



FOOD SCRAPS RECYCLING DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

October 2009 to March 2010...and beyond



Selected neighbourhoods will be able to add kitchen scraps to their yard trimmings bin.

YOUR NEIGHBOURS FROM AROUND THE REGION, AND MAYBE EVEN YOU, ASKED FOR FOOD SCRAPS RECYCLING.

Composting produces a valuable resource, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and helps to create a more sustainable region; important for your family's future. We will keep hundreds of thousands of tonnes of organic materials out of landfills each year by composting them.

Through public consultation in the region in 2009, residents confirmed and supported Metro Vancouver's target of achieving 70 per cent waste diversion by 2015. This goal is part of Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Challenge.

This food scraps recycling project, and your participation, is the first step to creating a region-wide composting program.



Your food scraps and yard trimmings will be picked up and composted. That high-quality compost will then be sold to landscapers and farmers. Who knows? It could come back to your table the next time you buy carrots.



CARROT MUFFINS

1 C grated carrots
1 1/2 C whole wheat flour
1/2 C sugar
1/4 C brown sugar
1 1/4 tsp baking soda
1 1/4 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp ground ginger
4 tbsp honey
1/4 C chopped, dried fruit
2 eggs
3 tbsp applesauce
2/3 C vegetable oil

DIRECTIONS FOR CARROT MUFFINS

Preheat oven to 175 C (350 F)

Grease muffin pan

Grate carrots; compost carrot tops, ends, and peels

Mix flour, sugar, baking soda, spices, then add honey, carrots and dried fruit

In a separate bowl, mix eggs, applesauce and oil, then add to flour mixture

Spoon into muffin containers and bake for 20 minutes

Makes about 10 muffins



TIPS TO KEEP YOUR BIN CLEAN AND AVOID ODOURS, INSECTS AND RODENTS:

- KEEP THE BIN IN A SHADY AREA OUT OF DIRECT SUNLIGHT.
- KEEP THE BIN CLOSED (WITH A TIGHT LID) AT ALL TIMES.
- LINE THE BOTTOM OF YOUR BIN WITH NEWSPAPER.
- SPRINKLE BAKING SODA IN YOUR BIN.
- WHEN WASHING OUT YOUR BIN, USE A MILD, NON-TOXIC DETERGENT. POUR DIRTY WATER ONTO GRASS OR GRAVEL, NOT DOWN THE STORM DRAIN.

GETTING STARTED...

First, thanks for participating! Your contribution is valuable. Results from the demonstration program, including feedback from residents, will be used to create a region-wide food scraps collection program. Instead of throwing away old, expired or leftover food, you're going to recycle it. You recycle cans, paper and cardboard now, so why not food?

1. Get a lidded container to collect food scraps in your kitchen. We suggest using something like an ice cream bucket or a large plastic container.
2. Attach the small sticker to your kitchen container.
3. Attach the large "yard ♻️ food" sticker on the side of your yard trimmings bin.
4. Collect all your food scraps in your lidded kitchen container. Transfer them to your yard trimmings bin.
5. Place your "yard ♻️ food" bin at the curb on your designated yard trimmings collection day, label facing out.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The contents of your bin will continue to be collected on your designated yard trimmings pick-up day. After your municipality picks up the contents of your bin, it goes to a regional composting facility where high-quality compost is made and sold to local landscapers and farmers.

WHO IS PARTICIPATING?

Metro Vancouver, Delta, Coquitlam, Township of Langley and West Vancouver are partnering in this food scraps recycling demonstration program. This program will run from October 2009 to March 2010 in five pre-selected neighbourhoods with approximately 2800 single-family homes.

Each participating municipality chose an area that consists of single-family homes with existing yard trimmings collection services. Regular waste composition audits during the demonstration program will track how many food scraps are being kept out of the landfill and turned into valuable compost.

We will be following up with you in order to get your feedback and improve the food scraps recycling project.



A WASTE COMPOSITION AUDIT IS A MEASUREMENT OF THE AMOUNT OF COMPOST, RECYCLING AND WASTE DISPOSED. WE WANT THE AMOUNT OF COMPOSTABLE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS IN THE GARBAGE TO DECREASE.



TIPS ON FOOD SCRAPS RECYCLING:

- DO NOT LINE CONTAINERS WITH PLASTIC.
- EMPTY YOUR KITCHEN CONTAINER FREQUENTLY, AND PUT YOUR LARGE BIN AT THE CURB WEEKLY.
- STORE MEAT & FISH IN YOUR FREEZER UNTIL COLLECTION DAY, ESPECIALLY DURING WARM WEATHER.

✓ Yes!

Add these items:

	Meat, poultry, fish, shellfish and bones		Bread, dough, pasta, grains
	Egg and dairy products		Coffee grounds, filters and tea bags
	Table scraps and plate scrapings		Paper towels, napkins and plates
	Vegetables, salad (with dressing) and fruit		Pizza delivery boxes

✗ No!

Do not include:

	Plastic bags or compostable plastics		Paper cartons or take-out containers
	Coffee cups		Cork or styrofoam
	Containers Glass, metal, plastic, or foil		Wire, twist ties or rubber bands
	Plastic wrap or plastic take-out containers		Latex or plastic
	Produce baskets, netting		Grease or liquids



FAQs

SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DO I PUT IN MY BIN?

You can put any food and food-soiled paper in your bin. But don't put in oil, grease, plastics or any packaging. Refer to the chart on page 3.

SHOULD I LINE MY KITCHEN CONTAINER AND BIN?

You don't need to line your bin. But you can use paper, not plastic, if you wish. Newspaper, paper bags and paper towels are acceptable to use. Please don't use plastic or compostable plastic products as the facility does not accept them.

WHERE DO I PUT THE STICKERS?

Put the small sticker on your lidded kitchen container so you know what to recycle. Put the large sticker on your large outdoor yard trimmings bin; it should cover your existing 'yard trimmings' sticker.

WHAT ABOUT ANIMALS GETTING INTO MY BINS?

You were already putting food scraps in your garbage, now you're just putting them in a different bin. If you've had issues with animals getting into your bins, here are some tips to help prevent that: wrap fish & meats with newspaper, store scraps in the freezer until collection day, keep the yard and food bin in your garage, and put it out in the morning (not at night).

WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT MY BACKYARD COMPOSTER?

Home composting is the most cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to dispose of food scraps, not to mention the 'black gold' compost you'll get as a result. If you have a home composter, please continue to use it. Use this new program for the 'other' stuff like meat, bones, fish and bread.

WHAT IF MY BIN ISN'T FULL?

That's okay! Put your bin at the curb every week even if it's not full, or if you don't have yard trimmings.

WHAT IF I HAVE TOO MUCH FOR MY BIN?

Put food scraps only in your lidded yard trimmings bin. You can put excess yard trimmings in a paper bag next to your bin, or you can save excess trimmings for the next collection day. You can also use an additional bin (call 604-432-6200 for extra stickers). **Please note the weight limit for each bin is 20 kg.**

WHAT CAN I USE AS A KITCHEN CONTAINER?

To store your food scraps in the kitchen you can reuse a large yogurt container, ice cream bucket, jug, or any container you have handy. Since you'll be emptying it in your yard trimmings bin on a regular basis, just make sure it's something you can easily carry outside.

More FAQs at www.metrovancouver.org (search: foodrecycling)

Township of
Langley



Est. 1873

Delta

west vancouver
THE WATERFRONT COMMUNITY

Coquitlam



metro
vancouver

TALK TO US

We are here to help you. We are providing you with ongoing support, information and a neighbourhood open house to learn more and discuss this program. We will also be following up with you to get your feedback on this project.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, AND FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE:

Call the Metro Vancouver Information Centre at **604-432-6200**

Visit www.metrovancouver.org You'll find a long list of "Frequently Asked Questions", an online discussion forum, and links to the draft Solid Waste Management Plan and Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Challenge.

E-mail foodrecycling@metrovancover.org