



August 23, 2010

For Immediate Release

TWO CITY GARBAGE ROUTES TO RECEIVE GREEN BINS IN SEPTEMBER

Nanaimo will start rolling out its Green Bin Program in mid-September with the delivery of containers, new collection schedules, and information packages to 8,000 homes on 10 City routes.

The first phase of green bin food and kitchen waste service is limited to households on Routes 'E' and 'F'. Scheduled collection on the 10 routes involved starts after Thanksgiving. Residences on the 20 remaining City-serviced Routes, 'A' through 'D', will start participating in 2011.

City residents can check the top left corner of their Garbage and Recycling Schedule to see if they are on one of the 'E' or 'F' routes that will have this new service added in October.

The Fall 2010 edition of Nanaimo's "Waste Line" newsletter provides detailed information on the Green Bin Program and changes to garbage and recycling collection schedules. The Waste Line is being delivered by Canada Post to all Nanaimo homes starting August 26.

Along with news about the Green Bin Program, the Waste Line has tips on maximizing the curbside recycling program and information on the recent expansion of BC's Product Stewardship Programs. Used batteries, fluorescent lights, and stereo equipment are among the items that can now be returned to participating retailers, the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange and Encorp Return-It Centres.

Nanaimo's Garbage and Curbside Recycling Program has shown some encouraging results. The 25,000 households served are taking less waste to the curb and recycling more than a year ago. In the first six months of 2010 nearly 1,500 tonnes of paper, metal and plastic was recycled through the curbside program. That meant almost 32 percent of household waste was diverted from the landfill to recycling facilities.

"By recycling and putting food and kitchen waste in their green bin instead of the garbage, Nanaimo households can cut their waste by 70 percent," says Gary Franssen, Manager of Sanitation and Recycling. "Once the Green Bin Program is fully implemented throughout the City, an estimated 3,000 tonnes of kitchen waste will be diverted annually for processing into compost and fertilizers. That's the equivalent of sending 500 fewer garbage trucks to our Regional Landfill."

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Households that don't accept Canada Post admail can go to www.nanaimo.ca to download the Fall 2010 Waste Line newsletter. Once connected to the City's Website, select "Residents", click on "Garbage and Recycling", then "Publications and Forms" and select the edition to download.

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