

# Waste Collection Changes Beginning October 19, 2020

Accessibility Advisory Committee

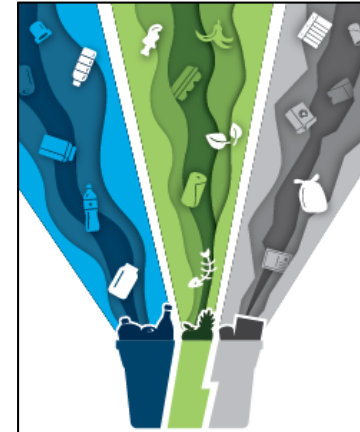
September 1, 2020

# Overview

Waste collection service changes beginning with new collection contracts on October 19, 2020

## Key Change:

For residents and those Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (IC&I) properties located outside the Designated Business Areas (DBAs), curbside garbage will be collected every-other-week. The Blue Box, Grey Box and Green Bin will continue to be collected every week.



Starting  
October 19, 2020

**BLUE, GREEN,  
GREY PICK-UP  
EVERY WEEK  
GARBAGE  
PICK-UP  
EVERY-  
OTHER-WEEK**

# Why switch to every-other-week collection for garbage?

- **Municipal Best Practice:** Approximately 70% of the Region's municipal comparators (i.e. Barrie, Durham, Halton, Markham, Ottawa, Toronto, Vaughan, Peel and Waterloo) provide every-other-week garbage collection
  - Residents have adapted to this change
- **Increase Waste Diversion:** Diversion rates increased between 6% and 16% for these municipal comparators
  - Waste audit results show that 64 per cent of what Niagara residents place in the garbage can be recycled or composted
  - The frequency of garbage collection is changing to encourage the use of the Blue/Grey Box and Green Bin

# Why switch to every-other-week collection for garbage?

- **Contract Cost Avoidance:** Approximately \$1 million annually
- **Regional Landfill Capacity:** As volume of garbage decreases, landfill life increases
- **General Environmental Benefits:**
  - Reduction of organics landfilled results in less methane emissions, reducing the landfill carbon footprint for climate change reduction
  - Improved leachate quality lessens potential for environmental impact
  - Conservation of non-renewable resources
- **Other Financial Benefits:**
  - Long term cost reduction with care and control of landfill sites
  - Increased net processing revenue from the sale of more recyclables

# Garbage container (bag/can) limit changes

Property Type	Current Limit WEEKLY	New Limit EVERY- OTHER-WEEK
Single-family houses and residential properties with 2-6 units	1 container per unit	2 containers per unit
Apartment buildings with more than 7 units	1 container per unit, max of 12 containers	2 containers per unit max of 24 containers
Mixed-Use Outside DBAs	6 containers per property	8 containers per property
IC&I Outside DBAs	4 containers per property	8 containers per property

# Other service changes

Curbside Collection Change	Property Types Affected
Discontinuation of curbside collection of large appliances and scrap metals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Single-family houses and residential properties with 2 -6 units, which currently receive this service</li></ul>
Establishment of a four (4) item limit per residential unit, per collection, for bulky/large household items	

# Diaper and medical exemptions

- Diapers and medical waste generated as a result of a medical condition will continue to be collected weekly
- Residents must register at [www.niagararegion.ca/waste](http://www.niagararegion.ca/waste) in order to qualify for this service
  - Registration forms can be submitted [online](#)
- Those properties already registered in the program do not need to re-register for weekly collection service
- For new medical applications for the new contract start on Oct. 19, residents are encouraged to apply only if they are unable to keep waste within the two container garbage limit, and/or cannot hold on to the waste for a two week period

# Diaper and medical exemptions

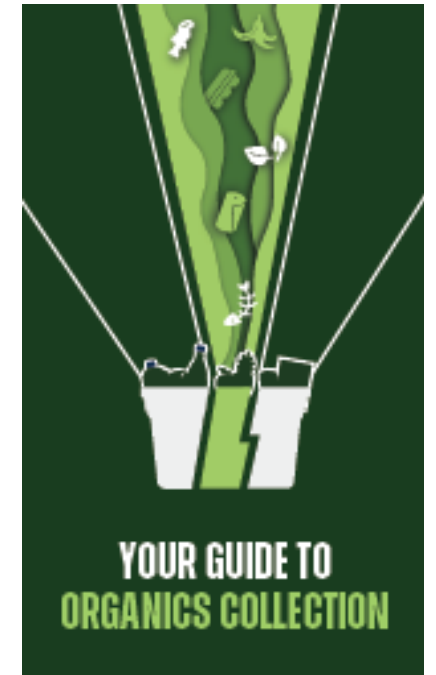
- Properties are eligible for the weekly medical waste exemption and will receive either 52 or 104 free garbage tags annually:
  - Single-family homes, properties with up to six (6) units, and homes for adults with disabilities that have individuals with a medical condition can receive either 52 or 104 free garbage tags annually, depending on the approval from their doctor
  - Group homes, homes for adults with disabilities, and homes for assisted living will receive 52 free medical waste garbage tags annually
- Set-out service for residents living with accessibility issues continues to be provided

# Use of the Green Bin will minimize problems with odours and pests

- Niagara Region Waste Management staff have consulted with Niagara Region Public Health, Environmental Health staff:
  - It was concluded that if measures are taken to contain garbage, which includes properly sealing all bags with garbage in them, and ensuring all organics are placed in the proper organics container, it will inhibit the attraction of pests, including flies and rodents
- Experiences in other municipalities:
  - Every-other-week garbage collection did not contribute to increases in rodents, provided residents use their Green Bin and store their waste properly

# Use of the Green Bin will minimize problems with odours and pests

- Place food waste and food soiled-paper products in the Green Bin, collected weekly, to remove the most odorous part of the garbage stream
- Simple steps to deter pests, such as rodents:
  - Keep the Green Bin container securely closed
  - Set out the Green Bin for collection every week, even if not full
  - Set out the Green Bin by 7am on collection day, not night before
  - Storing the Green Bin in a shaded, cool area
  - Lining the Green Bin with newspaper, etc. to absorb liquids



# Public education campaign to raise awareness of the collection service changes



Starting October 19, 2020

## CHANGES ARE COMING TO WASTE COLLECTION

### Here's what you need to know:

**You can still set out the same amount of garbage. Only the frequency of collection will be changing.**

-  You will be able to set out two bags or cans of garbage every-other-week. Your Blue/Grey Box and Green Bin will continue to be collected every week.
-  Diapers and waste resulting from a medical condition will be collected weekly. *Register online starting July 6, 2020.*
-  There will be a four item limit for large household item collection per week per eligible residential property (single family homes and apartments with six units or less).
-  Appliances and scrap metal will no longer be collected at the curb. These items can be taken to a Niagara Region Drop-off Depot or you can contact a private scrap metal company for pick-up.

**BOX IT. BIN IT. SORT IT.**

We are making these changes to increase waste diversion, preserve landfill capacity, save valuable natural resources, and lessen our environmental impact for future generations. **We all need to do our share.**

To learn more, visit [niagararegion.ca/waste](https://niagararegion.ca/waste)  
or call the **Waste Info-Line** Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
at **905-356-4141** or toll-free at: **1-800-594-5542**  
Watch the following for upcoming info:   



## BOX IT. BIN IT. SORT IT.

Changes are coming to your waste pick-up.

Starting October 19, your waste will be picked up every other week. Your Blue/Grey Box and Green Bin will still be picked up every week.

We are making these changes to keep re-usable materials out of landfills - to save our valuable natural resources, save our climate and save money for future generations.

**WE ALL NEED TO DO OUR SHARE. IT'S WORTH THE EFFORT!**

#boxbinsort

Niagara  Region

# Overview of campaign implementation

- Campaign began in June and will continue until November 2020
- Currently in the mist of the Pre-Change Campaign – June to September 21, 2020
  - Focus is on educating the public about the upcoming changes and why the changes are being made, particularly through direct mail communication pieces to all residents and businesses in Niagara



Starting October 19, 2020

**BLUE, GREEN, GREY EVERY WEEK GARBAGE PICK-UP EVERY-OTHER-WEEK**

Niagara  Region

# Overview of campaign implementation

- Media release to launch campaign on June 17, 2020
- Niagara Region's Waste Management webpage expanded to include the changes, rationale and benefits of the changes, details of how different sectors will be affected and a section on illegal dumping
- Posts on Facebook and Twitter accounts
- 162,535 postcards delivered to single-family households and low-rise residential properties with 2 or more units with information on the changes and information on diaper and medical exemptions

# Overview of campaign implementation

- Editorials e.g. Niagara's Home Show Digital Magazine and advertisements e.g. Seniors Review, Business Link, digitally on Metroland Media, print in daily and weekly newspapers, etc.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, using unstaffed booths with banner displays and take-away postcards and limited staffed displays e.g. at public markets
- 16,411 direct letters sent to owners of IC&I properties, MU properties and MR buildings customized with a summary of the respective waste collection services, rationale and resources available to help prepare for those changes

# Upcoming campaign activities

- Campaign activities will ramp up as the start date of the new collection contract approaches
- Formal launch of Niagara Region's online collection calendar, updated disposal search tool, and mobile application
  - Key new tactics to help address AAC concerns that individuals with cognitive/mental health issues will have difficulty remembering their garbage collection week/day

# Collection calendar tool

- Residents will search for an address from Niagara Region's website, and use the calendar display to see waste collection day, limits and other details

### Find Your Collection Day and Pick-up Details

Please type your home address:

× Search

128 Oakwood Street, Port Colborne


128 Oakdale Avenue, St. Catharines

128 Oakland Avenue, Welland

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Powered by **R&Collect**

#### Just Moved In?

 [Garbage Bag Limit Exemptions](#)  
Apply for diaper, daycare, medical,

**Put your Items out by 7 a.m.**  
Items can be placed out the night before after 5 p.m.

### Find Your Collection Day and Pick-up Details

128 Oakdale Avenue, St. Catharines  
Garbage: 1 bag/can limit; \$2.50 for additional bag/can

🔔 Get a reminder! 📅 Get a calendar 🔍 Search for another address

#### September 2020

today < >

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
			Garbage Blue/Grey Box Green Bin Leaf and Yard Waste			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Garbage Blue/Grey Box Green Bin Leaf and Yard Waste			


# Other calendar features


- Residents can sign up for reminders
- Educational information can be included as part of the reminders
- Service alerts will also be provided to residents who receive the automated notifications
- Metrics are available for Niagara Region


[< Back](#) **Get a reminder!**


How should we notify you?


Pick the reminder you'd like to receive. You can sign up for multiple reminders.

 Email >

 Phone Call >

 Embed in Outlook, Google Calendar, iCal >


 Print a Calendar >


 Service alerts only >


[< Back](#) **Add to Calendar**

Add to Calendar

Please choose the type of calendar application


 Add to Google Calendar

 Add to iCal

 Add to Microsoft Outlook

Print a Calendar

To print your calendar, please click the following

 Print a Calendar

**Collection Schedule** Garbage: 1 bag/can limit; \$2.50 for additional bag/can **Niagara Region**  
128 Oakdale Avenue, St. Catharines  
🗑️ : Garbage 🔄 : Blue/Grey Box 🌿 : Green Bin 🍁 : Leaf and Yard Waste

August 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15

# Waste wizard search tool

- Includes over 700 items
- Provides users with the appropriate disposal method (curbside, depot, donation etc.)
- Provides the closest drop-off depot based on address
- Staff can track search results and use this information to target communication

Where Does it Go?

Share

My Schedule

Where Does it Go?

Need help?

Back

Plastic bag

Type an item


Grey Box

Place this item in the Grey Box

Special Instructions

Place all plastic bags inside one bag, remove receipts and tie handles. Plastic bags can get caught in our sorting equipment when loose. Placing all your plastic bags into one bag and putting them in the Grey Box prevents this problem.

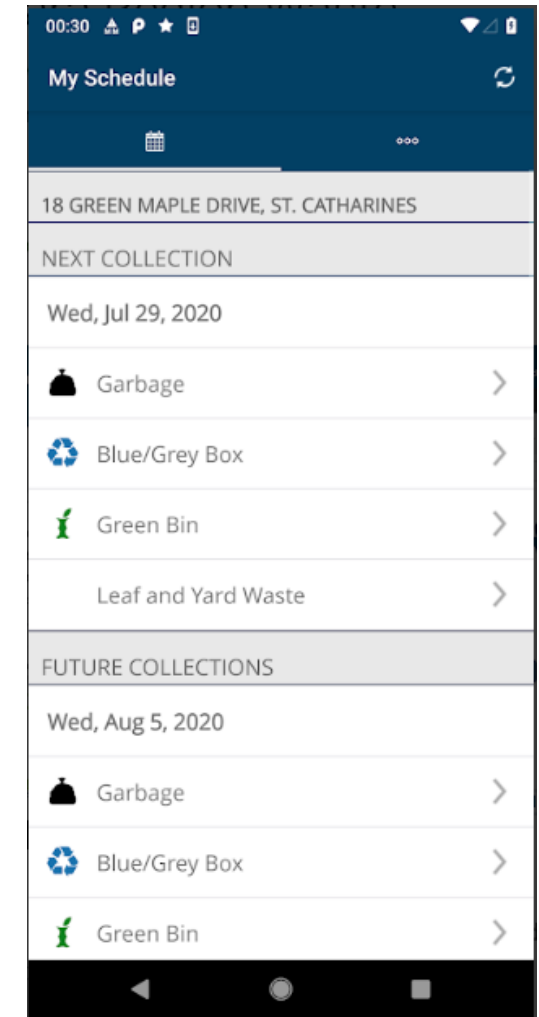
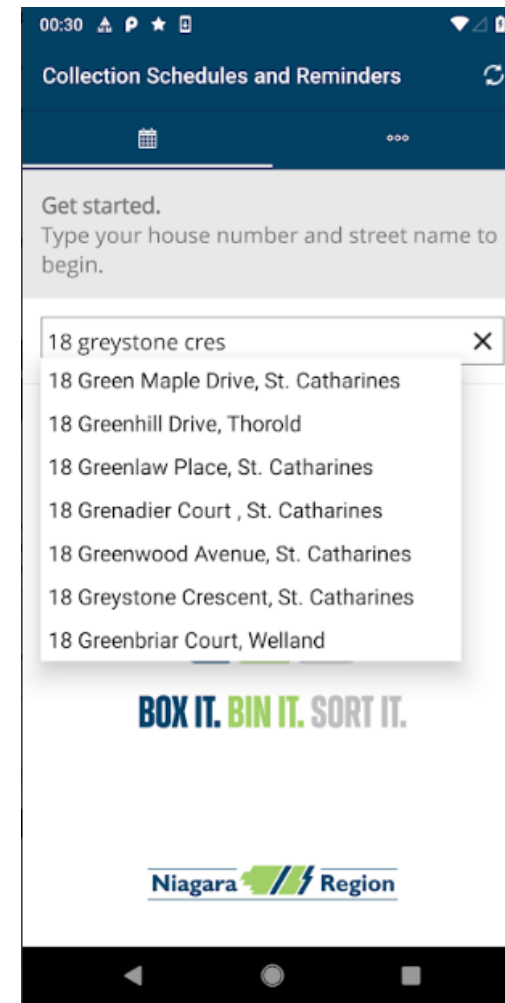
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# Mobile application

- Residents will search 'Niagara Region Waste' to download the mobile app
- Collection calendar and search tool are both available on app
- Option to sign up for push notifications through the app as another reminder type



# Moving forward

- Web/mobile application will be promoted as part of the education campaign for new waste collection contract and beyond
- Promotional pieces to include QR code for touchless download options for the app
- Waste Info-Line staff will have the ability to sign up residents for reminders



# Moving forward

Examples of upcoming campaign activities:

- Radio, billboard and bus advertisements
- Interviews on YourTV
- Direct mail out of Collection Guides to all low-density residential properties and apartments with 2- 6 units
- New animated and hosted video segments
- Outreach to school aged children through school presentations and videos

# Questions?

## Waste Collection Changes

Starting Oct. 19, changes are coming to curbside waste collection. Box it, bin it and sort it to reduce our environmental impact.

