

**Going GREEN** RICHMOND HILL **Issue #5**

## Diversion in High Rise Apartments and Condominiums is Going UP!

This summer, front end recycling containers were introduced to many of Richmond Hill's larger apartment buildings. In the past, one deterrent to high rise recycling has been lack of space to store recyclables. These new larger containers provide more collection capacity in less space, are easier for superintendents to move to collection points and are quick to pick up with automated collection trucks.

Just like single family homes, recyclable materials are mixed together in the container to be sorted later at the



Region's Waste Management Centre in East Gwillimbury. Once at the Region's Waste Management Centre, materials are sorted into 12 categories, then are either baled or containerized in preparation for sale to market.



## Green Bin and Blue Box Away from Home

Green Bins are being rolled out to Richmond Hill's Municipal Offices and Community Centers this fall. Now you can both recycle and compost while in Town facilities. Just think: all those paper towels and diapers from the washrooms will be diverted from landfill along with food waste from the kitchens.



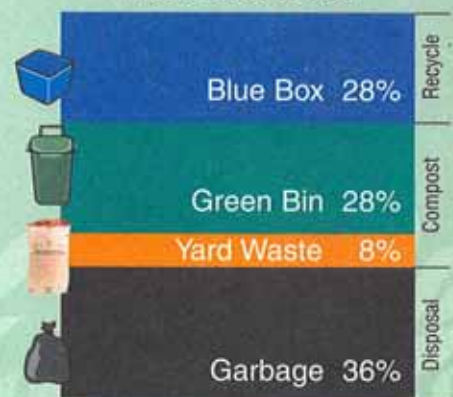
## We're Almost There!

Congratulations to Richmond Hill Residents! Since the GoingGREEN program began in April 2007, our diversion rate has levelled out between 60 and 65%.

We have almost reached our initial target of 65% and are ready to do more! Waste audits have shown that about 30% of Blue Box materials are still ending up in the garbage, so please remember to put all recyclable materials in your Blue Box. When we all participate fully, it makes a great difference.






### Where Does It Go?





## What Goes Where?

Residents frequently call us with questions on how to dispose of a variety of materials. Did you know that hair and fur go in the Green Bin and paper coffee cups are recyclable in your Blue Box? For more information on "What Goes Where?" check our website at [www.richmondhill.ca/documents/going\\_green\\_what\\_goes\\_where.pdf](http://www.richmondhill.ca/documents/going_green_what_goes_where.pdf). Also watch your mailbox in early December for the 2009 Waste Management calendar.

Green Bin 	Blue Box 	Garbage 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fruit &amp; vegetable peels</li> <li>Plate scrapings</li> <li>Breads, pizza, pasta</li> <li>Coffee grinds, filters, tea bags</li> <li>Nuts/shells</li> <li>Soiled papers</li> <li>Microwave popcorn bags</li> <li>Sugar &amp; flour bags</li> <li>Ice cream boxes</li> <li>Kleenex tissues</li> <li>Paper towels &amp; napkins</li> <li>House plants with soil (NO yard waste)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meat products (bacon, grease, bones, fat, lard, skin)</li> <li>Dairy products</li> <li>Eggshells</li> <li>Diapers, sanitary products</li> <li>Animal waste, hair and pet fur, Kitty litter, Animal bedding</li> <li>Shredded paper (in a clear plastic bag)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rigid plastic bottles, jugs, trays &amp; tubs</li> <li>Aluminum food trays/wrap</li> <li>Soft drink cans</li> <li>Empty paint cans (lids removed)</li> <li>Food (tin) cans</li> <li>Glass bottles &amp; jars</li> <li>Milk &amp; juice containers</li> <li>Drinking boxes</li> <li>Aerosol cans (empty)</li> <li>Newsprint &amp; magazines</li> </ul>
<p>Green Bins containing non-acceptable materials will <b>NOT</b> be collected.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing paper</li> <li>Envelopes</li> <li>Cards</li> <li>Phone books</li> <li>Paper back books</li> <li>Paper &amp; plastic egg cartons</li> <li>Kraft paper</li> <li>Paper bags</li> <li>Boxboard</li> <li>Cardboard (place bundles beside box)</li> <li>Maximum size 60 x 60 x 30 cm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Styrofoam</li> <li>Plastic bags &amp; wraps</li> <li>Other plastics (cutlery, toys, toothbrushes)</li> <li>Ceramics &amp; Dishes</li> <li>Windows, Glass (wrap in cardboard for safety)</li> <li>Unusable clothing &amp; textiles</li> <li>Wrappers</li> <li>Furniture (counts as 1 item each)</li> <li>Carpet (tied in rolls no longer than 1.2 m)</li> </ul>



## What do I do with a Television Set?

TVs (and furniture) are collected with your garbage every second week and count as one item each. Remember your four item collection limit. Over 4 items attach one collection tag per item. Tags are sold in sheets of 5 for \$10 at all Richmond Hill libraries, community centers and municipal offices.

*Televisions are NOT ACCEPTED at the Region's electronic recycling depots at this time.*

## And Shredded Paper?

Shredded paper can be placed in your Green Bin. Larger quantities should be placed in clear plastic bags next to your Green Bin to prevent it from causing litter. Plastic bags are permitted in the Green Bin program as this material is processed in a different manner from yard waste. Once at the processing facility, all Green Bin material is put through a shredder and is then piled into tunnels for composting. After the first stage of the composting process has finished, the paper has decomposed along with the food wastes and the material is put through a series of large screens to remove plastics and other debris from the final product.





## How do I Dispose of an Appliance?

Large Metal Appliances such as fridges and stoves are collected free of charge by appointment only. ONLY residential material is collected. For convenience, you can now schedule your collection 24/7 on-line at [www.richmondhill.ca/appliance](http://www.richmondhill.ca/appliance).

**NEW**  
 On-line  
 Registration



Once the appointment has been made your address will be entered on a list which is used by the Town's contractor to collect appliances in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. All the metal from appliances is recycled and CFC's (ozone depleting substances) are recovered from fridges, freezers and air conditioners.

Lately there have been a number of individuals scavenging appliances that were set out for the Town. If you witness persons who are not authorized by yourself or the Town picking up your metal items please notify the Town as it is against the by-law to remove items that were set out for collection by the Town.

## Charity Donation Boxes: Are You Helping?

Charity donation boxes are located throughout the community to allow residents to drop off reusable clothing and housewares. Recently many of these drop boxes have become dumping grounds for leftover trash, furniture and large items, leading to unsightly piles in our neighbourhoods and high disposal costs for the agencies.

Before dropping materials at a box, please ensure that your item is reusable in its current state and that it will fit in the box. Materials left on the ground beside the box are subject to weather conditions and are frequently ruined before getting picked up. This causes the charitable agencies to use up scarce resources in the way of time, money and trucking to dispose of materials that were intended for reuse. So, please don't waste your good intentions. If your material does not fit in the box, please take it directly to one of the stores or call the agency to ask for other options.



Steps for Recovery

905-762-1551

Salvation Army

905-737-7164

Goodwill

416-362-4711





Recycled  
 Supporting responsible use of forest resources  
 www.fsc.org Cert no. SMC-COC-000177  
 © 1996 Forest Stewardship Council



*Working Hand-in-Hand*

## Please Use the Standard Blue Box

Residents are doing a great job at recycling, plus there are now more materials than ever that can go in the Blue Box. With good intentions, many residents have purchased larger containers to capture all of the recyclables and are placing these containers at the curb. Unfortunately, these containers are frequently too heavy, are too wide at the top to collect material without spillage and are also not sturdy enough to withstand the type of usage that is required. The Town's Blue Box is the largest box feasible for recyclables without getting too heavy.



The maximum weight is 18 kg (40 lbs). Extra Blue Boxes can be purchased at the Operations Centre for \$10.

## 2008 Yard Waste Collections

There are a few yard waste collections left this year. If you miss a scheduled collection or have excess materials between collection days, yard waste can be dropped off at the Miller compost facility. To ensure collection, yard waste must be at the curb by 7 am on collection day. Use paper yard waste bags, cardboard boxes or rigid reusable containers only. Brush must be tied in bundles no longer than 4' (1.2m) and no heavier than 40 lb (18 kg).



### YARD WASTE DROP-OFF

1351 Bloomington Rd.  
 Richmond Hill  
**Hours open\* (Summer):**  
 Apr. 1 - Nov. 30/08  
**Monday to Friday**  
 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
**Hours open\* (Winter):**  
 Dec. 1/07 - Mar. 31/08  
 Dec. 1/08 - Mar. 31/09  
**Monday to Friday**  
 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



### REMAINING YARD WASTE COLLECTIONS

October 6 & 20      **Last Collection December 8**  
 November 3 & 17      Christmas Tree Collection Jan. 12

