

# Curbside Journal

No-Fee Yard Waste Collection April 21 & May 12

## East Lansing Recycling: Where We Go From Here

Since 1991, East Lansing recycling services have grown and evolved to serve the community's needs. Drop-off sites offer 24/7 recycling of a wide range of items and the City's curbside program has evolved from source-separated collection to a single-stream system in which all materials, excluding glass, can be co-mingled. The variety of materials collected curbside has grown as well, to include additional plastics and glass.



The City is always looking for ways to improve its recycling services. Efforts to increase off-campus student recycling have resulted in successful informational campaigns driven by partnerships with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Community Relations Coalition. While it is great to report that curbside recycling volumes increased by 10 percent from 2012 to 2013, there is also recognition that additional opportunities exist to increase the variety of recyclable materials collected, while also ensuring cost efficiency.

The City's current curbside recycling trucks were state of the art for source-separated material collection when purchased in 2008, but as the City approaches a new purchasing cycle, there will be opportunities to explore new options to add volume, variety and efficiency to the program. With the explosion of single-stream recycling, cart collection systems and automated collection trucks in recent years, there is much to consider as East Lansing's recycling services continue to grow and evolve. Community input will be a key part of the decision-making process as the City moves forward.

### Also in this issue:

- Recycle Guide .....2
- Curbside Recycling Tips .....2
- Recycle Rama .....2
- Yard Waste Program .....3
- Storm Debris Cleanup .....3
- Seasonal Site .....3
- Document Destruction Day .....3
- CRC & DPW Partnership .....4
- ELPD Medication Drop Box .....4
- Climate Sustainability Plan .....4
- Recycle! East Lansing .....5
- Calendar .....5
- Household Hazardous Waste ..5
- Contact Information .....6
- Basics for New Residents .....6
- Out & About with DPW .....6

**Have a question?**

**Visit us on  
Facebook!**

[www.facebook.com/  
RecycleEL](http://www.facebook.com/RecycleEL)

[www.facebook.com/  
CityofEastLansing](http://www.facebook.com/CityofEastLansing)



# Curbside Recycling Tips

The Department of Public Works (DPW) offers a number of tips for optimal curbside recycling.

DPW's single-stream collection means that residents no longer have to separate materials within their bin or bundle materials with string or twine, with the exception of glass. Because glass must continue to be separated from the rest of collected materials, residents are asked to place glass in a bag or other separate container within their recycling bin.

When recycling plastics, residents are reminded that the City accepts plastic bottles/cups, tubs, pots and trays labeled #1-7. Screw-on lids need to be removed. Items larger than a detergent bottle should not be included (larger items can be recycled at the DPW drop-off site).

Finally, putting curbside bins out when full, rather than less full, optimizes staff time. Anyone with questions or concerns about curbside recycling are encouraged to contact DPW at (517) 337-9459.

# Recycle Rama is March 29

Recycle Rama will take place Saturday, March 29 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. in Lansing.

The event is open to Ingham County residents and items such as books, bicycles, scrap metal, medicines and electronics will be collected. Visit [www.facebook.com/MIRecycleRama](http://www.facebook.com/MIRecycleRama) for a complete list. Sign up to be a volunteer at [www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/2845553380101#/form](http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/2845553380101#/form).

## Recycle Guide

Find the year-round recycling drop-off site at 1800 E. State Road

### Brown Paper Bags

Can be recycled at the drop-off site. No curbside. Do not bundle. Place with corrugated cardboard.

### Boxboard

Can be recycled at the drop-off site. No curbside. Break down boxes. Dry only. No refrigerator or freezer items accepted.

### Corrugated Cardboard

Can be recycled at the drop-off site. No curbside. Break down boxes. Dry only.

### Newspapers

Can be recycled curbside and at the drop-off site. Keep clean /dry. Inserts accepted.

### Mixed Paper & Phone Books

Can be recycled curbside and at the drop-off site. Keep dry. Includes copier paper, stationery, colored paper and envelopes. No carbon, wrapping, tissue paper, manila envelopes, labels, tape or self-stick flaps.

### Glass Bottles (Clear, Brown, Green)

Can be recycled curbside and at the drop-off site. Rinse clean and remove lids. Do not break. Food and beverage bottles only. No ceramic, Pyrex™ or window glass. Please separate by color for drop-off recycling and separate from other materials for curbside recycling. No blue or yellow glass.

### Magazines

Can be recycled curbside and at the drop-off site. Shiny/glossy only.

### Tin, Steel, Aluminum Cans, Foil

Can be recycled curbside and at the drop-off site. Rinse clean. Must be empty.

### Plastic Bottles/Containers

Plastic bottles, cups, tubs, pots and trays labeled #1 - #7 can be recycled curbside and at the drop-off site. Rinse clean and remove caps from bottles. Place bottle caps in small container in curbside bin. No plastic bags, strapping or Styrofoam. No bottles with oil, antifreeze or other household hazardous waste.

Visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleguide](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleguide) for information on other recyclable items.

## Seasonal Site

Residents will have through mid-April to drop off boxboard and corrugated cardboard at the seasonal recycling drop-off site located at Patriarche Park, at the corner of Saginaw Street and Alton Road. The site will remain open until park use picks up in the spring. The site will re-open in October.

## Document Destruction Day

The Old Town Commercial Association and Friedland Industries will host a Document Destruction Day on Saturday, April 19 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. This free event will take place at 405 E. Maple Street in Lansing. Learn more at [www.friedlandindustries.com](http://www.friedlandindustries.com).

## Ice Storm Cleanup, Tree Pruning

DPW's ice storm debris cleanup will likely continue through the end of March or early April. Residents can place ice storm debris at the curb for free collection. In addition, utility companies may be pruning trees near power lines this spring. Residents may receive door cards, letters or visits if they have trees that need to be addressed.



# Yard Waste Program

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

## Containing Yard Waste

There are three options to contain yard waste (this guideline does not apply to no-fee days):

- City paper yard waste bags
- Rigid, 32-gallon plastic container or paper bag with City yard waste sticker (do not use Easy 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. Prior to that, it should be stored in a dry location.

## Disposing of Yard Waste

### Curbside Yard Waste Collection April 7-Nov. 24

Curbside collection takes place on Mondays (excluding holidays) through Nov. 24. 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 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 7:30 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 April 21 and May 12

Dispose of yard waste for free on April 21 and May 12. 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. **No bulk items will be collected on no-fee days.**

Visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/yardwaste](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/yardwaste) for additional details.

# CRC Partners with City to Increase Student Recycling, Clean Up Neighborhoods

The Community Relations Coalition (CRC) student interns continue to work with the Department of Public Works on efforts to increase student recycling and assist in neighborhood clean-up efforts.

So far this school year, CRC interns have organized multiple volunteer neighborhood cleanups after major home football games. They have also continued to work toward increasing student participation in the City's curbside recycling program by distributing informational materials to students living off campus. The CRC is a non-profit organization made up of community members, student interns and City and MSU staff who work to enhance relationships and build bridges in off-campus East Lansing.



## Controlled Medication Drop Box at ELPD

The East Lansing Police Department, 409 Park Lane, hosts a drop box where residents can properly dispose of controlled medications. Pain relievers, anti-depressants, sleep aids, behavior modification medications and cough medications are accepted. All personal information should be blacked out or removed.

This program is provided by the Ingham County Health Department and is made possible through a Pollution Prevention Grant from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

## Climate Sustainability Plan

The City of East Lansing Climate Sustainability Plan (CSP) was developed by the East Lansing Commission on the Environment (COE) on behalf of the East Lansing City Council to identify and encourage community-based actions to improve the environment by reducing global warming pollution. It is a 'living' document that will continually evolve. The COE recently presented an update to Council covering the City's current CSP accomplishments. Here are a few:

- Launched single-stream recycling curbside.
- Approved a city-wide Complete Streets ordinance.
- Reviewed and recommended a Green Fleet Policy.
- Adopted an ordinance that provides guidance for the installation of renewable energy systems within the city.
- Began significant upgrades to the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant that will yield better filtration and disinfection, along with energy and cost savings.

Still not sure if it's recyclable? Call DPW at (517) 337-9459 or visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleguide](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleguide) to find out!

# Disposing of Household Hazardous Waste

Ingham County's Household Hazardous Waste collections run May-September. Collections are on Thursdays, 2-6 p.m., at the Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. in Lansing. Items accepted include pesticides, oil-based paints and more. Call (517) 887-4312 or go to <http://hd.ingham.org/Portals/HD/Images/eh/2013%20hhw%20flyer.pdf> for more information.

Latex paint is not accepted at these collections; however, the Habitat for Humanity Restores of Lansing, (517) 374-6235, and Haslett, (517) 999-0488, will accept latex paint for a small handling fee. Visit [lansing.habitatrestores.org](http://lansing.habitatrestores.org) for more information. Learn more about how to dispose of partial cans of latex paint properly at [www.cityofeastlansing.com/latexpaint](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/latexpaint).

## Recycle! East Lansing to Take Place May 31

Recycle! East Lansing, formerly Project Pride, is East Lansing's annual spring recycling event. This year's event will take place on Saturday, May 31 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Abbott Center, 1400-1500 Abbot Road. Recycle! East Lansing will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year!

Numerous household items will be accepted for reuse, recycling, and proper disposal, including electronics, small appliances, books, scrap metal, scrap wood, polystyrene, bicycles, medication, cell phones and more. Lansing Board of Water & Light customers that recycle a working room air conditioner or dehumidifier will receive a \$25 rebate per working unit. Learn more at [www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleEL](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleEL). Contact Susan Schmidt at [recycle48823@hotmail.com](mailto:recycle48823@hotmail.com) or (517) 333-3587 to volunteer.

# Calendar

## March

29 Recycle Rama

## April

7 Curbside Yard Waste Collection Begins

19 Document Destruction Day

21 No-Fee Yard Waste Collection  
-No Bulk Item Collection

22 Earth Day

25 Arbor Day

## May

12 No-Fee Yard Waste Collection  
-No Bulk Item Collection

26 Memorial Day  
-No Yard Waste or Bulk Item Collection

31 Recycle! East Lansing (formerly Project Pride)

## June

8 East Lansing Farmer's Market Opening Day

## July

4 Independence Day  
-No Refuse or Recycling Collection  
-Friday Refuse and Recycling Collected Monday, July 7  
-No Bulk Item or Yard Waste Collection Monday, July 7

## September

1 Labor Day  
-No Yard Waste or Bulk Item Collection



# Refuse & Recycling Basics for New Residents

New East Lansing residents are encouraged to participate in the City's refuse and recycling collection programs.

The City provides refuse collection for single-family households as well as duplexes and rental properties with one to four units. Refuse can be disposed of in an Easy Cart or in yellow City-issued trash bags.

Residents have the option of purchasing a 32-, 64- or 96-gallon Easy Cart:

- The 32-gallon Easy Cart has a one-time purchase price of \$55 with no annual collection fee.
- The 64-gallon Easy Cart has a one-time purchase price of \$70 with no annual collection fee.
- The 96-gallon Easy Cart has a purchase price of \$79 with a \$75 annual collection fee.

Yellow City-issued trash bags can be bought in packages of five for \$7.50 at locations throughout the City, including (but not limited to):

- City Hall, 410 Abbot Road
- E.L. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road
- Department of Public Works (DPW), 1800 E. State Road

Find a complete list of places to purchase City-issued trash bags at [www.cityofeastlansing.com](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com).

The City collects recyclables curbside from single-family homes; duplexes; and small, multi-family homes with up to 20 units. There is no fee to recycle. However, recyclables must be placed in a blue City-issued recycling bin, which can be purchased for a one-time fee of \$7.

Recycle bins and Easy Carts are available for purchase at DPW, 1800 E. State Road, or by placing an order over the phone at (517) 337-9459. Recyclables are collected weekly on the same day as refuse collection and should be placed at the curb by 7:30 a.m. A map of refuse and recycling routes—color-coded by day—is available online at [www.cityofeastlansing.com](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com). In addition to curbside recycling, there is a year-round drop-off recycling site at 1800 E. State Road. Take a look at the Recycle Guide on page 2 or visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleguide](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/recycleguide) to learn what can be recycled.

Photos at right, top to bottom:

DPW employees Shaun O'Berry, Kyle Barnard and Ken Johnson.

# Out & About with DPW



## East Lansing Curbside Journal

Department of Public Works  
1800 E. State Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
(517) 337-9459

Editor in Chief: Cathy DeShambo  
[cdesham@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:cdesham@cityofeastlansing.com)

Visit us on Facebook @  
[www.facebook.com/RecycleEL](http://www.facebook.com/RecycleEL)