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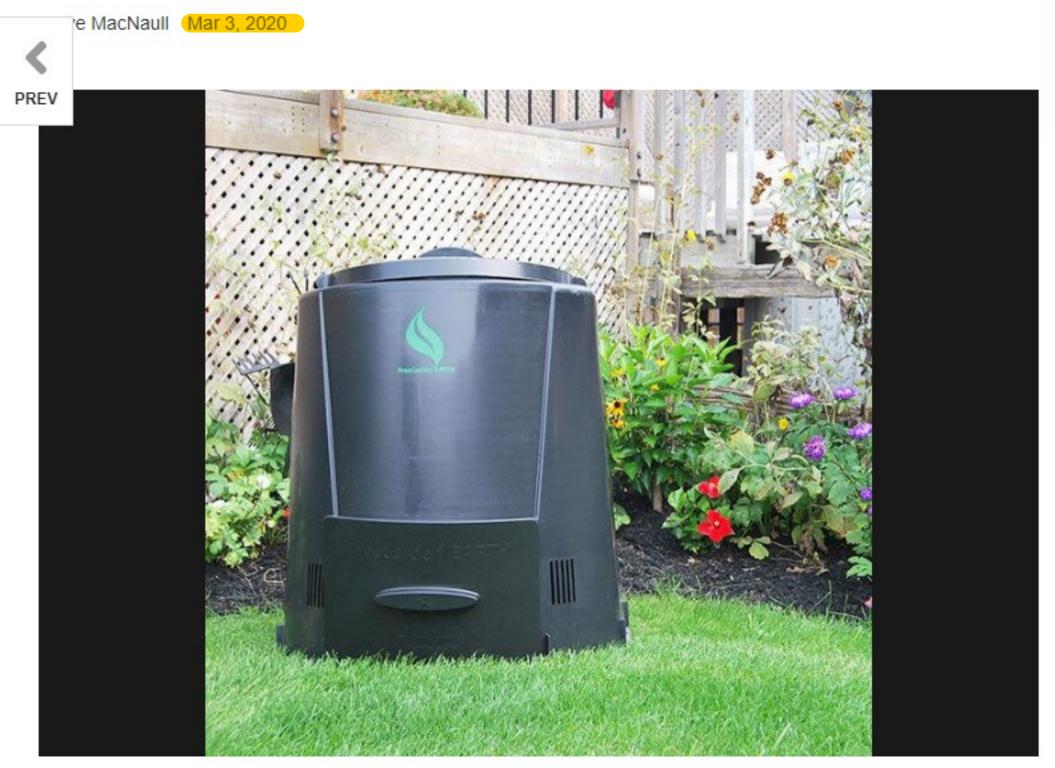
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Conservation tools a steal



The Central Okanagan regional district is selling 300 backyard composters for \$35 each in a campaign that runs through March 31.

Special to The Daily Courier



Used in tandem, a backyard composter, green-cone food digester and rain barrel can help you cut your garbage in half and save water.

To help you get started on this road to conservation, the Waste Reduction Office of the Central Okanagan regional district is selling limited numbers of new composters, digesters and barrels at discounted prices until the end of the month.

It's a pre-order sale, which means you need to order and pay by March 31 at RDCO.com/ComposterSale and then pick up your composter, digester and rain barrel at one of the five designated locations in April and May.

The regional district is expecting a sellout because of the limited quantities and bargain prices, so people are urged to order early.

For instance, only 300 backyard composters are for sale for \$35 each, which is a substantial savings from the regular retail price of \$80.

There's a limit of two composter purchases per household.

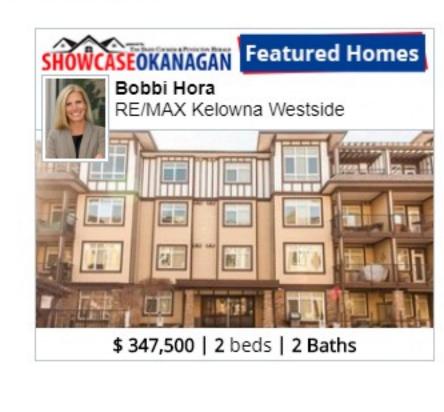
There's also a two-per-household limit for the 200 rain barrels being sold, which are priced at \$78 (regularly \$120 retail).

Only 100 green-cone food digesters are being sold for \$100 each, which is about half the price of a store-bought digester.

Digesters will be available for pickup only from 4 to 7 p.m. May 12 at the Central Okanagan regional district headquarters, 1450 KLO Rd.

Pickup of composters and rain barrels is from 8 a.m. to noon April 18 at the regional district, 2-4 p.m. April 18 at Lake Country Municipal Hall, 9 a.m. to noon April 25 at Royal LePage Place in West Kelowna and 1-3 p.m. April 25 at Peachland Community Hall.





Any composter, rain barrel or digester not picked up will be donated to a school, community garden or community event.

"If you compost and recycle, you could be putting as little as one or two grocery bags worth of garbage out for collection a week," said waste reduction facilitator Rae Stewart.

"That's far less taxing on our one remaining landfill."

scraps into soil.

The food digester is touted as a complement to the composter because it takes other food wastes that

The backyard composter turns leaves, garden trimmings, fruit and vegetable peelings and many kitchen

can't be put in a regular composter, such as meats, bones, grains, dairy, cooked foods and even a small amount of pet poo.

A rain barrel collects precipitation via a connection to your home's eavestrough system.

planters with fresh, soft, untreated rainwater.

The barrel also has a tap so you can hook up a hose or fill watering cans to irrigate lawns, gardens and

"Collecting rainwater for use in your yard has many benefits," said Corinne Jackson of the Okanagan Basin Water Board, which is partnering with the regional district for the rain barrel sales.

"A rain barrel also helps you save money by limiting the amount of metered tap water you use on your

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