

CITY OF ABBOTSFORD

Curbside Cart

COLLECTION GUIDE

In effect from January - December 2026



2026
Yard Waste
Coupons
inside!

ENGINEERING & REGIONAL UTILITIES

☎ 604-864-5640 🌐 abbotsford.ca/waste



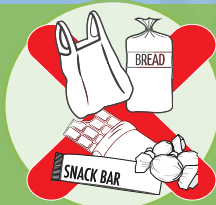


Recycle Right!

Keep these items **OUT** of your recycling cart and recycle right!



Put material loose into the recycling cart, **NOT** in blue bags!



Take plastic bags and wrappers to the depot.



Put food waste in the compost cart and clean out containers.



Put both clean and dirty tissue & paper towel in the compost cart.

For more information:
abbotsford.ca/waste



ENGINEERING & REGIONAL UTILITIES

☎ 604-864-5640 🌐 abbotsford.ca/waste

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**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

In 2025 we had a 62% diversion rate.

That means 62% of the waste we collected did not go to the landfill.

The City of Abbotsford provides automated cart-based collection for 26,500 single family homes and duplexes across the City.



+



=

62%
Diversion
Rate

Recycle Right and Get a Star

Curbside cart audits are in progress!

City staff inspect carts on collection days in an effort to reduce our recycling contamination and increase our diversion rate!

Earn a star sticker for your blue recycling cart by including **ONLY** acceptable materials in your cart. Scan the QR code to win prizes! Show off your sticker by tagging us on social media at #StarRecycler

For more information on sorting your waste visit abbotsford.ca/waste.



ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਬਹੁਤ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੈ। ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕਿੱਸੇ ਕੋਲੋਂ ਇਸਦੀ ਟਰਾਂਸਲੇਸ਼ਨ (ਅਨੁਵਾਦ) ਕਰਵਾ ਲਵੋ। ਉਨੁਵਾਦ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ abbotsford.ca/collectionschedule ਤੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

Carts & Bins

Separate your waste into one of these waste streams.



RECYCLING

Containers, newspapers, packaging and paper products.

Collected every other week.



COMPOSTABLES

Food scraps, food-soiled papers and yard trimmings.

Collected weekly.



GARBAGE

Waste that can't be composted or recycled.

Collected every other week.



GLASS

Empty & clean glass bottles and jars that have lids removed.

Collected every other week on the same day as recycling.

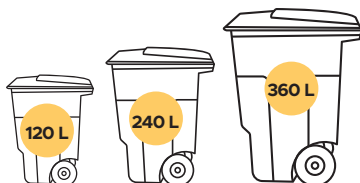


DROP OFF

Materials accepted at a recycling depot, transfer station or other drop off location.

Cart Sizes & Types

Carts are available in three sizes for recycling, compost and garbage collection. Bear-resistant carts can also be requested but are only available in the 240 L size.



Requests to change existing carts are only accepted once in any 12 month period for any property. Please note that cart size, number or type may affect your annual solid waste user fees.

Visit abbotsford.ca/carts for more information.

Missing or Damaged Carts

To request a replacement or to report a lost or stolen cart, call 604-864-5640 or visit abbotsford.ca/report-issue.

Moving to a New Residence

Please use the carts that are already at your property. If there are no carts when you move in, or you are moving into a newly constructed home, please contact us at 604-864-5640 or carts@abbotsford.ca



Keep Track of your Carts

Label your carts with your address. Use a permanent marker to write your address in the white space.

Record your serial number. On the right side of your carts there is a serial number that is unique to identifying your cart. Record this number and keep it for your records.

These carts are the property of the City and are micro chipped with your address.



Cart Tips

1

What's in your recycling cart matters!



Do not include stretchy plastics, foam packaging, glass, books, or other items that are not accepted in the recycling program. These unacceptable materials may result in your cart not being collected.

2

DO NOT bag recyclables.



All items must be placed loosely inside your blue recycling cart.

3

Flatten, crush & compress!



Flattening cardboard and crushing & compressing items before placing them in the cart will help you fit more material inside the carts.

4

Do not overfill your blue carts!



Overflowing carts cannot be collected. The lid must be completely closed.

5

Do not pack down waste.



Tightly packed material inside your carts may get stuck and not empty properly.

6

Reduce your packaging.



Buying in bulk, using reusable containers, choosing items with less packaging, and reusing items will help decrease the amount of material you need to manage.

7

Know what goes where!



Use the Waste Wizard to look up disposal information for hundreds of items! Access the Waste Wizard through the Abbotsford Curbside Collection App or visit abbotsford.ca/wastewizard.



Cart Placement

Putting your carts out the right way on collection day ensures your carts can be collected safely and on schedule. The placement of carts is important because the automated truck's mechanical arm needs sufficient room to pick up and empty the cart.



Place the carts so the arrows on the lid point toward the street and the wheels are against the curb.



QUICK TIP

One metre is approximately an arms length.

Ensure 1 m (3 ft) between each cart and glass bin.

Carts placed too close together cannot be collected.



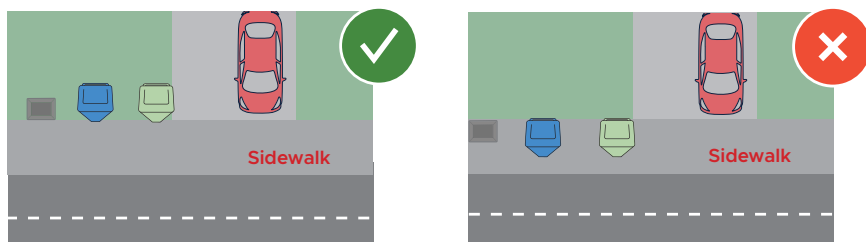
Ensure at least 1 m (3ft) in between parked vehicles and carts.

Carts placed too close to vehicles cannot be collected.



Ensure carts do not block a sidewalk or bike lane.

Sidewalk and bike lane access needs to be kept clear at all times.

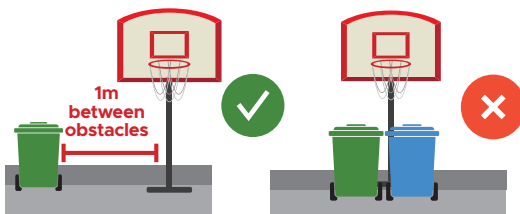


Ensure at least 1 m (3 ft) clearance from any basketball hoop, utility pole, street light, fence, etc. Carts placed too close to these items cannot be collected.



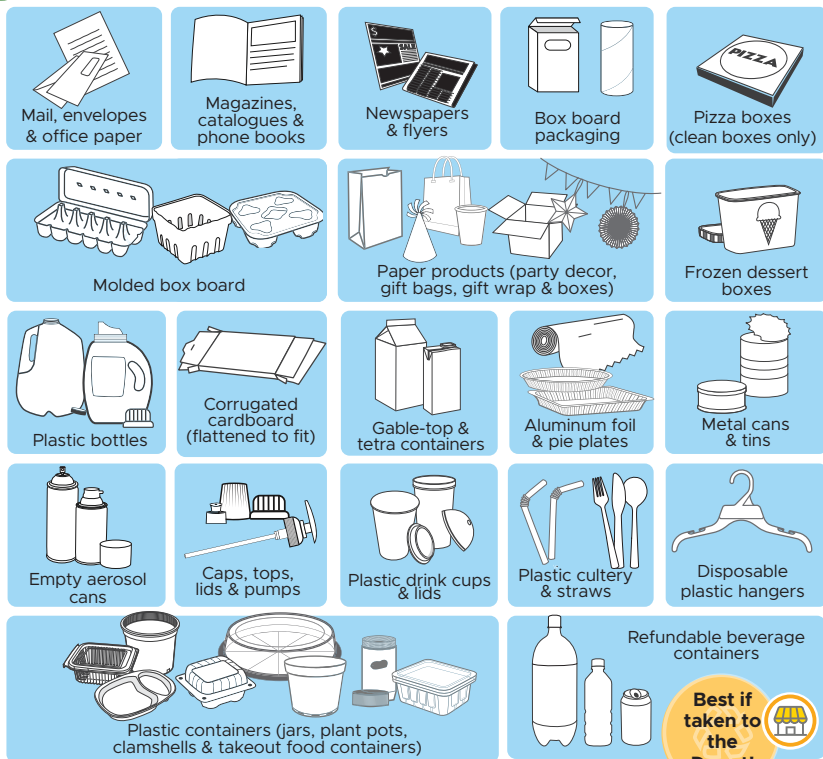
QUICK TIP

Move hoops off the curb on collection day!



Recycling

✓ Accepted in Blue Carts



**Best if
taken to
the
Depot!**



✗ Not Accepted in Blue Carts*



*Unacceptable materials in your blue cart may result in your cart not being collected or a fine issued under the City's Solid Waste Management Bylaw, 3642-2025.



How to prepare your recyclables

1



Wash, clean & dry your recyclables.



Remove lids and pumps.

2

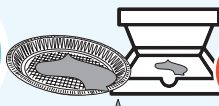


Place items directly into the blue cart.



Do not bag recyclables.

3



Keep items soiled with food, grease and liquids out of the blue cart.

4



Flatten material to save space.



Place shredded paper in a paper bag or box.

QUICK TIP



Sort waste properly! If too much of the wrong material is placed in your recycling cart, your cart may not be collected and you could be fined! Use the **Waste Wizard** to find out what goes where. Access it through the Curbside Collection app or online at abbotsford.ca/wastewizard

Glass Recycling

Glass is collected separately and manually in the grey bin. Glass is collected **every two weeks** on the same day as recycling. Glass bottles and jars are also accepted at the recycling depot.



ACCEPTED:
Glass bottles and jars



Glass containers need to be empty and rinsed.

Remove lids and place in recycling cart.



NOT ACCEPTED:
Dishes, Glassware & Cookware



Broken Glass



Windows & Mirrors



QUICK TIP



Glass bins placed at the curb with unacceptable material in them will not be collected.



Depot Recycling

These items are not accepted in the curbside collection program and can be dropped off for free at a recycling depot or other drop off location. Find depot locations at abbotsford.ca/wastewizard.



Books
(hard and soft covers)



Foam packaging (foam meat trays, take out containers, cups and cushion packaging from electronics)



Plastic bags (grocery bags, blue recycling bags & vacuum seal bags)



Plastic net packaging



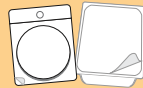
Crinkly wrappers & bags



Stand up zipper lock pouches



Plastic wrap & overwrap



Flexible packaging with plastic seal



Sandwich & freezer bags



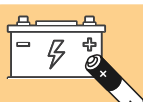
Cooking oil



Paint & spray paint



Solvents, flammables & pesticides



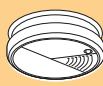
Batteries



Lighting & light strings



Light bulbs



Thermostats & smoke alarms



Small electronics & cell phones



Scrap metal



Medications & sharps



Small appliances & power tools



Tires



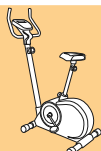
Beverage containers



Squishy cushion packaging & bubble wrap



Large appliances



Exercise machines



Outdoor power tools



Propane tanks



Plastic drop sheets or covering



QUICK TIP

Hazardous materials like batteries and propane tanks can cause fire or explosion when placed in curbside recycling. Ensure these items are **ALWAYS** taken to a depot for safe recycling.



Recycling Contamination

Unacceptable material, like plastic bags, garbage, compost, and hazardous materials (batteries, propane canisters, medical sharps/needles), in the recycling carts creates unsafe conditions for workers, causes damages to sorting machines, and diminishes the quality of material and the ability to recycle it. Recycling regulations require that the City bring the contamination rate down to less than 5.5% or face serious fines.

Contamination in the blue carts also increases the amount of material that is sent to landfill. Even packaging with some product residue contributes to contamination.

Please sort and prepare your recycling properly, following the tips on page 8. Use the Waste Wizard available on the Curbside Collection app or online at abbotsford.ca/wastewizard if you are unsure of how to dispose of an item.

Repeated contamination will result in blue bins not being collected and fines of up to \$500 under the **Solid Waste Management Bylaw, 3642-2025**.

Top Contaminants

These are the top contaminants in our blue carts. These items are not accepted in the blue bins. Please dispose of them properly.

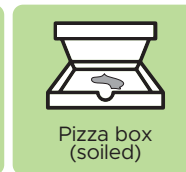
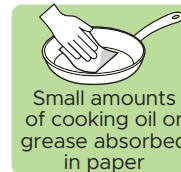
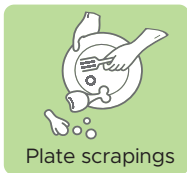
Not Accepted in Blue Carts*

Plastic Products		Laundry baskets, toys, Tupperware containers, reusable bottles			Take to DEPOT
Scrap Metal		Automotive parts, nails, screws, pots, pans			Take to DEPOT
Books		Soft or hard cover books			Take to DEPOT
Electronics		Small electronics, cell phones, computers, tablets, light strings, batteries			Take to DEPOT
Tissues & Paper Towel		Soiled tissues, paper towel & paper napkins			Put in Compost Cart

Compostables



Accepted in Green Carts



QUICK TIP

For tips on how to keep
your kitchen container
and green cart clean visit
abbotsford.ca/carts.



Not Accepted in Green Carts*



*Including unacceptable materials may result in your cart not being collected or a fine issued under the City's Solid Waste Management Bylaw, 3642-2025.

Garbage



QUICK TIP

All material must be placed in the cart with the lid closed. Overflowing carts and material placed outside the carts will not be collected.



Accepted in Grey Carts



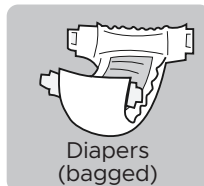
6 pack ring from
contained beverages



Broken ceramics
& glassware



Cigarette butts
& ashes



Diapers
(bagged)



Dryer lint and
dryer sheets



Baby wipes
& cleaning wipes



Vacuum cleaner
bags & contents



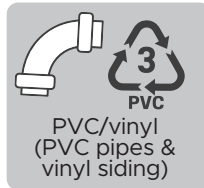
Air filters



Kitty litter & pet waste (bagged)



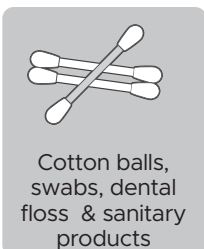
Broken toys



PVC/vinyl
(PVC pipes &
vinyl siding)



Compostable or
biodegradable
plastic bags



Cotton balls,
swabs, dental
floss & sanitary
products



Disposable masks
& gloves



Plastic
toothbrushes &
toothpaste tubes



QUICK TIP

Many items can be dropped off for reuse or recycling instead of being thrown away. Consider offering the items to friends and family, or listing on Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist or Kijiji. Do your part to help reduce the amount of waste going to landfill!

Wildlife & Waste

Coexisting with Wildlife

Many wildlife encounters in Abbotsford can be prevented by responsibly managing waste and other attractants. Encounters with aggressive bears, cougars or coyotes, where public safety is a concern, should be reported immediately to the Conservation Officer Service reporting line at 1-877-952-7277.

How to Manage Garbage and Food Scraps

REDUCE IT – The best way to deal with garbage is by not creating it in the first place. Preventing garbage and food waste by recycling and planning meals helps minimize the volume of material you need to manage.

STORE IT – Keep curbside materials indoors or in a secure location until the morning of collection.

FREEZE IT – To reduce odours, freeze food scraps until your collection day. You could also try wrapping food scraps in newspaper or paper bags to minimize odours and mess.

CLEAN IT – Rinse or wash your cart after pick up with mild detergent or vinegar. This will help to reduce odours.

How to Manage Other Attractants



Remove outdoor
fridges and
freezers



Always keep pet
food indoors



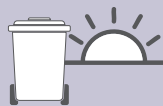
Remove bird
feeders
April - November



Pick fruit as soon
as it's ripe



Clean barbecues
after each use



Put carts at the
curb the morning
of collection
(NOT the night before)



QUICK TIP

Keeping the community safe is a shared responsibility! For more information on how to reduce human-wildlife conflict visit wildsafebc.ca or check out abbotsford.ca/wildlife.

2026 COLLECTION CALENDAR:

West Collection

Find the coloured zone where your home is located. Follow the colour-coded calendar for collection days.

○ Garbage is collected on days with a circle.

□ Recycling and Glass are collected on the days with a square.

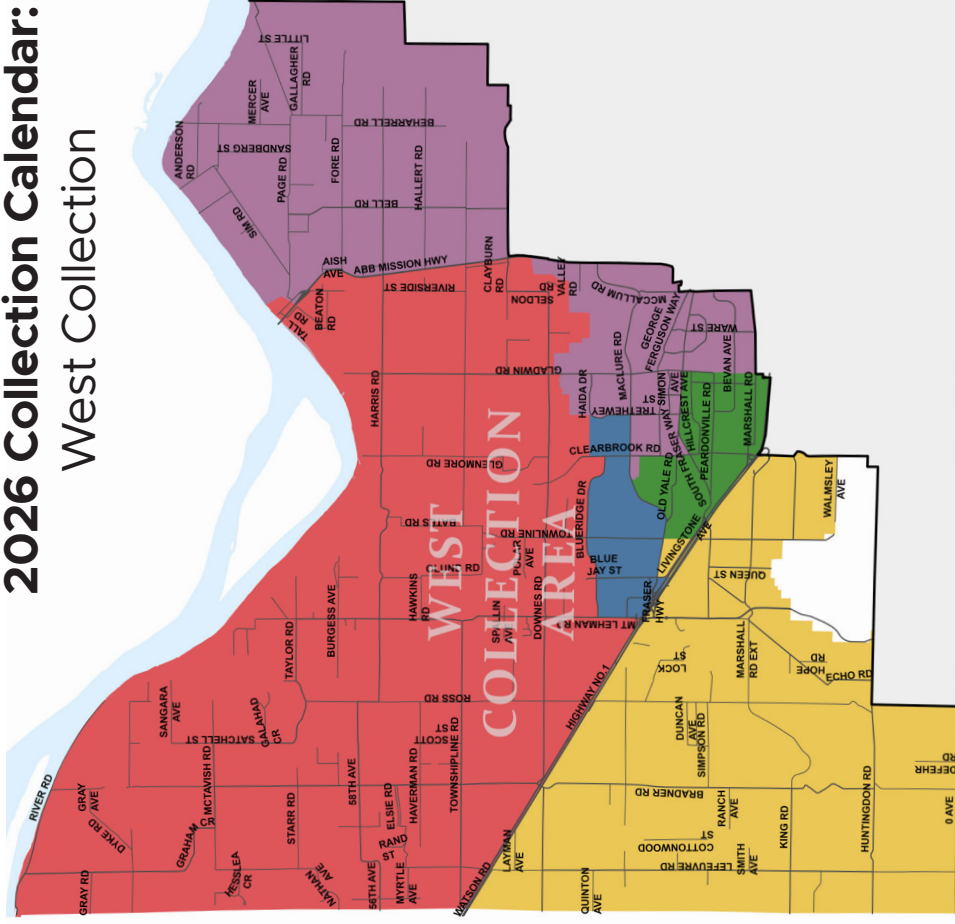
Compostables are collected every week.

No collection on statutory holidays, identified by a grey square

For inquiries:
604-864-5640
sortyourwaste@abbotsford.ca

2026 Collection Calendar:

West Collection



JANUARY

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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SEPTEMBER

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DECEMBER

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2026 COLLECTION

CALENDAR:

East Collection

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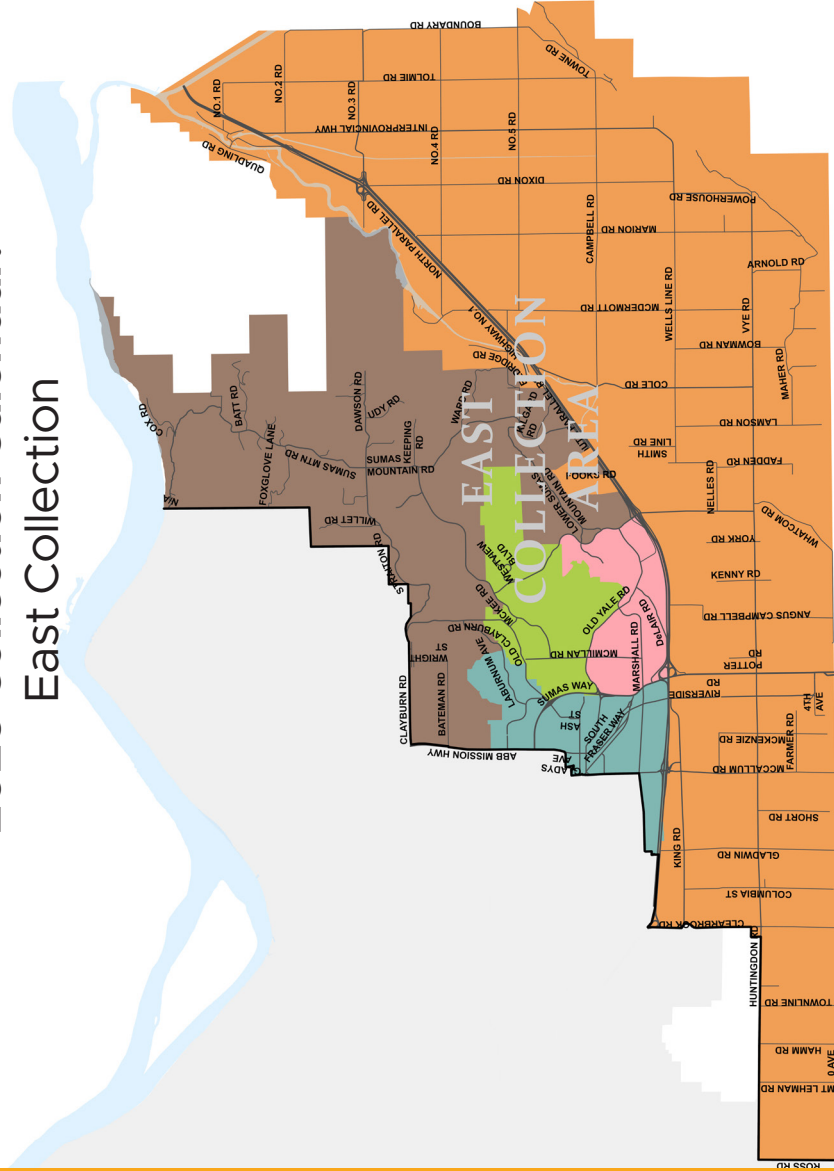
□ Recycling and Glass are collected on the days with a square.

Compostables are collected every week.

■ No collection on statutory holidays, identified by a grey square

For inquiries:
604-864-5640
sortyourwaste@abbotsford.ca

2026 Collection Calendar: East Collection



JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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APRIL

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MAY

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JULY

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AUGUST

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SEPTEMBER

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27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Important Information

There are a variety of resources to help you sort through the world of waste!



Visit abbotsford.ca/carts for program information including frequently asked questions, additional cart placement examples, and tips and tricks for using your carts.



Find out what goes where using the Waste Wizard search tool: abbotsford.ca/wastewizard



Email questions to waste@abbotsford.ca



Curbside Collection Hotline: 604-864-5640

Monday - Friday, 8am to 4pm (excluding statutory holidays)

- Report a service problem or missed collection
- Report damaged or missing carts
- Request carts for a newly constructed home
- Request a different cart size or type
- Ask questions about the cart program



Other Resources

BC Recycling Hotline: 1-800-667-4321

Monday - Friday, 9am – 4pm

BC Recyclepedia rcbc.ca

Recycle BC: recyclebc.ca

We have apps for that!

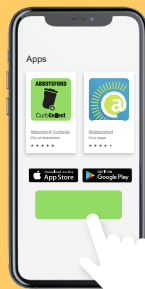
To help you get it to the curb on time.

Never miss a collection day again! The **Abbotsford Curbside Collection** app gives you access to your collection schedule, collection day reminders and service alerts. Plus, access the Waste Wizard for recycling and disposal information for hundreds of items.

The free **@abbotsford city services** app can report missed collection, request cart repairs or other issues with your curbside collection.



SCAN to download the apps and access the Waste Wizard!



Important Information

Excess Waste

Have excess waste? Visit abbotsford.ca/excesswaste for options on how to manage your extra recycling, compost or garbage!

Missed Collection

Common reasons why your cart or glass bin was not collected:

- Cart/bin was not at the curb by 7:00 am
- Vehicles were parked in a cul-de-sac with “No Parking on Garbage Day” signs and collection trucks could not reach the carts
- Cart/bin was overflowing or did not have a closed lid
- Unacceptable materials were placed in cart/bin
- Access to cart/bin was blocked by a parked car, utility pole, or other obstruction
- Cart/bin was placed too close to another cart, parked car or other obstruction
- Waste was not sorted correctly
- Clips on a bear-resistant cart were not unclipped

If none of those reasons apply, you can report a missed collection through any of the following methods:

- **Website:** abbotsford.ca/service
- **City Services App:** @Abbotsford
(available at the App Store and on Google Play)
- **Telephone:** 604-864-5640

Collection Services in Snow & Ice

Providing service is our top priority, but curbside collection may be disrupted during snow and ice conditions. If this occurs, the Abbotsford Curbside Collection App is the best source of information about collection-related news. The App is free to download to any smart device from the App Store or Google Play (see QR Code on back page). A collection advisory is also posted on the City’s website at abbotsford.ca for collection delays or cancelled service, as well as posted on the City’s social media channels.

Holiday Waste Reduction

Seasonal holidays such as Halloween and Christmas bring fun and joy but often produce a large amount of waste. From carved pumpkins to wrapping paper, learn how you can reduce waste during the holiday season.

Get tips on waste reduction at abbotsford.ca/reducewaste.



CITY OF ABBOTSFORD
32315 South Fraser Way
Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W7

Never miss a collection day! Download the free **Abbotsford Curbside Collection app** to get collection day reminders and service alerts.



abbotsford.ca/waste



SCAN THE CODE

to download the apps and access the Waste Wizard!

