

# Citywide Curbside Recycling

All Olathe residential solid waste customers have access to recycling at the curb. Residents receive a 65-gallon blue recycling cart, and the city provides bi-weekly (every other week) collection of recyclables. The cost of curbside recycling will be included in the base rate for solid waste service, along with weekly trash and yard waste collection and access to the city's year-round household hazardous waste facility.

## How It Works

- Each residential solid waste customer will receive a blue, 65-gallon recycling cart, along with a collection calendar and recycling guidelines.
- Recyclables will be picked up bi-weekly (every other week), on your regular trash day. Your day of the week will not change.
- Place the recycling cart at the curb by 8 a.m. on your collection day if you have recyclables to be picked up.
- Recyclables can be commingled. There's no need to sort.
- The cart must be used for only recyclable materials. No trash.
- As with all SmartCarts, the recycling cart must be placed within 8-feet of the curb, and at least 3-feet apart from other carts, mailboxes, poles, fences, trees, or parked cars

## You Will Be Able To Recycle...

### **Mixed Paper**

Catalogs  
Junk Mail  
Magazines  
Newspapers

### **Cardboard**

Boxes

### **Chipboard**

Boxes (cereal, cracker, canned soda)  
Cores Only (toilet paper/paper towels)  
Egg Cartons (paper)  
Manila File Folders

### **Plastics #1-#7 (except Styrofoam)**

Bottles (juices, sauces, water)  
Jars (fruit, juice, sauces)  
Yogurt/Margarine Tubs  
Deli/Salad Bar "Clamshells"

### **Aluminum Cans**

Beverage Cans  
Tuna Cans

### **Tin (Steel) Food Cans**

Fruit Cans  
Soup Cans  
Vegetable Cans

## **Thank you for your continued support in making Olathe a cleaner, greener place to live!**

### **Why does the city offer curbside recycling?**

Curbside recycling is being offered citywide to improve the efficiency of recycling collection and to increase the amount of waste diverted from the landfill.

### **Will I be required to recycle?**

No, residents will not be required to recycle. We hope that residents will choose to recycle as a way to protect our environment and avoid landfill disposal costs. An added benefit is that by recycling, it will be easier to fit all of your trash in your 95-gallon gray trash cart, which will help the city realize the benefits of automated trash collection.

### **Why should I have to pay for recycling if I'm not going to recycle?**

There is a long-term stabilizing benefit to recycling because landfill costs are increasing. The current cost to landfill trash is approximately \$30 per ton. The more we as a community recycle, the less we have to pay to dispose of this material in the landfill – and that benefits all residents.

### **Why carts instead of bins?**

The City has transitioned to SmartCarts because they allow for automated collection, which is more efficient and reduces worker injuries. It's also an easier way for residents to recycle because the carts can be rolled to the curb instead of carried.

### **When will my recycling be collected?**

Recycling will be collected every other week on your regular trash collection day.

### **Why every other week collection?**

Fewer trips by collection trucks down city roads reduces gasoline consumption and wear and tear on roads. And unlike garbage, recyclables can be safely stored for several weeks.

### **I don't think I have enough recyclables to fill up a 65-gal cart – is there an option to get a smaller cart?**

Residents are encouraged to try the new 65-gal cart, but smaller carts are available. Studies have shown that most residents will need the larger size because:

- Recycling is easier so you end up recycling more.
- You will need storage for two weeks of recyclables since collection is every other week.
- Cardboard, even when flattened, is bulky and takes up a lot of room in the carts.
- In order to realize the benefits of automation, all recyclables have to fit in the cart.

### **Is there an option to get a larger cart?**

If you generate more recyclables than will fit into your 65 gallon cart, you can upgrade to a 95 gallon cart by contacting Customer Service (913-971-9311). If that still does not resolve your issue, you can receive a second recycling cart at no additional charge.

### **How will I know which week to put out my recycling?**

The recycling schedule is available online at [www.olatheks.org/oms/recycling](http://www.olatheks.org/oms/recycling) or at the Customer Service center at 1385 S Robinson in Olathe.

**Why doesn't the City recycle glass at the curb?**

The city continues to look for ways to collect glass with curbside recycling; however, at this time it is not possible. The city has placed a container for glass bottles & jars at the Downtown Recycling Drop-off (Kansas Ave. & Poplar St.).