

# Curbside Journal

No-Fee Yard Waste Collection Oct. 9 & Oct. 23

## City Awarded Recycling Grants from MDEQ

Enhancements to the City’s recycling opportunities will begin this fall and continue through 2018 thanks to grant awards from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

A \$14,760 Recycling Infrastructure Grant was awarded to expand public space recycling in the downtown and add public space recycling options at several parks and recreational areas in East Lansing. The grant funding will also be used to create a Styrofoam recycling collection station at the City’s drop-off recycling site, providing a new option for recycling that does not currently exist in the East Lansing area. A \$4,000 Recycling Education Grant was also awarded, which will be used for new outreach and education materials aimed at increasing participation, educating new residents and controlling contamination. Additionally, as the City continues to work to increase recycling opportunities for residents of large multi-family properties, the funds will be used to create a Tool Kit for Multi-Family Housing Recycling that can be used by East Lansing Property Managers and serve as a model for other communities to replicate.

As the City nears the two-year anniversary of its automated curbside cart recycling program, recycling volumes continue to grow. Curbside recycling volumes have grown from 50 tons per month prior to the rollout to almost 130 tons per month in 2017 and contamination is at an all-time low thanks to the care and diligence of residents and staff. Keep up the good work, EL!



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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 orange Simple Recycling bags
	Small Household Goods/ Appliances/Electronics	Only in orange Simple Recycling bags

## 2017 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	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
								31												

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

# 2018 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
				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			

## MARCH

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

## APRIL

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					

## MAY

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		

## JUNE

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

## JULY

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

## AUGUST

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	

## SEPTEMBER

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						

## OCTOBER

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			

## NOVEMBER

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	

## DECEMBER

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					

## Placement Guidelines and Information

- Carts should have at least 3 ft. of clearance on all sides.
- All recycling should be contained within carts with lids closed and the lid opening facing the street.
- Place cart at curb no earlier than 8 p.m. the day before collection and no later than 7:30 a.m. the day of collection.
- No plastic bags, styrofoam, yard waste, food waste, etc.
- 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).

# CFL Bulb & Battery Recycling

Community members can recycle Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs at DPW, East Lansing City Hall and the East Lansing Hannah Community Center. Just look for the white boxes. At this time, battery recycling is only available at DPW.

## 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 most frequent and most concerning contaminants DPW 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, resulting in unsafe conditions and increased costs. Most grocery stores will now take plastic bags.



# 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
- No more than 40 pounds

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. 20)

Curbside collection takes place on Mondays (excluding holidays) through Nov. 20. 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. 9 and Oct. 23)

Dispose of yard waste for free on Oct. 9 and Oct. 23. 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. All other guidelines apply.

### Fall Bulk Leaf Collection

Bulk leaf collection will be offered the weeks of Oct. 16, Oct. 30 and Nov. 13 on the City's west side and the weeks of Oct. 23, Nov. 6 and Nov. 20 on the east 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. 11, Dec. 18 and Jan. 8.

For items that can't be recycled, the City will offer No-Fee Holiday Refuse Collection Dec. 18-Jan. 5. 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. 26 and Friday, Jan. 12. Advance phone requests and stickers are not required. Drop-off sites will be available through Jan. 12 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 Community Center)
- White Memorial Park (parking lot at Pebblebrook Lane)



## Calendar

### October

- 9 First No-Fee Yard Waste Collection (City-wide)
- 16 Bulk Leaf Collection Begins on West Side
- 23 Final No-Fee Yard Waste Collection (City-wide)
- 23 Bulk Leaf Collection Begins on East Side
- 30 Bulk Leaf Collection continues on West Side

### November

- 6 Bulk Leaf Collection continues on East Side
- 10 DPW Closed; Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday (normal schedule)
- 13 Final Week of Bulk Leaf Collection on West Side
- 20 Final Week of Bulk Leaf Collection on East Side
- 20 Final Curbside Yard Waste Collection of 2017
- 23 DPW Closed; No Refuse/Recycling Collection
- 24 DPW Closed; Thursday and Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday

### December

- 11 Extra Recycling Day (City-wide); Recycling Contained in Carts Only
- 18 No-Fee Holiday Refuse Collection Dec. 18-Jan. 5; Bulk Item/Yard Waste Not Included
- 18 Extra Recycling Day (City-wide); Recycling Contained in Carts Only
- 22 DPW Closed; Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday
- 25 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection
- 26 Christmas Tree Recycling Begins
- 29 DPW Closed; Friday's Refuse & Recycling Collected Friday

### January

- 1 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection
- 8 Extra Recycling Day (City-Wide); Recycling Contained in Carts Only
- 12 Christmas Tree Recycling Ends
- 15 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection

### February

- 29 DPW Closed; No Bulk Item Collection

# Orange is the New Green!

Simple Recycling; the City's partner for free curbside collection of textiles, clothing and small household goods; are switching out their green bags for new orange ones.

Residents can feel free to continue using their remaining green bags as Simple Recycling will be collecting both colors until the transition to orange bags is complete.

Acceptable materials include textiles, shoes, clothing in any condition, pillows, toys, jewelry, purses, small appliances, lamps, small furniture, dishes, pictures and more. Residents can simply put their Simple Recycling bags (or bags or boxes with the Simple Recycling sticker) curbside on their regular recycling day. Simple Recycling will leave more bags each time residents use this convenient service.

Haven't used this free service yet or need extra bags? Visit East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, or the East Lansing Department of Public Works, 1800 E. State Road, during normal business hours to pick up free bags and stickers.

Residents can also call Simple Recycling at (866) 835-5068 or contact them through their online request form at <http://simpler recycling.com/supplies/> to request free bags and stickers via the mail.

# Here Comes the Sun!

The Greater Lansing region's first Community Solar Park is now leasing panels to Lansing Board of Water & Light (BWL) electric customers!

Community solar provides customers in the BWL electric service territory with the opportunity to support solar energy without having to install panels on their property. Solar supporters will sign a 25-year lease and pay a single, up-front cost of \$399 per panel. The BWL will provide a monthly on-bill credit to lessees, reflective of the amount of solar energy generated per panel.

It's time to shine! Leases are limited. Reserve your panels now and support clean, local, renewable energy today.

Learn more about the Community Solar Park at [micommunitysolar.org](http://micommunitysolar.org) and sign up at [micommunitysolar.org/sign-up](http://micommunitysolar.org/sign-up).

# Out & About with DPW



Pictured Above (from top to bottom): Homer Allen, Tim Pifer, Tina Lamer, Christopher Smith 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).