

Q-City News *Special Edition*

Telephone: 250-992-2111 • Fax: 250-992-2206 • Visit our website at www.city.quesnel.bc.ca

City of Quesnel Newsletter • March 2009

An important notice to City residents currently provided with garbage collection New collection system begins March 31, 2009

The information in this newsletter will better acquaint you with the new solid waste collection system and show how the changes will affect your garbage collection.

If you have any questions after reading through this brochure, please call the City at the numbers listed below.

Public Works
250-992-6330

City Hall
250-992-2111

.....
An added bonus . . .

The City is committed to being an environmentally conscious organization.

By adopting a new solid waste collection system, the City is able to take one garbage truck off the road, considerably reducing vehicle emissions over the course of a year.

In addition, as you can place your smaller garbage bags directly in the new containers, you no longer need to purchase larger garbage bags, resulting in less plastic ending up in the landfill.

This new system is not only financially responsible, but environmentally responsible as well.



The City of Quesnel is committed to financial and environmental sustainability, and solid waste collection is an area in which we're making improvements.

A new automated system for residential garbage collection will start on March 31. There will be no change to your regular garbage collection day.

Specially designed carts will be supplied to all residents currently provided with garbage collection. For those residents of multi-family units such as a four-plex, each unit will receive a cart.

City crews will deliver your new cart starting March 24. We'll

place it in the spot where we'd like you to leave it on collection days. Attached to the cart will be a package of helpful information and tips on how to make the new system work for you.

The waste is collected from the cart using a special truck, equipped with a mechanical arm that picks up the cart, empties it, and returns it to its original position.

This system has been used successfully in many different municipalities throughout B.C. and will result in positive changes to our present system.

And due to the cost savings that result from this new system,

there is no increase to what you'll pay for an enhanced garbage collection system.

Want to get a closer look?

Come to a public demo day:

Quesnel Spirit Square
March 13 • 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

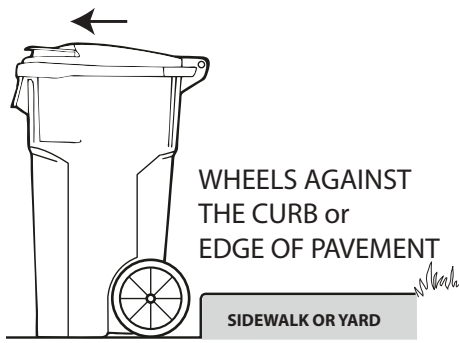
West Park Mall
March 20 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Staff will be available to answer your questions and show you how the system works.

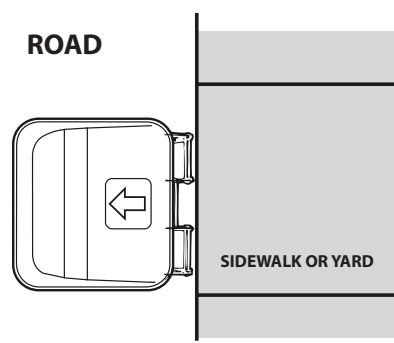
The City of Quesnel will provide its residents with an outstanding quality of life in a vibrant, prosperous, diversified community, achieved through a process of public consultation and trust.



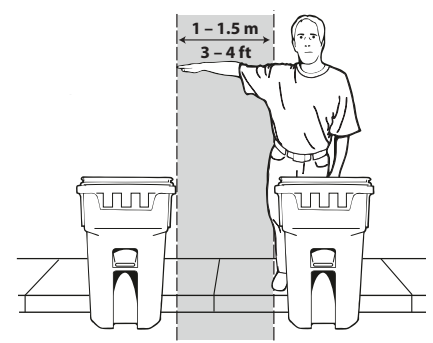
When taking out the trash, remember to:



Park it



Point it



Space it

By remembering these basic rules, you'll help us make the new system a success. If you forget to close the lid, or place the cart out backwards, our staff will leave a reminder card letting you know what went wrong.



What am I going to do with my old garbage cans?

Don't throw them out just yet - there are plenty of uses for them:

- Storage for play equipment.
- Storage for returnable beverage containers.
- Storage for non-refundable glass items.
- Storage for paper or cardboard.
- Storage for tin cans and other recyclable materials.
- Use as a rain barrel.

If you already recycle, your old garbage cans are perfect for transporting your recyclable materials. If you're not already recycling, this would be a great time to start. By diverting waste from the landfill we can add a number of years to the landfill's life cycle, saving our environment and valuable taxpayer dollars now and in the future.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are we changing the way we collect garbage?

The City needed to replace its two older garbage trucks so it was a good time to look for efficiencies. The City will see cost savings by using an automated system. Less manual lifting improves employee safety and reduces the number of on-the-job injuries. In summary, it's a more efficient, safe and responsible method of garbage collection.

How will the new carts be distributed?

The City will, at no charge, supply and deliver one cart to every residence currently provided with garage pickup. Multi-family complexes will be supplied with carts to suit their needs. The standard size cart will be 250 litres, which provides more volume than two of the standard carts presently in use.

Who will own the carts?

The carts are the property of the City and will be replaced as they reach the end of their life cycle. The City will assign the carts to each property. A serial number identifies the property to which the carts belong. If you move, the cart remains with the property for the next resident.

Who is responsible for cart maintenance?

Residents will be responsible for routine maintenance such as cleaning the carts, removing them from the street after collection and storing them in a safe place. The carts carry a 10-year warranty and the City will take care of any warranty repairs. Any stolen carts or those damaged through neglect or misuse will be replaced at the property owner's expense.

Where should I store the cart?

Wherever it is convenient: outside a door, in a garage or carport, or some other easy-to-reach location.

Where will I put my cart for collection?

For most residents, carts should be placed on the street, with the wheels against the curb, if there is one, or just off the road, on the shoulder. On collection day, the carts are wheeled to the street for collection. The carts have large wheels that make them easy to roll, even over curbs, gravel and snow. Many residents who currently have back lane pickup will be required to move their pickup location to the street, as narrow lanes don't provide enough operating area for the truck's mechanical arm. Most residents affected

will be able to accommodate this change. However, some may have an impossible situation and City crews are committed to working with these residents to find the best solutions. Those residents who **only** have lane access will continue to have their garbage collected in the lane.

Watch for where City crews leave your new cart - this is where we'd like you to leave it on collection day.

I have physical limitations; how will I move the cart?

Some residents living with a disability may find it difficult to take their carts out. For those who apply for and are granted an exemption based on a disability, City crews will move the carts on their behalf at no additional cost. However, if other people in the household are capable of rolling the cart to the street, this service will not be offered. Forms for this service can be picked up at City Hall or downloaded from the City's website.

Will my annual garbage fees change?

The new system will cost the taxpayers nothing extra when using the standard provided carts. In fact, residents may enjoy some savings as they will no longer need to buy large garbage bags or new metal or plastic garbage cans.