



Dear Scarborough Food Waste Pilot Participants,

We are writing to inform you that we will be concluding our food waste collection program on Thursday, September 7, 2017 and to invite you to take our final closeout survey to wrap up this groundbreaking pilot.

Regular trash and recycling collection resumes on Thursday, September 14, 2017.

Why We are Concluding the Pilot:

1. In four months, we have successfully gathered enough data on participation levels and the amount of food waste diverted from disposal. The results of this pilot will help us continue research into the best solution for Scarborough residents.
2. As an unanticipated benefit, there was a 93% increase in residential food waste drop-off participation in our three collection sites indicating a strong interest in recovering food waste.
3. We are listening to feedback and understand that alternating trash and recycle pickup is a challenge for some families in the Scarborough pilot area.

Next Steps:

1. The last food waste collection day will be Thursday, September 7. We will pick up your food waste carts on that day and also on Thursday, September 14. Simply leave your food waste carts at the curb and Scarborough staff will come through and collect the carts.
2. Please take five minutes to complete the enclosed pilot feedback survey and return in the self-addressed stamped envelope. Your participation in this survey is very important to ensuring the most accurate conclusions to this pilot program.
3. Please continue to use your kitchen countertop food waste bin to collect food scraps and drop them off at the three collection points: PineTree Waste, Maine Veteran's Home, and Wal-Mart.

Thank you for your support through these four months of learning and research. Because of your efforts, we've diverted more than 17,000 pounds of food waste from the garbage! Based on your participation, we have valuable insights into the demand and barriers to overcome as we continue to research the best path forward.

We are proud of Scarborough for being an early-adopter and bold innovator with ecomaine in the space of researching and refining the best regional solution for food waste collection. We will communicate the final outcomes and insight from this pilot program at an upcoming Council meeting, once the closeout survey responses have been received and tallied.

With gratitude,

Kerry Strout Grantham
Sustainability Coordinator – Town of Scarborough