

# W WASTELINE



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

City of Omaha

Mike Fahey, Mayor

March, 2002

Public Works Department

Norm Jackman, Acting Director

Environmental Quality Division

## GrassCycle! Cut it. Leave it. Watch it thrive.

The secret to a beautiful lawn is out of the bag. Lawn care has never been easier. For a lawn that's healthy and beautiful, leave your clippings on the lawn when you mow.

GrassCycle your lawn (cut it and leave it) and say goodbye to bagging. It's easy on you and good for your lawn, too.

*GrassCycling does not cause thatch.* Research shows that grass roots and stems, not grass clippings, are the primary cause of thatch.

### When you GrassCycle you:

- ✂ Enrich the soil. Short clippings decay rapidly, returning valuable nutrients and organic matter to the soil.
- ✂ Save time. Without the time spent bagging, you can keep mowing and get the job done quicker. Often

mowing takes 1/3 less time.

- ✂ Save money. Less money is spent on water, fertilizer, and paper collection bags.

Most every mower can GrassCycle. Mulching blades that chop grass into smaller pieces are usually available for mowers that don't have a mulching option built in. If you use a landscape service, ask them to GrassCycle and leave the clippings on the lawn.

For more information about GrassCycling, the Douglas/Sarpy Cooperative Extension has a brochure entitled "Bag No More," available on-line at [www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org) or from FRED 444-3610, document number 144. If you are concerned about thatch, a NebGuide is available (publication G85-751-A) from the Douglas/Sarpy Cooperative Extension or go on-line: [www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org).

If you do catch your grass clippings, remember that they can only be set out for collection in paper yardwaste bags or loose in trash cans marked **YW**. Yardwaste placed out for collection is taken to the **Oma•Gro** facility where it is composted and sold as **Oma•Gro** compost. For more information about **Oma•Gro**, check out [www.omagro.com](http://www.omagro.com).

A final option for dealing with your yardwaste is to start a compost pile. A NebGuide that will get you started composting is available (publication G86-810-A) from the Douglas/Sarpy Cooperative Extension or go on-line: [www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org).

## Major Grant in Works to Fund Household Hazardous Waste Facility in Metro

The Douglas-Sarpy County area continues the planning process to build a Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Promising news was received February

13. The Eligibility and Rating committee of the Nebraska Environmental Trust has recommended a \$500,000

grant to support the construction of the estimated \$1.2 million facility. The grant will be voted on, and awarded at the Trust's April meeting.

Substantial funding is still needed to make the project a reality. The multi-agency, two-county working committee hopes to build upon this vote of confidence

from the Environmental Trust to help gain additional funding for the project from other grant agencies and foundations. If funding can be secured, a completed facility will serve the citizens of Douglas and Sarpy counties and is projected to open in late 2003. Information available at [www.underthesink.org](http://www.underthesink.org).



**UnderTheSink.Org**  
Douglas and Sarpy Counties, Nebraska



**Yardwaste Collection Resumes April 1, 2002**

# Recyclables

Set out by 6:00am

## Paper sack #1—Newspaper (Do not use plastic bags)

- Includes: Coupons, advertisements, Parade section and all paper that came with the newspaper.
- Lay sack on top of bin.
- *Do not include:* phonebooks (see sack #2) or other paper, rubber bands, plastic bags.

Yes



## Paper sack #2—Mixed Paper (Do not use plastic bags)

- Includes: Magazines, catalogues, phonebooks, cereal boxes, junkmail (including mailing labels and plastic windows), detergent boxes, greeting cards, wrapping paper, paperback books, office and school paper.
- Lay sack on top of bin.
- *Do not include:* pizza boxes, juice boxes, milk cartons, hardbound books, tissue paper, paper plates, or frozen food boxes.

Yes

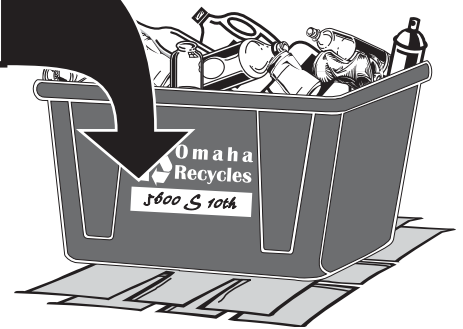


Write your address here.

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

- Remove lids and throw in garbage.
- Plastic bottles marked PETE ♻️, including: Bottles that held pop, cooking oil, mouthwash, shampoo or cleaners.
- PETE ♻️ *not included:* frozen food trays, plastic cups, toys or cookie trays.
- Plastic bottles and tubs marked HDPE ♻️, including—bottles and tubs that held milk, juice, cleaners, margarine, whipped topping, or yogurt.
- HDPE ♻️ *not included:* motor oil or auto product bottles, lawn chemical bottles, toys or cookie trays. No 5 gallon buckets.
- Glass bottles & jars.
- Aluminum cans & Steel (tin) cans, including—empty aerosol cans, empty and dry paint cans. *Tip: Place end (lid) of food cans inside can and crimp closed.* License plates may also be recycled (Please destroy or mutilate before recycling).
- Corrugated cardboard. Flatten. Cut to 2 feet by 2 feet. Place in bin or on ground under bin.

Yes



## Recycling Collection Tips

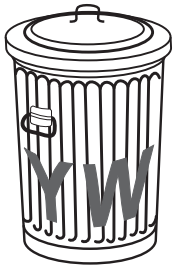
- Write your address on the bin using a permanent marker.
- Remove snap top lids and screw on caps from all containers and place in garbage.
- *Do not include:* plastic bags, Styrofoam®, motor oil bottles, plate glass, syringes, light bulbs, drinking glasses or pizza boxes.
- Flatten all boxes. Cut to 2 feet by 2 feet.
- Remove bin from curb as soon as possible after collection.
- All recyclables set out for collection must be in a green bin. (Except pieces of cardboard that should be placed under the bin)

# Yardwaste

**Yardwaste collection resumes April 1, 2002**

Yardwaste is collected from all households from the beginning of April 1, through November 30, 2002. During the winter months, yardwaste is not collected—separately or with garbage. There is no limit to the amount of properly prepared yardwaste that will be collected.

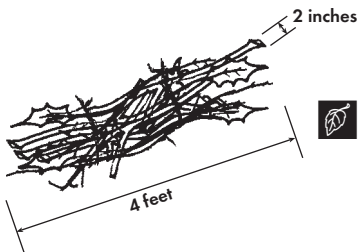
## Yes!



- ☑ Grass clippings and leaves.
- ☑ Garden waste such as fallen apples, rotted or excess vegetables and fruit.
- ☑ Trash cans up to 32 gallons and weighing up to 45 pounds, marked with a **YW** on both sides.




- ☑ Unlimited number of properly prepared marked cans, paper bags or brush bundles.
- ☑ Special yardwaste paper bags weighing up to 40 pounds.



- ☑ Bundles of branches and brush, tied with string or twine. Bundles may weigh up to 30 pounds.
- ☑ Branches may be up to 2 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length.

## No!

- ⊗ Mixtures of yardwaste and garbage.
- ⊗ No lumber or treated lumber.
- ⊗ Litter, trash or garbage.
- ⊗ Whole cans of dirt or sod.
- ⊗ Street sweeping sand, litter or rocks.
- ⊗ Plastic bags of yardwaste.
- ⊗ Cardboard boxes of yardwaste.
- ⊗ Pet manure or kitty litter.
- ⊗ Branches over 2 inches in diameter.
- ⊗ Branches over 4 feet long.
- ⊗ Plastic twine, nylon twine or wire used on brush.
- ⊗ Rope of any kind.
- ⊗ Unbundled brush.

- Place all materials at your collection point by 6AM. 
- If your collection was missed, call 444-5238 *after 7PM* on your collection day.
- Leave a couple feet of space between your yardwaste, recyclables and garbage containers.
- Recycling and solid waste information for Omaha is available from **FRED** an automated fax and voice system. With a touch tone phone, dial 444-3610. For a fax index select document 90. Here is a short list of some of the fax and voice

messages:	Voice	Fax
Recycling, Curbside	680	109
Recycling, Special Topics	683	113
Recycling, Drop-off Sites	685	107
Garbage Collection	682	127
Yardwaste Collection	681	127
Collection Problems	684	127
Bulky Item Disposal	686	108



**WASTELINE**

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 Environmental Quality Division  
 5600 S. 10TH St.  
 Omaha, NE 68107-3501  
[www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org)

PRESORTED  
 STANDARD  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 1958  
 OMAHA, NE

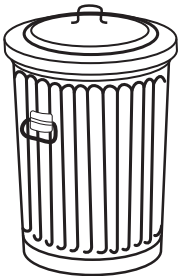
**Yardwaste collection  
 resumes April 1, 2002**





# Garbage

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

Because of state and federal mandates, there are limits to the types of waste that 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 and weighing up to 45 pounds when full.
-  See-through bags (clear bags preferred) and weighing up to 30 pounds when full.
-  Up to five containers of trash per week (example 2 trash cans and 3 bags).
-  Place within 5 feet of curb, approved alley or other approved location.

[www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org)

## No!

- ⊗ A mixture of garbage and yardwaste.
- ⊗ Rocks, dirt and concrete.
- ⊗ Dead animals.
- ⊗ All liquids.
- ⊗ 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).
- ⊗ Natural Christmas trees.
- ⊗ Any material not in a can or see-through bag.

### Take Note!

- Upcoming collection holiday—Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, Collections will be delayed by one day during that week.
- Omaha Earth Day Celebration information: [www.earthdayomaha.com](http://www.earthdayomaha.com)
- Complete solid waste information available at: [www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org)

If your recycling bin is missing, damaged or you need a second bin, call 444-5238.





