



Finally! Here's Your (drum roll...)

ROT POT

Feed it anything from
your kitchen that will rot.



Be a
"ROTTEN POTTER"!

Why should I become a ROTTEN POTTER?

Waste audits show that 50% of what is set out as "garbage" at the curb could have been composted. This material amounts to about 2000 tonnes per year that should not end up in the landfill. Operating, maintaining and monitoring a landfill puts a financial burden on generations to come. Moreover, food waste generates methane in an oxygen-deprived environment, such as a landfill, and methane is a very strong greenhouse gas (21 times as strong as carbon dioxide).

How do I become a ROTTEN POTTER?

Just put all your food waste and any contaminated paper, such as pizza boxes and paper food napkins, into the **ROT POT** instead of your garbage bin. Please do not line your **ROT POT** with a bag. Instead, put some crumpled newspaper on the bottom and between layers of food waste to prevent sticking and absorb liquids.

What about bears?

Consider, that by using your **ROT POT**, you are not putting anything different at the curb than you would, if you were to put food waste in the garbage—you are just putting it in a different bin. Your **ROT POT**, as well as your garbage and recyclables, should always be stored inside a secure building until the morning of collection. Bears are only looking for food—and are attracted by smells.



Please do not include:

- PLASTICS
 - plastic wrap, bags, liners, containers
 - Styrofoam™
 - waxed & foil-backed paper
 - dairy cartons
- glass
- metal
 - tin foil, lids
- animal feces
- cat litter
- diapers

ROT POTS containing any of the above will not be emptied.

How do I prepare the **ROT POT**?

Your **ROT POT** is ready to use. It is already designated for food waste, so you do not need an orange sticker on it to have it picked up. You also do not need to line the **ROT POT**, saving you money. If you do want to line it, make sure you're using a compostable bag. Biodegradable bags are not acceptable. Compostable bags carry one of two labels:



Please store your **ROT POT** indoors until the morning of your scheduled collection day, and push down the metal latch to secure the lid when you set it out. Please note that the **ROT POT** is not bear-proof.

If you move, please leave your **ROT POT** for the next resident to use.

Should I still use my backyard composter?

If you have no problems with bears, raccoons, dogs or rats accessing your backyard composter, please keep using it. The **ROT POT** is not intended to replace your backyard composter. It is meant to allow for the diversion of food waste that should not be included in backyard composters, such as meat, bones, cooked leftovers, bread etc. While these materials attract animals in a low-intensity composting environment, such as a backyard composter, they can successfully be processed in a commercial composting facility.



What about my yard waste compost bin?

Yard waste will still be collected in 80-litre bins featuring an orange sticker, paper bags and compostable plastic bags. Any unused space in the **ROT POT** may be utilized for topping up with yard waste, as long as the **ROT POT** does not exceed the 20-kg weight limit that applies to all curbside containers, bags and bundles.



How do I collect food waste in the kitchen?

Food waste is best collected and stored in a container with a tight-fitting lid and emptied into the **ROT POT** on a regular basis. An ice cream bucket with a lid under the sink will do the trick, or you can opt for a designated bucket, available at local stores. Place one sheet of crumpled up newspaper on the bottom of your "kitchen catcher" to soak up any moisture and keep the lid on the container to prevent fruit flies and odours.

What's in it for me?

Keeping all compost materials out of the landfill not only benefits the environment, but it helps to meet curbside collection limits. A family of four practicing proper recycling and composting should not generate more than a half an 80-litre bin of garbage per week under normal circumstances. At the current limit of two 80-litre bins per week, that allows one-and-a-half bins of additional garbage for "extra" temporary waste, such as diapers.

Compost produced from separated food waste will also be made available to Mission residents for pickup from the Mission Landfill from time to time.

Questions?

If you find you need more information than is provided in this newsletter, please visit the District's website at www.mission.ca or contact the Environmental Coordinator at engineering@mission.ca or 604-820-3736.

Thanks for being part of the solution!