

# GreenCarts to be delivered starting March 24 Trash collection plan moves ahead

**MELANIE HENNESSEY**  
Special to The IFP

Halton's new waste collection program took another step closer to reality last week.

An implementation plan for the program was approved by regional council at its meeting Wednesday.

The plan calls for the new GreenCarts— like a recycling bin for kitchen scraps— to be delivered to residents over a two-week period starting March 24. Curbside collection will commence on April 7 when the new waste collection contract comes into effect.

Other changes that will come about with the contract include weekly Blue Box and GreenCart collection and bi-weekly garbage collection with a six-bag limit.

The implementation plan also says that polypropylene— commonly used for yogurt containers and margarine tubs— will be added to the list of acceptable Blue Box materials, while polystyrene (Styrofoam) will be removed.

About 11,000 households across the region will also start having their waste collected on a different day in April. The municipality's new Household Waste Collection calendars will advise residents of their collection days.

Before council approved the plan, Milton Councillor Barry Lee once again said he thinks aspects of the new waste collection program, like the garbage bag reduction, will be "extremely punitive" to those living in the

rural areas of Halton, particularly farmers and the equine industry.

"I think we've fallen a long way short of meeting the needs of those individuals," he remarked.

In a recorded vote, Lee and Burlington Councillor Jack Dennison— who has long voiced his support for garborators, or in-sink garbage disposals, as the way to deal with kitchen scraps— were the only two council members to vote against the plan.



Coming soon to homes in Halton: the GreenCart, which homeowners will have to use to get rid of table scraps.

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz and Halton Hills Councillor Jane Fogal were absent.

But even with council's approval, the new waste collection program still has another hurdle to clear. The majority of the four local municipalities have to approve a bylaw that gives the Region full jurisdiction over garbage collection decisions. Currently, each municipality can alter their own service levels.

So far, both Oakville and Halton Hills councils have passed the bylaw, but Milton's community services committee turned down the proposal Monday. A

date isn't known yet for Burlington council to vote on the issue.

If the majority of councils don't support the regulation, the current bylaw— which doesn't give exclusive jurisdiction to the Region— would continue.

To achieve Halton's waste diversion targets and extend the life of the landfill, the Region says it needs full control of collection decisions.

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