



TOWN OF FORT MACLEOD GARBAGE & RECYCLING OVERVIEW

There has been a lot of questions and misinformation surrounding the Garbage and Recycling program. Council and Administration want to ensure our residents have all the facts. A short video explaining will be posted on our social media accounts, paper copies can be picked up at the Town office. There will be an OPEN HOUSE for the public to attend on Tuesday, December 14th, 2021, at the Fort Macleod & District Community Hall from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. After you have read the information provided or attended the public open house, if you still have questions, please email feedback@fortmacleod.com.

CURRENT COLLECTION PRACTICE

Residential garbage collection = weekly manual pickup typically in the alley, with select streets being curbside.

Business garbage collection = front load semi-automated pickup.

Cardboard and Recycling- are collected at a centralized site.

NEW COLLECTION PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Residential pickup = automated curbside garbage and recycling collection.

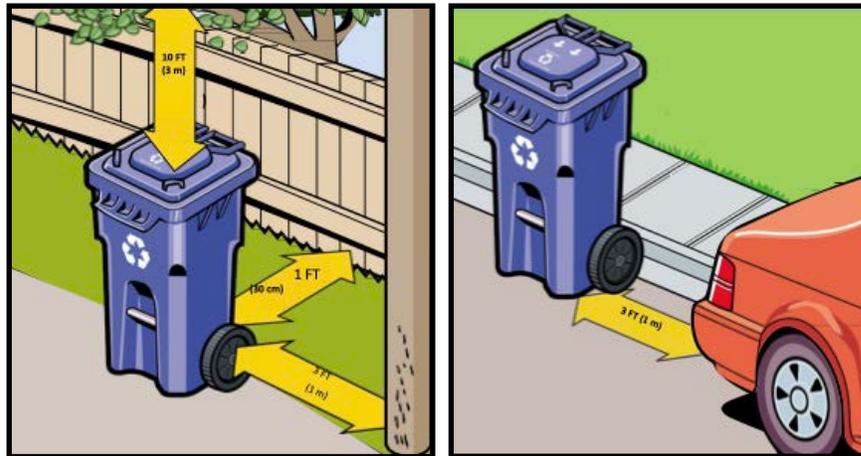
Business pickup = front load semi-automated garbage and recycling collection.

Centralized recycling depot = Town recycling trailer & select cardboard bins.

RESIDENTIAL PICKUP DETAILS

- All residents will be provided with two bins (one for recycling and one for garbage). Bins will need to be placed 'curbside'* in the front of the property.
*Note: 'curbside' means bins placed adjacent to the curb or edge of roadway in front of a property. Select areas may be required to place their bins in a different location.
- Garbage collection frequency = bi-weekly
- Recycling collection frequency = weekly
- Service will be provided at no additional cost to each resident who is already paying for collection.

Correct Bin Placement



BUSINESS PICKUP DETAILS

- All businesses who are on the Town's collection program will receive bins based on their anticipated volume or will match their current bin sizes.
- New bins will replace the current bins and be placed in the same location, unless changes are required.
- All recyclable materials will now be accepted in the co-mingled bin
- Collection frequency = same frequency as currently provided unless modification requested.
- Service will be provided at no additional cost to each business who is already paying for collection. Businesses who are currently using private contractors can contact the Town Office to opt into the Town's collection service.

WHAT PROCESS WAS TAKEN TO MAKE THIS DECISION?

- This program has been in development for the last 4 years and has received lengthy consideration. Here is a brief overview and timeline:
- In 2018 the newly elected Council of the Town of Fort Macleod took time to write their Strategic Plan for 2018 – 2022. One of the objectives in the strategic plan was to encourage and support initiatives to safeguard the environment. An action item that was identified was to encourage waste minimization (reduce, reuse, recycle) and proper disposal of waste.
- In February of 2019 a letter from a concerned citizen was brought forward to Council bringing forward environmental concerns, asking Council to take action. Many residents spoke out, expressing their frustrations with our current collection system. Whether it be fiscal inefficiencies, garbage strewn about alleyways for animals to get into, cardboard stacked up outside of the bins and blowing in the wind, accessibility issues with the centralized site, or concerns about carbon footprint and our environmental responsibility.
- Using the strategic plan as a road map and resident feedback about the current system, and its downfalls, Council and Administration began preliminary discussions including curbside recycling capabilities in early 2019 on how to make improvements in our community.
- On May 25, 2021, the Garbage and Recycling Request for Proposals (RFP) was approved by Council. The RFP outlined a 3-year contract for services, with a Town option for 2

additional years. With a proposed commencement date for the new contract to begin January 1, 2022. The RFP was drafted in a way that proponents were required to provide pricing for the following options:

Option 1- Maintaining the existing level of service (i.e. weekly manual garbage collection and centralized cardboard collection)

Option 2- Providing automated bi-weekly collection for residential dwellings, including curbside garbage, recycling and organics. This stream would maintain existing business collection practices.

Option 3- Proposing alternative waste and recycling methods with estimated costs outside of the aforementioned methods.

- The Garbage & Recycling RFP was issued May 26, 2021, and closed on July 5, 2021, at 2:00 pm. At the Committee of the Whole meeting on September 21, 2021, Council was presented the proponents, and proposal notes for discussion.
- It was discovered that to stay with the current provider and current system (Option 1), there would be a significant increase of cost to residents.
- Option 2 was deemed to be the front-runner for the Town given the increase in efficiency and environmental stewardship, increased level of service and ability to maintain existing service rates.
- Council then discussed the RFP again at their Finance and Infrastructure meeting November 3, 2021, and it was brought forward to the Regular Council meeting on November 8, 2021, where Council approved via resolution the awarding of a 3-year contract for Garbage and Waste collection services within the Town of Fort Macleod to GLF Environmental at the proposed rates.

BENEFITS OF CURBSIDE COLLECTION

- Significantly higher collection efficiency.
- Increased rates of recycling with lower garbage volumes.
- Co-mingled recycling for both residents and businesses.
- Promotes a cleaner environment.
- Increased user convenience.
- Less material diverted to the centralized recycling area.
- Bins have large wheels which increase ease of mobility.
- Animal deterrent with garbage or recycling being contained within bins.

WHY IS THE TOWN CHANGING THE COLLECTION PROGRAM?

- The current collection system has been in place for over 20 years and is inefficient compared to more modern methods.
- The Town has a responsibility to increase its environmental stewardship and promote more efficient waste diversion methods.
- The Town has a fiscal responsibility to use taxpayer dollars efficiently. Maintaining the current level of service with the existing provider would cost the Town exponentially more, requiring an increase to user fees.
- A new program will allow the new provider to collect in areas that were previously unserved.

OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT RATE IS BEING CHARGED FOR THIS CHANGE?

Rates will remain unchanged. We've added an additional stream and reduced garbage collection as in theory there should be less garbage volume when recycling in present.

WILL WE BE ABLE TO OPT OUT OF SERVICES?

No, residents will not be able to opt out of the program. The service is provided based on economies of scale.

WHY ARE WE NOT SUPPORTING LOCAL?

GFL Environmental is local to Southern Alberta and based out of Lethbridge.

ARE THE BIDS OF THE CONTRACTORS GOING TO BE PUBLISHED?

This information is public. It will be made available at the open house where we can speak to the intricacies.

WHAT IF MY PROVIDED BIN BLOWS AWAY?

Residents will be responsible for the bins that are provided to them. Given the size and weight of the bins, it's unlikely they will be blowing all over the road.

WHO DO WE COMPLAIN TO IF WE HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THE SERVICE?

GFL has a dedicated customer service complaint line. In addition to a comprehensive complaint management policy. Landowners can also contact the Town Office.

WHERE DOES THE GRANT MONEY USED TO PURCHASE THE BINS COME FROM?

The Town receives various grants each year which can cover a variety of projects/initiatives. The grant funding being used for bin purchases comes from the Province through MSI.

HOW HARD WILL IT BE FOR THOSE WITH MOBILITY CONCERNS TO PUSH THE BINS TO THE CURB, POSSIBLY OVER ICE/SNOW COVERED DRIVEWAYS?

The bins have large wheels which makes moving them quite easy. Those with mobility concerns would have needed to take their garbage to the rear of the property also, therefore snow and ice could be an issue in both scenarios.

WILL VEHICLES PARKED ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD IMPEDE PICKUP?

As long as bins are placed per the guidelines, then the truck will have no issues.

WHY CAN'T THE BINS BE PICKED UP IN THE ALLEY?

The Town's alleys are quite narrow and congested with utilities, which does not allow sufficient space for the automated truck.

WHERE CAN I STORE MY BIN?

Most residents can store their bins against exterior of the house or within the garage.

HOW DO I CONTAIN SMELLS FROM THE GARBAGE BIN?

Store the bins outside, ensure all garbage is bagged and keep the lid closed.