



Green Bin program for organics

Beginning the week of January 5, 2026,
in South-West Oxford and City of Woodstock



Getting started

Oxford County's new organic waste (green bin) program collects food scraps and other biodegradable materials, reducing the amount of garbage sent to the landfill and supporting environmental sustainability in our communities.

Your starter kit includes:

- **45 L Green Bin** - Use to store organic waste and set out at the curb on your collection day.
- **7 L Kitchen Container** - For collecting organic waste in your kitchen.
- **Sorting guide** - keep this handy for tips on how to use your green bin.
- **Certified compostable bag sample** - Only certified bags can be used in green bins.

How to use your new green bin

1
Collect food scraps in the kitchen container.



2
As your kitchen container fills, empty it into the green bin.



3
Place your green bin at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day.



Is your bag certified compostable?

Only certified compostable bags can be used in green bins. Look for the BPI (Biodegradable Products Institute) or compostable logo.



What goes in your green bin?

Acceptable items

Food and kitchen scraps

- Fruits, vegetables, nuts and shells
- Meat, fish, shellfish (including bones)
- Dairy, butter, margarine
- Baked goods, pasta, bread, cereals, rice, grains
- Juices, sauces, jams, salad dressing
- Cooking oils and grease
- Coffee grounds, filters, tea bags



Soiled paper products

- Food-soiled boxboard, cardboard or paper
- Paper plates
- Facial tissue, napkins, paper towels
- Microwave popcorn bags, muffin liners



Plant material and seeds

- House plants (dirt removed)
- Birdseed
- Pumpkins



Miscellaneous

- Hair, pet fur, nail clippings
- Certified compostable bags and cups for fats, oils and grease
- Wooden toothpicks
- Compostable packaging (e.g., plates, bowls, utensils)



Unacceptable items

Recyclables

- Blue box materials



Plastics and packaging

- Plastic bags and packaging
- Compostable coffee pods

Personal hygiene items

- Diapers and incontinence products



Animal waste and related items

- Animal waste (e.g., pet droppings)
- Kitty litter
- Dead animals



Leaf and yard waste

Miscellaneous

- Candles/wax
- Cigarette butts
- Textiles



Watch our sorting video:
www.oxfordcounty.ca/green-bin-video



Tips and tricks

Line your bins

You can use certified compostable bags or paper bags to help keep your bin clean. Bins can also be lined with newspaper. Do not use plastic bags.

Freeze scraps

Wrap meat and fish in paper and freeze until collection day to minimize odours.



Layer waste

Alternate food scraps with soiled cardboard or newspaper to absorb liquids.

Rinse often

Wash your bins with water and vinegar regularly.

Reduce smells

Add baking soda, citrus peels or coffee grounds to manage odour.



Seasonal tips

Keep your curbside bin in a shaded and/or ventilated spot in warmer months. In the winter, store it indoors until collection day, or place a cardboard egg carton on the bottom to keep your bag from freezing to the bin.

COMING SOON

Six-day collection cycle starts in 2026

Beginning January 2026, both the City of Woodstock and the Township of South-West Oxford will follow a rotating six-day cycle for garbage and organics collection. (All other municipalities will move to a six-day cycle in May 2027.) With this schedule, your collection day will shift one day later each week, with the rotation pausing for weekends and holidays.

Watch for details and your new schedule this fall.

Learn more about changes to waste collection in Oxford County at oxfordcounty.ca/new-waste-collection



Setting out for curbside collection

- Set garbage bags and green bins at the curb by 7:00 am on your collection day.
- Only the issued 45 L green bin can be used for organic waste. Keep lids closed and locked, and ensure bins do not exceed 44 lbs (20 kg). Bag tags are not required for organic waste.
- Each garbage bag must have a bag tag securely applied around the neck and weigh no more than 44 lbs (20 kg).

Visit www.wasteline.ca for container guidelines.

