

# MUNICIPAL TRASH CAN PROGRAM

## Municipal Trash Cans

As part of the ongoing effort to keep our neighborhoods and waterways cleaner and healthier, Baltimore City is providing Municipal Trash Cans to every residential address that currently receives trash collection by the City. These durable, wheeled trash cans are equipped with attached, tight-fitting lids that have proven effective in keeping streets and alleys clean, and in deterring rodents. Trash can distribution will begin by early 2016.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why Municipal Trash Cans?

Containing trash in a durable can with a tight-fitting lid is one of the best ways to reduce debris and litter, keep food away from rats, and make our neighborhoods clean and safe. Each can comes with an attached lid, so trash won't blow away and critters won't climb in. Trash trucks fitted with special lifting mechanisms will quickly and easily dump the cans, reducing strain on our workers. Each can will have wheels, making them easy to move, as well as a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag, making them easy to identify.

### How will this work?

The Citywide Municipal Trash Can Program will deliver a composite resin container to every household that currently gets City trash removal service. The cans will remain the property of the City, and will be assigned to the specific address. Residents will not be charged for the cans, but are expected to place their trash into bags before putting the trash in the cans. The cans should not be altered or defaced with letters, names, stickers, numbers, or symbols.

### When should I expect the can?

Distribution of the cans will begin in early 2016. Hang tags will be posted at each property approximately 10 days before delivery, and the cans will come with a flyer containing more information about the cans. A neighborhood delivery schedule will be posted at <http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov> and updated regularly. Please begin using your can as soon as it arrives.

### May I refuse to accept a municipal trash can?

To refuse a new trash can, a property owner, or someone authorized to act on behalf of the owner, must submit a signed refusal form by April 20, 2016. The form is available on the Public Works Municipal Trash Can web page. This signed form must be emailed to [publicworks@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:publicworks@baltimorecity.gov) or received at 200 Holliday Street, Suite 600, Baltimore, Md. 21202. If the refusal form is received after April 20, delivery of the cans cannot be stopped. Unwanted trash cans can be returned to the Kane Street Yard, 111 Kane Street, Baltimore, Md. 21224.

## What if I do not have storage space for a 65-gallon can?

Property owners who own a row home that is part of a continuous block-long group, and have front collection may call 311 by April 20, 2016, to request the smaller 35-gallon can. The Municipal Trash Can pilot program was tested in neighborhoods on the east and west sides of the City, and the large cans worked very well under a variety of collection challenges.

## Will collection patterns change?

No. You will not need to change where or when you set out the cans. Rear collections will remain in the rear of households; front collections will remain out front.

## Who is providing the cans?

Schaefer Systems International, Inc., of Charlotte, N.C., won a nationwide open bidding process to provide the cans. Schaefer cans are in use in jurisdictions across the country, and recently were adopted in the Maryland towns of Indian Head and LaPlata.

## What is the replacement policy?

If your can is damaged through normal wear and tear, call 311 to have it repaired or replaced. If the can is stolen, a police report (you may file one at [www.BaltimorePolice.org](http://www.BaltimorePolice.org)) must be provided for a one time free replacement.

## What should I do with my old trash cans?

Begin using your municipal trash can as soon as it arrives. If you want to recycle your old plastic or metal trash can, please take it to a Citizens' Convenience Center. You may also use them for recycling containers or for storage.

## May I use additional, personal cans?

Collecting trash from additional cans is possible as long as the total amount of trash per address does not exceed 96 gallons, the legal limit for the City to collect. Regular recycling helps to minimize the amount of waste that is thrown away. Trash set out in bags is not an acceptable means to contain trash.

## Will there be collection from multi-family dwellings?

Every address in Baltimore City is eligible for collection service under the restriction that they may only set out 96 gallons of mixed refuse per week. Addresses that generate above this limit must contract with private waste collectors. Any address currently receiving sanitation collection services from the Bureau of Solid Waste will participate in the Municipal Trash Can Program.

## What do I do with the municipal trash container if I move?

The city-issued municipal trash container is the property of the City of Baltimore. Please leave it in the rear yard of the residence when you move.