



Garbage and Recycling Guide

This guide provides information about garbage, recycling, organics recycling, yard waste, and bulky item services provided in Bloomington.

Learn more about waste services in Bloomington, including:

- What goes in the recycling
- How to sign up for an organics recycling cart
- Curbside cleanup held on even years
- Monthly pickup of reusable and recyclable bulky items (pictured above)

City of Bloomington

Utility Billing: 952-563-8726
blm.mn/garbage



General service guidelines

Setting out your carts

- Materials must be out at your collection point by 7 a.m. on your collection day.
- Set carts at least 3 feet apart to ensure safe and efficient service.
- Carts can be set out 12 hours before collection day, and must be taken back from the curb 12 hours after.
- Carts stored outside must be no more than 5 feet in front of your house and at least 30 feet from other homes.

Educational tags

Please watch for any educational tags placed on the handle of your cart(s). This is important information that could affect your service.

Holidays

If your collection day is on or follows a major holiday, collection will be delayed by one day. Major holidays include New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Refer to the included calendar for holidays that impact collection this year.

Maintaining your carts

Please keep your carts clean. The city and haulers do not clean carts. To clean your carts, put a little dish soap and baking soda into the cart and spray with water. Do not paint or alter the exterior of your carts. Carts are the property of your hauler. If a cart is damaged and needs to be replaced, contact Utility Billing at 952-563-8726.

Snow and ice removal

Snow and ice should be cleared as necessary in order for carts to be at ground level and accessible for the hauler. Haulers will not collect your garbage, recycling, organics, or yard waste if the carts are not serviceable.

Who to contact

	City	Hauler	County
Pay your bill, set up service	X		
Report a missed pickup	X	X	
Cart changes	X		
Schedule bulky item pickup	X		
Schedule late set out pickup	X		
Schedule on-call yard waste pickup	X		
Questions about what goes where (recycling, garbage, organics)	X	X	X
Hazardous waste and other materials requiring special handling			X
Backyard composting			X
Zero waste challenges			X
Business recycling resources			X
Apartment recycling resources			X

City Utility Billing

952-563-8726

utilitybilling@bloomingtonmn.gov | blm.mn/garbage

Hauler

Who your hauler is depends on your home address. If you aren't sure who your hauler is, you can find out at blm.mn/garbage or call Utility Billing at the number above.

Waste Management

952-890-1100

Republic Services

952-941-5174

Aspen Waste

612-884-8008

Friday missed collection after hours hotline

If your collection day is Friday, and you need to report a missed collection after 4:30 p.m. on Fridays, contact 1-888-467-3471.

Hennepin County

environment@hennepin.us

612-348-3777 | hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide

Organics recycling

What is curbside organics recycling?

More than 1/3 of our trash is organic material such as food scraps and non-recyclable paper that can be put to better use through composting. Curbside organics recycling is collected weekly and turned into compost at a commercial composting facility.



Sign up



All households pay for organics recycling. You must sign up to receive an organics cart. After signing up, a 30-gallon cart will be delivered with a welcome kit full of helpful resources. A voucher will also be mailed to your home within three months of signing up for a free box of 130 compostable bags. Anyone in the city's garbage and recycling program, including renters, can sign up.

For more information or to sign up, visit blm.mn/organics or call Utility Billing at 952-563-8726.

Organics recycling

How does organics recycling work?

1.



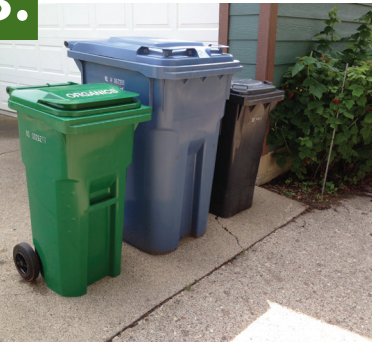
Collect organics in compostable bags throughout your home, including the kitchen, bathroom and bedrooms. Compostable bags include BPI-certified compostable plastic bags or paper grocery bags.

2.



Place your bagged organics in your organics recycling cart. Pizza boxes and egg cartons do not need to be bagged.

3.



Place your organics cart at your alley or curb next to your garbage and recycling carts by 7 a.m. on your regularly scheduled collection day.



Organics acceptability list

Important: only include the right things

Include only accepted materials in your organics recycling. Find a detailed list at blm.mn/detailed-organics-list. If you are unsure if an item is compostable, call 952-563-4659 or put the item in the garbage.

All food



Food-soiled paper



No: Frozen food boxes, microwave popcorn bags, fast food wrappers, ice cream tubs, paper towels used with chemical cleaners

Certified compostable products



Look for the BPI logo on certified products.

No: Food-service items without the BPI logo, check the BPI website at bpiworld.org to verify if an item is certified compostable

Other compostable items



No: Yard waste, diapers or sanitary products, pet and animal waste, litter or bedding, cleaning or baby wipes, dryer lint or dryer sheets, recyclable items (cardboard, cartons)

Tips for collecting organics

Home setup tips

Organics can be collected and stored in any way that works for you.

- **Containers:** Common containers include an ice cream bucket, a coffee canister, or a kitchen pail.
- **Storage location:** Most people store organics on the kitchen counter, under the sink, or in the refrigerator or freezer.
- **Bags:** Be sure to bag your organics. You can use paper bags, compostable plastic bags, or an unlined bucket that you dump into a bag before bringing to your cart.



Collection tips

- **Use a container with a vented lid** to slow down decomposition of food scraps. This will reduce odors and pests.
- **Liquids** break down compostable bags. Pour off excess liquids to help your bags last longer.
- **Set out your cart for collection every week**, to help prevent odors and pests.



Learn more

Are you unsure how to get started with organics? Visit our website at blm.mn/organics for more tips to help you get started.

Organics frequently asked questions

Why participate in organics recycling?

Everyone has their own reason for signing up for organics recycling. A few common reasons:

- **It's good for the environment.** Composting returns nutrients to the soil and helps grow healthy plants.
- **Reduce waste and save money.** Since so much of our trash includes materials accepted for organics recycling, you may be able to reduce the size of your garbage cart and save money.
- **It's easy.** Once you find the setup that works for you, organics recycling becomes an easy part of your routine.



How is curbside organics recycling different from backyard composting?



Organics recycling is a convenient way to compost all your food waste without maintaining a backyard compost bin.

Organics collected in Bloomington goes to a large-scale commercial composting facility. The commercial composting process kills harmful bacteria and composts items that do not break down in backyard compost, such as dairy products, meat, bones, paper towels and napkins, greasy pizza boxes, and BPI-certified compostable products.



Backyard composting is still a great way to compost fruit and vegetable scraps and yard waste into a rich soil amendment that you can use at home.

Preparing your recycling

Recycling is collected every other week



No plastic bags

- Recyclables must be loose. No plastic bags.
- Keep caps on plastic bottles and jugs.
- Keep cans, cartons and bottles in their original 3D shape.
- Flatten boxes.

Extra recycling

Place extra recycling in a paper bag and set next to your recycling cart. Make sure extra bags and boxes don't weigh more than 40 pounds. If you consistently have extra recycling, you can request a larger or additional cart by calling your hauler. There is no added cost for setting out extra recycling or for getting an extra recycling cart.

Recycling acceptability list

Paper, boxes, cardboard

Flatten boxes



No: Napkins, paper towels, shredded paper, paper plates, ice cream tubs, coffee cups

Plastic bottles, jugs, cups, containers

Recycle plastics # 1, 2, 5
Leave caps on



No: Plastic bags or film, shipping envelopes, #6 plastics, Styrofoam™, containers that held hazardous substances

Glass bottles and jars



No: Drinking glasses, pyrex, ceramics, mirrors

Metal cans



No: Paint cans, propane cylinders, helium tanks, containers that held hazardous substances

Cartons

Do not flatten



No: Paper or Styrofoam™ egg cartons, ice cream tubs

Preparation instructions

- Give items a quick rinse before recycling.
- Place items loose in your recycling cart.
- Don't crush cans, plastic bottles or cartons. Flatten boxes.
- Keep caps on plastic bottles, jugs, and containers.

Recycle smart: Leave these out

Recycling facilities are only designed to sort the items included on the recycling guide. Machinery at the recycling facility sorts items by shape, weight, and size. Items smaller than 3 inches, larger than a 3-gallon pail, or those that are awkwardly shaped or weighted could harm collection and recycling facility staff or damage equipment at the recycling facility.

Keep these items out of your recycling cart

The following items cannot be recycled and only add to the contamination in our recycling.



Plastic bags and film



Bagged recycling



Large plastic items and toys



Electronics and batteries



Random metal items



Shredded paper



Paper plates, cups, napkins, straws, and utensils



Tanglers like electrical cords, holiday lights, and hoses



Pressurized cylinders (propane, helium, CO2)

Drop-off recycling options exist for some of these items. Check the Hennepin County Green Disposal Guide at hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide

Recycling frequently asked questions

What do the numbers on plastic items mean?

The number on a plastic item, often inside a recycling symbol, is called a resin code. The resin code tells recyclers what type of plastic something is made of. It does not mean the item is recyclable.

There are seven types of plastic, indicated by resin codes 1 through 7. In Bloomington, plastics #1, #2, and #5 are accepted for recycling. There are strong markets to recycle these plastics into new products.

Here is an easy way to remember: Hold up a hand and put down your middle and ring finger to form the “I love you” sign in American Sign Language. Counting from your thumb, fingers #1 (thumb), #2 (pointer), and #5 (pinky) are left up. These are the plastics that are recyclable.



Caps on or caps off?

Loose caps will not be recycled. They will fall through sorting equipment and end up with the crushed glass. Best practices are to:

1. Keep plastic caps on plastic bottles.

Even though they may be two different types of plastic, they will eventually get sorted and both will be recycled.



2. Put small metal caps in the trash.

If you want to make an extra effort to get them recycled, you can put a few small, magnetic metal caps (less than 3 inches in diameter) into a metal soup can and pinch the top shut so they can't fall out. Put the soup can into your recycling cart.



Garbage collection

Garbage is collected weekly

- Bag your garbage. Double bag cold ashes, dust, pet waste, and sawdust.
- Garbage must fit in your cart with the lid closed. Any bags that do not fit into your trash cart will be charged as overflow trash.
- If overflow trash is regularly put out for collection, consider getting a larger trash cart or adding an additional cart.
- Items shown below are examples of items that should be placed in your garbage, and not recycled or composted.

Non-recyclable paper, plastic, and plastic-lined paper



Plastic bags and film



Wrappers



Durable items



Non-recyclable glass and ceramics



Personal care products, diapers, pet waste



No: Tires, liquids, hazardous waste

Bulky item management

An annual fee is charged to all households in the city's garbage and recycling program for bulky item collection services. The fee is called "Bulky Item Management Fee" on your Utility Bill. Your Utility Bill reflects two months of service.

This fee funds the activities detailed below. The purpose of these activities is to reuse and recycle more and landfill less.

Monthly collection of reusable and recyclable bulky items

During the first full week of every month, certain reusable and recyclable bulky items are accepted for curbside pickup. The bulky item management fee covers this service with no extra pickup fees. Pickups must be scheduled ahead of time directly with the city-contracted vendor, Better Futures.



To learn more, visit blm.mn/bulkies

Schedule a pickup by phone at 612-353-5400 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.), or online at betterfuturesminnesota.com/curbside-collections

Curbside Cleanup held every other year

Curbside Cleanup is held every other year on even years only.

During Curbside Cleanup, residents can place limited amounts of bulky items and yard waste at the curb for collection on an assigned Saturday.



To learn more, visit blm.mn/curbside

Curbside Cleanup	Even years ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 such as 2026, 2028, etc.
No Curbside Cleanup	Odd years ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9 such as 2025, 2027, etc.

Bulky item management

Annual recycling drop-off event

The annual recycling drop-off began in 2022, and is now offered every fall. Items accepted include electronics, appliances, scrap metal, mattresses, bicycles, and paper for on-site shredding. Certain items are accepted at no cost, and others are collected for a fee.

To learn more, visit blm.mn/drop-off



Swap events for reuse

The city started organizing swap events in 2022 with its inaugural garden tool swap. The city has also offered multiple baby gear swaps, and plans to organize more swap events in the future. These events are free and open to all Bloomington residents.

To learn more, visit blm.mn/swaps



On-call bulky item pickup available year-round

Curbside collection of bulky items, appliances, and electronic waste is available year-round through your garbage hauler on an on-call basis. To schedule a pickup and receive a cost quote based on items to be picked up, call Utility Billing at 952-563-8726.

To learn more, visit blm.mn/garbage

Yard waste

Yard waste is collected weekly, April through November

Yard waste is a subscription service that is collected seasonally, beginning on the Monday of the second full week in April and ending on the Friday of the last full week in November. If there is significant snowfall before the end of November, yard waste collection may end at that time.



Collection guidelines

- It is illegal to put yard waste in the trash in Minnesota, and yard waste is not accepted in organics carts.
- Yard waste may be placed in a hauler-provided cart, Kraft brown paper bags, BPI certified compostable yard waste bags, or in bundled brush secured with string or twine.
- Each bag, container, or bundle must weigh less than 40 pounds.
- Haulers will collect a maximum of 20 bags of yard waste per week.

Accepted	Not accepted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Branches and brush less than 3 inches in diameter and 3 feet long• Grass clippings• Leaves• Mulch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Branches and brush more than 3 inches in diameter or 3 feet long• Dirt, soil, or sod• Sawdust• Pet waste

Subscriptions and on-call service

Yard waste is a subscription service in the garbage and recycling program. Subscription service includes one yard waste cart. Subscribers may request another cart for an added fee.

Residents may also pay per bag for yard waste on-call services. On-call yard waste stickers may be purchased by calling 952-563-8757. Residents must adhere one sticker to each on-call bag of yard waste. To schedule an on-call collection, contact Utility Billing at 952-563-8726 at least 48 hours prior to your collection day.

Hazardous waste and problem materials

Hennepin County drop-off facilities

Hennepin County has two drop-off facilities that accept hazardous waste and problem materials year-round.

Drop-off facilities are located in:

- **Bloomington:** 1400 W 96th Street, Bloomington, 55431
- **Brooklyn Park:** 8100 Jefferson Highway, Brooklyn Park, 55445

Learn more at hennepin.us/drop-offs

Materials accepted include:

- Automotive fluids
- Batteries
- Cords and string lights
- Electronic media
- Household cleaners and solvents
- Lawn and garden products including herbicides and pesticides
- Mercury-containing items like fluorescent light bulbs, thermometers, and thermostats
- Plastic bags and film



Additional drop-off options

- **Hazardous waste collection events:** Collection events provide more convenient local disposal options for household hazardous wastes. Several events are held in Minneapolis every year. Find a schedule and list of materials accepted at hennepin.us/collectionevents



- **Medicine drop boxes:** Unwanted and unused medicines can be disposed of safely at drop boxes. Find locations at hennepin.us/medicine
- **Green Disposal Guide:** Not sure how to get rid of something? Find recycling, reuse, and disposal options at hennepin.us/greendisposalguide

Reduce and reuse

Not creating waste in the first place and extending the life of the items you have are even more important than recycling. You can have an even bigger impact by working with your family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues to make changes at home, at work, and in your community.

Hennepin County offers many programs and resources to help:

Fix-It Clinics

Get free help repairing your broken household items:

hennepin.us/fixitclinic

Reuse and recycle building materials

Reduce the impact of your next home improvement project. Learn about grants and resources available: hennepin.us/salvage

Community Recycling Ambassadors

Get training on the waste system then volunteer educating the public and completing waste reduction and recycling projects: hennepin.us/recycling-ambassadors

Business recycling and waste reduction

Encourage the place where you work and your favorite businesses to reduce waste and improve recycling. Grants, signage, and technical assistance are available: hennepin.us/businessrecycling

School waste reduction and recycling

Reduce waste and educate the next generation. Grants and technical assistance are available: hennepin.us/schoolrecycling



Reduce and reuse

Choose to reuse

Learn tips for being a thoughtful consumer and resources for shopping used, borrowing, or swapping: hennepin.us/choose-to-reuse

Zero Waste Challenge

Get personalized coaching and access to resources, workshops, and supplies: hennepin.us/zerowastechallenge

Plastic-Free Challenge

Learn about plastics and commit to actions that help create a plastic-free world: hennepinplasticfree.ecochallenge.org

Stop Food Waste Challenge

Commit to easy, practical actions that will help you stop wasting food and put more money in your pocket: hennepinfoodwaste.ecochallenge.org





City of Bloomington

1800 West Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431



Sign up with E-Subscribe at
blm.mn/e-subscribe to receive email
updates on the garbage and recycling program.



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Ku hel macluumaadkan Af Somali

Nhận thông tin này bằng Tiếng Việt