



Jean Stothert
Mayor, City of Omaha



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Public Works Director

Spring 2023 Cleanup: Saturdays beginning April 22 (4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20).

WASTE

YARDWASTE

RECYCLING

GLASS

UnderTheSink to Charge for Latex Paint Disposal Starting May 3, 2023

UnderTheSink (UTS) 4001 S 120th Street, the regional household hazardous waste facility owned and operated by the City of Omaha, will begin charging to drop off latex paint on Wednesday, May 3. The cost will be \$1 per latex paint container for all containers quart size and larger. Payment will be by credit or debit card only. This new charge only applies to latex (water-based) paint.

UTS will continue to receive all other acceptable materials at no cost.

Latex paint is the most common item dropped off at UTS. It is messy for the UTS staff to process. Even worse, latex paint becomes unusable if frozen. UTS has a part-time employee dedicated to processing latex. Extra hours by full-time staff are also required.

In 2022, UTS received 28,000 liquid gallons of latex paint. Of that amount, only 6,000 gallons were suitable for redistribution through the UTS ReStore. This ReStore is located inside the office portion of the facility and is stocked with items that can be reused by the public.

In other changes at UTS, the appointments which are required for Saturday drop off, may now be made online at **UnderTheSink.org**. Appointments may also be made by calling 402-444-sink (7465). UTS is open without an appointment—Wednesday from 9am to 4:45pm, Thursday from 9am to 6:15pm and Friday from 9am to 4:45pm.

UnderTheSink has been a great success story for the area. Since its opening in 2005, it has received and processed 17 million pounds of material. UnderTheSink’s operation is underwritten by a grant from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, and the UnderTheSink partners, Douglas and Sarpy Counties, and the City of Omaha.

To help save money with this new charge, UTS suggests:

- Right-sizing your paint purchases to avoid leftovers
- Combining leftover paint into fewer containers before transporting them to UTS
- Drying out leftover paint on your own for disposal in the garbage. You can use kitty litter to bulk up the paint for drying

Two Years in and On Solid Footing

Finishing the second full year of collection using carts, and two years of separate spring and fall yardwaste collection the results are consistent.

Recycling, waste (garbage), and yardwaste were all within one percentage point of 2021. The total amount of recycling collected and waste collected went down. This could be attributed to a couple of factors—the downturn in the economy and citizens returning to in office work from the COVID pause.

The City paid \$3,736,394.76 in landfill tipping fees in 2022, and paid

\$1,076,546.20 to have recyclables sorted and marketed. Recycling avoided the city having to pay \$618,197.69 in landfill tipping fees. The seasonal yardwaste collection avoided \$157,461.44 in landfill tipping fees and created 8,000 cubic yards of compost. Garbage and recycling collection cost the City \$20.5 million and the separate yardwaste collection cost and an additional \$1.5 million. All of these costs are paid from the City’s general revenue fund, which is a combination of all property taxes and all sales taxes.

Omaha Collection Numbers						
2022	Recycle		Waste		Yardwaste	
January	1,983.48	17%	9,892.86	83%	—	0%
February	1,601.55	16%	8,704.41	84%	—	0%
March	1,969.67	16%	10,050.05	84%	—	0%
April	1,833.40	15%	10,533.22	85%	—	0%
May	1,992.19	11%	13,768.05	79%	1,589.87	9%
June	2,212.97	13%	14,440.20	84%	561.84	3%
July	1,887.79	13%	12,126.38	87%	—	0%
August	2,023.92	13%	12,990.87	87%	—	0%
September	1,773.55	13%	11,773.22	87%	—	0%
October	1,758.21	12%	11,476.69	81%	981.85	7%
November	1,851.53	11%	11,723.76	72%	2,678.97	16%
December	1,813.40	16%	9,804.90	84%	—	0%
Total 2022	22,701.66	14%	137,284.61	83%	5,812.53	4%
2021	24,899.21	14%	144,953.31	82%	5,923.81	3%

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1086
OMAHA, NE

WASTELINE | OMAHA PUBLIC WORKS
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION
5600 SOUTH 10TH STREET
OMAHA, NE 68107-3501

Second Drop-off Site Camera in the Works

Car 54, *Where are You?* had Toody and Muldoon, *The X-Files* had Mulder and Scully, *CHiPs* had Ponch and Jon, and not to be forgotten, *Cagney and Lacey*. This year Omaha will be acquiring our second mobile surveillance camera used to stop illegal dumping at Omaha’s drop-off sites.

Help us name the two surveillance cameras that help keep Omaha’s recycling drop-off sites clean and tidy. Submit your suggestions to wasteline@cityofomaha.org.

Both cameras were purchased with funding from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy through the Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant fund. The first camera has been in use for 16 months, and 28 illegal dumping incidents were caught on camera and turned over to Omaha Police for investigation. Many resulted in citations. Our goal isn’t to issue citations, but to keep the sites clean. The City has a couple of programs to help residents dispose of unwanted items. Visit bulky.wasteline.org and cleanup.wasteline.org for more information.



Separate Yard Waste Collection Spring Season Begins May 1, 2023

It is almost time to unearth your yard from the ravages of winter.

The City of Omaha will offer free and separate yardwaste collection for six consecutive weeks May 1 through June 9. During this time, you may put your excess yardwaste in paper yardwaste bags for separate collection. Each bag may weigh up to 40 pounds, and you can use as many bags as you want. The yardwaste bags will be collected separately and delivered to the Oma-Gro compost facility located south of Bellevue.

Bundles of branches are not included in the free collection, and must have a purchased yardwaste sticker applied. Yardwaste is allowed in the black lid cart at any time of year.

The free and separate collection of yardwaste occurs two times per year – once in the spring and once in the fall. Outside of these time periods, you can dispose of your yard waste in three ways:

- Place it in your black lid waste cart
- Buy stickers for your paper yardwaste bags (material will go to the landfill)
- Deliver to the Oma-Gro compost facility


The price for stickers is adjusted each year, and stickers are good for the year purchased and the following year. Locations are listed on our website Wasteline.org under the yardwaste tab.

The two separate yardwaste collection periods for 2022 brought in 5,812.53 tons of material to Oma-Gro.

The Oma-Gro compost product is made exclusively of grass clippings, leaves and ground wood. These ingredients are scientifically blended with water and air to create the right environment for the microbes responsible for natural composting.

It takes anywhere from nine to 12 months to convert yard waste into Oma-Gro. For more information about this popular product and when it will become available at local retail outlets, visit omagro.com.





Properly dispose of unwanted household, lawn, garden, and automotive chemicals at **UnderTheSink.**

Residential Waste Only

Hours:

Wednesday	9:00am - 4:45pm
Thursday	9:00am - 6:15pm
Friday	9:00am - 4:45pm
Saturday	Call for an Appointment

402-444-sink [7465]
www.underthesink.org

 WASTE

 **Set out by 6AM**

Carts must be removed from the curb by 10am the day after collection.



- Keep carts separate from each other, and other objects (mailboxes, light poles, etc).
- Only material in your cart will be collected.
- Keep lids closed during storage and collection.
- Maximum 355 pounds.
- Excess yardwaste must be in paper yardwaste bags with a paid sticker.

 WASTE



Special Assistance

Special collection for garbage, yardwaste, and recyclables is available. Households where all occupants of the home are at least age 70 or have a doctor verified medical need, qualify for the service. It takes several weeks to get the service set up.

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



Illegal dumping including placing recyclables on the ground outside containers at drop-off sites is punishable by a fine of up to \$500, loss of drivers license for 6 months and all clean up costs. [Omaha Municipal Code, Chapter 34, ARTICLE I, Section 4.]

Full Service Drop-off Sites

The full service sites accept all of the recyclables that are collected from Omaha’s curbside program. Plus, there is a purple container for glass bottles.



WEST DROP-OFF SITE
Parking Lot
20801 Elkhorn Drive
The site is open: Daily: 7AM – 7PM



NORTHWEST DROP-OFF SITE
Mulhall’s
3615 North 120th Street (120th & Maple)
The site is open: 7AM – 7PM



NORTHEAST DROP-OFF SITE
Creighton University
North 17th and Burt Streets
The site is open:
Daily: 7:30AM – 6PM –
(September – March)
Daily: 7:30AM – 8PM –
(April – August)



CENTRAL DROP-OFF SITE
West Lanes Bowling
151 North 72nd Street
The site is open: Daily: 7AM – 7PM



SOUTHEAST DROP-OFF SITE
River City Recycling
6404 South 60th Street
(between Q and Harrison)
***NOTE:** This site accepts recyclables free and is a dump location for bulky items. There is a fee for all materials except recyclables.*
The site is open:
Monday through Friday: 8AM – 4:30PM
Saturday: 8AM – 4:30PM
Winter Saturday Hours: 8AM – NOON



SOUTHWEST DROP-OFF SITE
Firstar Fiber
10330 ‘I’ Street
Use the East driveway to Firstar.
The site is open: Daily: 7AM – 7PM



Glass Only Drop-off Sites



FAR WEST CENTRAL
HyVee
1000 S 178th Street (180th & Pacific)
The site is open: 7AM – 7PM



WEST CENTRAL
Westwood Plaza
12075 West Center Road (Near Taco Bell)
The site is open: 7AM – 7PM

Check Out the New Wasteline Omaha Widget

Or be bold and get the App!

You’ll notice that there isn’t a calendar in this edition of Wasteline. That’s because personalized calendars are available from the widget.



The new Wasteline Omaha widget, available on the home page at **wasteline.org**, is super easy to use. Just type in your address, and you’ll get a printable calendar of your trash and recycling days by month. If paper calendars aren’t your thing, you can also sign up for reminders by email, text, phone call, or tweet. You can also add the collection calendar to your on-line calendar.

The widget is also available as an app for your smartphone. Just search for “Wasteline Omaha” and download it to get push notifications.

All these notification methods are updated when there is an unexpected interruption of service.

Try it out and tell your Omaha friends!



Big Family? No Problem!

If you have a big family and generate too much garbage or recyclables to fit into the pair of 96-gallon carts, don’t worry! **If your family has 5 or more members, you can get an additional cart free of charge!** You can choose an extra waste cart or a recycling cart. Just complete the registration form which is available at **wasteline.org** or call **402-444-5238** to have the form mailed to you.

For all other situations, FCC Environmental will lease an additional cart for an annual fee. You must pay in advance, and the fee includes delivery. The information for leasing a cart is available at **wasteline.org** or by calling **402-444-5238**.

Thank You For Recycling These:

Gracias por reciclar estos materiales:



Paper
(all colors and types)
Papel
(de todo color y tipo)



Cardboard
(flatten)
Cartón
(desarmado)



Food Cartons
(empty and clean)
Cartones de comestibles
(vacíos y limpios)



Aluminum and Steel Cans
(empty and clean)
Latas de aluminio y acero
(vacías y limpios)



Plastic Bottles, Jars and Jugs
(empty and clean)
Envases de plástico
(vacíos y limpios)

Not in your green lid cart. ¡NO! En la carretilla de tapa verde



NO Yardwaste
(goes in your black lid cart)
Nada de desperdicios de jardín
(póngalos en la carretilla de tapa negra)



NO Glass
(take to recycling drop-off location)
Nada de vidrio
(llévelo a un puesto de reciclar vidrio)



NO Plastic Bags or Plastic Wrap
(return to retailer)
Ninguna bolsa ni envoltura de plástico
(devuélvalas a la tienda)



Do not Bag Recyclables
(recyclables must be loose in cart)
No ponga en bolsas los reciclables
(los reciclables tienen que estar sueltos en la carretilla)



NO Tangles
(no hoses, wires, chains, or electronics)
Nada enredante
(ni mangueras, alambres o cadenas, ni cables electrónicos)



NO Food or Liquid
(empty and rinse all containers)
Nada de comida ni líquidos
(vacíe todos los recipientes y enjuáguelos)

Every Other Week Recycling

Sign up for holiday e-mail reminders at join.wasteline.org

Solid Waste Holidays are shown in RED
Days following the holiday where collection is shifted are shown with a red underline.

MAY / 2023							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
A	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
B	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
A	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
B	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
A	28	29	30	31	1	2	3

JUNE / 2023							
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
A	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
B	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
B	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
A	25	26	27	28	29	30	1

For future months go on-line to wasteline.org/widget

Enter your address so you can print a calendar specific for you. Also available is adding the calendar to your on-line calendar. Or get the **Wasteline Omaha app** for reminders of the collection schedule.

Group A recycling is shown In Yellow

Group B recycling is shown In Blue

 **Holiday — No Collection**

Holiday Shift Days



Spring Cleanup Services Announced

The Omaha tradition continues; Spring Cleanup starts April 22 and continues for five Saturdays.

During these Saturdays, the City of Omaha assists neighborhood associations to dispose of unwanted bulky items at select locations from 9am until 2pm. To find a location, visit cleanup.wasteline.org to determine the date and location that is closest to your home.

Many neighborhood associations organize additional services for their cleanup, including providing their own metals recycling, garage sale, and thrift store collection, along with beautification of their

neighborhood common areas. That makes the positive impact to Omaha is even greater.

The spring cleanup in 2022 collected —

- 729 tons of material that went to the landfill
- 58.6 tons of tires
- 19.17 tons of appliances and metals

To generate these results spring cleanup requires in excess of 400 hours of City staff time, and over 300 neighborhood volunteers, plus more than 30 trucks each Saturday.

Legal Notice: Placement of solid waste (garbage, recyclable materials, and yardwaste) by a resident along a privately owned street or road implies permission for the City's solid waste collection contractor to drive onto that street or road to perform contract work. Accordingly, such residents and owners of private streets and roads shall assume the risk of incidental damages incurred in the course of performing work while driving on the surface of these private streets and roads. Incidental damages may include cracks in the surface of the roadway or cave-ins due to collapsed sewers or poor street surface substrate. The City's contractor is not exempt from causal damages to personal property or premises adjoining private streets and roads. Please call the Solid Waste Hotline 402-444-5238 for questions or concerns about collection on private streets and roads.