



STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE
MAYOR

Bureau of Solid Waste

Re News

BALTIMORE CITY

DPW

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ALFRED H. FOXX
DIRECTOR

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Q&A with Recycle Rob

Dear Recycle Rob,

We had a great Christmas and New Year's but it's time to say good bye to our tree. What do we do with it?

- Willow Oak

Dear Willow,

It's sad to say good-bye to a pine companion but all things must pass. From Jan. 7th to the 31st, you can set your Christmas tree out with your regular trash collection. Make sure all of the ornaments, tinsel and ribbons have been removed.

To really go green, you can take your tree to get it mulched at the Southwestern Citizens' Convenience Center at 701 Reedbird Street every Friday and Saturday in January from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you want to keep the mulch, you must bring a container or a bag.

Recycle Rob

From Your Recycling Coordinator...



At the start of the new year, many of us make a resolution to change. It can be to slim down your waist after a season of indulging in all the great holiday foods available or to slim down your waste by reducing, re-using or recycling.

Some useful reducing tips around the house is to always plan a shopping list to prevent purchasing on impulse. Eating before shopping is always a good tactic to shop for groceries with your brain and not your stomach. Try to buy products with less packaging. This is sometimes hard because you can buy a product in a box and find the product is one-third the size of the box! But, when you have the option, go for the slimmer package.

When possible, buy things in bulk, e.g., one large box of breakfast cereal instead of two small boxes. Buy items with a long shelf life such as rechargeable batteries and buy refillable items like dish washing liquid or hand sanitizer.



Bring a shopping bag when you go shopping instead of using plastic bags. Remember, we do not take plastic bags in our recycling so instead of collecting them and returning them to your grocer, use shopping bags which you can get at the supermarket.

Come up with you own resolutions for change to make 2014 the year you go all out green!



You should have gotten your 2014 DPW Calendar and if not, you can call 311 and request one. For more information on recycling, go to our website at www.baltimorecity.gov or call the Recycling Office at 410-396-4511. Happy Recycling!



New Year's & Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holidays



January 1st & 20th

No trash & recycling collections; make up day for New Year's is Saturday, January 4th; Dr. King's Birthday is not a regularly scheduled collection day.

Citizens' Convenience Centers are closed; no Mechanized Street Sweeping.



VALENTINA I. LEWIS
BUREAU OF SOLID WASTE
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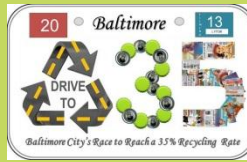
Leaf Pick Up & Yard Waste Tips

- Until January 6, 2014, you can call 311 for special Monday pickup of up to 20 bags. You can make multiple appointments until all the bags are gone.
- Do not put your bagged yard waste in the gutter or public right-of-way.
- The best way to take care of leaves is to compost them or go over them with a mulching mower.
- We will pick up 5 bags of leaves on your trash collection day. Put them where you set out your trash.
- A locked gate or pet will keep us from getting your yard waste; please confine your pets on collection day.
- We do not take tree branches larger than 4 inches in diameter or longer than 3 feet.
- You can also take your yard waste to any Citizen Drop-off center.



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Please don't use plastic bags!

You can use anything as a container for your recyclables **except** plastic bags. Many grocery stores and supermarkets will recycle plastic bags.



Acceptable and Unacceptable Recycling Materials

Acceptable Recycling Material:

- Aerosol Cans (empty)
- Aluminum: cans, beverage and food containers, foil (clean), and pie pans
- Bottles: narrow-neck bottles
- Cartons (waxed): used for a liquid such as juices, milk or soups
- Glass containers such as bottles and jars (brown, clear or green)
- Metal: beverage and food containers
- Plastic: bottles and jars
- Prescription bottles, including caps
- Steel: beverage containers and food
- Tin: cans and foil

Rigid Plastics

(to be taken to the citizen drop-off centers)

Rigid plastics include milk/soda crates, buckets, laundry baskets, children's toys, etc.

Unacceptable Recycling Material Examples:

- Cookware and plates (plastic)
- Containers of toxic substances -e.g., cans motor oil, pesticides, etc.
- Contaminated paper products -e.g., napkins, paper towels, and tissue
- Dry cleaning bags
- Glass (window and mirror)
- Waxed paper

Expanded Street Sweeping

If you got your DPW calendar in the mail, you will see a photo of one of our Mechanical Street Sweepers and the message that all neighborhoods will receive street sweeping in the new year. Hopefully, around this spring, we will be bringing mechanical street sweeping to every neighborhood in the city.

Street sweeping with mechanized vehicles in Baltimore City dates to the 1940's. In 2012 more than 95,000 miles of city streets were cleared of waste materials totaling over 9,000 tons.

Currently, sweepers clean designated areas in nearly 135 neighborhoods. Approximately 30 percent of the city has some sort of scheduled mechanized sweeping activity. We hope to increase that to over 90%.

Additionally, the sweeper operation cleans major thoroughfares leading in and out of the city, the interstate network around the city. Mechanical sweeping captures litter, sediments and detritus before these pollutants enter our storm drains and waterways. Nuisance materials such as broken glass, nails and screws are removed during sweeping, resulting in increased road and personal safety.

The mechanical street sweeping operation is a major component of the City's storm water permit program in that through this operation's efforts, compliance with the State storm water discharge permit is made possible due to pollutant removal accomplished by the sweepers.

In the coming months, Community outreach, postcards and social media will be used to inform residents of the new program and when the sweepers will be coming to your street.

Re minders



There will be no trash and recycling collections on Wednesday, January 1, New Year's Day. Citizens' Convenience Centers are closed & no Mechanized Street Sweeping will take place. The make up day for New Year's is Saturday, January 4th. The Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, Jan. 20, is not a regularly scheduled collection day.

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We're on the Web!

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www.baltimorecity.gov
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