

Staff Report



To Council

Department Economic Growth and Community Development Services Department

Meeting Date Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings - 23 Jun 2026

Subject ResiLienT Loyalist Township Climate Action Plan 2025 Report Card

Report Number SR- 3225

Prepared by Luke MacDonald

Recommendation

1. That the report from the Engineering and Environment Division, June 23, 2026 re: ResiLienT Loyalist Township Climate Action Plan 2025 Report Card, be received.

Executive Summary

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this staff report is to provide Council with a "report card" type update on the Township's accomplishments in 2025 under the Climate Action Plan.

Report Highlights

The key initiatives highlighted in this report include:

- Housing Accelerator Funding Initiatives
 - Engineering Design Guidelines incorporated Low Impact Development Standards.
 - Terms of Reference created for Stormwater Management and Hydrogeological Studies, which include requirements for review of water balance.
 - As of right zoning changes to allow up to four residential units per property, community improvement plan offering grants for second units, and declaration of surplus municipal land all aimed at creating Resilient, Low Carbon Communities by supporting gentle density.

- Amherstview West Secondary Plan was approved by Council and includes an expanded trail and open space network, support long-term access to naturalized areas, and urban guidelines supporting sustainable development principles and energy-efficient buildings.
- Repair of a large watermain leak in the distribution system in Odessa through road reconstruction projects and targeted repairs undertaken by the Utilities Division.
- Purchase of the first electric vehicle as part of the municipal fleet (Electric F-150).

Report Details

Background and Analysis

At their regular session on February 8, 2021, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution 2021.42.7. Moved by Councillor Townend and Seconded by Councillor Budarick that the report from the Engineering and Environment Division, February 8th, 2021 re: ResiLienT Loyalist Township - Climate Action Plan, be received; and that the Climate Action Plan and its goals be approved. **Motion carried.**

Since the adoption of the climate action plan, staff have brought back an annual report to Council on the status of the implementation of the various initiatives. This is the third such report. Refer to the attached document for the full "report card".

Financial Implications

Several of the goals and actions presented in this plan will have future financial implications. Staff will present Council with further initiatives in line with the plan included in future operations and capital budgets. Initiatives implemented to date were part of already planned and approved projects in the Township's operations and capital budgets.

Risks or Stakeholder Implications

The Climate Action Plan presents a series of recommended goals and actions that could be undertaken to meet the GHG reduction targets previously approved by Council. If funding for initiatives is not available in the future, the Township may not meet the objectives identified in this plan.

Communication and Consultation Plan

Staff continue to work with the Communications Division to communicate the implementation of various initiatives highlighted throughout the attached document through social media posts and our website.

The Development Manager; Public Works Manager; Transportation Manager; Heritage, Culture, and Tourism Manager; Director of Corporate Services, Strategy, and Innovation; Communications Manager; Utilities Manager; Director of Emergency Services; Recreation and Facilities Manager; Director of Community and Customer Services have been consulted for the content of this report card.

Attachments

[Resilient Climate Action Update Report - 06.15.2026](#)

Approved by

Approved by	Status:
Marie-Josée Merritt, Director of Economic Growth and Community Development Services	Approved - 15 Jun 2026
David Clazie, Director of Finance/Treasurer	Approved - 15 Jun 2026
Rebecca Murphy, Chief Administrative Officer	Approved - 16 Jun 2026



2025

**Resilient Climate Action
Report Card**





Executive Summary:

In 2025, Loyalist Township continued to advance the goals of the ResiLienT Loyalist Township Climate Action Plan, delivering measurable progress across key sectors while strengthening community partnerships and environmental stewardship. Highlights from the year include:

- **Sustainable Land Use:** The Township expanded its Community Tree Initiative, enabling residents to plant native trees on private property while supporting the long-term goal of planting 20,000 trees over ten years. Additional tree planting occurred through capital works and commemorative programs. Rewilding initiatives increased biodiversity through reduced mowing, pollinator-friendly plantings, and ongoing invasive species management. Updated engineering design guidelines incorporating Low Impact Development (LID) practices were completed, and work advanced on a Township Pollinator Protection Strategy.
- **Waste Reduction:** Loyalist Township advanced the development of a 30-year Solid Waste Management Master Plan while supporting waste diversion through e-waste events, textile recycling, and community Giveaway Days. Improved landfill operations, reuse of materials such as asphalt and soil, and enhanced public communication around recycling system changes supported continued progress toward waste reduction goals.
- **Transportation:** Transit and mobility improvements marked a significant year, with Route 10 achieving record ridership and the Loyalist Link pilot route continuing to grow. Active transportation infrastructure expanded through new multi-use paths and pedestrian improvements. Fleet optimization initiatives, EV charger installations, and ongoing work toward municipal fleet electrification support the transition to lower-emission transportation.
- **Buildings and Energy:** Municipal facilities saw further improvements in energy efficiency through LED lighting upgrades, installation of electric heat pumps, and modernization of mechanical systems. Successful grant applications will support greenhouse gas reduction assessments for municipal buildings beginning in 2026. Municipal support was also provided to renewable energy projects and battery energy storage systems that contribute to community energy resilience.
- **Water and Wastewater:** Infrastructure upgrades and operational improvements significantly enhanced system efficiency. Major leak detection and repairs reduced water losses, while on-site water reclamation at the Amherstview Wastewater Treatment Plant reduced potable water consumption and operational costs. Sewer system upgrades, pump rebuild programs, and improved aeration systems increased operational efficiency and system reliability.
- **Community Engagement and Collaboration:** Partnerships with community organizations, schools, and local groups continued to grow through events, workshops, and educational programming. Initiatives such as Exploration Days, Earth Day cleanups, and collaborations with gardening clubs, farmers' markets, and food security organizations strengthened community participation in climate action.

Collectively, these actions demonstrate Loyalist Township's ongoing leadership and commitment to building a resilient, sustainable, and thriving community.



Introduction:

The Resilient Loyalist Township Climate Action Plan continues to serve as a guiding framework for building a more sustainable, resilient, and connected community. Since its adoption by Council in 2021, the Plan has helped shape Township initiatives, infrastructure investments, and community partnerships that support long-term environmental stewardship and climate resilience. Loyalist Township continues working toward its ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets of 49% corporately and 25% community-wide by 2031. Throughout 2025, the Township continued advancing actions aligned with these targets and broader sustainability objectives through projects focused on land use, transportation, buildings, waste reduction, water systems, and community well-being.

Community Engagement & Communication:

Community engagement and clear communication remain central to the success of Loyalist Township's climate action initiatives. In 2025, the Township continued to strengthen connections with residents, businesses, and community organizations through workshops, events, and digital communication channels. Newsletters, social media, the municipal website, and the Engage Loyalist platform were used to share updates and encourage participation in sustainability initiatives.

Public engagement supported several Township initiatives, including consultations related to the Solid Waste Management Master Plan and planning initiatives such as additional residential units. New communication tools were also implemented, including the CodeRED ferry notification system, providing residents with real-time service alerts and reducing unnecessary travel to ferry terminals during service disruptions.

Community programming and partnerships also helped raise awareness and build environmental stewardship. Events such as Earth Day cleanups, Exploration Days, and educational workshops delivered with organizations including the Bath Gardening Club and Cataraqui Conservation connected residents to topics such as pollinator protection, invasive species management, and local environmental stewardship. Collaboration with local schools, community organizations, and Queen's University capstone projects further supported research, education, and innovation aligned with the Climate Action Plan.





Community Driven Action:

Loyalist Township's Community Grant Program continues to play an important role in strengthening community resilience, supporting local organizations, and enabling residents to actively participate in building a vibrant and sustainable community. In 2025, grants supported a wide range of projects including food security initiatives, community events, cultural programming, infrastructure improvements, and youth engagement.

Examples of community grants reflecting these values include:

Amherst Island Agricultural Society: Funding supported improvements to the fairgrounds pavilion project, helping expand capacity for community events, agricultural programming, and local gatherings.

Bath Gardening Club & Horticultural Society: Grant funding supported the continued delivery of the Bath Sunday Market, providing a venue for local vendors, artisans, and food producers while strengthening the local food system and community connections.

Lionhearts: Funding supported the Fresh Food Market program in Amherstview, helping cover rental costs and supplies that enable the distribution of fresh food to residents in need.

Morningstar Relief Mission and Loyalist Community Sharing Centre: Grants supported grocery purchases and meal preparation programs that provide food security and community support for vulnerable residents.

Odessa Public School: Funding supported a FoodCycler project that helps reduce food waste while providing educational opportunities for students to learn about sustainable waste management practices.

Boys and Girls Club of Kingston and Area: Grants supported youth programs including sports and STEM-focused initiatives that provide opportunities for learning, recreation, and community engagement.

Amherstview Lion's Club and Odessa & District Lions Club: Funding supported important community traditions including the Amherstview Santa Claus Parade and the Remembrance Day service in Wilton, strengthening community identity and civic participation.

Waterside Summer Series and Live Music Sundays: Grants supported performers and event logistics that bring residents together through arts and cultural programming in community parks and public spaces.

Community Organizations and Facilities: Additional grants supported infrastructure and programming improvements across the Township, including upgrades to St. John's Hall, improvements to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church water system, roof repairs at Trinity Church, and restoration work at Fairfield House.

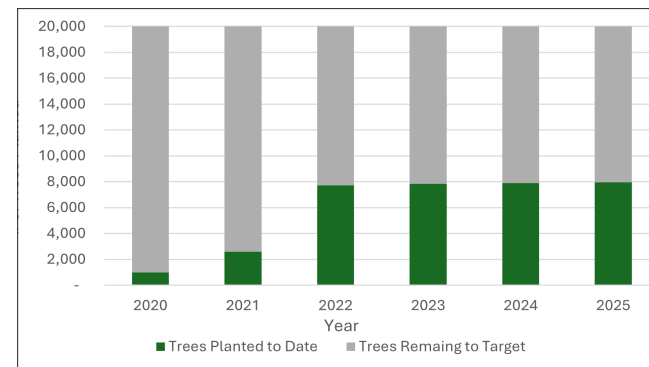
Youth, Recreation, and Community Programming: Funding also supported local initiatives such as the Odessa Public School Parent Advisory Committee community fair, Loyalist Minor Hockey programs, the We Play for Tyler charity baseball tournament, the Neilson Store Museum "Woolly Bully" race, Air Cadet Squadron programming, and active living engagement through Kingston Gets Active.

Sustainable Land Use:

Loyalist Township continues to advance sustainable land use by balancing development with environmental stewardship. In 2024, the Neighbourhood Tree Planting Program secured a \$15,000 grant, enabling residents to plant native trees and further the goal of 20,000 trees over ten years. Rewilding efforts expanded, including wildflower programs near sewage facilities and reduced mowing to support pollinators. The Township updated property standards to allow for naturalization and collaborated with local organizations to manage invasive species. Active transportation and trail networks were prioritized in planning, and new community gardens and local food initiatives were supported. These actions foster biodiversity, carbon capture, and resilient, compact communities, laying the groundwork for a greener future.

In 2025, Loyalist Township accelerated its commitment to sustainable land use. Over 60 new trees were planted through urban boulevards, commemorative programs, and capital works, with a continued “one-for-one” resident replacement initiative and intentional street tree integration in project designs. Rewilding expanded, with reduced mowing and pollinator-friendly wildflower plantings along key corridors, plus ongoing invasive species removal at the Amherstview wastewater wetland, which now supports increased biodiversity. The Township completed Engineering Design Guidelines for subdivisions, embedding Low Impact Development (LID) approaches and native landscaping, and advanced a Pollinator Protection Strategy with educational programming and habitat protection. Access to nature improved through new multi-use paths, expanded trail networks in planning approvals, and enhanced signage and digital promotion. Partnerships with local birding groups and events like Family Fishing Day and Earth Day Cleanups further connected residents to natural spaces.

Goals	Updates
Plant 20,000 Trees Over the Next 10 Years	33 trees planted in 2025 through urban boulevards and the commemorative tree program - Work underway toward an Urban Forest Management Plan grant (anticipated for 2026). 29 trees planted along Sir John Boulevard as part of capital works. Trees declined by residents were replanted in nearby parks (e.g., Briscoe Park), resulting in net canopy gain. Street trees intentionally incorporated into project design - One-for-one resident tree replacement program continued. 125 trees were planted through the Community Initiative Program





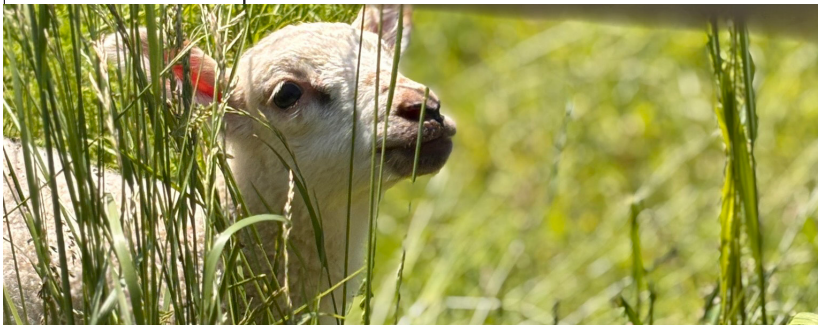
Goals	Updates
Rewild Township Owned Lands	• In 2025 Council approved a new Parks and Recreation master plan which identifies potential locations for naturalization. • Identified two areas along Taylor-Kidd where mowing was reduced because the County planted pollinator-friendly wildflowers. • Identified another area at Millhaven & Caton Road that is no longer being mowed due to County wildflower planting. • County directed Public Works in 2025 not to mow back to the fence, resulting in only two mowing passes and leaving substantial vegetation standing. • Continued invasive species removal at the Amherstview wastewater wetland. The wetland is functioning well ecologically; staff observe increased biodiversity.
Incorporate LIDS into Stormwater Management Practices	• The following items were supported by the Housing Accelerator Funding provided by CMHC: □ Completion of Engineering Subdivision Technical Guidelines which identifies preferred LID approaches and preferred native species for landscaping □ Completion of design studies Terms of Reference which included stormwater management, Hydrogeology, Geotechnical with reference to waterbalance and LID requirements



Goals	Updates
Develop a Pollinator Protection Strategy	• Pollinator Protection Strategy identified as in progress. • Loyalist Township partnered with Bath Gardening Club to deliver Pollinator Puddles educational programming during an Exploration Day (July 11). • “Flour Power, Milling & Mechanics” workshop with Hive & Hearthstone included discussion about bees and cross-pollination (Aug 7). • Utilities supported naturalization by not mowing embankments until late season to protect nesting waterfowl and pollinators at Amherstview wastewater wetland.
Promote Access to Nature	• New multi-purpose path through Briscoe Park completed in late 2025, improving walking access through wooded/natural areas. • New Park signage has been installed at parks, indicating amenities such as trails. • Website and social media updates promoting trails and park information. • The Amherst Island ferry continues to provide access for residents and visitors to natural spaces such as Back Beach and other parts of Amherst Island, supporting access to nature through regular transportation services. • The Loyalist Link route was used during 2025 to help shuttle residents to outdoor events such as Family Fishing Day in May 2025, supporting access to nature. • The Amherstview West Secondary Plan was formally approved in 2025. Includes an expanded trail and open-space network. Supports long-term access to naturalized areas and active transportation. Trail networks embedded within planning approvals were identified as a key contribution. • Utilities maintains formal agreements with local birding/nature groups for lagoon access. • Exploration Day at Babcock Mill on invasive species with Cataraqui Conservation (Aug 14). • Heritage, Culture and Tourism hosted events events are almost exclusively outdoor programming, inherently promoting time in green spaces. • Earth Day Community Cleanup, with pickup locations in every hamlet. • Construction of a granular pathway connecting the Village Meadows subdivision to Briscoe Park. • Pathway loops through park space, providing accessible nature access.



Goals	Updates
Support Local Agriculture	- Continued sludge/biosolid hauling to farms, supporting soil nutrient application through NASM program. - Issued custom annual fire permits allowing apiaries to burn hives on their own property, rather than transporting them to the Fire Training Centre. This reduced transportation risk, improved safety, and supported local agricultural operations in managing pest (mite) issues more effectively. - Doors Open Loyalist included several farm-based sites, such as Topsy Farms and Second Chance Ranch, providing free tours and education. (June 20, 2026). - Public tours of the Babcock Mill in Odessa were enriched by the concurrent operations of the weekly Makers at the Mill market taking place in Babcock Mill Park. - Participation in the Food Security / Local Food Working Group. Focus on: ☐ Community food access (Mission Food Bank, Lionhearts, Morningstar, Lions Clubs) ☐ Building infrastructure for future local food distribution - Social Media Promotion of: ☐ Amherstview Market ☐ Bath Sunday Market ☐ Makers at the Mill - Community highlights featured in newsletters and website events listings.
Promote Local Foods	Parks supports the Bath Community Garden (Lions Club Garden) through maintenance assistance.



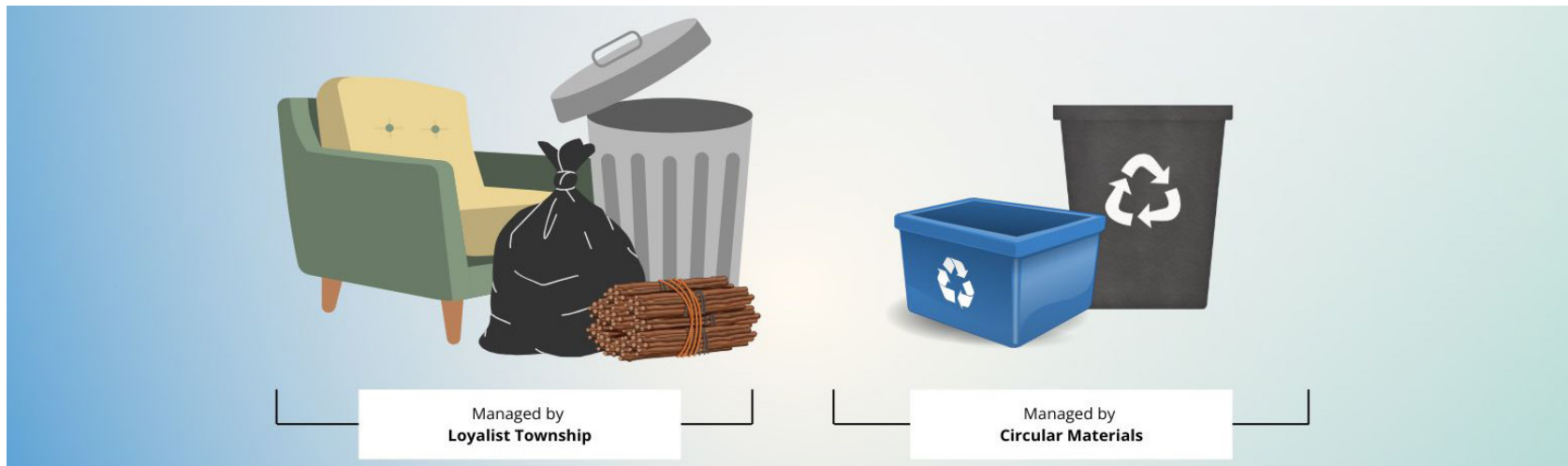


Goals	Updates
Create Resilient, Low Carbon Communities	• Parks & Recreation Master Plan (2025–2035) completed, endorsed, and ratified in 2025. The Master Plan includes 123 recommendations, and the Plan includes naturalization recommendations that align with Climate Action goals. • Amherstview West Secondary Plan: Approved urban design guidelines include sustainable development principles, energy-efficient buildings, and long-term environmental, social, and economic resiliency. • Housing Accelerator Fund Initiatives funded by CMHC □ As-of-right zoning changes approved to allow up to four residential units per property in urban serviced areas, which allows for increased housing density. □ Community Improvement Plan (CIP): Grants available for second units/additional dwelling units, purpose-built rental housing. □ Surplus Land Declaration: - Church Street (Bath) - 231 Amherst Drive - 102 Main Street (Odessa) • Engineering Design Guidelines support sustainability at streetscape and subdivision scale. • Loyalist maintained ongoing communication with residents when leaving woodchips or reusing material near properties. • Rear yard catch basins installed on South Street to reduce localized flooding (minor resilience benefit). • The Arts, Culture & Heritage Master Plan development specifically requested that an environmental/ climate lens be applied. Work was underway in 2025.

Solid Waste

Waste reduction remains a key focus, with Loyalist Township developing a 30-year Solid Waste Management Master Plan to guide future strategies. The FoodCycler program continues to divert significant household food waste, and e-waste drives have expanded, with ongoing collection at the Amherstview Fire Station. The Recycle Coach app now supports 1,900 users, helping residents manage waste more effectively. Operational changes, such as transitioning to digital materials and promoting battery recycling, further reduce landfill contributions. Biosolid reuse and soil repurposing in construction projects minimize waste and emissions. These initiatives align with broader goals to increase diversion, decrease generation, and ensure sustainable waste management.

2025 saw Loyalist Township deepen its waste reduction efforts. The transition of recycling (Blue Box) to provincial oversight required clear communication and new partnerships with third-party processors for items like batteries and tires. E-waste collection events, textile recycling, and “Giveaway Days” encouraged reuse, while improved landfill signage and communications supported proper sorting. The Solid Waste Management Master Plan progressed, with consultant-led strategy development underway. Landfill attendants set aside gently used items for resident reuse, and brush chipping and ditching soil were repurposed locally to reduce hauling and emissions. Biosolids continued to be applied to farmland, and scrap vehicles and pallets were reused for fire training. Methane reduction modeling showed significant projected decreases with organics diversion, and research into methane management systems is ongoing.





Goals	Updates
Divert Residential Waste Away from Landfills	- At the end of 2025, Loyalist Township developed plans to open and operate recycling depot services at Violet Landfill, beginning in January 2026. This service change responds to the loss of access to recycling drop-off services previously available at the Kingston Area Recycling Centre (KARC). - The Fire Department added a recycling service at the Bath Fire Station - Confirmed the Provincial transition of recycling (Blue Box) away from the Township in June–July 2025. - Loyalist Township ensured clear communication to residents about the recycling transition, including newsletters and Engage Loyalist posts. - Number of recycle coach users per year, continuing to increase. Indicates more engagement with recycling in the community. - Ran two E-waste collection events, which included a collaboration with Lions Club and Sharing Centre, gathering food and textile donations for the local charities. - Amount of e-waste collected each year. Have seen a consistent jump after the implementation of collection at the fire hall in 2020. - Giveaway Days on April 26/June 14/Oct 18. This year, we added an interactive map using Engage Loyalist, where residents can pin their address and the items they are giving away. - Improved landfill signage to support proper waste sorting - Development and public consultation on Solid Waste Management Master Plan occurred

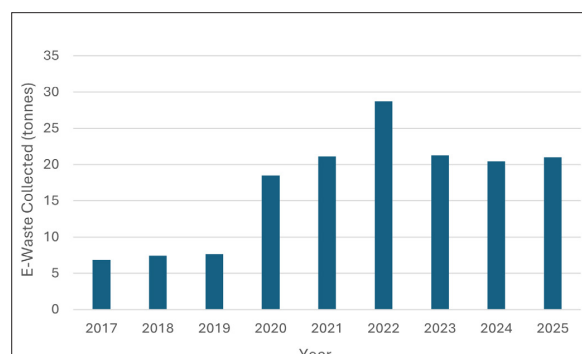
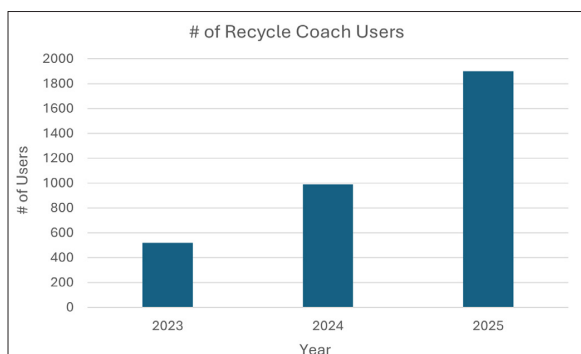


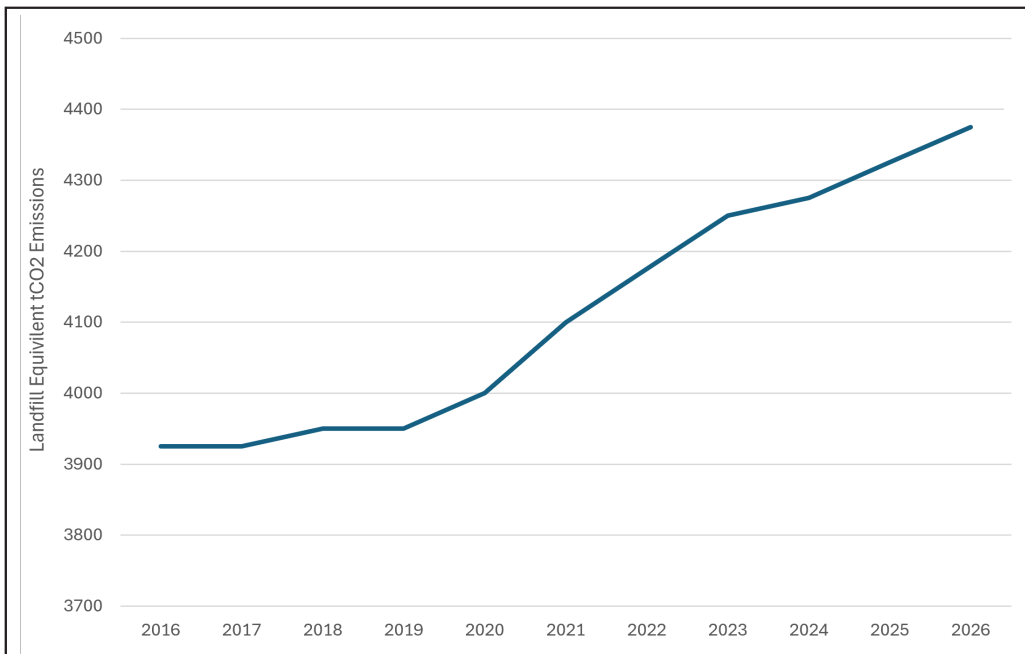
Figure 1. Recycle Coach Users - Figure 2. E-waste collection events



Goals	Updates
Support SME Waste Reduction Efforts	- Public Works used Engage Loyalist and newsletters to inform small ICI businesses about the recycling system transition and available service providers. - Loyalist Township previously collected some small ICI recycling under a bylaw clause but supported businesses through the transition to the new producer-responsibility system.
Turn Waste into a Resource	- Landfill attendants at Violet set aside gently used items (e.g., snow blowers, lawn mowers, golf carts) for residents to take before disposal. - When chipping brush near residences, sometimes leave woodchips for residents to use rather than hauling them away. - Reused ditching soil locally to rebuild shoulder drop-offs, reducing hauling distances and fuel use. - Strategically used contaminated excess soil from Potter–Creighton South as landfill cover, diverting it from disposal elsewhere. - Used a large quantity of recycled asphalt stored at County Road 6 to build internal landfill access roads, preventing waste and reducing material costs. - Ongoing biosolid reuse on agricultural land. - Scrap vehicles are reused for fire training exercises, and wooden pallets are collected and reused for live fire training purposes.



Goals	Updates
Reduce methane emissions from waste management	Methane Emissions Reduction goals within the SWMMP include: research opportunities for implementing methane management systems into existing landfills as appropriate, seek funding opportunities from upper levels of government. An analysis of methane generation with and without organics diversion was conducted via modelling. It was projected that with organics diversion, for the Violet landfill, methane generation would decrease from 236 tonnes to approximately 144 tonnes per year between 2030–2050.



1 tonne of CO₂ is equivalent to approximately 25 tonnes of methane. This conversion is provided so that the scale and impact of the landfill can be quantified against other Township emissions such as facilities or fleet.

Transportation

Loyalist Township's transportation strategy emphasizes low-carbon mobility and improved connectivity. The launch of the Loyalist Link transit service increased ridership and access, while expanded trail infrastructure and bike repair stations support active transportation. EV charger installations at key locations and ongoing electrification studies facilitate the transition to low-emission vehicles. Fleet optimization, including coordinated crew activities and rainwater reuse, reduces vehicle usage and emissions. Partnerships with Kingston Transit and local organizations enhance service reliability and accessibility, ensuring transportation remains sustainable and inclusive.

Loyalist Township's transportation sector made major strides in 2025. Route 10 achieved record ridership (~160,000 trips), and the Loyalist Link pilot route carried 900–1,100 passengers monthly, with service improvements and frequency increases approved for 2026. The electric Amherst Island ferry underwent commissioning and staff training, with full operational launch expected in 2026. Active transportation infrastructure expanded with new multi-use paths, pedestrian crossings, and sidewalk additions, all embedded in subdivision and secondary plans. The Township received a grant for a Municipal Fleet Electrification Study, installed new EV chargers, and developed fire department protocols for EV incidents. Fleet optimization included multifunction roll-off trucks, defensive driving training, idling reduction, and smaller, fuel-efficient engines. Battery-operated maintenance tools and electric rescue equipment further reduced emissions.

Goals	Updates
Increase the Active Transportation Network	• In 2025, Loyalist Township undertook a traffic calming pilot program on Amherst Drive, installing multiple physical measures to improve safety for everyone who uses the municipal right-of-way, both motorists and those who use active modes of transportation, such as walking or cycling. • Briscoe Park and Sir John Johnson Drive multi-use path, built and completed in 2025, increases active transportation connections. • Active transportation infrastructure is being secured through Draft Plan of Subdivision approvals, including Fields of Loyalist, which includes a comprehensive trail network. • Development approvals providing trail connections at Bath Mixed Use area, Lakeside Gardens Phase 3, and Lakeside Phase 8. • New Subdivision Engineering Technical Guidelines and Amherstview West Secondary Plan include requirements for Active Transportation. • Improvements to Main Street Odessa MUP alignment and pedestrian crossing installed of Main St Odessa at Durham St. • Sidewalks added as part of Potter / Creighton development.



Goals	Updates
Optimize Use of Municipal Vehicles	• Public Works added a new multifunction roll-off truck, reducing the need for multiple specialized vehicles because it can function as: ☐ a water truck ☐ a brine truck ☐ a sanding/plowing truck ☐ a dump box for ditching/fill • Staff trained in defensive and fuel-efficient driving. • Fleet updated with smaller, more fuel-efficient EcoBoost engines.
Electrify the Municipal Fleet	• Battery-operated maintenance tools purchased and used in 2025 (blowers, pole saws, etc.). • Purchase of the Townships first electrical vehicle as part of the fleet, the Emergency Services Department now operates an electric F-150 Lightening. • Battery-powered rescue tools (e.g., electric jaws of life) have largely replaced gas-powered equipment.
Replace heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emissions alternatives	• The Amherst Island electric ferry commissioning process continued throughout 2025, including multiple test days operating fully electric. Staff training occurred in 2025 on use of electric systems and onboard battery/charging operations.



Goals	Updates
Facilitate the adoption of EVs in the Community	• The Township submitted a grant application for a Municipal Fleet Electrification Study grant, which includes exploring fleet EV charging infrastructure. • Minor Variance approved at Committee of Adjustment to allow installation of an EV charging station at a commercial gas station site. • EV charger installed and operational at County Road 4 maintenance garage. • Fire Department developing Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) for electric vehicle fires. • EV fire response protocols are being embedded into Fire Department practices and considered within the Fire Master Plan review process.
Enhance transit Services	• Attended Ernestown Secondary School's annual Community Services Day with the Loyalist Link bus. Introducing the Loyalist Link to students helps them travel confidently and independently while also giving them easier access to co-op placement, part-time jobs, and volunteer opportunities throughout the community. • Fire Department began electric bus emergency response training in collaboration with Kingston Transit. • Route 10 is on track to reach its highest ever annual ridership (≈160,000 passenger trips) on a single hourly-frequency bus, a record for Loyalist Township. • Council approved 2026 service improvements, including increasing Route 10 from hourly to 30-minute frequency due to high demand. • Loyalist Township is coordinating with the City of Kingston on future models such as on-demand service options for Loyalist Link. • Loyalist Link has been extended as a pilot until December 31, 2026 • The Township is preparing to apply for OTIF (Ontario Transit Investment Funding) to support ongoing transit expansion; OTIF provides gradually declining funding over a five-year period (80% → 20%). • Construction of a new concrete bus pad at an existing stop on Potter Drive. • Loyalist Link route redesign: ☐ Improved frequency (from ~90 minutes to ~60 minutes) ☐ Two-route model linking Odessa, Amherstview, Bath, Gardiners Town Centre ☐ Service focused on AM/PM peak periods based on ridership data • Actively worked to increase shuttle use and strengthen transit connections for events. Shuttles or Loyalist Link support were used for: ☐ Family Fishing Day (Loyalist Link). ☐ Canada Day (shuttle). ☐ Light Up the Season (shuttle). ☐ Seniors Expo (Loyalist Link)



Figure 1. Total Boardings Route 10

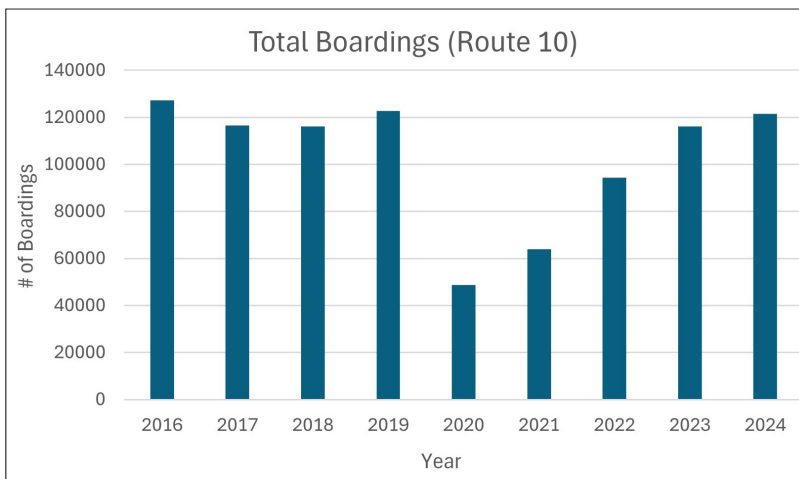


Figure 2. Loyalist Link Users

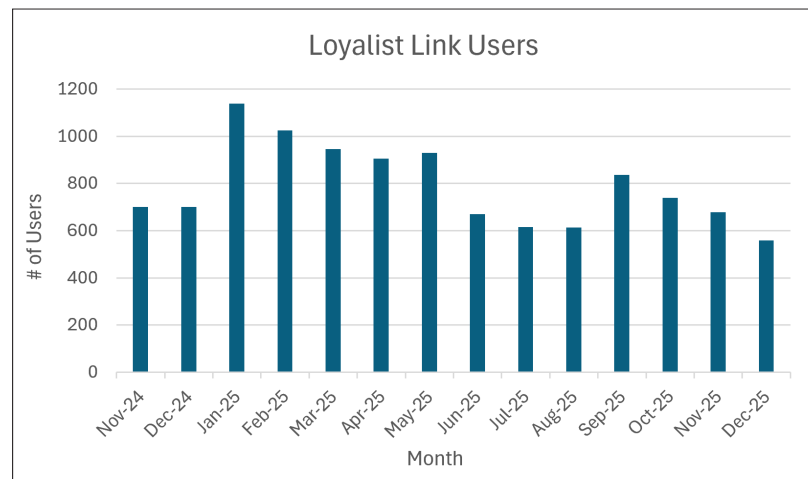


Figure 3. Total Emissions for the Municipal Fleet

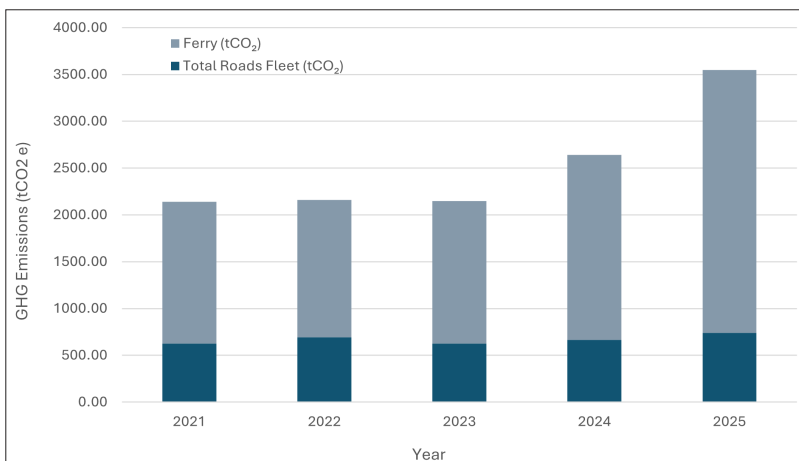


Figure 4. Shuttle at Light Up the Season



Buildings

Significant upgrades in municipal facilities highlight Loyalist Township's commitment to energy efficiency. The W.J. Henderson Recreation Centre is under construction to become Net Zero ready, featuring advanced systems and LED lighting. Heat pumps and energy-efficient HVAC units were installed at municipal sites, including heritage buildings, while real ice technology at recreation facilities delivers substantial energy savings. Subdivision design guidelines now incorporate sustainable principles, and Council has approved budgets for energy efficiency studies and grant applications. These efforts collectively reduce emissions, improve operational efficiency, and support resilient infrastructure.

Building energy efficiency and resilience were prioritized in 2025. Fire stations transitioned to LED lighting and installed energy-efficient heating and HVAC systems. Restoration work at heritage sites included upgraded mechanical systems and high-efficiency lighting. Wastewater facilities saw LED replacements and motion sensors. Successful grant applications enabled GHG reduction assessments for 17 municipal buildings, with implementation planned for 2026. Electric heat pumps were installed at multiple facilities, and energy audits are upcoming. The W.J. Henderson facility's roof was designed for future solar installation, and support was provided for battery energy storage and solar farms, contributing to community energy resilience.

Goals	Updates
Reduce Residential Energy Usage by Retrofitting Existing Homes	Community Efficiency Financing (CEF) grant application submitted. Program development research completed in 2025.
Increase Commercial and Institutional Energy Efficiency	- Planning brought forward proposals that were supported by Council for: ☐ Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) ☐ A solar farm - Fire Department has begun early-stage discussions with proponents of proposed battery energy storage systems who are seeking a contract with the IESO
Develop Green Buildings Standards for New Construction	Nothing to Report



Goals	Updates
Reduce Energy Usage in Municipal Facilities	- Replaced lighting in: ☐ Fairfield-Gutzeit House (FGH) – swapped incandescent bulbs for high-efficiency lighting. ☐ Babcock Mill – upgraded to new, energy-efficient fixtures. ☐ Fire stations are transitioning to LED lighting, replacing incrementally as fixtures burn out. - LED lighting replacements and motion sensors installed at Amherstview Wastewater facilities. - Submitted GMF application (pending announcement): ☐ GHG reduction assessments for 17 municipal buildings ☐ Implementation timeline into 2026 ☐ Energy efficiency planning aligned with FCM funding framework - Installation of electric heat pumps: ☐ Bath Fire Hall (boiler replacement). ☐ Amherstview Fire Hall. ☐ County Road 4 garage washroom/change room addition. ☐ Layer Cake Hall.
Incorporate Renewable Energy Infrastructure into Municipal Facilities	W.J. Henderson facility roof designed to support future solar installation.

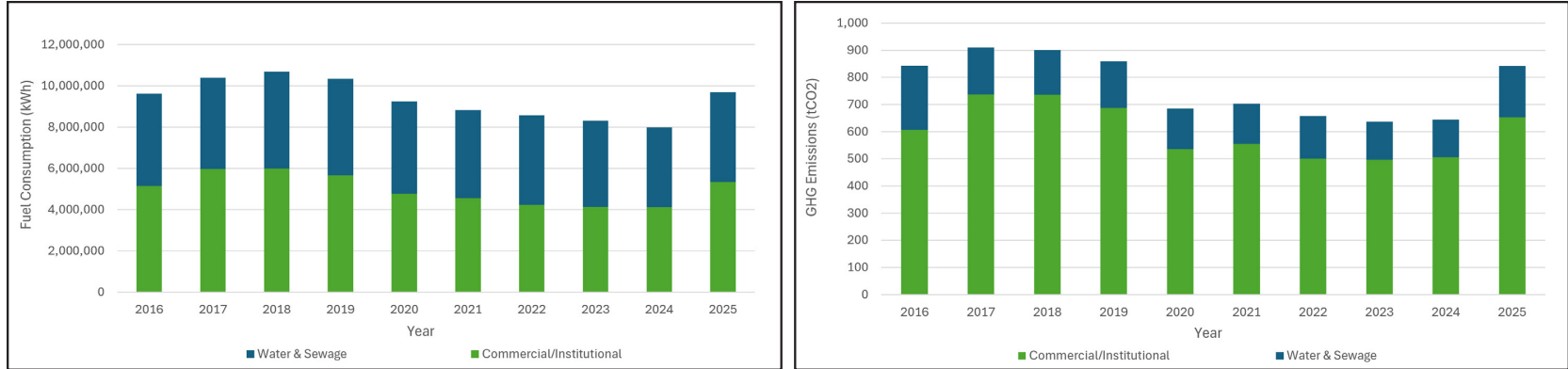




Goals, Reduce Energy Usage in Municipal Facilities and Incorporate Renewable Energy Infrastructure into Municipal Facilities, in the Climate Action Plan target the reduction of energy usage and incorporation of renewable energy infrastructure in municipal facilities. The figure below shows the total fuel consumption (Hydro, Natural Gas, Propane, and Oil) for all Township facilities each year. From 2020 to 2024 there was a consistent downward trend in consumption at Township facilities. The small incremental reductions are due to projects such as those mentioned above.

In 2025 we see a notable increase in consumption. There are multiple reasons for this increase. One factor is the weather experienced in 2025, which was colder for a longer period of time than we have experienced over the past few years. Another factor is the large construction project at the W.J. Henderson Recreation Center. While under construction the addition was heated with large construction heaters that were tied into the facility natural gas supply. Use of natural gas and electricity for construction purposes resulted in a significant increase in fuel consumption at the W.J. Henderson facility. It is anticipated that usage will decrease in 2026 as construction comes to a close.

One major goal of the Climate Action Plan is to reduce Township facilities GHG emissions by 49% from 2016 levels by 2031. Figure XX shows GHG emissions at all Township facilities since 2016. This figure shows consistent emissions between 2020 and 2024, below 700 tCO₂. The closures of the W.J. Henderson Recreation Centre in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a notable drop in consumption and emissions. The pool at the W.J. Henderson Recreation Centre was completely closed in 2022 for repairs, construction on this facility has been ongoing since 2024 and is anticipated to finish in 2026. As mentioned above, natural gas consumption, and therefore GHG emissions, increased significantly to support construction. After this facility is complete, natural gas usage should decrease and GHG emissions are expected to follow that trend.





Water and Wastewater

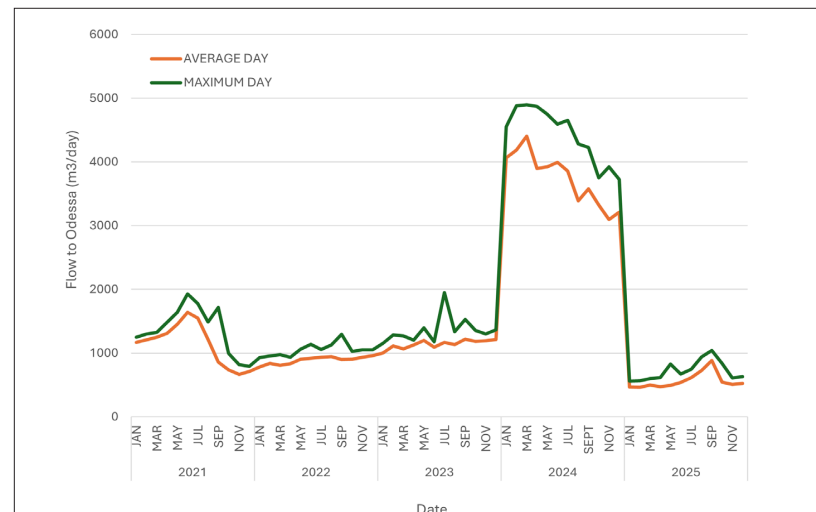
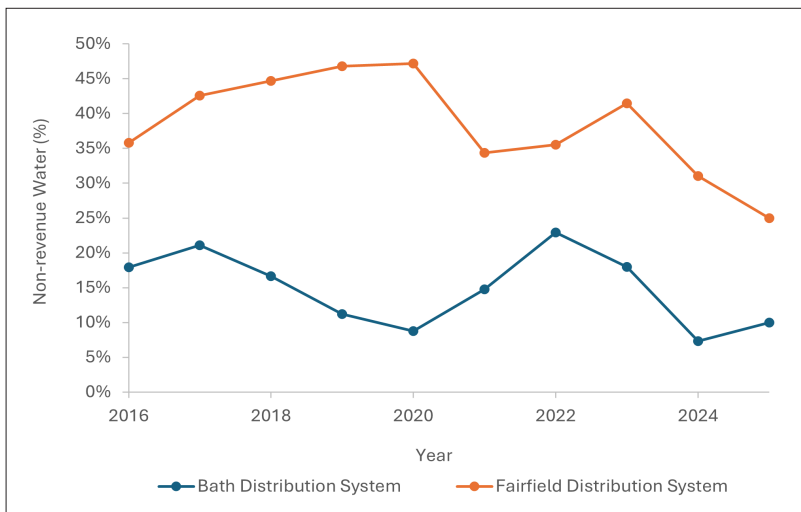
Water and wastewater management in Loyalist Township prioritizes efficiency and resilience. Over 125 water meter replacements and major watermain upgrades have reduced system losses by more than 50%. Repairs to sewer lines and grouted manholes in Odessa, along with variable consumption fee structures, have decreased water use and improved system accuracy. Energy-efficient upgrades, such as pump rebuilding and VFD installations, further reduce consumption and emissions. Ongoing monitoring and asset replacements ensure continued progress in minimizing water losses, inflow, and infiltration, supporting long-term sustainability.

2025 actions focused on efficiency and conservation. Major leak identification and repairs, including watermain replacements in Odessa and Bath, dramatically reduced system losses. Utilities implemented on-site water reclamation at the Amherstview WWTP, saving an estimated \$50,000 annually and reducing potable water use. Sewer line repairs and reconstruction projects in Odessa and Bath reduced inflow and infiltration, with peaking factor and flow data tracked for ongoing improvements. Pump rebuilds increased capacity and extended asset life, while aeration system upgrades and VFD installations at Bath STP improved energy efficiency. Effluent recirculation system design is underway, aiming to further reduce potable water use in 2026. The Water Leak Forgiveness Program saw increased uptake, and conservation efforts continued across departments.

Goals	Updates
Reduce Water Losses in the Distribution System	- Over 125 water meter replacements and major watermain upgrades have reduced system losses by more than 50%. - Internal operational changes to significantly reduce potable water use in Amherstview Waste Pollution Control Plan processes (reclamation system).



Goals	Updates
Reduce Water Losses in the Distribution System (Continued)	- Watermain replacements in Odessa and Bath. Major leak repairs contributing to reduced system losses. The Figure below shows the impact that the main water leak in Odessa had on water usage in the Fairfield distribution system. This figure shows the water being pumped to Odessa from the Booster Pumping Station. The major leak was fixed in early 2025 and it clearly shows the spike in flows coming back to a more normal level. In addition to the identified major leak, smaller losses in the system were also remedied, resulting in the average flows to Odessa being slightly lower than prior to construction. - Awarded contract for Watermain Condition Assessment: - Includes leak detection component. - Asset condition evaluation to support proactive replacement.



Reduce Inflow and Infiltration in the Collection System

- Utilities repaired sewer lines, grouted manholes, and contributed operationally to Odessa Main Street reconstruction.
- Replacement of aging sanitary pipes: Potter / Creighton / South Main Street reconstruction (Phase 2).
- Slight decrease in peaking factor in 2025, indications of slightly less impact from peak flows during high rainfall events

Goals	Updates
Reduce per Capita Water Usage	• Continued alignment with Township-wide efforts to promote water conservation. • Continued Water Leak Forgiveness Program
Increase the Efficiency of Mechanical Systems	• Major pump rebuild program across water and wastewater systems. • Result: ☐ Increased pumping capacity. ☐ Reduced runtimes and energy use. ☐ Extended asset life by ~10 years. • Bath Sewage Treatment Plant: ☐ Aeration system upgraded. ☐ New blower with VFD installed.
Capture and Reuse Waste Energy	• Bath STP effluent recirculation system: System designed to use final effluent in headworks processes where a significant quantity of potable water was being used previously. Design completion in early 2026. Construction in mid-late 2026.

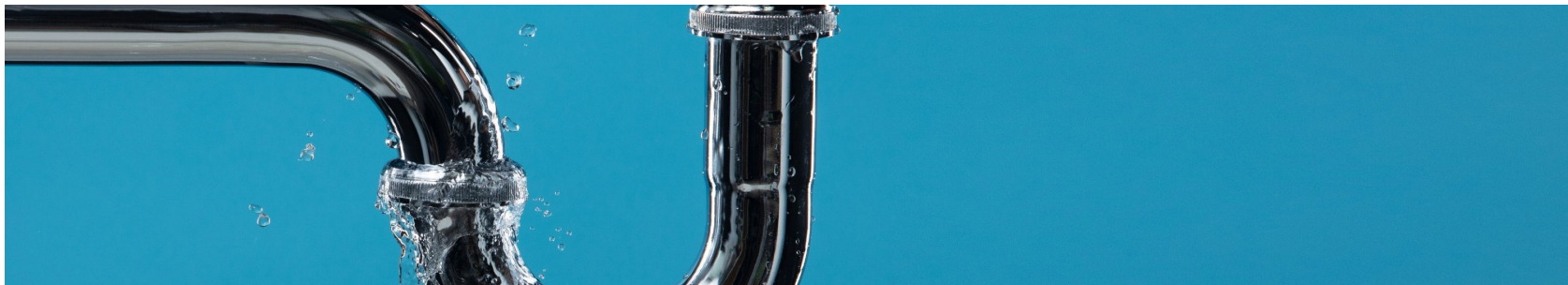




Figure 2. Odessa Flows

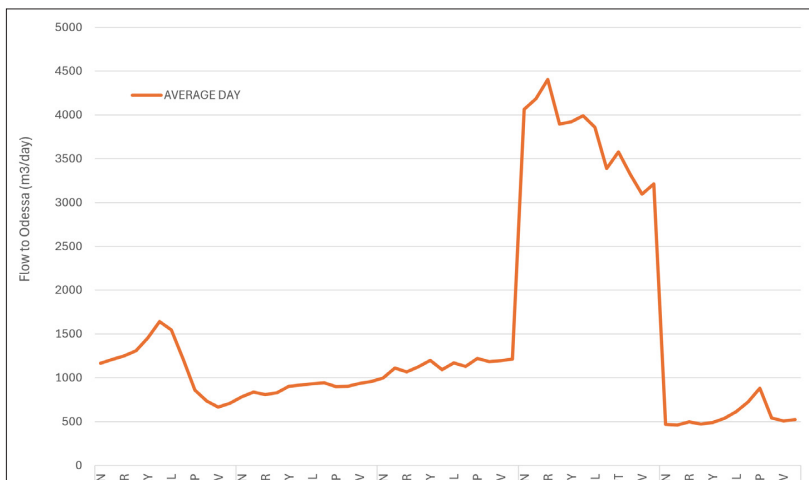
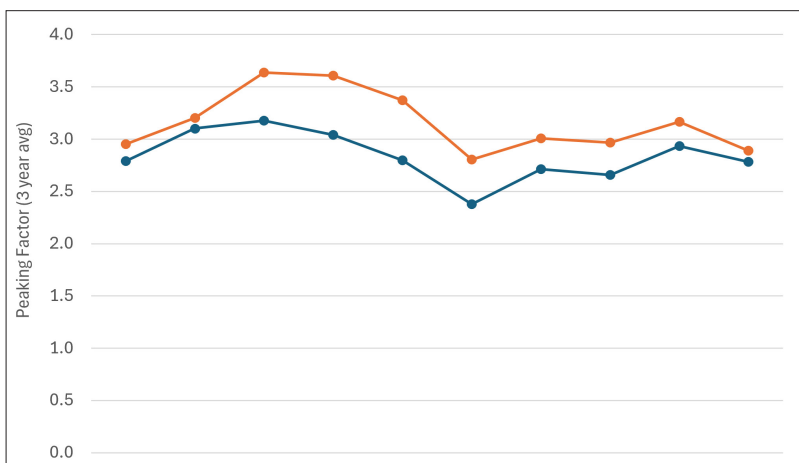


Figure 3. Peaking Factors



Other

The Township's climate action plan extends to sustainable municipal operations and community engagement. Lifecycle reviews and local sourcing are prioritized in procurement, while construction projects increasingly use recycled materials and hydroseed to minimize environmental impacts. Partnerships with Queen's University, local organizations, and school boards foster innovation and civic engagement. The Resilient Loyalist Civic Award program celebrates local sustainability champions, and expanded community events strengthen relationships and promote climate action. These collaborative efforts drive long-term positive impacts for residents and organizations alike.

Loyalist Township embedded sustainability across operations in 2025. Procurement favored local vendors and reduced print volumes for calendars and guides, shifting to digital-first delivery. Construction practices reused soils and asphalt on-site, cleaned oil-grit separators, and extended equipment lifecycles through rebuilds. Partnerships with Queen's University, Indigenous educators, and local organizations supported research, education, and community programming. Expanded community grants and collaborations with food banks, farmers' markets, and business associations strengthened local resilience. Public engagement grew through workshops, open houses, and events, with new communication tools like CodeRED for ferry notifications reducing unnecessary travel and emissions.

Goals	Updates
Strengthen community relationships and engagement	• Participation in municipal food security working group discussions. • Support provided to Bath Gardening Club. • Support provided to Lions Club community planters, including planting, watering, and maintenance. • Marine Services participated for the first time in the Amherst Island Open House (2025), answering ferry-related questions and supporting public engagement. • In 2025 the Township implemented a new CodeRED ferry notification system to provide real-time service alerts (delays, outages, disruptions). These communication improvements reduce unnecessary travel to the terminal during outages, supporting emissions reductions and community resilience. • Staff supported a public workshop on Additional Residential Units. □ Held October 22. □ Provided guidance to residents on zoning and permitting. □ Well-attended and identified as a positive example of public-facing engagement. □ Staff continue to engage residents through ongoing development review processes and public consultations.



Goals	Updates
Strengthen community relationships and engagement (Continued)	• Supported Bath Canada Day & other events through the portable water station. • Reinforced public engagement by enabling birdwatchers' access to lagoons. • Heritage, Culture, and Tourism Division collaborated with: ☐ Bath Gardening Club (pollinator programming). ☐ Cataraqui Conservation (invasive species education). ☐ Hive & Hearthstone (local agriculture + pollination education). ☐ Topsy Farms & Second Chance Ranch (Doors Open farm sites). ☐ Bath Sunday Market, Odessa Makers Market (collaboration & shared space). ☐ Indigenous educators delivering outdoor music/language programming in schools. • Expanded Community Grant Program participation and increased the number of applicant organizations. • Partnerships strengthened with: ☐ Lionhearts ☐ Mission Food Bank ☐ Morningstar ☐ Public Health • Pavilion project on Amherst Island supporting farmers' markets • Grand opening of the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Legacy Space at the WJ Henderson Community Centre





Goals	Updates
Incorporate Sustainability into Corporate Procurement	• The new waste contract incorporated municipal recycling within the same service, reducing the number of collection vehicles required. • Significant print reduction initiatives: ☐ Township calendar reduced from ~20+ pages to 8 pages ☐ Recreation guides reduced from ~32 pages to ~4 pages • Shift toward: ☐ Digital-first delivery ☐ Centralized pickup instead of home delivery
Incorporate Sustainable Practices in Construction Activities	• Reused recycled asphalt to build internal landfill roads. • Cleaned out oil-grit separators (OGS), township-wide in 2025, to protect drinking water from contaminant runoff. • Reuse of excavated materials: ☐ Clean soils reused on-site as berms. ☐ Excess clean soils managed under reuse guidelines.
Partner with Local Industries and Academic Institutions	• Fire Department regularly works with local industrial facilities to conduct site-specific training. The Fire Training Centre is used by external partners for shared learning and skills development, supporting community resilience and preparedness. • Planning & Engineering staff participated in two Queen's University capstone projects, including: ☐ Stormwater management assessment within the Amherstview West Secondary Plan lands ☐ System connection analysis between Bath and Fairfield. • Partnered with Indigenous educators/elders for programming across multiple schools in Loyalist Township. • Continued collaboration with Corrections Canada crews (tree removal/necessary work at facilities). • Cross-department participation in school-based events. Including, transit engagement with: ☐ Ernestown Secondary School ☐ St. Lawrence College (ongoing) • Transit bus brought on-site for student orientation and engagement.

Conclusion

The 2025 Climate Action Plan Report Card highlights Loyalist Township's continued progress toward building a more sustainable and resilient community. Across sectors—including land use, waste reduction, transportation, buildings, water and wastewater, and community partnerships—the Township implemented initiatives that reduce environmental impacts while supporting community wellbeing.

Many of the actions undertaken in 2025 lay the foundation for future progress. Initiatives such as the Solid Waste Management Master Plan, Municipal Fleet Electrification Study, and Community Efficiency Financing program will guide future planning and investment, while continued collaboration with residents, organizations, and local partners strengthens community participation in climate action. Loyalist Township remains committed to advancing the goals of the ResiLienT Climate Action Plan, tracking progress toward greenhouse gas reduction targets, and working with the community to build a thriving and resilient future.

