



The City of
Worcester

Trash & Recycling Guide



January
2025

Worcester's Zero Waste Commitment

Our goal: Make Worcester a Zero Waste Community.

Use this guide for sustainable disposal options and helpful resources to reduce waste.

Curbside Waste Collection

Worcester's Pay-As-You-Throw system means more recycling saves you money!



Important Note: Curbside Trash and Recycling services are only for residents of buildings with 6 or fewer units.

Smart Recycling Guide

What To Recycle



Metal

Empty and rinse food and beverage cans



Plastic

Empty bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs, and replace caps



Glass

Empty and rinse bottles and jars



Paper & Cardboard

Empty and flatten paper, boxes, newspaper, and magazines

Do Not Recycle



No Plastic Bags

Do not bag recyclables



No Clothing or Linen

Use donation programs



No Food or Liquids

Empty all containers



No Tangles

No hoses, wires, chains or electronics



No Hazardous Items

No propane tanks, batteries, sharps, or chemicals

Have Additional Questions?



Recyclopedia: Can I recycle it?

Enter item or item description

Search

Use the guide at **RecycleSmartMA.org** or check out **@RecycleSmartMA** on social media.

Trash Collection



Place trash in yellow bags on the curb between 6:00 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. on collection day.

- Only trash in official yellow bags (available at local retailers) will be collected.
- Small bags should weigh no more than 15 lbs.
- Large bags should weigh no more than 30 lbs.

Recycling Collection



Place recycling bins on the curb between 6:00 and 7:30 a.m. on collection day. The first bin is free; extra bins are \$12. Broken bins are replaced for free.

Pick up recycling bins at:

- 20 E Worcester St. (Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
- 1065 Millbury St. (Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

With single-stream recycling, place glass, plastic, paper, and aluminum in the same bin—no sorting needed!

- Ensure items are clean and dry; avoid plastic bags and flimsy plastics.
- Use a bin lid to keep the area tidy.
- No curbside recycling? Drop off materials at the Drop-Off Center for free.

Holidays with One-Day Collection Delay

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Juneteenth
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

Escanear código para guía en español.
Quét mã để được hướng dẫn bằng tiếng Việt.
Digitalize o código para obter guia em português.





Residential Drop-Off Center

The Drop-Off Center lets residents safely dispose of bulk items, textiles, recyclables, yard waste, and more.
Note: Proof of residency is required.

1065 Millbury Street

Open April 1 - December 1

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
9:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	9:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.*	3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.*

*Closes at 4:00 p.m. in November

Yard Waste Composting



- Bring yard waste (grass, leaves, sticks, and tree limbs) to the Drop-Off Center for free on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
- Grass and leaves (no sticks or tree limbs) can also be dropped off at 300 Chandler St. and 299 Clark St. Check online for seasonal hours.
- Tree drop-off starts the day after Christmas.
- Free finished compost is available at the Drop-Off Center. Backyard composters can be purchased for \$45 with an appointment.



Call
311

to schedule an appointment, report a missed pickup, or illegal dumpsite.



This program is dedicated to keeping our city clean by tackling litter, graffiti, and debris. We organize cleanups, share helpful information, and offer residents easy disposal options.



Help Keep Worcester Clean

Please pick up any trash or materials spilled on your street after collection.
Small actions make a big difference!

Hard to Recycle Materials

Bulk Item Disposal



- Bulk waste includes large items that can't go out with regular trash. You can bring them to the Drop-Off Center on Wednesdays and Saturdays with an appointment.
- The center accepts over 80 types of items for reuse and recycling. Mattresses and box springs cost \$15 each, and other bulk items are \$5 each.
- Visit our website or contact 311 to see what's accepted and to schedule an appointment.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

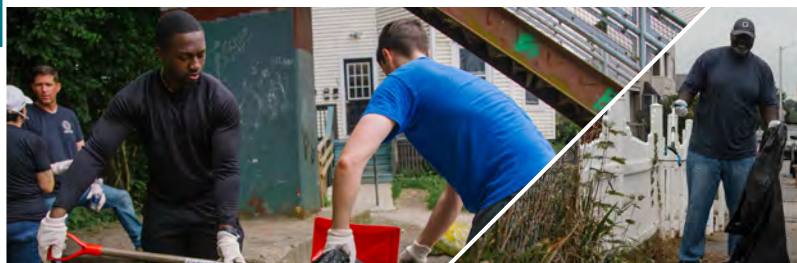


- HHW includes things like paints, oils, cleaners, batteries, pesticides, and sharps. Improper disposal can harm people and the environment.
- Worcester hosts three free HHW collection events each year at the Drop-Off Center.
- Visit our website for more details and year-round sharps disposal options.

Textile Recovery



- Textiles like clothes, towels, blankets, and shoes can't be thrown away in Massachusetts.
- You can recycle them at the Drop-Off Center or schedule a free curbside pickup with Helpsy.
- Any condition is accepted, as long as the items are dry.
- Textiles are reused or turned into new products like carpeting, insulation, or sold to second-hand stores if in good shape.



Department of Public Works & Parks

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 508-929-1300 | zerowaste@worcesterma.gov

For more information, visit
worcesterma.gov/trash-recycling
 or scan the QR code:

