



Summer Cart Care



During the summer, you may notice that your carts get a little smelly. Take advantage of the nice weather to clean your cart.

1. Rinse the cart using a spray nozzle on your garden hose.
2. Gently turn the cart upside down onto your lawn. (No need to waste that water—let it water your grass!)
3. Allow all of the water to drain from the cart.
4. Stand the cart back up, leaving the lid open for a day or so to allow the inside to dry.

Cart Placement

- Place your cart within 5 feet of the alley or curb. Due to safety and liability issues, our drivers won't walk into fenced yards or onto private property to collect waste. Also, if a cart is placed near a garage or off the street, it may be out of view, especially in the early morning under low light conditions.
- Allow 3 feet of clearance from other carts, trees, mailboxes, poles, and other objects.
- Do not place carts under trees, as trucks need up to 14 feet of overhead clearance.



Collection Tips

- Set your garbage and recycle carts out the night before collection. Sometimes drivers have schedule changes and may arrive earlier than normal.
- Except for leaves, yard waste can be placed in garbage carts. Cut branches to no more than 3 feet in length. Branches shouldn't stick out higher than the sides of the cart. Branches can also be bundled and tied and left outside the cart for collection.
- Yard waste cannot be placed in the recycle cart for collection.
- A limit of 60 pounds per week of construction debris can be set out for collection. Material must be in a container or in 3-foot sections and/or bundled.
- Remember that collection is a little slower in the summer as our tonnage doubles due to yard waste. Each driver services 800 to 1,000 households per day. Please be patient and give your driver a little extra time before calling in a missed pickup. We suggest that you wait until the following day before you call.



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Welcome to our e-newsletter!

This e-newsletter is designed to provide regular program reminders, to celebrate our successes, and to announce upcoming events. Can you help us? Simply forward this email to members of your neighborhood association, your co-workers, and your friends and relatives who live in Fort Wayne.

If someone forwarded this email to you and you would like to be added to the mailing list, please email Kira.Blacketor@cityoffortwayne.org and write "Add me to the email list" in the subject line.

By the numbers

When we kicked off our new curbside recycling program in 2011, the City of Fort Wayne Solid Waste Department committed to offering more service for less money. On average, residential bills were lowered by \$1.29 per month.

To take part in the city curbside program, all residents need to do is call to request a cart—and 80% of our households have done just that. Since the program began, we have reduced the amount of waste we are sending to the landfill by 31,000 tons.



www.RecycleFortWayne.org



Be a two-cart family!

Your garbage cart shouldn't have to shoulder the entire trash load. Your recyclables can do a lot more good if you use your recycle cart.

If you already have a recycle cart, be sure that you are recycling all you can. Recycling in your cart is easy, clean, and convenient.

If you don't have a recycle cart, or if you need an extra cart, call 311 to have one delivered to your home at no extra cost!

What Can I Recycle?

Do's

Please rinse all containers.

Remove lids from containers and recycle them loosely in your cart. Labels do not need to be removed.



✓ **GLASS BOTTLES & JARS**
Recycle brown, green and clear glass.



✓ **CARDBOARD, NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINES**
You can also include newspaper inserts, catalogs, paperback books, phone books & brochures.



✓ **PLASTICS**
Recycle plastics #1 thru #7 & styrofoam. Look on the bottom of containers for a number inside the recycling arrows.



✓ **PAPER FOOD CONTAINERS**
Recycle food boxes including: juice boxes, egg, ice cream & milk cartons, and cereal & pasta boxes.



✓ **METAL CANS, ALUMINUM FOIL, ALUMINUM FOIL PANS**
Recycle all food and beverage metal cans – steel, tin, bi-metal and aluminum.



✓ **PAPER**
Recycle envelopes, office paper, junk mail, greeting cards & file folders. Shredded paper should be put in a paper bag.

When Do I Recycle?

Recycling is collected every other week.

Please use the calendar below to help keep track of your "A" or "B" week.

Questions?

"One call to City Hall"

Dial 311

or visit

www.recyclefortwayne.org

2013 RECYCLING CALENDAR

august

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
B					1	2	3
A	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
B	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

september

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
B	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
A	29	30					

october

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
A			1	2	3	4	5
B	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
B	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A	27	28	29	30	31		

○ = Service will run a day behind when the following holidays are observed on a weekday: New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Save Some Green

Many people treat their lawns like a crop: they water and fertilize to encourage growth. Grass clippings are then “harvested.” But instead of a cash crop, they are a crop that costs you—in disposal fees.



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Instead of wasting time and money, why not let the clippings stay on your lawn, reducing the time it takes to mow and recycling the moisture and nutrients they contain? You spend less time mowing and spend less money on water and fertilizer. Follow these grasscycling guidelines for more moderate turf growth while producing a healthy, green lawn.

Mowing

It is best to cut grass when it is dry and to keep the mower blades sharp. Mow often enough so that no more than one-third of the length of the grass is removed in any one mowing. This produces short clippings that do not cover up the lawn's surface. You will have to cut the lawn more frequently when the lawn is growing fast, such as in the spring, but much less when the turf is growing slowly. Additionally, raising the mowing height in the summer encourages deeper roots and protects grass from drought and heat damage.

Over 500,000 bags of grass clippings are headed into our local landfill every year. Unless we all reduce what we bag for curbside pickup, it will cost the city – which means all of us – over \$200,000 this year!

You can grasscycle with any mower. Mulching mowers make it easy by cutting grass into small pieces and forcing them back toward the soil. As long as you mow frequently, however, side discharge mowers work nearly as well. If you have a rear-bag mower, you'll need to remove the bag and ensure the discharge chute cover and/or plug is properly installed.

Watering

While turf grasses vary in their need for water, most need about 1 inch of water every week. Lawns watered too frequently tend to develop shallow root systems, making them more susceptible to stress and disease. Deep, infrequent watering produces deeper roots which enable grass to resist disease and stress. Over-watering is not only wasteful, but it also causes lawns to grow faster and require more mowing. The best time to water is early in the morning, as less water is lost due to evaporation. Try to avoid watering in the evening because prolonged damp conditions may encourage disease development.

If you have an irrigation system, check it regularly to avoid water runoff or over-spraying, especially if the lawn is on a slope. Look for broken, tilted, or clogged sprinkler heads, and adjust sprinkler heads to ensure even coverage. Remember to change your irrigation timer seasonally to match the water needs of the turf.

Fertilizing

Over-fertilization can weaken a lawn by causing excessive top growth. For moderate, even growth, avoid using large quantities of fast-acting fertilizers that produce very fast growth for short periods. As a general rule, it is better to apply smaller quantities of fertilizer to the lawn more frequently rather than larger amounts less frequently.

Grasscycling also provides nitrogen to your lawn as the clippings decompose. Keep this in mind as you select fertilizer.

A **great** American Cleanup!

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Great American Cleanup in Fort Wayne on Saturday, May 18. What a day!

During the cleanup event, 5,009 volunteers contributed 15,027 hours to cleaning up our city. These volunteers picked up 191,400 pounds of litter and debris and 976 unwanted tires. They cleaned or beautified:

- 68 miles of roads, streets, and highways
- 1,305 acres of parks and public lands
- 36 miles of hiking, biking, and nature trails
- 205 acres of wetlands
- 17 miles of riverbanks

The Great American Cleanup, which is sponsored by Keep America Beautiful, is the nation's largest community improvement program. Fort Wayne has participated in this cleanup event for over 20 years, showing pride in our community by cleaning up littered roadsides, parks, trails, and riverbanks.

If your neighborhood missed the event and would still like to have a cleanup, the City provides roll-off containers on a Saturday of your choice during the spring, summer, and fall months. For more information, please contact Matt Gratz at 427-2474.

Neighborhood associations still have a chance to participate in the City's Tire Program. The last three dates for 2013 are August 17, September 21, and October 19. Participating neighborhood associations will receive \$0.75 for each illegally dumped tire collected in their area. Associations must pre-register by calling 427-2474.



For items that can't go in your recycle cart, visit www.acwastewatcher.org or call 449-7878.



City of Fort Wayne
Solid Waste Department
200 East Berry St., Suite 210
Fort Wayne, IN 46802-1804
427-8311
www.RecycleFortWayne.org