

Please be advised that the City approved funding for new city-provided trash and recycling containers. These new containers were funded by unused fiscal year 2017 and 2018 funds and will not result in any tax increase.

In addition, the City has finalized new trash and recycling rules. **There is no change to the City's yard-waste rules - they are merely included herein for your education - but residents may retain any soon-to-be outdated trash and recycling containers for yard-waste.**

Please read these rules carefully. The new trash and recycling rules will not go into effect until homes receive the new city-provided trash and recycling containers, which is not slated to occur until later in the summer months. Over the next few months, you will continue to see communications from the City explaining the opt-out process for residents (including any forms associated with that process).

Please also know that city-provided trash and recycling containers will only be provided to addresses that are registered with the City of Mount Rainier.

New Trash Rules

- Pick Up Day: Every Wednesday. If unforeseen circumstances (e.g., truck breaks down, snow emergency, hazardous conditions) or a holiday prevents pickup on Wednesday, pick-up will occur the next business day.
- A “trash container” refers to a watertight and rodent proof container with tight-fitting lid.
- A “city-provided trash container” refers to a 48-gallon **or 32-gallon** container on wheels with tight fitting lid provided by the City of Mount Rainier. **The City will provide each residence a 48-gallon city-provided trash container unless the residence requests a 32-gallon city-provided trash container pursuant to a request process to be established by the Director of Public Works.**
- Unless an opt-out permit has been approved, the trash container shall be a city-provided trash container. However, **for up to two years following the implementation date of these rules**, residents may use up to three secondary trash containers no larger than 35 gallons.
- **Beginning three years following the implementation date of these rules**, residents may have up to three city-provided trash containers. The City will provide one city-provided trash container at no cost to the resident. Additional city-provided trash containers may be purchased from the City at **100%** of the cost of the container.
- In the instance a city-provided trash container becomes inoperable, a resident may appeal for the replacement of such a container provided the resident does not have any additional, operable city-provided trash containers.
- If a new resident's household does not come equipped with a city-provided trash container, the resident will have 90 days from closing of the purchase of the property to receive one free city-provided trash container.
- Household trash must not be mixed with bulk or yard waste. Regular household trash means usual residential household items from places such as the kitchen, bathroom etc.
- Trash containers - whether city-provided or otherwise - must be set out any time after 7:00 PM the day before trash collection and no later than 7:00 AM on trash collection days.

New Recycling Rules

- Pick Up Day: Every Friday. If unforeseen circumstances (e.g., truck breaks down, snow emergency, hazardous conditions) or a holiday prevents pickup on Friday, pick-up will occur the next business day.
- A “recycling container” refers to a water tight and rodent proof container with tight-fitting lid.

- A “city-provided recycling container” refers to a 64-gallon container on wheels with a tight-fitting lid provided by the City of Mount Rainier.
- Unless an opt-out permit has been approved, the recycling container shall be a city-provided recycling container.
- If an opt-out permit has been approved, the resident’s recycling container must still contain a tight-fitting lid, and cannot be larger than 48-gallons. If the container is equal to or larger than 32-gallons, the container must also be capable of being used by the garbage truck’s mechanical lift (i.e., the front of the recycling container contains a metal bar for the lift to hook into).
- The City shall provide one city-provided recycling container at no cost to the resident. Additional city-provided recycling containers may be purchased from the City at 50% of the cost of the container.
- In the instance a city-provided recycling container becomes inoperable, a resident may appeal for the replacement of such a container provided the resident does not have any additional, operable city-provided recycling containers.
- If a new resident’s household does not come equipped with a city-provided recycling container, the resident will have 90 days from closing of the purchase of the property to receive one free city-provided recycling container.
- Recycling containers - whether city-provided or otherwise - must be set out any time after 7:00 PM the day before recycling collection and no later than 7:00 AM on recycling collection days.
- With respect to items permitted for recycling, the City shall follow the rules of Prince George’s County, which are subject to change. The following items are permitted for recycling as currently determined by the County:
 - Glass
 - Food and beverage containers
 - Metals
 - Aluminum foil
 - Aluminum, bimetal, ferrous, and steel food and beverage containers
 - Empty aerosol cans
 - Mixed Paper/Corrugated Cardboard
 - All paper
 - Aseptic/gable-top milk and juice cartons
 - Catalogs
 - Flattened corrugated cardboard (boxes with cellophane tape removed)
 - Frozen food packaging
 - Hard- and soft- covered books
 - Kraft paper bags and wrapping paper
 - Magazines
 - Newspapers with inserts
 - Paperboard (cereal and cracker boxes)
 - Telephone books
 - Unsoiled pizza boxes (boxes MUST BE free of grease, cheese and other food remnants)
 - Plastics

- Drinking cups/glasses
- Flower pots
- Containers with code identification numbers 1 through 7
- Prescription bottles
- *Remember to rinse all food and beverage containers and to recap or place the lids in the recycling cart/bin.
- *The County no longer accepts any plastic bags or film (even if the bags are balled up together), styrofoam, nor any coat hangers. Please return coat hangers to the dry cleaners or place metal coat hangers in the scrap metal bins and plastic coat hangers in the rigid plastics bins at public convenience centers.

Opting-Out of New City-Provided Trash and Recycling Containers

- The City of Mount Rainier will offer residents the opportunity to opt-out of using the new city-provided trash and recycling containers if one of the following conditions apply:
 - Provisions applicable to opt-ing out of using either a city-provided trash or recycling container:
 - It is impractical for you to use the larger containers - e.g., your house sits on a hill with many stairs leading up to where you would have to keep any trash or recycling container, **or there is nowhere to store the new container(s).**
 - You have a disability or are an elderly resident (62 or older) for whom the larger containers are not practical.
 - **You possess a 32-gallon or larger trash or recycling container, as applicable, that has an attached lid and is capable of being used by the garbage truck's mechanical lift (i.e., the front of your trash container contains a metal bar for the lift to hook into). For trash, the container cannot be larger than 33-gallons or else a city-provided trash container will be required. For recycling, the container cannot be larger than 48-gallons or else a city-provided recycling container will be required.**
- Opt-out forms will be distributed to residents through a direct mailing effort, which will contain the final trash and recycling rules and an in-depth explanation of the change (including the benefits to residents and the environment of switching to the new containers).
- Residents will have until June 15, 2018 to submit the opt-out forms to the Director of Public Works.

Collection for Senior Citizens and the Disabled

The City will provide on-premise collection of recyclables for senior citizens over 62 years of age and for disabled persons. To qualify, no one living in the home can be under 62 years of age or physically able to carry collection containers to the curb. The resident must make the container(s) readily accessible to Public Works employees, and the resident must sign a waiver of liability for entering onto the premises. To make arrangements, please call 301.985.6583.

Yard Waste

Biodegradable yard waste such as lawn clippings and leaves, will be picked up every Monday from March through November without appointment and on the 2nd Monday in December, January and February by prior appointments only.

Appointments must be made before 12:00 noon on the Friday before the scheduled pick up. Please call (301) 985- 6558 selection 2. Residents are allowed 3 cubic yards per pick-up. Anyone going over the limit will be asked to pay for the overage (the minimum fee is \$50.00).

Bamboo and logs are not yard waste, these are collected for bulk trash.

Yard waste such as brush and branches must be tied in bundles not more than 4 feet in length and/or 50 pounds. Wire must not be used to tie bundles of yard waste.

Leaves and lawn clippings must be placed in paper bags or in trash cans. Residents are not to place loose leaves or other vegetation on the ground as this is a violation with a fine of \$25.00 for each separate offense. Loose leaves are only collected curb side in November and December. A schedule will be published in the city's newsletter.