

Big Green Objects Reported Spreading Throughout Neighborhoods In Winston-Salem

Winston-Salem - City residents are advised to be on the alert for Big Green objects which reportedly will be spreading to neighborhoods throughout Winston-Salem beginning December 3rd, according to city officials.

The objects, described as rectangular in shape, appear to be some type of collection bin. Experts are certain these are identical to the Green Bins which first appeared last June in twelve neighborhoods throughout the city.

Residents Will Experience Changes In Behavior

Residents in neighborhoods where the Green Bins have been since June have experienced an unexplained compulsion to separate recyclable items from their regular garbage and place those items in the Green Bins.

While not sure why they were selected, residents in those neighborhoods said they had received instructions to place recyclable materials such as newspaper, aluminum, plastic and glass into the green objects and to then place them along the curb in front of their homes.

One resident in the Salem Woods development on the City's west side reported hearing the words, "If you fill it, someone will empty it."

"I just somehow knew what to do when that green thing showed up in my front yard." City resident

Another resident on the City's southeast side said, "I just somehow knew what to do when that green thing showed up on my front yard. Once you start recycling, it's kinda hard to stop. It just makes you feel really good."

Experts predict similar reactions by residents in the neighborhoods where the Green Bins are expected to appear this time.

City Plans Green Bin Strategy

When asked how the City plans to respond to the impending proliferation of the Green Bins, Kay Rogers, director of Recycle Today said her department and BFI have developed a plan and are prepared for any contingency.

"If our projections are accurate, the Green Bins will begin appearing the week of December 3rd," Ms. Rogers said.

"We are expecting residents to begin recycling immediately just like those in other neighborhoods where the Green Bins al-

ready have a foothold," she said. "Our first line of action is to expand our collection of recyclable items placed in these bins beginning the week of December 10th."

Additionally, Ms. Rogers said the City has developed a new city-wide strategy to collect the recyclables on the same day as the regular neighborhood garbage pick-up.

Ms. Rogers also says that if the green objects continue to spread at their current rate, every home in the entire city will be part of this phenomenon by the end of April 1992.

Part Of Greater Plan?

Sources at City Hall speculate that Winston-Salem may be part of some greater plan to save natural resources and extend the life of the City's landfill.

R.E. Cycle, founder of Green Bin International, a group which monitors the proliferation of the green objects says that Winston-



Artist rendering of Green Bin. Notice the miscellaneous glass, plastic, aluminum and newspaper items placed in the bin by residents. According to all reports, there are no harmful effects on people who are regularly recycling their household items. In fact many have reported a "good" feeling particularly on their curbside pick-up day.

Salem is not the only area where this phenomenon is spreading.

"Cities and towns across the country are experiencing similar occurrences," he said. "However some people are not getting a clear message of what can be recycled and what they should put into the bins."

"That's why we've compiled a list of recyclable household items to assist those who have not been able to get the message," he said (See **What You Need To Know** on this page.)

Green Bins Help City

City officials predict the spreading of the Green Bins to additional areas will be very good for Winston-Salem.

"In communities where people are using the Green Bins to recycle, they've been able to extend the use life of their landfills," Ms. Rogers said. "This not only saves tax money but helps conserve our natural resources."

City residents having questions should call the Recycling Hotline 722-BINS.

What You Need To Know Critical Dates

December 3rd - 15,000 new Green Bins will begin to appear the week of December 3rd in certain areas of the city. (See map)

December 10th - City will begin weekly collection of household recyclable materials placed in green bins. (See map for collection day)

April 20, 1992 - The Green Bin phenomenon will spread to every household within the City limits.

What To Put In The Green Bins

1. Newspaper (no magazines, phone books or other paper products)
2. Glass Containers (all clear, green and brown glass containers)
3. Plastic Containers (milk jugs & soft drink only)
4. Aluminum Beverage Cans (no metal food cans, scrap metal or aerosol cans)

Recycle Hotline
 722-BINS
 (722-2467)

