

## Need help? Call us:

**Village of Cumberland:** 250-336-2291

**Town of Comox:** 250-339-2202

**Comox Strathcona Waste Management:**  
250-334-6016



### HOW CAN I MAKE SURE MY ORGANICS CONTAINER DOESN'T ATTRACT BEARS AND OTHER WILDLIFE?

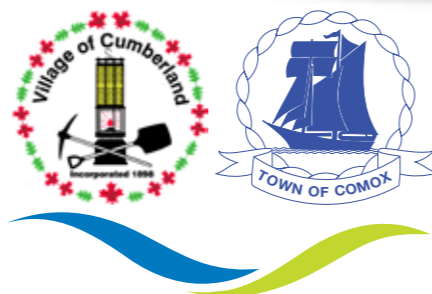
The Comox Valley is natural bear habitat. Although residents will simply be putting food scraps into the organics container instead of the garbage can, we can minimize human-bear conflict by managing our garbage, organics container and other bear attractants responsibly.

- Keep your organics container in the house, garage, shed or in a bear-resistant enclosure until the morning of collection.
- Put your organics container curbside the morning of collection, not the night before.
- Designate only one organics container for food scraps. Note that food scraps will not be accepted curbside in paper yard trimmings bags.
- Freeze or refrigerate meat, fish, bones and plate scrapings until the morning of collection.
- Wrap your scraps in newspaper or paper bags to reduce odours and to keep your organics container cleaner.
- Layer food scraps and food soiled paper with yard trimmings in your organics container when possible.
- Wash your organics container with a mild soap or a vinegar and water solution to reduce odours.

For more info, visit [www.bearaware.bc.ca](http://www.bearaware.bc.ca)

# ORGANICS COMPOST PROGRAM

## Curbside Food Scraps Recycling Program



**Comox Strathcona Waste Management**

[www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting](http://www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting)

The Comox Strathcona waste management (CSWM) service is partnering with the Village of Cumberland and the Town of Comox to pilot an organics collection program as part of the region's commitment to reduce the amount of residual waste going to the landfill.

## Curbside Food Scraps Recycling in 3 Easy Steps:



# 1

Collect food scraps in a kitchen container of your choice.



# 2

Empty your kitchen container into your organics container.



# 3

Place your organics container curbside on the morning of your collection day.



For more info, visit  
[www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting](http://www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting)

## Organics Container

Use one of your existing lidded yard trimmings cans. Use your decal to identify your container. If you don't have a yard trimmings can, purchase a 77 litre lidded can from a local retailer such as a hardware store or home and garden shop.



### Curbside Set-Out Instructions:

Food scraps are NOT accepted curbside in paper yard waste bags because they will attract wildlife. However, paper bags inside regulation-sized cans are acceptable.

#### VILLAGE OF CUMBERLAND

Place your organics container curbside with the decal facing the street by 8:00 a.m. on the morning of collection, not the night before.

Max weight: 22 kg (49 lb)

#### TOWN OF COMOX

Place your organics container curbside with the decal facing the street by 7:30 a.m. on the morning of collection, not the night before.

Max weight: 20 kg (44 lb)

Printed on Recycled Paper

# Frequently Asked Questions:

**When does food waste collection start?**

Collection of food scraps will start the week of June 16, 2013, on the same day as your regular garbage, recycling and yard waste pickup.

**What should I use for a kitchen container?**

Residents in the Town of Comox and the Village of Cumberland can use any container of their choice to collect food scraps in the kitchen:

- Re-use a large yogurt or ice cream container
- Purchase a kitchen container from a local retailer
- Use newspaper/paper bags to wrap your food scraps

**What can I use to line my kitchen container?**

Use only paper bags or newspaper to line your kitchen container. The "organics origami" template can be used to create an economical liner for your kitchen container using old newspaper available at [www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting](http://www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting).



**Where should I keep my food scraps between collection days?**

Storing your kitchen container in the fridge or freezer between collection days is also a good way to prevent odours. If your kitchen container is full before collection day, empty it into your curbside organics container. Keep your curbside organics container in a location secure from wildlife with the lid properly closed. DO NOT place food scraps in paper yard waste bags for collection at the curb.

**Where can I get "Organics Compost Program" decals for my curbside organics container?**

Each household will be provided with one decal which is included in this brochure information package. If additional decals are required, they can be obtained at:

- Village of Cumberland municipal hall
- Town of Comox municipal hall
- Comox Valley Regional District office

**Why can't I use biodegradable or compostable plastic bags?**

The composting facility does not accept plastic bags of any type as they compromise finished compost quality and may get caught up in processing machinery.

**Where do my food scraps go?**

Comox Strathcona waste management has opened a small-scale food & yard waste composting facility at the Comox Valley waste management centre. This facility is testing the suitability of the Gore Cover system composting technology for potential development of a full-scale facility that will accept food & yard waste from homes and businesses throughout the region.

**What if my curbside organics container isn't full on collection day?**

Set your organics container at the curb even if it isn't full. You can also place yard waste in the container along with the food scraps if there is space available.

**Is it better environmentally to compost or recycle paper?**

It is better to recycle all clean paper materials. Paper napkins, paper towels, paper plates, pizza boxes, cardboard take-out containers and other kitchen paper items are often contaminated with food and therefore cannot be recycled; these items can be turned into compost.

**Backyard composting** is the most cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to recycle fruit and vegetable scraps and yard trimmings. Use your organics container for plate scrapings, meat, bones, dairy and grains.

Learn more about composting and purchasing compost bins at [www.cswm.ca/composting](http://www.cswm.ca/composting)



For a full list of what goes in and what stays out, visit: [www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting](http://www.cswm.ca/organiccomposting)

## What goes in: All food scraps, food-soiled paper and yard trimmings

				
Meat & Bones	Fish & Shellfish	Grains & Pasta	Dairy Products	Eggs & Shells
				
Plate Scrapings	Fruit & Veggies	Food-Soiled Paper & Cardboard	Coffee Filters, Grounds & Tea Bags	Yard Waste

## What stays out:

*Plastic, including biodegradable or compostable plastic, and pet waste*

				
NO Plastic, even if labeled biodegradable or compostable	NO Coffee Cups	NO Metal, Rubber or Glass	NO Diapers or Baby Wipes	NO Pet Waste or Kitty Litter