High winds can cause challenges with waste collection, especially winds blowing blue boxes. If a storm or high winds are expected, don’t set your blues boxes out the night before. Place them at the curb by 7 a.m. on your collection day or consider holding your blue boxes for next week’s collection.

To prevent winds from carrying materials out of your blue boxes:

• Do not overfill the blue boxes.

• Crush bottles and cans when putting into them the Containers Only blue box. Crushing lightweight items makes it harder for the winds to blow them out.

• Secure loose paper in a plastic grocery bag, then put the grocery bag in the Paper and Plastic Bag blue box.

• Do not put loose plastic bags into the blue box. Secure all plastic bags in one bag, tie tightly shut, put that plastic bag in the Paper and Plastic Bag blue box.

• Break down smaller food boxes and tuck them into one large box (cereal box) or into a plastic grocery bag.

• A reminder that Styrofoam is not collected in the blue box, it goes into the garbage.

• The Paper and Plastic Bag blue box is usually heavier. Place this box on top of the Containers Only blue box to hold the containers down.

• Write your address on green bins, blue boxes and garbage cans.

To check how to dispose of an item, use the Waste Whiz search tool on our website or download the Waste Whiz app.

For more information on our services, visit our website: www.regionofwaterloo.ca/waste

For a collection issue or any other question, call our 24-hour Customer Service at 519-575-4400

Deaf and hard of hearing (TTY): 519-575-4608