

## Some Helpful Tips for Maintaining Green Carts

To reduce odours, put your food scraps in a paper bag, cereal box, or wrap them in newspaper before placing them in your green cart.



### Rinse Your Cart

Rinse your bins and sprinkle them with baking soda to keep them clean and reduce odours.

Line your cart with a paper leaf and yard waste bag. Line your mini kitchen bin with a liner or newspaper.

### DID YOU KNOW?



Plastic-type compostable bags do not break down. They will contaminate the compost.

**X** If your green cart is contaminated with unacceptable materials, it may be rejected and not emptied.

NO	YES
<b>X</b> Styrofoam	✓ Meat, fish and bones
<b>X</b> Metal or foil	✓ Tea bags
<b>X</b> Fabric, rags or clothes	✓ Egg shells
<b>X</b> Kitty litter or pet waste	✓ Soiled paper and paper cups
<b>X</b> Glass or dishes	✓ Dairy products
<b>X</b> Feminine hygiene products or diapers	✓ Grass and plant waste
<b>X</b> Plastic: including grocery bags	✓ Pasta, rice, and bread
<b>X</b> Condiment packages or plastic cutlery	✓ Fruit and vegetables
<b>X</b> Paper coffee cups and cold drink cups	✓ <b>COLD</b> stove ashes
	✓ Wood shavings
	✓ Tissue and paper towel
	✓ Human and pet hair
	✓ Coffee filters and grounds

## Need a Green Cart?

If you are a resident of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg and have never had a green cart, or need to replace a broken one, call 1-855-530-3324.

If you live in the Town of Mahone Bay or Bridgewater, please contact your Town Office for details about how to get a green cart for your home or business.

Town of Bridgewater: **(902) 541-4370**

Town of Mahone Bay: **(902) 624-8327**



Municipal Joint Services Board  
Lunenburg Regional Community  
Recycling Centre

908 Mullock Road  
Whynotts Settlement  
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Phone: (902) 543-2991

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# GREEN CART

## A Composting Guide



LUNENBURG REGIONAL  
*Community Recycling Centre*

TURNING OUR RESOURCES AROUND

## Reducing Maggots and Odours in the Summer



Reducing the number of flies in your green cart is the key to reducing maggots. Follow these steps to help keep them away.

### Increase the pH

Sprinkle lime for your lawn on the organic waste to create an unfriendly environment for maggots and rinse your green cart after it has been emptied.

### Line Your Cart

Keep the lid of your cart closed and line your green cart with newspaper, soiled pizza boxes or paper to absorb moisture. Fold paper liners tightly to keep the flies out - maggots only exist if they are able to access the organic waste in the green cart.

### Keep It Cool

Store your cart in a shaded area to slow the decomposition of organic waste; the smell of decomposing meat is especially inviting for flies.

### Timing

Clean out your fridge the day before collection rather than a few days after.

### Regular Collection

Put your green cart out during every collection. This will reduce the available food for maggots and enable you to rinse your green cart more often, reducing odours that attract flies.

### Mix With Yard Waste

Layer soiled paper, leaves or yard waste with food scraps. This will minimize the smell of decomposing food.

### Freeze It

If you have space, store meat scraps in your freezer until compost collection day.

## Keeping Your Green Cart from Freezing



Organic waste may freeze to the inside of your cart during winter. Here are a few ways to prevent this:

### Strain It

Strain excess liquid from soups and sauces, then put solid pieces in a cracker box before placing in the cart.

### Wrap It

Wrap wet foods in newspaper.

### Freeze Protection

Crumple newspaper into balls and cover the bottom of your cart to keep wet food from freezing to the bottom.

### Liner as a Barrier

Line the cart with a paper leaf and yard waste bag to keep organic waste from sticking to the sides of the cart.

### Alternate Layers

Layer wet foods with sawdust, leaves, or cold stove ashes as they are placed in the cart.

### Empty Often

Ensure your cart is curbside during each collection. Then, if your cart is frozen and cannot be emptied, there will still be space for food scraps until the cart thaws and can be tipped the next time.



### Ashes in the Green Cart

Ensure ashes are completely cold before placing them in the cart. Check for hot spots. Hot ashes can melt carts and start fires!

