

Expect random checks of local recycling and yard waste carts this summer

(Penticton, BC – June 22, 2022) – A City team of Recycling Ambassadors has begun conducting random inspections of local curbside recycling and yard waste carts as part of its efforts to improve the community's sorting success rates.

"Overall, Penticton is doing a great job of sorting their recycling into their blue carts, as well as keeping non-plant materials out of their yard waste carts. With a few tips and reminders, we hope to raise awareness of some common mistakes so that homeowners are more aware about what can go in their carts," says David Kassian, Community Sustainability Coordinator. "Please keep an eye out for the City's Recycling Ambassadors, who will be auditing the carts this summer."

This educational campaign aims to support the City's goal to lower Penticton's recycling contamination rate of 7.8 per cent to 4.5 per cent by year-end to meet RecycleBC requirements. This will keep costs down and prevent recyclable material from ending up in the landfill.

Residents are reminded to keep these items out of your curbside recycling carts:

1. Soft/hard cover books, scrap metal, electronics, ceramics, household hazardous waste
2. Materials contained inside bags or different types of containers nested together (for example, recyclable items stuffed inside a box)
3. Glass
4. Plastic bags and overwrap
5. Other flexible plastic packaging
6. Accepted material containing residue, which includes containers with food inside
7. Foam packaging

Many of the items below can be dropped off at a recycling depot. If you're not sure where your recycling item goes, try the Recycling Wizard tool at penticton.ca/recycling or call the Recycling Hotline at 1-800-667-4321.

Yard waste inspections will check for non-plant materials, such as gardening supplies, plastic bags, dog waste, food waste and other not-accepted material. For further details about what can – and can't – go in your yard waste cart, visit penticton.ca/yardwaste.

The Recycling Ambassadors are annual summer students whose duties are to conduct curbside recycling and yard waste audits, attend community events to speak on waste disposal, and engage

multi-family properties on best recycling practices. They are also piloting the City's new cargo e-bikes to encourage zero emission transportation.

-30-

Contacts:

David Kassian
Community Sustainability Coordinator
City of Penticton
250-490-2527

JoAnne Kleb
Manager of Communications and Engagement
City of Penticton
250-490-2586