

# Curbside Green Waste Can Rental



This is a quick guide on what materials can and cannot go into your green waste cart. Also, this guide has general information and some basic service rules. Thank you for your participation and compliance.

Are you excited for your green waste cart? Excited enough to tell your neighbors, family and friends!? We hope so. This fledgling program needs your support. There are a lot of good reasons to get others interested in getting a green cart, especially those in your neighborhood. Primarily, conserving your financial resources are important. We can keep rates low when we operate at peak efficiency. The more people who subscribe for green carts allow for greater effectiveness in pick-up and reduced operations costs. What is even more efficient? Large groups of subscribers in tight geographic areas, specifically your neighbors. Secondly, organics diverted from the landfill will conserve natural resources as well as prevent methane buildup. So spread the word! You can make a difference.

You may have some questions about what exactly goes into your green cart. Yard waste and organics are general terms that cast a wide net in describing materials. Thus in order to clarify, below is a list of what is accepted and not allowed into the green carts. We will start with what **CANNOT** go in the carts.

## **DO NOT put these items into your green can**

- **Oils of any kind;** vegetables oils, seed oils like canola, sunflower, flax, or castor bean.
  - Oils are more structurally complex than the typical leafy greens. They take longer to break down and complicate composting efforts.
- **Meats of any kind;** skins, tendons, (meat) table leftovers, BBQ leftovers, and spoiled meats.
  - Decomposing meats are a serious health risk. They also attract vermin. Meats are a serious challenge to decompose in a compost operation designed mainly for plants.
- **Fats, grease, paper;** any paper products, lubricating grease, cooking grease, grease based cleaners, and fats.
  - The issues with oils and meats are identical with fats and greases and are compounded. Their cellular structure is a challenge of microbes to quickly break down.
- **Decomposable cutlery and wares;** plates, cutlery, diapers, anything corn-based, vegetable oil based, TaterWare, WheatWare, or wheatstraw based.
  - In order to make these products durable, they are processed and altered in composition. Thus, despite being made from organics, it is much more challenging for microbes to break down these materials.
- **Bio-degradable bags;**
  - These bags have a nasty tendency to get stuck in operating machinery. They will clog the gears and separators, and could shut down a composting operations.

(continued on next page)

# Curbside Green Waste Can Rental



- **Inorganics:** rocks, dirt, vermiculite, sod
  - Despite the integration of these items with living materials, they are not biodegradable and can damage machinery used to compost organics.

## **DO** put these items into your green cart.

- **Woody materials;** twigs, logs, pallets, particle board, branches (keep them shorter than 4 feet)
- **Leafy materials;** grass, leaves, weeds, garden and landscape (plant) materials
- **Organic household items;** egg shells, coffee grounds, tea bags, etc.

## *When do I put my green cart out?*

Your green cart will be treated identical to your other carts. Each year we will begin service on the third Monday of March, and end on the second Friday of December (for 2016, March 14th until December 9th).

## *How much can I put in my green cart?*

We can accommodate just anything that will fit into our truck's hopper. Specifically, if it can fit into your green can, we can take it. However, please do not overflow or 'ice cream cone' your green cart with material. A good general rule of thumb is that your lid should not be vertical or unable to freely lay directly on top of the contents in the can.

❗ This cart's lid is vertical, and materials in the cart are preventing it from closing or directly laying down on its contents.



❗ The green cart is too full if you have materials that are preventing the can's lid from closing past half way, or about 45°