CURBSIDE WASTE, RECYCYLING AND COMPOSTING UPDATE

We have been paying attention to your questions and comments related to the changes in the curbside collection program for waste, recycling and compost. The following information is provided to answer those questions and add clarity to the transition period.

Time difference between pick up of current carts and delivery of the new carts

Pick-up Zones	GFL Pick-up of Current Carts	Can Pak Delivery of New Carts
Zones 1	December 20	December 20 – 24
Zone 2	December 31	Prior to January 1, 2019
Zone 3	December 21	December 20 – 24

The above schedule will ensure residents will not be without carts over the busy holiday season. Residents can still set out their recycling at the curb in clear or transparent blue plastic bags the following week on December 24, 27 and 28. The collection schedule will continue uninterrupted with the grey bins and recycling collected every second week, and green compost bins now collected on the alternate weeks beginning in January 2019.

Concerns that the carts must be emptied prior to pickup.

Residents are asked to place both the grey and green carts out for pick up. If material is left in the green carts, they will still be picked up as long as the cart lids are closed. As this will be your scheduled pick up day, the contractor will also be collecting waste in the grey carts.

What about service to condominiums?

There have been no changes made with respect to residential housing areas. If you currently receive curbside pick-up, this service will continue.

Do I need to place animal waste and meat in bags in the compost carts?

Ponoka's new expanded curbside collection program that begins Jan. 2, 2019 will include a full organic, green cart compost program that will allow Ponoka residents to compost food waste and yard waste year round in their green carts, including kitchen food scraps, meat, fish, bones, food-soiled paper and cardboard, pet waste and cat litter (loose or in compostable bags), wood shavings, coffee grinds, tea bags, popsicle sticks (wooden), toothpicks (wooden), cooking oil (small amounts), nuts and shells.

All items placed in your green cart after Jan 1, 2019 can be dumped in as loose material. As stated above, pet waste and cat litter can be loose or in compostable bags. No plastic bags please.

Other important facts About the Town's expanded curbside waste, recycling and composting service that begins Jan. 2, 2019:

꘡ Organic waste in the green carts will be picked up weekly from May 1 – October 31; and bi-weekly from November 1 – April 30.
꘡ Household garbage will continue to be picked up bi-weekly year round.
꘡ Recyclables will continue to be picked up bi-weekly year round.
꘡ Waste, recycling and compost will continue to be picked up at the front curbside.

Changes to Collection Schedules

There will be very few changes to the collection schedules:
꘡ Residents in Zone 2 whose waste is currently picked on Mondays will have their collection day moved to Wednesdays beginning January 2.
꘡ Residents in Zones 1 and 3 whose waste is picked up on Thursdays and Fridays will see no change to their collection schedule.
꘡ Recyclables and garbage will be picked up on the same day, beginning on January 2. Compost in the green carts will be picked up on alternate weeks.
꘡ After Jan. 2, 2019, if your collection day falls on Christmas or New Year's Day, your waste, recycling or compost collection will be bumped to the next weekday.

The **Collection Calendars** will be included with your next utility bill and will also be posted on the Town's website.

We look forward to the residents of Ponoka receiving an increased level of service through the new Solid Waste Management Program without any additional costs. Additionally, Can Pak will be providing contact phone numbers and an email address to receive any concerns. This information will also be posted on the Town's website once available.

Thank you for your patience during this transition period and we look forward to a very positive experience with this enhanced service.