

October 2016

Give Your Green Bin a Break

Bi-weekly compost collection will begin the week of **October 31**. Over the fall and winter months, please put your green bin out every two weeks. Visit www.cuinc.ca/calendar for pickup schedule.

To keep a lid on unwanted smells, place a sheet of newspaper on top of each layer of organic waste.

What goes in my green bin?

Only organics and compostable material should be placed in your green bin. As a general rule, anything that was once living is compostable.

Food Scraps

- ✓ Food waste and plate scrapings (e.g. fruit and vegetable peels, meat and poultry bones, eggshells, and cooking oil)
- ✓ Coffee grounds, filters and tea bags (no single-serve pods)

Yard Waste

- ✓ Grass clippings and sod
- ✓ Leaves, weeds and plants
- ✓ Branches (under 15 cm diameter and less than 1 metre)

Cardboard and Paper Towel

- ✓ Food-soiled paper plates & napkins
- ✓ Food-soiled pizza boxes & cardboard
- ✓ Paper towel and tissues

Pet Waste

- ✓ Kitty litter and pet waste (must be in a sealed compostable bag)

Contact Us

- Email: myaccount@cuinc.ca
- Phone: 403-207-7284



We Heard You: Credit Card Payments are Back!

We are excited to announce that we have found an option for customers who were disappointed with our earlier decision to stop accepting credit cards payments.

Plastiq is a secure, third-party service provider, used by organizations like Canada Revenue Agency which allows you pay your CUI bill online with MasterCard, Visa or American Express.

- Go to www.cuinc.ca/payment-options and register with Plastiq to create an account.
- Tell Plastiq the amount you want to pay, your account number and when you want to send it.

Please note that payments may take 3-5 business days to process and that a Plastiq service fee will be applied (2.5% for credit cards, 1% for debit cards).

Plastiq is a great solution for CUI as it ensures that the customers who are using this option are the ones who pay for it.

Recycling Council of Alberta Recognizes CUI as 2016 Municipal Leader in Waste Reduction, Recycling and Resource Conservation

Recently, CUI proudly accepted the award for top Municipal Program from the Recycling Council of Alberta. The ***Rs of Excellence Awards*** recognize those organizations making special contributions “to promote and facilitate waste reduction, recycling and resource conservation in the Province of Alberta”.

Enhanced Curbside Collection, which involves the separation of garbage from recycling and organics, was first introduced in Chestermere in May 2015. By the end of 2015 the amount of garbage CUI sent to the landfill **decreased by 36 per cent** compared to 2014.



CUI continues to measure a dramatic decrease in garbage directed to the landfill. After clear garbage bags became mandatory in February 2016, our community’s waste reduction result nearly doubled. This year, from January through July, we have given new life to **72 per cent** of our waste. Paper, plastic, cardboard and nutrient-rich organics – such as food scraps and yard trimmings – have all been **diverted away from the dump** and transformed into new products.

Not only has this program lessened Chestermere’s environmental impact, there has been a positive economic benefit as well. By decreasing the number of tonnes dumped at the landfill, we have seen a **nearly 50 per cent cost savings** in dumping fees.

These outstanding results earned CUI an award for its innovative and bold approach to municipal waste management. However, we all recognize it was a community effort.

“We’re pleased to see the efforts of our community recognized in this manner. It really is an award that recognizes the efforts of so many,” said Ms. Leigh-Anne Palter, CEO of the utility. CUI gives credit for the award first and foremost to its customers. Palter continues, “Our customers have embraced the changes to CUI’s waste collection program and it’s their efforts that have had the biggest impact on our overall success.”