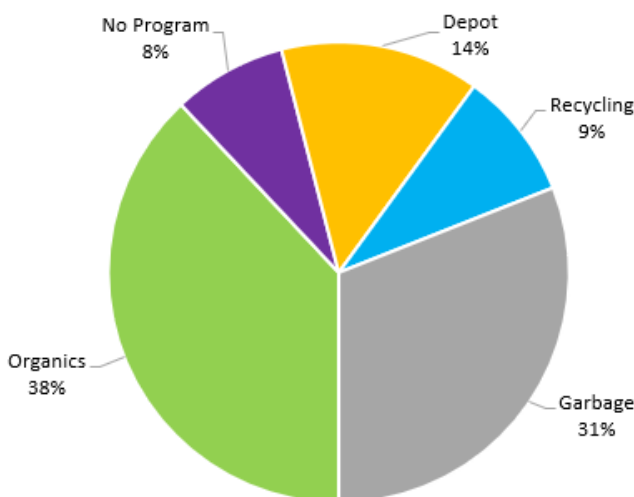


Figure 3-2: Overall SF Garbage Diversion Potential

3.3 Single Family Recycling

The following summarizes the recycling composition results and contamination rate for SF recycling.

3.3.1 SF Recycling Composition Results

Figure 3-3 illustrates the average composition of the recycling stream from the SF sector in Summer 2025. This is a snapshot of the types and relative quantities of materials that were discarded by residents at this time of the year.

The SF recycling stream was primarily composed of paper packaging (50%), paper (18%), and plastic (15%). These three primary categories represent 83% of the SF recycling stream. The primary categories in SF recycling are broken down as follows:

- Paper packaging mainly included corrugated cardboard (32%), boxboard/cores (14%), kraft paper (2%), and molded pulp (1%).
- Paper was primarily composed of mixed paper (16%), and tissue/towelling (1%).
- Plastics mainly included #1 PET thermoform (3%), #5 polypropylene (2%), durable plastic products (2%), HDPE non-beverage (2%), #1 PET bottles, jugs, and jars non-beverage (1%), and plastic film (1%).

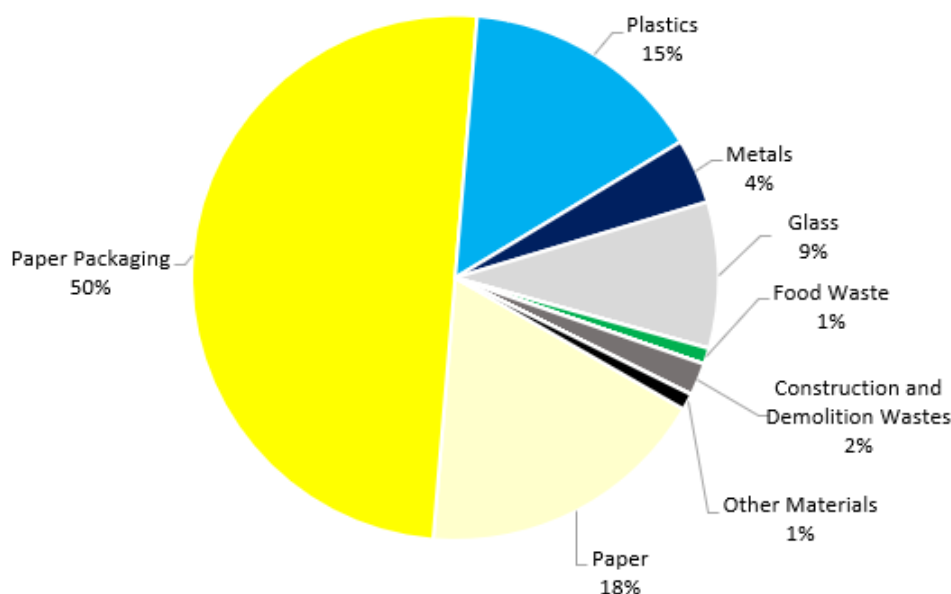


Figure 3-3: Overall SF Recycling Composition

3.3.2 Contamination Rate

Figure 3-4 summarizes the percent contamination in the SF recycling stream. The percent contamination represents the percentage of materials that are considered garbage, organic, or depot materials. The total percent contamination for the SF recycling stream was 13%, including garbage materials (7%), depot materials (3%), no program materials (2%), and organic material (1%). The recycling stream contained 9% contamination and 4% cross-contamination. The contamination is broken down as follows:

- Garbage included durable plastic products (2%), other glass (1%), plastic laminates and other film packaging (1%), other rigid plastic packaging (1%), laminated paper packaging (1%), and LDPE/HDPE film products (non-packaging) (1%).
- Depot materials were primarily composed of textiles (1%), plastic film (1%), and other metal (1%).
- Organics was primarily composed of tissue/towelling (1%).

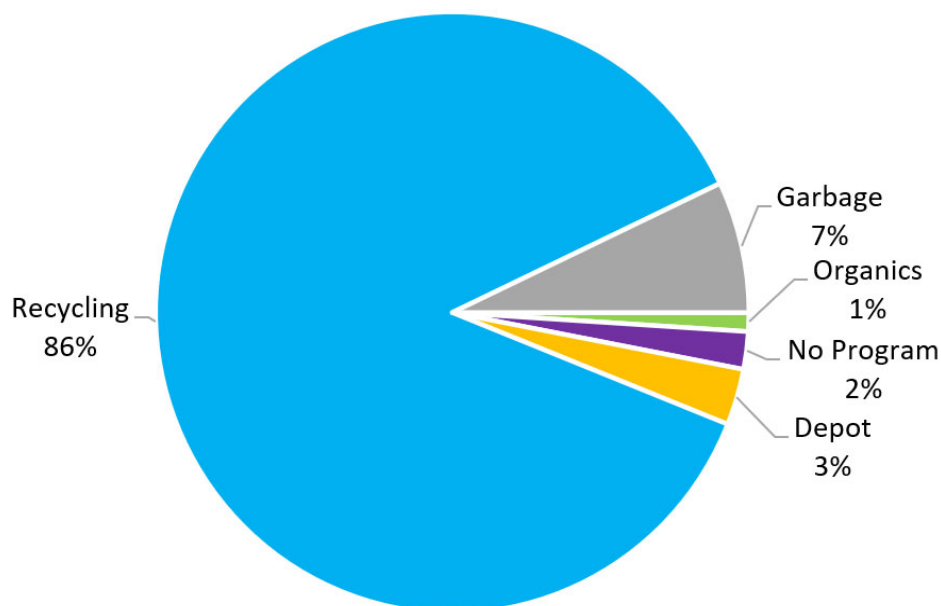


Figure 3-4: Overall SF Recycling Contamination

3.3.3 Capture Rate

Table 3-4 summarizes the amount of recyclable material found in the garbage, recycling, and organics streams; these values represent the average from the ten neighbourhoods. The amount of recyclable materials in the garbage, recycling, and organics streams was 15 kg, 44 kg, and 0 kg, respectively. Table 3-5 summarizes the capture rate of the recycling stream. The total amount of recyclables that could be diverted was 59 kg and the total amount of recyclables captured in the recycling stream was 44 kg. Therefore, the capture rate for recyclables was calculated to be 74%.

Table 3-4: Recyclable Material in All Streams – Summer 2025

	Garbage	Recycling	Organics
Average Waste Generated (kg)	178.82	50.55	229.04
Percent Composition of Recyclable Material	8.6%	86.33%	0.03%
Recyclable Material (kg)	15.38	43.64	0.07

Table 3-5: Recyclable Material Capture Rate – Summer 2025

	Value
Total Recyclables in Garbage, Recycling, and Organics Streams (kg)	59.09
Total Recyclables Captured in the Recycling Stream (kg)	43.64
Capture Rate	73.85%

3.4 Single Family Organics

The following summarizes the composition results and contamination rate in the SF organics stream.

3.4.1 SF Organics Composition Results

Figure 3-5 illustrates the average composition of the organics stream from the SF sector in Summer 2025. This is a snapshot of the types and relative quantities of materials that were discarded by residents at this time of the year.

The majority of the SF organics stream was composed of yard waste (79%) and food waste (18%). These two primary categories represent 97% of the SF organics stream. The top primary categories in SF organics may be broken down as follows:

- Yard waste included yard and garden debris (76%) and brush and branches (3%).
- Food waste was composed of avoidable food waste (9%) and unavoidable food waste (8%).

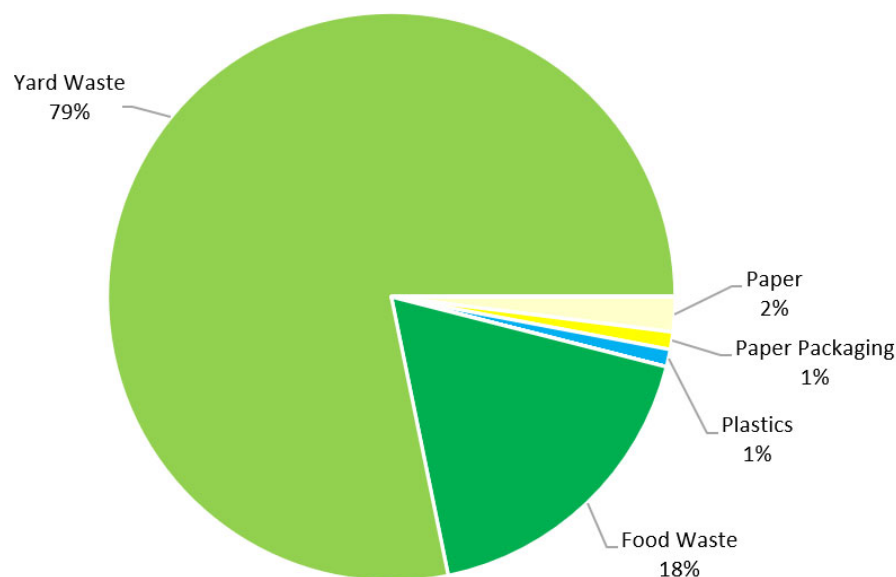


Figure 3-5: Overall SF Organics Composition

3.4.2 Contamination Rate

Figure 3-6 summarizes the percent contamination of the SF organics stream. The percent contamination represents the percentage of materials that are considered garbage or recyclable materials. The total contamination for the SF organics stream was 1%, consisting of only garbage materials. The contamination may be broken down as follows:

- Garbage was primarily composed of #7 biodegradable/compostable plastics (<1%).

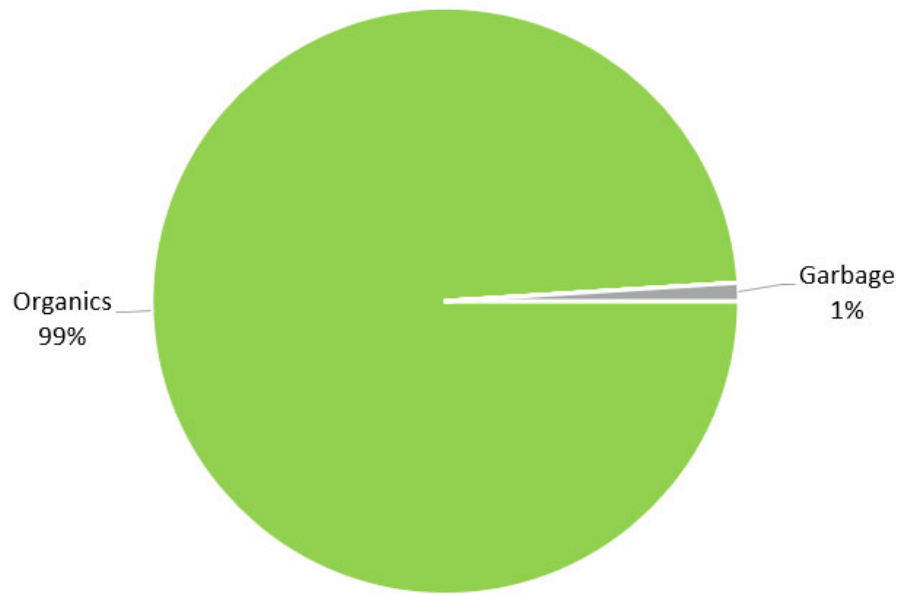


Figure 3-6: Overall SF Organics Contamination

3.4.3 Capture Rate

Table 3-6 summarizes the amount of organic material found in the garbage, recycling, and organics streams. These values represent the average from the ten neighbourhoods. The total amount of organic materials in the garbage, recycling, and organics streams was 68 kg, 1 kg, and 227 kg, respectively. Table 3-7 summarizes the capture rate of the organics stream. The total amount of organics that could be diverted was 296 kg and the total amount of organics captured in the organics stream was 227 kg. Therefore, the capture rate for organics was determined to be 77%.

Table 3-6: Organic Material in All Streams – Summer 2025

	Garbage	Recycling	Organics
Average Waste Generated (kg)	178.82	50.55	229.04
Percent Composition of Organic Material	38.0%	1.4%	99.1%
Organic Material (kg)	67.97	0.70	227.08

Table 3-7: Organic Material Capture Rate – Summer 2025

	Value
Total Organics in Garbage, Recycling, and Organics Streams (kg)	295.75
Total Organics Captured in the Organic Stream (kg)	227.08
Capture Rate	76.78%

3.4.4 Bag Count

Table 3-8 summarizes the number of bags found in the SF organics stream during the Summer 2025 sorting event. The average number of #7 biodegradable/compostable bags per 100 kg of organics was 9 bags/100 kg. The range was between 1 and 38 bags/100 kg. The average number of LDPE/HDPE non-packaging bags for every 100 kg of organics was 2 bag/100 kg ranging between 0 and 5 bags/100 kg. LDPE/HDPE non-packaging included purchased film bags (e.g., garbage bags, kitchen catchers, sandwich and freezer bags).

Table 3-8: Number of Bags in SF Organics Samples – Summer 2025

Route	Weight of Organics (kg)	#7 Biodegradable/ Compostable (bags)	LDPE/HDPE Non-Packaging (bags)	#7 Biodegradable/ Compostable (bags/100 kg)	LDPE/HDPE Non-Packaging (bags/100 kg)
Nutana	142.70	20	1	14	<1
Nutana Park	249.65	5	0	2	0
Eastview	349.70	9	6	3	2
Rosewood	236.35	28	5	12	2
Willowgrove	104.75	8	0	8	0
City Park	37.00	14	0	38	0
Silverwood Heights	189.35	12	9	6	5
Mount Royal	277.85	4	0	1	0
Dundonald	422.45	13	4	3	1
Parkridge	280.55	11	0	4	0
Average	229.04	12	5	9	2

4.0 INTERESTING FINDS

Table 4-1 lists some of the notable, unexpected, or unusual materials found during the waste composition study. These materials will not necessarily skew the results as it is not atypical to have these types of materials present in the waste stream.

Table 4-1: Notable Materials – Summer 2025

Waste Stream	Sample ID	Description	Photo
SF Garbage	SU25-CIT-G	Vacuum cleaner	
SF Garbage	SU25-DUN-G	Coffee maker, air fryer, space heater	
SF Recycling	SU25-DUN-R	Small vacuum	
SF Recycling	SU25-DUN-R	Large spool	
SF Garbage	SU25-NPA-G	Kiddie pool	

5.0 COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are some initial comments and recommendations based on the findings from the Summer 2025 study:

- The bi-weekly collection frequency appeared to be sufficient for the garbage, recycling, and organics streams. On average, garbage, recycling, and organics carts were set out 88%, 86%, and 79% of the time and were 67%, 63%, and 43% full, respectively.
- The cart sizes worked well for most households; however:
 - There were 11 carts out of 248 total possible carts (4%) that were overfilled (e.g., the lid did not fully close). This included five garbage, three recycling, and two organics carts.
 - There were 115 carts out of 248 total possible carts (or approximately 46% of carts) that were filled to half capacity or below. This included 28 garbage, 35 recycling, and 52 organics carts.
- Additional education and communication on the green cart program may be beneficial to:
 - Reduce the amount of organic waste in the garbage stream. In the Summer 2025 study, the garbage stream was comprised of 38% organic materials (mostly consisting of avoidable food waste, unavoidable food waste, yard waste, and compostable paper).
- Additional education and communication on the recycling program may be beneficial to:
 - Increase diversion of recyclable material from the garbage stream. Approximately 9% of the garbage stream was composed of recyclable materials.
 - Reduce the amount of contamination in the recycling stream. Approximately 7% of material in the recycling carts was garbage. The recycling stream also contained 3% depot material and 1% organic material.

6.0 CLOSURE

We trust this document meets your present requirements. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
Tetra Tech Canada Inc.

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APPENDIX A

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LIMITATIONS ON USE OF THIS DOCUMENT

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APPENDIX B

SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Field Staff Collecting Materials



Photo 2: Field Staff Sorting a Sample



Photo 3: Example of a 100 kg Single Family Garbage Sample



Photo 4: Example of a Single Family Organics Sample



Photo 5: Example of a Single Family Recycling Sample



Photo 6: Example the Molded Pulp Category



Photo 7: Example of the Mixed Paper Category



Photo 8: Example of the Boxboard/Cores Category



Photo 9: Example of the Laminated Paper Packaging Category



Photo 10: Example of the Kraft Paper Category



Photo 11: Example of the Polycoat Beverage Cups Category



Photo 12: Example of the Corrugated Cardboard Category



Photo 13: Example of the Tissue/Toweling Category



Photo 14: Example of the Food Soiled Paper Category



Photo 15: Example of the #6 Polystyrene – Non-Expanded Category



Photo 16: Example of the #1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Bottles, Jugs, and Jars – Non-Beverage Category



Photo 17: Example of the #2 High-Density Polyethylene Non-Beverage Category



Photo 18: Example of the #5 Polypropylene Category



Photo 19: Example of the Plastic Film Category



Photo 20: Example of the Other Rigid Plastic Packaging Category



Photo 21: Example of the Aluminum Non-Beverage Category



Photo 22: Example of the Glass Beverage Category



Photo 23: Example of the Avoidable Food Waste Category



Photo 24: Example of the Unavoidable Food Waste Category



Photo 25: Example of the Yard and Garden Debris Category



Photo 26: Example of the Brush and Branches Category



Photo 27: Example of the Sanitary Products Category



Photo 28: Example of the Diapers Category



Photo 29: Example of the Textiles Category



Photo 30: Example of the Household Hazardous Waste Category

APPENDIX C

MATERIAL CATEGORIES

Table C-1: Material Category Descriptions – Garbage and Recycling Stream

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
01 Paper			
1	Mixed Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fine household papers, writing paper, office paper, copy paper, bills and statements, ad mail, etc. Includes glossy flyers and advertising that are not distributed with newspapers. Includes gift wrap, construction paper, puzzle books, (e.g., sudoku or colouring books) Glossy magazines, catalogues, calendars, annual reports (must be bound, i.e., stapled or glued) Telephone books and other directories such as the Yellow Pages Non Newspapers (e.g., television guides, Auto Trader, Real Estate News) plus inserts and flyers from newspapers made of newsprint Daily and weekly newspapers 	Recycling
2	Tissue/Toweling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper napkins, towel, tissues 	Organics
3	Food Soiled Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plates, cups, muffin wrappers, coffee filters, teabags, bags, food packaging 	Organics
4	Shredded Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper that has been shredded mechanically into thin strips 	Recycling
5	Other Paper – Non-Obligated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soft or hard covered literary books, academic journals, textbooks, photographs 	Garbage
02 Paper Packaging			
6	Corrugated Cardboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes micro-flute corrugated containers, pizza boxes, waxed corrugated containers, electronic product boxes such as television and computer boxes, boxes used to direct mail for residential consumers 	Recycling
7	Boxboard/Cores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boxboard, paperboard, cereal box, shoe box, frozen food box, cores from toilet paper/toweling/gift wrap, etc. Includes wet-strength boxboard, fast food cartons such as fry/onion ring boxes and paper plates 	Recycling
8	Kraft Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kraft paper bags and wrap, grocery or retail bags, potato bags, some pet food bags, etc. Includes brown, white, and coloured kraft paper and bags. No bags with bonded plastic or foil liners/layers/coatings. Includes bags with a light grease coating 	Recycling
9	Molded Pulp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Egg cartons, drink trays, other trays, molded pulp flower pots/trays, etc. 	Recycling
10	Polycoat Beverage Cups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hot beverage/food containers, with polycoat on inside only, including coffee cups, soup cups/bowls, chili cups, etc. Cold beverage/food containers with polycoat on both sides including fountain drinks, take-out ice cream cups 	Garbage
11	Ice Cream Containers and Other Bleached Long Polycoat Fibre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polycoated paper ice cream containers, typically with a lid, excluding boxboard folded ice cream boxes. Food containers with white fibre and a rolled or folded rim, includes Michelina's frozen food, KFC tubs 	Garbage
12	Laminated Paper Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper based packaging (at least 85% paper) with foil or plastic liners/layers/coatings, pouches, cookie bags, microwave popcorn bags, fast food sandwich wraps, gift bags, paper based trays, etc. 	Garbage
13	Spiral Wound Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spiral wound cans with paper walls and plastic or metal tops or bottoms; frozen juice, Pringles, raisins, etc. 	Garbage

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
14	Gable Top Containers – Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat containers with a gable shaped top, milk and milk substitutes like soy, almond, and rice milk, and juices 	Recycling
15	Gable-Top Containers – Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat containers with a gable shaped top that previously contained some foods or other products, (e.g., sugar, molasses) 	Garbage
16	Aseptic Containers – Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat fibre and foil containers (e.g., Tetra Pak) for beverage, (e.g., soy, almond, and rice milk, juice boxes) 	Recycling
17	Aseptic Containers – Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat fibre and foil containers (e.g., Tetra Pak) for soup, sauces, etc. 	Garbage
03 Plastics			
18	#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Bottles – Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soft drink/water bottles 	Recycling
19	#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Bottles, Jugs, and Jars – Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Salad dressing bottles, peanut butter jars 	Recycling
20	#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Thermoform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ #1 clamshells, #1 egg cartons, #1 trays, #1 blister packaging, #1 drink cups, etc. 	Recycling
21	#2 High-Density Polyethylene Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Milk jugs, juice containers, and drinkable yogurt bottles 	Recycling
22	#2 High-Density Polyethylene Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laundry detergent, bleach, vinegar, personal care products such as shampoos, conditioners, and body wash, windshield washing fluid containers, cleaning supplies. Other #2 containers such as margarine and yogurt containers and lids made from high-density polyethylene 	Recycling
23	#3 Polyvinyl Chloride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tubs, condiment containers 	Recycling
24	#5 Polypropylene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ #5 bottles and containers. plastic bottles includes nutritional supplement drinks, shampoos, etc. ▪ #5 containers such as margarine and yogurt containers and other containers made from polypropylene, including tubs and lids with resin codes #5 polypropylene 	Recycling
25	#6 Polystyrene – Expanded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foam take-out containers such as drink cups, large, white packaging foam, meat trays, coloured foam insulation 	Depot
26	#6 Polystyrene – Non-Expanded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polystyrene clear clamshell containers such as berry and muffin containers, rigid polystyrene cups, plates, and bottles 	Recycling
27	#7 Biodegradable/Compostable Plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Might not have #7 label; include Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) certification 	Garbage
28	Plastic Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High-density polyethylene and low-density polyethylene film, dry cleaning bags, bread bags, milk bags, toilet paper and paper towel over-wrap, lawn seed bags 	Depot
29	Low-Density Polyethylene and High-Density Polyethylene Film – Products (Non-Recyclable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-packaging low-density polyethylene and high-density polyethylene film (e.g., kitchen catchers, squeeze tubes, 6-pack rings, paper lined plastic) 	Garbage
30	Plastic Laminates and Other Film Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laminated plastic film and bags that are at least 85% plastic (by weight). Includes chip bags, vacuum sealed bags, cereal liners, candy wraps, pasta bags, boil in a bag, plastic based food pouches, etc. 	Depot

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
31	Other Rigid Plastic Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other rigid containers (#4 and #7), non-polyethylene terephthalate blister packaging, unmarked/coded packaging, plant pots and trays, pails, etc. 	Garbage
32	Durable Plastic Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-packaging such as videocassette recorder tapes, compact discs, toys, games, tupperware, etc. Include multi-material items that are mainly plastic – (e.g., a plastic toy truck with metal axles) 	Garbage
04 Metals			
33	Aluminum Beverage Cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum soft drinks, soda, juice, alcoholic beverages, beer cans 	Recycling
34	Aluminum Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food containers, aluminum foil wrap, pie plates, baking trays, etc. 	Recycling
35	Aerosol Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mousse spray cans, air freshener spray cans, deodorant spray cans, hairspray cans, food spray cans for cheese or whipped cream, empty spray cans, cooking oil, etc. 	Garbage
36	Other Aluminum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum siding, baking trays, etc. 	Garbage
37	Steel Beverage Cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steel apple juice, alcoholic beverages, beer cans, Sapporo, etc. 	Recycling
38	Steel Food Cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soup, beans, peaches, etc. No alcohol containers 	Recycling
39	Other Metal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wire, hardware, copper 	Depot
05 Glass			
40	Glass Beverage Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juice, beer, and wine bottles 	Recycling
41	Glass Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food containers 	Recycling
42	Other Glass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Window glass, plates, and glasses, light bulbs (fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescents go in Household Hazardous Waste) 	Garbage
06 Household Hazardous Waste			
43	Household Hazardous Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labelled CAUTION, WARNING, CORROSIVE, EXPLOSIVE, FLAMMABLE, POISONOUS or TOXIC Acid, adhesives, automotive, batteries, cleaners, cylinders, corrosives, fuels, light bulbs, mercury, oxidizing chemicals, paint, pesticides and fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, solvents 	Depot
07 Food Waste			
44	Avoidable Food Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole fruits and vegetables, meat, bread, prepared meals, fruits and vegetables trimmings 	Organics
45	Unavoidable Food Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inedible food, such as peelings, bones, solidified fats, cooking oils, and food grease 	Organics
08 Yard Waste			
46	Yard and Garden Debris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass clippings, leaves, weeds, plant parts, pumpkins, topsoil, and sod 	Organics
47	Brush and Branches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small twigs and tree trimmings that are no more than 60 cm in length and 2 cm in diameter, conifer cones and needles, wood chips and bark mulch 	Organics

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
09	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment		
48	Electronics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laptop computers, notebooks, tablet PCs, TVs and computer monitors, printers, fax machines, photocopiers and scanners, personal, portable, or home DVD, Blu Ray, CD, MP3, record players; film or digital cameras/video recorders; digital picture frames; audio and video baby monitors; cable/satellite TV receivers; amps, receivers; speakers, headphones, microphones, coaxial, telephone, speaker wires, coffee makers, mixers, bread makers, toaster ovens, waffle, makers, crock pots, saw, drill, etc. 	Depot
10	Construction And Demolition Wastes		
49	Dimensional Lumber – Untreated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unpainted or unstained lumber and pallets 	No program
50	Dimensional Lumber – Treated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painted, stained, or treated lumber 	No program
51	Composite Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plywood, oriented strand board, medium-density fibreboard, particle board 	No program
52	Gypsum Wallboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drywall 	No program
53	Asphalt Roofing Shingles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asphalt shingles and tarpaper 	No program
54	Mixed Metals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ferrous, non-ferrous, aluminum 	No program
55	Concrete, Bricks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete, paving stones, cement bricks 	No program
56	Ceramics, Porcelain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tiles, toilets, sinks 	No program
57	Carpeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carpeting, underlay, mats 	No program
58	Other Construction and Demolition Wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vinyl siding, misc. conduits, ceiling tiles, plumbing pipes, insulation 	No program
11	Bulky Waste		
59	Furniture or Fixtures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairs, sofas, cabinets, tables, garden furniture, etc. 	No program
60	Other Large Bulky Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other large items not classified elsewhere 	No program
12	Household Hygiene		
61	Diapers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diapers 	Garbage
62	Sanitary Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitary napkins, hygiene products, etc. 	Garbage
63	Pet Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal feces, bedding, kitty litter 	Garbage
13	Other Materials		
64	Textiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing, shoes, mats, drapes, sheets, etc. Plastic rice sacks go in Other Rigid Plastic Packaging 	Depot
65	Tires and Other Rubber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rubber tires and tubes, other rubber items such as hoses 	Garbage
66	Other Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials not classified elsewhere, wooden fruit basket, vacuum bags, wax candles, furnace filters, etc. 	Garbage
67	Wood Utensils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chopsticks, wooden forks, toothpicks, etc. 	Organics

Table C-2: Material Category Descriptions – Organics Stream

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
01 Paper			
1	Mixed Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fine household papers, writing paper, office paper, copy paper, bills and statements, ad mail, etc. Includes glossy flyers and advertising that are not distributed with newspapers. Includes gift wrap, construction paper, puzzle books, (e.g., sudoku or colouring books) Glossy magazines, catalogues, calendars, annual reports (must be bound, i.e., stapled or glued) Telephone books and other directories such as the Yellow Pages Non Newspapers (e.g., television guides, Auto Trader, Real Estate News) plus inserts and flyers from newspapers made of newsprint Daily and weekly newspapers 	Organics
2	Tissue/Toweling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper napkins, towel, tissues 	Organics
3	Food Soiled Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plates, cups, muffin wrappers, coffee filters, teabags, bags, food packaging 	Organics
4	Shredded Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper that has been shredded mechanically into thin strips 	Organics
5	Other Paper – Non-Obligated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soft or hard covered literary books, academic journals, textbooks, photographs 	Garbage
02 Paper Packaging			
6	Corrugated Cardboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes micro-flute corrugated containers, pizza boxes, waxed corrugated containers, electronic product boxes such as television and computer boxes, boxes used to direct mail for residential consumers 	Organics
7	Boxboard/Cores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boxboard, paperboard, cereal box, shoe box, frozen food box, cores from toilet paper/toweling/gift wrap, etc. Includes wet-strength boxboard, fast food cartons such as fry/onion ring boxes and paper plates 	Organics
8	Kraft Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kraft paper bags and wrap, grocery or retail bags, potato bags, some pet food bags, etc. Includes brown, white, and coloured kraft paper and bags. No bags with bonded plastic or foil liners/layers/coatings. Includes bags with a light grease coating 	Organics
9	Molded Pulp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Egg cartons, drink trays, other trays, molded pulp flower pots/trays, etc. 	Organics
10	Polycoat Beverage Cups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hot beverage/food containers, with polycoat on inside only, including coffee cups, soup cups/bowls, chili cups, etc. Cold beverage/food containers with polycoat on both sides including fountain drinks, take-out ice cream cups 	Garbage
11	Ice Cream Containers and Other Bleached Long Polycoat Fibre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polycoated paper ice cream containers, typically with a lid, excluding boxboard folded ice cream boxes. Food containers with white fibre and a rolled or folded rim, includes Michelina's frozen food, KFC tubs 	Garbage
12	Laminated Paper Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper based packaging (at least 85% paper) with foil or plastic liners/layers/coatings, pouches, cookie bags, microwave popcorn bags, fast food sandwich wraps, gift bags, paper based trays, etc. 	Garbage
13	Spiral Wound Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spiral wound cans with paper walls and plastic or metal tops or bottoms; frozen juice, Pringles, raisins, etc. 	Garbage

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
14	Gable Top Containers – Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat containers with a gable shaped top, milk and milk substitutes like soy, almond, and rice milk, and juices 	Recycling
15	Gable-Top Containers – Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat containers with a gable shaped top that previously contained some foods or other products, (e.g., sugar, molasses) 	Garbage
16	Aseptic Containers – Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat fibre and foil containers (e.g., Tetra Pak) for beverage (e.g., soy, almond, and rice milk, juice boxes) 	Recycling
17	Aseptic Containers – Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polycoat fibre and foil containers (e.g., Tetra Pak) for soup, sauces, etc. 	Garbage
03 Plastics			
18	#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Bottles – Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soft drink/water bottles 	Recycling
19	#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Bottles, Jugs, and Jars – Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Salad dressing bottles, peanut butter jars 	Recycling
20	#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Thermoform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ #1 clamshells, #1 egg cartons, #1 trays, #1 blister packaging, #1 drink cups, etc. 	Recycling
21	#2 High-Density Polyethylene Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Milk jugs, juice containers, and drinkable yogurt bottles 	Recycling
22	#2 High-Density Polyethylene Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laundry detergent, bleach, vinegar, personal care products such as shampoos, conditioners, and body wash, windshield washing fluid containers, cleaning supplies. Other #2 containers such as margarine and yogurt containers and lids made from high-density polyethylene 	Recycling
23	#3 Polyvinyl Chloride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tubs, condiment containers 	Recycling
24	#5 Polypropylene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ #5 bottles and containers. plastic bottles includes nutritional supplement drinks, shampoos, etc. ▪ #5 containers such as margarine and yogurt containers and other containers made from polypropylene, including tubs and lids with resin codes #5 polypropylene 	Recycling
25	#6 Polystyrene – Expanded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foam take-out containers such as drink cups, large, white packaging foam, meat trays, coloured foam insulation 	Depot
26	#6 Polystyrene – Non-Expanded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polystyrene clear clamshell containers such as berry and muffin containers, rigid polystyrene cups, plates, and bottles 	Recycling
27	#7 Biodegradable/Compostable Plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Might not have #7 label; include Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) certification 	Garbage
28	Plastic Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High-density polyethylene and low-density polyethylene film, dry cleaning bags, bread bags, milk bags, toilet paper and paper towel over-wrap, lawn seed bags 	Depot
29	Low-Density Polyethylene and High-Density Polyethylene Film – Products (Non-Recyclable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-packaging low-density polyethylene and high-density polyethylene film (e.g., kitchen catchers, squeeze tubes, 6-pack rings, paper lined plastic, etc.) 	Garbage
30	Plastic Laminates and Other Film Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laminated plastic film and bags that are at least 85% plastic (by weight). Includes chip bags, vacuum sealed bags, cereal liners, candy wraps, pasta bags, boil in a bag, plastic based food pouches, etc. 	Depot

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
31	Other Rigid Plastic Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other rigid containers (#4 and #7), non-polyethylene terephthalate blister packaging, unmarked/coded packaging, plant pots and trays, pails, etc. 	Garbage
32	Durable Plastic Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-packaging such as videocassette recorder tapes, compact discs, toys, games, tupperware, etc. Include multi-material items that are mainly plastic – (e.g., a plastic toy truck with metal axles) 	Garbage
04 Metals			
33	Aluminum Beverage Cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum soft drinks, soda, juice, alcoholic beverages, beer cans 	Recycling
34	Aluminum Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food containers, aluminum foil wrap, pie plates, baking trays, etc. 	Recycling
35	Aerosol Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mousse spray cans, air freshener spray cans, deodorant spray cans, hairspray cans, food spray cans for cheese or whipped cream, empty spray cans, cooking oil, etc. 	Garbage
36	Other Aluminum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum siding, baking trays, etc. 	Garbage
37	Steel Beverage Cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steel apple juice, alcoholic beverages, beer cans, Sapporo, etc. 	Recycling
38	Steel Food Cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soup, beans, peaches, etc. No alcohol containers 	Recycling
39	Other Metal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wire, hardware, copper 	Depot
05 Glass			
40	Glass Beverage Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juice, beer, and wine bottles 	Recycling
41	Glass Non-Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food containers 	Recycling
42	Other Glass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Window glass, plates, and glasses, light bulbs (fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescents go in Household Hazardous Waste) 	Garbage
06 Household Hazardous Waste			
43	Household Hazardous Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labelled CAUTION, WARNING, CORROSIVE, EXPLOSIVE, FLAMMABLE, POISONOUS or TOXIC Acid, adhesives, automotive, batteries, cleaners, cylinders, corrosives, fuels, light bulbs, mercury, oxidizing chemicals, paint, pesticides and fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, solvents 	Depot
07 Food Waste			
44	Avoidable Food Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole fruits and vegetables, meat, bread, prepared meals, fruits and vegetables trimmings 	Organics
45	Unavoidable Food Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inedible food, such as peelings, bones, solidified fats, cooking oils, and food grease 	Organics
08 Yard Waste			
46	Yard and Garden Debris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass clippings, leaves, weeds, plant parts, pumpkins, topsoil, and sod 	Organics
47	Brush and Branches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small twigs and tree trimmings that are no more than 60 cm in length and 2 cm in diameter, conifer cones and needles, wood chips and bark mulch 	Organics

	Category	Description and/or Examples	Diversion Potential
09	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment		
48	Electronics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laptop computers, notebooks, tablet PCs, TVs and computer monitors, printers, fax machines, photocopiers and scanners, personal, portable, or home DVD, Blu Ray, CD, MP3, record players; film or digital cameras/video recorders; digital picture frames; audio and video baby monitors; cable/satellite TV receivers; amps, receivers; speakers, headphones, microphones, coaxial, telephone, speaker wires, coffee makers, mixers, bread makers, toaster ovens, waffle, makers, crock pots, saw, drill, etc. 	Depot
10	Construction And Demolition Wastes		
49	Dimensional Lumber – Untreated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unpainted or unstained lumber and pallets 	No program
50	Dimensional Lumber – Treated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painted, stained, or treated lumber 	No program
51	Composite Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plywood, oriented strand board, medium-density fibreboard, particle board 	No program
52	Gypsum Wallboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drywall 	No program
53	Asphalt Roofing Shingles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asphalt shingles and tarpaper 	No program
54	Mixed Metals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ferrous, non-ferrous, aluminum 	No program
55	Concrete, Bricks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete, paving stones, cement bricks 	No program
56	Ceramics, Porcelain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tiles, toilets, sinks 	No program
57	Carpeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carpeting, underlay, mats 	No program
58	Other Construction and Demolition Wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vinyl siding, misc. conduits, ceiling tiles, plumbing pipes, insulation 	No program
11	Bulky Waste		
59	Furniture or Fixtures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairs, sofas, cabinets, tables, garden furniture, etc. 	No program
60	Other Large Bulky Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other large items not classified elsewhere 	No program
12	Household Hygiene		
61	Diapers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diapers 	Garbage
62	Sanitary Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitary napkins, hygiene products, etc. 	Garbage
63	Pet Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal feces, bedding, kitty litter 	Garbage
13	Other Materials		
64	Textiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing, shoes, mats, drapes, sheets, etc. Plastic rice sacks go in Other Rigid Plastic Packaging 	Depot
65	Tires and Other Rubber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rubber tires and tubes, other rubber items such as hoses 	Garbage
66	Other Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials not classified elsewhere, wooden fruit basket, vacuum bags, wax candles, furnace filters, etc. 	Garbage
67	Wood Utensils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chopsticks, wooden forks, toothpicks, etc. 	Organics

APPENDIX D

WASTE COMPOSITION RESULTS

Table D-1: Summer 2025 Waste Composition Results – by Stream

Category	SF		
	Garbage	Recycling	Organics
01 Paper	7.5%	17.4%	1.5%
01. Mixed Paper	1.9%	16.3%	<0.1%
02. Tissue/Toweling	4.7%	0.5%	1.3%
03. Food Soiled Paper	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
04. Shredded Paper	<0.1%	0.5%	0.0%
05. Other Paper – Non-Obligated	0.5%	<0.1%	0.0%
02 Paper Packaging	4.5%	50.4%	0.6%
06. Corrugated Cardboard	0.5%	31.8%	0.5%
07. Boxboard/Cores	1.2%	13.7%	<0.1%
08. Kraft Paper	0.6%	1.6%	0.1%
09. Molded Pulp	0.1%	1.3%	<0.1%
10. Polycoat Beverage Cups	0.5%	0.1%	<0.1%
11. Ice Cream Containers and Other Bleached Long Polycoat Fiber	0.2%	0.1%	<0.1%
12. Laminated Paper Packaging	1.3%	0.7%	<0.1%
13. Spiral Wound Containers	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%
14. Gable Top Containers – Beverage	<0.1%	0.3%	<0.1%
15. Gable Top Containers – Non-Beverage	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
16. Aseptic Containers – Beverage	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%
17. Aseptic Containers – Non-Beverage	<0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
03 Plastics	13.7%	15.2%	0.5%
18. #1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Bottles – Beverage	0.1%	0.7%	0.0%
19. #1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Bottles, Jugs, and Jars – Non-Beverage	0.3%	1.3%	0.0%
20. #1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Thermoform	0.8%	2.9%	0.0%
21. #2 High-Density Polyethylene Beverage	<0.1%	0.5%	0.0%
22. #2 High-Density Polyethylene Non-Beverage	0.3%	2.0%	0.0%
23. #3 Polyvinyl Chloride	<0.1%	<0.1%	0.0%
24. #5 Polypropylene	1.2%	2.2%	<0.1%
25. #6 Polystyrene – Expanded	0.1%	0.1%	<0.1%
26. #6 Polystyrene – Non-Expanded	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
27. #7 Biodegradable/Compostable Plastics	<0.1%	0.1%	0.4%
28. Plastic Film	1.9%	0.9%	<0.1%
29. Low-Density Polyethylene and High-Density Polyethylene Film – Products (Non-Packaging)	1.3%	0.5%	0.1%
30. Plastic Laminates and Other Film Packaging	2.5%	0.8%	<0.1%

Category	SF		
	Garbage	Recycling	Organics
31. Other Rigid Plastic Packaging	0.6%	0.7%	<0.1%
32. Durable Plastic Products	4.3%	2.3%	<0.1%
04 Metals	5.6%	4.0%	<0.1%
33. Aluminum Beverage Cans	<0.1%	0.9%	0.0%
34. Aluminum Non-Beverage	0.6%	1.5%	<0.1%
35. Aerosol Containers	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
36. Other Aluminum	<0.1%	<0.1%	0.0%
37. Steel Beverage Cans	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
38. Steel Food Cans	<0.1%	0.9%	0.0%
39. Other Metal	4.7%	0.6%	0.0%
05 Glass	1.3%	8.6%	0.0%
40. Glass Beverage Containers	0.0%	3.5%	0.0%
41. Glass Non-Beverage	0.6%	4.0%	0.0%
42. Other Glass	0.6%	1.0%	0.0%
06 Household Hazardous Waste	1.4%	0.2%	<0.1%
43. Household Hazardous Waste	1.4%	0.2%	<0.1%
07 Food Waste	18.0%	0.6%	17.6%
44. Avoidable Food Waste	12.8%	0.5%	9.2%
45. Unavoidable Food Waste	5.2%	0.1%	8.4%
08 Yard Waste	14.8%	0.1%	79.4%
46. Yard and Garden Debris	14.1%	0.1%	76.3%
47. Brush and Branches	0.7%	<0.1%	3.1%
09 Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment	2.4%	0.1%	<0.1%
48. Electronics	2.4%	0.1%	<0.1%
10 Construction and Demolition Wastes	8.3%	2.0%	0.2%
49. Dimensional Lumber – Untreated	0.6%	0.2%	0.1%
50. Dimensional Lumber – Treated	5.3%	0.1%	<0.1%
51. Composite Wood	1.9%	1.5%	0.0%
52. Gypsum Wallboard	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
53. Asphalt Roofing Shingles	<0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
54. Mixed Metals	<0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
55. Concrete, Bricks	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
56. Ceramics, Porcelain	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
57. Carpeting	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
58. Other Construction and Demolition Wastes	<0.1%	0.0%	0.0%

Category	SF		
	Garbage	Recycling	Organics
11 Bulky Waste	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
59. Furniture or Fixtures	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
60. Other Large Bulky Items	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
12 Household Hygiene	16.6%	0.2%	<0.1%
61. Diapers	7.2%	<0.1%	0.0%
62. Sanitary Products	0.8%	0.1%	<0.1%
63. Pet Waste	8.5%	0.1%	<0.1%
13 Other Materials	6.0%	1.2%	<0.1%
64. Textiles	3.0%	1.0%	<0.1%
65. Tires and Other Rubber	1.4%	0.1%	0.0%
66. Other Waste	1.5%	0.1%	<0.1%
67. Wood Utensils	0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Notes:

SF – Single Family.

APPENDIX E

SECTORS AND NAMING CONVENTION

Sectors & Naming Convention

The naming convention for samples should be as follows:

Example: **SU25 - NUT - G**

Season and Year Route Stream

Options:

Spring = SP25 Summer = SU25 Fall = FA25	See Table	Garbage = G Recycling = R Organics = O
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Route	Collection Route	Community
NUT	01	Nutana
NPA	02	Nutana Park
EAS	03	Eastview
ROS	04	Rosewood
WIL	05	Willowgrove
CIT	06	City Park
SIL	07	Silverwood Heights
MOU	08	Mount Royal
DUN	09	Dundonald
PAR	10	Parkridge