

WASTELINE

Recycling and solid waste information for the citizens of Omaha, Nebraska

City of Omaha
Public Works Department

Hal Daub, Mayor
Don Elliott, Director

June, 1998
Environmental Quality Division

The Incredible Bulk

Omaha's regular garbage collection limits the amount, weight and size of individual items collected each week, but running a household can create garbage that exceeds these limits. What to do?

Sometimes the answer is easy, like cutting a big item down to a size that will fit in a trash can or clear plastic bag. But furniture and appliances can't easily be cut down to size.

One option for appliances would be to ask the store delivering your new appliance if they can take away the old one. There's usually a small fee for this service, but it's well worth it. Another option, for appliances that still work or furniture in usable condition, is to have a garage sale, advertise the item in the paper or donate it to charity. The last option would be to deliver the bulky item yourself to one of Omaha's two bulky item disposal sites.

Who:

This program is limited to City of Omaha residents

When:

Funds projected to be available through October

Where:

- Arrow Recycling, 8518 Blondo St, 393-6620
Mon-Fri 8:30AM-6PM, Sat 8:30AM-4PM, Sun 11AM-3PM
- River City Recycling, 6030 S 60TH St, 731-0414
Mon-Fri 8AM-5PM, Sat 8AM-5PM, Sun closed

What:

- Each household is limited to four uses per year
- Trailers limited to 200 cubic feet
- Pickup trucks limited to 2-foot sideboards

Acceptable items:

- auto parts[†]
- furniture
- appliances
- swing sets
- bicycles and tricycles
- concrete in limited amounts[†]
- lumber in limited amounts[†]
- drywall in limited amounts[†]
- empty cans, pails and buckets
- sinks and toilets

Not acceptable items:

- yardwaste (grass, leaves, tree branches or tree parts)
- household garbage
- special waste
 - railroad ties
 - liquid waste
 - treated lumber
 - lead-acid batteries
- hazardous waste, including but not limited to:
 - asbestos
 - motor oil* or grease
 - waste containing PCBs
 - paint*
 - anti-freeze*
 - turpentine
 - radioactive waste
 - lawn chemicals
- liquid waste
- dead animals
- fecal material
- animal bedding

Pricing:

Cars	FREE (the City pays the fee)
Pickups, vans and trailers	\$8 (co-pay fee)
Tires	Extra [‡]
Construction material	Extra [†]

A Question and answer section about this program is on the following page. ●

[†] The fee for construction material applies to loads that include more than 50% of the materials marked.

[‡] The fee for tires is based on the tire size and if it includes the rim.

* The City has a brochure listing other disposal options for these materials please call 444-5238 and ask for more information.

Bulky Site Q & A

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. *Since you limit the number of times I can use either site to four, how do you keep track?*

A. The first time that you use one of the disposal locations you will be issued a four part voucher. Each time you unload, one piece of the voucher will be removed. Your address and other information are recorded on the voucher and each has a control number.

Q. *What proof of residency do I need?*

A. First of all, your home must be within the city limits of Omaha. In order to prove this, you will need to have a driver's license. In addition you will need the vehicle registration for a vehicle registered to you (the driver's license and vehicle registration must have the same name). This does not need to be the vehicle registration for the vehicle that you will be making deliveries in. When the addresses don't match, such as when you move, the people at the collection site will refer you to the proper City department in order to obtain a voucher.

Q. *What if my voucher is lost or destroyed?*

A. You will not be issued a replacement. These vouchers have a value like cash and must be treated in a similar manner.

Q. *How long will this program last?*

A. This program is projected to be available through October or until the budgeted money is expended, whichever comes first.

Q. *How can I report fraudulent use of this program, such as waste being hauled from a neighboring community or waste from a business?*

A. Call 444-5238 between 7AM and 3:30PM Monday through Friday and speak with Lou.

Q. *What if I rent or borrow a vehicle in order to take my stuff to the disposal site?*

A. This is fine. You only need the registration of your vehicle to obtain the voucher. The delivery vehicle may be registered to anyone and doesn't need to be registered in Omaha.

Q. *Is there any way to receive an additional voucher?*

A. Individuals cannot receive extra vouchers. Organized clean up efforts may qualify to receive extra vouchers. The organizer of the clean up effort should call Lou or Bob at 444-5238.

Q. *How is this program paid for?*

A. Through the general fund of the city derived from property and sales taxes.

Q. *Will I need to show my driver's license each time I go to unload?*

A. Yes. Each time they will match your driver's license with the license number listed on the voucher.

Q. *Why is there an extra fee for some items like tires and construction debris?*

A. Tires have an additional expense for proper disposal that causes the extra fee. Loads with less than 50% construction debris will not have an additional expense, but

large amounts tend to be heavier than bulky items, hence the additional charge.

Q. *Why are cars free while trucks, vans and trailers cost me \$8?*

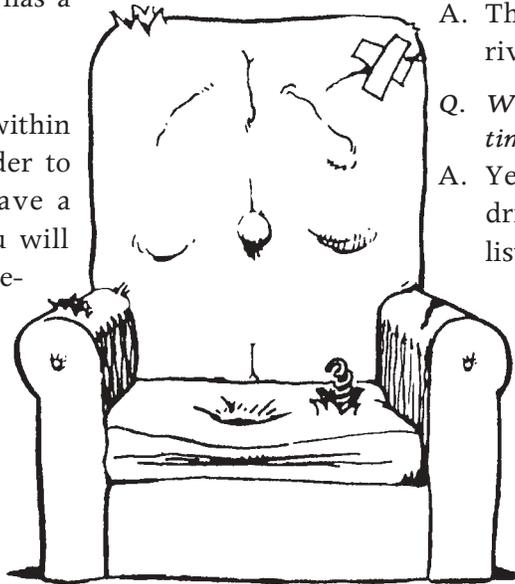
A. Cars are not "free," instead cars cost the City \$5. The city then subsidizes the cost of trucks, vans and trailers by \$10, reducing the normal \$18 fee to \$8.

Q. *How can I make best use of this program?*

A. Make sure that you have full loads when going to the site. Use your regular garbage service to the fullest extent. Each week you are allowed up to 5 trash containers, 32 gallons in size (clear plastic bags or garbage cans). Each garbage can may weigh up to 45 pounds and each bag may weigh up to 30 pounds. If you only need to dispose of tires, call 444-5238 and ask that an automotive recycling brochure be mailed to you. This brochure lists many businesses that accept tires. All businesses charge a fee to accept tires.

Q. *Must I be a homeowner to use this program?*

A. No. This program relies on vehicle registration, driver's license and address. As long as the address is within Omaha you may deliver waste to the site.



Recycling Tips

Recycling Plastics

Have you seen a combined plastic identification code like the one pictured that was found on a Tropicana Pure Premium container?



If a plastic container has multiple identification codes, it is not recyclable in Omaha. Dispose of these containers properly with your household garbage.

Don't be confused—only recycle:

- Bottles that are marked with 
- Bottles and snap top containers marked with 

Thank you for carefully watching what you recycle.

Recycling shredded paper

Small paper shredders have become more popular as the price for these items have decreased and people's desire for security has increased. Many calls come in to the recycling office asking how to deal with this shredded paper. Here are a few suggestions.

First, shred the least amount of paper necessary—the papers that include personal information. For example, shred your credit card statement, but not the envelope or advertising that came with the statement.

Second, shredded paper is recyclable, but you must be careful not to cause litter. Here is our suggestion to avoid litter. In your sack of mixed paper, fill the bottom half with shredded paper, then non-shredded paper on top to fill the sack. Heavy items such as catalogues and magazines will work well for this.

Special garbage, yardwaste and recyclables collection assistance is available to households where all residents in the home have a medical disability, or are age 70 or older.

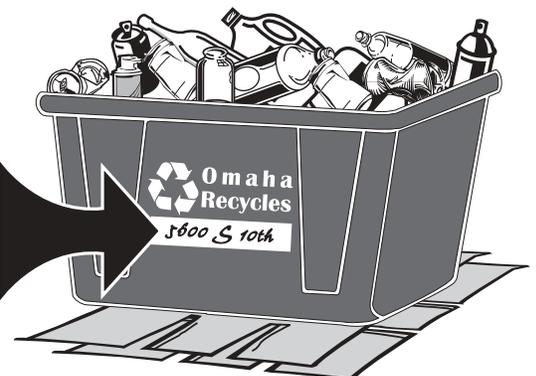
To apply, call 444-5238 from 8AM until 8PM weekdays.

General Recycling Tips

- Write your address on the bin using a permanent marker.
- All recyclables set out for collection must be in a green bin. (Except pieces of cardboard that can be placed under the bin)
- To prevent litter, be careful about placing your recycling container out for collection on windy days. If possible, hold your recyclables for the following week's collection.
- Separate paper into two paper bags—one for newspapers and another for your magazines, catalogues, mail and other clean papers.
- Flatten all boxes. Cut to 2 feet by 2 feet. Lay on ground under bin, or stand on edge inside bin.
- Plastic bags are not collected for recycling and should not be used to hold materials in your bin. Take plastic bags to grocery stores that provide recycling opportunities for these items.
- Remove snap top lids and screw on caps from all containers and place in garbage.
- Remove bin from curb as soon as possible after collection. Bins left at the curb could be hit by a car or stolen.

Do not recycle: plate glass, syringes, light bulbs, drinking glasses, pyrex[®], ceramic, pizza boxes, motor oil bottles, Styrofoam[®] or plastic bags.

Write your address here.



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.
- Cardboard boxes of garbage or yardwaste will not be collected.
- Place garbage in see-through (clear preferred) plastic bags or trash cans.
- Each household is limited to 5 properly prepared trash cans or see-through bags of garbage. There is no limit to the amount of properly prepared yardwaste that can be set out for collection.
- Garbage cans and recycling bin must be removed from the curb by 10AM the day following collection.
- Mark your yardwaste cans with a **YW**. Do not mix garbage and yardwaste.
- Leave a couple feet of space between your yardwaste, recyclables and garbage containers.
- To prevent litter, use lids on garbage cans.
- If you need a more complete listing of garbage, recycling or yardwaste collection regulations, call 444-5238 and request that they be mailed to you.
- Because July 4 falls on a Saturday, there will be no change in the collection schedule that week.
- Recycling and solid waste information for Omaha is available from InTouch. With a touch tone phone, dial 492-9955, then select from these categories:

Recycling, Curbside	6820
Recycling, Special Topics	6823
Recycling, Drop-off Sites	6859
Garbage Collection	6822
Yardwaste Collection	6821
Collection Problems	6860



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WASTELINE

City of Omaha
Environmental Quality Division
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**Important information about your
recyclables, garbage and
yardwaste collection.**