

FAQ for Businesses: Transition to Single-Stream Recycling

Single-stream cart deliveries:

When should my business expect our single-stream recycling carts?

Your business location will be getting the new blue single-stream recycling carts delivered directly to you around mid-August 2010.

My business has a dumpster as well as carts for recycling. Will my business location receive new recycling carts?

Since single-stream recycling allows paper and containers to be collected in one bin, you may not need a separate cart to hold your recyclables. Businesses will be able to place all their recyclable materials into their current “papers only” recycling dumpsters starting July 5th. Many businesses with a recycling dumpster as well as recycling carts will have their carts removed and not replaced. If your business has a recycle dumpster but you need to maintain your recycle carts, please contact Lisa Perschke at Recycle Ann Arbor, 734.662.6288 or info@recycleannarbor.org.

Our old recycling carts didn't get replaced. What should we do?

For most business locations, old carts will be picked up on the same day that new recycling carts are delivered around mid-August. If your old carts have been picked up and your new cart hasn't been delivered, please be patient. Your new cart should arrive in a few days. If you haven't received your new cart by the end of the week after your old carts are picked up, please contact Recycle Ann Arbor at 734.662.6288 or info@recycleannarbor.org.

We store our recycling carts inside. How will our carts get replaced?

Your new recycling carts will be delivered on your normal recycling service day around mid-August. Recycle Ann Arbor staff will be contacting you, a week in advance, to ask that your business place all your recycling carts outside at your normal service location. In most cases, all of the old-style recycling carts will be switched out for the new single-stream recycling carts.

What will happen to the old recycling carts and bins that are removed from business locations?

The newest carts will be retrofitted to use in the expanded commercial recycling program. The remainder of the carts will be recycled. Stacking recycling bins that are usable will be reused; broken bins will be recycled.

Recycling Service and Recycling Education:

Will all of my recyclables have to fit inside the cart?

Yes. All materials to be recycled must be placed inside the cart, even materials that were previously allowed to be placed outside the cart, such as cardboard. All materials to be recycled must fit inside the cart with the lid closed, or they will not be picked up for recycling.

Our recycling carts are overflowing. What should we do?

- Cart service customers, not in the DDA location: contact Recycle Ann Arbor at 734.662.6288 or info@recycleannarbor.org to request additional recycling carts or for a special recycling pickup. We can also deliver carts for a short-term need in your office (such as a special event or for performing an office clean out).
- Recycle dumpster service customers or businesses located within the DDA (Downtown Development Authority): contact the City of Ann Arbor's recycling coordinator at (734) 794-6430 ext. 43707 or the Customer Service Center at 99-GREEN, or customerservice@a2gov.org

How can I educate my staff about the new recycling program?

Recycle Ann Arbor's business recycling coordinator can provide a training and presentation to your staff about the new recycling program. We can also provide a template email to send to staff members including the new recycling guidelines. Call 734.662.6288 or email info@recycleannarbor.org to request this free service.

Will I need new recycling bins inside my business?

Your current 30-gallon recycling bins (made of cardboard) or plastic recycling bins can function as single stream recycling collectors. Simply adjust the number of bins as necessary (you may be able to decrease the number of bins used since you no longer need separate paper and container bins). Next, turn the bin so that outdated guidelines are not visible (facing a wall), and affix updated guidelines to the bin or space on the wall above the bin. Simply print <http://www.a2gov.org/government/publicservices/fieldoperations/solidwasteunit/Documents/solidwaste_recycleguide_2010_07_05.pdf> new guidelines or contact Recycle Ann Arbor to request copies of the single-stream guidelines poster.

What should I do with any unneeded indoor recycling bins?

Since there will be no need for separate paper and container recycling bins in your business, you may want to reduce the number of indoor collection bins. You may reuse the old bins for collecting recyclables elsewhere in your business, or even use them for some other office use. If you can't reuse the indoor collection bins or boxes, they can be returned to:

- Recycle Ann Arbor, at 2420 South Industrial Hwy.
- Drop-Off Station, at 2950 E. Ellsworth
 - Anyone returning two or more bins to the Drop-Off Station will have the \$3.00 DOS entry fee waived for one-time.

What if my business needs additional recycling bins, carts or a dumpster?

- Recycle dumpster service customers or businesses located within the DDA (Downtown Development Authority): contact the City of Ann Arbor's recycling coordinator at (734) 794-6430 ext. 43707 or the Customer Service Center at 99-GREEN, or customerservice@a2gov.org
- Cart service customers, not in the DDA location: contact Recycle Ann Arbor at 734.662.6288 or info@recycleannarbor.org

Will our business service day change once single-stream starts?

Most business' pick up schedule will remain unchanged. Your business will be notified two weeks prior to any recycling service day changes that might need to be made as the new single-stream recycling program begins. If your business needs additional service or a special pickup, please contact Recycle Ann Arbor at 734.662.6288 or email at info@recycleannarbor.org.

Where can I recycle items that are not taken through the single-stream program? Batteries (alkaline, rechargeable and special types), plastic bags and shrink wrap, Styrofoam, electronics, bulb wrap, packing peanuts, hard backed books, used motor and car fluids, etc. are accepted at the Drop-Off Station located at 2950 E. Ellsworth Rd. Please note the Drop-Off Station charges a \$3 entry fee. For more information, see www.recyclannarbor.org. Additional options are linked to the city's Web site at www.a2gov.org/recycle.

Where can I take unwanted but reusable office items?

Many unwanted office items that are reusable can be donated at our ReUse Center located at 2420 S. Industrial Hwy. For more information, see www.recyclannarbor.org.

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