

August 2011

Re: Commercial Waste Collection and the Yellow Bag Program

On March 7, 2002, Council approved a harmonized system for City collection of waste from commercial businesses. The system, called the Yellow Bag Program, is designed to encourage Toronto's commercial customers to decrease garbage disposal and increase recycling and organics collection.

The criteria for determining whether or not your business may be eligible for the Yellow Bag Program and the frequency of collection have been harmonized across the City. A base level of once per week for collection of organics, recyclables and residual garbage is provided.

Commercial customers registered with the City for the Yellow Bag Program must use special yellow bags for their garbage collection. The bags cost \$3.10 each and are available at Toronto Canadian Tires stores. This price covers the cost of collection and disposal of the waste. Businesses are able to reduce their costs by recycling and separating organics for collection. If your business generates a large quantity of organic waste, you may apply for additional organic collection of two, five or six times per week. There is a fee for this additional service, which is billed quarterly and must be prepaid.

This package is provided for you to apply for the Yellow Bag Program. It includes an application form and guidelines for completing the form. It also contains information about the program (e.g. eligibility, service levels, fees, how to purchase yellow bags and containers, etc.).

Yours truly,



Robert Orpin
Director, Collections Operations