

March 2016

## **Blue and Black Cart pilot program**

The City of Red Deer will launch the two-year Blue and Black Cart pilot program in May 2016.

### **1. What's the Blue and Black Cart pilot program?**

The City of Red Deer's Blue and Black Cart program is a two-year pilot that will round out the cart system pilot program. The 2,000 households that received Green Carts in 2015 will now receive Blue and Black Carts from the City for recycling and garbage. Blue Carts are for recycling and Black Carts are for garbage. If successful, the pilot may go city-wide in 2018.

### **2. How is my garbage and recycling collection schedule changing?**

Collection for the Blue and Black Cart will alternate on a bi-weekly basis. That means your waste and recycling will be picked up every other week, while the Green Cart collection remains every week.

### **3. Why is the City introducing a Blue and Black Cart pilot program?**

Consistent with the Environmental Master Plan (EMP) and Waste Management Master Plan (WMMP), the program helps reduce the amount of waste sent to the landfill by diverting organics and recyclables. Also, the new collection system increases efficiency, and helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### **4. Can I opt out of the Blue and Black Cart pilot program?**

No, pilot households are unable to opt out of the program. Households were selected to reflect the City's overall demographics so that we have an accurate representation of single-family residences. This way, feedback we receive from pilot households will allow us to determine if a city-wide program would be a success.

### **5. What is accepted in the Blue Cart? Check [reddeer.ca/recycling](http://reddeer.ca/recycling) for the full list of acceptable materials. In general, you can recycle paper, cardboard, metal cans and plastics #1 through 7.**

### **6. What is not accepted in the Blue Cart?**

Glass bottles and jars will not be accepted in the Blue Cart. Through the new collection system, glass is broken into small pieces that cannot be recovered at the sorting facility. Instead, recycle glass bottles and jars at a community recycling depot.

### **7. What about shredded paper?**

Shredded paper must be tied up in a transparent plastic bag and then deposited in the Blue Cart. This is to ensure that it will not spill out onto the road during the pickup process.

### **8. What about cardboard?**

Place flattened cardboard in the Blue Cart. Extra cardboard may be taken to a community recycling depot. Any cardboard left beside, under or on top of the Blue Cart will not be picked up.

### **9. What is allowed in the Black Cart?**

After placing your recycling in the Blue Cart and organics in the Green Cart, whatever is left behind may be placed in the Black Cart. An exception being household hazardous waste, which is accepted at the Waste Management Facility for safe disposal free of charge.

**10. Once the Blue or Black Cart is full, where do I set extra garbage and recycling?**

Extra garbage and recycling set beside, under or on top of the carts will not be picked up. Extra garbage may be disposed of at the Waste Management Facility for a fee. Extra recycling may be dropped off at a community recycling depot at no cost. If possible, you can hold onto the extra material and set it in the appropriate cart for the next collection day.

**11. How should I set the Blue and Black Cart out for collection?**

Before 7 a.m. on your collection day, set out your carts on flat ground with at least 1 metre clearance all around it and 3 metre clearance above it so the truck's collection arm can safely empty it. When setting out your carts, make sure you're not blocking traffic and the lids are fully closed. Overflowing carts will not be picked up as the excess materials will spill out onto the road during the pickup process.

**Front street collection:** Place cart on the street with wheels against the curb, away from parked vehicles or other objects such as trees, overhead branches and other carts. Point the lid's white arrow towards the middle of the street.

**Back alley collection:** Place cart with the wheels facing your home. Don't place it against a fence, garage, or another cart. Point the lid's white arrow towards the middle of the alley.

**12. What happens if my cart collection is missed?**

Ensure carts are set out on time and on the appropriate pickup day. Contact the Blue Line at 403-340-BLUE (2583) to report a missed collection.

**13. What do I do with my old Blue Box?**

Keep your old Blue Box, and use it to store and transport recyclables to the Blue Cart. If your Blue Box is no longer usable, it can be recycled at a community recycling depot.

**14. What happens if my Blue or Black Cart breaks, or is vandalized or missing?**

The City will replace Blue and Black Carts that are broken, vandalized or missing, at no charge.

**15. How do I identify my household's carts?**

Write your address with a black marker in the white space provided on each cart. Also, make note of the serial numbers stamped on them. These serial numbers are unique to your address.

**16. What if I have a legal secondary suite?**

Households with legal secondary suites will receive a Blue Cart and Black Cart for each unit.

**17. My household has been chosen for the pilot, is there an extra charge?**

No, utility fees will not change for households participating in the two-year pilot. If the program goes city-wide, utility fees will change.

**18. How do I take care of my carts so they don't smell or attract animals?**

Clean out the carts on a regular basis, bag your garbage, rinse your recyclables, keep cart lids on, and ensure the carts are set out on time for bi-weekly pick up.

**19. I am moving to a new home. Do I take the carts with me?**

No. Leave your carts behind. If you are moving to a new home that is also in the pilot program, a Green, Blue and Black Cart should already be there.

For further questions or inquiries, call the Blue Line at 403-340-BLUE (2583) or visit [www.reddeer.ca/recycling](http://www.reddeer.ca/recycling).