

Food Scrap Collection: Feed The Green Bin

HOWARD COUNTY, MD

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HOWARD COUNTY BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Curbside Collection Services:

- Weekly collection of trash and recycling provided to 87,000 households (HH)
- Weekly Yard Trim collection provided to 66,000 HH
- Weekly FS collection offered to 25,000 HH by end of 2019
 - Opt-in
 - No additional charge
 - Co-collected with Yard Trim



Feed The Green Bin: *program timeline*

- 'Mini' Pilot August 2010 (6 month)
- 'Full scale' Pilot – Sept 2011
- Collection routes added in 2013, 2014, 2019
- As of today –
 - 20,000 HH eligible (~9,000 signed up)
 - 7 schools
 - 10lbs/HH/week
- One route to be added this fall



Joining the program:

- Opt in program, residents select cart size
- Signup online, by calling/emailing or by mail
- Participants receive
 - Cart
 - Countertop container
 - Compostable bags – sample
 - Compost sample (or coupon)
 - Brochure



Accepted items:

‘If it grows, it goes’

- Fruit & vegetable scraps
- Bread, pasta, rice & baked goods
- Coffee grounds, tea bags
- Paper products (pizza boxes, napkins, egg cartons, shredded paper)
- Meat, fish, egg shells, dairy (small amounts)
- Yard Trim





Feed the Green Bin!

If it grows, it goes!



Accepted



Fruits & Vegetables



Meat, Fish, Egg Shells,
Dairy



Bread, Pasta, Rice,
Baked Goods



Coffee Grounds, Tea Bags
no foil



Not Accepted



Fats, Oils,
Grease,
Liquids



Plastic
Plates, Cups,
Cutlery



Facial Tissues,
Diapers, Pet Waste,
Plastic Bags



Grass, Leaves, Yard Trim,
Cut Flowers



Paper Products
*napkins, plates, egg cartons,
pizza boxes, toothpicks*

FeedTheGreenBin.org

410-313-6444



Program Expansion – March 2019

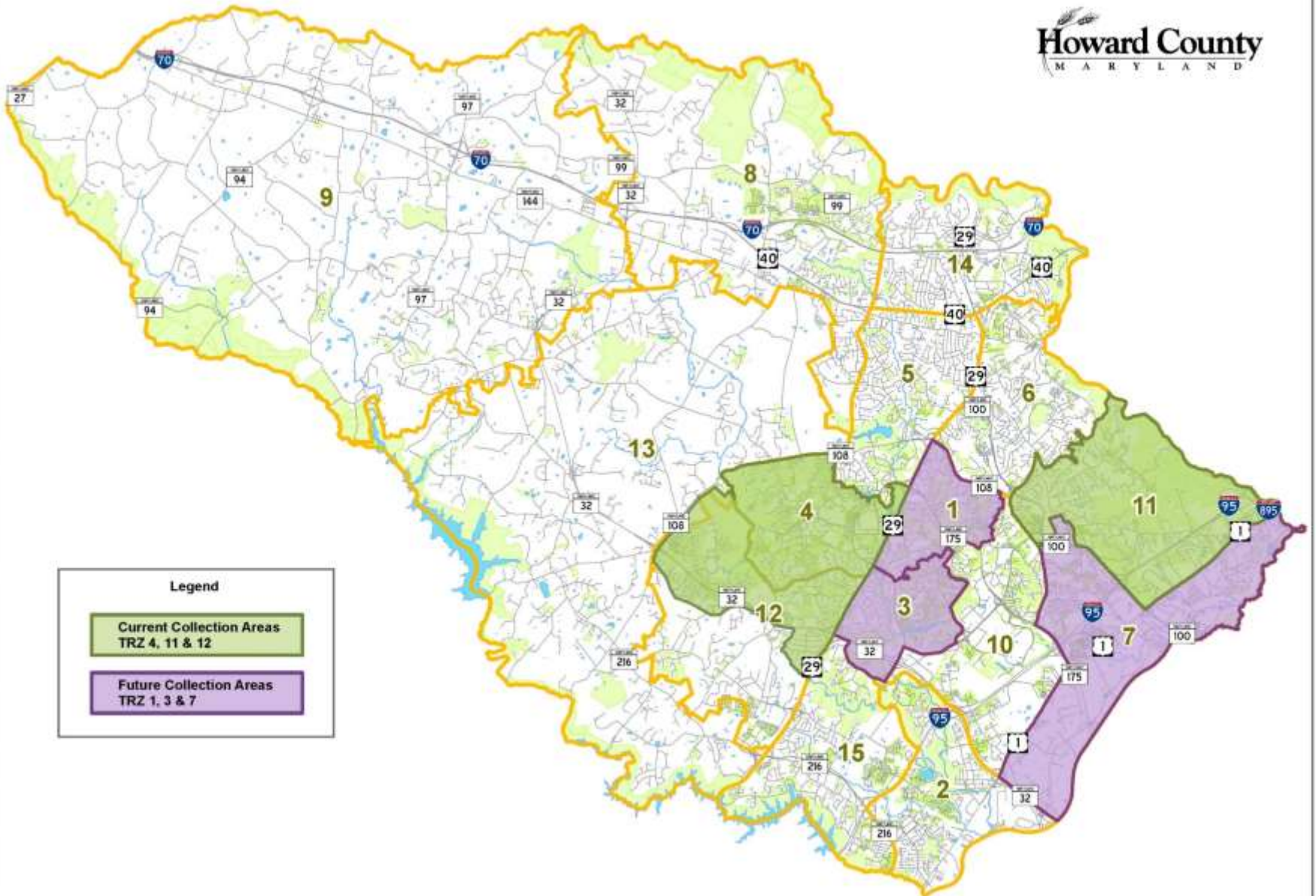
- Two collection routes added
- Mailings sent directly to eligible households
 - Tear off, postage paid return postcard
 - Preprinted with their address
 - Check box for preferred cart size, drop in mail



2019 Program Expansion cont'd

- Cart delivered
 - March 2019: 3,345 carts delivered by contractor
 - Another 1,000+ delivered since
 - Receive cart, kitchen container, sample compostable bags, brochures (Do's & Don'ts, FAQs, tips)
- Residents collect food scrap, roll out to the curb for weekly pickup







Bureau of Environmental Services
Howard County, Maryland

What changed this time?

- Two collection routes added same time
- Provided Countertop container
- Revised brochure – used icons, less text
- Huge increase in request for 12gal
- Compost sample Coupon



Free sample!

Redeem this coupon at Alpha Ridge Landfill's Composting Facility
for a free sample of

HoCoGro Compost

Bring your own bag or bucket and shovel.
Limit one 5 gallon sample per household.

Alpha Ridge Landfill
2350 Marriottsville Road
Monday-Saturday 8am-4pm



Expanded Compost Facility

Ribbon Cutting October 2018



Bureau of Environmental Services
Howard County, Maryland

Thank you!

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