RESIDENT'S GUIDE
TO
RECYCLING AND WASTE DISPOSAL
IN BRISTOL TOWNSHIP

WASTE MANAGEMENT

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP
PRIDE

This guide has been put together to answer many of the questions that you may have about trash and recycling collection in Bristol Township. If you have more questions please call the Bristol Township Municipal Building at (267) 812-2950.

Solid Waste, Recyclables, and Yard Waste Collection Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Appletree	Bath Road	Bloomsdale/Fleetwing	Crabtree	Croydon Acres
Birch Valley	Belardley	Blue Ridge	Dogwood	Croydon Manor
Drexelwood	Brightside	Goldenridge	Edgely	Croydon
Fairbridge	Fergusonville	Green Lynne	Farmbrook	Maple Beach
Heddington	Lakeland Estates	Indian Creek	Greenbrook	Maple Shade
Holly Hill	Laurel Bend	Orangewood	Green Lawn Park	Old Croydon
Magnolia Hill	L.B. Hospital Area	Violetwood	Junewood	
Oaktree	Margo Gardens	Whitewood	Kenwood	
Red Cedar	Mill Creek	Yellowood	Landreth Manor	
Wistarwood	Newportville		Stonybrook	
Wistar Road	Plumridge		3M area	
	Rockdale		Venice Ashby	
	Route 413			
	West Bristol			
	Winder Village			

Is there a special holiday schedule for Trash Pickup?

Yes, If trash and recycling services are scheduled for the following holidays, pickup will be delayed by one day:

New Year's Day President's Day Memorial Day Fourth of July
Labor Day Thanksgiving Day Christmas Day

Any holiday that falls on a Monday through Friday, will cause all subsequent collection services for the week to be delayed by one day. For example, Friday service will occur on Saturday. Regular collection services will resume the following week

What is Automated Collection?

Automated waste and recycling collection has been very successful where implemented in the United States. The system is called "automated" because a special truck, equipped with a mechanical/robotic arm, automatically lifts and empties special trash containers (known as carts

or toters) and returns them to their original position without the driver ever leaving the cab of the truck. This is a system designed to improve efficiency, make the task of putting out garbage easier and cleaner for the residents, improve the appearance of the community and greatly reduce the injury potential for collection employees.

Why do we use an automated collection system?

1. Increased recycling tonnages.

2. Lids on the carts will keep the materials contained, keep animals out and keep rain out.

3. Automated collection is much safer because it eliminates the need to manually handle the garbage cans, thereby reducing the opportunity for job related injuries. Manual collection poses many health risks to workers – back injuries, lacerations, and even being hit by cars. Trash collectors are consistently listed at the top of the "Most Deadly Jobs" list

4. Since the Township will save more than $5 million over the life of the contract, automation is our best opportunity for containing costs both now and in the future.

5. The curbside 64 gallon recycling and 96-gallon refuse carts are well-balanced, maneuverable, and easy to roll. Each one is extremely durable, features a close-fitting lid and will hold as much household garbage as three (3) regular garbage cans.

6. Statistics show that one 96 gallon refuse cart meets the needs of most households if they are recycling.

What do I need to know about these 64 gallon and 96 gallon wheeled carts?

1. The containers are well-balanced and very maneuverable, making them simple to roll to and from the curb. No more dragging heavy trash cans to the street or bags bursting on the way to the curb.

2. Each cart is the **property of the Township** and is embossed with the Township name. An identification tag assigns a number to each property owner and street address. The Township will maintain a database for the numbered containers. The cart remains with the address in the event of a move.

3. The carts are guaranteed by the manufacturer for 10 years and the repairs will be done by them during that period. Most experts believe that they will last up to 20 years. An occasional repair or replacement of a lid or wheel is easily done.

4. Hinges keep the lids attached and prevent lids from blowing around and being run over by cars or lost.

5. Lids keep animals out and prevent trash from escaping and blowing around the neighborhood.

6. Automated carts are designed to stay upright in up to 45 mph winds.

7. The footprint of the cart is similar to a regular container but it has three times the capacity.

What is "Single-Stream" Recycling?

Single stream (also known as “fully commingled” or "single-sort") recycling refers to a system in which all glass, paper, junk mail, magazines, newsprint, cardboard, plastics (#’s 1-7), aluminum, tin and bi-metal cans, are collected together in one cart instead of the materials being sorted or bundled by the resident before being put out to the curb for collection. All the items below are accepted in the recycling container:

Metal Cans
Steel, tin & aluminum soda, vegetable, fruit or tuna cans

Glass Bottles and Jars

Paper Cardboard, Dairy and Juice Containers

Paper
Brown paper bags, office paper, newspaper, magazines

Plastic Bottles and Containers #1-7

Is there a charge to the residents for these carts?

No. There is no additional charge to our residents.

May I get a smaller cart?

Yes. Residents with **physical limitations or disabilities** may request a smaller recycling and refuse container. Call 267-812-2950 for more information.

What if one cart is not enough for our family's weekly trash? May I get a second one?

Residents, as long as they are recycling, rarely need more than one 96-gallon waste cart. Be sure to check the recyclables list. Make sure you are recycling all the materials you possibly can as that will give you more room in your trash cart.

Please note that you must contact Waste Management directly at 1-800-869-5566 to purchase an additional trash container. The Township does not supply additional containers. Also, **only containers supplied by Waste Management will be accepted**. The hauler will not pickup trash from any other containers not supplied by them.

What if all my recycling will not fit into one cart?

Most households will find that recycling materials will easily fit into their cart. Crushing your bottles and cans, collapsing cardboard boxes and milk containers and compressing all materials will free up space so you can fit more in your recycling container. Since there is no limit to how much recyclable material may be placed out on each collection day, the Township recommends placing recyclable materials on top of the container for pickup should it not fit into the recycling container. Contact Bristol Township at 267-812-2950 if you feel you may need an additional recycling container.

What if my cart is stolen?

If your cart is stolen, you must report it to the Bristol Township Police immediately. A stolen cart will be replaced free of charge if you provide a police case number.

Nationwide, communities report minimal theft due to being clearly embossed with the township name, the large size and the fact that they are traceable through the RFID tag.

What if my cart is damaged?

If the collection truck caused the damage, we will replace the cart at no charge to you. If the cart is damaged due to neglect, abuse, mutilation or modification, you will be responsible for purchasing a replacement cart. Wheels, lids, and axles are normally replaced at no cost to the resident.

If your cart is damaged, call 267-812-2950 for a replacement or repairs.

What if I am physically challenged and unable to get my container to the curb or alley?

Assistance to the physically challenged is available to anyone who needs it, as verified by your physician. To request this help, call the Township office at (267) 812-2950

Where and how do I place my cart for collection?

1. Carts must be out by 6:00 AM on the morning of collection. Carts are not to be left on the street all week.Containers shall **not** be placed at the curb for collection before 6:00 p.m. on the evening preceding a scheduled collection day. Empty containers MUST be removed from the curb by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection.

2. Carts must be placed in the street at least three feet apart with the wheels toward the curb and the arrows on the lid pointing toward the street. They must also be at least four feet from any obstacles including cars, trees, mailboxes and utility poles. Below is a photo showing correct placement of carts:

3. If you lean anything against the container, it cannot be lifted for dumping.

4. Remember to place the arrows on the lid of the container toward the street and the handle toward the house.

What about parked cars?

The automated truck arm has a reach of 6 feet. The arm requires 3' clearance around the cart for the lifting mechanism to work properly. Cars parked in front of or too close to the cart may prevent collection.

Why do the handles on the garbage and recycling containers need to be facing my house?

The automated collection truck cannot turn the container around as it picks it up. Dumping the container "backwards" can break or damage the lid.

Why do I need to provide space between my garbage cart, recycling cart and other items out for collection?

A different vehicle collects each item, so access is important. Also, the collection arm on the automated truck requires space to make the collection safely so that it will not tip over other containers or damage your property.

What if it snows?

As long as carts are placed within three feet of the curb, emptying the carts should not be a problem. If this is not possible please set the cart out the following week. Please check out the Township's website page: www.bristoltownship.org in case trash pickup has been delayed due to weather conditions.

How do I store and care for my cart?

1. Do not drag the cart when moving it. Tilt and roll it with the lid closed.

2. Keep lid closed at all times.

3. Clean the cart periodically with water.

4. Store the cart in the backyard, side yard or garage.

What should I not do to my cart?

1. Do not store it near a fireplace, furnace, grill or other heat source.

2. Do not place hot ashes, solvents, paints, or other flammable liquids in the cart.

3. Do not use the cart to hold hazardous materials such as: dead animals, chemicals, oils, liquids and medical waste, exposed needles, used bandages, etc.

3. Do not place dirt, rocks, large limbs, or building materials in the cart.

4. Do not place automotive parts or tires in the cart.

5. Do not overfill the cart to the extent the lid will not fully close. If the lid is not closed, garbage will spill to the road during collection so the container will not be emptied.

6. Do not allow children to play in or on the cart.

7. Please DO NOT write house numbers or put any other marking on the carts.

8. The cart is the property of Bristol Township. If you move, please leave the cart at your home.

Where can I dispose of hazardous waste?

Bristol Township supports residents by sponsoring annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection events throughout the year!

Household hazardous wastes are not accepted by our hauler. Toxic chemicals, pesticides, oil-based paints, weed killers, automotive batteries, fuels or fluids must be disposed of properly at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. Please check the Bristol Township website, Bucks County Recycling website, or call the PA DEP Recycling Hotline for upcoming locations and dates.

I bought a cart at Home Depot that looks just like the ones we'll be using. May I use it?

No, the automated truck can ONLY pick up the containers designated as Bristol Township's Township 96-gallon or 64 gallon containers.

What if I have items too large to fit into my cart?

Large items can be accommodated as follows:

1. **Yard Waste Collection**

Yard waste can include: grass, leaves, clippings, branches, etc. Place yard waste in rigid container or biodegradable (paper) bags. No plastic bags. Branches must be cut into lengths less than 4 feet long. Branches should be tied or bundled with string or twine. YARD WASTE DISPOSAL IS UNLIMITED.

Place yard waste out on your collection day. Collection is seasonal from middle of April to the middle of December (The official dates will be announced each year in the Spring and Fall and posted on the Bristol Township website).

2. **Christmas Tree Collection**

There are two dates scheduled for Christmas tree collections every year. Dates are posted on the Township's website: www.bristoltownship.org.

3. **Bulk Item Collection**

(1) Bulk Item can be placed out each week on your regular collection day.

Examples of bulk items include mattress, washer, dryer, desk, etc.

Bulk items CANNOT contain CFCs, HCFCs, Freon, refrigerants, or liquids.

Township residents can schedule a courtesy pickup of an appliance containing Freon, CFC or HCFC, by calling Waste Management's Customer Service at 800-869-5566. *Once collected, Waste Management is responsible for the proper management of these units and adherence to all federal and state regulations.

4. **Bristol Township Spring and Fall Cleanup Days**

In the spring and fall, the township holds cleanup days where residents can dispose of unwanted household items that are too large to fit in their trash container. Call 267-812-2950 for more information.

What do we do with our yard waste?

Materials for this collection must be placed in compost-able brown paper bags available at certain grocery stores or on-line or in your old Bristol Township round recycling can or trash can (NOT your automated carts).

What goes into my recycling cart?

Place recycling materials in the blue automated 64 gallon recycling cart.

1. Plastic bottles, jars, tubs and rigid containers stamped with the recycle logo containing the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 - NO foam containers or foam packing.

2. Glass bottles and jars (empty and clean)

3. Aluminum, bi-metal, tin cans, aluminum foil and plates, etc. (empty and clean)

4. Newspaper and all inserts, paper bags, magazines, catalogs, file folders, phone books. No need to tie, bundle, or bag

5. Office white, colored, or shredded paper, envelopes (staples & paper clips ok), No need to tie, bundle, or bag

6. Cardboard: Shoe, gift, shipping, or cereal boxes that tear brown or grey (remove liners). No need to bundle or flatten unless too large to release easily when the can is emptied. Cut up if necessary.

7. Cartons: milk, orange juice, broth, egg beaters, milk, juice, broth, cream, half and half, egg substitutes, soup, soy milk, milk, wine and juice boxes.

What should NOT go into my recycling cart?

Do not place food waste, diapers, mirrors, ceramics, windows or any glass other than bottles, light bulbs, films, plastic wrap, or plastic bags or foam containers or foam packing of any kind into your recycling container.

Do I need to clean my recyclables before placing them in the cart?

Yes, it is recommended. Rinsing your items keeps things sanitary and your cart clean.

Does cardboard have to be bundled and tied?

Cardboard boxes do NOT have to be bundled and tied. Items such as cereal and shoe boxes can now simply be dropped into the cart. To prevent cardboard from being jammed too tightly, we ask that you cut or flatten the cardboard so that the container can be easily emptied.

Can I place additional trash next to the cart?

No. All waste must be placed inside the waste carts with the lid closed. Trash left in bags next to the cart or in other types of containers, other than Bristol Township's designated carts, will not be collected.

How full should my recycling cart be when I set it out?

It is most efficient and economical for our trucks to make stops for full, or nearly full carts. Also, it improves air quality when trucks don't have to make unnecessary stops. If your cart is not full and you feel you can wait until the next collection cycle, please do not put your cart out.

Do I still need to bag my trash?

Yes, all trash should be bagged before it is put in the cart. Bagging helps keep your cart clean and reduces windblown litter. We will not pick up litter blown out of the carts.

What should I do with my old trash can?

1. Old trash and recycling containers can be used to store yard waste.

2. If you do not wish to keep your old trash or recycling containers, tape an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper with the words "PLEASE RECYCLE THIS CONTAINER" clearly stated, on the trash or recycling can.

Why can we no longer put out TV's and certain electronics out as waste?

A Pennsylvania disposal ban effective January 24, 2013, prohibits landfills and other solid waste disposal facilities from accepting items such as televisions, computers, laptops/tablets, monitors, keyboards, printers or other type of components. Residents may drop off the electronics listed above for recycling at the outdoor electronics collection site at the Bristol Township Municipal Complex. The site is open Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30PM.Call 267-812-2950 for information.

How can I effectively recycle at home?

Keep recycling containers handy. Put small containers for recycling in rooms like the kitchen, bathroom and garage where lots of items will be thrown away. Having recycling receptacles in each room will be easier than having to carry items to one central location. These smaller bins can be sorted into the larger bins later.

Consider composting. Create a compost bin in your backyard for recycling yard waste and kitchen scraps. Composting helps improve soil content and produces oxygen, in addition to cutting down on your household waste. Compost bins can be inexpensively constructed from basic materials and will help your garden grown while improving the environment.

Need More Information?

Call Bristol Township at 267-812-2950 or Waste Management Customer Service at 1-800-869-5566

Printed on recycled paper.