

April 28, 2016

## New Green Bin: facts, features and usage tips

### Facts:

- New Green Bins are required because the original bins being used for curbside collection, first distributed in 2002, had a 10-year life expectancy, and are now past their expiry date.
- There are no changes to the Green Bin Program.
- Distribution of these free new bins to the City's almost 448,000 curbside collection customers will be phased in, starting in late April 2016 with the Scarborough Community, and will take approximately 18 months to complete city-wide delivery. Old Green Bins will be collected for recycling.
- Removal of your old bin should happen same day you get your new bin. If you miss this pick up, set your old **EMPTY** Green Bin out at curb on your next collection day. If you miss this second pick up day, then call 311 to arrange removal.
- Contact 311, if you have concerns with your new Green Bin; need another new Green Bin; need bin repairs or replacement.
- Independent-designed field testing done by an animal behavioural specialist showed the bin's ability to stop raccoons in particular from getting into the bin.
- The bin was tested on trucks with automated lift arms to make sure the gravity-activated unlocking lid feature performed as needed to empty the bins.
- City awarded the contract to Rehrig Pacific Company to produce the new Green Bins based on the firm scoring highest for its technical ability to manufacture a bin that best meets residents' and operational needs at lowest price.
- Funding is available for this 10-year contract (\$31,600,708.13 includes 10% contingency and net of HST recoveries), which provides for manufacturing, distribution and bin maintenance.

### Features:

- The new Green bins have been redesigned to be easy for residents to use, be animal resistant, have more capacity for increased diversion and be suitable for automated collection.

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- New Green Bins successfully fulfill residents' 'wish list' of what they want in an organics curbside bin based on the key findings from two sets of independent research conducted with a cross section of the public: much improved animal resistant features; able to be stored outside or set out in the evening with a locked lid.
- After bin is lifted, emptied and set back down, the bin lid returns to the locked position.
- Capable of holding more organics, so most households will need only one bin now.

**Usage tips:**

- Start using the new bin immediately – old bins will no longer be serviced.
- Set the new bin out squarely facing the street (follow the direction of the arrows on the lid so opening of lid faces the street).
- Automated collection needs space between the bins (0.5 metres space on either side and 3 metres space above each bin).
- Turn the dial (locking system) either right or left to the unlock position to open bin.
- Place the bin at curbside in the locked position.
- Remember to include diapers and sanitary napkins; tissues, paper towel, toilet paper; and paper ice cream containers in your Green Bin as well as food scraps.
- Do not put yard waste in the Green Bin - yard waste is collected and processed separately.
- Keep your new bin clean by washing it out or hosing it down when needed.
- Based on the experience of switching to Garbage/Blue Bins in 2008, some residents (less than 1%) have bin storage/mobility related issues. As was done then, the Division will work with residents to resolve these concerns on a case-by-case basis.

More information about the new Green Bin and participating in the Green Bin Program is available at. <http://www.toronto.ca/greenbin>

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**Media contact:** Pat Barrett, Strategic Communications, 416-392-4716, [pbarret@toronto.ca](mailto:pbarret@toronto.ca)