



The *GoingGREEN* Issue

RICHMOND HILL is *GoingGREEN*



65% target:

As part of our commitment to environmental protection, the Town of Richmond Hill has adopted a target to divert 65% of our waste away from landfill. In 2006 Richmond Hill residents did a great job by diverting 30.5% using the Blue Box and yard waste programs. With your participation, the Green Bin organics program will help us move closer to our goal.

Richmond Hill Council encourages you to join them in *GoingGREEN*.

The Green Bin is coming!

Between March 5 and March 23, watch for your Green Bin Start-up Kit being delivered to all homes receiving municipal curbside collection. Important detailed information will be included along with the Green Bin to help you fully participate in the program.

LOOK INSIDE



Collection starts the week of April 3, 2007.

Check your 2007 Waste Management calendar to determine which week is garbage collection in your area.



GREEN BIN
Weekly



BLUE BOX
Weekly



GARBAGE
Every second week



YARD WASTE
On scheduled Mondays

Check our Website for more information on our waste diversion programs

若需要有關我們的垃圾處理轉移計劃 (waste diversion programs) 的更多資訊，請查詢我們的網站

برای اطلاعات بیشتر در مورد برنامه های تبدیل یا بازیافت زباله، از وب سایت ما دیدن فرمائید.

Pour en savoir davantage sur nos programmes de réacheminement des déchets, veuillez consulter notre site Web

Дополнительную информацию о программах отведения сточных вод Вы найдёте на нашем веб-сайте

www.richmondhill.ca



What are Organics?

Organics are materials that will biodegrade, or break down, under composting conditions. They are materials that have "grown" at some point as either a plant or animal. Check this helpful list on the right for examples of what type of material is accepted in Richmond Hill's Green Bin organics program.



Raccoons & other critters migrate around the neighbourhood looking for their next meal. As many residents have discovered, a plastic garbage bag full of leftovers can be an invitation to visit. Your new Green Bin is very durable and has been designed to be raccoon resistant. Try these tips if you live in an area where animals might be a problem:



- ✓ Hang your Green Bin from a hook in the garage or on the porch. Without leverage, raccoons cannot open the bin.
- ✓ Make sure all contents are inside the bin, and all bits of bag and food are tucked under the lid.
- ✓ Always securely latch your Green Bin.
- ✓ Set your Green Bin out in the morning (by 7 a.m.) instead of the night before collection whenever possible.



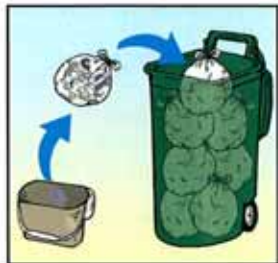
- ✓ **Acceptable Green Bin Items:**
- Fruit & vegetable peels & scraps
 - Meat & fish products (grease, bones, fat, skin)
 - Plate scrapings
 - Breads, pizza, pasta
 - Coffee grinds, filters, tea bags
 - Nut & shells
 - Soiled papers, microwave popcorn bags, sugar & flour bags, ice cream boxes, tissues, paper towels & napkins
 - House plants with soil (NO yard waste)
 - Dairy products
 - Eggs & shells
 - Diapers, sanitary products
 - Animal waste, hair & pet fur, kitty litter, animal bedding
 - Shredded paper (in a clear plastic bag)
- Green Bins containing non-acceptable materials will NOT be collected.

NO Plastic wrap, plastic containers, plastic trays, milk bags, dryer lint, dryer sheets, disposable mop sheets, cigarette butts, styrofoam, fireplace or BBQ ash, wood pieces, vacuum bags and contents.

To keep my Green Bin clean, can I use a plastic bag?

The use of plastic bags is encouraged to keep your bins clean and improve collection. As shown below, simply use a bag to line ONE of your bins. We recommend using grocery store bags in your In-house Bin. When full, just tie the bag shut and place it in the Green Bin.

RECOMMENDED METHOD



OR



Please do not double bag materials as plastic does not compost and has to be separated out once the organics reach the composting facility.

If I back yard compost, why should I use the Green Bin?

We encourage residents to continue back yard composting. The Green Bin takes many other materials, such as meat, bones, diapers, pet waste and kitty litter which are not acceptable in a back yard composter. So do both! Continue adding vegetable and fruit wastes to your home composter and put the rest of your organics in your Green Bin for us to process. Back yard composters are available for \$20 each at the Operations Centre, 1200 Elgin Mills Road East, while quantities last.





Richmond Hill's **Going GREEN** RICHMOND HILL program asks residents to manage their waste differently.

Green Bins (organic material) will be collected WEEKLY. There is no limit for Green Bin materials, just put any extra material in a clear plastic bag beside your Green Bin, or purchase additional containers.

Blue Boxes are also collected WEEKLY in the same truck as the Green Bin. One truck collection is more efficient and reduces harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

Garbage will be collected EVERY OTHER WEEK with a 4 item limit per collection. Extra garbage will only be collected if a garbage tag is attached. Tags can be purchased at most municipal buildings.

TO THE CURB BY 7AM



Collection starts the week of April 3rd.



You Asked Us...



I am in an apartment, do I get a Green Bin?

At this time the Green Bin is being distributed to residences receiving curbside collection. Collecting organics in apartment buildings presents unique challenges. Along with our neighbouring municipalities, we are working to develop a suitable collection method for organics in high-rise apartments.

What about Shredded Paper?

Shredded paper is accepted in the Green Bin. Just place large quantities in a clear plastic bag next to your Green Bin on collection day.

What do I do with material if my Green Bin is full?

Additional organic material can be put in clear plastic bags and placed beside the Green Bin or you can purchase additional containers.

Where do I get more containers?

Containers can be purchased at the Operations Centre during business hours.

Green Bins - \$18. In-house Bins - \$4. Blue Boxes - \$10.

Containers are also available at several local retailers.

The Operations Centre will be open extended hours until 6 p.m. March 22 and April 12 & from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 31.

Do I have to use a bag to line the Green Bin?

Yes, for health and safety reasons, please line either the Green Bin OR the In-house Bin with a plastic bag. Please do not line both containers.



What happens to the material after it is collected?

Organic materials are delivered to a composting facility where the plastic bags are mechanically ripped open and removed. The organics are then processed into high quality compost for landscaping and agricultural uses.

Can I put leaf and yard waste in my Green Bin?

No, these materials are collected separately. Check your Waste Management Calendar for scheduled yard waste collection dates.



How do I know when to put out the garbage?

Now that the Green Bin and Blue Box are accepting so much waste, there is very little left over. Garbage will be collected every other week as outlined in your 2007 Waste Management calendar.



Have Questions about the Green Bin Program?

Attend one of these Open Houses in your neighbourhood for more information.

Going Green Open House

Date	Location	Address	Room	Time
Monday, March 19, 2007	Langstaff Community Centre	155 Red Maple Road	Munshaw A (KA)	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 21, 2007	Spruce Avenue Community Centre	31 Spruce Avenue	Banquet Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 22, 2007	McConaghy Centre	10100 Yonge Street	Room 101 Multi Purpose Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Monday, March 26, 2007	Bayview Hill Community Centre	114 Spadina Road	Renaissance Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 27, 2007	Richmond Hill Lions Hall	106 Centre Street East	Banquet Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 28, 2007	Oak Ridges Recreation Centre	70 Old Colony Road	Norm Taylor Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 18, 2007	Spruce Avenue Community Centre	31 Spruce Avenue	Banquet Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 24, 2007	Langstaff Community Centre	155 Red Maple Road	Munshaw A (KA)	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 25, 2007	Bayview Hill Community Centre	114 Spadina Road	Renaissance Room	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 26, 2007	McConaghy Centre	10100 Yonge Street	Room 101 Multi Purpose Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Monday, April 30, 2007	Oak Ridges Recreation Centre	70 Old Colony Road	Norm Taylor Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 8, 2007	Richmond Hill Lions Hall	106 Centre Street East	Banquet Room	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Watch for the **Going GREEN** Team at local events.



Ontario's New Bag-it-back Program



Ontario residents are used to returning beer bottles & cans to the Beer Store for deposit return. Now all empty containers bought at the LCBO can also be returned to

the Beer Store for refund. History has shown that deposit-return systems are far more effective than recycling. The LCBO deposit return system is expected to recycle an additional 25,000 to 30,000 tonnes of glass a year over what's currently collected through the Blue Box system, making space in the Blue Box for other materials.

For more information on this program please visit WWW.BAGITBACK.CA or call 1-877-773-8876.

For more information, call the
Going GREEN Helpline
905-771-2525



TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL
Operations Centre
1200 Elgin Mills Road East
905-884-8013
www.richmondhill.ca



Working Hand-in-Hand

