

Automated Garbage Phase II

Phase 1 of the City's automated garbage cart program launched in June 2018 when more than 16,000 carts were delivered to select areas. Residents have been successfully using the carts and we've learned some valuable feedback from them.

Phase 1: What we learned

One of the goals for introducing carts for automated garbage collection was to cut down on litter, particularly litter created when pests tear open garbage bags placed at the curb. Since the carts have been in use the City hasn't receive any complaints about this kind of litter from the Phase 1 areas.

Some Phase 1 area residents initially expressed a need for a larger cart to fit all their garbage in, while others were delighted with the cart size. The smaller cart size was chosen to encourage recycling. Some did not realize the wide range of items that are accepted in the Curb It recycling program and once they started recycling more they were able to fit their garbage in the cart as they had more blue bags at the curb on recycling collection days.

With this simple transfer of putting recyclables in blue recycling bags rather than in black garbage bags we've seen a 40 per cent increase in the amount of recycling from Phase 1 areas. We expect similar results in Phase 2.

Another learning from Phase 1 was the importance for residents to put their address on the cart. If their cart goes missing it is much easier to locate when the address is on

it. This also deters anyone from removing a cart from a property.

This could save residents \$90.00 from having to purchase a new cart.

Recording ones serial number is also useful. With the serial number recorded one can also use it to locate their cart.

Remember to put your address on your cart with a black permanent marker. It will save you money!

On to Phase 2

In May 2019, carts will be delivered to the remaining households that will be required to use the City-issued automated garbage carts. Postcards will be delivered in April to homes that will be receiving a cart.

Once fully implemented approximately 85 per cent of households in St. John's will be using the carts, while the remaining 15 per cent will continue using garbage bags for their garbage.

This means in June you will see many more black carts lined up for collection on garbage days!

Some streets/areas will not receive a cart due to logistical challenges of properly placing the cart so the automated arm on the garbage truck can successfully collect and empty the cart.

Keep recyclables out of the cart

To make sure your have enough room in the cart for your garbage, put recyclables in blue bags and we'll collect them at the curb every second week on your recycling day.

Household waste that can be recycled – don't put them in the garbage – are:

- milk and juice cartons
- cardboard
- boxboard (ie. cereal and cracker boxes)
- tin cans
- plastic containers that food comes in, including clamshell containers



MARK THE CART:

Remember to put your address on your cart with a black permanent marker.

HANDY SPACE SAVING TIP:

Using kitchen catchers or smaller bags to contain your garbage will allow you to create less voids when filling your cart.

Waste diversion staff can help you transition to using the City-issued cart: contact Access St. John's or go to curbittjohns.ca