

SINGLE STREAM COLLECTION PROGRAM

Easier than ever, just throw it together!



In an effort to help continue educating and answering questions from residents, staff has compiled a list of the most frequently asked questions (and answers) regarding the Single Stream Collection Program. These questions have come from social media and emails and phone calls to staff.

What should you do with food if you can't compost it?

It is recommended (but not required) to remove as much food scraps as possible from the trash. Any leftovers can still be thrown in along with the other waste.

Is the city still recycling?

The city is still recycling and in fact, will be recycling more now than before. All residents will now participate in this program. Through the Single Stream Collection Program, a larger variety of materials from the city will be recycled.

What materials will be recycled?

The materials recycled are: various metals, tin, all plastics, cardboard, aluminum, styrofoam and paper products.

After the trash is collected, how does the recycling and waste get sorted?

City trucks will travel through neighborhoods and pick up the combined waste and recyclables. After collection, the waste is loaded on a larger vehicle and transferred to van der Linde Recycling. It is not until the waste arrives at the processing facility that the waste and recyclables are sorted. For more details on the sorting process at van der Linde Recycling, read the brochure posted to www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/single-stream-collection.

Can I continue to use my recycling bin to sort out recyclables?

The city recommends residents to place all items in the same container to better assist the collection crews. If materials are separated in two different containers they will still be collected. Please keep in mind that all of the materials will be collected by the same collection vehicle.

Public Works Department | 320 East Mosby Road Harrisonburg, VA 22801 | 540.434.5928

www.Harrisonburgva.gov/single-stream-collection



How can I learn more about this program?

A website has been developed to educate and inform residents about this program. The information is available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/single-stream-collection.

What do we do with our recycling containers now that we no longer need them?

Residents have three options for the future use of the recycle bins:

1. Return the bin and get it off your hands by contacting the Public Works Department at 540-434-5928 to schedule a pickup of the bin.
2. Keep the bin for your own use.
3. Get creative and develop a new, innovative or practical use for the bins and share the idea with us at www.beheardharrisonburg.org.

Will there be changes to the solid waste fees?

For the current fiscal year (2015-2016), there will be no change in the solid waste management collection fee. Although the program has been modified, the city is still operating a refuse and recycling program.

How many bags of trash can I put out each week?

This has not changed from the previous program. Residents can place a maximum of five 35 gallon containers that weigh no more than 75 pounds curbside for crews to collect.

The city does not collect my trash but I still want to recycle. How can I do this?

Single Stream Collection is applicable to residents currently receiving curbside collection. Those living in a neighborhood with private collection should contact their property manager to determine if they recycle. If the neighborhood does not have a recycling program, please contact the Public Works Department at 540-434-5928 to coordinate a pickup of your recyclable materials. Also remember, the city will now collect ALL recyclable materials (various metals, tin, all plastics, cardboard, aluminum, styrofoam and paper products).

Public Works Department | 320 East Mosby Road Harrisonburg, VA 22801 | 540.434.5928

www.Harrisonburgva.gov/single-stream-collection



Will the city now be digging through my trash?

The city's primary role in this new program is the collection and delivery of the waste and recyclable materials to van der Linde Recycling. Once the city's materials arrive at the processing facility they are combined with trash from many other customers before the bags are actually opened for sorting. It is always recommended for residents, regardless of who collects your trash, to shred personal or sensitive documents before throwing them away.

What do we do with newspapers?

This can be thrown in the waste along with your other recyclables.

Residents are asked to remove hazardous items from the trash. What do residents do with those items if they do not want to wait until the Household Hazardous Waste Collection day for disposal?

Contact the Public Works Department at 540-434-5928 to schedule a drop off. For a complete list of household hazardous items, visit www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/hazardous-waste-collection.

How should we dispose of pet waste?

Pet waste can be buried on the owner's property, flushed down the toilet (waste only-no bags or kitty litter), or in a bag and placed in the trash.

Public Works Department | 320 East Mosby Road Harrisonburg, VA 22801 | 540.434.5928

www.Harrisonburgva.gov/single-stream-collection

