



City of Ann Arbor Residential Disposal Guide



2025-2026 Holiday Schedule on page 4

Reuse, Repair, and Share in Ann Arbor

The first step to reducing waste is keeping things in use. By repairing, sharing, and reselling items, you can also save money, support your neighbors and boost the local circular economy. Visit a2gov.org/reuse for more details.

Shop and donate at local reuse stores

Ann Arbor has a wide array of online and brick and mortar reuse, thrift, repair, bulk, and rental businesses. Bonus—check out the local library for more than just books! These are great ways to rehome your used items and shop secondhand to save money and reduce waste.



Participate in community swap days

As an alternative to buying new, participate in a local swap where you can donate items, get new-to-you items for free, and build community. Visit osi.a2gov.org/swapdays for information on upcoming swaps and resources to host your own swap event!



Engage with the More Life, Less Stuff campaign

This campaign aims to inspire people to use less stuff and connect with the world around us. Read uplifting stories from community members and local organizations on a variety of ways they reduce waste, engage with nature, and strengthen connections at a2morelife.com.



Be a thoughtful consumer

Shop locally for what you need and look for durable, well-made items that will last longer. Consider alternatives to buying new and look first for ways to reuse, repair, rebuild and repurpose existing items. Practice good maintenance of items from clothes to appliances to extend their useful life.



For more details on these resources, visit our website at a2gov.org/reuse or follow this QR code

Tips to Prevent Wasted Food at Home

#1: Buy only what you need

- **Create a realistic meal plan.** Decide what you need before going to the store. Be sure to check your fridge and pantry for items you need to use up.
- **Make a shopping list** based on your meal plan and stick to it! Try to resist impulse buys.
- **Buy the amount you need.** Shop from bulk bins and buy loose fruits and vegetables instead of pre-packaged foods.



#2: Keep food fresh for longer with proper storage



- **Use a food storage guide** to learn how to keep food fresh longer. Try the NRDC's resource at [savethefood.com/storage](https://www.savethefood.com/storage).
- **First in, first out.** Rotate items in your fridge and pantry so you see and use older items first.
- **Use clear containers** so you can see what needs to be eaten.

#3: Make the most of your food

- **Love your leftovers.** Plan a weekly leftovers night as part of your meal plan.
- **Freeze what you can't finish.** Pack extra food in small portions in clear containers, then freeze for easy cooking later!
- **Bring food back to life.** Learn how to revive wilted greens and produce.
- **Share food** with friends, family and neighbors when you have too much.



Learn more about food waste prevention at a2gov.org/sustainablefood



2025-2026 Holiday Schedule

Curbside collection schedules may be impacted by the following City holidays. Visit a2gov.org/solidwaste for more details.

2025	September 1	Mon	Labor Day
	November 27	Thurs	Thanksgiving Day
	December 25	Thurs	Christmas Day
2026	January 1	Thurs	New Year's Day
	May 25	Mon	Memorial Day
	July 4	Sat	Independence Day (Saturday - no service impact)

If your cart goes to the curb, do the following:

- Ensure handles face away from the street.
- Place carts 3 feet apart, lids fully closed, no trash or debris on or around them.
- Abide by placement rules for streets with bike lanes.
- In winter, keep carts free of snow or ice and accessible to trucks. Do not place carts on snow banks - instead shovel out a spot on the road or lawn extension.
- Carts must not exceed 224 pounds (64-gallon) or 336 pounds (96-gallon).

Curbside assistance is available for those physically unable to place their carts at the curb and are unable to make other arrangements. Contact Customer Service at 734.994.7336 for details.

NO BATTERIES!

They can start a fire
in trash or recycling.



Battery Bulletin

Rechargeable batteries can explode or catch on fire, presenting serious risks to trash and recycling workers! Batteries are becoming more common in everyday household items like toothbrushes, vapes, greeting cards, and children's toys, and require special attention.

Do not place these items in trash or recycle carts or dumpsters. These items must be properly recycled.

For battery recycling options near you, visit call2recycle.org/locator.

City of Ann Arbor
Trash, Recycling & Compost

734.994.7336
a2gov.org/solidwaste



What Can I Recycle?

Recycling is for everyone! The City provides recycling service for all residential and commercial properties.

Glass Bottles and Jars



Metal Cans



Boxes and Cardboard (empty & flatten boxes)



Paper and Cartons



Plastic Bottles, Tubs, and Containers (recycle plastics #1, 2, 5, empty and leave screw caps on)



NO

- × Plastic bags or film
- × Styrofoam
- × Batteries
- × Black and/or bulky plastic
- × Scrap metal
- × Hardcover books
- × Paper cups
- × Shredded paper

What Can I Compost?

Curbside compost service is available to all single-family homes and new drop-off opportunities for food scraps are coming soon!

Food Scraps

(meat, bones and dairy included)



Yard Clippings

(leaves, grass clippings, weeds, plants, flowers, small branches and twigs)



Food-Soiled Paper

(unbleached and uncoated)



Other Compostables

(cool wood ashes, paper lawn bags, cut-up holiday trees, and untreated, unpainted lumber)



CMA-W Certified Items

(fiber and paper items only)



NO

- × Plastic bags / containers
- × Pet waste
- × Diapers
- × BPI certified or other “compostable” plastics
- × Bamboo or palm leaf items
- × Painted or treated wood

What Do I Do With...?

Large items and excess trash or recycling

Large items like furniture, mattresses, and appliances **will not be collected** if left at the curb, and could be subject to fines if left out at the curb for over 48 hours.

For items in good or repairable condition, **explore reuse options first.**

Large items, scrap metal, and other hard-to-recycle materials may be brought to **Washtenaw County Clean-Up Days** or the **Recycle Ann Arbor Drop-Off Station.**

Drop-Off Station

Accepts a variety of items for recycling or disposal. Gate fee and special service fees apply.

2950 E. Ellsworth Rd, Ann Arbor
734-971-7400
recycleannarbor.org

Batteries, Paint, Cleaners and Other Household Hazardous Waste

Products labeled poisonous, hazardous, flammable, explosive, or corrosive should **never** be trashed, flushed, or poured on the ground. Share leftovers with others to according to the label or bring them to the **Washtenaw County Home Toxics Center** or **Household Hazardous Waste Center.**

- Cleaners & polishes
- Handheld Devices with built-in Batteries
- Batteries
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Pesticides/herbicides
- Automotive fluids
- Paints (latex/oil)
- Solvents
- Stains/ varnishes
- Medical sharps
- **See website for more items**

Washtenaw County Home Toxics Center

Events held on select Saturdays, April-Nov, **registration required.**
705 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor

Household Hazardous Waste Center

Weekday drop-offs are accepted Tues-Thu by **appointment only.**
10843 W. Five Mile Rd, Northville

Visit washtenaw.org/287/Household-Hazardous-Waste-Disposal or call 734-222-3950

Washtenaw County Clean-Up Days

These are FREE events where county residents can recycle and dispose of many household items including electronics, household hazardous waste, bulky waste, appliances, and tires. There are typically five events each year at different locations around Washtenaw County, and residents may attend any of the events - not limited to their own city or township.



For details, dates, and locations visit: washtenaw.org/cleanup

What Goes in the Trash?

Below are examples of common trash items, but trash is everything that is NOT recyclable, compostable, reusable, repairable, hazardous or heavy.

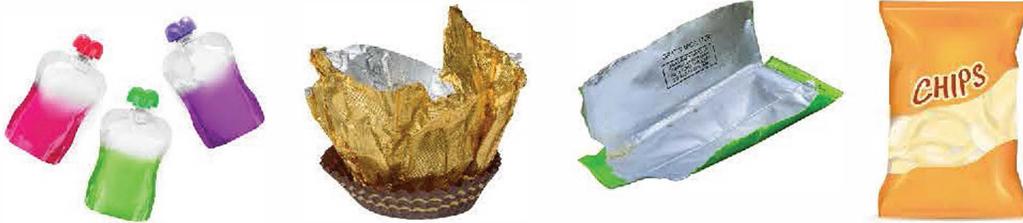
Single-Use Disposable Plates and Cups



To-Go Containers
(Styrofoam and black plastic)



Food Wrappers, Pouches, and Bags



Non-Recyclable Glass and Ceramics



Diapers, Pet Waste and Litter



NO

- × Recyclables
- × Large items that prevent lid from closing
- × TVs or electronics
- × Yard waste or logs
- × Liquids
- × Batteries
- × Hazardous materials
- × Scrap metal
- × Fuel or propane tanks
- × Tires