



WASTELINE



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

Glass Moves out of the Bin on December 5

DID YOUR RECYCLING BIN get one of these reminder notes? Recently these sticky notes have been applied to recycling bins as a reminder that glass will no longer be collected from curbside bins beginning December 5, 2005.

This is in preparation for January when Omaha will join many other communities in the country by changing to a “single-stream” recycling collection program. Single-stream has become the industry standard for collecting recyclables because it is more fuel-efficient and costs cities less to provide recycling service while recycling as much or more.

Under the single-stream collection system, recyclables won't be sorted into seven categories at the curb in the wind and rain. This should reduce recycling collection litter. Instead, all

Take Note: No Glass Beginning December 5.



Glass can be recycled at any of the Omaha Recycling Drop-off Sites.
www.wasteline.org
444-4500

the recyclables will be collected by specially marked trucks and taken to an indoor processing facility where state-of-the-art automated equipment will do the sorting.

For efficiency, the recycling trucks will compact the recyclables so more material will fit on the truck and that means fewer trucks and less pollution. But to use these trucks, glass

must be eliminated, otherwise the truck's compaction would break glass creating dangerous shards that would contaminate the other recyclables, damage processing equipment, and be a safety hazard for the employees processing recyclables.

Remember that starting December 5, 2005, collection crews will no longer collect glass from your recycling bin. The glass will be left in your bin with a sticky note that reminds you to take your glass to a drop-off location or place it in with your garbage.



Picture Perfect

Prepare for Christmas

Christmas trees are not collected as part of the garbage collection service.

OMAHA WILL AGAIN operate the Christmas tree collection sites. The same four sites will be open this year. Watch for the next issue of **WASTELINE** for the Christmas tree drop-off site information.



Plan now on how you will dispose of your Christmas tree. Here are three easy options:

- ▲ take your tree to one of the collection sites the same way you brought the tree home;
- ▲ place your tree securely in your yard and wait for yardwaste collection to resume the week of April 3, 2006;
- ▲ consider an artificial tree which can be used for many years.

Yardwaste Collection Ends for Season
Week of November 28 - December 2, 2005

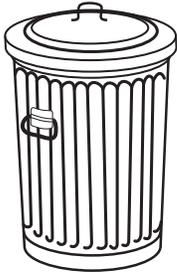


Garbage

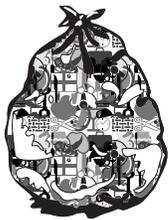
**Collection Missed?
Call 444-5238 after 7PM
on your collection day.**

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 and weighing up to 45 pounds when full.
- 👍 Clear plastic bags and weighing 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.



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

No!

- 👎 A mixture of garbage and yardwaste.
- 👎 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.

Collection Pointers



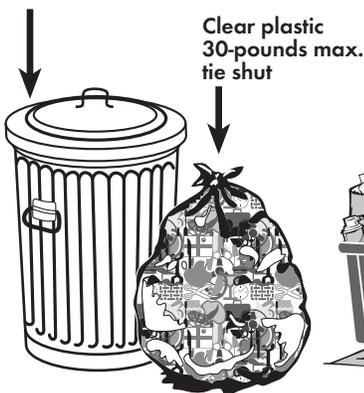
If your recycling bin is damaged or missing, call 444-4500.

- Place all materials out for collection *by 6AM*.
- If your collection was missed, call 444-5238 *after 7PM* on your collection day.

Within 5 feet of curb or alley

**Garbage:
5 containers max.**

32-gal. 45-pound max.



Clear plastic
30-pounds max.
tie shut



**Set out
by 6AM**

Yardwaste: No container limit

32-gal. 45-pound max.
Marked YW

Paper bags only
40-pounds max.

Growing Season Only



Recycling:

No plastic bags
Cut cardboard to 2 feet by 2 feet
Separate paper bags for newspaper & other paper

Bundle with string
4-feet long max.
2-inch diameter branches
30-pounds max.



Recycling

Place Materials Out by 6AM

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 with opening away from wind.
- NO!** 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.
- NO!** Do not include: pizza boxes, juice boxes, milk cartons, hardbound books, tissue paper, paper plates, or frozen food boxes.

Yes



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

- Aluminum cans & Steel (tin) cans, including—empty aerosol cans, empty and dry paint cans. *Tip: Place end of food cans inside can and crimp closed.*
- Corrugated cardboard. Flatten. Cut to 2 feet by 2 feet. Place in bin or on ground under bin. This will get easier in 2006!
- NO!** Glass bottles or jars beginning December 5. *(Glass may be taken to drop-off sites or placed in trash)*
- Plastic bottles marked PETE ♻️, including: Bottles that held pop, cooking oil, mouthwash, shampoo or cleaners.
- NO!** PETE ♻️ not included: deli/produce containers, 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.
- NO!** HDPE ♻️ not included: motor oil or auto product bottles, lawn chemical bottles, toys or cookie trays. No 5 gallon buckets.
- NO!** Lids of any kind. Remove and throw in garbage.

Yes



Remove Lids!





WASTELINE

Omaha Public Works—Environmental Quality Division
5600 S. 10TH St.
Omaha, NE 68107-3501
www.wasteline.org

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1116
OMAHA, NE

**Recyclable glass collection
ends the week of Nov 28-Dec 2**



Keep America Going, Recycle!

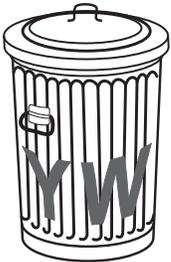


Yardwaste

Ends Week of Nov 28-Dec 2

There is no limit to the amount of properly prepared yardwaste that can be collected. Place yardwaste within 5-feet of your curb and leave 2-feet of space between Yardwaste and Garbage containers. Yardwaste collection season will end the week of November 28-December 2, 2005.

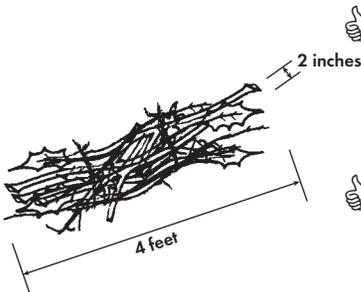
Yes!



- ✔ 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.



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



- ✔ 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!

- ✘ Plastic bags used in yardwaste collection.
- ✘ Mixtures of yardwaste and garbage.
- ✘ No saw dust, lumber or treated lumber/wood.
- ✘ Litter, trash or garbage.
- ✘ Whole cans of dirt or sod.
- ✘ Street sweeping sand, litter or rocks.
- ✘ Cardboard boxes of yardwaste.
- ✘ Pet waste or kitty litter.
- ✘ Branches over 2 inches in diameter.
- ✘ Branches over 4 feet long.
- ✘ Plastic twine, nylon twine or wire used to bundle brush or branches.
- ✘ Rope of any kind.
- ✘ Unbundled brush.



Recycling Collection Tips

-  **NO!** Glass in recycling bin beginning December 5. *November is the last month when you can recycle glass in your green bin. Beginning December 5: glass should be taken to a recycling drop-off site, or disposed of with your garbage. Call 444-4500 if you need more information.*
-  **NO!** Lids. Remove snap top and screw on lids from all containers and place in garbage.
-  **NO!** Plastic bags, Styrofoam[®], motor oil bottles, plate glass, syringes, light bulbs, batteries, drinking glasses or pizza boxes.
-  All ♻️ containers must be bottles with screw top lids. *No snap top containers or plastic cups.*
-  Containers marked ♻️ may be bottles or snap top containers.
-  Write your address on the bin using a permanent marker.
-  Flatten all boxes. Cut to 2 feet by 2 feet.
-  All recyclables set out for collection must be in a green bin. (Except pieces of cardboard that may be placed under the bin)
-  Remove bin from curb as soon as possible after collection.
-  Flatten plastic bottles for extra space in bin and to reduce litter (Flattened bottles don't blow away as easily).

Unicameral to Reconsider LB102

LB102 IS ENABLING legislation only which allows – but does not mandate – communities to establish storm water utilities or a fee based program to pay for storm water planning and implementation. It's a tool that may be used to fund future storm water infrastructure to both protect water quality and reduce flooding problems.

Local control is at the heart of LB102. It allows communities to adopt individual programs based upon local needs.

The federal law requires that communities establish and implement plans to deal with storm water. Thirty-eight states have already passed this legislation and more than 400 communities have adopted storm water utilities.

Communities in Nebraska that are required to plan for storm water management by federal law currently are: Omaha, Lincoln, Beatrice, Columbus, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lexington, Norfolk, North Platte, Scottsbluff/Gering, Fremont, So. Sioux City, Gretna, Bellevue, Bennington, Elkhorn, Boystown, La Vista and Papillion.

Omaha has supported previous versions of this legislation. ●

Free!

NOW THERE ARE TWO, NEW, FREE SERVICES OFFERED by the City of Omaha to the residents of Douglas County and Sarpy County. These free services will make your home safer and may save you some money on home maintenance.

Home Safe Home

You may now use the metro area's **UnderTheSink** facility to dispose of your unwanted household chemicals. This includes most items that are labeled with any of the following words: *Caution, Warning, Danger, Poison, Flammable, Volatile, Caustic, or Corrosive.*

The long anticipated facility opened this summer and handled over 340,000



pounds of material by the end of September. Because the service area is so densely populated and the need so great, *you must have an appointment to drop off your household chemicals.* Call the facility at 444-SINK (444-7465) to set up an appointment. Appointments are currently running about one month in advance.

There is no charge to drop off material and the facility is open to all Douglas and Sarpy County residents. **UnderTheSink** cannot accept any business waste, including home-based businesses. Also **UnderTheSink** does not accept ammunition, explosives, appliances, asbestos, radioactive material, tires or infectious waste.

If you only need to dispose of latex paint, which is not a hazardous chemical, consider drying out the paint and disposing with your household garbage. Helpful instructions are available at www.underthesink.org.

ReUse at ReStore

Visit **UnderTheSink's** ReStore to pick up some partially used containers of common household products. Best of all, everything is free at the ReStore. The "inventory" fluctuates so you may not find what you need in just one trip. By state law, the ReStore shelves can't distribute pesticides or herbicides but many other products are available including:

- Paint, stain and paint related products
- Automotive products
- Household cleaners
- Drain cleaners
- Wallpaper paste and wallpaper remover
- Wood fillers and drywall repair products

ReStore, inside **UnderTheSink** at 4001 South 120TH Street, is open:

Tuesday	9AM-5PM
Wednesday	9AM-5PM
Thursday	9AM-6:30PM
Friday	9AM-5PM
Saturday	9AM-1PM