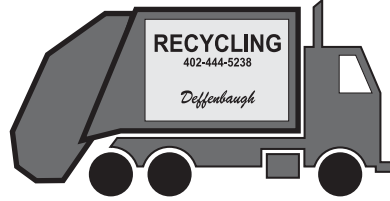


- ▶ Never use plastic bags to hold recyclables. See details inside for what is recyclable and how to prepare it for recycling.
- ▶ Use only the special paper bags or unlined trash cans, marked with a **YW**, for yardwaste. No plastic bags or boxes of yardwaste will be collected.
- ▶ All garbage bags must be clear or see-through bags.
- ▶ Omaha uses single-stream recycling collection. Packer trucks, commonly called garbage trucks, with large yellow **RECYCLING** signs on the side and back, collect



- and transport recyclables to an indoor, semi-automated sorting facility.
  - ▶ If you believe your collection was missed, wait until 7PM on your collection day, then call 402-444-5238. City personnel answer this number until 8PM weekdays. An answering service is used overnight, weekends and holidays.
- Call 402-444-5238 if you have questions about Omaha's solid waste collection system. Once again, **Welcome to the big O!**

[www.wasteline.org](http://www.wasteline.org)  
[www.omaharecycles.com](http://www.omaharecycles.com)  
[www.underthesink.org](http://www.underthesink.org)



# WASTELINE

Omaha Public Works—Environmental Quality Division  
 5600 South 10th Street, Omaha, NE 68107-3501

**W**elcome to Omaha. As an Omaha homeowner, you will receive solid waste collection including garbage, yardwaste, and recyclables by the City's collection contractor, Deffenbaugh Industries.

In Omaha, the weekly collections are provided to all households and apartment buildings with four or fewer units. Collection service is provided on the same day by three different trucks. This service is funded through general sales and property tax revenue. You may choose and pay for garbage collection through a private company.

**WASTELINE** is an informational publication mailed to all Omaha households to advise them of important issues in solid waste collection and disposal. This special new resident edition covers all the information you need to take full advantage of Omaha's solid waste collection program.

The city must meet state and federal regulations on what may be collected in addition to the limits set by the City

so that an equal amount of service is available to all of Omaha. Compliance with these regulations ensures that Omaha spends your tax dollars wisely.

**Important Service Notes:**

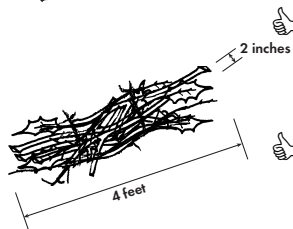
- ▶ Garbage, recyclables and yardwaste must be set out by 6AM on your collection day.
- ▶ Garbage, recyclables, and yardwaste are collected using separate compactor trucks that pick up only one of the three materials.
- ▶ Write your address on your recycling bin so it can be returned if lost.
- ▶ Please set out your green bin every time you have recyclables for collection. Recycling crews look for the green bin to identify that there are recyclables for pick up.

*Continued on back*

## Yardwaste Seasonal Collection. No Collection During Winter.

Yardwaste is collected from households seasonally, beginning the first Monday of April and through the week following Thanksgiving. During the winter months, yardwaste is not collected—separately or with garbage. Live Christmas trees are considered yardwaste and are not collected until yardwaste collection begins in the spring. There is no limit to the amount of properly prepared yardwaste that may be collected. Place yardwaste within 5-feet of your curb and leave 2-feet of space between Yardwaste and Garbage containers.

### Yes!



- ✔ Grass clippings and leaves.
- ✔ Garden waste such as fallen apples, rotted or excess vegetables and fruit.
- ✔ Trash cans up to 32 gallons that weigh up to 45 pounds, and marked with a **YW** on both sides.
- ✔ Special yardwaste paper bags that weigh 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.
- ✘ 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.
- ✘ Brush that is not bundled.



## Garbage Set Material Out For Collection By 6AM

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 that weigh up to 45 pounds when full.
- ✔ Clear plastic bags that weigh 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.

### No!

- ✘ A mixture of garbage and yardwaste.
- ✘ Christmas trees.
- ✘ 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.

**Note:** Garbage cans must be removed from the curb by **10AM** the day after collection.



# Recycling

## Place Materials Out in Green Bin

### All Clean Paper—In a Paper Sack or Small Cardboard Box (Do not use plastic bags)

Includes: Most all clean paper. Things like:

- Magazines
- Greeting Cards
- Newspaper
- School Paper
- Detergent Boxes
- Phonebooks
- Junkmail
- Paperback Books
- Catalogues
- Wrapping Paper
- Cereal Boxes
- Paper Egg Cartons

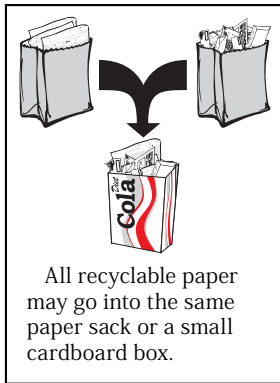


Lay sack or box either inside bin, on top of bin, or next to your bin with opening facing away from wind.

Corrugated cardboard. Break down flat and place under bin. For lots of boxes, fold and stuff multiple boxes into one box. Set out next to recycling bin.

**NO!** Do not include: Any soiled paper or these non-recyclable items:

- Pizza Boxes
- Hardbound Books
- Styrofoam
- Rubber Bands
- Tissue Paper
- Paper Plates
- Plastic Bags



All recyclable paper may go into the same paper sack or a small cardboard box.

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

Gable top and Aseptic cartons, including—juice boxes, milk cartons, juice cartons, and broth/soup boxes.

Aluminum cans and Steel (tin) cans, including—empty aerosol cans, empty and dry paint cans. Please don't flatten aluminum cans.

Tip: Place end of food cans inside can and crimp closed.

Plastic bottles marked PETE, including: Bottles that held pop, cooking oil, mouthwash, shampoo or cleaners.

Plastic bottles, tubs or snap top containers marked HDPE, including those that held milk, juice, cleaners, or other food items.

Plastic containers marked V, clear plastic packaging for small electronics, that must be cut open; also some non-food bottles.

Plastic bottles, tubs or snap top containers marked PP, including containers for yogurt, margarine, many other foods and reusable/disposable food storage containers.

**NO!** Don't recycle these plastic items, no matter what: motor oil bottles, lawn chemical bottles, or hazardous chemical bottles

**NO!** Glass bottles or jars. (Glass may be taken to drop-off sites or placed in garbage)

**NO!** Lids of any kind. Remove and throw in garbage.



PETE



HDPE



V



PP

### Recycling Collection Tips

**NO!** Glass in recycling bin. Take to a drop-off site or place in garbage.

**NO!** Lids. Remove lids from all containers and place in garbage.

**NO!** Plastic bags, Styrofoam®, motor oil bottles, plate glass, syringes, light bulbs, batteries, drinking glasses or pizza boxes.

Write your address on the bin using a permanent marker.

The green bin must be used for setting out recyclables.

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).

Use a grocery sack or small box to hold extra recyclables, or obtain an extra recycling bin. Refer to [www.omharecycles.com](http://www.omharecycles.com) or call 402-444-5238.

### Bulky Item Disposal

There are options for bulky items not permitted through regular collections. Omaha has a low cost, co-pay system for disposal through a local solid waste transfer station.

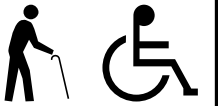
Call 402-444-5238 for information.



### Solid Waste Assistance

Special garbage, yardwaste and recyclables collection assistance is available to households where all residents in the home have a medical disability, or are age 70 or older.

To apply, call 402-444-5238 from 8AM to 6PM weekdays.

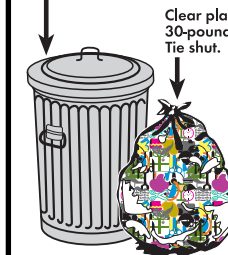


### Solid Waste Collection Pointers

Within 5 feet of curb or alley  
Collection problems: 402-444-5238

#### Garbage: Up to 5 containers

Metal or plastic can with handles.  
32-gallon, 45-pound max.



Clear plastic.  
30-pounds max.  
Tie shut.

#### Recycling: Must use bin

No plastic bags.  
No glass.  
Paper in paper bag or box.  
Flatten cardboard boxes.



Leave space between

#### Yardwaste: No container limit Growing Season Only

Metal or plastic can with handles.  
32-gallon, 45-pound max.  
Marked YW.

Paper bags only.  
40-pounds max.



Bundle with string.  
4-feet long max.  
2-inch diameter branches max.  
30-pounds max.



### Set out by 6AM

- 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 investigating and searching for food in your garbage.
- Use clear trash bags.
- Place all materials at your collection point **by 6AM**.
- If your collection was missed, call 402-444-5238 **after 7PM** on your collection day.
- Christmas trees are not collected during the winter. Drop-off sites for Christmas trees are set up during the first two weeks of January, or you can save your tree for yardwaste collection in April.

### Holiday Collection Schedule

When occurring during the work week, six holidays are observed by the City's solid waste collection contractor. Following a weekday holiday, collection is delayed by one day for the remainder of that week. Friday's collection will be on Saturday.

Holidays that occur on Saturday or Sunday do not affect collection.

#### Holidays

- New Year's Day: January 1
- Memorial Day: Last Monday of May
- Independence Day: July 4
- Labor Day: First Monday of September
- Thanksgiving Day: Fourth Thursday of November
- Christmas Day: December 25