



Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre

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MEDIA RELEASE

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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Minister of Environment Announces Plan Local Household Hazardous or Special Waste Program Will Benefit

Pembroke, ON: Last week, Ontario's Minister of the Environment approved a program that will decrease the amount of household hazardous or special waste ending up in local landfills. Developed by Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO), the program will help increase access to hazardous waste disposal options for Ontario residents. WDO is the non-crown corporation that implements provincial waste diversion programs for various materials under the Waste Diversion Act. Companies who manufacture and sell hazardous or special waste products will now pay fees that will make up the new funding program.

Phase 1 of the program, which covers a wide range of Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) products such as paints, batteries and propane tanks, is set to begin July 1st and will provide funding to Municipalities that will cover the costs of program activities after the collection of materials at a MHSW collection event. Examples of this include transportation of the waste from collection facilities, processing, recycling and disposal of waste and promotion and education activities. Capital costs will also be included in Phase 1. Municipalities will continue to be responsible for the costs of collection activities and for the recycling /disposal of all non-Phase 1 material.

“The Ottawa Valley Waste Management Board is delighted that the Minister has approved the MHSW plan.” Comments Steve Bennett, Board Chairman. **“This will assist the Centre in off-setting a significant portion of our costs to operate our Hazardous Waste Programs.”**

Sue Campbell, General Manager of the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre stresses that residents will see no change to how they dispose of their household hazardous waste except that they will have more opportunities to do so.

“This program encourages Municipalities to increase accessibility of Household Hazardous Waste Events.” States Ms. Campbell. **“This will allow us to offer even more of the already successful Mobile Events we organize in the Community. More opportunities will ensure residents can properly dispose of these potentially harmful products.”**

Development of Phase 2 of the program will begin shortly and provide funding for products such as portable fire extinguishers, pharmaceuticals and syringes.

For more information, please contact Sue Campbell, General Manager, 613-735-7537, ext. 214.

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