

# Portland Curbsider

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability • Charlie Hales, Mayor • Susan Anderson, Director

Winter 2015



## SUSTAINABLE RESOLUTIONS THAT STICK

This new year, include these simple changes for health and happiness

### FIVE WAYS TO INCREASE THE GREEN IN 2016

#### 1. Simplify

**Make kitchen composting easier.** Get food scraps from the kitchen to the curb with a compost pail that meets your specific needs. Your perfect container may be as simple as a yogurt tub or as fun as a hand-painted canister.

The food scraps you collect in the green roll cart contribute to nutrient-rich compost, improving soil in gardens and on farms.

[www.portlandcomposts.com](http://www.portlandcomposts.com)



#### 2. Declutter

**Clear your home of unwanted electronics.** There are many ways to reuse outdated electronics.

Give away, donate or recycle items with Oregon E-Cycles, a free electronics recycling program for computers, phones, monitors, TVs, printers, keyboards and mice.

[www.oregonecycles.org](http://www.oregonecycles.org)



#### 3. Share

**Save money with Resourceful PDX.** Find ideas for making simple changes in everyday choices that will keep you on budget.

Join a tool or kitchen library to borrow items you only use occasionally, share your style by hosting a clothing swap with friends or extend the life of the goods you own with easy fixes.

[www.resourcefulpdx.com](http://www.resourcefulpdx.com)



#### 4. Organize

**Take the guesswork out of garbage day.** Streamline your routine with email reminders. Go online to sign up with your email and street address and *voilà!* Weekly email reminders will let you know which carts go to the curb each week—as well as any weather-related and holiday collection day changes.

[www.garbage reminders.com](http://www.garbage reminders.com)



#### 5. Prepare

**Get peace of mind at a Fix-It Fair.** Attend an emergency kit workshop at the January or February Fix-It Fair and learn how to prepare yourself and your family for unexpected emergencies.

You will get a wealth of resources and may discover you already have many emergency items at home!

[www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/fif](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/fif)



## Take the challenge to reduce food waste

Small changes make a big difference

**Americans waste more than 30 percent of the food produced each year.**

That's enough food to fill the U.S. Bancorp Tower (Big Pink) nearly one and a quarter times **every day!** To tackle this problem, the Environmental Protection Agency recently issued a challenge to Americans to cut food waste in half by 2030. Portlanders can join in the effort by:

- ✓ Shopping and storing food smartly.
- ✓ Stretching the life of perishable food.
- ✓ Making sure food scraps end up in the green Portland Composts! roll cart.

How food is grown, processed, distributed and disposed of globally accounts for nearly 20 percent of annual carbon emissions. By reducing food waste and making healthy choices, we can save money and lower our carbon impacts.



YOUR FOOD



Climate Action Now! offers food-saving tips from local experts.  
Learn more at [www.portlandcan.org](http://www.portlandcan.org)

**PORTLAND Climate Action Now!**

To help ensure equal access to City programs, services and activities, the City of Portland will provide translation, reasonably modify policies/procedures and provide auxiliary aids/services/alternative formats to persons with disabilities. For accommodations, translations, complaints, and additional information, please call 503-823-7700, City TTY 503-823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.

You ask

# Questions & Answers from the Curbside Hotline

We answer

What you want to know about garbage, recycling and compost!

**Q:** What do I do with packaging labeled "compostable" or "biodegradable"?

**A:** These items go in your **garbage container** not in your recycling or composting roll carts. Many products labeled **compostable** or **biodegradable** don't break down properly at the composting facilities.



**Q:** Where are Portland's food scraps composted?

**A:** It depends. Yard debris and food scraps from Portland's residential curbside composting program go to compost facilities in Washington and Benton counties. After just six weeks, your food scraps are transformed into a nutrient-rich fertilizer for landscaping, agricultural and home garden use.

Most of the food scraps from Portland businesses are processed in a facility in Lane County that generates electricity from the food scraps before they are turned into fertilizer. This facility does not accept yard debris or other non-food items like paper or compostable cups, containers or utensils. That's why many local businesses have moved to collecting just food scraps. [www.portlandoregon.gov/sustainabilityatwork/foodonly](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/sustainabilityatwork/foodonly)

**Q:** What do the numbers on the bottom of some plastics mean for curbside recycling?

**A:** In Portland, plastics accepted at the curb are determined by size and shape, not numbers. The four shapes are bottles, tubs, buckets and pots. The Be Cart Smart guide shows which plastics are accepted in the blue recycling roll cart. There are also three Far West Recycling depots in Portland that accept many non-curbside plastics. [www.farwestrecycling.com](http://www.farwestrecycling.com)

**Q:** How do I get garbage service started?

**A:** If you own a house, find your garbage and recycling company by visiting [www.garbagedayreminders.com](http://www.garbagedayreminders.com). Your bill will come directly from the company that services your area. Call them for account information or garbage and recycling related issues and questions.

If you rent a house, contact the landlord to set up service.

## Have more questions?

Submit them online at [www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/curbsidequestions](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/curbsidequestions), by email at [wasteinfo@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:wasteinfo@portlandoregon.gov) or give us a call at 503-823-7202.

## Portland Maps

### Check out the new and improved Portland Maps website

For over 15 years, Portland Maps has provided loads of data and maps about Portland properties in one handy website.

The updated site has been redesigned for easier access, offering more interactive maps, social media sharing options and a new address search to make it easier for you to find what you're looking for.

Check it out at [www.portlandmaps.com/beta](http://www.portlandmaps.com/beta) and tell us what you think with an email to [beta.portlandmaps@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:beta.portlandmaps@portlandoregon.gov) or by clicking the **Report** tool.

For information on garbage and recycling services, type in your address and choose **Collection Schedule** under the **Utilities** tab.

## An investment in fresher air

Did you know the trucks that collect your garbage, recycling and composting are getting cleaner? Starting in 2016, Portland garbage and recycling companies must use newer trucks for neighborhood collection that release 90 percent less of the emissions that cause smog and soot. That means the trucks on your street are healthier for you, your family and the planet.



Great cities don't happen by accident.



Portland's distinctive neighborhoods and vibrant Central City are the result of good planning more than 30 years ago. As the city looks ahead to the future, it's not a question of if Portland will grow — but how. Learn how these two long-range plans will shape the future of our diverse neighborhoods, downtown and the urban core.

### The future of your neighborhood is taking shape.

Portland's **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN** will establish new rules that affect the size, shape and location of shops, apartments, houses and places of employment.

We listened. Community input has helped create new zoning proposals for main streets and corridors, hospitals and college campuses, land for jobs and residential neighborhoods.

#### Want to learn more?

- Call the Comprehensive Plan Helpline: 503-823-0195.
- Chat with planners during drop-in hours at various locations in your community.
- Your testimony is welcome at public hearings happening soon!

Visit [www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/pdxcomplan](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/pdxcomplan) for more information, dates and locations.

### The CENTRAL CITY 2035 PLAN is a 20-year blueprint for Portland's urban core.

Portland's Central City is the business, cultural, educational and recreational hub of the city and the region — with iconic places like the Park Blocks, Transit Mall, Director Park and Pioneer Square. What exciting changes can we expect as the Central City grows over the next 20 years?

Five years of planning with community groups, businesses and nonprofits from the Lloyd District to PSU to the Central Eastside will result in a first draft of this important plan.

#### Learn more in 2016:

- Look for a Discussion Draft of the Plan on the web.
- Call the Central City 2035 Plan Helpline and talk with a planner: 503-823-4286.
- Ask questions and provide feedback during drop-in hours, open houses and public hearings.

Visit [www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/cc2035](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/cc2035) for more information, dates and locations.

# 'Tis the season to reduce, reuse and recycle



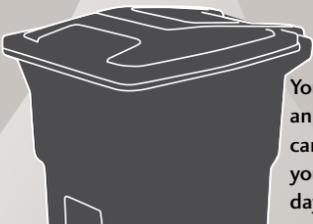
Use this quick reference guide as a reminder of where to put holiday items once you're finished with them.

Visit [www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/curbsider](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/curbsider) for helpful tips on reducing waste.

## Garbage



Reuse packing peanuts, padded envelopes, bows and ribbons or place these items in the garbage.



You can set out an extra garbage can or bag on your collection day for a \$5 fee.

## Compost



Put leftover holiday treats and natural decorations, like greenery and pine cones, in the green Portland Composts! roll cart.



## Recycling



Recycle gift boxes, cardboard, wrapping paper and greeting cards in the blue Portland Recycles! roll cart (foil-lined items belong in the garbage).



The Be Cart Smart guide has not changed. Find a detailed list of what goes where at [www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/carts](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/carts)



### What do I do with old batteries?

Ask Metro.

[oregonmetro.gov/batteries](http://oregonmetro.gov/batteries)  
503-234-3000 |  Metro

## Renting a house or smallplex?



If you live in a rental house or smallplex of two to four units, the landlord is required to provide and pay for curbside collection service, including weekly recycling and composting.

Garbage is collected every-other-week and the landlord must supply at least a 20-gallon garbage container per unit.

Talk to the landlord before setting out extra garbage or large/bulky items for collection. There is a fee for this service.

[www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/rentals](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/rentals) • 503-823-7202

## Portland businesses are climate positive!



Mayor Charlie Hales has challenged Portland businesses to take action on climate change by making a commitment to implement two or more of these actions by Earth Day 2016:

- Meet at least 50 percent of business electricity needs from renewable sources.
- Install LED bulbs in all lights that are on for extended periods.
- Provide incentives to employees to commute by transit, carpool, bicycle or on foot.
- Power at least 20 percent of company vehicles by electricity or low-carbon fuels.
- Provide at least one on-site electric vehicle charging station for employees.
- Participate in food-scrap collection.

See all 50+ participating businesses at [www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/climate](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/climate)



## COME TO A FIX-IT FAIR

Bringing money-saving, health-promoting and resource-conserving tips and tools to residents

**Fix-It Fairs are free community events** that feature more than 50 exhibitors offering resources for weatherization and energy conservation, garden and habitat maintenance, healthy eating, sound finances and more.

**Saturdays 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**January 23, 2016**

Ron Russell Middle School  
3955 SE 112th Avenue

**February 20, 2016**

¡Clases en español!  
George Middle School  
10000 N Burr Avenue

Sponsored by City of Portland, Energy Trust of Oregon, Pacific Power, Portland Water Bureau and KUND Univision



**Bureau of Planning and Sustainability**  
Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.

City of Portland, Oregon  
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## Inside:

- **Curbside Hotline Q&A**
- **Holiday schedule changes**
- **Increase the green in 2016**

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## Holiday schedule changes Friday customers only

No collections on Friday, December 25, 2015 or Friday, January 1, 2016. All other holidays are regular pick-up days.

### For garbage, recycling and composting collection

If your regular pick-up day is	Your pick-up day will be
Monday thru Thursday	No change
Friday	Saturday

### Holiday schedule change information online

Información en línea sobre el cambio de programa para los días festivos

在线假期日程变更信息

Thông tin về thay đổi trong lịch nghỉ lễ hiện có trực tuyến

См. праздничные изменения расписания на сайте:

Macluumaadka jadwalka maalmaha fasaxa ah ee internet-ka laga helayo

年末年始収集日オンライン情報

معلومات تغيير مواعيد الجمع لأيام الأعياد موجودة على الإنترنت

Informații asupra schimbărilor programului de sărbători sunt pe internet

Інформація на сайті щодо змін у графіку у святкові дні

[www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/holiday](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/holiday)

In case of severe weather this winter, call your garbage and recycling company with questions about your curbside collection. Find your company at [www.garbage reminders.com](http://www.garbage reminders.com).

## After taking down your holiday tree

### Curbside collection: Tree pieces

- ❄️ Cut the trunk and branches into pieces less than 36 inches long and 4 inches in diameter.
- ❄️ Tie bundles securely with string or twine; weight limit is 45 lbs.
- ❄️ Ensure that any tree pieces in your green composting roll cart do not poke above the lip of the cart; weight limit is 135 lbs.
- ❄️ Put extra bundles or cans of yard debris at the curb for \$3.75 each.

### Curbside collection: Whole trees

- ❄️ Put trees 6 feet and under out at the curb on collection day for \$4.50.
- ❄️ Cut larger trees down to 6 feet to ensure driver safety.

Prepare your tree for pick-up by removing all tinsel, lights, ornaments, wire, nails, stands and other materials that cannot be composted. Trees covered in fake snow are not accepted as compost and must be disposed of as garbage.

Interested in arranging a pickup with a nonprofit organization for a fee? Call Metro's recycling hotline at 503-234-3000 for more information.