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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **New waste collection system rolls out November 1**

**Midhurst/October 18, 2021** – On November 1, waste collection services in Simcoe County change to a new, easy and safe automated cart collection system. To support residents, the County is moving to a new four-day collection schedule allowing crews to return to any missed areas due to inclement weather on Fridays. Under the new four-day schedule, many households will have a new collection day and time.

Approximately 450,000 carts have been distributed in the run-up to November 1. All eligible residences and businesses should have received three new waste carts by October 23. If your household or business has not received your carts by then, please contact our Service Simcoe Contact Centre at 1-800-263-3199 or [service@simcoe.ca](mailto:service@simcoe.ca). Each cart has a serial number and is assigned to the location where it was dropped off. Please remember to write your address in the white space on your carts.

Starting November 1, residents will also see a new waste collection contractor picking up carts in our communities. We welcome Miller Waste Services and their new fleet of over 90 automated collection vehicles and vehicle operators, with many employees joining from our current collection contractor.

Automated cart collection is commonly used across North America and brings many benefits to residents, including:

- Added vertical storage
- Consolidate a variety of smaller bins, bags and containers into three carts
- Good for the environment, with more room for organics
- Lids on all carts protect against windblown litter and impacts from critters
- Cut down on lifting and trips to the curb! With wheels and ergonomic handles, just roll out two carts each week
- Safer for everyone, with touchless automated collection
- Carts will also ensure continuity of collection service and help to reduce potential for widespread collection impacts previously experienced

For further information on our new cart program, visit [carts.simcoe.ca](https://carts.simcoe.ca).

#### **New Collection Days**

The change to automated cart collection will mean that many households will have a new collection day and time when they roll their two carts to the curb starting November 1. The frequency of collection does not change, with weekly organic collection and alternating weeks for garbage and recycling continuing (the week of November 1 will be organics and recycling collection). Residents can confirm their new collection day through the following resources:

1. Visit [carts.simcoe.ca](https://carts.simcoe.ca) and click on the *New Collection Schedule* tab
2. Download our **free Simcoe County Collects app** on your mobile device to receive reminders and alerts
3. A printable [map](#) that shows the collection days for residents as of November 1
4. Collection day change details and the map are included in your new **Solid Waste Management Calendar** and the fall edition of our **Managing Your Waste mailer**

5. [Our interactive map](#) allows you to zoom in and search by your address to find your new collection day
6. [Our interactive waste collection widget](#) is available on our website and allows you to search by your address to generate a personalized collection calendar

### **Cart Set-out Instructions:**

The County has a number of resources available to support residents with the change, including FAQs and helpful videos posted on [carts.simcoe.ca](http://carts.simcoe.ca). Please see the set-out requirements below:

- Have your materials at the road/curb by 7 a.m. of your new collection day. Collection times may continue to change for some time while new routes are optimized
- Place carts on a level surface within eight feet of the traveled portion of the road, avoiding low hanging branches
- Remember the **Rule of 2**: Set out carts **2 feet** apart, with **2 feet** between your cart and any other objects
- Point the arrows on the carts towards the street and handles towards your house
- Do not over-stuff carts, fill loosely, ensure lid is fully closed
- Do not use bungee cords or other items to keep the cart lids closed
- More information on setting out your carts is available at [\*\*carts.simcoe.ca\*\*](http://carts.simcoe.ca)

### **Quote**

“After a significant effort from staff and our contractors, we’re ready to roll out our new, easy and safe cart collection program on November 1. We recognize that this is a big change for residents, and we have a number of resources available to support with the switch to carts including tips with storage, set-out instructions and tools to identify new collection days. As seen in other municipalities, we’re confident that residents will quickly appreciate the many benefits of cart collection. We are listening to residents regarding your storage concerns, and at the end of October, County Council will consider offering cart size options to residents following the launch of the program.” – County of Simcoe Warden George Cornell.

*This program does not apply to the cities of Barrie and Orillia.*

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at [\*\*simcoe.ca\*\*](http://simcoe.ca).

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