Select your Grey Bin for the Kitchen Scraps and Garbage Program

Date: Friday, July 20, 2012

VICTORIA, BC – Beginning today, current City of Victoria residential garbage customers have the opportunity to select the size of their new grey bin for garbage that will be part of the Kitchen Scraps and Garbage program.

Residents are asked to watch their mail for the “Grey Bin Selection Card”. If they would like a grey bin other than the standard 120 L size, the “Grey Bin Selection Card” should be returned to City Hall by August 17.

Starting in February 2013, kitchen scraps and garbage will be collected from backyards every two weeks, and the empty bins will be left at the front of the property. The annual cost of the standard Kitchen Scraps and Garbage program will be $183 per year - $19 reduction from the current garbage only program ($202). By separating kitchen scraps from garbage 1/3 of what was “garbage” will be diverted from the landfill and composted instead.

Following the “use less/pay less” model, customers now have the option to select a smaller or larger grey bin for garbage. The annual cost of collection will relate to the size of the grey bin they choose. (Please see pricing details below.)

New trucks are being ordered to replace the older trucks and to allow for the pick-up of both garbage and kitchen scraps. New collection bins that work with the new trucks will be supplied to every household.

**All Kitchen Scraps and Garbage program customers will receive:**
- a standardized 120 L green bin for kitchen scraps
- a small “kitchen catcher” for daily collection of kitchen scraps
- a grey bin for garbage, chosen by each customer, based upon the amount of garbage they produce
  - Standard 120 L ($183/year)
  - Small 80 L ($168/year)
  - Large 180 L ($204/year)

At this time residents who have mobility challenges and are unable to return their empty bins to the backyard, can request assistance by filling out the “request a helping hand” section on the “Grey Bin Selection Card” or by calling 250.361.0448.
The green bins, grey bins and kitchen catchers will be delivered to homes in January 2013 and collection will start in February 2013. For more information about the new Kitchen Scraps and Garbage Program visit www.victoria.ca/greenbin, email greenbin@victoria.ca or call 250.361.0448.

Media Photo Opportunity:
There is a “Select Your Grey Bin Display” in the foyer of City Hall that includes the three sizes of the grey bins and the green bin. Graphic files of the grey and green bins are also available.

For More Information:
Melinda Jolley, Corporate Communications, Telephone: 250.361.0288, Cellular: 250.516.4271

Background: Selecting Your Grey Bin

Tips for choosing your grey bin for garbage:

- **Standard 120L**: If the current amount of garbage collected works well, this will be a good fit. If the standard size is best for you, you don’t need to return the selection card.

- **Small 80L**: If you are an avid recycler or have already reduced the amount of garbage you produce and you have a very small bag of garbage with the current system, this is a good option for you.

- **Large 180L**: If you have a large family or often need extra bags of garbage to be picked up, this will be the best size for you.

What goes in my green bin and grey bin?

**Green Bin:**
Kitchen scraps include:
- **Food leftovers**: including plate scrapings, fruit and vegetable scraps, eggshells, meat, fish and poultry, bones, dairy products, bread, cereals, pasta, pizza, tea bags, coffee grinds and filters, nuts and shells, solidified fats and grease and house plants.
- **Soiled paper products**: including paper towels and tissues, soiled paper food packaging, flour and sugar bags, used paper cups and plates.

**Grey Bin:**
Garbage includes:
- Make-up remover pads, cotton swabs and balls
- Dental floss, rubber bands
- Dryer sheets and lint
- Cigarettes and butts
- Vacuum contents and bags
• Pet food bags and other wax-lined bags
• Foil chip and cookie bags
• Butter wrappers
• Pet feces or litter
• Hair
• Bread clips or ties
• Diapers, baby wipes
• Sanitary hygiene products, condoms

To watch a video about the Kitchen Scraps Program and to read frequently asked questions visit www.victoria.ca/greenbin