

Beginning April 1, 2019, only compostable yard waste paper bags and securely tied bundles will be accepted for yard waste collection. Plastic bags will no longer be collected after the last pick-up day in 2018.

FAQ

Why did we change to compostable paper bags?

Plastic bags are not compostable and must be removed prior to the composting of the yard waste. By changing to paper bags, we are saving money and moving to a more environmentally responsible practice.

Will the paper bags hold up in the rain and other wet weather conditions?

Many other Canadian municipalities, including but not limited to, Regina, Windsor, Richmond and Cold Lake, have tested compostable paper bags. They were found to stand up well to rainy weather conditions. The paper bags have a protective wet-strength coating that resists the absorption of rain and water. These places also reported that residents were satisfied with the paper bags. As a precaution, it is recommended to store your full compostable paper bags in a dry place with the tops rolled closed, until collection day.

Are the paper bags convenient to use?

The paper bags stay standing up and open, which makes packing them more convenient. They hold a large amount of material and do not puncture easily, thanks to their thickness and protective coating.

Where can I purchase compostable paper bags?

The compostable paper bags can be purchased at local retail, hardware, garden and some grocery stores, the same places you would typically buy your plastic bags. Make sure they are compostable paper bags designed for yard waste.

Do Stores have them in stock?

Known retailers and manufacturers of these types of supplies are well aware of the City of Prince Albert's changes back in 2017, therefore they typically have an abundance of stock. Individual stores are responsible for stocking their products.

Are compostable paper bags more expensive than plastic ones?

Yes. Prices vary from store to store. The paper bags do tend to hold a large amount of material.

Are there environmental benefits to the paper bags?

Yes. These bags are 100 per cent compostable. They are made entirely of compostable material, including the coated lining. Therefore, the paper bags decompose along with the yard waste, and prevent all of those plastic bags from ending up in the Landfill.

What is wrong with plastic bags?

The plastic bags need to be removed prior to composting the yard waste. The removed plastic bags are then landfilled.

What other ways can I dispose of my lawn, leaf and yard waste?

In the summer, please remember to grasscycle. Leave your grass clippings on the lawn. Grass clippings decompose quickly, help reduce moisture loss and release valuable nutrients back into the soil.

Delivered to the waste site loosely or in compostable paper bags. If taken to the Landfill in plastic bags, the person **must** debag at the drop off area and take empty plastic bags back to your curbside containers.

Can I use compostable or biodegradable plastic bags?

At this time the Town will not be picking-up compostable plastic bags. Despite the claims, they are not fully biodegradable and leave behind a mess.