



The carts start rolling!

You may have heard the news — starting in January, the Automated Waste Collection Cart program will be rolling out in your neighbourhood, making waste collection easier, cleaner and greener.

Local governments in the Central Okanagan are introducing this new program that improves the way curbside garbage, recycling and yard waste is collected. Easy-to-use carts that you can wheel to the curb or the road will be delivered to your home, and when you get them you can start using them right away!

The carts will be picked up with new automated collection trucks, making it easier to collect your waste – with fewer missed pick-ups and reduced labour costs. Using the new carts is easier, too. Recyclables and yard waste simply go in the carts. Since no bags are needed for your recyclables and yard waste, you'll save money.



How does it work?

Between January and late spring, wheeled carts will be distributed in phases to neighbourhoods currently receiving curbside collection. This includes the City of Kelowna, Westside District Municipality, District of Lake Country, District of Peachland and the Central Okanagan East and West Electoral Areas. The roll out starts on the Westside and wraps up in Kelowna in the spring.

This will coincide with the use of automated trucks with special arms that will pick up, unload and replace the carts along the side of the road. Each residential customer receiving curbside garbage, recycling and yard waste collection will receive three carts: one for garbage, one for recyclables and one for yard waste.

Once you receive your carts, please start using them on your regular garbage day. For garbage, simply place bagged garbage into the bin and roll it to the curb or the edge of the road. For recycling no more bags are needed — simply flatten your recyclables and place them in the bin.

From March through November, you can use your yard waste bin — yard waste will be collected on those weeks that are not

slated for recycling pick-up. So you won't be limited to just three weeks in the spring and fall. Plus, you won't need to use bags anymore, just place your yard waste loose – directly into the cart.

When the carts are delivered to your home starting in early 2009, we'll also be stopping by to show you how they work. If we miss you or you have questions at anytime, contact us and we'll be more than happy to help!



Easier. Cleaner. Greener.
The new automated waste collection system for your garbage, recyclables and yard waste rolls out to most Central Okanagan homes between January and late spring.



Why the change?

With our current garbage and recycling collection contracts coming due across the Central Okanagan, we needed to look at new ways to improve waste collection services. Labour shortages have meant missed pick-ups for many homes. Prices for fuel, labour and injury claims are driving collection contract costs up across North America. The new collection program uses automated trucks to help overcome these challenges. For example, workers are now lifting upwards of 10 metric tonnes of waste into their trucks each day. With the automated collection program, haulers can be almost any age or stature. Moreover, the costs of the new program are less than the projected prices for what it would cost to renew our current manual collection contracts – contracts that don't work well due to difficulties in finding people to do the job.



The new automated waste collection system is easier on the haulers because the machinery does the heavy work!

About the cost

The costs for waste collection will continue to appear on your tax notices or utility bills and will vary depending on where you live. While prices would have increased regardless of the type of service, the increase for this program will vary depending on where you live and the distance to the landfill. With the new system you will save on bags. In our pilot test and in other communities that have switched, residents estimated savings of \$30 to \$55 annually because they no longer have to buy blue and clear bags for recycling and yard waste. Watch for more information that will be included with your carts.

We're here to help!

We want to make the transition to the new Automated Waste Collection program as easy as possible. Please contact us if you have questions or invite us to speak to your community group, strata, or organization. Contact us at:

Email: recycle@cord.bc.ca • Phone: 250-469-6250 • Fax: 250-762-7011 • Website: www.regionaldistrict.com
• Mail: Regional Waste Reduction Office, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, B.C. V1W 3Z4

Quick cart facts:

- The carts you receive are registered for your specific property and address and will stay at that address should you move.
- The standard cart for garbage holds about 120 litres, roughly equal to two regular garbage bags.
- The standard carts for recyclables and yard waste hold about 240 litres, roughly equal to three to four large bags worth.
- Recycling and yard waste will be collected on alternate weeks.
- Yard waste will be collected between March and November.
- Learn more at www.regionaldistrict.com. Simply click on 'Quick Links' and the 'Automated Waste Collection Program' option.

Want to help?

We're looking for enthusiastic community and service groups and volunteers to help us roll out the program. Join the Regional Waste Reduction Office and staff from OK Environmental Waste Systems as we drop off the carts to each home and show residents how they work. In return, we can make a donation to community groups and service clubs that help.

For more information contact Garth at 250-469-6253 or email garth.thomson@cord.bc.ca

Tried it and liked it!

Many other communities, such as Kamloops, Prince George and Port Coquitlam have switched to automated collection with great success. Locally, the system was pilot tested with 505 homes in Kelowna, Peachland and the Westside and received rave reviews — 96% liked it! Here's what some had to say:

"I love this system. It's easy, clean and efficient."

"I don't want to return the carts, they are GREAT!"

"The yard waste bin is the best thing since sliced bread. We love it!"

"This is such a time saver... I'd gladly pay \$30 to \$50 for this service. Many thanks."

WATCH OUR VIDEO!

To learn more about the new cart collection program, watch our instructional video. You can view it anytime by visiting www.regionaldistrict.com and clicking on 'Quick Links' and the 'Automated Waste Collection Program' link.



Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper with vegetable-based inks.