



B e y o n d C o m p o s t i n g



TALKING TURKEY ABOUT THE GREEN BIN AND TRIMMING HOLIDAY WASTE

The holidays are an uplifting time. It's also a time that brings a heavy environmental footprint.



The annual waste created in Canada from gift wrapping and shopping bags amounts to more than 545,000 tonnes according to the Recycling Council of BC. By using the green bin and curbside recycling program, Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) residents can divert much of their holiday waste and will soon have the lowest per capita waste disposal rate in Canada.

Here are some tips on caring for your green bin:

- Remember: no plastic, metal, tin foil, glass or biodegradable bags. Compostable bags are accepted.
- To keep your food waste from sticking to the green bin during cold weather, line the bottom with newspaper. Spraying the sides with a vegetable oil spray can help too.
- Please don't put your small kitchen catcher at the curbside. If you have more food waste than can fit in your green bin, store it in a cool secure place or in your freezer until your next collection day.

What to feed it over the holidays:

- Turkey trimmings, gizzards, giblets, stuffing, bones and other food leftovers.
- Food-soiled paper products, including napkins, paper towels, paper plates, cups, and paper tablecloths.
- Wax-coated paper containers, such as gable-top eggnog, dairy and ice cream cartons. *(Please remove plastic spouts and lids.)*
- Cut flowers and houseplants such as poinsettias, nuts, shells and even spices.

2015 COLLECTION SCHEDULES COMING IN DECEMBER

New one-year schedules, including a program information guide, are being delivered in early December to households receiving municipal and RDN garbage, recycling and food waste collection service.

Curbside schedules are being mailed to homes in Parksville, Qualicum Beach, District of Lantzville and the RDN's seven Electoral Areas.

The new collection schedules will cover the period from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. Households that don't receive a new schedule by December 15 have several options:

- Visit www.rdn.bc.ca Go to Curbside Collection and follow the instructions to download your 2015 schedule and to set up collection day reminders
- If you reside in the RDN Electoral Areas, District of Lantzville or City of Parksville call 1-866-999-8227 to have a schedule mailed to you. Town of Qualicum Beach residents can obtain a replacement schedule by contacting the Town at 250-752-6921.

COLLECTION DAY CONFUSION?

Our **NEW online waste collection schedule** can help you remember your waste collection days and which bins to put out.

- Sign up for personalized reminders via email, phone call, or Twitter
- Import your personalized collections schedule to your online iCal, Outlook or Google Calendar
- View, download or print your personalized collection schedule

Visit www.rdn.bc.ca and click on the Curbside Collection link.



IN THIS ISSUE: Curbside Recycling Update • Winter Services Disruptions • Holiday Recycling

Beans to bones in the bin!



DID YOU RECEIVE A NOTE FROM US?

RDN staff have been working alongside our curbside collection drivers to let residents know how they are doing when it comes to curbside recycling. We are continually working to improve our diversion rates and that all starts with getting households on board. We wanted to let residents know if they are doing a GREAT JOB with their curbside recycling or if there are areas for improvement. A lot of residents we talked to were unaware of new items that can be recycled at the curbside and a number of common items that we do not take such as plastic bags, film plastics, and glass.

Did You Know the Following New Items are now accepted at the curbside?

- Tetra Pak (Aseptic) boxes and cartons e.g. soups, sauces
- Paper-based microwave bowls and cups
- Aerosol cans (empty) and caps e.g. air fresheners, shaving cream, deodorant, hairspray, whip cream
- Spiral wound paper cans and lids
- Plastic clamshells
- Plastic cold drink cups and lids
- Plastic garden pots and seedling trays
- Paper hot and cold beverage cups
- Frozen dessert boxes e.g. ice cream
- Milk and cream cartons
- Paper bags with single and multiple paper layers (may include plastic layer). E.g. pet food bags
- Shredded Paper (must be in a tied clear plastic bag)



MULTI-MATERIAL BC DROP-OFF DEPOTS



Where?

to recycle glass containers, plastic bags and overwrap, foam plastic (Styrofoam)

The region has six MMBC Drop-Off Depots that will accept non-deposit glass jars and bottles, plastic bags and overwrap, and plastic foam (Styrofoam) containers, trays and cushion packaging. **These items will NOT be included in your curbside recycling program.** These Depots also accept all other packaging and printed paper materials accepted through the curbside recycling program.

QUALICUM BOTTLE & RECYCLING DEPOT

Open Tues. – Sat. 9 am – 5 pm
4- 141 Fourth Ave E, Qualicum Beach
Ph. 250-752-8884

PARKVILLE BOTTLE AND RECYCLING DEPOT LTD.

Open Mon. – Sun. 8 am – 6 pm
611 A Alberni Highway, Parksville
Ph. 250-248-0224

ALPINE DISPOSAL & RECYCLING

Open Mon. – Sat. 8 am – 4:30 pm
2250 McGarrigle Road, Nanaimo
Ph. 250-751-1089
Website: www.alpinegroup.ca

REGIONAL RECYCLING

Open Mon. – Sat. 8:30 am – 5:30 pm,
Sun. 10 am – 4 pm
• 1805 Fremont Road, Nanaimo
• 2375 Hayes Road, Nanaimo
Ph. 1-855-701-7171
Website: www.regionalrecycling.ca/nanaimo

NANAIMO RECYCLING EXCHANGE

Open Mon. – Sun. 7 am – 5 pm
2477 Kenworth Road
Ph. 250-758-7777
Website: www.recycling.bc.ca



For more information on recent changes to curbside recycling visit www.recycling2015.ca

ADVERSE WEATHER DISRUPTIONS TO COLLECTION SERVICE

Although infrequent, severe winter weather can result in disruptions to curbside collection by causing unsafe driving conditions and roads blocked by downed trees or power lines.

Safety is the priority for the collection contractor. Slippery roads, especially in hilly neighbourhoods, can be unsafe for large collection vehicles putting collection staff and other road users at risk.

During severe winter weather, every effort will be made to collect the curbside materials as per the regular schedule. If a regular collection day is missed, the following procedure will apply:

- The main fleet of collection vehicles will continue to provide collection service as per the regular schedule.
- For the area(s) where collection was disrupted the contractor will mobilize additional collection vehicles.
- If your street is not collected please remove your containers overnight, especially the green bin, and continue to put missed materials at the curb by 8 a.m. until they are collected. This may take several days.
- Clean-up of missed collection area(s) will commence as soon as the roads are in a safe condition for the collection vehicles.
- Use of the additional collection vehicles will continue until all the missed areas have been cleaned up.
- Your understanding and patience is appreciated.



Road Maintenance Responsibilities

Please note that the Regional District is not responsible for road maintenance (such as snow clearing). In the electoral areas this is a function of Emcon Services, a contractor to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Roads and streets within municipalities are maintained by municipal crews.

Information on collection delays and disruptions will be posted under the RDN Alerts section - found on the home page at www.rdn.bc.ca or please call BFI Canada at 250-248-8109 or toll-free at 1-866-999-8227.

CHECK YOUR COLLECTION SCHEDULE FOR CHANGES IN PICK-UPS OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Garbage, recycling and green bin collection schedules follow an add-a-day system. After each statutory holiday your collection day will advance by one day. Please check your schedule for changes to your collection days over the Christmas and New Year holidays or call the collection contractor, BFI Canada, if you have questions.

add-a-day





MAKE MEMORIES NOT GARBAGE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The festive season is fast approaching. For most of us it's the most wonderful time of the year, but because of the amount of garbage we produce it's also one of the most wasteful. By remembering the 3Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle – you can enjoy the spirit of the season while easing the load on our landfill and environment. Here are some suggestions how:

Enjoy the spirit of the season while easing the load on our landfill and environment

Sustainable Gifts

Consider giving sustainable gifts such as homemade presents or gifts of time or services. Options include making a donation in the person's name to a charity, giving bus tickets, skating or swimming passes, or gifts from products that are grown or made locally and sustain our region's economy.

Styrofoam

Taking advantage of some great holiday deals and upgrading to 52" plasma TV, or new home entertainment system? What are you going to do with all the Styrofoam packaging? Consider buying from a store that will take back the packaging or return it to your nearest MMBC drop off depot.

Gift Wrap

Most gift wrap can't be recycled because of its high ink content and blending with materials such as metal, wax or plastic lamination. Instead choose reusable gift bags, tea towels, cloth napkins or even reusable shopping bags for gift wrap that can be reused.

Maximize your Curbside Program

Be a good sort over the holidays. Ask yourself if paper, plastic, metal or glass can be recycled at the curbside or at a drop-off depot before you trash it. Remember your Green Bin isn't just for food scraps, you can feed it soiled paper products including paper plates, cups, waxed cardboard, and paper take-out food and drink containers.

RECYCLING OPTIONS FOR MATERIALS NOT ACCEPTED IN YOUR CURBSIDE PROGRAM



BC has more than 20 Product Stewardship or Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs that recycle or safely dispose of items such as batteries, computers, deposit beverage containers, lighting, motor oil, paints, and small appliances.

Product stewardship or EPR materials are not accepted through curbside collection programs. Find approved local depots and retail take-back locations that accept these and other materials by visiting:

Stewardship Agencies of BC – www.bcstewards.com

Recycling Council of BC – www.rcbc.ca or calling 1-800-667-4321

RDN Recycling Directory – www.rdn.bc.ca



CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: zerowaste@rdn.bc.ca
www.beyondcomposting.ca or www.rdn.bc.ca
Regional District of Nanaimo, Solid Waste Services
6300 Hammond Bay Rd., Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2
Ph. (250) 390-6560 or 1-877-607-4111 (Toll-free)

BeyondComposting



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