

City of Cold Lake

# ORGANICS, RECYCLING & WASTE COLLECTION

Do your part. Help reduce waste.



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The City of Cold Lake provides weekly curbside collection of household waste, and bi-weekly collection of recycling and organics on alternating weeks. Waste and recycling are collected year round, while household organic waste is collected April 1 to November 15. Use this guide to learn about each program and how it works.

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## Collection Schedule

Curbside collection of organics, recycling and waste in Cold Lake is divided into two zones, Zone A and Zone B. Collection schedules for each zone are determined 18 months in advance. The schedule runs from July 1 to December 31 of the following year. To see the current collection schedule and the neighbourhoods included in each zone, log onto the City of Cold Lake website at:

[www.coldlake.com/waste](http://www.coldlake.com/waste)



### CONTACT US:

To get in touch with the Waste Management department:

Call: **780-594-4496**

Email: [infrastructure@coldlake.com](mailto:infrastructure@coldlake.com)

Web: [www.coldlake.com/reportaproblem](http://www.coldlake.com/reportaproblem)

# Organics

Household organic waste is collected bi-weekly (alternating weeks with recycling collection) from April 1 to November 15. Your green organics cart should be placed at the curb on the same day as your black waste cart. Collection vehicles use a hydraulic arm to pick up the cart and empty it into the truck, so all organic waste must fit inside the cart. Loose bags or other containers left outside the cart will not be collected.



**PUT THESE ORGANIC MATERIALS IN YOUR GREEN CART.**



**FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PEELINGS**  
(remove stickers),  
EGG SHELLS AND  
FOOD SCRAPS



**COFFEE FILTERS  
AND TEA BAGS**



**PAPER PLATES,  
PAPER TOWEL,  
NAPKINS AND  
TISSUES**



**GRASS CLIPPINGS,  
SOD AND SOIL**  
(carts have a 60 kg  
(130 lbs.) weight limit.)



**BRANCHES AND  
TREE TRIMMINGS**



**PLANTS, WEEDS  
AND LEAVES**  
(no noxious weeds)



**DO NOT PUT THESE ITEMS IN YOUR GREEN CART.**



**FOAM,  
PLASTIC OR TIN  
FOOD PACKAGING**  
(recycle plastic and tin,  
then compost food scraps)



**PLANT POTS  
OR BEDDING TRAYS**  
(recycle the containers,  
then compost plants  
and soil)



**DIAPERS  
OR WIPES**  
(even if they say  
compostable)



**PAINTED OR  
TREATED WOOD**



**PLASTIC  
PLATES, CUPS,  
CUTLERY OR BAGS**  
(Even if they say  
compostable. Recycle  
them instead.)



**ANIMAL WASTE,  
CAT LITTER  
OR HOT ASHES**

# Organics FAQs



## **Why should I compost?**

Composting reduces waste and makes us less dependent on landfills. It strengthens soil and reduces the need for chemical fertilizers.

## **Where does my organic waste go?**

All organic materials collected in Cold Lake are taken to the Regional Waste Transfer Station. The material is processed and turned into fresh compost that residents can pick up free of charge every spring to use in their gardens and flower beds.

## **How do I start composting?**

**IN THE KITCHEN** - Use compostable bags or newspaper to line a pail. Fill the pail with food scraps and empty it into your green cart when full (every 2-4 days)

**IN THE YARD** - Yard waste can be placed directly in the green cart. Keep your cart tidier by filling paper yard waste bags and then placing them in the cart. (Tip: leave grass clippings on the lawn. They decompose within days and return valuable nutrients to the soil).

## **What type of bags should I use?**

Organics can be placed directly into the cart without a bag. If you want to use bags to keep your cart tidier, look for bags with these logos printed on the box or directly on the bags.



## **Why does everything have to fit inside the cart?**

The City recently transitioned from manual to automated organics collection. A hydraulic arm on the collection vehicle lifts the cart and empties it into the vehicle. To ensure proper operation of the equipment and collection of material, all organics must be placed inside the cart.

Twice per season (spring and fall) the City will manually collect organics for one collection period. During these collection periods, residents can dispose of up to ten (10) bags of organic waste and five (5) securely-tied bundles of branches. Watch the City's website and social media feeds to see which weeks manual collection is planned.

In addition, residents may drop off household organics, including yard waste, at the Regional Waste Transfer Station, year round for no charge.

# Recycling



Household recycling is collected bi-weekly, year round (on opposite weeks of organics collection from April to November). Recyclables should be placed at the curb on the same day as your black waste cart. The City does not provide recycling carts. Recyclables should be placed in blue, plastic recycle bins or blue/clear see-through plastic bags. Curbside recyclables must be separated into three categories:

<b>Containers/Plastics</b> <i>(Rinsed, in a separate bag)</i>	<b>Paper</b> <i>(Clean, dry, in a separate bag)</i>	<b>Cardboard</b> <i>Flattened or bundled in a separate bag or blue box)</i>
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Aluminum cans*	Catalogues, magazines	Appliance boxes
Beverage containers*	Flyers/junk mail	Drink trays
Milk containers*	Printer/copy paper	Cereal, cookie and cracker boxes <i>(plastic bag removed)</i>
Tetra juice packs*	Newspapers	Detergent boxes
Plastic bottles*	Paperback books	Cardboard egg cartons
Plastic food tubs and lids <i>(yogurt, margarine, ice cream)</i>	Phone books	Rolls from paper towel/toilet paper
Plastic grocery bags	Shredded paper	Empty pizza boxes
Plastic retail packaging		Shoe boxes
Tin cans		Tissue boxes

\* Beverage containers can be returned for a refund at any bottle depot.

*Glass and polystyrene foam (Styrofoam) are not accepted for curbside recycling at this time. Place these items in your black cart.*

## Recycling Drop-off Bins

The City operates two 24-hour public recycling drop-off locations, which accept cardboard, mixed paper, plastics, cans and tins. They are located at the Energy Centre (north parking lot) and 4811-50 Street in Cold Lake South. Residents may also drop off household recycling at the Regional Waste Transfer Station, year round for no charge.



# Waste

## Household Waste

Household waste is collected weekly, year round, using black waste carts provided by the City of Cold Lake. Waste must be securely bagged before being placed in the cart. Collection vehicles use a hydraulic arm to lift the cart and empty it into the vehicle. To ensure proper operation of equipment and collection of material, all household waste must fit inside the cart. Loose bags or other containers left outside the cart will not be collected.



## Hazardous Waste

Household hazardous waste is not collected at the curb and must be disposed of at the Regional Waste Transfer Station. It can be dropped off free of charge (with some exceptions) year round.



### DO NOT PUT THESE TOXIC WASTE MATERIALS IN YOUR BLACK CART.



- Aerosol cans containing hazardous substances
- Ammonia
- Automotive batteries
- BBQ starters
- Brake and transmission fluid
- Butane refills
- Car waxes and polishes
- Degreasers
- Disinfectants
- Corrosive cleaners (bleach, drain cleaners, toilet and oven cleaners, mildew removers)
- Electronics
- Fabric softeners
- Gasoline, diesel fuel & kerosene
- Glue
- Hair sprays (aerosols)
- Laundry starch & stain removers
- Lighter fluid
- Lye
- Nail polish and remover
- Pesticides, insecticides and herbicides
- Rug and upholstery cleaners
- Rust removers
- Shoe polish
- Solvents, varnishes and thinners
- Spa & pool chemicals
- Weed killers
- Wood preservatives

# Transfer Station

The Cold Lake Regional Waste Transfer Station is located at 2850 Highway 28, on the south edge of the city. It is part of the Beaver River Regional Waste Management Commission. The Transfer Station is open year round and uses a summer and winter schedule.

## Summer Hours (April 1 to October 31)

Monday (and all statutory holidays): CLOSED  
Tuesday-Saturday: 9 am - 6 pm  
Sunday: 2 pm - 6 pm (May-Aug. only)

## Winter Hours (November 1 to March 31)

Monday (and all statutory holidays): CLOSED  
Tuesday-Saturday: 8 am - 5 pm  
Sunday: CLOSED

*All loads arriving at the Transfer Station and Waste Management facilities are subject to inspection for prohibited materials and adherence to standards set by the Beaver River Regional Waste Management Commission and the City of Cold Lake. Drivers must follow directions from facility staff and obey posted signage.*

Household organic waste, recycling and electronic waste (E-waste) are accepted free of charge. All other materials are subject to tipping fees. See the complete fee chart at [www.coldlake.com/waste](http://www.coldlake.com/waste).



## ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Appliances (stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers, washer/dryers, air conditioners. \$25 processing fee applies to refrigerant units not displaying a CFC removal tag)
- Batteries
- Commercial waste
- Construction and demolition materials (concrete, asphalt, wood, shingles, drywall, roofing)
- Furniture (sofas, box springs, mattresses, shelving)
- Household waste and hazardous waste (items listed in Household Waste section)
- Electronic waste (small appliances, computers, monitors, televisions, speakers, phones, power/air tools, musical instruments). For more information on the Alberta Electronics Recycling Program, visit [www.albertarecycling.ca](http://www.albertarecycling.ca)
- Metal
- Oil (automotive, containers and filters)
- Paint and stain
- Tires (rims removed)



# Waste Collection FAQs

## *It's my collection day. Why weren't my carts collected?*

Our waste management crews work hard to ensure waste, recycling and organics are collected promptly and according to schedule. However, sometimes external factors such as severe weather or equipment malfunction prevents that from happening. If your carts were not collected:

- 1 Check [www.coldlake.com](http://www.coldlake.com) and our Facebook and Twitter feeds to see if collection is delayed in your neighbourhood.** Severely cold weather and/or large snow accumulation can sometimes delay collection. If collection was delayed due to weather, leave your carts at the curb as normal and we will get there as soon as possible (in extreme situations it could be the next day).
- 2 Ensure your carts are at the curb by 7 am.** Our collection schedule begins promptly at 7 am and crews are not able to backtrack to collect carts that were set out too late.
- 3 Don't overfill your cart.** The lid must fully close and the contents must be able to slide out when the cart is tipped over. Carts packed too full, or with the lid not securely closed may not be collected.
- 4 Ensure your carts are placed correctly for our crews to collect.** If carts are not properly placed at the curb (too close together, backwards, or too close to vehicles or other objects) and our operators are unable to access them, they cannot be collected. See a diagram of how to properly place materials for collection on the last page.



If none of the above are applicable, call 780-594-4496 or email [infrastructure@coldlake.com](mailto:infrastructure@coldlake.com). All waste collection vehicles are equipped with cameras and GPS recorders, so data from the vehicle's route can be downloaded to verify the circumstances. If #2, 3 or 4 applies, you'll need to wait until next collection day, or drop off your materials at the Regional Waste Transfer Station.

### ***What time should I place my carts at the curb?***

To guarantee collection, carts should be at the curb no later than 7 am. Carts should be removed from the curb by 9 pm the same day (except in the case of delayed collection due to weather).

### ***I am moving. Should I bring my carts with me?***

No, black and green carts are associated with the address and not the resident. If you're moving, leave your carts at the old address. If you're moving to a new home within Cold Lake, use the carts at the new address. If there are no carts at the new address, call 780-594-4496.

### ***Snow clearing, street sweeping or road construction in my neighbourhood is scheduled on the same day as waste collection. What should I do?***

Place your carts at the curb as normal. Our Roads and Waste Management crews will coordinate to ensure both jobs are completed. If your street is closed to traffic, this may involve crews moving your carts to the closest accessible collection point. When the carts have been emptied, they will be returned to your curb.

### ***My cart is missing or stolen. What should I do?***

All carts are equipped with RFID that can be tracked. If your cart is missing, please call 780-594-4496.

### ***Can I give/sell my carts to someone else, or use them for storage?***

No, black and green carts are provided by, and remain the property of the City of Cold Lake. City-provided carts are non-transferrable and should not be used for anything other than waste and organics collection.



# Help us take out the trash



## 1. Leave enough room

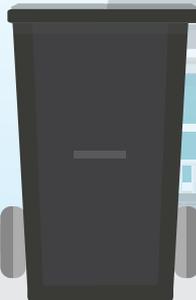
Leave at least one (1) metre of free space on all sides of the cart so that the truck's hydraulic arm is able to lift it up. Carts that are too close to vehicles, trees, or other carts cannot be emptied.

## 2. Don't overfill

The lid must fully close and the waste must slide out when the cart is tipped over.



1 metre



1 metre



Have questions about the Automated Waste Cart Collection System or residential waste collection? Check out [coldlake.com/waste](https://coldlake.com/waste) or contact Infrastructure Services at 780-594-4496.

Household waste and organics in Cold Lake are collected using the Automated Waste Collection System. Our collection vehicles use hydraulic arms to lift up your cart and empty it into the vehicle. To ensure collection is successful every week, follow these steps for proper placement of materials at the curb.



Carts without securely closed lids and loose bags or materials attract birds and wildlife. They will not be collected.

### 3. Wheels to the curb

Make sure your cart is facing forward, with the handle at the back and the wheels touching the curb. Carts facing the wrong direction cannot be collected.





[www.coldlake.com/waste](http://www.coldlake.com/waste)