

Recycling Review

RECYCLING INFORMATION FOR FEDERAL WAY RESIDENTS

SPRING 2014

Yard Debris Disposal Options

'Tis the season for branches—whether from pruning or a winter storm. Here are a few ways to recycle bulky yard debris:

- 1. Self-haul:** Load up the truck (yours, neighbor's or rental) and haul your branches to Bow Lake Recycling & Transfer Station at 18800 Orillia Rd S in Tukwila. Fees start at \$12 for the first 320 pounds—the lowest price around! You can also haul your branches to one of the Federal Way free Recycling Events in April and September.
- 2. Curbside:** Waste Management provides a variety of collection options, from extra pick-ups to large containers delivered to your driveway. Please call 800.592.9995 for pricing and details.
- 3. Chipping:** Borrow or rent a chipper and turn your branches into mulch on-site.
- 4. Tree Service:** There are lots of tree services around that will trim your trees and chip or haul away all the yard debris for you. Remember to check if they are licensed and bonded before hiring.



WHAT'S INSIDE

- ▶ Keep Plastic Out of the Compost
- ▶ Food Doesn't Break Down in the Landfill
- ▶ Just Because It has a Recycling Symbol, Doesn't Mean It's Recyclable
- ▶ Recycling Now Open at Bow Lake Transfer Station
- ▶ Styrofoam Recycling & More!
- ▶ Green Living Workshops
- ▶ How "Safe" Are Your Cleaners & Cosmetics?
- ▶ Contact Information

DID YOU KNOW?

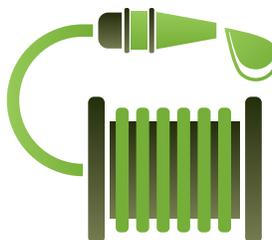
Waste Management collected the following from Federal Way residents in 2013:

Recycling = 5,124 Tons
Yard Debris = 8,407 Tons
Garbage = 10,864 Tons
Keep up the great work!

Free Gardening Advice

The Garden Hotline offers practical, safe, effective and natural solutions to garden problems. This service is free to home gardeners and landscape professionals throughout King County. Find out ways to reduce waste, conserve water and resources, and minimize hazardous chemical use while creating a vibrant landscape.

The Garden Hotline
206.633.0224
gardenhotline.org



Keep Plastic Out of the Compost Cart!

Everything in your food/yard waste cart is hauled to Cedar Grove Composting to be made into compost. What you put in your cart really impacts the end product, compost. In order to keep the compost garden ready, everyone needs to do their part to keep plastics out of the food/yard waste carts!

Please do not put anything that can't turn into compost into your food/yard waste cart, including:

- **No paper coffee cups, juice cartons, milk cartons or frozen food boxes.** Any paper that looks shiny or glossy is probably coated with a layer of plastic. That means it **cannot** be composted. (When empty and rinsed out, these items belong in your regular recycling cart.)

- **No plastic bags or plastic wrap.**

This goes for produce bags, too—even when tinted green. Only special bags made from plant starch are allowed.

- **No plastics** like caps, microwave packaging, and yogurt/dairy tubs. (Rinse out dairy tubs and recycle them instead.)

Food scraps, compostable paper and yard trimmings are the only things that belong in your food/yard waste cart. Please refer to your Recycling Guide or recyclefood.com for details.

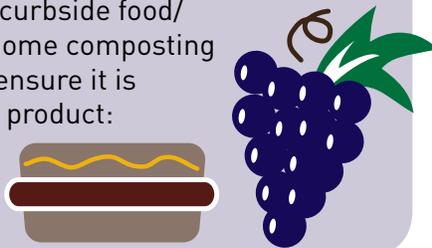


Various types of plastic found in the household food/yard waste carts.

Food Doesn't Break Down in the Landfill!

Contrary to popular belief, food waste does not decompose when put in our landfill. Air, water and microorganisms are needed for food waste to break down. Cedar Hills Landfill is tightly packed in order to extend the life of the landfill. This limits the necessary elements that turn food waste into compost. Researchers have uncovered still-recognizable 25 year-old hot dogs and grapes from old landfills, as well as 50 year-old newspapers that were still readable!

Excess food, yard waste and compostable paper belong in your grey curbside food/yard waste cart or home composting system. This helps ensure it is turned into a useful product: compost, rather than just sitting in the landfill.



Recycling Now Open at Bow Lake Transfer Station

18800 Orillia Rd S, Tukwila

At long last, the Bow Lake Transfer Station rebuild is complete and its recycling center is now open. Residents can recycle the following items for free: regular curbside recyclables, scrap metal, bicycles, needles/sharps and clothing/shoes. Appliances and yard debris are also accepted for a fee. Visit kingcounty.gov/solidwaste and click on "facilities" for more information.

regular curbside recyclables

scrap metal

needles & sharps

clothing & shoes

bicycles

Recycling Volunteer Training

Master Recycler Composter (MRC) training is on May 3, 10 and 17 at the Kent Senior Activity Center. Applications are due April 30 (kingcounty.gov/mrc). In exchange for training, MRC graduates volunteer and give public outreach at many fun community events. What a great way to meet fellow recyclers, too!

Styrofoam Recycling & More!

R & D Recycling recently opened in Fife, and accepts plastic foam blocks and sheets for free. Residents and businesses can drop off a variety of expanded foam including:

- Polyethylene blocks (labeled #4 or "LDPE")
- Polypropylene blocks (labeled #5 or "PP")
- Styrofoam blocks (labeled #6 or "PS")
- Foam sheeting

R & D Recycling

7214 26th St E #C10
Fife
253.241.1904
rndrecycling.com

How "Safe" Are Your Cleaners & Cosmetics?

Use the consumer guides at ewg.org to get the scoop on how safe your personal care products and cleaning products are. You can look up over 80,000 personal care products such as sunscreen, lotion, deodorant and shampoo to see if they have a low, moderate or high health hazard rating. Each of the 2,000 cleaning products evaluated is graded A through F based on the potential health hazards in the ingredients.

If you decide to switch to less hazardous cleaners, please use up your existing product or drop off at the **Auburn Hazardous Wastemobile** at the Auburn SuperMall / The Outlet Collection at 1101 Outlet Collection Way (outside loading dock between Sports Authority and Nordstrom Rack), Saturdays and Sundays, 10 -5 . More information can be found at lhwmp.org or by calling 1.888.ToxicEd (869.4233).



Just Because It has a Recycling Symbol, Doesn't Mean It's Recyclable!

Those "triangle & number" symbols printed on many plastics are not technically recycling symbols.

Instead, these are the 1-7 "resin identification codes" that tell which primary plastic resin makes up that product. There are many different types of plastics, each with unique recipes, which may or may not be recycled together. Just to set the record straight: the triangle and number does **NOT** indicate if the plastic item is recyclable here in Federal Way, nor how many times it was already recycled. The number has no other meaning aside from identifying the primary resin in the plastic.



vs.



So, how do you know if a plastic item is recyclable?

Look at the shape: recycle your bottles, jugs and tubs. Most of these items are made from similar plastics and can be recycled together. Also, the plastic bottle and tub shape allows them to be sorted properly at the recycling facility.

FREE!

Monthly Green Living Workshops

The City hosts free workshops on a variety of "green" topics such as gardening, composting and rain barrels.

2nd Wednesday of each month
(except August and December)

6:00–8:00 PM

Federal Way City Hall • 33325 8th Ave S

Light refreshments, door prizes, giveaways and informational materials are provided at each workshop.

Visit cityoffederalway.com/greenliving or call 253.835.2700 for the workshop schedule and to RSVP.

Stay in the Loop



Don't miss out on monthly notices for recycling events, document shredding, contests, workshops and other information.

Visit cityoffederalway.com/notifyme and select "Recycling Events and Information."

Getting Rid of Stuff? Post Ad Online

Do you have an item in "useable" shape that a second hand store won't take or you cannot haul? Consider posting an ad online to see if anyone is interested in it:

Craigslist:
seattle.craigslist.org/

eBay Classifieds:
seattle.ebayclassifieds.com

2good2toss:
2good2toss.com/

Freecycle:
freecycle.org/group/US/Washington

WHO to Contact for WHAT

Waste Management

- Start, cancel or change garbage, recycling or yard waste services
- Missed collection and/or cart replacement
- Vacation service hold (advance notice only)

1.800.592.9995 (M-F 7AM-5PM, Sat 9AM-1PM)
wmnorthwest.com/fedway

City of Federal Way Recycling

• Assistance with recycling and composting
253.835.2771
recycle@cityoffederalway.com
cityoffederalway.com/recycling

King County Transfer Stations

• Facilities for disposing of garbage for a fee
206.477.4466, kingcounty.gov/solidwaste

Algona Transfer Station

35315 W Valley Hwy, Algona

Bow Lake Transfer Station and Recycling Center

18800 Orillia Rd S, Tukwila

Household Hazards Line

• Assistance with reducing and disposing of household hazardous waste in King County
1.888.ToxicEd (869.4233), lhwmp.org

Comprehensive Local Recycling Databases

Find out how to recycle almost anything—mattresses, toilets, stumps & more!

King County "What Do I Do With...?"
206.477.4466
kingcounty.gov/whatdoidowith

Washington State Recycling Database
1.800.RECYCLE (732.9253)
1800recycle.wa.gov

Alternative formats available upon request. Call 253.835.2771, TTY Relay 711

