

# COLLECTION GUIDELINES

Columbia County residents receive weekly garbage service. Recycling is collected every other week.

## Please follow these guidelines to ensure collection.

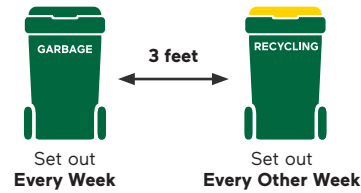
- Please place containers at the curb by **6 am**.
- Three (3) feet apart with lids opening toward street
  - At least three (3) feet from cars, trees, mailboxes
  - Wheels as close to the road as possible
  - Please remove containers as soon as possible after collection

### Do not overstuff your carts

All materials must fall freely into the truck

### Maximum allowable weights:

- 20-gallon cart – 35 lbs
- 35-gallon cart – 70 lbs
- 60-gallon cart – 120 lbs
- 90-gallon cart – 145 lbs



There is an an additional charge for each extra bag or container (35-gallon, 70 lb. limit) that doesn't fit in your garbage container with the lid closed. If you often have extra garbage, you may want to increase your garbage container size to avoid overflow and extra garbage charges.

## Backyard Composting Tips

By setting up a backyard compost pile, you can turn your food and yard waste into a nutrient rich soil amendment to help grow a healthy garden. Finished compost helps prevent erosion, retain moisture, and enrich the soil with nutrients.

- Select compost bin or area to create a compost pile
- Compost bins can be purchased or built using scrap wood.
- Add fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, leaves, sticks, brush and yard trimmings to your compost bin or pile, making sure larger pieces are chopped or shredded.
- Stir the contents occasionally, ensuring proper airflow.
- Your food scraps and plant trimmings will become nutrient rich compost in three to six weeks.

For more tips and ideas visit [www.wmnorthwest.com](http://www.wmnorthwest.com).

# BEYOND CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Even though some things cannot be recycled at the curb, it doesn't mean they have to go in the garbage. Be sure to use the resources listed below.

## Electronics Recycling

Computers, monitors and TVs CANNOT be disposed of in the garbage or at disposal sites such as landfills, transfer stations and incinerators.

Call **1-888-532-9253** or visit [www.oregon.gov/DEQ/ecycles/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ/ecycles/Pages/default.aspx) to find a FREE recycling location near you.



## Glass Recycling



Recycle glass bottles and jars at **Columbia County Transfer Station** 1601 Railroad Ave, St Helens, OR 97051.

Visit the County's website for a complete list of transfer stations: [www.columbiacountyor.gov/departments/SolidWaste](http://www.columbiacountyor.gov/departments/SolidWaste)

## Free Hazardous Waste Disposal

The Columbia County Household Hazardous Waste Program assists residents in safely disposing of and recycling hazardous materials from their homes. The Household Hazardous Waste Program accepts nearly all household items that contain one or more of the following key words on the label:

- Warning • Caution • Poison • Dangerous • Toxic
- Flammable • Combustible • Ignitable • Corrosive • Oxidizer

Visit Columbia County's website to learn more: <https://www.columbiacountyor.gov/departments/SolidWaste/HHW-Schedule>

## Mail-In Recycling Programs

WM offers affordable mail-in collection programs for batteries, electronics, sharps, toner cartridges and compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Visit [www.thinkgreenfromhome.com](http://www.thinkgreenfromhome.com) for more information.

# CURBSIDE RECYCLING GUIDE

Recycling is picked up every other week. We recommend that you wait until the cart is full to bring it to the curb.

## MIXED RECYCLING

All recyclables must be empty, clean and loose

Following the guidelines of what is allowed in your recycling bin saves natural resources, reduces pollution and creates jobs.

### Cardboard and Cartons



### Paper



### Plastic



### Metal



## No!

No bagged recyclables

No food or liquid (empty all containers)

No batteries

No plastic bags or stretchy plastics (store or depot drop-off)

No hoses, cords, or wires

**Questions?** Please visit [www.wmnorthwest.com/columbiacounty](http://www.wmnorthwest.com/columbiacounty) for recycling guides and information.



7227 NE 55th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97218-1215

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## Reduce, Reuse, then Recycle.

If every American recycled just 1/10 of their newspapers, we could save about 25 million trees each year.

**Before you buy, use or discard an item, ask yourself:**

**REDUCE:** Can I get this item used or with less packaging?

**REUSE:** Can I, or someone else, use this item again?

**RECYCLE:** Can I recycle this item after I use it?

**BUY RECYCLED:** Can I buy this item with recycled content?

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## Columbia County

2025-2026 Service Guide

