

From: Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition <rescue.lake.simcoe.coalition@mx-can.keela.co>
Sent: October 16, 2025 8:24 AM
To: Clerks <Clerks@durham.ca>
Subject: Ontario just made it harder to recycle

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	Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division
Date & Time Received:	October 21, 2025 10:47 am
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Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Dear ,

The Province of Ontario has [made a decision](#) that results in the exclusion of small industrial, commercial and institutional sites—such as small businesses, churches and food banks—from Blue Box recycling service starting January 1, 2026.

This is an unnecessary setback for recycling.

Communities across our watershed have worked hard to build recycling habits that keep materials out of landfill and protect the environment. Ending collection for thousands of workplaces and community facilities risks undoing that progress overnight. It also risks burdening small businesses, faith groups and charities that

don't have the resources to adapt, adding more litter and waste to our waterways.

Simcoe County Council deserves real credit for sounding the alarm early and for its sustained advocacy to maintain this service. County staff and councillors did everything right. Unfortunately, the province chose not to act.

This isn't a hard problem to fix. A simple amendment to the Blue Box Regulation could let municipalities or producer organizations continue recycling pickup for small commercial and institutional users. That one change would keep recyclable material where it belongs—out of the garbage and out of our lake.

The Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition is working to make sure this story gets heard across the watershed and at Queen's Park. Please consider supporting our work today.

[Donate Now](#)

Together, we can protect the progress our communities have made, and keep Lake Simcoe clean for generations to come.

Jonathan Scott

Executive Director
Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition



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