

W WASTELINE



December 2008
City of Omaha
Mike Fahey, Mayor

Recycling, Garbage and Yardwaste Information for the Citizens of Omaha, Nebraska
Public Works Department Robert G. Stubbe, P.E., Director Environmental Quality Division



Super Size Me! Not!



32 gallons!
Handles!
Detached lid!



EVERYTHING COMES SUPER SIZED now; even garbage cans, but these new massive garbage containers sold at stores aren't usable with Omaha's collection. Containers for garbage collection have always been limited in size—32 gallons. It's in the Municipal Code and Wasteline has reported this in every issue ever printed.

The Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration limits the amount of weight a solid waste employee can repeatedly lift to 45 pounds. With the enormous garbage cans weighing in at nearly 30 pounds empty, a resident could only put 15 pounds of garbage in the can.

Even when not over weight, lifting and dumping the oversized containers could be described as wrestling a bear. Rolling the container is easy, but emptying it is anything but easy. The

garbage collectors must lift and empty up to 2,000 containers each day. Just try that many reps at the gym!

Your waste containers should also have good handles, and a secure lid to keep critters and rain out. The lid shouldn't be attached. Could you imagine emptying hundreds of containers with hinged lids that swing around and hit you in the head or pinch your fingers!

Pick your can wisely for reliable, long term use. The wheeled containers are convenient, but think about how well the container will stand when empty, how durable the material is, and if the container can be repaired.

So, buy the hamburger and french fries Super Sized if your waist line and doctor approve, but stay away from the Super Sized garbage cans. **O!**

Recycle That Tree It's Just Natural.

Favor de llamar al 444-5238 si tiene alguna duda sobre el sistema de colección de basura en Omaha.

CHRISTMAS TREES **ARE NOT** collected as part of Omaha's garbage service. Omaha residents have two options for disposal of natural Christmas trees: 1) Take the tree to one of the collection sites listed here using the same means you got it home; 2) Place the tree securely in your yard and wait for yardwaste collection to resume in April.

As usual, you must remove all lights, decorations, the tree stand and the plastic bag from the tree before recycling. Flocked trees will be accepted. As an added convenience,

the sites will be staffed with volunteers from the Omaha Rotary Clubs and Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, on December 27 and 28, 2008 and January 3 and 4, 2009, from 10AM until 4PM.

The Christmas tree collection sites will close on Monday, January 12, 2009.

Beyond the tree...

Wrapping paper, gift catalogues and greeting cards are all recyclable and may be recycled with your other clean

paper as described in this edition of **WASTELINE**.

All the metal cans and the plastic bottles marked PETE ♻️, HDPE ♻️, V ♻️, and PP ♻️ from holiday entertaining are recyclable as well. But remember, to be recycled, glass bottles must be taken to one of the recycling drop-off sites. If you have more recyclables than your green bin will hold, use a small box or paper bag to hold the extra recyclables. Set the box out with your green bin or take the extra recyclables to one of the recycling drop-off sites. **O!**

Christmas Tree Collection Sites

Map of sites on back

A Tranquility Park, North 120th Street & West Maple Road	E Ta Ha Zouka Park, 20801 Elkhorn Drive	I Papillion Senior Center, 1001 Limerick Road
B Brown Park, "U" Street between 15th & 18th Streets	F Kelly West Park, 87th Street & Park View Boulevard	J Papio Bay, 815 East Halleck Street
C Orchard Park, North 66th Street & Hartman Avenue	G Wehrspann Lake, Highway 370 between I-80 and 168th Street. Wildlife Management Area south parking lot.	K LaVista Sports Complex, 7350 South 66th Street, 2 blocks south of Harrison Street
D "F" Street Football Field, South 156th & "F" Streets	H Bellevue Haworth Park, Highway 370 & Payne Drive	L Gretna Wastewater Treatment Plant, 11274 South 216th Street

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1086
OMAHA, NE

Wasteline is using and developing a new mailing list and we need your help. Please e-mail wasteline@ci.omaha.ne.us if you received Wasteline by mail but don't receive Omaha solid waste services. If you know of an address that we missed, please e-mail us that information too.



WASTELINE
Omaha Public Works
Environmental Quality Division
(402) 444-5238
5600 South 10th Street
Omaha, NE 68107-3501



Recycling

Place Materials Out in Green Bin, Before 6AM.

All Clean Paper—To prevent litter, place in a Paper Sack or Small Cardboard Box
(Do not use plastic bags)

Includes: Most all clean paper.
Things like:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Magazines | Greeting Cards |
| Newspaper | School Paper |
| Detergent Boxes | Phonebooks |
| Paperback Books | Junkmail |
| Catalogues | Wrapping Paper |
| Cereal Boxes | Paper Egg Cartons |

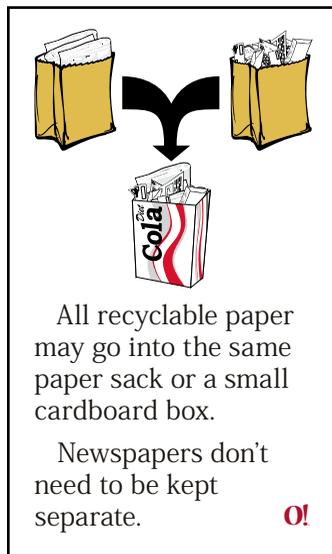


Lay sack or box either inside bin, on top of bin, or next to your bin with the opening facing away from wind.

Corrugated cardboard. Break down flat and place under bin. For lots of boxes, fold and stuff multiple boxes into one box. Set out next to recycling bin.

NO! Do not include: Any soiled paper or these non-recyclable items:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Pizza Boxes | Hardbound Books |
| Milk Cartons | Rubber Bands |
| Styrofoam | Paper Plates |
| Juice Boxes | Plastic Bags |
| Tissue Paper | |



Containers—Loose in the bin
(Not in plastic bags)

Aluminum cans & Steel (tin) cans, including—empty aerosol cans, empty and dry paint cans. Please don't flatten aluminum cans.
Tip: Place the top of food cans inside can and crimp closed.

Plastic bottles marked PETE, including: Bottles that held pop, cooking oil, mouthwash, shampoo or cleaners.

Plastic bottles, tubs or snap top containers marked HDPE, including those that held milk, juice, cleaners, or other food items.

Hard plastic packaging and plastic bottles marked V, This packaging is usually used to hold small electronics; must be cut open and is referred to as "blister packs."

Plastic bottles, cups, tubs or snap top containers marked PP, including dairy case items, many other food containers and reusable/disposable food storage containers.

NO! Don't recycle these plastic items, no matter what: Toys, cookie trays, motor oil bottles, lawn chemical bottles, or hazardous chemical bottles

NO! Glass bottles or jars. (Glass may be taken to drop-off sites or placed in garbage)

NO! Lids or plastic bottle caps of any kind. Remove and throw in garbage.

Need a Bin?

If your recycling bin becomes damaged or lost, call 444-4500 to have a replacement bin delivered at no cost.



Bottles only

Bottles Food Containers

Bottles Containers Packaging

Bottles Food Containers Packaging



www.OmahaRecycles.com

Recycling Drop-off Sites

Recycling glass and the occasional extra bunch of recyclables is easy. Here are the drop-off sites that serve the city:

North West: Peony Park HyVee
7910 Cass Street
Open: Daily: 7AM-7PM

South West: Firststar Fiber
10330 "I" Street
Open: Monday-Friday: 7AM-7PM

Use the East driveway to Firststar. Turn off I Street, then turn left into the fenced parking area on your left before you reach the guard shack.

North East: CARE Recycling
4420 IZARD Street
Open: Monday-Friday: 7AM-7PM

South East: River City Recycling
6404 South 60th Street
(Between Harrison & Q Streets)
Open: Monday-Friday: 8AM-4:30PM
Saturday: 8AM-NOON (Winter)
Monday-Saturday: 8AM-4:30PM
(Spring, Summer, Fall)

Mini Sites:
These sites do not take glass.

Midtown: UNMC Student Parking
519 South 40th Street
(East side of parking lot)
Open: Daily: 7AM-7PM

Creighton: Commuter Parking
2116 Cuming Street
(West side of parking lot)
Open: Daily: 7AM-7PM

Worth Noting

Recycling has hit the streets of downtown Omaha. The Downtown Improvement District (DID) has already placed 10 recycling receptacles along the streets of downtown for pedestrians.

In addition, the National Recycling Coalition and The

Coca-Cola Company selected the DID for their Fall 2008 Recycling Bin Grant Program. DID and 84 other applicants were selected from 1,400 entries to receive recycling containers from a preset list to use national buying power



Properly dispose of unwanted household, lawn, garden and automotive chemicals at UnderTheSink. Operating hours are:

Wednesday 9:00AM-4:30PM
Thursday 9:00AM-6:00PM
Friday 9:00AM-4:30PM

Saturday Call for an appointment
444-sink [444-7465].

There is no charge.



www.underthesink.org



Collection Pointers

- ▶ Place all materials at your collection point by 6AM.
- ▶ If your collection was missed, call 444-5238 after 7PM on your collection day.
- ▶ Leave at least two feet of space between your recyclables and garbage containers.
- ▶ Keep your garbage dry—use plastic bags or trash cans with lids.
- ▶ One cap full of household ammonia per garbage container will deter animals from investigating and searching for food in your garbage.
- ▶ Use clear trash bags.
- ▶ Yardwaste is collected from the first Monday in April through the week following Thanksgiving each year. Yardwaste is not collected during the winter.

Within 5 feet of curb or alley Collection problems: 444-5238

Garbage: Up to 5 containers

Metal or plastic can with handles.
32-gallon, 45-pound max.

Clear plastic.
30-pounds max.
Tie shut.



Leave space between

Recycling: Must use bin

No plastic bags.
No glass.
Paper in paper bag or box.
Flatten cardboard boxes.



Set out by 6AM

Garbage Can Garbage Time

YOU MAY NOT DO IT OFTEN, but occasionally a garbage can will need to be thrown away. Because garbage cans come in all shapes, and conditions and to avoid misunderstandings, Deffenbaugh follows strict procedures for garbage can disposal.

Call Deffenbaugh at 731-3333 and ask for the Claims Office to work out the details of collecting and disposing of your unwanted garbage can. The regular collection crews do

not collect garbage cans for disposal. The garbage can must be empty when the Claims Office picks it up. **!**



Garbage

Collection Missed?
Call 444-5238 after 7PM
on your collection day.

Because of state and federal laws, there are limits to the types of waste you may include in your garbage. Each household is limited to 5 properly prepared trash cans or clear bags of garbage per week.

Yes!



▶ Trash cans up to 32 gallons that weigh up to 45 pounds when full.

▶ Clear plastic bags that weigh up to 30 pounds when full.



▶ Up to 5 containers of garbage per week (example 2 trash cans and 3 bags).

▶ Place within 5 feet of curb, approved alley or other approved location.

No!

- ✘ A mixture of garbage and yardwaste.
- ✘ Christmas trees.
- ✘ Rocks, dirt and concrete.
- ✘ Dead animals.
- ✘ Any liquids.
- ✘ Loose pet waste or cat litter.
- ✘ Tires, engines or other large auto parts.
- ✘ Bulky items (couches, chairs, stoves, etc.).
- ✘ Dark plastic bags that you can't see through.
- ✘ Motor oil and automotive batteries.
- ✘ Cardboard boxes (empty or full) when not in a can or bag.
- ✘ Items outside a can or clear bag.

Note: Garbage cans must be removed from the curb by 10AM the day after collection. **!**

www.wasteline.org

Holiday and Yardwaste Collection Schedule for 2009

THERE ARE SIX HOLIDAYS that occur during the work week that are observed by the City's solid waste collection contractor.

Following a weekday holiday, collection is delayed by one day for the remainder of that week, with Friday's collection occurring on Saturday.

Yardwaste collection begins the first Monday of April and continues

through the week following Thanksgiving. During the winter months, yardwaste is not collected—separately or with garbage. Live Christmas trees are considered yardwaste and are not collected until yardwaste collection begins in the spring. Christmas Tree collection sites are provided as noted in this issue of **WASTELINE**. **!**

2009 Solid Waste Holidays & Yardwaste Collection Schedule

- ▶ Christmas Day 2008: Thursday, December 25, 2008.
- ▶ New Year's Day 2009: Thursday, January 1, 2009.
- ▶ First week of yardwaste collection: April 6-10, 2009.
- ▶ Memorial Day: Monday, May 25, 2009.
- ▶ Independence Day: Does not affect collection schedule in 2009.
- ▶ Labor Day: Monday, September 7, 2009.
- ▶ Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 26, 2009.
- ▶ Last week of yardwaste collection: November 30-December 4, 2009.
- ▶ Christmas Day 2009: Friday, December 25, 2009.
- ▶ New Year's Day 2010: Friday, January 1, 2010.



Clip and Save

Sign up to be notified of holiday and weather delays in collection
www.wasteline.org/join.htm

Bulky Item Disposal

THROUGH RIVER CITY RECYCLING and Transfer, 6404 South 60th Street, Omaha offers residents an option for disposing bulky items not permitted through regular collection. This low cost, co-pay system helps Omaha residents dispose of bulky items at subsidized prices. Residents living outside of Omaha pay the full cost of disposal.

A 10 dollar administration fee is collected at the first visit each year, to obtain four dump vouchers. A regular size carload typically "costs" one voucher with no additional fee. Pickup trucks, vans or trailers are typically two vouchers with no additional

fee. Oversize loads, excessively heavy loads, and Freon containing appliances have an extra fee. Residents are limited to a set of four vouchers per year.

The bulky item disposal program does not cover the cost to dispose of tires, yardwaste, tree limbs, or brush. There are some limitations to the materials that River City Recycling and Transfer can accept. They can not accept household garbage, hazardous waste, dead animals, animal bedding, and railroad ties.



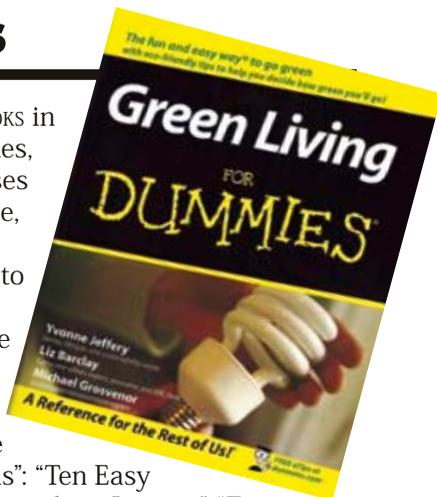
!

Christmas Tree Collection Sites

List of sites on front

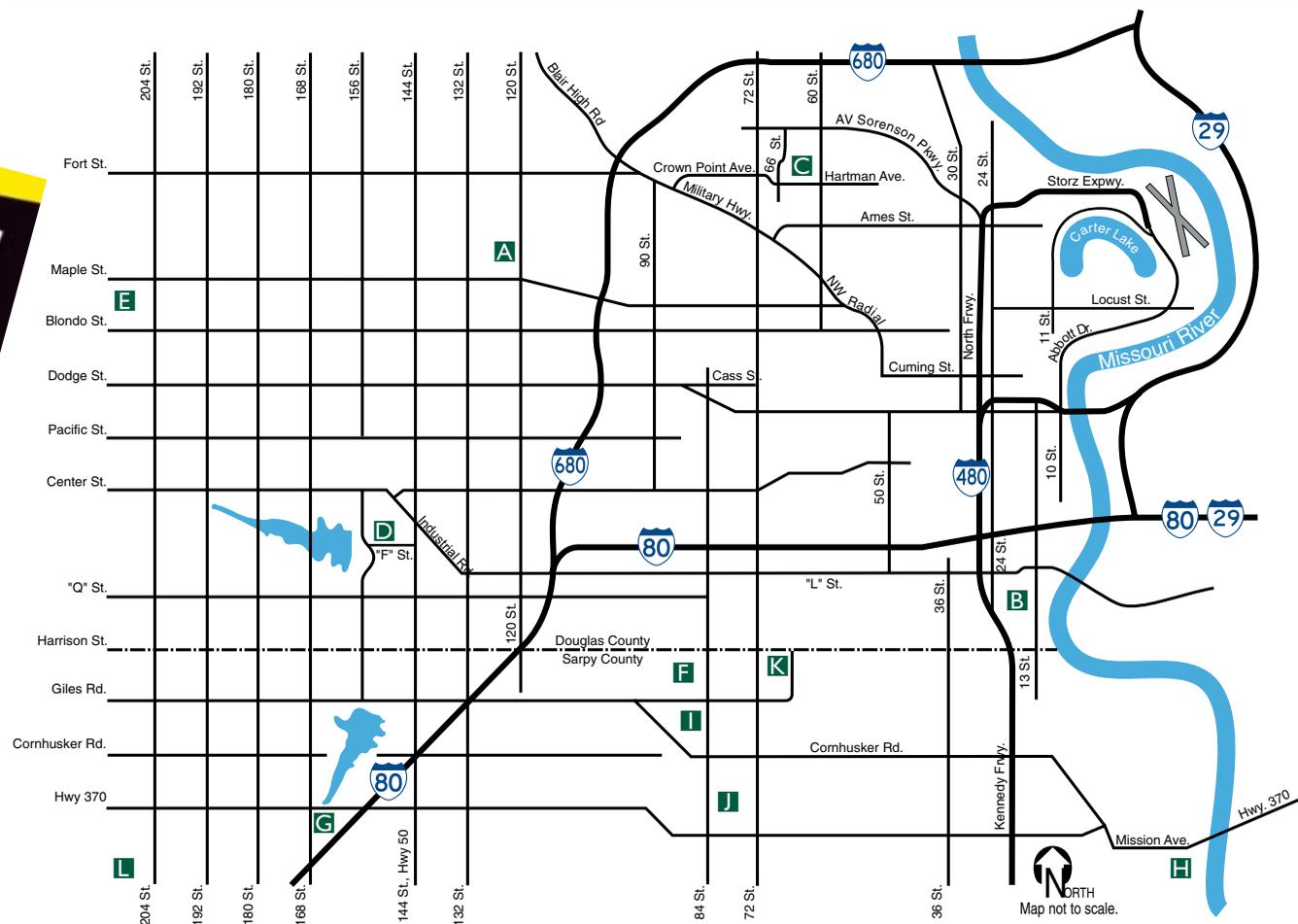
Green Living for Dummies

SIMILAR TO OTHER BOOKS in the Dummies series, this book addresses what you can do at home, how to shop and invest with "green" goals, how to make your travels more earthfriendly, and create healthier workplaces and communities.



The last section of the book is "The Part of Tens": "Ten Easy Actions that Make an Immediate Impact," "Ten Ways to Darken Your Shade of Green," and "Ten Ways to Repair and Restore Rather Than Trash." The inside front cover has a pull-out green living "cheat sheet," with easy-to-implement ideas and helpful websites.

Green Living for Dummies was written by Yvonne Jeffery, Liz Barclay, and Michael Grosvenor, and published by Wiley Publishing. It can be purchased or ordered through any bookstore.



Oma-Gro
Omaha's Premium Quality Compost

Oma-Gro is a natural compost product made exclusively of grass clippings, leaves and ground wood.
www.omagro.com

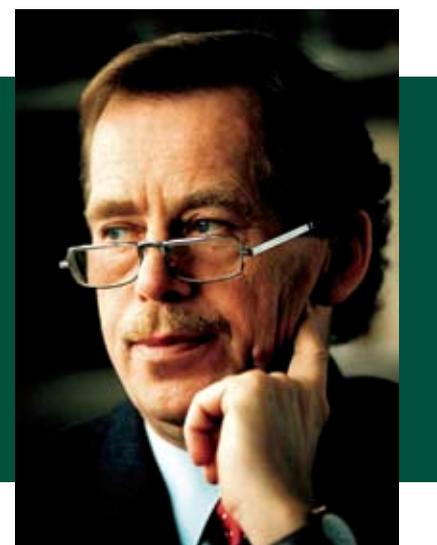
Ask for **Oma-Gro** at your favorite garden supply store or buy it direct from the production facility!

City of Omaha Composting Facility
(402) 444-6665
15705 Harlan Lewis Road
Bellevue, NE 68123-5728

Quotes Requested

The only lost cause is one we give up on before we enter the struggle.

Václav Havel
1936—
Czech writer and former President



10 Tips to Turn 2009 Into a "Green" Year

HERE ARE 10 EASY WAYS to turn 2009 into a great year for the Earth:

1. Turn it off. Switch off lights and appliances that aren't in use. Shut off the faucet while you shave or brush your teeth.
2. Turn it up (or down). Raise the temperature on your thermostat during the summer months to keep the house a bit warmer, and lower it during the winter months to keep the house a bit cooler. Dress accordingly.
3. Turn it over. Use both sides of paper. The back side of paper can be used to print drafts or jot notes. When you print and copy new documents, choose double-sided printing.
4. Turn it down. When you shop, say "no thanks" to paper or plastic store bags and use your own reusable tote.
5. Turn it in. Do some spring cleaning and give away clothing, small appliances, housewares, toys, and games that you no longer need.
6. Turn it around. Use and reuse what you already have. Extend the life of what you own with proper maintenance. Follow instructions for recharging batteries to keep them in tip-top shape.
7. Turn it away. Reduce your waste at the source—don't buy what you don't really need. For example, take a look at last year's spring and summer clothes before you start shopping this year.
8. Turn it back...into something else. Recycle! Your old containers and
9. Turn it under. Compost your yard and garden waste, as well as your fruit and vegetable scraps, to create a nutrient-rich soil amendment.
10. Turn it on. When you are excited about taking care of our Earth, you'll get others excited, too. So turn on your charm and tell your story!

!