



New Grey Carts and Green Carts to be Delivered to Ponoka Households in December

(December 10, 2018 – Ponoka, Alberta) – As the Town of Ponoka prepares for the launch of its new expanded curbside collection program for waste, recycling and compost on Jan. 2, 2019, residents are advised that the Town’s new contractor will be delivering new grey carts and green carts to each Ponoka residence later this month.

Place Old Grey and Green Carts at the Curb on Dec. 20, 21 and 31

The Town’s current waste and recycling contractor (GFL) will remove the existing grey and green carts from each Ponoka residence on the last waste collection days of December (Dec. 20, 21 and 31). Residents are requested to place both their grey and green carts at the curb for pick up on those days.

In the meantime, the Town’s new contractor Can Pak will deliver new grey and green carts to the curbside in front of each residence. The carts will be coded to match the address of each residence. All Ponoka residences will receive new carts before the new curbside collection contract begins Jan. 2, 2019.

“Our new contractor Can Pak Environmental Inc. has been unable to finalize an agreement with our current contractor (GFL) for the purchase of the existing carts, so new grey and green carts will be delivered to all Ponoka residences in December prior to the launch of the new contract,” explains Dwayne Kwolick, Town of Ponoka Manager of Operations.

As of Jan. 2, 2019, the Town’s new contractor, Can Pak Environmental Inc., will provide the following services to Ponoka residents:

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

Very Few Changes to Collection Schedules

There will be very few changes to the collection schedule with the new curbside collection contract. The only changes will be:



- Residents in Zone 2 whose waste is currently picked on Mondays will have their collection day moved to Wednesdays beginning January 2.
- Residents in Zones 1 and 3 whose waste is picked up on Thursdays and Fridays will see no change to their collection schedule.
- 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.
- 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.

“Our goal is to make the transition to this new contract as smooth as possible for our residents. The contractor is working with us to ensure that happens,” says Kwolick.

Updated Collection Calendars Available Soon

Updated collection calendars and a complete list of items that are ‘Accepted’ and ‘Not Accepted’ in the green carts as of January 2 will be posted in the coming weeks on the Town website, in Hometown Weekly News, at the Town Office for pick up (200, 5604-50 St.) and will be mailed out with Town utility bills.

Other Facts about Ponoka’s New Curbside Collection Contract:

- * **Recyclables** – The curbside recycling program will remain the same with the new contract. Please place recyclables at the curb in clear or blue transparent plastic bags every second week with your grey cart. Please place only plastics #1 and #2 out for recycling.
- * **Green Carts** – Avoid packing compostable material too tightly into your green cart to ensure it can be emptied easily into the collection truck. The trucks shake the bins as they are dumped but material packed too tightly may remain lodged. To help prevent wet material from freezing to the bottom of the bins, residents can coat the bins with old cooking oil.
- * **Lids Must Be Closed** – Please ensure lids on your green and grey carts are closed when placed at the curb or they may not be collected.

For Media Inquiries:

Albert Frootman
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Ponoka
403-783-0129