

# City of Omaha Solid Waste History

Municipal Garbage Truck  
1 x Per Week to Pheasant Point Landfill

Recyclables Truck  
1 x Per Week to First Star Recycling

Yardwaste Truck  
1 x Per Week to Oma-Gro Compost Facility



## 2004 Original Contract with Deffenbaugh, Inc.

The original **collection contract**, initiated in **2004**, with Deffenbaugh, Inc (**acquired by Waste Management, Inc.**) currently runs to the end of **2020** and includes:

- Weekly **municipal garbage** pickup – Truck to Pheasant Point Landfill. Limited to (5) 32 gal. bags or cans.
- Weekly **recyclables** pickup – Truck to Firststar Recycling. No Limit.
- Separate weekly **yardwaste** pickup from the first Monday of April through the week following Thanksgiving – Truck to Oma-Gro Compost Facility. No Limit. (co-collected and comingled remainder of year)

## Challenges 2015

For **several** years, and **most significantly** in 2015, Waste Management, Inc has had **difficulty recruiting** enough qualified drivers to be fully staffed. A **shortage of drivers** with the necessary commercial drivers license endorsements has been a national problem and especially acute here in the Midwest and Omaha. This **resulted** in ongoing **collection delays** of yardwaste. **In response**, Mayor Stothert **authorized yardwaste** and garbage to be co-collected and taken to the landfill at the beginning of July.



EARLY  
2016

## Mayor Authorized Co-Collection

Given the ongoing challenges, **Mayor Stothert authorized** the co-collection of **yardwaste with garbage** in 2016. Collected together, the material goes to the **Pheasant Point Landfill** where most of the **methane gas** generated from waste decomposition is **collected and used to fuel** the Omaha Public Power District's Elk City Station.

Co-Collecting



MID  
2016

## Yardwaste Study Commissioned by the City

Visited Sites

Observed Collections

Identified Alternatives

Developed Pro Forma Model

Performed Environmental Modeling

Performed Peer Community Benchmarking

Performed Public Opinion Survey

In **June 2016** the Omaha City Council **approved** a contract with SCS Engineers **to evaluate** sustainable materials management for **yardwaste** collection and management. The **report** developed by SCS **evaluated** 5 management **scenarios**. The study is intended to **help the City Council**, administration, and the Public Works Department **understand** the **economic** and **environmental** aspects associated with current yardwaste management practices and **5 possible** yardwaste collection and management **alternatives**.



SCS ENGINEERS