Maggots are a common, naturally occurring problem with many municipal waste collection programs. They typically have a 7-day life cycle with fluctuations depending on temperature and moisture. Flies are attracted to your organics bins by the odour of rotting food. Sanitation is important to reduce this odour.

**PREVENTING MAGGOTS IN ORGANIC BINS:**

* Remove all residual liquid from the bottom of your bin after collection to detract flies.
* Line the bottom of your bin with crumpled newspaper, boxboard, fibre, egg cartons, large paper bags, take out trays or certified compostable plastic liners/bags to absorb the liquid.
* Wrap food wastes in newspaper, boxboard or certified compostable liners/bags before placing in either organics bin.
* Freeze or refrigerate food scraps in acceptable bin liners before placing in the curbside bin on your collection day.
* Keep the lid on your organics bin tightly closed (make sure the latch snaps shut).
* Place your organics bin out for collection every week on your scheduled collection day, even if it’s only partially full.
* Rinse and wash out your organics bins regularly with water or a water/vinegar mix, especially after collection. Please do not wash or rinse bins near gutters or storm drains because they lead directly to local creeks and waterways.
How do I keep food scraps from freezing to the collection bins during the cold weather months?

* Line your bin with crumpled newspaper, boxboard, fibre egg cartons, large paper bags or certified compostable plastic bin liners/bags to keep food waste from freezing to the sides and bottom.
* Try putting your lined kitchen organic container in the freezer and then place it in curbside bin just prior to collection.
* If you have a garage, keep your organics cart in it.
* Place food waste in acceptable bin liners/bags before putting them in the curbside bin.
* Certified compostable plastic bin liners/bags must have one of the following logos:

For more information on the City of Barrie’s Curbside Organics Collection Program call 739-4219 or visit our website at www.barrie.ca.