

# Curbside Journal

No-Fee Yard Waste Collection Oct. 10 & Oct. 24

## EL Going Green - Bicycling and Recycling in Downtown

Being green in East Lansing keeps getting easier. Last year's roll out of the City's automated curbside cart program, thanks in part to a grant from The Recycling Partnership, has yielded huge increases in East Lansing's recycling volumes and opened up new opportunities for downtown recycling. Now, thanks to a \$25,000 gift from Amcor and \$30,000 from the Downtown Development Authority, 30 sets of new recycling and refuse containers have been installed in downtown East Lansing. The new containers are attractive, functional and demonstrate East Lansing's commitment to reducing waste.

While this is a great start, it is only a start. The community's help is needed to meet the needs throughout the entire downtown. A crowdfunding campaign has been launched with a goal of adding at least 20 more sets of public recycling and refuse containers and 40 new bike parking spaces throughout downtown. The impact area is about 10 square blocks, making up the entire central business district of East Lansing. Each contribution will impact the experience in downtown and help East Lansing to truly be a green community. In order to complete the project, \$60,000 is needed. The crowdfunding goal is \$30,000, which, if met, will be matched by \$30,000 from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and Michigan State Housing Development Authority's Public Spaces Community Places program. Contributions are being accepted until October 14, 2016 at [www.Patronicity.com/ELGreen](http://www.Patronicity.com/ELGreen).



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Have questions about the City of East Lansing's curbside recycling program? Visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycle](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycle).



# CURBSIDE RECYCLING GUIDE

	Material	Details (single stream, no sorting required)
	Glass Bottles & Jars	Paper labels acceptable • All colors accepted, including green
	Tin, Foil, Steel & Aluminum Cans	Paper labels acceptable • All sizes accepted • Remove food residue
	Household Scrap Metal	Includes metal pots/pans, metal trays, metal bakeware, metal utensils, etc. • Empty aerosol containers accepted • NO wire hangers
	Plastic Bottles & Containers	Labeled #1-#7 (NO #3 PVC, Styrofoam or plastic bags)
	Bulky Rigid Plastic	Includes buckets, lawn chairs, toys, bins, etc. (look for HDPE symbol)
	Cartons	Includes milk cartons, juice cartons/boxes, etc.
	Newspapers, Magazines & Phone Books	Includes inserts • NO plastic bags or packaging wrap
	Paper	Includes office paper, junk mail, envelopes, file folders, cards, paper bags, shredded paper in secured clear plastic bag, etc.
	Boxboard	Includes dry food/cereal boxes, shoe boxes, etc.
	Corrugated Cardboard	Break down boxes
	Clothing/Textiles	Only in green Simple Recycling bags
	Small Household Goods/ Appliances/Electronics	Only in green Simple Recycling bags

## 2016 Curbside Recycling Schedule

OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
30	31																			

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

# 2017 Curbside Recycling Schedule

**JANUARY**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**FEBRUARY**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

**MARCH**

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			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**APRIL**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30						

**MAY**

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**JUNE**

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25	26	27	28	29	30	

**JULY**

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**AUGUST**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**SEPTEMBER**

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**OCTOBER**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**NOVEMBER**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**DECEMBER**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## Placement Guidelines and Information

- Carts should have three feet of clearance on all sides.
- All recycling should be contained within carts with lids closed and the lid opening facing the street.
- Place recycling/refuse at the curb no earlier than 8 p.m. the day before collection and no later than 7:30 a.m. the day of collection.
- Not sure whether you are in green week or blue week? Unsure of your collection day? Call (517) 337-9459 or visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycle](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycle).

## Why Clean Matters

Residents are encouraged to use the guide on page 2 to ensure that the items placed in their recycling carts are acceptable for the recycling stream. Contamination causes a multitude of issues and can render an otherwise clean load of recycling unacceptable to a material processing facility. Plastic bags and Styrofoam are two of the biggest and most concerning contaminants that City staff sees. Residents often ask why plastic bags are unacceptable in the City's single stream recycling. Employees in a material recovery facility often sort recyclables by hand and are in direct contact with every piece of material. When plastic bags are improperly mixed in with acceptable recyclable materials, the bags entwine in the equipment. This causes unsafe conditions and increases costs. Most grocery stores will now take plastic bags.

## Battery & CFL Bulb Recycling

CFL bulbs and household batteries can be recycled at DPW, East Lansing City Hall, the East Lansing Hannah Community Center and the East Lansing Public Library (batteries only). Look for the white boxes and green buckets.



# Yard Waste Program

**Yard waste includes leaves, plant materials, grass clippings and brush/limbs.**

### Containing Yard Waste

There are three ways to contain yard waste (no-fee days are exempt from City bag/sticker requirement, all other guidelines apply):

- City paper yard waste bags
- Rigid, 32-gallon plastic container or paper bag with City yard waste sticker (do not use Easy Carts, recycling carts or plastic bags to dispose of yard waste)
- Bundled (with string or twine) with a City yard waste sticker

Bags and stickers can be purchased at locations throughout East Lansing. Call (517) 337-9459 or visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/yardwaste](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/yardwaste) for details. Yard waste may be placed at the curb after 8 p.m. the day before collection or no later than 7:30 a.m. on the day of collection. Prior to that, it should be stored in a dry location.

### Disposing of Yard Waste

#### Curbside Yard Waste Collection (runs through Nov. 21)

Curbside collection takes place on Mondays (excluding holidays) through Nov. 21. Bags must weigh no more than 40 pounds. Bundles may be no more than 4 feet long and 1 foot in diameter and weigh no more than 40 pounds. Individual limbs must be 4 inches in diameter or less. Visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/collectionrequest](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/collectionrequest) or call DPW at (517) 337-9459 Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to request a pickup. Online requests must be made by 7 a.m. on the Monday of collection and phone requests must be made by 5 p.m. on the Friday prior to the Monday collection.

#### No-Fee Curbside Yard Waste Collection (Oct. 10 and Oct. 24)

Dispose of yard waste for free on Oct. 10 and Oct. 24. Yard waste must be placed in a paper yard waste bag/rigid plastic container or bundled and placed at the curb by 7:30 a.m. Advanced requests and City bags/stickers are not required.

#### Fall Bulk Leaf Collection

Bulk leaf collection will be offered the weeks of Oct. 10, Oct. 24 and Nov. 7 on the City's east side and the weeks of Oct. 17, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14 on the west side. The east side includes the east City limits at Park Lake to Abbot Road. The west side includes the west City limits at Coolidge and West roads to Abbot Road. Loose yard waste (except brush/limbs) can be raked to the curb for free collection.



# Extra Recycling Days & Holiday Refuse Collection

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of extra, free recycling days during the holiday season. Residents can fill their carts with clean, accepted items and place them at the curb on the following Mondays: Dec. 12, Dec. 19 and Jan. 9. Residents are also reminded that Simple Recycling offers free curbside recycling of textiles, clothing, electronics and household goods on regular recycling days and also on the extra recycling days listed above.

For items that can't be recycled, the City will offer No-Fee Holiday Refuse Collection Dec. 19-Jan. 9. During this time, extra refuse can be disposed of without the use of yellow City bags. Refuse is collected on residents' normal collection day, except where changes are necessary due to holidays. Bags must weigh no more than 40 pounds.

## Christmas Tree Recycling

The City will once again collect live-cut Christmas trees this winter. The trees will be chipped and used as mulch in City parks or donated to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for use as rabbit habitats. Trees can be recycled curbside or dropped off at a variety of City locations. All bags, holiday decorations, lights and tree stands must be removed and trees taller than 6' should be cut in half.

Trees can be placed curbside for collection anytime between Tuesday, Dec. 27 and Friday, Jan. 13. Advance phone requests and stickers are not required. Drop-off sites will be available through Jan. 13 at Patriarche Park (parking lot on Alton Road), Emerson Park (Arbor Drive entrance), Fine Park (parking lot at Winchester Drive), Valley Court Park (south of the Community Center) and White Memorial Park (parking lot at Pebblebrook Lane).



## Calendar

### October

- 10 First No-Fee Yard Waste Day (City-wide)
- 10 Bulk Leaf Collection Begins on East Side
- 17 Bulk Leaf Collection Begins on West Side
- 24 Final No-Fee Yard Waste Day (City-wide)
- 24 Bulk Leaf Collection continues on East Side
- 31 Bulk Leaf Collection continues on West Side

### November

- 7 Final Week of Bulk Leaf Collection on East Side
- 11 DPW Closed; Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday (normal schedule)
- 14 Final Week of Bulk Leaf Collection on West Side
- 21 Final Curbside Yard Waste Collection of 2016
- 24 DPW Closed; No Refuse/Recycling Collection
- 25 DPW Closed; Thursday and Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday

### December

- 12 Extra Recycling Day (City-wide); Recycling Contained in Carts Only
- 19 No-Fee Holiday Refuse Collection Dec. 19-Jan.9; Bulk Item/Yard Waste Not Included
- 19 Extra Recycling Day (City-wide); Recycling Contained in Carts Only
- 23 DPW Closed; Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday
- 26 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection
- 27 Christmas Tree Recycling Begins
- 30 DPW Closed; Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday

### January

- 2 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection
- 9 Extra Recycling Day (City-Wide); Recycling Contained in Carts Only
- 13 Christmas Tree Recycling Ends
- 16 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection

### February

- 20 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection

# Curbside Recycling of Clothing, Textiles & Household Goods

Since November 2014, the City of East Lansing has partnered with Simple Recycling for the free curbside collection of residents' textiles, clothing and small household goods. To date, Simple Recycling has collected more than 155,340 pounds of material from East Lansing residents for reuse/recycling. The EPA estimates that the average U.S. resident generates 82 pounds of textiles alone per year, but only 15 percent gets donated or recycled.

Simple Recycling collects textiles, shoes, clothing (any condition), pillows, toys, jewelry, purses, small appliances, lamps, small furniture, dishes and more. Residents simply put their green Simple Recycling bags (or bags/boxes with a Simple Recycling sticker) curbside on their regular recycling day. Simple Recycling leaves more bags each time the service is used. Need extra bags? Visit East Lansing City Hall or the East Lansing Department of Public Works during normal business hours or contact Simple Recycling at (866)-835-5068 or <http://simplerecycling.com/supplies/>.

# East Lansing Declared Pollinator Friendly Community

On Aug. 16, East Lansing City Council passed a resolution supporting the declaration of the City of East Lansing as a Pollinator Friendly Community.

The resolution acknowledges the importance of pollinators to local agriculture, ecosystems and economies; and recognizes the recent decline in pollinator populations due to increased use of pesticides, loss of habitat and loss of food supply. The resolution also acknowledges that the primary driver of pollinator health is the presence and availability of pollinator-friendly flowers and trees.

Community members can make a difference by:

- Reducing the use of pesticides in yards.
- Planting pollinator-friendly plants or a pollinator garden.
- Leaving some areas in yards mulch free.
- Converting portions of lawns into wildflower meadows.

Visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/PollinatorFriendlyCommunity](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/PollinatorFriendlyCommunity) for additional information, including helpful links and details about what the City will be doing.

# Out & About with DPW



Pictured Above (from top to bottom): Jason Chubb, Sue Thatcher and Ken Johnson.



## East Lansing Curbside Journal

Department of Public Works  
1800 E. State Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
(517) 337-9459  
[cityofeastlansing.com/recycle](http://cityofeastlansing.com/recycle)

Questions? Email Cathy DeShambo at [cdesham@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:cdesham@cityofeastlansing.com).  
Visit us on Facebook at [facebook.com/RecycleEL](https://facebook.com/RecycleEL).