

City of Baltimore Department of Public Works (DPW) Recycling Program Change FAQs

Why was my recycling missed?

DPW apologizes for any missed recycling routes as we continue to manage challenges due to the pandemic. The onslaught of COVID-19 cases has substantially impacted solid waste operations. DPW prioritized routine trash collection over recycling and made that decision because timely trash collections are extremely important for public health.

Why is the recycling program changing?

This change to bi-weekly recycling collections will help DPW manage long-term. These modifications are essential to stabilize operations and ensure consistent, predictable, and sustainable services for residents.

Is this a permanent change or only temporary?

This is a temporary change until staffing levels stabilize and we can ensure the long-term stability of returning to weekly collections. This modified schedule will remain in effect until further notice.

Where can I get more information about the changes?

DPW will continue to provide collection updates on its [website](#). You are also encouraged to follow DPW on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and NextDoor for the latest information.

How do I confirm my collection week?

Northeast and Northwest (north of North Avenue) neighborhoods will be on Week A of the alternating schedule, which will start on January 18 - 21. Their following collection will be the week of February 1 - 4.

Southeast and Southwest (south of North Avenue) will be on Week B of the alternating schedule, which will start on January 25 - 28. Their following collection will be the week of February 8 - 11.

DPW has created a user-friendly [map](#) for residents to find their collection day and cycle.

Does my collection day change?

No, your recycling day will not change with these modifications. For example, if a resident's typical recycling collection day is Thursday, it will remain on Thursday with this new schedule, and collections will occur bi-weekly.

What are the options for storing my recycling for two weeks?

Your new recycling cart is 65 gallons with an attached lid so that you can store lots of recycling in this cart.

Helpful tips – Residents break down cardboard boxes and collapse aluminum cans so that they take up less space, and keep the lid closed to keep water out of the cart.

What are the options for storing recycling if I haven't received my recycling cart yet?

Recycling Cart distribution is still in process. If you have not received your cart, you can check the DPW [website for your estimated delivery date](#). If the website says that your area already

received a cart, please call 311. In the meantime, you can still recycle by using any container other than a plastic bag.

DPW encourages residents to use our five Residential Drop-Off Centers that are open Monday through Saturday:

- Northwest Transfer Station, 5030 Reisterstown Road
- Quarantine Road Landfill, 6100 Quarantine Road
- Northwest Residential Drop-off Center, 2840 Sisson Street
- Southwestern Residential Drop-off Center, 701 Reedbird Avenue
- Eastern Residential Drop-off Center, 6101 Bowleys Lane

What should I do if my recycling isn't picked up on my collection day?

First, double-check it's the correct week schedule by checking the [map](#), and if it is confirmed your collection week was missed, residents should then call 311 to report the missed collection.

If there are further recycling delays, how can I check if my recycling is getting picked up?

Please be sure to check the [Trash and Recycling Updates](#) page for more information about delays or cancellations in your neighborhood.

Can we get dumpsters for our neighborhood?

DPW is not currently distributing dumpster containers for neighborhood recycling collection, but we encourage residents to bring recyclables to City Residential Drop Off Centers.

Residential Drop Off Centers' hours, locations, and residents can find guidelines [here](#) or by visiting publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/.

What materials are recyclable?

Residents are encouraged to visit the [DPW recycling services page](#) for more information.

I still have more questions, where can I go?

If residents still have questions, we encourage them to call 311 for assistance.