



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Garbage collection every two weeks

#### **Why is garbage collection changing to every two weeks?**

The food waste collection (brown bin) was implemented in October 2018 for single-family residences and buildings of four units or less. According to Recyc-Québec, over 57% of household waste is made up of recoverable organic matter. The amount of matter that can be disposed of in the garbage has therefore greatly decreased. This is precisely why garbage collection will now take place every two weeks for citizens who have been serviced by food waste collection since 2018. Some exceptions may apply for logistic reasons.

In October 2019, buildings of five units or more will also be serviced by the food waste collection. By reducing the number of collections, we are also reducing the impact of greenhouse gases and costs for the City.

#### **Fewer collections, fewer costs. Will taxes go down?**

No. The reduction in the frequency of black bin collections (garbage) makes up for the costs associated with the addition of the brown bin collection (food waste).

#### **Does this only apply to Vaudreuil-Dorion?**

No. Several cities have already taken this step. Saint-Lazare, Les Cèdres, Rigaud, Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot, Île-Perrot, Les Coteaux, Coteau-du-Lac and Vaudreuil-sur-le-Lac have also reduced their garbage collection to every two weeks.

#### **Will garbage collection be every two weeks throughout the year?**

Yes. Garbage collection will take place every two weeks throughout the year. Both in winter and in summer, putrescible materials must be disposed of in the brown bin (food waste). This will prevent the black bin (garbage) from developing odours and attracting vermin.

#### **How to prevent maggots from developing in the food waste bin ?**

Maggots appear in the food waste bin when flies have made their way into the bin and laid eggs on remains of animal origin. Although maggots can be quite unpleasant to see, they are completely harmless. Don't get discouraged if you see them in your bin because they will disappear with the next collection. There are, however, lots of tricks you can use to prevent them from appearing in the first place.

- Wrap any meat, chicken or fish in newspaper;
- Freeze meat, chicken or fish leftovers in a brown paper bag until the day of collection or keep them in the fridge;
- Keep the bin out of the sun;
- Wash the bin regularly using a water and vinegar solution;
- If you spot any maggots, spray them with vinegar, boiling water or salt;
- Place your bin at the curb for each collection, even if it is not full.

### **Is there a solution for odours caused by diapers (babies, adults, home daycares)?**

The best option is to gather up all of your disposable diapers and place them in an airtight bag. You can also sprinkle the contents of the bag with baby powder to reduce the smell.

Did you know that, in 3 years, a baby can use up to 6,500 diapers, which will take 500 years to decompose? The reduction in the frequency of black bin collection (garbage) is a great opportunity to make the change to re-usable diapers. Washable diapers help reduce waste and eliminate odours in the black bin. A subsidy for the purchase of washable diapers is available to residents of Vaudreuil-Dorion.

### **Tips and tricks for limiting consumption**

Several tricks can be applied to help reduce waste production.

- Avoid single-use objects and take advantage of the subsidy for the purchase of zero-waste products;
- Purchase items in bigger sizes;
- Choose products with less packaging;
- Buy/sell used items;
- Choose recyclable products when you can;
- Make things yourself;
- Share;
- Give non-material gifts;
- Make use of the food waste bin so that it takes your garbage bin more time to fill up.