

## **2012 Solid Waste Management Budget**

On November 29, 2011 the 2012 operating and capital budgets for Solid Waste Management Services were approved by Toronto City Council. The approved 2012 Solid Waste Operating and Capital Budget results in no rate increase for the majority of residential customers. At the same time, it seeks to create fair, harmonized rates across the entire customer base.

Key operational initiatives for Multi-residential customers supported by the 2012 Solid Waste Management Budget include:

- Restructuring the Multi-Residential Curbside Bin Rate to resemble the Multi-Residential Front-End Rate;
- Continued program rollout of apartment Green Bin organics collection;
- Introducing new materials to be recycled in the Blue Bin (e.g. Mixed Rigid Plastic Packaging).

### **New Rate Structure - Beginning January 1, 2012**

The **Multi-Residential Curbside (Subscription) Rate** Structure has changed to mirror the existing **Multi-Residential Front End Rate Structure** (no changes in 2012) where there is a standard flat base rate for each unit with a corresponding per unit rebate for the collection of a base volume (for the collection of specified base volume per unit per year), and a linear cubic yard rates for excess volume above the base volume.

Beginning January 1, 2012, the base rate for each unit will be \$191.30 per year with an allotted a base volume of 1.917 yd<sup>3</sup> or 0.9585 yd<sup>3</sup> per year for uncompacted and compacted waste respectively. Excess volume above the base volume will be charged a rate \$13.27 per yd<sup>3</sup> or \$26.55 per yd<sup>3</sup> for uncompacted and compacted waste respectively. An annual rebate of \$185.00 per unit will be issued.

Customers who are approved for Multi-Residential Curbside (Subscription) bag-only service will be provided with 26 tags per unit in lieu of a base volume allowance and be provided with the same rebate. These customers that require additional volume will be required to purchase Residential Bag Tags as they do currently.

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **What is the benefit of the volume-based rate structure?**

The Volume-Based Rate Structure allows customers to see immediate financial savings for their waste diversion efforts and more easily identify excess waste volume (above the base rate) to more readily attain financial savings and plan for increased diversion efforts.

### **What has changed for Multi-Residential Curbside (Subscription) buildings?**

The rate structure for Multi-Residential Curbside (Subscription) buildings has changed to mirror the Multi-Residential Front-end Rate Structure where there is a standard flat base rate per unit (for the collection of specified base volume per unit per year), a linear cubic yard rate for excess volume above the base volume and a rebate to offset the charge for the collection of the base volume which is consistent with the other Multi-Residential customers.

### **2012 multi-residential curbside collection rates**

Base Allotment Fee (per unit/yr)	\$191.30
Fee for excess waste: un-compacted (per yd <sup>3</sup> )	\$13.27
Fee for excess waste: compacted (per yd <sup>3</sup> )	\$26.55
Bag only Fee (per unit/yr)	\$191.30**

\*\*includes 26 bag tags per unit

An annual rebate of \$185.00 per unit will be issued.

Approved multi-residential curbside customers who use bags only (*this currently accounts for very few Solid Waste customers*) will also be charged the base rate and applied rebate (per unit, per year) but will receive the equivalent number of bag tags equalling the base volume (26 bag tags per residential unit per year).

### **Why is Solid Waste proposing this change?**

This change is being proposed in order to achieve consistency in the way Solid Waste calculates fees and bills for all of its multi-residential customers.

### **What is the benefit of this proposed change?**

The realignment will result in a rate for this customer base that better reflects the full cost of providing service to them. It continues to provide flexibility for Multi-Residential buildings that have storage issues and property owners will continue to receive a low cost benefit of a shared collection point.

**Is this a rate increase for Multi-residential customers who receive curbside service?**

This customer base will have a minimum charge of \$6.30 per unit (the difference between the base allotment fee of \$191.30 and the annual rebate of \$185.00 per unit). Buildings that were previously receiving a disproportionately high credit will see a higher increase on their bills under the new rate structure.

All Solid Waste customers, including multi-residential customers, are charged a fee for garbage only. There will be no additional charge for the collection of recycling, organics, bulky and scrap metal items, yard waste, household hazardous waste and waste electronics and equipment.

Property managers and owners are encouraged to improve recycling programs in their buildings to reduce the amount of garbage collected, increase diversion and ultimately help provide a savings for their buildings. Operations staff is available to provide advice on how best to achieve savings and improve recycling in multi-residential buildings.

You can estimate the solid waste management fee for your building using the on-line Calculator Tool on the Solid Waste website [www.toronto.ca/recycling](http://www.toronto.ca/recycling)

**Who will be affected?**

Approximately 1,600 accounts or 42,000 units will be affected by the proposed rate/rebate program restructuring.

**How were Multi-unit buildings notified of this proposed change?**

A letter from the Acting General Manager of Solid Waste was mailed on November 2, 2011 to the affected property managers and owners. In addition, this information was included in the Public Notice issued by the City Clerk's office on November 3, 2011.

**When will the change be in effect?**

The proposed changes come into effect January 1, 2012.

**Will this change cause rent increases for tenants?**

The change for multi-residential curbside customers does not mean there will be an automatic rent increase. This is an issue that is best addressed between landlords and their tenants.

**Are residents of multi-unit buildings able to recycle as many items as single-family homes?**

Yes. There is no difference between what can be recycled. To find out what items can be recycled, check the Solid Waste website or the 2012 recycling calendar that was delivered to all apartments and condos in Toronto.