

Residential Trash and Recyclables Collection Frequently Asked Questions

Does the trash need to be in a container?

Trash bags should be placed at curbside in containers to prevent strewn trash that can result from broken and torn bags (i.e. from animal interference). At this time, regular household trash that is placed at the curb in bags will still continue to be collected.

Does the container need to be only 32 gallons?

While the City's ordinance does specify a 32-gallon trash container, we understand that residents may currently utilize various sizes to dispose of their trash. As such, trash containers that are less than 96-gallon receptacles are OK and collection will still occur. Collection will not occur for 96-gallon or larger containers. All trash needs to be in a trash bag.

How many containers for trash can one household have?

There is currently no limit on the number of containers.

What time should my trash and recyclables be placed at the curb?

Trash and recyclables should be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m.

What happens if my current receptacle gets damaged?

Trash Containers should be removed from curbside promptly (or as soon as feasibly possible) after collection to prevent inadvertent displacement into roadways and potential damage. If you suspect damage has occurred by the collector, please report to the Dept. of Public Utilities, 413-499-9330.

Damaged recycle bins can be replaced at no cost at 100 North Street (Floor M – Dept. of Public Utilities) and at City Hall – Clerk's Office, 70 Allen Street. The damaged bin will be collected at curbside for disposal.

Where can I get a recycling bin? Are they free?

Recycle bins are provided by the City at no cost. They are available at 100 North Street (Floor M, Mezzanine Level-Dept. of Public Utilities) and at City Hall-Clerk's Office, 70 Allen Street.

Can we only use the City-issued blue recycling bins for recycling?

Other bins are acceptable but should be clearly identifiable to the collector. Up to a 32-gallon container can be used for glass/plastic/can recyclables. Please do not place any recyclables in a plastic bag. They will not be collected

What items are able to be recycled?

A list of accepted recyclables is available on the website for The Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MRF): <http://springfieldmrf.org/whats-recyclable-at-the-mrf>

Cardboard boxes should be broken down to a maximum size of 2' X 2' (the size of the cardboard is necessary for the truck equipment) and placed in a recycle bin. Cardboard not placed in a recycle bin will not be collected.

What do I do if any item doesn't fit in a trash container?

Large items such as mattresses, box springs, broken down wood furniture, tires, chairs, etc. are considered bulky waste and will each need a Bulky Waste Sticker for disposal. Stickers can be purchased for \$20 at Carr Hardware, Market 32/Price Chopper in Pittsfield and Lenox, Harry's Supermarket on Wahconah Street, Elm Street Hardware, Pittsfield City Hall – City Clerk's Office (1st floor), and 100 North Street (Floor M – Dept of Public Utilities).

Additionally, large items can be taken to The Lenox Waste Transfer Facility, located on Willow Creek Road in Lenox. (disposal fees apply) 413-637-1101

What if I am disabled and can't get my trash and recycling to the curb?

Please know the City offers a program, the Backyard Collection Initiative, which provides a pick-up service to those unable to get their trash to the curb. A link to the application is available here:

https://www.cityofpittsfield.org/city_hall/public_works_and_utilities/uploads/BY%20Pickup%20Form.pdf

Please note that the collection workers cannot enter any residence or enclosed porch, to retrieve the trash and recycling.

You can have a form mailed to you by calling Public Utilities at 413 499-9330

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