THE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY OF MUSKOKA

CURBSIDE GREEN BIN ORGANICS PROGRAM



Welcome to the District of Muskoka's curbside green bin collection program! As part of our Waste Strategy, and to help extend the life of our last local landfill, food and organic waste are no longer accepted in the garbage stream. Instead, they should be placed in your green bin for composting. Keeping organics out of the landfill is one of the best ways to reduce waste and protect our environment. **With the introduction of curbside green bin collection in your area, the weekly garbage limit is now one (1) bag per household.**

WHY SHOULD WE USE OUR **GREEN BIN?**

Landfill capacity is declining. The Ontario Waste Management Association (OWMA) estimates Ontario's landfills will reach capacity by 2034. Changes we make today in Muskoka will increase the life of our last local landfill – and ensure we have disposal capacity.
Organics in the landfill also creates methane, a harmful greenhouse gas. Composting this material is a better option for the environment and creates a valuable soil amendment.

WHAT DO I NEED **TO DO?**

Place your food and organic waste in the green bin and place it at the curb every week by 7 a.m. on your collection day. As this material is heavy, please ensure that your green bin meets our weight limit of 25 kg (55 lbs) to protect our waste collection team.

WHEN SHOULD I PUT MY GREEN BIN OUT FOR **COLLECTION?**

Place your green bin out weekly on your regular collection day.

WHAT CAN I PUT IN MY **GREEN BIN?**

Scan the QR code to visit our Green Bin Organics page at www.muskokawaste.ca

WHERE SHOULD I KEEP MY **GREEN BIN?**

If possible, store your green bin in a cool, shaded area such as a garage. Green bins can be stored in roadside bear-proof bins.

WHAT IF I ALREADY COMPOST IN MY **OWN BACKYARD?**

You can use both. Let's work together to extend the life of our landfill. This program complements home composting by collecting cooked meats, dairy products and cooking oils.

WHAT BAGS **DO I USE?**

We compost green bin material here in Muskoka and can only accept organics in compostable bags. **Please note material in standard plastic bags won't be accepted.** Brand names such as Bio-Bag, BIOSAK, Bag-To-Earth, Clorox (GLAD) or Al Pack/Great Value are municipally approved. Look for the logos shown below.

CAN I GET A SMALLER BIN **FOR MY KITCHEN?**

Yes. Bring the envelope this letter came in to a transfer station near you and a kitchen catcher will be provided at no charge. Limit: 1 per household.

WHAT'S A BIN BUDDY?

A bin buddy is a smaller, bear-bin-friendly green bin! While the standard green bin holds 45L and stands 24 inches tall, the bin buddy is a compact 26.5L and 20 inches high. Want to swap? Email waste@muskoka.on.ca to make arrangements. For a direct exchange, just keep the delivered bin unused.

ARE THE GREEN BINS **ANIMAL PROOF?**

Each green bin is equipped with a latch to help prevent animals from getting in and making a mess. However, we encourage residents to put out all waste material on the morning of collection rather than the previous night to discourage animals. Also, materials can be securely placed in roadside bins.

MUSKOKA WASTE **APP**

Residents are encouraged to download the free Muskoka Waste mobile app so we can notify you if there are impacts to your route. You can also set alerts for collection reminders and never miss a garbage day again.

Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google Play

HAVE QUESTIONS?

We're here to help. Please contact us at **waste@muskoka.on.ca** or by telephone at **705-645-2100**. Information on this program and the District's Waste Strategy can be found at our website **www.muskokawaste.ca**.

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