

Improved system of collection: In the automated cart system, garbage, recycling, and organic materials are stored and set out at the curb in easy-to-use wheeled carts, so there's no more bending over to lift and carry different boxes, bins and bags to the curb. Carts are emptied using a mechanical arm on the collection vehicle, which is an efficient touch-free system that helps keep everyone safer.

Carts are used across North America: This November, the County will join leading municipalities in utilizing an automated cart system to deliver an efficient, cost-effective service for residents. Municipalities, including many communities similar to Simcoe County – such as Peel Region, the cities of Timmins and Sault St. Marie, Southgate Township, many counties in Southwestern Ontario, and cities such at Toronto and Guelph – have already made this transition to carts. Several more municipalities, including the City of Edmonton, are also set to make the move this year.

Easier to use: Carts offer the added convenience of wheels, ergonomic handles, lids, and a gravity locking system on the organics carts which automatically unlocks the cart when it is tipped by the mechanical arm on the truck. These sturdy, ergonomic features make it easier for residents of all ages and abilities to wheel the carts to and from the curb without bending, lifting or making numerous trips. This will be particularly useful to those with certain mobility challenges, as well as seniors.

Require less storage space: Carts create more vertical storage space, allowing residents to consolidate a variety of smaller bins, bags and containers into three carts. The majority of residents will reduce the storage footprint by up to 50% compared to an equivalent volume of material in smaller bins, boxes and containers.

Safer and more predictable service: As well as being great for residents, the automated system is much safer and less strenuous for collection workers. This added level of workplace safety will help to expand the labour force, so service disruptions due to labour shortages are minimized under the new cart system. The touchless system also helps fight the spread of pathogens, a critical step towards fighting possible transmissions in the event of future pandemics.

Good for the environment: The larger organics cart is great for the environment by adding more space for food scraps and encouraging organics over garbage. Cart lids and a gravity locking system on organics carts will also help to reduce wind-blown litter in our ditches and roadways, while protecting against critters.

Cart sizes fit the needs of the average household: Cart sizes were selected based on the requirements of the average County household. We are also planning for the future; we know that Provincial changes are coming soon to recycling programs, which may allow more materials to be recycled. Carts provide flexibility for additional capacity when needed. Uniform cart sizes for each waste stream also helps to keep costs in check.

CART DIMENSIONS



CART TYPE	CAPACITY	HEIGHT	DEPTH (front to back)	WIDTH (side to side)
Organics (green lid)	120 Litres	95.2 cm	62.2 cm	46.9 cm
Garbage (black lid)	240 Litres	102.8 cm	71.4 cm	67.8 cm
Recycling (blue lid)	360 Litres	110.4 cm	84.5 cm	74.1 cm

Getting rid of old bins and containers after November 1st: The County will provide more information on options to properly re-purpose your old bins and containers after the new cart system launches, including a County Waste Facility drop-off program.

Your feedback: We will seek feedback on carts after the initial implementation takes place and users have had a chance to gain experience with carts.

These changes do not apply to the cities of Barrie and Orillia.