

Data Report #4

2013 Non-Blue Box Recyclables Trends (Residential)

November 28, 2014

Introduction

Each year, WDO receives reports from municipalities on the amounts of waste diverted through each of their residential waste diversion programs. These reports are submitted to WDO through the Municipal Datacall.

The reports include data on the quantity, in tonnes, of other recyclables (non-Blue Box waste) diverted from landfill in each year, including:

- Textiles;
- Bulky goods;
- Scrap metal;
- Drywall;
- Wood;
- Brick and concrete; and
- Other Construction & Demolition (C&D) material.

These materials are either collected from residents at curbside locations, or dropped off at municipal depots. Municipalities can recycle much of these wastes, including scrap metal, by sending them to facilities that use these materials to create similar or new products.

The information in this report highlights trends in the diversion from landfill of these “other recyclables” in Ontario, both in 2013 and the previous five-year period. The data used to generate this analysis can be found in the 2013 Non-Blue Box Recyclables (Residential) spreadsheet, available on the WDO website.

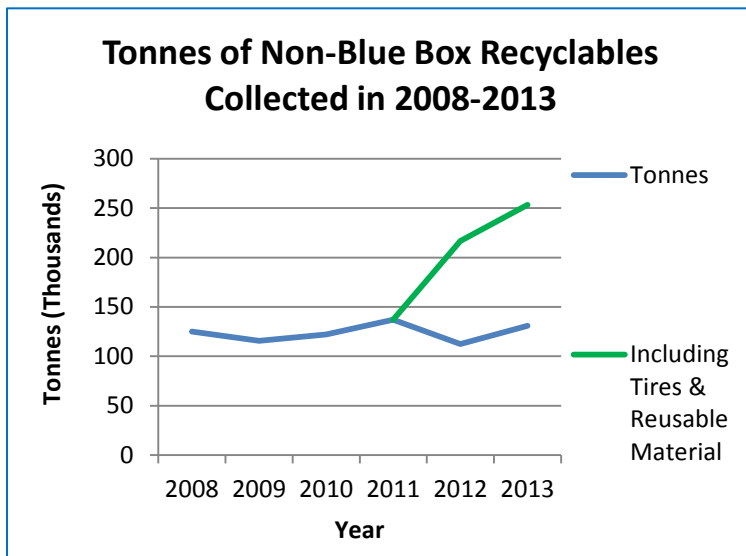
Analysis

[Little change in collected tonnes of other recyclables reported by municipalities since 2008](#)

Over 150 municipal recycling programs collected 130,917 tonnes of other recyclables in 2013, which represents a 17% increase from 2012 and an overall 5% rise since 2007. However, this growth in recycling is understated, due to changes in the reporting to WDO of used tires and reusable materials in the 2012 Datacall.

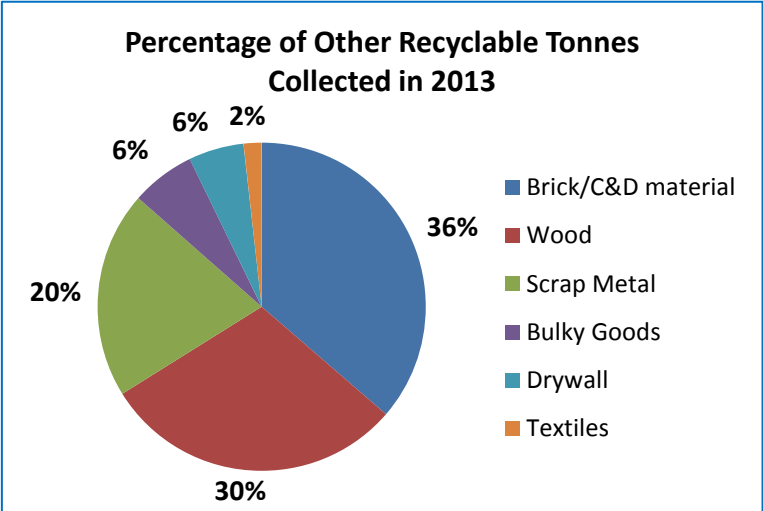
Municipalities are now allocated 7.1 kg per capita diversion for Passenger and Light Truck tires, compared to the previous reporting of actual tonnes of residential tires collected at municipal collection sites only.

Reusable material diverted from landfill is no longer reported with other recyclables in the Datacall, but is included in calculations of the overall diversion rate. The graph above shows the total for other recyclables in 2012 and 2013 if used tires and reusable materials had been included.

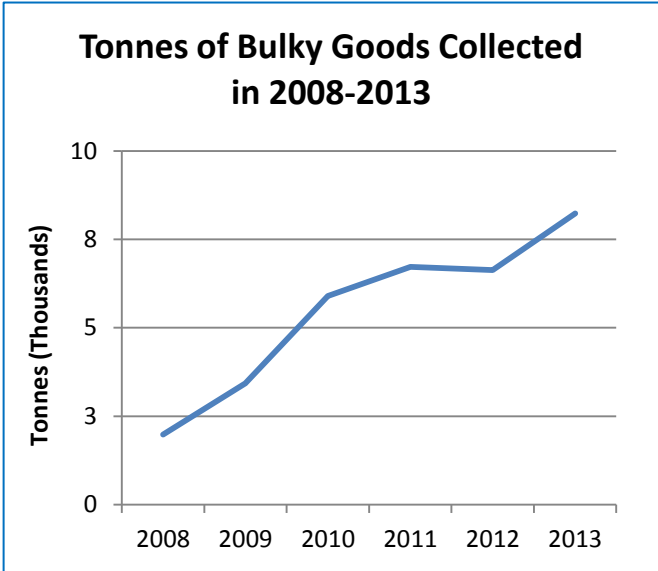
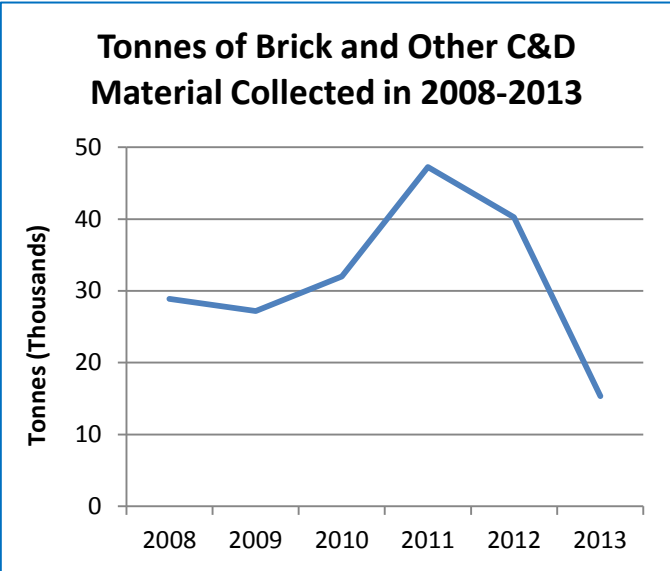


Heavier materials, such as wood and construction and demolition (C&D) waste, represent the majority of the total 'other recyclables' tonnes, which has remained the trend over the past five-year period.

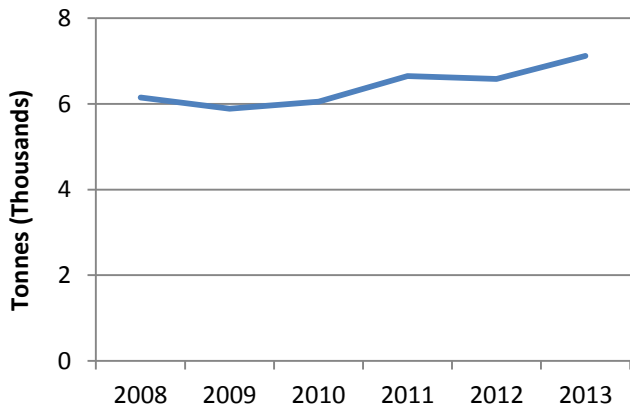
The graphs below illustrate the tonnes of each category of "other recyclables" in the last five-year period. Most of the materials have either remained at similar levels, or have increased since 2008. The exception to this trend is Brick/C&D material, which was increasing until 2011, when it began to decrease markedly. Such declines might be attributed to municipalities tracking the IC&I portion of their C&D waste more accurately. This allows municipalities to only report the residential portion of their C&D waste in the Datacall.



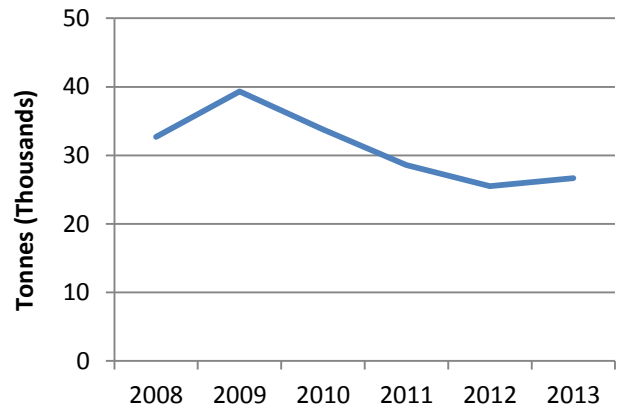
Although it is challenging to comment on the trends of each material in the five-year period due to many contributing factors, it is apparent in recent years that municipalities are expanding the recycling of materials, including textiles, bulky goods, and to a lesser extent, drywall. Wood collection also appears to be steadily increasing in recent years. Scrap metal diversion is decreasing, which is not expected considering the valuable nature of this material. However, a number of municipalities have noted that less scrap metal is entering municipal channels, as many residents have opted to take this material to private companies to earn revenue.



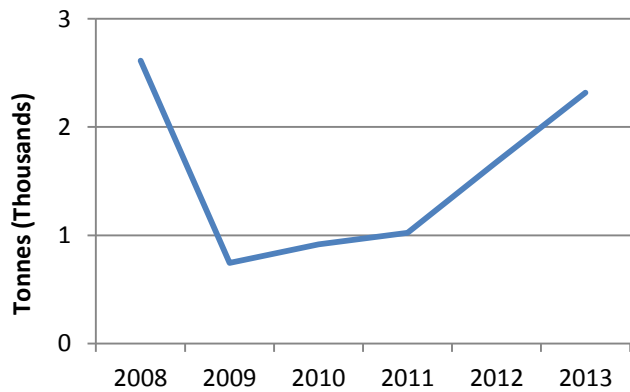
**Tonnes of Drywall Collected
in 2008-2013**



**Tonnes of Scrap Metal Collected
in 2008-2013**



**Tonnes of Textiles Collected
in 2008-2013**



**Tonnes of Wood Collected
in 2008-2013**

