



ORGANIC PICKUP PROGRAM – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (OPT-OUT OPTION)

Can I opt-out of the new organics curbside collection program?

Yes. In recognition that some Gibsons residents already compost 100% of their organics waste (including fruit, vegetable, meat, grains and dairy waste), the Town has created a means to “opt-out” of the new organics program.

How do I apply to opt-out?

1. Pick up a “Request to Opt-Out of Organics Collection Service” application from Town Hall or download a copy of the form from the Town of Gibsons’ website.
2. Complete the application, which asks you to describe/show with photographs how you will divert each of four organics groups (i.e. *food scraps* such as fruits, vegetables, bread, pasta, *food-soiled paper and cardboard*, *meat scraps* and *dairy products*.)
3. Return the completed application and supporting photos to Town Hall **by March 22, 2018**.

An appropriate member of Staff will evaluate your application, based on the criteria shown on the application form, to determine if your household qualifies for the opt-out option. If it does, you will not be charged the \$70 annual fee for organics collection for the coming year.

Is there a limit to how many people are allowed to opt out?

No, but the anticipated annual collection rates (\$135 for solid waste + \$70 for organic pick up) are based on the expectation that about 4% of residents (or 80 households) will apply and qualify for the opt-out program. If more than 80 households opt out of the organics curbside program, the annual rates will need to be adjusted.

What if I accidentally place some organic material into my regular garbage?

If garbage from a household that has opted-out of the organics collection program is later found to contain organic material, the annual organics collection fee will be levied in full and that household will be considered to be a participant in the program.

Do I have to apply to opt-out every year?

Yes, you will need to submit a “Request to Opt-Out of Organics Collection Service” form each year in order to avoid the annual organics collection charge.