



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 28, 2024

New software to provide organics contamination education

The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District has teamed up with Prairie Robotics to provide personalized feedback to West Coast residents about their curbside sorting habits.

Beginning this spring, a new recycling education software will launch, initially focusing on contamination found in organics collection carts as they are emptied. Prairie Robotics specializes in contamination identification through automated waste audits. They will use software to help provide residents real-time, personalized feedback by sending notifications to homes when contamination is detected.

“This is a great tool for all of us to ensure that we’re diverting organics effectively,” said Jodie Frank, solid waste project coordinator for the ACRD. “The goal is to continue to educate the public so that we can keep up the good work started last year.”

In November 2022, the ACRD rolled out green carts on the West Coast to divert organics (food and yard waste) from the landfill. Since then, 312 tonnes of organics have been redirected to the region’s compost facility, rather than being sent to the landfill. The amount of residential waste going to the West Coast Landfill has been reduced by 23% each month.

As diversion to the compost facility increases, there is increasing importance on proper sorting. For example, ensuring that plastic or compostable plastic bags are not put in the green cart will help the ACRD create a good quality end product with the intent to offer compost back to west coast residents. When non-compostable materials end up in a load, it can lead to organics going to the landfill – exactly what the program is intended to avoid.

The notification program is educational only – residents will receive a postcard as a notice/reminder to help adjust their sorting in the future. Should multiple reminders be sent to the same property, the ACRD will follow up directly.

Residents can help the ACRD sort smarter by downloading the Sort’nGo ACRD app – available for iPhone and Androids in the App Store or Google Play.

For more updates on the program and to learn more follow along at letsconnectacrd.ca/sortngo-west-coast or follow us at www.facebook.com/ACRD.recycles.

-30-

ATTACHED IMAGE: Sample postcard residents will receive to educate about organics sorting.

For more information,
Paulo Eichelberger
Solid Waste Manager
250-720-2700



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Sort'nGo
Live Simpler. Sort Smarter.

3008 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 2E3



Wondering what goes where?
Get the **Sort'nGo** App



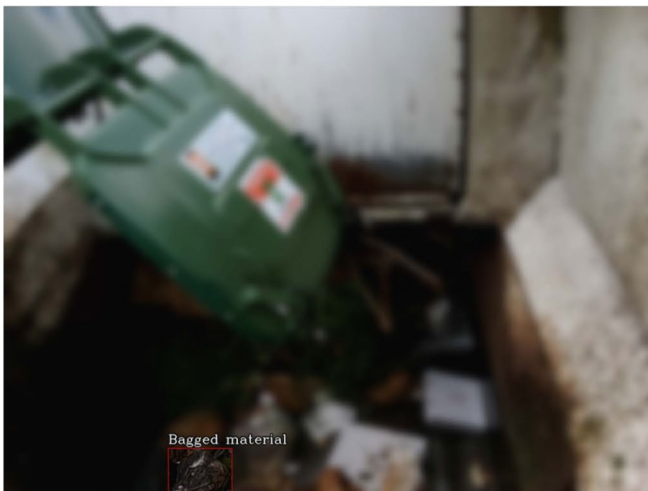
Wrong P.O. Box?
Please call 250-725-3229 to update

CURRENT RESIDENT
[REDACTED]
GENERAL MAIL
UCLUELET, BRITISH COLUMBIA
VOR 3A0

FLIP to see a photo of your organics cart! ➔

On May 6th...

We found items in your cart that are **NOT** compostable with collection.



For more information:
Visit acrd.ca/sortngo
or get in touch at 250-736-SORT (7678)

OOPS!



EXCESS
YARDWASTE



OVERSIZED BRANCHES
Max. 2ft Long / 2" Dia.



GARBAGE OR
CONTAMINATION



COMPOSTABLE OR
BIODEGRADABLE
PLASTIC

Please be cart smart.

It's important to put **ONLY** acceptable materials
in your organics cart - contamination can reduce the
quality of compost and increase production costs.