

AT YOUR DISPOSAL – NEWS COLLECTORS CAN USE
January 2023

Annual Recycling Data Request Forms Are Coming Soon!

It's January - so Annual Recycling Data Request forms should be arriving in your email by the middle of the month. The completed forms are due back to SWMP by March 3, 2023. The recycling **forms will not be available on the county web site**. You must contact Erica Carter at erica.carter@fairfaxcounty.gov to obtain another copy of the forms, if needed.

Please be aware that SWMP will address the issue of late submittal of these forms (and failure to submit) as described in Solid Waste Advisory SWA 09-006. Please review this Advisory and direct any questions on this to Courtney Willis-Banks at Courtney.Willis-Banks@FairfaxCounty.Gov

Safety Minute

This month's Safety Minute focuses on [Protective Clothing for Cold Weather Safety](#).

Clothing: Wear at least three layers of loose-fitting clothing. Layering provides better insulation. An inner layer of wool, silk or synthetic (polypropylene) is best to keep moisture away from the body. Thermal wear, and wool, silk or polypropylene inner layers will hold more body heat than cotton.

A middle layer of wool or synthetic will provide insulation even when wet.

An outer wind and rain protection layer that allows some ventilation to prevent overheating. Clothing (Loose fitting) – Tight clothing reduces blood circulation. Warm blood needs to be circulated to the extremities.

Face Covering or knit mask to cover face and mouth (if needed).

Head Covering since protecting your head is very important. A hat shields your ears from the cold and retains heat. The combination of a hat and headband or earmuffs will often work better than a hat alone because hats can easily rise off the ears as workers move around.

Gloves because no matter your job, if you're working outdoors in cold weather, you should most definitely be wearing some sort of gloves, if not to protect your hands from your work, to protect them from the cold-related ailments such as frostbite.

Socks it is recommended to wear one or two pairs of thick socks if you want to protect your shoes. Having extra socks are preferred because socks tend to get damp during the day. The outer sock should be a larger size than the inner sock, to avoid extra compression.

Footwear is critical for work that involves walking in water, waterproof boots must be worn. Leather boots can be treated and waterproofed with special products that do not block the pores in the boot surface. The best-suited shoes are leather-topped boots with removable felt insoles.

Worker Visibility is important during all seasons, but wearing reflective gear is especially critical in the winter months, as the hours of daylight are shortened. Since it's likely you'll be working in the dark, consider investing in reflective gear with electronic light-up features. Flip them on to be sure you're always seen.

Safety is important to us and should be to you! Show us how great your staff has been with following PPE regulations. Send a photo to Renad.Uri@FairfaxCounty.gov and you can win Fairfax County Solid Waste Management swag.

Enforcement Reminders

- Open tops: refuse collections using open-top containers is a violation of County Code. Without covers, restricted access, and good signage, open tops are magnets for illegal refuse dumping.
- MSW compactors that break down cannot be replaced with an open top, **even temporarily**.

Yard Waste and Christmas Tree Disposal

Yard waste should be collected curbside year-round, but only needs to be recycled **from March 1 through December 24**. Christmas trees are not considered yard waste and must be collected and recycled **the first two weeks in January**. Please remind your customers that all ornaments, decorations (including tinsel) and stands must be removed prior to set out for recycling.

Let your Fairfax County customers know that, if they miss the window for curbside collection, they can always drop off their trees at the I-66 Transfer Station or the I-95 Landfill Complex as an alternative. There is an \$8 fee to recycle each tree.

Four Touch Points Kick-off

Our residents have the best intentions, but they don't always know how to recycle right. Every quarter, collectors that pick-up residential must share information with their customers. The next 4TP outreach item should be delivered before March 30, 2023. This can be a statement of service, an email about how to recycle right, a copy of the Fairfax Recycles Newsletter, or other media that provide a message about source reduction and recycling. For more information, check out the [4TP web page](#).