

New Cart Collection Service Starts November 30, 2020

 WASTE

 YARDWASTE

 RECYCLING

 GLASS

HELLO, OMAHA!

Meet Your
New Carts

No more bending or lifting — look at this, your new carts have big wheels for easy maneuvering and an attached lid to prevent litter and keep things dry. The extra space will make recycling easier with fewer trips to the curb — a true win-win for residents. Neighborhoods will be kept tidy and have a uniform look. **You can start using them the week of November 30.**



Legal Notice: Placement of solid waste (garbage, recyclable materials, and yardwaste) by a resident along a privately owned street or road implies permission for the City's solid waste collection contractor to drive onto that street or road to perform contract work. Accordingly, such residents and owners of private streets and roads shall assume the risk of incidental damages incurred in the course of performing work while driving on the surface of these private streets and roads. Incidental damages may include cracks in the surface of the roadway or cave-ins due to collapsed sewers or poor street surface substrate. The City's contractor is not exempt from causal damages to personal property or premises adjoining private streets and roads. Please call the Solid Waste Hotline 402-444-5238 for questions or concerns about collection on private streets and roads.



New Collection System Starts Week of November 30 with FCC Environmental Behind the Wheel

In case you haven't heard by now (and we certainly hope you have), the City of Omaha's new waste collection contractor is FCC Environmental, one of the world's top 5 companies providing environmental services. FCC has more than 100 years of experience in municipal contracts and operates in 40 countries, employing more than 60,000 people.

The new carted collection system begins in Omaha the week of November 30. Some of you may be wondering why the new system doesn't start immediately,

now that you have your new 96-gallon waste and recycling carts. Good question, and here's why:

To cover all of Omaha, about 300,000 carts must be delivered to Omaha residents – that's a lot of large items to store, and deliver! The delivery of carts began on August 24. Every day 5,000 carts need to be delivered to stay on track for a November 30 start up. Although you have your carts now, other residents throughout the city don't. So keep setting out your garbage,

yardwaste, and recyclables as you always have done until the week of November 30. By then, all 300,000 carts will have been delivered and FCC will begin collections. The new waste collection vehicles have a mechanism that lifts the carts and dumps the contents into the truck.

So hang on until the week of November 30, then put your carts to good use. Let's all try to waste less and recycle more!



YOUR NEW CARTS: Here's How They Work

Welcome to the future! Here's what you need to know about your new carts so you're ready to use them when the City of Omaha begins its new collection system the week of November 30. FCC Environmental is the new collection contractor. FCC was awarded the city's collection contract back in December 2019, and has been building their Omaha operation ever since.

The cart with the **BLACK LID** is for your garbage AND yardwaste. Think of

it as your waste cart (garbage + yard waste = waste). The cart with the **GREEN LID** is for your recyclables. On the front of each cart is a serial number identifying them as yours. **Your waste cart will be picked up weekly on your current collection day. Your recycling cart will be picked up every other week on your current collection day.**

Each cart is marked with the City of Omaha seal and the solid waste program logo.



A Few Basic Q & As:

Q: Do we have to use these particular carts to have our waste and recycling collected?
Yes. Some retailers sell carts that look like the City of Omaha’s new collection carts. The big difference? They aren’t marked with the official City of Omaha seal. FCC Environmental WILL NOT collect your waste and recyclables if you don’t place them in the carts you received from the City of Omaha. It’s that simple.

Q: Why must we use carts?
The new wheeled carts help automate the collection process, which will increase collection efficiency and help avoid worker injury. It standardizes the collection so everyone gets an equal and fair amount. Most cities Omaha’s size have already transitioned to an automated collection system. It’s time to join them and enjoy the benefits of a modernized system.

Q: How do the carts work?
The new waste collection vehicles have a mechanism that lifts the carts and dumps the contents into the truck. Where possible, the collection will be completed without a worker outside the cab of the truck — again, for efficiency and safety.

Q: When do I need to start using my new carts?
The week of November 30, and no sooner! Your collection day won’t change. For example, if your collection day is Thursday, your waste cart will be collected Thursday, December 3 and every Thursday after that. Your recycling cart will be collected every other week according to your current schedule. If you are unsure of your collection day and recycling week, visit doc.wasteline.org.

Q: What time should I put my carts out?
The time has not changed. Your carts should be put out **before 6:00AM** on your collection day. You must remove your carts by 10:00AM the day after your collection day.

Q: Where should I place my carts for collection?
Carts should be placed directly at the curb or roadway and AT LEAST three feet apart from each other or other objects (like trees, mailboxes, lamp posts and parked cars) so the mechanism on the truck can reach each cart. The cart handle should be toward your house.

Q: Where should I store my carts?
There are many choices to store your carts; beside or behind your house, on or under a deck, or in your garage or shed. You cannot store them on the sidewalk or at the curb. Your Homeowner Association may have rules for storage.

Q: What if my carts aren’t emptied on my scheduled collection day?
If you had your carts out on time on your scheduled day and they were missed for some reason, please call 402-444-5238 after 7:00PM on your collection day.

Q: What do I do if my cart is lost or stolen?
All City of Omaha carts have a serial number and an electronic RFID tag, so the carts that were delivered to your home have been “assigned” to your address. If your cart has been lost or stolen, please call 402-444-5238. If your cart is found in another location, it can be returned to the address it was assigned to – yours! If we don’t know where it is, you will also likely

be referred to the Police Department’s non-emergency number to report a minor property crime.

Q: What do I do if my cart is damaged?
You are responsible for protecting (and not abusing) your carts. In the case of damage due to normal wear and tear, your cart will be repaired at no cost to you. Be smart about what you place in your cart. If, for example, you put hot coals in your cart, you will have to pay for its repair or replacement. To report a damaged cart, please call 402-444-5238.

Q: What do I do if I need more carts?
If you have five or more family members in your home, you can be provided with an additional cart at no charge. There is a registration form for this service available at wasteline.org/mycart, or call 402-444-5238 for the form to be mailed to you. For all other situations, FCC Environmental will lease households an additional cart for a fee. The annual cost of an additional waste (remember, garbage + yardwaste = waste) cart is \$91, and the annual cost of an additional recycling cart is \$45.50. You must pay in advance, and the fee includes delivery. The information for leasing a cart is available at wasteline.org/mycart or by calling 402-444-5238.

Q: What happens to my carts if I move to another Omaha home?
Great question! The carts have been “assigned” to your address, so you simply leave them at your old home. Carts will be waiting for you at your new home — good luck with the move!

The Scoop On Cart Size

Standardization is the name of the game with the automated collection that FCC Environmental will use. Omaha’s standard issue carts are 96 gallon and measure 29¾" wide by 43¼" high by 35¾" deep and have a weight limit of 335 pounds. The 96-gallon cart has become the industry standard for cities all across the United States as it will easily hold seven kitchen size garbage bags. Filling the cart every week shouldn’t be the goal, but it is available space when you need it.

A 96-gallon cart may be too large for some households so a half size cart of 48-gallons and measuring 23½" wide by 37½" high by 28¾" deep is also available. Its weight limit is 168 pounds.

How do I get that smaller cart you ask? Well we don’t want you to make too hasty a decision, so you must use the standard issue 96-gallon cart for 90 days before requesting the half-size cart. Switching cart sizes is a long-term decision, so we want you to be sure that the cart size works for you as different life events occur.

When the 90-day period has passed you can either call 402-444-5238 or complete the online form that will become available at that time from wasteline.org/mycart.

96 Gallon Cart
335-Pound Weight Limit



48 Gallon Cart
168-Pound Weight Limit

	WIDTH	DEPTH	HEIGHT
96 Gallon Cart	29¾"	35¾"	43¼"
48 Gallon Cart	23½"	28¾"	37½"

 **SPECIAL COLLECTION**



Special Collection Service Available to Those Who Qualify

If you’re elderly or disabled, there’s no need to worry about how you’re going to manage your new waste and recycling carts.

If you are age 70 or older or if you have a doctor-verified medical need, you can sign up for the City of Omaha’s Special Collection Service.

This means you can leave your carts by your home. An FCC employee will retrieve your carts, bring them to the truck to be emptied and then return them to your storage location.

To request Special Collection, call 402-444-5238 Monday through Friday from 8:00AM to 8:00PM.

YOUR NEW **WASTE** CART: Up Close and Personal

In the old days, mixing your garbage with your yardwaste was a big no-no. Starting the week of **November 30, 2020**, that's EXACTLY what you're supposed to do.

Take a moment to get to know your new 96-gallon **WASTE CART** (the one with the **BLACK LID**). It measures 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide by 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ " high by 35 $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep and is designed

to hold your garbage as well as your yardwaste. Think **GARBAGE** + **YARDWASTE** = **WASTE**. It was manufactured for this purpose, and its sturdy lid and big wheels should make it a great deal easier getting it out for collection. The new waste cart has a whopping 335-pound limit. In comparison,

imagine hauling 335 pounds of garbage and yardwaste to your curb with your old garbage cans and bags – it would take multiple trips with probable spillage along the way.

BLACK LID FOR WASTE



Do you still have questions?

Q: Should I bag my garbage before placing it in my waste cart?

While it's not required, we highly encourage you to bag your garbage just like you used to. Now any type of bag will do — store carryout bags, store bought kitchen bags or black bags. The bags help keep your cart clean, which prevents it from emitting odors and attracting pests. And it helps prevent litter on those extremely windy Nebraska days. Yardwaste doesn't need to be bagged when it's in the cart.

Q: What if my garbage doesn't fit in my waste cart?

You CANNOT use your old garbage cans for waste that doesn't fit in your waste cart, but you CAN lease an additional waste cart from FCC Environmental. The annual cost is \$91. It must be paid in advance and includes delivery. Also, if your home has more than five family members living in it, the City of Omaha will provide you with an additional waste (or recycling) cart at no cost to you. There is a registration form for this service available at wasteline.org/mycart, or call 402-444-5238 for the form to be mailed to you.

Q: What if my yardwaste doesn't fit in my waste cart?

There's a plan for that! For six weeks in the spring and six weeks in the fall (the peak times for generating yardwaste), a

separate yardwaste only truck will come around on collection day and pick up paper yardwaste bags at no extra charge for the service. They will pick up paper yardwaste bags only; no cans or plastic bags. During the rest of the year, you have to purchase yardwaste stickers for your yardwaste paper bags. The cost is \$2 per sticker, and each bag must have its own sticker. For a list of stores where you can purchase these stickers, visit wasteline.org/mycart or call 402-444-5238 for assistance.

Q: Can I use my recycling cart for garbage and yardwaste that doesn't fit in my waste cart?

No. The recycling cart is for recycling only and it is important to not contaminate the contents with other wastes. Repeated misuse of the recycling cart may result in it being removed.

Q: Do we have to use these carts for our recycling, garbage and yardwaste?

YES! Starting the week of November 30, you can't use anything but the carts provided. No garbage cans and no green bins. You can't use look-alike carts, either. By look-alike, we mean carts that retailers sell that look like the City of Omaha's new collection carts. The big difference? They aren't marked with the official City of Omaha seal. FCC Environmental WILL NOT collect your

waste and recyclables if you don't place them in the carts you received from the City of Omaha. It's that simple!

Q: Where should I store my waste cart?

You should store it inside your garage/shed or outside your home in a convenient location. You CANNOT keep your waste cart at the curb all week – it can only be there on your collection day. If storage in your garage or behind your home isn't possible, you may consider putting in a screen fence or adding shrubbery. Take a walk around your block and see how your neighbors are storing their carts – you might get some great ideas!

Q: How do I maintain my new waste cart?

An occasional rinse with a hose is all that should be needed to keep it clean and free from attracting pests.

Q: What should I do with my old garbage cans?

If you can repurpose them, that would be great! If you can't, FCC Environmental will set up collection points where they will be collected, sorted and recycled. This information will be available at wasteline.org/mycart or from 402-444-5238 AFTER cart collection begins on November 30. You can also place your old garbage can in your new waste cart if you can still close the cart's lid.

The DON'TS

Now that you've got a sense of what you **should** do with your new waste cart, here's what you **SHOULDN'T** do

DON'T:

- Set your carts too close together or near other things (mailboxes, light poles, etc) when out for collection
- Place items outside your cart
- Use your old trash and yardwaste cans – find another use for them, because they won't be emptied
- Have items sticking out of your cart – you must be able to close the lid completely
- Exceed the 355-pound weight limit of the 96-gallon cart
- Leave your cart on the curb between collection days

And **DON'T** put any of the following in your cart:

- Rocks, dirt or concrete
- Dead animals
- Liquids of any type
- Loose pet waste or loose cat litter
- Tires, engines or other large auto parts
- Bulky items (chairs, stoves – you get the idea)
- Lawn chemicals
- Motor oil and automotive batteries



SEASONAL YARDWASTE

Seasonal Yardwaste? We've Got Your Back

Omaha is a four-season city, and that's what makes it appealing to a lot of people. If you're a homeowner here, you pay for this appeal by rolling up your sleeves to maintain your property, especially during the spring and fall months.

The City of Omaha has fielded a lot of questions about the typical seasonal yardwaste that accompanies spring and fall. Some of you are concerned the new "carted collection" system won't be able to handle the yardwaste your property generates. It will, and here's how...

Excess Yardwaste Collection Each Spring and Fall

For six weeks each spring and six weeks each fall, the City is ready to take on that surge of yardwaste through a separate yardwaste collection contract. If your new waste cart (remember, garbage + yardwaste = waste) isn't big enough to hold both your garbage and your yardwaste, don't worry! You can put your excess yardwaste in the special yardwaste paper bags that weigh up to 40 pounds – just like you used to, and for these 12 weeks each year that yardwaste, as much as you want, will be collected separately and composted!

The schedule for the spring and fall yardwaste collection will be announced

through the news media and on our website. Better yet, sign up for Wasteline's e-news service! Just visit join.wasteline.org and subscribe.

Regular Excess Yardwaste Collection

"Wait a minute," you might be saying to yourself. "What if I have excess yardwaste at other times of the year?" The City has a plan for that, too. You can purchase yardwaste stickers for your yardwaste paper bags. They are \$2 each, and every bag you put out must have one. Once again, there's no limit if all your bags are tagged! These tagged yardwaste bags will be collected with your carted waste. For locations where these stickers can be purchased visit

www.wasteline.org/mycart

During the separate yardwaste collection, what **IS** acceptable yardwaste?

- Grass
- Leaves
- Rotted or excess fruit and vegetables
- Other garden waste

What **IS NOT** acceptable yardwaste?

- Plastic bags
- Pet waste or kitty litter
- Kitchen scraps
- Rope
- Rocks
- Non-compostable items
- Mixtures of yardwaste and garbage



LARGE HOUSEHOLDS



Big Family? No Problem

If you have a big family and think you generate too much to fit into the pair of 96-gallon carts, don't worry! **If your family has 5 or more members, you can get an additional cart free of charge!** You can choose an extra waste cart or a recycling cart. Just complete the registration form which is available at wasteline.org/mycart or call 402-444-5238 to have the form mailed to you.

For all other situations, FCC Environmental will lease an additional cart for a fee. The annual cost of an additional waste cart is \$91, and the annual cost of an additional recycling cart is \$45.50. You must pay in advance, and the fee includes delivery. The information for leasing a cart is available at wasteline.org/mycart or by calling 402-444-5238.

YOUR NEW RECYCLING CART: An Up Close and Personal Look

Hi! I'm your new AND SPACIOUS recycling cart. I have a GREEN lid, just like the green bins you used to use. But I have a LID! Don't you love it?

There's never been a better time for your household to up its recycling game.

Take a moment to get to know your new 96-gallon recycling cart (the one with the green lid remember). It measures 29³/₄" wide by 43¹/₄" high by 35³/₄" deep and provides a lot more temporary storage space than your old green recycling bin. Its sturdy lid and big wheels not only make

transporting your recyclables to the curb easier, it will cut down on the chance for litter, so remember to keep that lid shut tight!

Now that you no longer need your old green recycling bin, think about all the different ways you can repurpose it. Try these suggestions or use it in any other way—use it to collect your glass and take to a collection site or use it in your house or garage to collect recyclables for the cart outside! As a last resort, your bin is recyclable in your recycling cart.



Do you still have questions?

Q: How often will my recycling be collected?

Every other week on your normal collection day. Remember – the switch to the every other week schedule started back on June 29, so just keep doing what you're doing. Your assignment of A or B group recycling, and which week we are on can all be found at wasteline.org.

Q: Can I use my recycling cart for garbage and yardwaste that doesn't fit in my waste cart?

No. The recycling cart is for recycling only and it is important to not contaminate the contents with other wastes. Repeated misuse of the recycling cart may result in it being removed.

Q: Do I have to use the new cart to have my recycling collected?

YES! Starting the week of November 30, only material in carts will be collected. You can't use look-alike carts, either. By look-alike we mean carts that retailers sell that look like the City of Omaha's new collection carts. The big difference? They are not marked with the official City of Omaha seal. FCC Environmental WILL NOT collect your recyclables if you don't place them in the recycling cart you received from the City of Omaha.

Q: What if my recycling doesn't fit in my recycling cart?

Firstly, we want to congratulate you on being so green! Secondly, you can lease an additional recycling cart from FCC Environmental. The annual cost is \$45.50 – half the cost of renting an additional waste cart! It must be paid in advance and includes delivery. If your home has more than five family members living in it, the City of Omaha can provide you with an additional recycling cart at no cost to you. There is a registration form for this service available at wasteline.org/mycart, or call 402-444-5238 for the form to be mailed to you. It may go without saying, but are you flattening your boxes? That can take up a lot of space.

Q: I use Hefty Energy Bags. What do I do with them?

Distributed with your carts is a starter kit and instructions for orange Hefty Energy Bags. If you already use Hefty Energy Bags GREAT, keep doing what you're doing. If orange Energy Bags are new to you, they are an alternative to recycling for plastics that Omaha doesn't otherwise collect. Additional Hefty Energy Bags may be purchased at local stores. For more information: hefty.com/hefty-energybag.

Q: Where should I store my recycling cart?

You should store it inside your garage/shed or outside your home in a convenient location. You CAN'T keep your recycling cart at the curb all week – it can only be there on your collection day. If storage in your garage or behind your home isn't possible, you may consider putting in a screen fence or adding shrubbery. Take a walk around your block and see how your neighbors are storing their carts – you might get some great ideas!

Q: How do I maintain my recycling cart?

An occasional rinse with a hose is all that should be needed to keep it clean and free from attracting pests.

Q: What should I do with my old green recycling bin(s)?

As we suggested above, consider using it to recycle glass or to collect recyclables in the house or garage before taking to your cart! It also makes a great storage container for items in your garage, garden tools, etc. If you add drainage to its bottom, turn it into a planter for your tomatoes! If you can't repurpose it, you can place it in your new recycling cart.

Six-Figure Grant Helps Bring Cart-Based Curbside Recycling to Omaha

The City of Omaha has a new partner in its effort to recycle. An \$825,000 grant from **The Recycling Partnership** is supporting the new curbside recycling system outlined in this issue of Wasteline.

As a leading, national force for improving recycling, The Recycling Partnership puts private dollars to work in communities across the country to protect resources, empower sustainable action and unlock opportunity. In addition to financial assistance, Omaha's grant includes technical assistance and in-kind support to implement the new program.

“The Recycling Partnership is proud to partner with Omaha on curbside recycling carts in order to expand access to recycling for nearly half a million residents,” said Jill Martin, The Recycling Partnership’s Director of Community Programs. “We are thrilled to support Omaha’s efforts to help residents capture more quality recyclables, unlocking critical supply for the circular economy.”

The recycled materials recovered from Omaha homes via the new 96-gallon recycling carts will become commodities

necessary for the production of many critical products, especially during the COVID-19 crisis, such as cardboard boxes for home delivery, toilet paper, and packaging for food and medical supplies.

The Recycling Partnership is funded by more than 50 corporate partners that help fund the infrastructure and research which have a major impact on recycling.





The DOS



Aluminum & Steel Cans
(empty and clean)



Paper
(all colors and types)



Cardboard & Cartons
(flat, empty and clean)



Plastic Bottles & Jugs
(empty and clean)

The DON'TS



NO Glass
(take to drop-off location)



NO Plastic Bags or Wrap
(return to retailer or place in Energy Bag)



Do not Bag Recyclables
(recyclables must be loose in cart)



No Tangles
(no hoses, wires, chains or electronics)



No Food or Liquid
(empty and rinse all containers)



DON'T:

- Place items outside your cart
- Use your old green recycling bin – find another use for it, because it won't be emptied
- Have items sticking out of your cart – you must be able to close the lid completely
- Exceed the 355-pound weight limit of the 96-gallon cart
- Leave your cart on the curb between collection days

GLASS RECYCLING

Start Recycling Your Glass – Look for the Purple Bins

Two carts—waste and recycling. Everything in its place. Right? How about going the extra mile and recycling your glass. By extra mile we mean drive your glass to one of Omaha's glass recycling collection sites since you cannot put glass in your new recycling cart.

In a partnership with Ripple Glass of Kansas City, Omaha has eight collection sites with awesome looking PURPLE

containers to receive your glass bottles and jars. Here's a tip— Instead of worrying about what to do with the old green recycling bin you got from the City of Omaha, why not stick it in your garage or basement to collect your glass bottles and jars! Then plan a trip to your neighborhood purple bin. You'll be glad you did and so will the planet. Recycling glass saves 98% of the energy compared to making new glass.

Here's a few helpful hints to get you started:

- Recycle glass at collection sites only. NOT IN YOUR CART!
- You don't have to sort your glass! All glass bottles and jars, brown, green, blue, and clear can be mixed together.
- You can leave all the labels on your glass.
- Rinsing your glass containers before you recycle them is appreciated.
- If there's a cork stuck in your wine bottle, it's still okay to recycle it.
- Removing lids is appreciated but not required. Lids go in your waste cart.
- Glass collection sites are listed at omaharecycles.com. And as a bonus, some sites accept the other recyclables Omaha collects. Just find the PURPLE bin for glass.



Every Other Week Recycling Continues Now With A Large Cart to Fit the Need

Holidays are shown in **RED**
Collection is delayed one day following the holiday.

NOVEMBER / 2020							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
B	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
A	29	30					

DECEMBER / 2020							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
A			1	2	3	4	5
B	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
B	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A	27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY / 2021							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
A						1	2
B	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
A	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
B	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
A	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

If you are unsure of your collection day or recycling group, visit doc.wasteline.org

FEBRUARY / 2021							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
B	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
A	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
B	28						

MARCH / 2021							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
B		1	2	3	4	5	6
A	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
B	28	29	30	31			

APRIL / 2021							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
B					1	2	3
A	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
B	25	26	27	28	29	30	

Sign up for holiday e-mail reminders at join.wasteline.org



Paper
(clean and dry)



Cardboard
(dry and flatten)



Cartons
(empty and clean)



Cans
(empty and clean)



Plastic bottles, jars and jugs
(empty and clean)



NOW HIRING

Apply now and become part of our award winning team. Competitive hourly pay, great benefits and paid time off.



Positions Available:

- Residential Rearload and Automated Side Load drivers (Class B - CDL)
- Rolloff and Front Load drivers (Class B - CDL)
- Mechanics
- Office Admins and Dispatchers
- Cart delivery and snow plow drivers (Non-CDL)

APPLY NOW
[WWW.FCCENVIRONMENTAL.COM](https://www.fccenvironmental.com)
Work For Us