Thanks for your continued participation in the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP) trash and recycling collection service. This document sets the terms of service to help you to take advantage of all the features, including the five special pickups per year (July 1 - June 30). Take a minute to look over these guidelines - trash and recycling may be left at the curb if it's not set out correctly.

**Carts**

Trash carts (gray) are for household trash only. **Do not use these carts for recycling or yard waste.** Carts provided by the County should not be loaded to more than 50 pounds. Homeowners are responsible for storing and cleaning the carts. Personal trash containers should not be loaded to more than 50 pounds. The County is not responsible for damage or loss to personal trash containers.

Recycle carts (blue) are used for recycling only. **Do not use these carts for trash or yard waste.** Do not place plastic bags in your recycling cart.

**Trash and Recycling Collection**

**Holiday Schedule:** Regular trash, recycling, brush and bulk collection services are provided on all holidays **except Christmas Day.** The Customer Service Center is closed in observance of all county holidays.

**PLEASE:**

- Set your carts out by 6 a.m. on your collection day at the curb/street line – but not more than one day before your collection day; remove them within 24 hours after collection.
- Ensure cart lids are closed to keep contents from spilling onto street.
- Do not leave items that aren't for disposal too close to the trash or recycling receptacles.
- This service is for household trash – not waste from businesses or special projects.
- Please bag the waste before placing it in the trash cart – you’re responsible for keeping the cart clean.
- Do you have too much trash? Place it in bags or containers (weight limit of 50 pounds each) Please no more than 10 bags.

**Residential properties can recycle the following materials:**

- Mixed paper and flattened cardboard
- Metal food & beverage cans
- Cartons (milk, juice) remove caps and straws
- Plastic food and beverage bottles and jugs, ONLY

**Yard Waste**

Each year, from March 1 – December 24 yard waste (grass, leaves and brush) - must be placed at the curb separately for collection. Yard waste can be placed in compostable paper yard bags or rigid containers.

- Small quantities of brush can be tied in bundles (no longer than 4 feet in length, and no more than 50 pounds in weight).
- A branch must not exceed 6 inches in diameter.
- More than 4 bundles of tied yard waste should be scheduled for a special collection.
- Yard waste does not include soil, mulch, sod, stumps, whole trees, large branches or limbs or clean-up from storm damage.

**Unacceptable Materials**

These are the things that don’t belong in your trash or recycling carts.

- Animal carcasses
- Automobile or auto parts
- Compressed cylinders (any size)
- Construction and demolition debris (drywall, shingles, roofing material, insulation, concrete)
- Non-container glass, e.g., windowpanes (must be boxed up/taped closed & labeled “glass”)
- Hazardous waste including paint, oil, asbestos, and other chemical wastes
- Liquids, including sewage and septic waste
- Bio-hazardous medical waste

Due to the current public health emergency, hours and services are subject to change. Please refer to the **County Collection Customers webpage** for details.
Special Collections

Your base service includes five special collections per fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). You must schedule special collections in advance. **Deadline for scheduling next day pickup is 2:30 PM the day before your collection day.** Special collection piles are limited to:

- 12 cubic yards of material (a pile about 5 feet x 6 feet x 10 feet)
- Piles of heavy/dense materials are limited to 6 cubic yards.
- Any one item cannot be more than 6 feet long and 6 inches in diameter.
- **Do not put debris under power wires or tree branches.** We need 20 feet of clearance on all sides of debris pile as well as above the debris pile so that we can safely collect.

**Megabulk:** The Megabulk Program is designed to help customers remove cut up trees and large loads of waste from their properties - including construction and demolition waste. The minimum charge for a Megabulk collection is $110, but prices will vary depending on the volume of material. **Material must not be placed under power lines or tree limbs; we require 20 feet of clearance on all sides and above the pile.** Waste may not be left at the curb for more than 10 days. You are responsible for removing the material within 10 days, either with the Megabulk Program, another contractor or by self-hauling the waste. Failure to do so may result in Fairfax County removing the materials at your risk and expense. The minimum cost for county removal of abandoned materials is $250 plus actual labor, equipment and disposal costs.

Get in Touch!

**To receive email updates**


**Missed Collections:**

Report missed collections the following business day by 4:30 p.m. You may report a missed collection by calling 703-802-3322 or on-line: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/solid-waste-feedback-form

**Severe Weather/Emergency:**

Trash and recycling collection may be suspended in severe weather or in emergency situations. For emergency and severe weather status updates, please call 703-802-3322, TTY 711 or go online: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/county-collection-customers

**To schedule a special collection, contact the Customer Service Center at 703-802-3322, TTY 711 or go to:**

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/county-collection-customers/special-pick-up

**Glass Recycling Information:**

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/glass