



WASTELINE



Recycling, Garbage and Yardwaste Information for the Citizens of Omaha, Nebraska
Public Works Department Environmental Quality Division

Recycling Changes on December 5

STARTING IN JANUARY, Omaha will usher in improvements to its recycling program that will:

- Save tax dollars and generate more revenue for the City
- Be more responsive to collection service problems
- Reduce litter by eliminating curbside sorting

As a resident, only one change will be required to enjoy the benefits of the City's new recycling contract. Glass will no longer be collected from the green household recycling bins. Glass taken to any of the recycling drop-off

sites will be recycled. The reason for this change is that recyclables will be collected using a compactor truck, commonly called a "garbage" truck. The compactor truck is much more efficient for collection, however it breaks glass and the broken glass contaminates the other recyclables.

Getting the Glass Out

Beginning in November, an outreach program will advise residents of the new requirements regarding glass recycling. Then beginning on December 5, the City has directed Deffenbaugh to not collect glass placed in green bins to provide a transition into the new contract.

Residents that have glass in their recycling bins beginning on December 5 will be provided with a reminder notice and the glass containers will be left in the bin.

Glass bottles and jars are a recyclable commodity and will continue to be collected at Omaha area recycling drop-off sites. A listing of drop-off sites for residents to use is included in this issue of **WASTELINE**. Residents that are not able to take their glass to a drop-off site may put glass bottles and jars in their household garbage.

The City carefully considered the benefits and drawbacks of eliminating curbside collection of glass before proceeding with the new contracts. Here are some of the factors that lead to this decision:

- Eliminating glass offered the benefit of centralized recycling processing
- Fewer products are being produced in glass bottles
- Glass doesn't generate any real revenue from its sale as a recyclable material
- Glass recycling at drop-off sites will continue
- Glass is inert and poses no threat of contaminating the landfill

Additional information about changes that are part of the new collection and processing contracts will be included in the November and December issues of

WASTELINE.

Before the Snow Falls



MOVING GARBAGE and recycling containers to the curb or approved alley for collection can be difficult for some Omaha residents who are elderly or have a medical condition limiting mobility. Winter weather conditions can increase the difficulty. For these Omahans a service where solid waste is collected from a special location is offered.

This service allows garbage, recyclables, and yardwaste to be collected from a special location that the citizen chooses.

To qualify for this service all members of the household must be either 70-years

old or older, or have a doctor-verified medical condition that prevents them from being able to move their containers to the curb or alley for collection.

Please note that households on the special collection service must have the street address clearly displayed, and in the winter a path must be scooped through heavy snow to the special collection location.

It takes several weeks to get this service set up, so apply now before winter weather begins. To begin the application process call 444-5238 from 8AM to 6PM weekdays.

Sign up to receive important solid waste collection e-mail re-

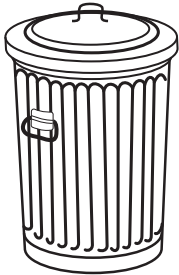


Garbage

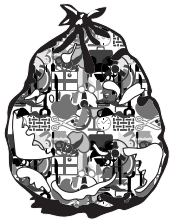
**Collection Missed?
Call 444-5238 after 7PM
on your collection day.**

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

- ▶ Place all materials at your collection point before 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.
- ▶ 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 searching your garbage for food.
- ▶ Use clear trash bags.
- ▶ Recycling and solid waste information for Omaha is available on the web at **www.wasteline.org** and 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





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



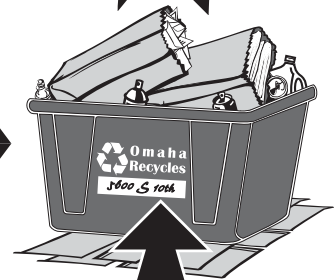
Loose in the bin—Containers *(Not in plastic bags)*

- ✔ 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.
- ✔ Glass bottles & jars. *(Glass collection is ending December 5, see cover article!)*
- ✔ 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.
- ✘ **NO!** Lids of any kind. Remove and throw in garbage.

Yes



No Glass Beginning December 2005



Write Your Address Here

Remove Lids!



Discard lids in garbage.



Stomp 'em flat!



WASTELINE

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Omaha, NE 68107-3501
www.wasteline.org

PRESORTED
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OMAHA, NE

**Important Glass Recycling
Changes Inside**



Keep America Going, Recycle!

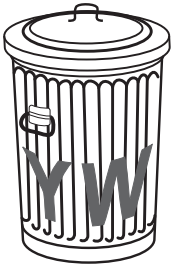


Yardwaste

Place Materials Out by 6AM

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.

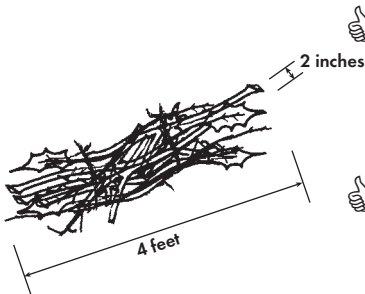
Yes!



- ✔ 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!** 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, drinking glasses or pizza boxes.
-  Only glass that you describe as a **bottle** or **jar**.
(Remember November is the last month when you can recycle glass in your green bin. See the cover article.)
-  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).

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



Cut Out and Save!

Recycling Drop-off Sites

Recycling glass and the occasional extra bunch of recyclables is easy. Four drop-off sites serve the city. *(List continued on reverse)*

Central: Scrap Central, 8518 Blondo St

Open: Monday—Friday: 9AM–5PM
Saturday: 9AM–3PM

South Central: River City Recycling, 6404 South 60TH Street
(north of Harrison Street on 60TH Street)

Open: Monday—Friday: 8AM–4:30PM (Winter)
Saturday: 8AM–NOON (Winter)
Monday—Saturday: 8AM–4:45PM (Spring, Summer, Fall)

2004 Solid Waste Results (in tons)

	Garbage		Recyclables		Yardwaste	
	Tons	%	Tons	%	Tons	%
January	7,777	84%	1,486	16%	-	0%
February	6,649	85%	1,177	15%	-	0%
March	8,617	87%	1,321	13%	-	0%
April	8,318	54%	1,701	11%	5,272	35%
May	7,946	54%	1,415	10%	5,409	37%
June	9,628	60%	1,366	9%	5,031	31%
July	9,151	60%	1,664	11%	4,547	30%
August	8,933	63%	1,328	9%	3,819	27%
September	8,457	67%	1,331	11%	2,819	22%
October	7,661	59%	1,665	13%	3,756	29%
November	8,571	52%	1,448	9%	6,532	40%
December	8,771	84%	1,437	14%	266	3%
Total 2004	100,479	65%	17,339	11%	37,451	24%
Total 2003	97,873	65%	17,380	12%	35,078	23%
Total 2002	96,909	66%	17,816	12%	32,462	22%
Total 2001	97,973	65%	18,851	12%	34,686	23%
Total 2000	94,717	64%	20,253	14%	32,185	22%
Total 1999	92,512	64%	19,582	14%	31,761	22%
Total 1998	87,734	62%	19,543	14%	35,247	25%
Total 1997	86,022	64%	18,958	14%	30,411	22%
Total 1996	81,718	60%	20,258	15%	35,139	26%

In 2004, if Omaha residents would have recycled at the 15% rate like it did in 1996, the city would have saved \$117,645 in landfill tipping fees and received an estimated \$70,763 in additional recycling revenue. A net benefit of \$188,408 tax dollars.

Recycling Drop-off Sites

Recycling glass and the occasional extra bunch of recyclables is easy. Four drop-off sites serve the city. *(List continued on reverse)*

North East: Weyerhaeuser Recycling, 7200 N 16TH Street
Open: 24-hours

South West: HyVee at Applewood Center, 96TH & Q Streets
Open: Daily, November—March: 9AM—5:30PM
Daily, April—October: 10AM—6:30PM