

# WASTELINE



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

City of Omaha

Mike Fahey, Mayor

October, 2002

Public Works Department

Norm Jackman, Acting Director

Environmental Quality Division

## Plan Early!

*Christmas trees will not be collected as part of the garbage collection service this winter.*



Christmas tree collection by Deffenbaugh is a two-fold expense for the city. There is an extra expense for collecting the trees and the expense of landfilling the trees. These expenses are in addition to, and much more costly than, operating the Christmas tree mulching sites.

So make your plans now on how you will dispose of your Christmas tree. There are three easy options:

- ▲ place your tree securely in your yard and wait for yardwaste collection to resume in April;
- ▲ take your tree to one of the collection sites using the same means you got it home;
- ▲ consider an artificial tree which can be used for many years.

Second in a series—

### Recycling the Real Truth:

*Recycling doesn't save many trees or natural resources and doesn't it cause pollution?*

- ▶ It takes 95% less energy to recycle aluminum than to produce it from raw materials. Other energy savings are: 60% for steel, 40% for newspaper, 70% for plastic, 40% for glass. Landfilling never saves energy and produces an insignificant amount of energy from the methane gas produced.
- ▶ 94% of the natural resources used in America are non-renewable. Recycling lessens our dependence on non-renewable resources.
- ▶ Without recycling at the current level, within 10 years 60% more wood would be needed to keep up with the demand for paper.
- ▶ By 2005 recycling, including collection and reprocessing will avoid the production of 48-million tons of greenhouse gasses, the equivalent of the amount emitted by 36-million cars.

## Making it even easier...

**H**ave you ever been frustrated trying to find the clear garbage bags required for collection? You'll be glad to know help is on the way.

While the City does not specify a brand or manufacturer for garbage bags, the City has lent its name and **WASTELINE** logo to a manufacturer, Phoenix Recycling Inc., who developed a product specific for the Omaha market.

Both the bags and the box they come in are designed with important "point of use"

reminders that detail Omaha's garbage collection regulations.

The bags are available in 13 and 32 gallon sizes and have a drawstring closure. The bags are 1 mil. and 1.1 mil. thick respectively and were usability tested by City staff to ensure they would meet the rigorous demands of garbage collection.

The bags are available at many Omaha retailers including the following chain stores: Albertsons, Bag-N- Save, HyVee, Menards,



No Frills, Shopko, Target, Walgreens and Westlake Ace Hardware.

The City makes no profit from this program and you may choose any brand of clear bag that you wish.

**Yardwaste Collection Ends the Week of Nov. 25 - 30, 2002**

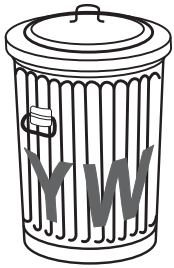
Thanksgiving Holiday: Thursday's collection on Friday November 29, Friday's collection on Saturday November 30.






# Yardwaste

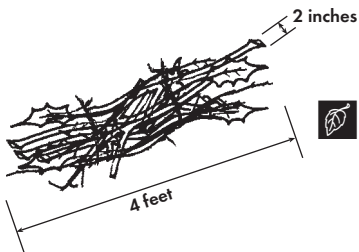
**Yardwaste collection ends November 30, 2002**



During the winter months, yardwaste is not collected—separately or with garbage. Yardwaste collection will resume in April 2003. During yardwaste season, 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.

**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 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 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



# 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

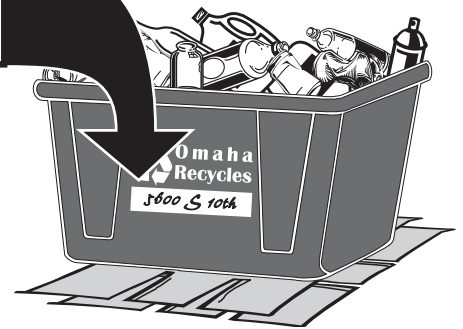


Write your address here.

## 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, cookie trays, deli or produce containers.
- 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.*
- 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)



**WASTELINE**

City of Omaha  
Environmental Quality Division  
5600 S. 10TH St.  
Omaha, NE 68107-3501

FRED Document Number 147

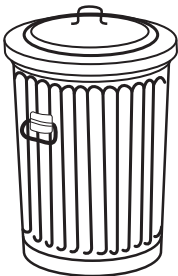
**Yardwaste collection ends the week of November 25 – 30**





# 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 garbage per week (example 2 trash cans and 3 bags).
-  Place cans or bags within 5 feet of curb, approved alley or other approved location.

## No!

- A mixture of garbage and yardwaste.
- Items outside a can or bag.
- 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) when not in a can or bag.
- Natural Christmas trees.

### Take Note!

- Celebrate America Recycles Day, November 15. Complete your entry to *win a regional or state prize*. Entry form inside.
- Upcoming collection holiday—Thanksgiving Day, November 28. Thursday and Friday collections are delayed by one day.

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



# Why "Buy Recycled?"

Most Omahans help the recycling effort by putting materials in their recycling bin. But many people don't realize that another important step of recycling is to "Buy Recycled" or "Close the Loop."

Purchasing recycled content products helps maintain market demand for recyclables and ensures the continuation and expansion of recycling programs everywhere. If consumers purchase more products with recycled content, the manufacturers will continue to use recyclable materials in their products and expand their usage to even more products.

Fold here. Tape only to seal.



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Place  
Stamp  
Here

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY ENTRY  
C/O ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIV.  
5600 S 10TH ST  
OMAHA, NE 68107-3501

Fold here. Tape only to seal.

Cut here, then mail



## Celebrate America Recycles Day November 15

### Sponsored Nationally by...

Alcan  
Staples  
The Home Depot  
Ford Motor Company  
Waste Management Inc.  
National Soft Drink Association  
Environmental Protection Agency  
100% Recycled Paperboard Alliance

### Sponsored locally by...

Borsheims  
City of Omaha  
Kinder Morgan  
Nebraska Lottery  
GTECH Corporation  
MID-LAND Recycling  
Pepsi-Cola of Lincoln  
Raders Business Interiors  
Omaha Public Power District

Nebraska Press Association  
Nebraska Public Power District  
Nebraska Soft Drink Association  
The Pepsi Bottling Group - Omaha  
Nebraska State Recycling Association  
Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society  
Double Tree / Hotels / Suites / Resorts / Clubs  
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

**Win State and Regional Prizes  
Support**

# **America Recycles Day November 15**

## **By Entering the America Recycles Day Sweepstakes**

Thanks to you, recycling is working! The proof is that the paper, plastic, steel, aluminum, and glass that you've been recycling is now made into all sorts of everyday products and packages, which are available right now. There's just one thing left to do: Buy Them!

That's the "cycle" in recycling: You recycle items that are collected and bought by manufactures to make into new products.

Why is "Buy Recycled" so important? It's simple. In order for the materials that have been collected in Omaha to have value and get used in the manufacturing of products, those products need to be in demand. You create that demand by purchasing products made from, or packaged in recycled paper, steel, aluminum, glass, or plastic.

Enter to win one of many great state and regional prizes. Those 18 and younger will be in their own youth oriented drawing. **But you can't win if you don't make a pledge, and recycling will lose if you don't.**

**The fine print:** Entries must be received by November 22, 2002. National prizes will be drawn on December 10, 2002. Nebraska prizes will be drawn on November 25, 2002. **One entry per person.** No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. **Your name and address will not be used for direct marketing purposes, in fact if you don't win, your entry will be recycled without being looked at.** For a complete set of rules or contest winners, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: America Recycles Day Contest Rules & Winners, c/o National Recycling Coalition, 1325 G Street, NW, Suite 1025, Washington DC 20005-3104.

### **For America Recycles Day, I will (check one or more):**

- Buy more recycled-content products
- Increase my recycling efforts at home and work
- Encourage my family/friends to be more involved in recycling

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you are age 18 or older.

*Make copies for other household members, or make your pledge via the Internet at [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org).*

Cut here, then mail