



## Green Bins Coming to all City-Serviced Households in September

The anticipation will soon be over for Nanaimo households waiting to start the Green Bin Program.

Green bins and start-up kits will be delivered in September to the City's remaining 17,500 homes without green bin service, followed by scheduled food and kitchen waste collection in October. These households will join 8,200 Nanaimo homes already participating in the Green Bin Program.

The City's Green Bin Program does not extend to multi-family residences or other properties receiving private waste collection. The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) and the City will be working with private waste haulers and strata property owners to assist them with introducing organics collection for their residents.

### When Your Green Bin Arrives Look Inside!

When your green bin is delivered, check inside immediately. You'll find:

- ✓ A new white-coloured schedule showing new food waste, garbage and recycling collection days for October, November and December;
- ✓ A Green Bin Program User Guide;
- ✓ Decals for your new containers listing acceptable/unacceptable materials; and
- ✓ A small kitchen container and sample *compostable* liner bags.
- ✓ All residences receiving City food waste collection service in October should have their green bins and start-up kits delivered by September 25th. Households that don't receive a green bin by this date should call Nanaimo Public Works at 250-758-5222.

Visit [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca) or [www.beyondcomposting.ca](http://www.beyondcomposting.ca) for helpful information or to view a short video on how to use your Green Bin.



### No Charge for Green Bins

Green bins and kitchen containers for food waste collection are being supplied free of charge. Because of the Green Bin Programs effectiveness in diverting waste from the landfill, the cost of supplying containers is covered by the RDN's Solid Waste Reserve Fund.

### Collection Start Dates

Food waste collection starts on the next scheduled pick-up day after September 30th. Check your new white schedule for green bin, garbage and recycling collection days. Remember, food waste is collected weekly; garbage and recyclables are scheduled for collection once every two weeks.

Start putting food waste and food-soiled paper products into your green bin the week before your scheduled collection begins.

### Impact on Reducing Garbage

Your green bin goes beyond what can be composted at home because, along with fruit and vegetable scraps, it accepts cooked food, meat, fish, bones, and food-soiled and wax coated paper and packaging. Instead of going to the landfill, household organic waste is processed into compost, enriched soil, and eventually renewable fuels.

By using their green bin, the average Nanaimo household has cut the garbage it takes to the curb by 45 to 49 per cent. With all City and other households throughout the region participating in the Green Bin Program, an estimated 6,000 tonnes of food waste will be diverted from the landfill annually.

Your participation will extend the life of our landfill, cut greenhouse gas emissions, support local green jobs, and save money.



- Green Bin Open Houses
- New Collection Trucks Arrive
- Partners In A Cleaner Community
- Changes To Collection Routes

## NEW SPLIT-PACKER COLLECTION TRUCKS ARRIVE

Four new “split-packer” trucks will be the centerpiece of green bin food and kitchen waste collection. These trucks were purchased to efficiently provide the service and replaced old garbage trucks that had been in service for more than 10 years.



Collection crews will use the split-packers when both garbage and the green bin are collected on the same day. The trucks have two

compartments that ensure the separation of materials and enable both garbage and food waste to be collected in single truck by a single operator.

Using one truck to collect both food waste and garbage reduces vehicle emissions and results in no increase in staff or additional equipment for the Green Bin Program.

## ATTEND A GREEN BIN PROGRAM OPEN HOUSE

Learn how to make your green bin work for you and about changes to your garbage collection program by attending a Green Bin Program Open House. The events will feature green bin displays and staff will be available to answer questions.

Tues., September 13  
3 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Beban Park Lounge  
2300 Bowen Road

Thurs., September 15  
3 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Departure Bay Activity Centre  
1415 Wingrove Street

## GETTING READY TO START YOUR GREEN BIN

### Changes to Your Curbside Collection Schedule

Households receiving green bin service in October, will as a first step, need to understand and adjust to their new collection schedule. City crews will provide garbage collection and green bin service. The City's contractor, BFI Canada, continues to collect curbside recyclables.

An example of a new collection schedule is:

- ✓ Week 1 - Food Waste and Garbage
- ✓ Week 2 - Food Waste and Recyclables
- ✓ Week 3 - Food Waste and Garbage
- ✓ Week 4 - Food Waste and Recyclables

### One Container Of Garbage Collected Once Every Two Weeks

When weekly food waste service is introduced in October, garbage collection changes to one standard-size container picked up every second week. Remember to provide extra space in your garbage can by adding food and kitchen waste to your green bin the week before your first scheduled green bin collection.

### Doing The Math

The actual volume of what is presently collected as garbage will increase with the Green Bin Program. Here's how:

- ✓ One 48-litre green bin collected weekly or 96 litres over two weeks
- ✓ One 77-litre garbage can collected every second week

The total volume of waste households can take to the curb will increase by 19 litres or 12%.



### Tips For Staying Within the One Container of Garbage Per Week Limit

#### Maximize Your Curbside Recycling Program

- ✓ Ask yourself if paper, plastic or metal can be recycled at the curbside before putting them in the garbage.
- ✓ Capture more recyclable materials by putting recycling collection containers in a home office and kitchen.

#### Put soiled paper in the green bin, including:

- ✓ Cardboard, waxed cardboard, waxed paper, pizza boxes
- ✓ Ice cream, milk and cream cartons
- ✓ Paper cups and plates, paper fast food packaging
- ✓ Paper towels and tissues

### Extended Service for Additional Garbage

As is already the case, you may occasionally need to put out an extra can of garbage. Up to two additional standard size containers can be put out on your garbage collection day by attaching a \$2 tag to each container.

Locations where garbage tags are sold are available at [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca) (click on Residents, then Collection Services and scroll to the bottom of the page). Alternatively, call Public Works at 250-758-5222.

## WHAT HAPPENS TO FOOD WASTE AFTER IT IS COLLECTED?

The food and kitchen waste in the green bin you take to the curbside will be transported to the ICC Group composting facility at Duke Point.

ICC adds woody waste - as a carbon source - to nitrogen-rich food waste using a recipe to produce high quality compost.

Next, the materials are mixed and composted in enclosed composting vessels that produce enough heat to kill pathogens. The process is aerobic so methane, a potent greenhouse gas, is not produced.

After leaving the composter, the raw compost is cured for 44-50 days and then screened to remove any oversize or non-composted matter. The final product meets BC's Organic Matter Regulation and is used in landscaping, agriculture and gardening applications to enrich the soil.

Bulk and packaged compost and compost-enriched soil produced from the Green Bin Program can be purchased at Alpine's Nanaimo Soil Mart, 2250 McGarrigle Road, Nanaimo. For more information call 250-751-1089 or visit [www.alpinesupersoil.com](http://www.alpinesupersoil.com)



*At ICC, food waste is mixed with woody waste to achieve the right composting balance.*

### From Food Waste to Renewable Fuels

ICC is developing a process to produce synthetic fuels from food waste and other organic materials at its Duke Point Plant. They have successfully conducted tests in a laboratory setting.

The process will use gasification and catalytic technologies to convert part of the organic waste ICC receives into biodiesel and bio-kerosene. These renewable fuels could be used to power vehicles or generate electricity.

Over the next year, ICC will install the equipment required to increase local production of renewable fuels.

### Keep Your Green Bin Contaminant-Free!

Putting plastics, glass, metal or other inorganic materials in your Green Bin will contaminate the final compost product. Do not use plastic or biodegradable bags to collect or store food waste. Only bags with one of the certified compostable logos below can be used to line your kitchen catcher or green bin.



## NON-PROFITS HELP MAKE NANAIMO A CLEANER COMMUNITY

For the ninth year, Nanaimo non-profits participating in the City's Partners in a Cleaner Community program are helping making the city a more attractive place to live.

More than 200 volunteers from 15 local organizations collected 300 bags of litter, broken glass, tires and other debris during the spring phase of the clean-up campaign.

The City of Nanaimo provided garbage bags, gloves, safety signs, vests, and the collection and disposal of all debris collected. Each non-profit group received \$50.00 per kilometre upon completion of their assigned route.

Community organizations will be out again this fall to complete litter pick-ups in their designated areas. Watch for these dedicated volunteers and please exercise caution if you are driving nearby.

### Groups participating in the 2011 Partners in Cleaner Community Program

- 1st Nanaimo Piper Rangers
- 1st Neck Point Scouts
- 1st Neck Point Ventures
- Chase River Pathfinders
- Chase River Rangers
- Christ Community Church
- Church of the Nazarene
- Claytree Society
- Island Crisis Care
- Morrell Sanctuary Society
- Nanaimo Association for Community Living
- Nanaimo Hindu Cultural Society
- Nanaimo Lion's Club
- Nanaimo Travellers Lodge
- St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



*The 1st Nanaimo Piper Rangers braved rainy weather while collecting litter at Piper's Lagoon Park.*

## A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE -

### RDN ASSISTS MULTI-FAMILY PROPERTIES EXPAND RECYCLING

Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Solid Waste Services is helping multi-family properties and their waste haulers prepare to expand recycling opportunities at their complexes.

In March 2010, the Regional Board approved Bylaw 1531. It prohibits landfill disposal of corrugated cardboard, recyclable paper, rigid HDPE and LDPE household plastic containers, and metal food and beverage containers.

The regulation makes both waste generators and waste haulers responsible for diverting the banned recyclables to appropriate recycling facilities. It requires multi-family complexes and stratas to recycle the same materials collected through municipal and regional district curbside programs. This will enhance recycling opportunities for multi-family residents, conserve resources and save valuable landfill space.

RDN Solid Waste Services staff have met with waste haulers to update them on the region's program to expand multi-family recycling and enlist their cooperation in achieving compliance with the regulatory bylaw.

Letters and brochures are being sent to property owners and managers of multi-family buildings and stratas. These explain how the recyclable materials disposal ban affects their properties, how the ban will be enforced, the benefits of expanded multi-family recycling, and what to consider when expanding recycling services.



The RDN has produced graphics, printed educational materials and a website section to support expansion of multi-family recycling programs. These materials are available at [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca) or by contacting RDN Solid Waste Services at 250-390-6560.

Multi-family property owners/managers are encouraged to contact RDN Solid Waste Services if they have any questions about the recyclable materials ban or to arrange a meeting with RDN staff to discuss the expansion of recycling services at their building or facility.

#### Food and Organic Waste Collection

In 2005, the RDN banned compostable organic waste (food waste and food-soiled paper products) from the landfill for businesses and institutions.

Future landfill bans may include residential food waste. Several multi-family buildings and facilities have implemented food waste collection programs. Multi-family owners and managers should contact their waste hauler to determine the suitability of introducing food waste collection in their building or facility.



### Beyond Recycling



## WASTE LINES

### Changes Coming to Curbside Collection Routes

In 2012, Nanaimo Public Works will be modifying and expanding its collection routes to accommodate the growing number of households served by its curbside programs.

The collection route number shown at the top of your Collection Schedule could change on the 2012 schedules delivered in December. There may also be slight changes in collection days for some households.

Please ensure you have your garbage, green bin, and recycling at the curb by 8 a.m. on your scheduled collection day.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Nanaimo Recycling Exchange ..... 250-758-7777  
Regional Landfill, Cedar Road ..... 250-722-2044  
BC Recycling Hotline ..... 1-800-667-4321  
Garbage Collection ..... 250-758-5222  
Curbside Recycling ..... 250-758-5360  
The Waste Line ..... 250-758-5222



[www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)