

- [A - Z index](#)
- [Collections](#)
- [Contact us](#)
- [Drop-off depots](#)
- [Garbage \(Grey Bin\)](#)
- [Household Hazardous Waste](#)
- [Recycling \(Blue Bin\)](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Special events](#)
- [Waste Wizard](#)

Organics

- [Apt/Condo Green Bin Program](#)
- [Background](#)
 - [Program facts](#)
 - [Program history](#)
- [Containers](#)
 - [Bin containers and locks](#)
 - [Container pick-up locations](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [What goes in?](#)

Green Bin Program - Frequently Asked Questions

What you need to know

- ⊕ [What is the Green Bin Organics Program?](#)
- ⊕ [What are organics?](#)
- ⊕ [Can I continue to backyard compost?](#)
- ⊕ [What does the City supply to residents?](#)
- ⊕ [What if I don't want to participate?](#)

What materials are accepted in the Green Bin Organics Program?

See "[What goes in the Green Bin](#)".

- ⊕ [Is there a limit?](#)
- ⊕ [Can I put the plastic bag with my pet waste inside the bin?](#)

Are there specific items that I can't put in the Green Bin?

- Hot drink cups, lids and sleeves
- Plastic wrap, baggies, sandwich bags
- Plastic items such as food containers (e.g. yogurt or margarine tubs), cutlery
- Plastic milk bags
- Styrofoam, meat tray liners
- Foil
- Wax paper
- Artificial flowers and plants
- Leather, textiles, clothing
- Rugs, carpets
- Cigarette butts, tobacco
- Corks (from wine bottles, etc.)
- Gum
- Ear cleaners, cotton balls, make-up removal pads
- Dental floss
- Baby wipes
- Disposable mop sheets
- Dryer lint, dryer sheet
- Vacuum cleaner bags and contents
- Feathers
- Hair, pet fur
- Dead animals
- Fireplace or BBQ ashes
- Wood products, wood chips
- Candles
- Recyclable materials

- ⊕ [Can I put my leaves and yard waste in the Green Bin?](#)
- ⊕ [If I can use plastic bags to line either bin, why can't I place such plastic items as yogurt containers or plastic wrap in the bins?](#)

What do I have to do?

1. Line your indoor container or outdoor Green Bin with a plastic bag. Line just one or the other - not both. No special bag is required for either collection container. If you wish, you can reuse plastic grocery bags or use a kraft paper bag to line your indoor container. Any plastic bag (e.g. garbage bag) can be used to line your outdoor Green Bin.
2. Place all items accepted in the Green Bin Program into your outdoor Green Bin.
3. Latch your Green Bin before setting it out.
4. If you use a bag to line your outdoor Green Bin (required if you have not lined your indoor kitchen container), make sure it is completely tucked into the bin when you set it out; otherwise the edges may be used by animals to pull the bin over.
5. On your collection day, place your curbside Green Bin container at the curb by 7 a.m. if you have day time collection, or by 9 p.m. if you have night time collection.
6. Remove bungee cords and ensure that your Green Bin is accessible by placing it 0.5 metre (approximately 2 feet) away from your Blue Bin, Garbage Bin or yard waste. In winter, place your bin and items in a clearly visible, accessible area.

- ⊕ [Do I have to use a bag to line the Green Bin?](#)
- ⊕ [Should I put my name on my Green Bin?](#)
- ⊕ [I'm elderly/disabled and won't be able to drag that container to the curb every week. What should I do?](#)

Where should I store my Green Bin – are there any animal issues or health concerns to worry about?

- ⊕ [Where should I store my Green Bin – are there any health concerns to worry about?](#)
- ⊕ [Is the outdoor Green Bin designed to be resistant to dogs, raccoons, etc.?](#)
- ⊕ [What about germs/bacteria from diapers or animal waste?](#)

How does the program work?

- ⊕ [Where is the organic material going?](#)
- ⊕ [What will the finished compost be used for?](#)
- ⊕ [It looks like the garbage collectors are putting the garbage in the same place in the truck as the Green Bin material, is that true?](#)
- ⊕ [Why didn't they pick up my regular garbage when they emptied my Green Bin?](#)
- ⊕ [Are apartment residents participating in the Green Bin Organics Program?](#)

What if I don't have a bin or I need another bin?

There could be several reasons why you need another bin, here's how you can get a new Green Bin or an additional Green Bin.

- ⊕ [What if I have too much material for one Green Bin? What do I do with the overflow?](#)
- ⊕ [What happens if I lose or I need to replace my Green Bin?](#)
- ⊕ [What if I'm a new resident and I don't have a bin?](#)

The big picture: Diverting waste from landfill

- ⊕ [Is the Green Bin Program really helping Toronto reduce waste from landfill?](#)
- ⊕ [Why did the City start this program?](#)

More questions?

E-mail 311@toronto.ca or call 311 for more information.

[Back to top](#) ▲