

Continue to compost

If you use a backyard composter already, we encourage you to continue composting. The Green Bin organics program will allow you to divert even more than your backyard composter, since you can put animal waste, meat, fish and bones, among other items, into your Green Bin.



Watch for students coming to your door

The City of Toronto has hired students to go door-to-door to introduce the Green Bin organics program throughout the summer. In fact, you may have already had someone visit your door (they started at the beginning of June). The students will be available to answer your questions about the program. We feel that it is very important to get the information to you in as much detail as necessary for a successful Green Bin program.



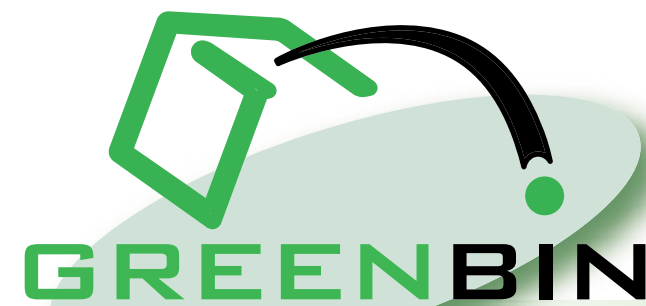
ANY QUESTIONS? NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you have any questions about the Green Bin organics program, please call Customer Service at 416-338-2010 or check out our web site at www.city.toronto.on.ca/greenbin



Pour recevoir ces renseignements en français, appelez le 416 338-2010.
 Per avere queste informazioni in italiano si prega di chiamare il 416-338-2010.
 Aby otrzymać te informacje w języku polskim, proszę dzwonić (416) 338-2010.
 Para recibir esta información en español, sírvase llamar al 416-338-2010.

ਇਹ ਸਾਵਥਾਰੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਮੋਰਚਾਊਟ ਦੇ ਲਈ, ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 416-338-2010 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।
 இந்த விவரத்தை தமிழில் பெறவதற்கு, அழைக்கவும்: 416 338 2010.
 Щоб отримати інформацію українською мовою, просимо телефонувати 416-338-2010
 یہ معلومات اردو میں حاصل کرنے کیلئے فون کریں: 416-338-2010



Going Green in Etobicoke

ISSUE 1 – JULY 2002



INTRODUCING... THE GREEN BIN PROGRAM

Starting the week of September 17th in Etobicoke, you will be part of a new waste diversion program being introduced – the Green Bin organics program. Phase one of the program is starting in Etobicoke and it will be rolled out city-wide by 2005.

The Green Bin organics program will help us to reduce the amount of material that is sent to landfill from Toronto households. We want to do this for a couple of reasons. Landfill is an expensive way to dispose of our garbage. And reusing organic material is good for the environment.

When the city-owned Keele Valley landfill site closes in 2002, waste disposal costs will increase from \$12/tonne to \$52/tonne. That's more than 400%! Our garbage will have

to be sent to private landfill sites in Michigan. Therefore, it is important to send less waste to landfill.

The Green Bin Program is simple and easy to follow. It allows you to put all of your organic household materials, such as food waste and soiled paper products, out for collection. Organics make up approximately 30% of the garbage going to landfill. With the Green Bin program, the organics will be going instead to a new facility to be turned into compost for farms and parks.

“The Green Bin Program is simple and easy to follow...”



The Green Bin Organics Program Brings Changes

There will be some changes to the way your garbage and recycling is collected.

1. Your garbage and recycling collection day will change. It will be one day later starting the week of September 17th. For example, if your regular garbage day is now Monday, it will move to Tuesday. Tuesday will move to Wednesday; Wednesday to Thursday; and Thursday to Friday. This means that you will no longer be affected by statutory holidays that fall on Mondays. The rest of the city is also on a Tuesday to Friday garbage and recycling collection schedule.
2. Garbage will be collected every two weeks.
3. You will receive Green Bin organic collection once every week.
4. Yard waste will continue to be collected weekly in April, May, October and November, and every second week during June, July, August and September.
5. Recycling collection will continue to be collected every second week.



The important thing to remember is that what you think of as "garbage" today will no longer be garbage with the Green Bin organics program. All of the organic material (food waste, soiled paper towels, meat, fish, kitty litter, animal waste, diapers) will be picked up every week in your Green Bin.

The items left in your garbage will be things such as broken toys, non-recyclable plastic, vacuum bags – all dry items that will not have any odour and can be stored for two weeks.



WHY the Green Bin program?

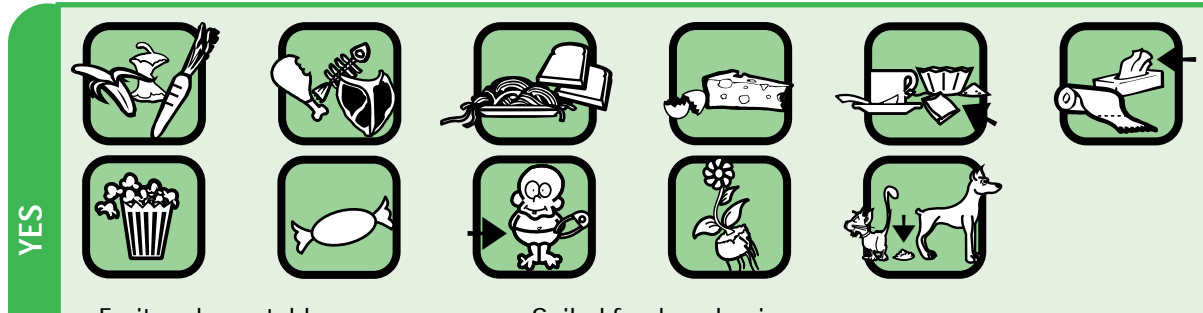
The City of Toronto spends millions of dollars on waste disposal every year. And these costs continue to increase. The blue and grey box recycling programs are positive steps in reducing the problem – but they don't deal with the largest source of household garbage – organic material.

HOW does the Green Bin program work?

The City of Toronto will supply you with two bins – a large green bin that you can take to the curb and a smaller one that can fit under your sink or anywhere that is convenient for you. Both of these bins can be lined with plastic bags, if you wish, just like your regular garbage container. The bins will be dropped off to your home before the program begins the week of September 17th.



INTO THE GREEN BIN...



- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Meat and fish products (bones, skins, fat)
- Pasta, bread and cereal
- Dairy products, egg shells
- Coffee grinds and filters, tea bags
- Soiled paper towels, tissues
- Soiled food packaging – microwave popcorn bags, ice cream boxes, muffin paper
- Candy, cookies, cake
- Diapers, sanitary products
- Household plants, including soil
- Animal waste, bedding and litter



NOT INTO THE GREEN BIN...

NO

Please do not include the following items. They do not break down and therefore, cannot be turned into compost.

- Dryer lint
- Dryer sheets
- Feathers
- Hair/Pet fur
- Fireplace or BBQ ashes
- Wood chips
- Vacuum bags



Organic Material to be Reused

The material will be taken to a new processing facility, located in north Toronto. The facility will use a technology to remove recyclable and unwanted materials from the organics. It will then use anaerobic digestion to produce energy and organic material that can be made into compost.

Anaerobic digestion is a biological process that uses bacteria to break down solids in the absence of oxygen.

