



Issue 17: May 2009 (Your Special Compost Issue!)

Compost Sale

The Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre's spring Compost Sale will be taking place May 4th to May 18th. During this time you can bring your truck, trailer and containers to the Centre, during [normal operating hours](#), to purchase some of our valuable soil amendment (while quantities last). [Click here](#) for prices. Wondering why you should add compost to your outdoor landscaping projects? Compost is to plants what vitamins are to humans; it contains essential nutrients which will help your flower beds bloom, your lawn become a vibrant green and your vegetable gardens grow.

Warm Weather Green Cart Tips

Hurray! Warm weather will soon be upon us! Here are some tips on how to keep your Green Cart clean during the summer months:

- Line your Green Cart with newspaper or old pizza boxes and wrap food waste in newspaper before you place it in the Green Cart. This will absorb some of the liquid from your organic material and will help manage odors.
- Do not pour any liquid into your Green Cart.
- Wrap fish and meat in newspaper or a paper bag and store it in your freezer until your Green Cart collection day.
- Alternate layers of food waste with layers of dry waste (leaves, dry grass clippings, soiled and shredded paper).
- Sprinkle a small amount of baking soda into your Green Cart.
- Put your Green Cart out for collection every collection day if it is not full.
- Rinse out your Green Cart with a hose after every collection. You may also use mild detergent periodically to further clean your Cart.
- Store your Green Cart in a well ventilated, shaded area away from any outdoor activity.
- Grass clippings are best left on your lawn because as they decompose nutrients and moisture are returned to your lawn. If you must place clippings in your Green Cart, make sure they are dry. Wet grass clippings can stick to your Green Cart and cause odors.

Do You Know Where it Goes?

Some materials make us think twice before we throw them away. Is it recyclable? Can it be composted? Or is it garbage?

Leaf and Yard Waste

Small amounts of leaf and yard waste can be placed in your Green Cart. This includes leaves, weeds, grass clippings, small brush, etc. Larger quantities of leaf and yard waste will be collected only when the [leaf and yard waste symbol](#) appears on your collection schedule. [Click here](#) for leaf and yard waste collection guidelines.

Animal Feces

Cat and dog feces are GARBAGE. Animal feces should NOT be placed in your Green Cart as they pose a sanitary risk for the material handlers at OVWRC whose job it is to pre-sort collected organic material and remove any objects that cannot be composted. Similarly, diapers are garbage and should not be placed in your Green Cart.

Re-Use It!

Newspaper is a great resource to keep around the house for re-use. You can use it instead of paper towels to wash windows and mirrors (newspaper won't leave streaks). If you use a solution of plain vinegar and water to clean your glass surfaces, the newspaper can be placed directly in your Green Cart once you've finished. Newspaper can also be used to make a liner for your small kitchen organic container. [Click here](#) for instructions on how to make an OVWRC "Organics Origami" green bin liner.

The OVWRC E-Newsletter is published by the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre.
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