



# Trashfacts

City of Houston  
Solid Waste Management Department

## Services Guide



## Garbage and Yard Waste Collection

### GARBAGE COLLECTION

- City-provided containers must be placed at the curb between 6 p.m. the day before and 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.
- Place container on the curb facing the street with the handle facing the house.
- Containers must be accessible and not blocked by obstacles, including parked cars, trees, mailboxes, fencing, etc. Blocked containers will not be emptied.
- Leave at least a three (3) feet space between garbage and recycling container to allow our trucks to safely operate.
- Remove containers from the curb line and/or public view by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection and stored in a secure location.

Do NOT put the following in your BLACK GARBAGE container: Household chemicals, computer equipment, yard trimmings, hot ash/coal, dead animals and construction/ demolition remodeling debris.

\*Chemicals and hot ashes cause truck fires.

### YARD WASTE

Yard waste is grass clippings, leaves and small branches. It must be placed in City-approved compostable bags to be collected. The City-approved compostable bags may be purchased at local grocery or hardware stores; be sure to look for the City Logo on the box. Yard waste is collected weekly on the same day as your garbage. Place the bags at least 3 feet from your garbage cart. Filled bags must weigh less than 50 pounds. Bundle small branches less than 4-feet in length and smaller than 18-inches in diameter and place next to the bags for collection. Yard waste mixed with trash, paper, plastic or any other type of waste will not be collected. Work performed by a contractor such as a yard service company must be removed by the contractor.



\*Look for bags with the city-approved logo.

## Extra Capacity Collection Fee

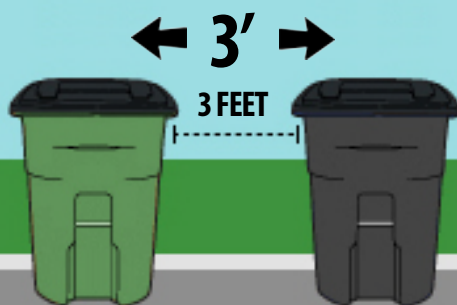
### ADD-A-CAN

This program provides residents with the opportunity of having a second or third garbage can serviced for a fee. The fee will be added to your monthly water bill upon request of the service. Call 3-1-1 to enroll in Add-A-Can.

### TAGS FOR BAGS

Extra bags of garbage are collected only if they have a special tag attached. The "Tags for Bags" program allows residents the convenience of purchasing "tags" instead of additional cans if they require extra service occasionally. These tags may be purchased at Fiesta, HEB, Sellers Bros. and participating Kroger stores. Residents may also download an order form at [houston-solidwaste.org](http://houston-solidwaste.org) and send the completed form and payment through the mail. Yard waste bags do not require tags.

**SET YOUR CARTS  
THREE FEET  
APART**



### Download The App!

Stay connected with HTX Collects

- Service Alerts
- Collections Schedules
- Service Reminders
- Waste Wizard
- Recycling Education ...and much more

Scan me

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Google Play

Download on the  
App Store

# Tree Waste/Junk Waste Recycling Program

## REMEMBER YOUR ODDS & EVENS

Residents may dispose of their Tree Waste and Junk Waste at their curbside. Tree Waste is collected during ODD numbered months and Junk Waste is collected during EVEN numbered months.

**Tree Waste:** defined as "clean wood waste", which consists of tree limbs, branches or stumps. Lumber, furniture and treated wood will not be accepted.

**Junk Waste:** Used to describe items such as furniture, appliances, up to 4 (four) tires and other bulky materials.

Items must be placed at the curb between 6 p.m. the Friday before and 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day. Eight (8) cubic yards per residence will be collected on the scheduled tree waste/junk waste collection day.

## TREE WASTE

**Yes!** Accepted: Tree Limbs, Branches and Stumps

**No!** Not Accepted: Lumber, Treated Wood and Furniture

## JUNK WASTE

**Yes!** Accepted: Furniture, Appliances, and Bulky material

**No!** Not Accepted: Roofing, Shingles, Brick, Plaster and Concrete

### Odd Month:

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| January   | Tree Waste |
| March     | Tree Waste |
| May       | Tree Waste |
| July      | Tree Waste |
| September | Tree Waste |
| November  | Tree Waste |

### Even Month:

|          |            |
|----------|------------|
| February | Junk Waste |
| April    | Junk Waste |
| June     | Junk Waste |
| August   | Junk Waste |
| October  | Junk Waste |
| December | Junk Waste |

*Appliances containing refrigerant must have a tag attached to them certifying a licensed HVAC technician has removed the refrigerant.*



## RESTRICTIONS:

- No more than eight (8) cubic yards (about two (2) pickup trucks). If over eight (8) cubic yards, materials will not be collected.
- A maximum of four (4) cubic yards of the eight (8) total cubic yards may be of building material generated by the resident in connection with the maintenance of the residential property. Excludes roofing shingles, brick, plaster and concrete.
- Tree/Junk Waste from contractors working on residential property will not be collected. Contractors are responsible for the removal of their debris and waste. This debris includes, but are not limited to: trimming and removal of trees, remodeling, new construction and roofing.
- If authorized items are mixed with unauthorized items, the material will not be sorted and will not be collected.

*Tree & Junk waste are also accepted at the Department's Neighborhood Depository and Recycling Centers. Roofing shingles, brick, plaster and concrete are accepted at the Neighborhood Depository and Reuse Warehouse. For more information please visit [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org).*

# Neighborhood Depository/Recycling Centers

The City operates six (6) Neighborhood Depositories and Recycling Centers to provide Houston residents a convenient opportunity to dispose of junk, tree and recyclable materials.

City of Houston residents may use the facilities up to four (4) times per month. Contractors and commercial business are prohibited from using the facilities. Citizens are responsible for the unloading of their own materials.

Citizens are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes before closing to allow adequate time to unload. Accepted items include junk waste-includes appliances, up to 5 tires off the rim, heavy trash, tree waste. Recycling items accepted include aluminum and tin cans, household plastic containers #1-5 & 7, glass bottles and jars, paper, cardboard and used motor oil. Clothes and shoes are accepted at the North, Southeast and Northeast Depositories.

## NEIGHBORHOOD DEPOSITORY & RECYCLING CENTERS

Tuesday- Sunday, 9 am to 7 pm  
Closed on Monday

|                  |                            |       |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| <b>North</b>     | 9003 N Main, 77002         | 3-1-1 |
| <b>Northwest</b> | 14400 Sommermeyer, 77041   | 3-1-1 |
| <b>Northeast</b> | 5565 Kirkpatrick, 77028    | 3-1-1 |
| <b>South</b>     | 5100 Sunbeam, 77033        | 3-1-1 |
| <b>Southwest</b> | 10785 SW Freeway, 77074    | 3-1-1 |
| <b>Southeast</b> | 2240 Central Street, 77017 | 3-1-1 |

## CITY RECYCLING CENTERS

**Westpark Recycling Center** - 5900 Westpark, 77057  
Open Monday - Saturday | 8am- 5pm

**Clear Lake/Ellington Airport** - 246 Loop Rd., 77034  
Open 7 days a week











**Kingwood Recycling Center** - 3210 W Lake Houston Pkwy. 77339  
Weekends only Friday - Sunday

Visit [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org) for current hours.










## YES! Put these in your recycling cart.

|   |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
|  <b>Cans</b> |  <b>Cartons</b> |  <b>Glass</b> |  <b>Paper</b> |  <b>Plastic</b> |
|              |                 |               |               |                 |
| Aluminum & Steel Cans<br><i>empty and rinse</i>   | Food & Beverage Cartons<br><i>empty and rinse</i>  | Bottles & Jars<br><i>empty and rinse</i>   | Cereal Boxes, Newspaper, Magazine & Mail, Flattened Cardboard & Paper Tubes                      | Kitchen, Laundry, Bath: Bottles & Containers   |

## Curbside Recycling

-  City-provided containers must be placed at the curb between 6 p.m. the day before and 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.
-  Container facing the street with the handle facing the house.
-  Containers must be accessible and not blocked by obstacles, including parked cars, trees, mailboxes, fencing, etc. Blocked containers will not be emptied.
-  Leave at least a three (3) feet space between garbage and recycling container to allow our trucks to safely operate.
-  Remove containers from the curb line and/or public view by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection and stored in a secure location.

### YES! RECYCLE

(Green Recycling container)

**Paper:** Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper

**Plastic:** Containers #1 - 5 and 7 (*rinsed & drained*) examples include water and soda bottles, milk jugs, yogurt cups, margarine tubs, detergent bottles

**Aluminum Cans** (*rinsed & drained*)

**Bimetal Cans** (*rinsed & drained*): Examples include soup cans, vegetable cans, fruit cans, coffee cans

**Glass** (*rinsed & drained*): Bottles, jugs and jars

**Cardboard** (*flattened*)

**Cartons:** Gable top and shelf-stable cartons, examples include milk cartons, juice cartons, soup cartons, soy milk/alternative milk cartons

### NO!

(DO NOT put in Green Recycling container)

**Film or flexible plastics:** examples include ALL plastic bags, shrink wrap, plastic wrapping from cases of water or soda, plastic cereal bags, Styrofoam, cracker bags, etc.

**Greasy & Soiled Paper:** Food contaminated paper, tissue paper, wrapping paper, paper towels or napkins.

**Yard waste:** E.g. leaves, grass, twigs, branches

**Textiles:** E.g. clothing, shoes, sheets, towels, pillows

**Large plastic items:** toys, garden hoses, coolers, furniture, buckets

*When in doubt leave it out.*

## Environmental Service Centers

The Environmental Service Centers provide drive through drop-off locations for Houston residents to bring their household hazardous waste (HHW) such as anti-freeze, batteries, fuel, oil, paint, pesticides, paint thinner, herbicides and household cleaners. Residential electronic scrap items will also be accepted (monitors, televisions, printers, keyboards, mice, scanners, fax machines, telephone handsets, VCRs, CPUs, cellular phones and other small consumer electronics). These items should not be placed on the curb with or in your container for collection with garbage or tree waste/junk waste pickup. Styrofoam blocks (plastic #6) and packing "peanuts" are not accepted at the ESC-South location.

**NORTH** - 5614 Neches, Building C

Open 2nd Thursday of the month from 9 am - 3 pm

**SOUTH** - 11500 South Post Oak

Open every Tuesday and Wednesday from

9am- 3pm and 2nd Saturday of the

month from 9 am - 1 pm

## Container Replacement

Residents needing to replace containers more frequently than once every 10 years will have the following fees added to their monthly water bill.

- Fee reflected on property owners water bill must be paid in full before delivery.
- Fee includes the container delivery fee and the cost to purchase the replacement container.
- The city will replace damaged parts such as wheels, lids and handles at no charge.
- Department will replace containers city collectors damaged beyond use at no charge.

### Fees and Charges

Container Delivery/Retrieval . . . . . \$23.84

Cleaning & Disposal of Content . . . . . \$40.14

*\*Only applies to retrieval of unauthorized containers.*

Container Cost varies at the time of each purchase order.

## Westpark Recycling Center

The Westpark Consumer Recycling Center is the City's premier drive-through recycling drop-off location. Accepted items include aluminum and tin cans, household plastic containers #1-5 & 7, glass bottles and jars, paper, and cardboard. Also accepted batteries, used motor oil and filters, latex paint, antifreeze, electronics and tires. There is a box for clothes and shoes. Styrofoam blocks (plastic #6) and packing "peanuts" are not accepted at the ESC-South location. Styrofoam is not accepted in the curbside recycling program.

The center is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Westpark Recycling Center**

5900 Westpark

Houston, TX 77057



Construction material accounts for 38% of the waste stream in the Houston area. The Reuse Warehouse benefits the community by providing space for excess building materials that would otherwise be dumped in local landfills. The facility accepts material from individuals, supply companies, and builders, and makes it freely available for reuse by any non-profit organization.

### REUSE WAREHOUSE

9003 N. Main St.  
Houston, TX 77022  
reuse.warehouse@houstontx.gov

Hours of Operation:  
Tuesday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month  
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Closed: Sunday and Monday

## Dead Animals

Dead animals can be picked up by calling 311, the City's Customer Service Hotline. A fee is required for large dead animal pickup. For large animal pickup during the weekend, please call 311 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Do not place dead animals with household garbage or tree waste/junk waste collection.

For dead animals on the freeway and feeder, call TXDOT at 713-802-5000.

## Fines

Violation of any provision of the solid waste ordinance is punishable upon first conviction by a fine of no less than \$50 nor more than \$2,000. Each subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine of no less than \$250 nor more than \$2,000. Each day that any violation continues may be punishable as a separate offense. To report a violation or to file a complaint, call 311.



### MASCOTS

To request a Solid Waste Management Department mascot or a Speaker from the SWMD please call 3-1-1.

## Adopt-A-Container Program

Non-profit organizations may request large bulk containers for weekend neighborhood cleanup campaigns. Requests must be sent to the SWMD in writing at least 14 days before the anticipated cleanup date. Bulk containers are provided on a "first-come, first-serve" basis and are delivered on Friday and collected on Tuesday. Only non-profit organizations and civic organizations coordinating a neighborhood cleanup campaign are eligible to sponsor bulk containers. For more information, call 3-1-1.

# Yard Waste

Find out how easy your choices are!

Grasscycling
Composting
Compostable Bags

### City of Houston Compostable Bags

Look for City-approved compostable bags at your local grocery and hardware stores.

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

For information visit [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org)



City of Houston  
Solid Waste Management Department

PO Box 1562, Houston, TX 77251

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

Houston residents call 3-1-1 for non-emergency calls.

The Trash Facts is a newsletter published by the Solid Waste Management Department. Information may be reproduced for public dissemination by civic groups and neighborhood organizations.

Mark C. Wilfalk, SWMD Director  
swdworks@houstontx.gov

## Placing Your Cart

HOW TO POSITION YOUR CARTS CORRECTLY

**1** Allow 3 feet between carts and structures such as mail boxes, lamp posts and 5 feet from cars

**2** Face the metal bar toward the street

**3** Make sure the lid is closed

Do not place cart underneath low, overhanging tree limbs or utility lines

**Curb**  
**Street**

Our trucks are automated with an electronic arm that grabs the bin.