

**ITEMS TO BE PLACED IN THE BLUE BIN:**

Prepare recyclable bottles and jars by rinsing and discharging all lids.

- Glass bottles and jars (all colors)
- Steel, aluminum and bi-metal cans
- Plastics (Check for these numbers on or near the bottom of the container)
  - #1 PETE** (i.e. plastic soft drink bottles)
  - #2 HDPE** (i.e. milk or water jugs, detergent bottles)
  - #3 PVC** (i.e. narrow neck containers like household cleaners, health and beauty products)
  - #4 LDPE** (i.e. margarine tubs, frozen dessert cups, plastic rings from 6 & 12 pack beverage cans)
  - #5 PP** (i.e. yogurt cups, narrow neck syrup and ketchup bottles)
  - #7 OTHER** (i.e. plastic resin grocery narrow neck only containers)
- Aluminum foil and formed containers (clean)
- Empty paint cans
- Empty aerosol cans
- "Gable-topped" cartons (i.e. juice or cream) flattened

**ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON TOP OF BLUE BIN OR NEXT TO THE BIN IN ANY PAPER BAG:**

- Newspapers and inserts
- Magazines
- Telephone books
- Paperback books
- Chipboard (i.e. cereal and cracker boxes) discard liners
- Wet-strength cardboard (i.e. beverage cartons)
- Corrugated cardboard (cut and flattened in pieces NO LARGER than three feet) placed on top of or next to bin. No bag is necessary.
- Junk mail (including window envelopes)
- Office paper
- Gift wrapping paper
- Brown paper grocery bags



## Curbside Recycling

*The amount of recyclable materials you can set out for collection is not limited. If one blue bin isn't enough, an additional bin may be ordered by calling Public Works at 708.358.5700.*

**PUBLIC ACCESS RECYCLING PROJECT**

In 1995, with grant funds from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, the South Marion Street Business Association, Downtown Oak Park and the Avenue Business District implemented a commercial recycling program. The Village of Oak Park received recognition awards from the Illinois Recycling Association as well as the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency for this innovative recycling program.

The program proved successful for participating businesses and was expanded to provide recycling opportunities for shoppers and visitors. In 1999, the Village and the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs expanded the program once again by installing additional recycling stations. The new containers are located near public transportation and in Park District facilities and have increased recycling opportunities for those who live in, work in or visit Oak Park.



**ALLEY CLEAN UP PROGRAM**

Cleaner alleys make safer alleys. The Alley Clean Up Program, developed by the Keep Oak Park Beautiful Committee, provides a "kit" containing plastic bags, refuse stickers (donated by Waste Management), disposable rubber gloves and information on organizing a successful and safe event. Residents are encouraged to work with friends and neighbors to organize an alley cleanup. For more information, call Public Works at 708.358.5700.



# Refuse and Recycling Guide

**The Village of Oak Park provides a successful, comprehensive Solid Waste Program to deal with increasing amounts of trash, rising collection and disposal costs, legislative restrictions and growing environmental concerns.**

**Currently, residents are setting out nearly one million pounds of recyclables per month. According to the Environmental Protection Agency's figures, this means that the Village is helping to conserve more than 40,000 trees, one million gallons of fuel and 19 million gallons of water each year. The success of the program depends on your participation. For more information on Oak Park's refuse and recycling programs, call 708.358.5700 or email [publicworks@oak-park.us](mailto:publicworks@oak-park.us).**



## KEEP OAK PARK BEAUTIFUL

**OUR MISSION:** To create programs to remind and educate the community about preventing litter, minimizing waste, and enhancing the appearance of the Village.

The Village of Oak Park Public Works Department is working with local business leaders, school officials, community groups and concerned citizens to provide a comprehensive program designed to Keep Oak Park Beautiful and litter-free.

Collection service is provided once a week for all residential buildings with up to five units. All trash, recyclables and yardwaste are scheduled to be picked up on the same day of the week. The Village's contracted hauler, Waste Management, provides 96-gallon wheeled containers for trash. The Village provides blue bins for recyclable materials. Pink refuse stickers are available for additional bags of trash or collection of bulk items. Green stickers are required for collection of yardwaste and bundles of brush. Stickers can be purchased at locations throughout the Village, including Village Hall.

If your collection is missed, please call Waste Management at 888.656.5350 (toll free) on the following day.

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

If one of the holidays listed below falls on your regularly scheduled collection day, your collection, and all subsequent collections that week, will be delayed one day:

- New Year's Day

- Memorial Day
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

For more information about the weekly collection program, call the Public Works Department at 708.358.5700

**STICKER VENDORS**

- **Dominick's Finer Foods**  
259 Lake Street
- **Dressel's Ace Hardware**  
1137 Chicago Avenue
- **Fair Share Finer Foods**  
6226 Roosevelt Road
- **Gilchrist Hardware**  
513 Madison Street
- **Jewel Food Stores**  
438 Madison Street,  
7036 Roosevelt Road,  
7525 Lake Street, River Forest
- **P.J.'s Ace Hardware**  
7 Chicago Avenue
- **Walgreens Drug Store**  
6412 Roosevelt Road
- **Village Hall Cashier's Office**  
123 Madison Street

Trash must be placed into a tightly covered trash container. Loose trash outside the container will not be picked up. Place trash and recycling containers out for collection no later than 7:00 a.m. on the morning of your collection day. Containers placed out for collection at the curb must be removed by 6:00 p.m. that night.

Residents are asked to help care for their refuse carts in the following ways:

**SPRING** Check for damage. If carts have broken wheels or holes in lids, please call Public Works (708.358.5700) for a replacement.

**SUMMER** Wash cart with mild detergent to prevent odors and insect problems.

**FALL** Check for damage. If carts have broken wheels or holes in lids, please call Public Works (708.358.5700) for a replacement.

**WINTER** Clear snow and ice away from carts so containers can be rolled and collections can be made.

#### BULK ITEMS

Each residential unit may place out one bulk item per week, provided that two pink refuse stickers are attached. Bulk items are defined as discarded furniture, household appliances (white goods), water tanks (capable of being handled by one person) and trash items not exceeding 90 pounds in weight.

Residents may place out rolls of used carpeting provided that two pink refuse stickers are attached to each roll. Rolls of carpeting must not be more than 90 pounds in



## Trash

*Refuse and recycling services cost \$11.80 per household / per month charged quarterly on water bills.*

weight and must be no longer than four feet in length (folded over).

Additional bulk items, construction materials from “do-it-yourself” projects (not contracted projects) or general waste over the allowable “one” bulk item requires a “special pick-up” and will be collected only if prior arrangements have been made.

The cost is based on volume and will be estimated within 24 hours of the time of your request. Call Waste Management at 888.656.5350 to arrange this collection.

#### REFUSE STICKERS

(\$1.60 each)

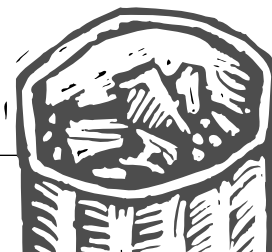
Occasional extra trash should be put in plastic bags, and must be placed in a container you provide. Each container (up to 32-gallons) must have one pink refuse sticker attached. Extra trash (with stickers) will be collected on your regular day.

If you regularly require additional space, you should request another 96-gallon refuse cart. A container will be delivered and you will be charged accordingly for the additional trash collection.

The following items are either prohibited by landfills, or unacceptable for collection:

- car parts
- dirt and soil
- concrete
- tires
- motor oil
- pesticides
- acid
- gasoline
- anti-freeze
- pool chemicals
- automotive batteries
- paint in liquid form

If any of these items are mixed with your trash, collection will not be made.



Examples of yardwaste prohibited from being put in your trash container are:

- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Branches and brush
- Shrubs and vines
- Any greenery produced from gardening or landscaping

The Village of Oak Park encourages residents to look for alternatives to bagging yardwaste for collection. Residents who wish to reduce or avoid yardwaste costs should use mulching mowers, leaf shredders, or backyard compost piles.

For those residents who wish to have their yardwaste collected, the Village offers the following programs:

#### YARDWASTE STICKERS (\$1.80 each)

Regularly scheduled yardwaste collection begins the first full week of April and ends December 1. A green yardwaste sticker must be attached to:

- Each kraft paper bag (up to 32-gallons or 50 lbs.)
- Each rigid container (up to 32-gallons or 50 lbs.)
- Each bundle of brush (no larger than two feet in diameter, four feet in length, and not exceeding 50 pounds)

Any yardwaste mixed with trash will not be collected. Free “Yardwaste Only” labels for your yardwaste container are available at Village Hall.

Yardwaste will be collected on the same day as your trash as long as it is placed at your collection point by 7:00 a.m. Yardwaste will be collected during the winter months by appointment only. To make an appointment, call Waste Management at 888.656.5350.



## Yardwaste

*Illinois was the first state in the nation to ban yardwaste from landfills.*

#### UNBUNDLED BRUSH

Unbundled brush can be collected year round for a fee. Branches and limbs up to three inches in diameter and four feet in length can be placed in your regular collection area. Brush must be in neat, manageable piles. To make an appointment for estimating the removal cost of brush, call Waste Management at 888.656.5350.

#### FALL LEAF COLLECTION

Each Fall, the Village provides a six week leaf collection program. Regularly scheduled leaf collection begins in mid-October. Please rake leaves into the street 18 inches away from the curb only a day or two before your next scheduled collection. Leaves in each section of the Village are picked up six times during the special collection period. If you are unable to have leaves collected during the special collection period, you should call Waste Management to schedule a bulk pick-up.

#### HOLIDAY TREES

The Village provides collection for Christmas and holiday trees during the second and third weeks of January. Waste Management will collect the trees on your regularly scheduled pick up day as long as they are:

- **Placed at your regular collection point**
- **Free of plastic bags**
- **Free of all decorations and tree stands**

Because of the wire used to form them, wreaths and garlands will not be collected for recycling and should be placed in your trash container. All trees collected are mulched at a licensed composting facility and used for soil enrichment.

