



CITY OF ATLANTA CURBSIDE RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING PROGRAM

Residents are encouraged to call

Department of Public Works Customer Service with other questions: 404-330-6333.

Q: What is CARTLANTA?

A: The City of Atlanta would like to ensure that all residential customers are participating in waste reduction and sustainability practices. Our new recycling campaign “Cartlanta: Recycling. Get Into It!” has begun. On October 15, 2012 we began delivery of new 96-gallon recycling carts to all residential customers who did not already have one. The new carts replaced residents’ 18-gallon recycling bins, allowing for more recyclables to be collected. ONLY place recyclables in the blue carts no garbage, no yard trimmings, no food, no electronics, no clothes/shoes, and no plastic bags.

Q: Why did the City distribute new carts?

A: Simply, more recycling = less trash. We currently produce almost twice the national average of trash and our city wasted \$7 million worth of recyclables prior to the start of Cartlanta. When you have more space for recycling, you can recycle more, which will bring these numbers down. Currently we have the capacity to recycle over four million gallons of recyclables. By giving every resident a new and larger container, we can grow this number potentially to 9.2 million! This means more than 22,000 new tons of recyclables will go into manufacturing facilities in and around Georgia, instead of into the landfill.

Q: Is there a cost for a new recycling cart?

A: No. The 96-gallon recycling carts were distributed at no cost.

Q: Who is eligible to participate?

A: City of Atlanta single family households and multi-family buildings with 5 or less units are eligible to participate in the program. Residents residing in multi-family buildings with 6 or more units may either utilize the Keep Atlanta Beautiful mobile recycling centers or have their property management implement a recycling program. For more information on the mobile recycling centers visit www.keepatlantabeautiful.com.

Q: What can I recycle in the blue cart?

A: No sorting of recyclables is required. We accept a long and growing list of items in Atlanta, including aluminum and steel cans, plastic and glass bottles, plastic containers and lots of types of paper including newspaper, cardboard and magazines. Visit www.cartlanta.org to get the full list.

Q: What is single stream recycling?

A: Single stream recycling is a convenient way for residents to recycle. It is the collection of recyclables that does not need any sorting, everything is collected together. The recyclables are sorted at the facility using special equipment.

Q: What do I do with items that can be recycled, but the city does not collect?

A: There are various locations to recycle items that the city does not collect:

Electronics:

- Hartsfield Facility, 2175 James Jackson Parkway NW, 404-794-2422
Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM. You must be a city resident and show proof of residency. Residents may drop off electronic appliances such as televisions, microwaves, computers and monitors.

Styrofoam, Electronics, Paper Shredding, Single Stream, and Latex Paint:

- Keep Atlanta Beautiful, Community Recycling Centers - Buckhead, Second Ponce de Leon Church, 2715 Peachtree Street (corner of E Wesley & Bolling) every first Saturday of the month and Old Fourth Ward, 320 Irwin Street, Atlanta GA every 2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. For more information visit www.KeepAtlantaBeautiful.com.

· Plastic bags and wire hangers:

Plastic shopping bags can be returned to your local grocery stores or home improvement stores like Home Depot, Lowes, or Walmart. Wire hangers can be returned to your dry cleaners.

Hazardous Household Materials:

- Household hazardous wastes are any product labeled: toxic, poison, corrosive, flammable, combustible or irritant that is thrown into the household garbage can. The City of Atlanta does not have a collection program for household hazardous waste (HHW). Our recycling partner, Keep Atlanta Beautiful has options, please visit www.KeepAtlantaBeautiful.com or www.earth911.com for these options.

Q: What if I live in a multi-family building and they don't offer recycling?

A: The city's curbside residential recycling program services single family homes and multi-family buildings with 5 units or units. If your building does not offer recycling, contact your property manager and notify them that you are interested in doing so. The city ordinance requires all multi-family buildings with 6 or more units to offer recycling services to their tenants. The city and Keep Atlanta Beautiful also offers single stream recycling at the monthly mobile recycling centers. Visit www.KeepAtlantaBeautiful.com for more information.

Q: Are plastic bags recyclable?

A: Plastic bags are not recyclable through the city's program, because they are not able to be processed by the machinery in the recycling facility. We encourage residents to return plastic bags to their local grocery, drug, and home improvement stores to be recycled or to reuse them. More information on recycling plastic bags can be found at www.abagslife.com and www.earth911.com.

Q: I didn't receive a cart?

A: Please call the Department of Public Works Customer Service Department at 404.330.6333 or publicworks@atlantaga.gov to request one.

Q: When will my recyclables be picked up?

A: Your recycling service will be the same day as your trash collection.

Q: Where do my recyclables go after they are collected?

A: Once your recyclables are collected, they are taken to Waste Pro Services, a materials recovery facility(MRF) located on Fulton Industrial Boulevard in Atlanta, Georgia. The materials are weighed, sorted, and bundled using a series of specialized equipment. These bundles are then sold and are eventually re-manufactured into new products. Facility tours are available through Waste Pro Services.

Q: What tips can you share with me about recycling?

- A:**
- Begin using your new cart immediately
 - On collection day, place your new cart on the curb consistent with where your trash is currently collected
 - No sorting is required. Put all recyclables together in the recycling cart
 - Lids, caps, and labels are ok
 - Rinse all food and beverage containers
 - No plastic bags; grocery or garbage
 - No garbage, food, yard trimmings, clothes/shoes, electronics, or hazardous waste materials

Q: What happens if I contaminate my recyclables by putting the wrong items in my cart such as garbage and food?

A: You will receive a contamination door hanger issued by the city's Department of Public Works. The door hanger will notify you of the item(s) that you have improperly placed in your recycling cart. The door hanger will also include a list of acceptable and non-acceptable items.

When you place items such as food, garbage, electronics, and yard trimmings in your cart it contaminates the acceptable items and the City must trash them. When contaminated recyclables are brought to the materials recovery facility (MRF), the city is charged \$60 a ton to dispose of them.

Q: What will happen if I do not participate in the program?

A: Recycling is not mandatory; however we appreciate everyone that is participating and encourages everyone to do so. When you trash items that are recyclable, it costs the city \$29 a ton to dispose of. Prior to Cartlanta, the City trashed more than \$7 million worth of recyclables.

Q: How can I help Atlanta to become a top-tier recycling city?

A: Recycle all that you can and encourage others to do so! The City of Atlanta also encourages all residents to attend a workshop and become a volunteer recycling ambassador. Visit www.atlantaga.gov under the Department of Public Works section for more information.

Q: Why should I recycle and how does it help Atlanta?

A: By recycling all that you can, you can make a real impact.

- Recycling in Atlanta helps to keep valuable materials out of the landfills.
 - With the newly expanded recycling program and other sustainable initiatives, the mayor's goal is to become a top-tier sustainable city and to divert 90 percent of all municipal waste from landfills by 2020.
- Recycling creates and saves jobs
 - For every 10,000 tons of materials recycled an estimated four jobs are created verses for every 10,000 tons that are landfilled, only one job is created
 - More than 17 jobs within the Department of Public Works were created due to the CARTLANTA recycling program
- Recycling saves money
 - The city pays landfill tipping fees in the amount of \$29 a ton. Last year alone, the city had to pay \$7 million in tipping fees for items that could have been recycled. With the new program, the city has the potential to save more than \$650,000 in disposal fees.
- Recycling generates revenue
 - The city is paid \$30 a ton by the material recovery facility. With the new program, the city has the potential to generate \$672,000 in revenue.
- Recycling sustains the environment
 - Recycling saves energy, conserves natural resources and natural spaces, and reduces pollution.

Q: How can I find out more about Cartlanta?

A: You can visit www.cartlanta.org, [www.Facebook.com/Cartlanta](https://www.facebook.com/Cartlanta) , or call customer service at (404) 330.6333.