

Attention Baldwin Borough

Residents Have Access to a Home Pickup Program for Household Hazardous Waste

As part of the residential solid waste and recycling contract with Waste Management, you have a convenient opportunity to dispose of your Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) safely, easily and responsibly. At Your Door Special CollectionSM is a residential service offered by WM to provide year-round HHW collections for you.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. To participate, you must set up a collection appointment

There are three ways to schedule a collection:

- Go to www.WMAtYourDoor.com
- Call 1-800-449-7587
- Email AtYourDoor@WM.com

The Call Center operators will guide you through the steps toward a safe and successful collection. You will be asked several questions, including your address and the type and amount of materials available for collection. You will be provided a convenient collection date and information about where to place the HHW kit for collection. A kit will be sent to your home in plenty of time for you to gather and pack your materials.

2. Preparing for collection

The HHW kit includes a program instruction sheet and other items to help pack and secure household hazardous waste. All materials such as gasoline, poisons, pesticides and aerosols, must be placed into the kit. Other items may be placed outside the kit.

3. HHW material is collected

On the scheduled date, the customer service technician will collect materials directly from your home. They will sort and pack the materials for proper transportation, recycling and disposal. Participants will receive a postage-paid survey card to complete and mail back to help track the program.

4. You have more material than will fit into the kit?

Don't worry! This service is available year-round. Just schedule another collection once you have more material to dispose of.

The Call Center operators are available from Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Eastern time.

Leave a message after hours, weekends and holidays. You can also e-mail the Call Center: atyourdoor@wm.com.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:



Automotive products

Antifreeze, batteries, brake fluid, motor oil and filters, fuels and more



Garden Chemicals

Fertilizers, herbicides, insect sprays, pesticides and weed killers



Household Chemicals

Ammonia, heavy-duty cleaners, naval jelly, strippers and tile remover



Paint Products

Caulk, glue, paint, stripper, stain, thinner, and wood preservative



Electronics

TVs, computers, monitors, keyboards, DVD players, VHS players, microwaves and cell phones



Swimming Pool Chemicals

Chlorine tablets and liquid, pool acid and stabilizer



Universal materials

Batteries, lamps, thermometers and more



Due to global changes in the recycling industry, Waste Management is asking your community to help combat recycling contamination.

You will experience some changes in your curbside recycling collection program. For programs to be successful, all participants must make an effort to change recycling habits.

Please see below of a list of frequently asked questions regarding these changes.

What are the key changes in our residential recycling program?

In order to keep viable recycling programs, we must stop contamination at the curb. You can help by following these new recycling rules:

- No plastic bags of any kind will be accepted. Please place material loose in your recycling bin or cart.
- Shredded paper is no longer accepted.
- Make sure you are only recycling plastic bottles, jugs and jars. Any other plastic shape must go in the trash.
- Glass runs hard on our machines and can jeopardize the quality of other good recyclables. In addition, glass has a very low value and minimal outlets when collected through single stream programs. Please keep glass out of your single stream recycling bins.

Why are these changes being made?

The recycling industry can be heavily impacted by global changes. We saw significant changes in commodity value when China's economy slowed in growth, and in July of 2017, China notified the World Trade Organization of its intent to ban the import of certain scrap materials by end of 2017.

Along with a ban of 24 materials, China has also finalized its contamination standards in January of this year, limiting contamination for any material imported into the country to less than 0.5%. These regulations require all markets to continue focusing on quality, which starts with the material we accept at our facilities.

With contamination levels reaching 25-30% of curbside recycling materials, we must start eliminating this residue before it enters our facility. Contamination occurs when items that don't belong in your home's recycling bin are placed there. Once this residue ends up in recyclables, it has the potential to turn the entire load into trash and increase processing costs.

The focus to clean up contamination is incredibly important to the quality of recycling programs. If we want to find stable markets to send our material to, we must eliminate contamination.

When do these changes go into effect?

We need residents to start changing their recycling habits immediately. Enforcement of curbside recycling programs will begin January 1, 2019.



Contamination 101

What it looks like and why it's important to address it

As recycling programs have grown and transitioned to single stream processes, recycling simply has become more confusing to consumers and WM has seen a significant uptake in contamination. Contamination in the waste stream increases the risk to WM workers, raises the cost of recycling, and hampers our ability to recycle effectively (and in some cases results in products not being recycled). By targeting the following items and preventing them from ending up in the recycling, we can clear up the waste stream, keep workers safe, and make a difference for recycling.

Plastic Bags

What's the problem?

- They interfere with the machinery – WM workers have to enter clogged machinery in order to remove plastic bags. Bags jam up the screens that separate recyclables from other material meaning fewer recyclables are captured. The machines have to be cleared manually which is risky for WM staff.
- They can make other recyclables look like trash—Bagging your recyclables in plastic adds another step to the sorting process. Specialized labor is necessary to unbag these materials, making recycling a more expensive process. Additionally, if they are confused for trash, these materials cannot be recycled.



What to do:

- Place recyclables loose in your bin. Find out where you and your community can recycle plastic bags at plasticfilmrecycling.org.

Non-Program Materials & Bulky Items (e.g. hoses, car parts, etc.)

What's the problem?

- Cumbersome items have to be removed from the waste stream manually – This can be risky for sorters and increases the labor costs of recycling, which raises the overall cost of recycling.
- The equipment can't handle big heavy items – They cause jams, break machinery, and can lead to plant shut downs, all of which limit WM's ability to recycle efficiently.

What to do:

- Check local programs for local reuse and recycling options first, before putting them in your waste bin. Visit Earth911.com to find programs available in your area.



Liquid and Food

What's the problem?

- It contaminates the recyclables—Food-soiled recyclables are less valuable to buyers, which increases the cost of recycling. Liquid and food that is released in trucks or in recycling facilities attracts pests that lead to unsafe working conditions.

What to do:

If available, put eligible items in the compost, otherwise use the trash container.

