



Winter green cart tips

Winter cart placement

Come winter the weather conditions can create challenges for placement and collection of your green cart. Here are a few helpful tips to make using your green cart in the winter a little easier.

- Carts left on top of or behind snow banks will **NOT BE** collected. Please place your cart at the curb/alley in an area that is free of snow. Ensure your cart is 1 metre from any obstructions especially vehicles and fences.
- Store the cart in a sheltered area to ensure the lid opens when the cart is tipped into the collection truck. Placing the cart in a sunny location can also help.
- Ensure snow is cleared onto your lawn or boulevard and that the cart is not blocking snow plows or other vehicles.
- Always have the cart out by 7 a.m. as weather conditions, truck maintenance and road work can sometimes lead to route changes.
- When there is snow on the ground it may be easier to pull your cart rather than try and push it.
- It can also help to get to know your neighbours. If they need assistance getting their cart out for pick-up or creating a snow-free collection site, offer a helping hand.

Don't get stuck with organics freezing to your cart

During winter, the contents of your green cart may freeze to the sides or bottom of your cart. Drivers handling the collection will make every effort to dump the entire contents of the cart but if your organics get stuck inside your cart, please be patient and wait until the next organics collection day.

Here are some tips to avoid organics freezing in your cart:

- Wrap food with high moisture content in soiled boxes or newspaper.
- Lining your cart will act as a barrier. Use an acceptable green cart liner such as newspaper, paper bags, soiled pizza boxes or compostable bags with one of these logos:



- Layer wet organics such as food waste or leaves with dry organics such as newspaper or pizza boxes. Layering is more vital when temperatures fluctuate frequently. Try adding crumpled newspaper to the bottom of your cart.
- Don't force the cart contents down.
- Strain excess liquid from soups and sauces with a strainer and only place the solid pieces in the cart.
- You can store well-wrapped organic waste in your freezer and then place it in your cart on collection day.