Your guide to Organics, Recycling and Waste Collection in Airdrie



Let's get started by writing your address on your carts and your serial numbers here.

Green organics cart

Black garbage cart

Blue recycling cart



Don't forget to write your address on all three of your bins!

CITY of AIRDRIE
COMMUNITY & OPPORTUNITY

airdrie.ca | 403.948.8800

Curbside Collection General Information

Cart collection guideline

- Set carts out by 7 a.m. on your collection day
- Lids must close
- Contaminated carts (carts with things that don't belong) will not be collected

Collection schedule

- Find your collection schedule at **airdrie.ca/collectionschedule**
- Never miss a collection day! Sign up for notifications at myAIRDRIE.ca to receive reminders by text or email.
- myAIRDRIE notifications are also used to alert you about service disruptions due to unforeseen circumstances.

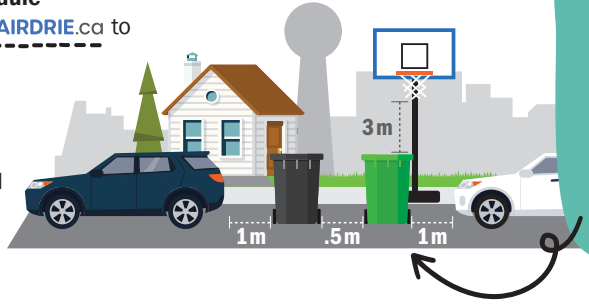
Curbside cart placement

- Leave at least one metre of clearance around your cart and any other objects and ensure there are three metres of overhead space so collection trucks can access it safely.

Oops tag?

If you received an Oops tag it will explain what went wrong and what needs to be fixed before your next scheduled collection day.





Why does this matter?

Place carts correctly and sort materials properly to keep collection efficient and service costs down. Reducing contamination helps give materials a second life, cuts processing costs and stops materials from going to landfill.

Think your cart collection was missed?

For black and green carts, contact the City of Airdrie by the next business day after a missed collection and we may be able to arrange for recollection – **403.948.8800** or **general.inquiries@airdrie.ca**
For blue cart, contact GFL at **780.444.8805** or **GFLresidentialrecycle@gflenv.com**

Damaged or missing carts

For damaged black and green carts, fill out the damaged cart form at **airdrie.ca/brokencart**
If your cart is missing, use the cart map at **airdrie.ca/brokencart** to look up your cart's serial number and search your street on collection day to help find it.
For damaged or missing blue carts, contact GFL

Moving to a new home

When you move into a new build and sign up for Airdrie utilities, **airdrie.ca/utilityapplication**, City of Airdrie Waste and Recycling Services automatically schedules black and green carts to be sent to your address.
If you've been in your home for more than a week and still don't have a cart, contact the City.
Please contact GFL for delivery of blue carts to new homes



CURBSIDE COLLECTION GENERAL INFORMATION

Green Organics Cart Collection

Green cart how to:

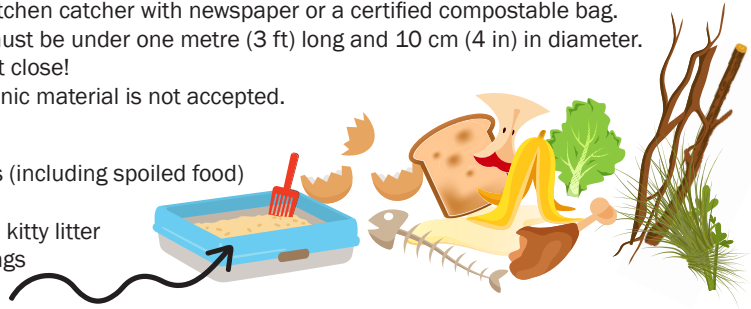
- ONLY use bags with one of the following symbols. ‘Biodegradable’ does not mean compostable.

FOR COLLECTION IN MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS, WHERE APPROVED. POUR LA COLLECTE DANS LES PROGRAMMES MUNICIPAUX, OÙ APPROUVÉS. CERT #900009

- Remove food from packaging before putting it in the green cart.
- Put material in loose or in a certified compostable bag.
- Line your kitchen catcher with newspaper or a certified compostable bag.
- Branches must be under one metre (3 ft) long and 10 cm (4 in) in diameter.
- The lid must close!
- Excess organic material is not accepted.

Accepted items:

- Food scraps (including spoiled food)
- Yard waste
- Pet waste & kitty litter
- Cage shavings





DID YOU KNOW?
Plastic bags are the most common contaminate in Airdrie green carts, contributing up to 30 per cent of all contamination types.

Prevent a smelly cart

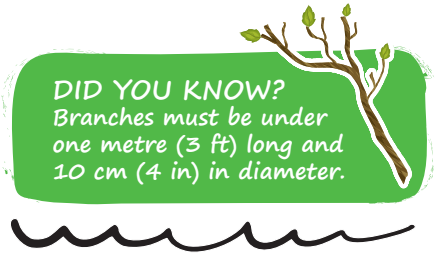
- Keep the cart lid closed and store it in the shade.
- Add baking soda to reduce odours; rinse your cart periodically.
- Set your cart out on every collection day, even if it's not full (especially in summer).



Prevent stuck and overweight carts

- Layer contents with newspaper or tape-free cardboard to prevent sticking and absorb liquid.
- Stumps, wood, and large branches go to the Transfer Site.
- Carts can only be half-filled with sod; overweight carts will not be collected.







GREEN ORGANICS CART COLLECTION

Black Garbage Cart Collection

Black cart how to:

- Your black cart is for items that can't be recycled or composted and are at the end of their useful life.
- All garbage must be placed inside the black cart in bags; no loose items.
- Place multiple small bags in the cart; do not line cart with a bag.
- The lid must close!
- Sharp objects (e.g., broken ceramics or mirrors) must be in a sealed puncture-proof container.
- If items are still usable, consider reuse through charities, thrift stores or online platforms.

Black cart best practices:

- Overweight or overfilled carts will not be collected. Carts must roll easily.
- For large items like construction material and broken furniture, use the Transfer Site.

DOES IT BELONG IN THE GARBAGE?
Visit airdrie.ca/cartsmart to see what goes where.



Excess waste tags:
Up to three additional bags can be set-out for collection each collection day, however they each must have an **excess waste tag attached** and be **no larger than 90 x 127 cm (35 x 50 in) and weigh less than 20 kg (44 lbs)**.

These tags can be purchased at:

- Airdrie City Hall
- Genesis Place
- CO-OP
- Airdrie Recycle Depot
- Select Shopper's Drug Mart and London Drugs locations in Airdrie



BLACK GARBAGE CART COLLECTION

Blue Recycling Cart Collection

As of April 1, 2026, Airdrie's curbside recycling program is managed by Circular Materials under Provincial Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program. Learn more at **circularmaterials.ca/airdrie**

Circular Materials has contracted GFL Environmental to manage the blue recycling cart program. **GFL is your main contact for missed collection, cart fixes and new home cart delivery for residential blue cart recycling**. Circular Materials may serve as the secondary contact for resident inquiries as required.

GFL Environmental (Primary contact)	Circular Materials (Secondary contact)
780.444.8805 GFLresidentialrecycle@gflenv.com	1.877.667.2626 customerservice@circularmaterials.ca

WHERE DOES IT GO?

For the most up-to-date list of accepted materials, please visit circularmaterials.ca/airdrie or airdrie.ca/cartsmart

By recycling correctly you can help...



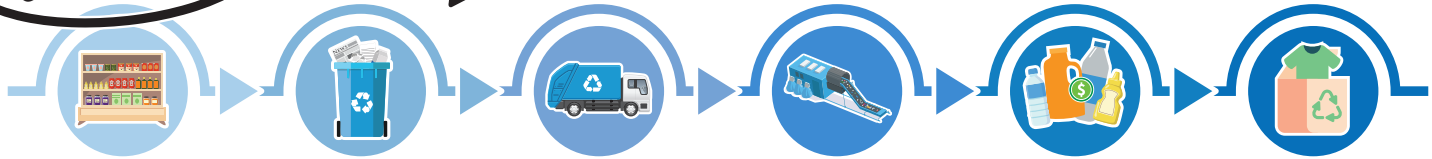
Blue cart how to:

- Make sure items are clean and dry.
- Separate mixed material items – i.e. remove plastic film from tissue boxes.
- Large and excess recycling can be brought to the Recycle Depot.

DON'T WISH-CYCLE!

Wish-cycling is when you put material in your blue cart hoping it can be recycled when it can't. It's a problem because these items contaminate the recycling stream, slow down sorting and increase costs.

Curbside Blue Cart Process



STEP 1

BUY PRODUCTS WITH PACKAGING AT THE STORE.

STEP 2

AIRDRIE RESIDENTS CORRECTLY SORT MATERIAL INTO THEIR BLUE CARTS.

STEP 3

BLUE CART MATERIAL GETS COLLECTED BY CONTRACTORS.

STEP 4

RECYCLING GETS SORTED AT MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY.

STEP 5

SORTED MATERIAL IS SOLD TO MARKET TO BE TURNED INTO NEW PRODUCTS.

STEP 6

RETAILERS AND BUSINESSES CAN PURCHASE AND SELL ITEMS MADE FROM RECYCLABLE CONTENT.

BLUE RECYCLING CART COLLECTION

Recycle Depot

Accepts oversized, excess recycling and many other items not allowed in curbside carts.

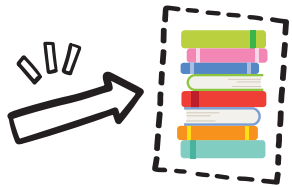
21 East Lake Hill
Wednesday to Sunday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
airdrie.ca/recycledepot

Depot Reuse Programs: Supporting the Circular Economy

At the Airdrie Recycle Depot, we go beyond recycling by promoting reuse—a key step in the waste hierarchy that reduces landfill waste and conserves resources by giving items a second life and keep valuable materials in circulation.

- **Book Barn:** Take or donate books year-round.
- **Textiles:** Drop off gently used clothing for recycling or redistribution.
- **Used bikes:** We accept donated bikes and sell them for a nominal fee from May 1 through Sept. 30.

By choosing reuse, you help build a circular economy, where products and materials are kept in use for as long as possible—minimizing waste and maximizing value.







Recycle Depot how-to:

- *Pre-sort your materials before arriving into categories such as batteries, electronics and paper products.*
- *Rinse and dry containers.*
- *Ask our operations staff if you need assistance.*
- *No trailers are allowed in the Depot yard.*
- *Arrive early enough to unload all materials before closing time.*

Accepted materials at the Recycle Depot

For residential use only. Keeping these items out of the landfills keeps important resources in circulation.

Household chemicals must:

- Be sealed and in their original container
- Be 20L or less and household strength
- Example hazard symbols accepted include:



Examples of HHW:

- Paint and stain products
- Aerosols and cleaning products
- Used engine oil and filters, cooking oil and antifreeze
- Propane tanks and fire extinguishers

Electronics, lightbulbs and batteries

- Electronics, electric tools and small appliances that plug in, are hardwired or battery-operated can be brought to the Depot.
- Glass lightbulbs including fluorescent, LED, halogen, incandescent, CFL smaller than 2.5” in diameter – no metal or plastic bulbs
- Batteries including lead acid, lithium ion, nickel hydride and alkaline



Paper, cardboard and plastics

- Excess and oversized cardboard
- Paper – mixed and office
- Plastics with numbered recycling symbols (1-7)

Glass and metal

- Food grade glass containers
- Food grade steel, aluminum and tin metal containers

Foam packaging

- White packing foam, free of tape

For specific items, please refer to airdrie.ca/cartsmart



Never place batteries into your curbside cart. Bring them to the Recycle Depot for proper disposal.

RECYCLE DEPOT

Transfer Site

For residential use only.

For most current hours please check **airdrie.ca/transfersite**

For a complete list of accepted items, go to **airdrie.ca/cartsmart**

How to:

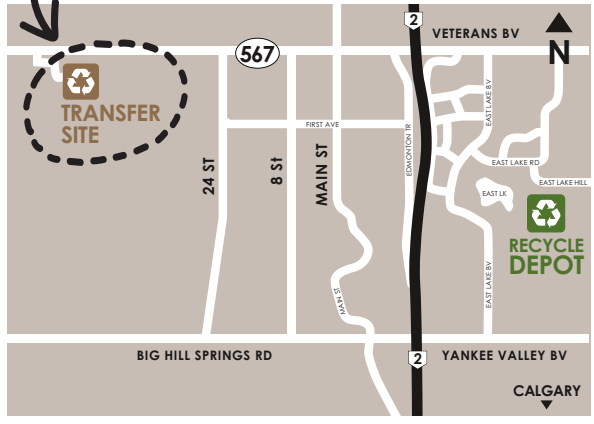
- Secure and tie down all material when bringing it to the Transfer Site.
- Attendant will evaluate the load and charge rates according to items and size of load.
- Unload materials into designated areas according to material type.
- Ask the attendant if you have any questions.

What is accepted:

- Excess household waste
- Oversized items
- Appliances including units with refrigerant
- Scrap metal
- Grass, leaves and branches
- Home renovation materials (drywall, shingles, wood)



The Transfer Site is located seven kilometres west of Airdrie on Highway 567, next to the Airdrie Pro Rodeo grounds.

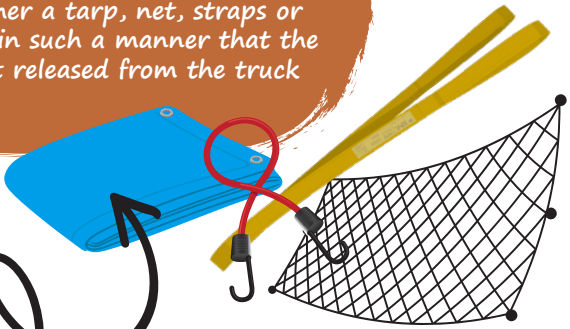


Rates

Visit **airdrie.ca/transfersite** for a complete list of prices.
Debit, M/C and VISA accepted.

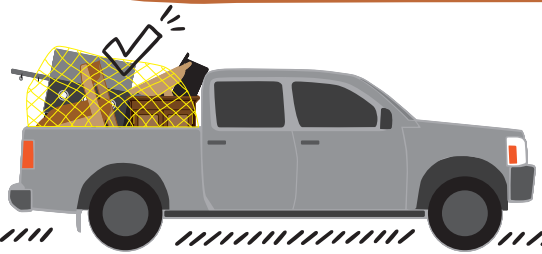
All loads traveling to the Transfer Site must be secured. A $10 discount will be applied to full loads that are properly secured by either a tarp, net, straps or similar device in such a manner that the material is not released from the truck during travel.

Ensure your load is secure!



WHAT IS A TRANSFER SITE?

The Transfer Site is a collection point for residential waste and home renovation materials. Material is taken to landfill and recycling sites in the Calgary area.

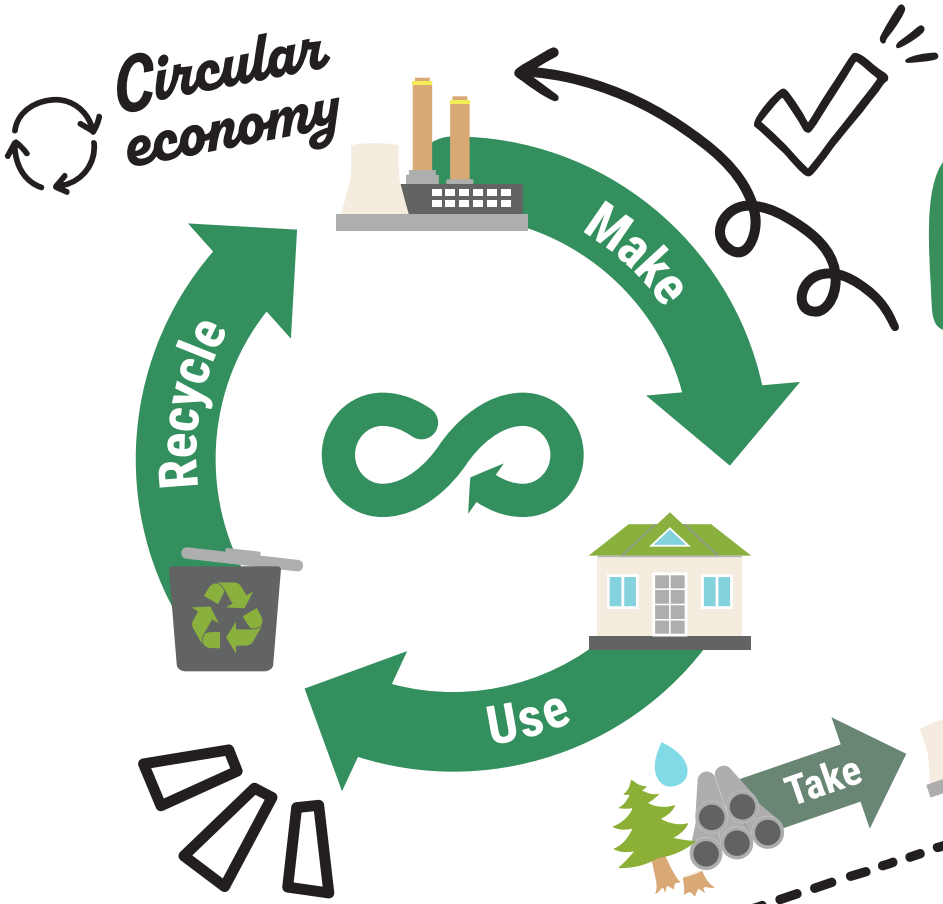




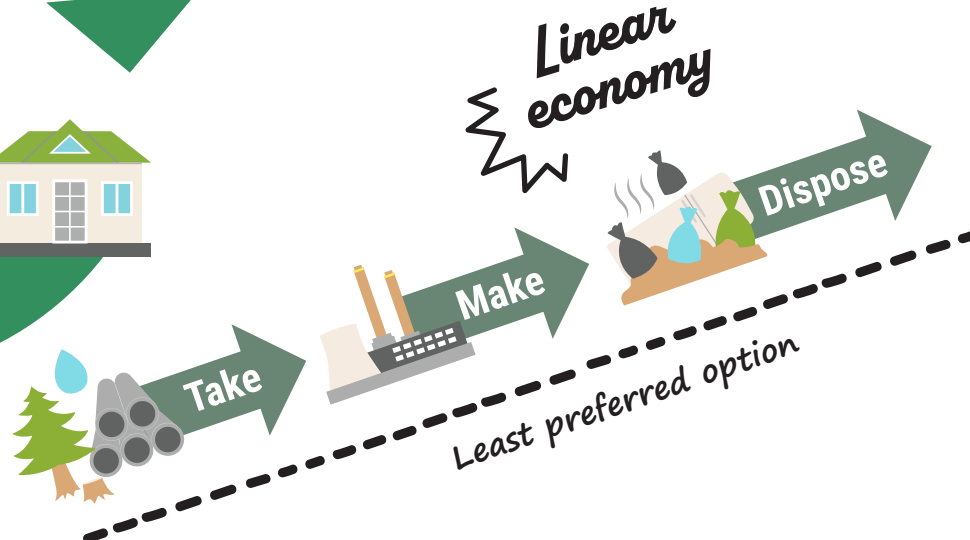


TRANSFER SITE

Rethinking Waste: The Circular Economy



The circular economy is about keeping things in use for as long as possible instead of throwing them away. It's a smarter way to use resources and reduce waste.

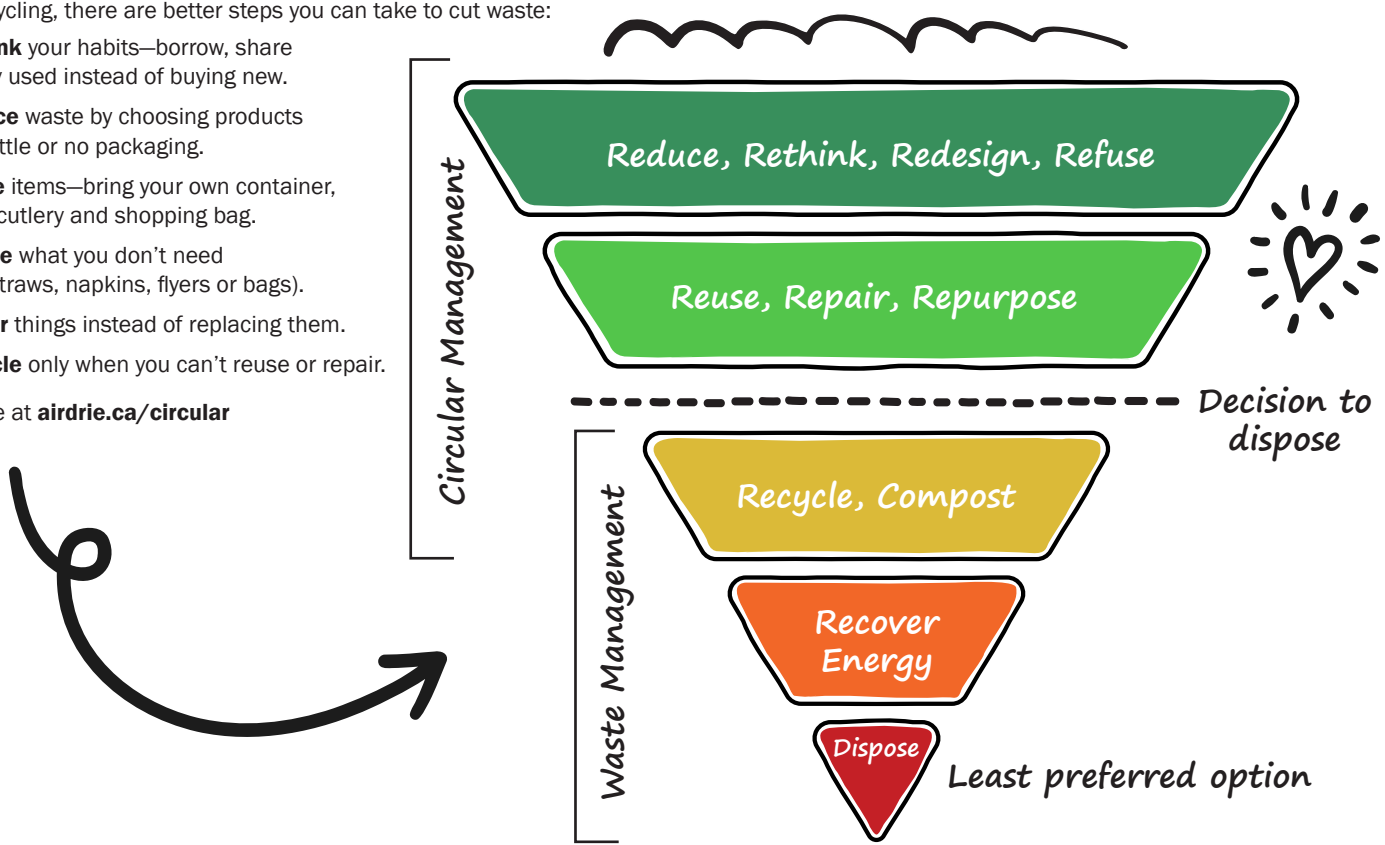


Rethinking Waste: The Waste Hierarchy

Before recycling, there are better steps you can take to cut waste:

- **Rethink** your habits—borrow, share or buy used instead of buying new.
- **Reduce** waste by choosing products with little or no packaging.
- **Reuse** items—bring your own container, mug, cutlery and shopping bag.
- **Refuse** what you don't need (like straws, napkins, flyers or bags).
- **Repair** things instead of replacing them.
- **Recycle** only when you can't reuse or repair.

Learn more at **airdrie.ca/circular**



For cart or collection questions, contact:









CITY of AIRDRIE
COMMUNITY & OPPORTUNITY

For more information, contact City of Airdrie
403.948.8800 | airdrie.ca

Not sure what goes where? www.airdrie.ca/cartsmart

These materials and packaging are recyclable.