

TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD

New Residential Waste Collection System



Changes are coming to the Town's residential garbage collection. We are excited to introduce new garbage and recycling curbside collection services, starting July 1, 2014. Under the automated system, a mechanical arm mounted on the collection truck will lift the carts and empty the contents into the truck.

Loraas Environmental Services will be providing two 95 US gallon wheeled carts to each Single-Family dwelling for the collection of garbage and recycling. **There shall be no charge to you for the cost of the carts. Each cart has a serial number and will be assigned to the residence. Do not paint or mark your address on your cart. Vandalized, stolen or damaged carts will be replaced, at the resident's expense.**

Pickup of the garbage and recycling carts will be alternated on a bi-weekly basis. Example: week 1 – garbage cart pickup then, week 2 – recycling cart pickup.

A calendar of all scheduled pickups and brochures from Loraas outlining the new services will be sent out with the next water bill.

Frequently Asked Questions

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Why is the Town of Spiritwood changing our solid waste system?

This transition is due to aging infrastructure of our current waste collection system and upcoming changes in the environmental code. The new automated system provides both environmental and financial benefits. We know this is a significant transition, but the benefits will be less-expensive, more efficient and environmentally-friendly.

Why the move to a bi-weekly collection system?

Bi-weekly collection will help ensure that less waste ends up in our regional landfills. It helps reduce the municipal costs of collection and disposal of waste. We hope that the bi-weekly garbage pickup will provide a strong incentive for residents to recycle their paper products, plastics, cardboard into their blue carts.

When will I get my new carts?

The new carts are scheduled to arrive before July 1, 2014. They will be delivered directly to your home. *The location of the drop off point is where they are required to be for pickup.*

May I purchase an additional garbage cart?

No. Residents will be provided with two carts: one for waste and one for recycling.

Why the move to automated, cart-based collection?

Automated collection is more efficient, environmentally-friendly and economical than manual collection. In addition, the provision of standardized carts to all residents will improve curbside aesthetics by presenting a cleaner, uniform appearance and will provide less opportunity for windblown debris and litter at the curbside.

Is this system better for the environment?

Yes. Using our Recycling carts means more material is getting re-purposed and less solid waste is ending up in our landfill. Additionally, the new automated trucks serve more homes in a day- which means fewer trucks on the road and less air emissions.

Will other services remain the same, such as the Town yard trimmings pickup?

No, the Town's weekly pickup for yard trimmings will be reduced to twice a year. Weather permitting this pickup will be in May and October (3 clear plastic bags per pick up). Yard trimmings will be accepted at the landfill for no charge.

Will my collection day change?

Yes, your garbage collection will alternate with the recycling collection program. A schedule will be mailed out to you.

CART QUESTIONS

Is there an extra charge for the new carts?

For residents there will be no extra charge to purchase the carts. However, your garbage rate on your utility billing will be increased to \$15/per month as compared to \$10/per month in past years. This increase in charges is due to the addition of the recycling service.

Will I have troubles getting the carts to the curb? Aren't they heavy?

Each cart has two wheels designed to make them very easy and convenient to roll to the curb. Much easier, in fact, than carrying the current cans.

RECYCLING QUESTIONS

Why is the Town implementing a recycling program?

As of January 2015, the Province will be providing funding through a Multi-Material Recycling Program (MMRP) to all municipalities participating in an efficient recycling program. Additionally, in the future our regional waste authority may no longer accept mixed waste (garbage with recyclables). If that is the case, the municipality may be charged a fine for any waste that has more than 20% recyclable materials.

How should I prepare my recyclables for collection?

Flatten all cardboard boxes. Wash and rinse all beverage containers, food plastics and household tins before depositing to your blue recycling cart. Remove all lids and caps from all containers. Labels do not have to be removed. We specifically ask that customers DO NOT BAG or TIE their recyclables before depositing them into their cart. The only exceptions are plastic grocery bags/clean plastic film and shredded paper. Place all your plastic bags and plastic film inside one of the bags and tie it closed. Place all shredded paper into a clear plastic bag and tie it closed.

What items can I put in my recycling cart?

All beverage containers, plastic bottles and containers with the recycling symbol #1 – 7 on the bottom, aluminum cans, trays, and pie plates, paper, cardboard and paperboard products will be accepted. If your cart contains items that are not accepted or items that have not been cleaned properly the entire contents of your cart will not be emptied until the offending materials have been removed.

Where do I go find out information about recycling?

Please visit <http://www.saskwastereduction.ca/> or call 1-306-445-3900.

Will the Town continue to collect garbage in the old containers?

No. The automated arm on the truck will not allow for collection of garbage or recycling in the old bins or bags.

I'm concerned that my garbage might be smelly if it's only collected every two weeks.

Most of the items that cause odour in your solid waste are your food scraps and food soiled paper. Our recommendation is to rinse your food soiled containers and recycle them in your blue cart.

What can I do with my old garbage cans?

If residents no longer wish to keep their old garbage cans, they can take them out to the landfill once the new carts are in use. However, these cans can also be used as a container for backyard leaves, a composter, or converted into a rain barrel.

QUESTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION

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