



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, October 29, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barrie crowned national gourd-growing champions once again

(Barrie, ON) The City of Barrie is proud to announce that the municipality has been awarded the grand prize in this year's [Compost Council of Canada's Great Pumpkin Growing Contest](#).

The City's Solid Waste Management staff grew a winner that weighed in at a whopping 310 lbs. this year, beating the City's previous award-winning giant pumpkin in 2019, which came in at 293.5 lbs. The pumpkin is grown in compost that is made from yard waste that is collected from Barrie residents.

The winning municipality receives bragging rights as well as \$500 to be used towards a horticultural initiative.

Compost, which is usually available for sale at the landfill, is sold out for this year, but it will be available for sale again in spring 2022. Compost is generated from Barrie's yard waste collection program and is processed according to the Ontario Guidelines for Compost Quality. Yard waste is collected weekly in Barrie during the months of October and November.

The City reminds residents that it's important to keep yard waste contaminant-free in order to produce good quality compost:

Acceptable yard waste items

- Leaves and brush
- Grass clippings
- Sod
- Garden waste
- Bales of straw
- Tree trimmings
- Christmas trees

Unacceptable yard waste items

- Kitchen waste
- Milled lumber
- Stumps or tree limbs with a diameter larger than 10 cm
- Tree limbs longer than 6 ft
- Unbundled brush or street sweepings
- Dirt or rocks
- Plastic pots and plastic packaging
- Garbage

For more information about Barrie's yard waste collection, visit barrie.ca/CurbsideCollection.

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