

ORGANICS COLLECTION

Infosheet – March 2021



The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) is introducing a new organics collection service in the City of Port Alberni.

Starting in September 2021, residents of single-family homes will be able to dispose of organics (food and yard waste) in green carts at the roadside. As part of the regional organics diversion program, the ACRD will provide new recycling and organics carts to all single-family homes as an upgrade to three stream waste collection services for the community. In the new system, an automated collection truck equipped with a mechanical arm (same as current garbage collection methods) will also pickup carts for organics and recycling.

WHY ARE WE GETTING ROADSIDE ORGANICS PICKUP?

Save Space: Food waste contributes 30-50 per cent of waste currently sent to the landfill and uses up a lot of landfill space. By diverting organics, the Alberni Valley can extend usage of the landfill by an additional 35 years.

Reduce Harmful Gases: Organics also create harmful emissions at the landfill, where it is buried under layers of other waste and without access to oxygen to decompose properly. This creates methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming and other harmful environmental issues.

Reduce Costs: If high volumes of organic material continue to enter the landfill, greenhouse gas emissions will continue to rise, mandating a gas capture system. This system would cost Alberni Valley residents millions compared to an organic roadside collection service.



ORGANICS COLLECTION: TIMELINE



Sign up at letsconnectacrd.ca/organics to receive notifications about upcoming engagement opportunities and project updates.



New organics/recycling carts are delivered and garbage carts retrofitted for all eligible households in Port Alberni.



Autocart pickup starts for City of Port Alberni residents.



Consultation with communities outside the City's boundaries about possible expansion of organics collection to these areas within the regional district.

SORT'NGO COLLECTION SCHEDULE



Organics (green cart)

Weekly pickup



Garbage (black cart)*

Every two weeks on alternating weeks



Recycling (blue cart)

Every two weeks on alternating weeks

*The 2019 landfill composition study showed that over 65% of waste coming from the city of Port Alberni could have been composted or recycled. Once these items are diverted, garbage carts will take twice as long to fill.

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Infosheet – August 2021



Sort'nGo
ORGANICS

WHAT CAN GO IN THE NEW 'ORGANICS' GREEN CART?

- All food scraps, including meat, bones, dairy and greases
- Yard waste, including grass, leaves, and branches
- Soiled paper (paper towel, pizza boxes, cardboard and tissues)

If you aren't sure whether something can go in the organics cart (for example, "compostable" bags, dirt, rocks and pet feces are not considered organics), check the Sort'nGo ACRD app to search for specific items.



SORT'NGO ACRD APP

Keep track of collection schedules, sign up for alerts and check which cart to use for specific items with the Sort'nGo ACRD app. Get it on Google Play or download on the App Store.

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE NEW CARTS



- The new green and blue carts will look much like the current garbage cart, and can also be stored outside at your property.
- Lids on the new carts will keep the material dry and intact during inclement weather.
- There will be a bear-resistant lid locking mechanism that will reduce the chance of bears and wildlife accessing the contents.
- Carts are certified by Wildsafe BC and have proved successful in other communities for keeping animals out and keeping communities cleaner.

COSTS OF THE NEW SERVICE



Current Cost

Approx. \$11/month per household for City of Port Alberni residents



Additional Cost

Approx. \$4/month for new 3 stream collection system (garbage, organics and recycling)



Estimated Future Costs

Approx. \$15/month per household for City of Port Alberni residents