



## Information about Dearborn's new Trash and Recycling Program

### Changes begin the week of July 5, 2010 on your trash collection day

The City of Dearborn and Republic Services are pleased to announce improvements to the curbside collection of trash and recyclable materials. The program begins the week of July 5, 2010.

This new program will help keep Dearborn cleaner; promote more recycling; reduce litter, odor and pest issues; and help contain costs for trash and recycling pickup now and in the future.

The automated pickup of trash and recyclable materials at the curbside requires the use of large, wheeled containers with hinged lids. These containers, delivered to you today, are known as carts.

**Begin using these carts the week of July 5. Do not use them before July 5.  
Continue to use your own containers or trash bags until then.**

### General Information

**Will my trash collection day change?** No.

**Will the recycling schedule change?** Yes. Recycling will take place on your trash collection day, every other week. Refer to the enclosed map and calendar to determine your schedule. Each household will recycle on a schedule that is designated as either an "A Week Section" or a "B Week Section." Note that your recycling cart will also have an "A Week" or "B Week" designation on it, along with an introductory recycling calendar inside the lid of the cart.

**Tell me more about the new containers, called carts.** The gray one is for trash and the green one is for recyclable materials. Both are 96 gallons. The carts are designed to be picked up by an automated arm attached to a Republic trash or recycling truck. Both are the property of the City of Dearborn and have been registered to your address. Do not alter the cart in any way. Please read all enclosed information for more details.

**Can I write my address on my carts?** Yes. There will be a white strip on the carts for that purpose. Use a permanent marker. Do not write on the carts any other place.

**What do I do on collection day?** On your collection day, place your carts on your easement, behind the curb, with the handle of the carts facing your house. A Republic truck with an automated arm will pick up the carts, empty them and place them back on the curbside.

**Do not place your carts in the street.** Put your carts out by 7 a.m. on your trash day or after 5 p.m. the night before. Leave three feet between your two carts. Make sure your carts are not blocked by parked cars, fire hydrants, trees or utility poles. Republic's new automated collection truck will empty and replace your carts back at the curbside. Please remove your empty carts from the curb by midnight. Store them on your property.

**Where do I store the carts?** Ideally, inside your garage, behind the garage or behind your house. If that is not possible, store them away from your neighbors' houses as much as possible and try to keep them out of sight from the front sidewalk.

### Trash Collection

**How do I use the gray trash cart?** Place trash in bags. Then place the bags in the gray cart. Do not overload the cart. Make sure the lid can close. Take the gray cart to the easement, behind your curb, every trash day. Keep the lids closed during storage and while at the curbside to prevent water and pests from getting in the cart.

**Do I have to bag my trash before I put it in the cart?** Yes. To prevent blowing litter, do not put loose trash in the cart. Rare exceptions are items that won't blow away and are too big to fit in a bag, but can still fit in the cart with the lid closed.

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**What if a bulky or large item doesn't fit in my cart?** Bulky items, such as a couch or an appliance, will still be picked up at the curbside for disposal. Please make sure the bulky item is at least 3 feet away from your cart. A separate bulk materials vehicle will pick up these items by the end of your trash collection day. No commercial items will be picked up.

**What if my cart is full and I have more trash?** Place your full cart at the curbside. On occasion, you may also place additional items in appropriate containers or plastic bags for pick up. Do not put garbage bags on top of the cart. If your household regularly generates more trash than fits in the cart, you may be asked to lease an additional cart for a one-time fee. There is no additional cost for weekly pickup of an additional cart.

**What if my trash cart is not full on my collection day?** Place it at the curbside anyway. Use the cart each week, even if you do not fill it up. Do not place trash at the curbside without using the cart.

**What can't I put in my trash cart?** Do not put the following inside the cart: household hazardous waste, liquid paint, pesticides, gasoline, oil, gas cans, disposable LP gas tanks, cement, rocks, bricks, syringes, infectious waste, liquid solvents and glue, car batteries, automotive parts and tires, hot ash, large amounts of remodeling or demolition materials.

**What should I do with my current trash cans?** You might want to keep them for yard waste containers. If you want to dispose of them, put them at the curb with a sign that says "Please pick up as trash".

## Recyclable Material Collection: Every other week

**How do I use the green recycle cart?** Place all appropriate clean recyclable materials in the green cart and take to the easement, behind your curb on your appropriate recycling day. Your cart will already have an "A Section" or "B Section" designation. An introductory recycling calendar will be inside the lid. Enclosed materials will help you to verify if you recycle on an "A Week" schedule or a "B Week" schedule. Keep the lids closed during storage and while at the curbside to prevent water and pests from getting in the cart.

**What can I recycle?** See the enclosed flier for the materials that can be recycled.

**What do I do with my existing recycling bin?** Do not use them for curbside recycling after July 5. You can use them for another household purpose or place them inside the new 96-gallon green recycling cart. Republic will recycle them.

**What other recycling changes are there?** The City will now be part of a single-stream recycling system, meaning residents will not need to sort materials before placing them in the recycling cart. Recyclable items do not need to be bundled or tied because the materials will be sorted at the recycling processing facility.

## Yard Waste Collection

**What do I do with yard waste?** **Nothing will change regarding the procedure for yard waste collection.** Place grass, leaves, weeds and garden waste into yard waste paper bags or in your own 20 – 32 gallon container. Containers must be clearly marked with a yard waste sticker, which can be obtained through DPW. Call 943-2085. Yard waste in plastic bags will not be picked up. Brush must be less than 3 inches in diameter, be 4 feet or less in length, tied with heavy cord and weigh no more than 35 pounds. All other City of Dearborn yard waste guidelines apply.

**What is the yard waste collection season?** Yard waste collection will last this year until Dec. 17, 2010. Generally yard waste collection will be mid-March through mid-December. Specific dates for future years will be posted at [www.cityofdearborn.org](http://www.cityofdearborn.org) and in future City of Dearborn Calendars mailed to all households in December.

## Other

**What do I do with my carts if I move?** The carts belong to the City of Dearborn. Leave them at your home.

**What happens on a holiday?** There are no changes to the existing holiday schedule. Republic Services observes the following: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. If your collection day falls on or after a holiday, service will be one day later that week only. If the holiday falls on a weekend, your collection day will not change. Refer to the City Calendar or [www.cityofdearborn.org](http://www.cityofdearborn.org).

## Important Contact Information

City of Dearborn website [www.cityofdearborn.org](http://www.cityofdearborn.org). City of Dearborn Department of Public Works 313-943-2085. Republic Services' Customer Assistance Center 800-878-4626 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.