

Garbage and Recycling.... It's not all Trash

Before you throw something in the trash... ask yourself?

- Can it be recycled?
- Is it compostable?
- Can it be reused?
- Can it be donated?



What can neighbors and the City count on?

- That each property chooses and provides their own registered waste/recycling hauling service.
- All registered haulers must offer recycling options
- Garbage should be placed on berm/alley/other city property no sooner than 6:00 pm the night before pickup and containers should be removed following pickup.
- All garbage (even if bagged) is contained in a closable receptacle/container.
- Large items (furniture, multiple cans, demolition debris) typically requires additional pickup services and need to follow all other garbage/waste requirements.
- Manage recycling/garbage so it does not migrate to neighboring properties or street (animals, wind, scavengers, etc.)
- Use public receptacles for their intended use. Recycling bins should be used for recycling.
- Garbage should be picked up once per week/City Code!



Where can I find more information regarding city codes, ordinance requirements and general information about recycling and garbage management in the City of Ottawa?

City of Ottawa
Community Development Department
301 W Madison Street
www.cityofottawa.org
815-433-0161 extension 230

RECYCLING

Curbside recycling is available to all residents in the City of Ottawa that have contractual services with a registered waste hauler. All waste haulers working in the City of Ottawa must offer this service to their customers. Please check with your waste hauler regarding any fees associated with this service and any guidelines for participation in recycling efforts.

General Recycling Guidelines:

Preparation: Items that contained food should be rinsed out but thorough cleaning is unnecessary. All lids should be kept on containers; labels may remain. Haulers take mixed materials with no sorting needed. No other contaminants or containers that contain contaminants should be placed in a recycling receptacle. It is recommended to call your waste hauler for details on any of their specific requirements.

Pickup Location: All garbage and recycling is picked up curbside unless owner's have property with alley access. Containers should only be placed on public property (berm, right of way and in alleyways) the day before pickup and then removed from public property after pickup.

Accepted Items in permitted containers:

- Paper and Cardboard - newspapers, junk mail, magazines, paperboard/chip board (single-ply cardboard used for cereal, magazines, soda boxes, etc).
 - Plastic - most clean plastic containers labeled #1-7, except #6 (Styrofoam).
 - Metal - food cans and aluminum beverage cans
- Glass - all colors of glass are recyclable. Only bottles and jars that food or drink came in are acceptable. No window panes, dishware, ceramics, lightbulbs, mirrors, etc.

Non Accepted Items:

- No Plastic Grocery Bags-These clog and break sorting machines. One plastic bag can compromise an entire load of accepted recyclables. Most local grocery stores will take these bags back
- No Food Waste-Food, pizza boxes, fast food containers/cups are not accepted
- No Styrofoam cups or containers
- No needles or other medical products
- No containers with contaminates (oil, food, paints, solvents, lawn products/pesticide etc.)
- No Scrap Metal
- No paper towels, toilet/facial paper, etc.

Aside from your waste/recycling hauler there are other recycling companies in Ottawa and the surrounding area that offer recycling services. Cimco and Buckman Iron and Metal in Ottawa provide an outlet for recyclable materials. It is advisable to contact to see what services are offered.

The *LaSalle County Environmental Guide* also provides a wealth of information for recycling and disposal options for many items. A link to this guide can be found at www.cityofottawa.org or www.lasallecounty.org.

For General Questions and Information regarding recycling and waste management contact:

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