

GREEN BINS COME WITH NEW CALENDARS

Households joining the Green Bin Program this month will follow new calendars for garbage, recycling, and food waste collection. The program rolls out next Tuesday, October 12 for approximately 8,000 single family homes on City of Nanaimo collection routes E and F, and on October 18 for 25,000 single family homes in Regional District of Nanaimo Electoral Areas, Lantzville, Parksville, and Qualicum Beach. All 32,000 households starting the program will receive new calendars and green bins. Residents of single family homes in Nanaimo can call 250-758-5222 to confirm that they have received the correct new calendar, or call 250-390-6560 or 1-877-607-4111 in all other communities in the region.

“I’d like to thank residents for taking the time to learn about the Green Bin Program and adjusting to their new calendars as we prepare to expand the program region-wide,” said George Holme, Chair of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee. “With the new program every week will be green bin week for single family homes. The updated calendars show collection dates for food waste collection as well as recycling and garbage.”

While the delivery of new green bins is almost complete, some homes starting the program have received incorrect new calendars with their bins. Correct calendars are being re-distributed to affected households. They are also available for download at www.nanaimo.ca for homes in Nanaimo, and at www.rdn.bc.ca for homes in all seven RDN Electoral Areas, Lantzville, Parksville, and Qualicum Beach.

Nanaimo residents can also check whether they received the correct new calendar by confirming that the route number at the top left corner of the calendar is the same as on their previous calendar.

Links to all calendars and additional information on the Green Bin Program are also available at www.beyondcomposting.ca.

For single family homes joining the Green Bin Program, except those in Qualicum Beach, new collection calendars will look like this: week one, food waste and garbage; week two, food waste and recyclables; week three, food waste and garbage; week four, food waste and recyclables; and so on.

Households in Qualicum Beach will often receive collection services on different days during the same week because garbage is handled by the town’s municipal works crew on a fixed-day schedule, while food waste and recycling are collected by the RDN contractor on an add-a-day schedule, which moves ahead one day each time there is a statutory holiday.

In Nanaimo single family homes on routes E and F start the Green Bin Program during the week of October 12, while homes on routes A through D will start in 2011, and have not received new green bins or calendars at this time.

Single family homes starting the Green Bin Program also get Curbside Collection Guides, smaller “kitchen catchers” for collecting food waste, sample compostable bags, and new recycling bags for households outside Nanaimo.

Next week the RDN continues its series of open houses on the Green Bin Program, with events on Wednesday, October 13, 2pm to 5pm and 6pm to 9pm at Cedar Community Hall in Cedar, and on Thursday, October 14, 2pm to 5pm and 6pm to 9pm at Gabriola Island Agricultural Hall on Gabriola Island.

Approximately 2000 homes in Cedar, the Cilaire neighborhood in Nanaimo, and the Chartwell neighborhood in Qualicum Beach started a Green Bin Pilot Program in October 2007, and will continue to receive weekly food waste collection as the service expands region-wide.

Multi-family buildings with private waste collection will not receive green bins, or start the Green Bin Program at this time.

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