



2010 City of Terrace Backyard Composting Incentive Program

Program Timeline

Beginning April 1st, 2010 the City of Terrace will provide a \$25 incentive on the purchase of backyard composting units to the first 60 homeowners who purchase a unit from a participating local retailer, including **Canadian Tire, Rona and The Happy Tree**. This program will run until the end of 2010 or until all rebates are used up.

Program Rules and Regulations

- Participant must live within the City of Terrace (be a City of Terrace resident) and produce supporting ID at the time of purchase
- Purchase price must be above the total value of the incentive
- There is a limit of one incentive per household
- This program is not retrospective; all composter purchases must be made between April 1st, 2010 and December 31st, 2010 (or until all incentives are used up)

General Information - Composting in the City of Terrace

How much organic material is going to our Landfill?

A landfill composition study conducted by the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine in the fall of 2009 found that 18% of the total material ending up in our landfills is organic, and that 35% of all waste from City of Terrace residences is organic food waste. According to the Recycling Council of BC British Columbians generates over 600 kgs of waste annually. Based on this figure each Terrace resident has the opportunity to remove a significant amount of the waste being sent to landfill every year.



Why is yard and food waste better in a composter than in the landfill?

Reducing the amount of waste that ends up in the landfill has significant impacts on ground and air pollution. The finished compost is a nutrient-rich material that can improve soil structure, aeration and water retention. Composted organics are a valuable resource which can return nutrients to the earth!

Organic materials in our landfill undergo anaerobic (the absence of oxygen) decomposition which produces methane gas. Methane is a greenhouse gas that is 21 times more powerful than carbon dioxide (CO₂, i.e. vehicle exhaust). As well, the moisture content of organics contributes to the creation of leachate, a liquid that can drain from landfills and if not captured, can be a threat to ground and surface water quality.

Managed properly, compostable organics can be a renewable resource and an effective means of waste diversion!

What about other composting options for City of Terrace residents?

The City of Terrace has offered a yard waste curbside pick-up program since 2001. The material is processed at the Public Works yard and used for landscaping throughout the City. The City does not pick up kitchen and food scraps as part of this program and encourages homeowners to compost as much as possible in their own backyards. The City of Terrace supports homeowners in building their own but cannot provide incentives for this currently. We are developing a composter building workshop, which we plan to host Spring/Summer 2010.

For more details on anything related to this program please contact Tara Irwin by phone at 250-615-4026 or email at tirwin@terrace.ca