



**October 1, 2021**

## **Notice to Quick Service Restaurants Regarding Drive-Thru Litter Receptacles**

Litter continues to be a concern within our community as it impacts public health and safety, property values, and quality of life in general. In recognition of these concerns, Halifax Regional Council approved changes to the Solid Waste Resource By-Law S-600 in April 2021 which will give the municipality further abilities to enforce litter prevention measures.

Pursuant to the revised by-law<sup>1</sup>, commercial properties, including quick service restaurants, have a responsibility to keep their property free from litter. This may include placement of litter receptacles in the parking lot as well as having a plan for picking litter up from around the property.

Further to this, Section 12.5<sup>2</sup> of the by-law, requires quick service restaurants to provide litter receptacles in their drive-thru lanes for the use of customers. By requiring waste receptacle containers in drive-thru lanes we are encouraging proper disposal and a reduction in the amount of litter in public places and on roadsides. Litter receptacles will need to be maintained and emptied regularly to avoid overflow.

### **Halifax Solid Waste will begin enforcing the mandatory provision of litter receptacles in drive-thru restaurants starting April 1, 2022.**

For clarity, establishments are not required to have multi-stream sorting bins in the drive-thru, however, multi-stream sorting bins (accessible to customers) will continue to be required elsewhere on the property.

---

<sup>1</sup>Section 12A 4(2): An owner, operator, or person in care, management or control of a business or operation shall keep the property and all public or private lands, streets, lanes, passageways, beaches or docks within 15 m of any boundary of their property free of all litter unless the landowner or operator denies access to their lands for this purpose.

<sup>2</sup>Section 12.5: The occupant of an industrial, commercial or institutional premise that offers drive thru service shall: (a) provide the quantity of containers required to dispose of any waste generated by the service; and (b) place the containers in such a manner that a person using the drive-thru lane can access them.

If you should have any additional inquiries regarding litter management on your property, or placement of receptacles in your drive-thru, please contact Cyndi Fraser, Education Officer ([wasteless@halifax.ca](mailto:wasteless@halifax.ca) or 902.476.2507).

Sincerely,

Shannon Betts  
Diversion Policy Coordinator  
Solid Waste Resources | TPW  
Halifax Regional Municipality