

Seattle's recycling changes

Starting March 30, all single-family homes in Seattle will be required to pay for food/yard-waste service. In addition, the city is changing its regulations regarding recycling. The changes apply to single-family houses and to apartments and condominiums. City officials hope more food-waste recycling will help the city meet its goal of recycling 60 percent of its waste.*

STARTING MARCH 30:

- A new collection day for most households.

FOOD/YARD WASTE

- Weekly collection.
- All food scraps including **meat, fish and dairy** will go into the food- and yard-waste cart along with items already allowed, including pizza boxes, paper towels and paper napkins (no coated paper or coated cardboard).



RECYCLING

- More paper, plastic and metal items can be recycled, including **paper and plastic cups, milk cartons, deli trays, aluminum foil, plastic plant pots and lids wider than 3 inches.**
- Glass bottles and jars will go into the recycling cart – no more separating glass.



OTHER ITEMS

- **Used motor oil** will be collected for free without advanced scheduling.
- **Electronics** can be picked up with a \$20 fee per collection for items that are a maximum of 2 feet by 2 feet by 2 feet and under 60 pounds; requires advanced scheduling.
- **Bulky items** will be collected with a \$30 fee per item and advance scheduling. \$38 for items with CFCs, such as a refrigerator.



NEW GARBAGE RATES

Garbage options (per month)

12 gallon \$14.05 20 gallon \$17.15 32 gallon \$22.30 64 gallon \$44.60 96 gallon \$66.90

Food/Yard-waste options (per month)

13 gallon \$3.60 32 gallon \$5.40 96 gallon \$6.90

SEATTLE'S RECYCLING HISTORY:

- 1988** Curbside pickup offered for recycling glass, aluminum and paper.
- 2003** City recycles 38 percent of its waste. Mayor Greg Nickels sets goal of 60 percent recycling by 2010.
- 2004** City bans placing recyclables in the trash. Residents must recycle 90 percent of paper, aluminum, glass and plastics. Businesses must recycle paper products and yard waste.
- 2005** Food-scrap recycling offered for those in the voluntary yard-waste-recycling program.
- 2006** City begins enforcing ban on recyclables in garbage. Residents violating the rule don't get their garbage picked up. Businesses and apartments fined \$50 after two warnings.
- 2007** City recycles 48.4 percent of its waste. Nickels puts off 60 percent goal to 2012 and sets goal of 70 percent by 2025.
- 2009** March 30 – All single-family residences required to have food/yard-waste service, but not required to use it.

* Customers who compost food waste in their yard may request an exemption from food and yard-waste collection by contacting Seattle Public Utilities at: 206-684-3000 or: www.seattle.gov/util/foodwaste