

WINTER 2011

Rain in the Forecast

When rain is in the forecast please remember you may place your curbside collection carts either on top of the curb (if parking can be controlled) or 2 feet in front of the gutter to avoid tipping from rainwater runoff. Also, each cart is hot stamped with a serial number in white. It helps to write down the serial number of each of your carts to assist in identification if they are swept away during a downpour or by winds.

2011 Holidays Affecting Collection:

Memorial Day

Monday, May 30th

July 4th

Monday, July 4th

Labor Day

Monday, September 5th

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 24th

Collection following each of these holidays is delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

Recycle Your Worn Out Clothing

After the holiday gift giving take a moment to inventory your closet and consider recycling your worn out clothing and shoes. Unusable garments, especially cotton t-shirts, may be turned into wiping and polishing clothes used by a variety of industries and sold to consumers.

Other textiles are shredded into fibers used to make new products, such as sound-deadening materials for the automotive industry, archival-quality paper, blankets and even plastic fencing. Place your worn out textiles in a clear plastic bag (or light colored) and place it in your recycle cart at home and we will do the rest!



More Reasons to Recycle...

Good for Our Economy

American companies rely on recycling programs to provide the raw materials they need to make new products.

Creates Jobs

Recycling in the U.S. is a \$236 billion a year industry, more than 56,000 recycling and reuse enterprises employ 1.1 million workers nationwide.

Protects Wildlife

Using recycled materials reduces the need to damage forests, wetlands, rivers and other places essential to wildlife.

Reduces Water Pollution

Making goods from recycled materials generates far less water pollution than manufacturing from virgin materials.

Did You Know:

Every 3 months Americans landfill enough aluminum cans to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.

Recycling a single aluminum can saves enough energy to power a television for 3 hours.

The plastic recycling industry provides jobs for more than 52,000 American workers.

5 plastic soda bottles yield enough fiber for 1 extra large t-shirt, one square foot of carpet, or enough fiber fill to fill one ski jacket.

BREAKING IT DOWN

Items Found in a Landfill	Time it Takes to Decompose
Cigarette Butt	2-5 years
Leather Boot	40-50 years
Rubber Sole of Boot	50-80 years
Tin Can (soup or vegetable)	80-100 years
Aluminum Can (soda can)	200-500 years
Plastic Six Pack Rings	450 years

Information source: The National Recycling Coalition

The Costs of American Littering

Over 51 billion pieces of litter land on U.S. roadways each year. Most of it, 46.6 billion pieces, is less than four inches, according to the Keep America Beautiful 2009 National Visible Litter Survey and Litter Cost Study. That's 6,729 items per mile.

While visible roadside litter has decreased by about 61% since 1969, litter is still a persistent problem.

Consider these facts:

- **Litter clean up costs the U.S. almost \$11.5 billion each year**, with businesses paying \$9.1 billion. Governments, schools, and other organizations pick up the remainder.
- **Community economy and quality of life suffer.** The presence of litter in a community takes a toll on quality of life, property values, and housing prices. The Keep America Beautiful 2009 National Visible Litter Survey and Litter Cost Study found that litter in a community decreases property values 7%.
- **Litter has environmental consequences.** Wind and weather, traffic, and animals move litter into gutters, lawns and landscaped areas, alleyways, and parking structures. Debris may be carried by storm drains into local waterways, with potential for serious environmental contamination.

What You Can Do to Prevent Litter

Changing a common behavior, like littering, starts with you. Each person must accept responsibility for their actions and influence the actions of others around them at home, at school, in your place of business, and in the community at large. **Start with these actions:**

- Choose not to litter. Make the commitment now to join with thousands of other Americans to not be a litter-bug.
- Join with others on Facebook. Get your friends and family to join.
- Remind others not to litter and why.
- Get a litter bag or portable ash receptacles to share.
- Volunteer in your community to help prevent and clean up litter—from cigarette butts to illegal dumps. Find a Keep America Beautiful affiliate in your community.

Information source: [Keep America Beautiful www.kab.org](http://www.kab.org)

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