

I have uninvited guests!

(Problems with small animals)

Put a little Vicks Vapo Rub around the vent holes of your bin to repel animals.

Control odours by following the above-mentioned recommendations.

It's wriggling in my bin!

(Problems with fruit flies and maggots)

During the summer, flies can reproduce quickly and cause problems. If you find maggots in your bin, it means that a fly has succeeded in laying eggs on meat scraps. Throw salt or vinegar on the maggots to kill them.

Wrap your stuff: wrap meat and fish scraps in newspaper or in a brown paper bag before placing them in the bin. The barrier will prevent flies from laying eggs.

Keep the bin lid down: By shutting the lid quickly, you prevent flies from going into the bin.

Everything is stuck in my frozen bin!

(Problems encountered in winter)

In winter, compostable waste may stick to the sides of the bin because of the cold. The truck is then unable to empty it. Wait for a warmer day, then try to scrape the sides of the bin to loosen the materials.

At the start of the cold season, when the bin is completely empty, place a flat piece of cardboard at the bottom (e.g. a flattened cereal box).

Place your food scraps in brown paper bags, compostable bags or newspaper.

Avoid putting liquids in your bin.

The Brown Bin

Problems and Solutions



Waste Management

Did you know?

.... that in accordance with the Government of Quebec's 2011-2015 "Politique québécoise de gestion des matières résiduelles", the burial of compostable organic waste will be prohibited by 2020?

Municipality of Austin
21, Millington Rd.
Austin, Quebec J0B 1B0
819-843-2388
info@municipalite.austin.qc.ca

www.municipalite.austin.qc.ca



For each problem ... its solution!

My bin stinks!

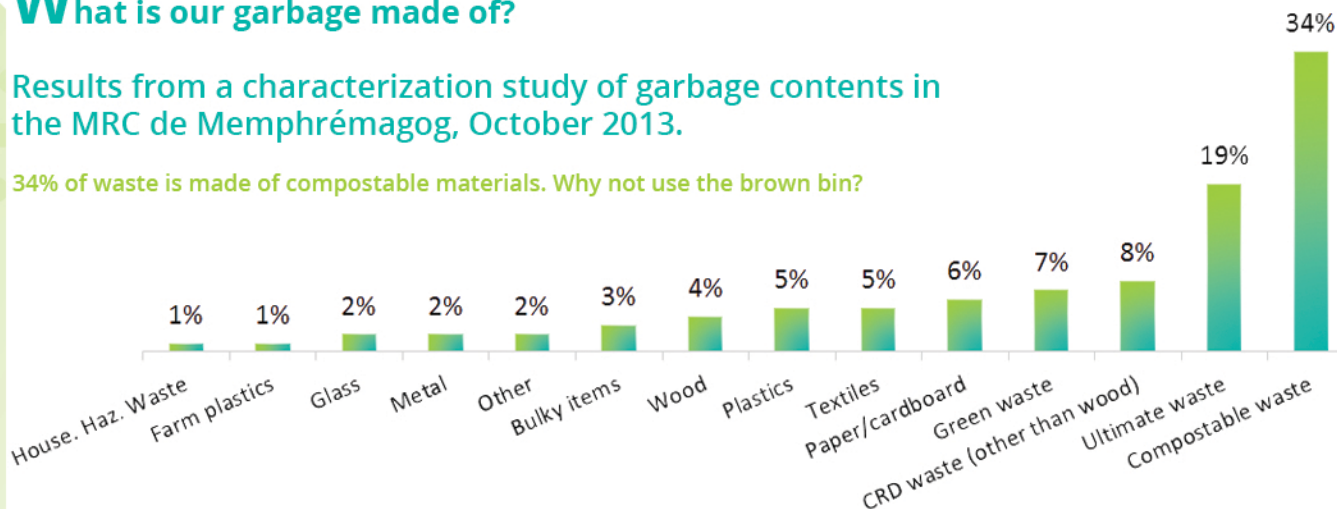
(Odour problems)

- > The brown rolling bin is designed to reduce odours: it features vent holes on each side and a drip grid at the bottom to allow liquids to flow down. At collection time, the grid swivels to facilitate emptying.
- > After the bin has been emptied, let it dry out, then rinse it with a mild biodegradable detergent or a white vinegar/water solution.
- > Alternate wet layers (kitchen residue) with layers of dry matter (dead leaves, sawdust, wood chips).
- > Grasscycle: leave grass clippings on the ground. Freshly mowed grass can be a source of odours.
- > Sprinkle a little lime or baking soda in your brown bin.
- > Freeze meats, poultry and fish until collection day.
- > When emptying your small kitchen compost bin into the brown bin, cover the scraps with a sheet of newspaper.
- > Bring out your bin at every collection, even if it does not contain a lot of waste.
- > Store your bin in a shaded area: heat accelerates the composting process and intensifies odours.

What is our garbage made of?

Results from a characterization study of garbage contents in the MRC de Memphrémagog, October 2013.

34% of waste is made of compostable materials. Why not use the brown bin?



The brown bin contents are sent to a composting platform. Upon arrival, the organic waste is set upon the platform, wood chips are added and the waste is then shaped into large windrows. Since the waste is not sorted, it is important to put only compostable matter in the brown bin.

While composting, the temperature inside the wind-row reaches 70° C. Windrows are turned over weekly to ensure good aeration. Six months later, the compost is ready. It is first sifted to remove large pieces, and then put to different uses, depending on its quality.

What to do with garden waste:

- > **Dead leaves:** Use some of them in your home composter. Leave some on the ground, shredding them with the lawnmower to protect and fertilize your lawn during the cold season. Leftover leaves may be put in the brown bin.
- > **Grass clippings (brown or green):** Leave grass clippings on the ground to help fertilize your lawn. Excess grass can be placed in your home composter or in the brown bin (to maintain the brown-green balance, add dead leaves when necessary).
- > **Small branches, bark, wood chips:** Leave them on the ground in a wooded part of your property, or cut them in small pieces and place them in your brown bin (branches should be less than 2 cm in diameter and 60 cm long).
- > **Weeds:** The heat produced by the home composting process is not sufficient to destroy weed seeds. It is thus preferable to put them in the brown bin.