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*****ECRWSS
 RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Portland Curbsider

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability • Sam Adams, Mayor • Susan Anderson, Director

Summer 2012



"Our family of four was a little nervous about moving to every-other-week garbage service. But putting food scraps in the green cart and recyclables in the blue cart freed up enough space in our garbage that every-other-week service wasn't a problem. It's great that Elleona helps us out by emptying the kitchen pail regularly!"

Justin, Elleona (age 14),
 Zora Li (age 1) and Kenya
 Multnomah Village in Southwest Portland



"Composting food scraps has been totally manageable for our family. We were apprehensive at first about composting our food scraps with two young boys, but it turns out they love to help put their banana peels and toast in the compost bucket. Even with a toddler in diapers, we have been able to make composting and every-other-week garbage work."

Mishel, Gabriel, sons (ages 5 and 2)
 Mount Tabor in Southeast Portland

New curbside collection service: A six-month report

Portlanders have been using their new curbside collection service (weekly food scraps/yard debris, weekly recycling and every-other-week garbage collection) for just over six months.

During this time, the City has been evaluating progress and gathering data. Adapting to new changes takes time but the efforts residents are making are already paying off.

Here's what we've learned

Portland households are throwing away 44 percent less garbage from this same period last year. By composting food scraps, recycling more and making careful purchasing decisions to avoid items with bulky packaging, nearly 1,800 truckloads of garbage have been diverted from the landfill since the beginning of the program. If those trucks were lined up end-to-end, they'd stretch over eight miles. Great job Portland!

Portlanders are turning food scraps into valuable compost. We have collected almost 40,000 tons of yard debris and food scraps since the new service began. That's enough compost to fill more than seven Olympic-size pools.

We still have room for improvement. Though Portlanders are doing a great job composting their food scraps, a lot of food is still left in the garbage. Don't forget that every little bit of food makes a big difference. *Tips for composting food scraps can be found inside.*

Residents are "right-sizing" their garbage.

Portlanders are still finding the right size garbage container to meet their household needs. Some have requested larger garbage containers while others have requested smaller ones. Call your garbage and recycling company about options or to make a change. *The available sizes are shown on the next page.*

Community involvement

This spring, community volunteers hit the streets of Portland in a 12-week door-to-door outreach campaign as part of the City's efforts to offer residents technical assistance. More than 100 volunteers participated in this canvassing effort, including neighborhood associations, churches, ethnic organizations, school groups and volunteers with the Master Recycler program. They answered questions about what can go into the green roll cart and shared tips with thousands of households across Portland.

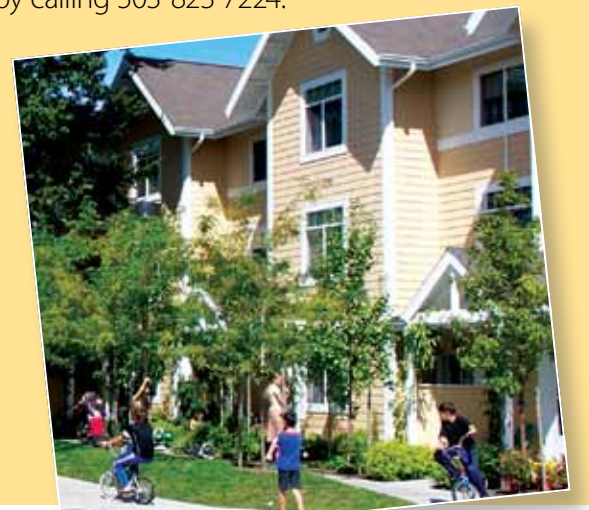
A big thank you to all the volunteers for helping their neighbors and boosting Portland's curbside savvy!



Do you live in an apartment building or condo community?

Multifamily communities are not included in the new curbside food scrap collection program at this time. This includes apartments, condominiums, mobile home parks and moorages with **five or more units.**

Assistance and information about multifamily recycling and waste reduction is online at www.portlandonline.com/bps/multifamily or by calling 503-823-7224.



Find out what materials can be composted and more information at www.portlandcomposts.com.

Keep up the great recycling . . .

Portlanders are keeping our recycling rate one of the highest in the nation. By recycling items like paper, cardboard boxes, plastic tubs and glass, residents are finding that every-other-week garbage collection is manageable.

For more information on what materials are accepted in each container, go to www.portlandcomposts.com.



. . . and keep it clean!

Local recycling sorting facilities have reported finding some household garbage in the recycling. As a reminder, garbage poses a health and safety problem for workers who handle these materials.

Please sort recycling carefully and dispose of all garbage in the garbage container to help keep our recycling clean!

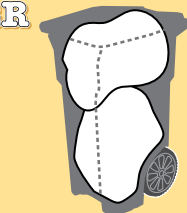
Call your garbage and recycling company if you need to increase the size of your current container to accommodate your household's needs.

RIGHT SIZE YOU HAVE OPTIONS!

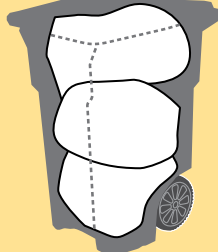
YOUR GARBAGE CONTAINER

Is your garbage can too full or do you have extra space?

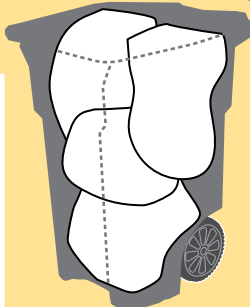
Choose the garbage container that fits your household's needs.



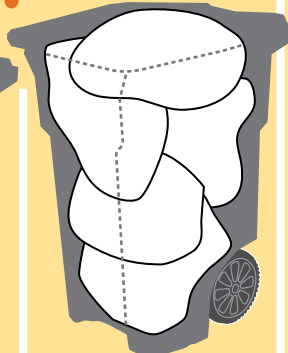
20	GALLON
	Roll Cart
55	POUNDS
	Weight Limit
APPROX. 2	TALL
	Kitchen Bags



35	GALLON
	Roll Cart
75	POUNDS
	Weight Limit
APPROX. 3	TALL
	Kitchen Bags



60	GALLON
	Roll Cart
100	POUNDS
	Weight Limit
APPROX. 4	TALL
	Kitchen Bags



90	GALLON
	Roll Cart
145	POUNDS
	Weight Limit
APPROX. 5	TALL
	Kitchen Bags

Solutions to common curbside challenges

Here are some tips and answers to questions frequently asked by Portlanders.

Some of these options may impact your bill. Contact your garbage and recycling company to request changes.

- ❑ **Don't have much garbage?** Save money by switching to a 20-gallon roll cart or every-four-week garbage collection. Eighteen percent of households already do this.
- ❑ **Have occasional extra garbage?** Set out an extra bag or can of garbage on your regular collection day for \$5.
- ❑ **Don't have much composting or recycling?** Consider a 35-gallon green or blue roll cart instead of the standard 60-gallon carts. (This will not result in a reduction on your bill.) The first roll cart size exchange is free, but future changes cost extra and are limited to once per year.
- ❑ **Want a clean green cart but no time to wash it?** Request a clean roll cart for an additional fee.

Tips for maintaining compost containers

- ❑ Use an optional kitchen container liner—newspaper, a paper bag or approved compostable bag.* Empty your container, including the liner, into the green roll cart frequently.
- ❑ Freeze food items like meat and bones and then add them to your green roll cart on your pickup day.
- ❑ Layer food scraps in between yard debris in the green roll cart to reduce odors and to contain messier foods.
- ❑ Line the bottom of the green roll cart with newspaper, a paper bag or a pizza delivery box to help absorb moisture.
- ❑ Use soap and water to clean the green roll cart. Pour dirty water onto grass or gravel, not down the storm drain.
- ❑ Put the green roll cart on the curb to be emptied every week, even if it's not full.

*A list of approved brands is available at www.portlandcomposts.com.

More Questions? We Can Help!

- ▶ Online: www.portlandcomposts.com
- ▶ Hotline: 503-823-7202
- ▶ Email: wasteinfo@portlandoregon.gov

Helpful how-to videos, rate information and how to contact your garbage and recycling company at www.portlandcomposts.com.

Concerned about odors and pests?

- ❑ Bag and tightly fasten waste, such as diapers and pet waste, before placing them in your garbage container.
- ❑ Keep the lid securely closed on all roll carts.
- ❑ Store all roll carts out of direct sunlight.
- ❑ Sprinkle baking soda in your garbage and compost carts to reduce odors and deter insects.



"We are very excited about the new program. Our family is recycling as much as we can, composting all of our

food waste and trying to be conscious consumers by purchasing things that don't have a lot of packaging. We do what we can to keep our carbon footprint really low and we've even changed to having our garbage picked up only every four weeks."

Uma (age 8), Falco
Arbor Lodge in North Portland

"We were nervous about going to every-other-week garbage pickup. As a family of four with one 20-gallon garbage roll cart, it seemed like an impossible challenge. But by increasing what we compost and recycle, and making different choices about packaging when we shop, we realized we were in the right size container and are now not even



reaching the top of the can in two weeks!"

Lincoln (age 5),
Scott, Christy,
and Tate (age 3)
South Burlingame
in Southwest
Portland



"Backyard composting has been part of our routine for a long time, so we were excited to

have a way to compost chicken bones and pizza boxes. We created a kitchen food scrap collection system that works with a metal covered steam pan from a restaurant supply store placed in one of our kitchen drawers. We can scrape food scraps from a cutting board on the counter right into the pan in the drawer!"

Susan and Dave
Sullivan's Gulch in Northeast Portland

INCLUDE THE FOOD



Collect food scraps when:

- 1 Preparing meals
- 2 Scraping plates
- 3 Cleaning the fridge of leftovers

To collect food scraps in your kitchen, you can use a kitchen pail or an item you may already have in your household, like an empty yogurt container, a Tupperware®-type container or a kitty litter pail. Optional liners include newspaper, a paper bag or an approved compostable bag.

Visit www.portlandcomposts.com to find approved bag brands and where to purchase them.

Even if a plastic product says "compostable," please leave it out.

PUT IT IN. These items go in your green roll cart.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Meat ▶ Poultry ▶ Fish and shellfish ▶ Bones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Eggs and eggshells ▶ Cheese and dairy products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Bread and baked goods ▶ Pasta ▶ Rice and other grains ▶ Beans, nuts and seeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Vegetables ▶ Fruit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Table scraps ▶ Plate scrapings ▶ Leftovers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Coffee grounds and filters ▶ Tea bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Paper napkins and paper towels ▶ Pizza delivery boxes

LEAVE IT OUT. These items belong in your garbage container.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Large amounts of: ▶ Grease ▶ Oil ▶ Liquids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Paper plates and cups ▶ Paper cartons ▶ Facial tissue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Fast food wrappers and packaging ▶ Take out containers ▶ Coffee cups ▶ Waxed paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Plastic and produce bags ▶ Non-approved compostable bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Compostable plastic take out containers and utensils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Styrofoam™ ▶ Corks ▶ Pet waste ▶ Fireplace ashes



Never forget another garbage day with easy online collection schedules and weekly reminders

Check your composting, recycling and garbage schedules online at www.portlandonline.com/bps/eschedule. You can also sign up for weekly email reminders on your computer or mobile device.

Community Events Calendar: Summer 2012



Sunday Parkways promotes healthy active living through a series of free events opening the city's largest public space—its streets—to walking, biking, rolling and discovering active transportation.

June 24 North Portland	July 22 Southwest Portland
August 26 Southeast Portland	September 30 East Portland

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Find out more about these and other upcoming events at www.portlandonline.com/bps

To help ensure equal access to City programs, services and activities, the City of Portland will reasonably modify policies/procedures and provide auxiliary aids/services to person with disabilities. Call 503-823-7700 with requests.

2012–2013 Rate Information

Every year, the City sets residential garbage, recycling and composting collection rates based on a thorough evaluation of what it costs to provide these services to residents.

Starting on July 1, 2012, many residents will see an increase of \$1.20 per month on their bill. A significant percentage of this rate increase is due to rising labor and fuel costs as well as garbage and recycling companies' investment in newer, safer, less-polluting trucks. At the same time, the recent changes to curbside collection services have reduced other costs. By diverting food scraps from the landfill and turning them into a valuable product, composting and every-other-week garbage service are reducing disposal costs and keeping rates lower than they otherwise would be.

Over time, food scrap composting, every-other-week garbage and newer trucks will save in disposal, labor, fuel and maintenance costs system wide.

If you have questions about rate changes, call the Curbside Hotline 503-823-7202.

Visit Your Neighborhood Farmers Market and Stretch Your Food Dollars!



The following markets will match your food stamp (SNAP) dollars spent, up to \$5 each week (some markets even more!). To participate, bring your Oregon Trail card to the Info Booth at one of these farmers markets. Enjoy the fresh, healthy bounty from your local farmers!

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
▶ OHSU	▶ Forest Grove ▶ Moreland	▶ Buckman
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
▶ Hollywood ▶ Oregon City	▶ King ▶ Cully ▶ Lents International ▶ Montavilla	

You Can Reduce Junk Mail!



Reduce the waste and clutter of unwanted mail and phone books.

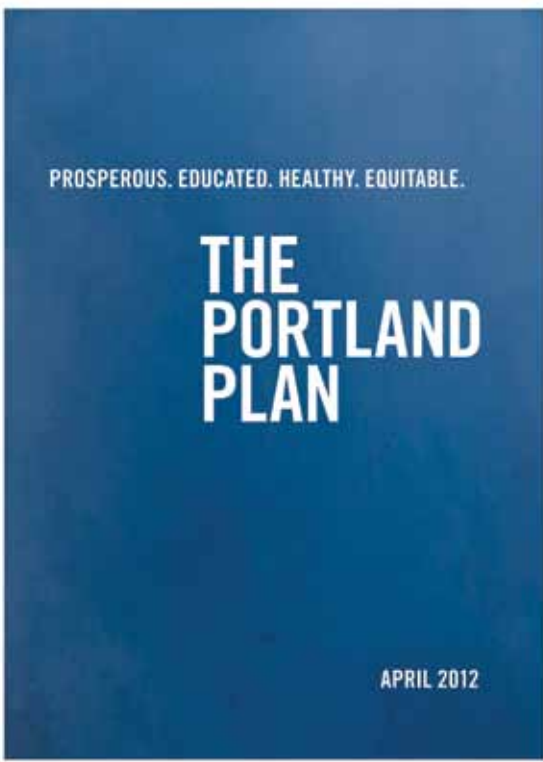
Join for **free** at oregonmetro.catalogchoice.org

in association with



PORTLAND HAS A PLAN.

Over the past two+ years, with more than 300 public meetings and 20,000 comments from residents, businesses, neighborhoods and nonprofits, Portlanders imagined the Portland of 2035. And together, we created the roadmap to get there. This April, Portland City Council unanimously voted to adopt The Portland Plan.



Prosperous, educated, healthy, equitable. These four goals of The Portland Plan are the building blocks of a greater city, a Portland where people truly thrive.

The Portland Plan's three integrated strategies, equity framework, guiding policies and five-year action plan better equip the City and partners to address the city's challenges and achieve our goals. The City has joined with more than 20 public agency partners, including all of our school districts, Multnomah County, PCC, PSU and TriMet, to provide a foundation for alignment, collective action and shared success.

The Portland Plan will be implemented through the City's annual budget decisions. It will help the City work smarter and more collaboratively with our agency partners, neighborhood and community groups, schools, businesses and YOU—so we can stretch our dollars further for the greatest impact on the things that will make Portland a more

prosperous, educated, healthy and equitable city for all.

Thank you, Portlanders, for sharing your great ideas. Read the plan and learn what you can do today to make Portland better for tomorrow.
www.myportlandplan.com

PORTLAND, THIS IS YOUR PLAN.



GO TO PDXPLAN.COM TO WATCH A VIDEO THAT SHOWS THE TRANSFORMATIVE EFFECT THE PLAN WILL HAVE ON OUR CITY.

"A key indicator of human health is a living-wage job, and in order to get such a job you need either an education or workforce training. Likewise, to rebuild a strong education system, we need a healthy community full of jobs."

Karen Fischer-Gray,
Parkrose School District Superintendent

"We want a city that is known for its sustainability and equity. We're committed to an equitable Portland, where every person has the chance to succeed."

Midge Purcell, *Urban League*

"The Portland Plan will help us make our community more prosperous, our children better educated and our families healthier. This approach lines up with Multnomah County's efforts to end homelessness, provide affordable housing and ensure a safety net for anyone in our community who needs help to thrive."

Deborah Kafoury, *Multnomah County*

"The Portland Plan does a good job of describing the current economic context and our challenges for improving our economic future. We have the potential to move the dial on the economy if we can achieve the economic prosperity objectives described in the plan."

Bill Wyatt, *Port of Portland*

"At Portland State, the city is our classroom, and we are proud to be lead partners in improving our community's future. The Portland Plan is clearly aligned with our vision to support economic vitality, environmental sustainability and quality of life in the Portland region and beyond."

Wim Wiewel, *PSU*

THE PORTLAND PLAN

www.pdxplan.com

[FACEBOOK.COM/PDXPLAN](https://www.facebook.com/pdxplan) [TWITTER.COM/PDXPLAN](https://twitter.com/pdxplan)

Portland community solar project shares the sunshine

It's true that solar power is a viable clean energy option for Portland. The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is involved in a new project that will add solar panels to schools, community centers and a park this year. With these new solar installations, the Portland community solar project will engage people who want to help Portland transition to a more secure energy future. Community members will be able to invest in these installations by purchasing a financial product, such as a certificate of deposit or a community bond.

The best part is, everyone can participate—even if you are a renter or are unable to install solar on your own roof. The project will allow Portlanders to invest in solar energy in more affordable amounts and with the promise of future financial returns.

Why solar?

Despite our rainy weather, energy from the sun is one of our state's most abundant renewable resources. By increasing our area's use of solar, we enjoy energy options from cleaner sources that will benefit the entire community.

How to participate

BPS has begun program design work with community partners to help Portlanders participate in the program. Watch for an announcement of investment opportunities in the near future. If you are interested in learning more about how to become a community solar champion, please visit

www.portlandcommunitysolar.com.

