

Watertown Trash and Recycling Guide

Location and Contact Information:

Watertown Department of Public Works (DPW)

124 Orchard Street

617-972-6420

<http://www.watertowndpw.org/>

Hours: Monday Through Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Forms of payment accepted at DPW include cash, check, or money order.

Recycling Center:

76 Stanley Avenue – Accessible from Green River Way

Hours: Friday and Saturday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Dumping outside operational hours is prohibited)

Service accessible to Watertown Residents only – ID required. No businesses

Trash and Recycling services provided by the Town:

Curbside trash and recycling pickup of town is completed by Republic Services. Town issued trash containers (black) are picked up weekly. Town issued recycling containers (blue) are picked up every other week on the same day as your trash collection. See *Trash and Recycling Day Look Up* (<http://local.republicservices.com/site/watertown-ma>) to identify your collection day and recycling week.

Yard waste is collected curbside on your designated trash collection day on designated weeks throughout the year. See the Trash and Recycling Calendar for yard waste collection weeks.

Excess recycling and yard waste may also be dropped off at the Recycling Center year-round.

Trash and Recycling Facts:

PLASTIC BAGS ARE NOT RECYCLABLE!! NO PLASTIC BAGS PERMITTED IN RECYCLING CONTAINERS OR AT THE RECYCLING CENTER.

Styrofoam is not collected at the curb or at the Recycling Center.

Trash and Recycling containers must be placed at the opening of your driveway for pickup in a manner that avoids parked vehicles.

All trash and recycling must be captured within the containers. No overflow. Flatten boxes to save space.

All trash must be bagged. Recycling products may NOT be bagged.

A legal holiday will delay trash and or recycling by one day.

A second recycling container may be purchased from DPW for \$90.

Hard plastics, household metals, textiles, and electronics are NOT collected at the curb. These items may be brought to the Recycling Center. See material descriptions below.

Construction debris and miscellaneous pieces of wood or carpet will not be collected by the Town either curbside or at the recycling center.

The Town is not responsible for a cleanout related to moving in or out of any residential, commercial or other facility. Residents may bring packing boxes to the recycling center as necessary. Additional trash and recycling must be handled by the individual(s) involved.

The Town of Watertown is a member of the Minuteman Regional Household Hazardous Products (MHHP) Facility. The MHHP Facility is located in Lexington. The MHHP Facility is open one weekend day from April through November each year, and accepts a wide variety of household hazardous waste. Watertown residents may help protect the environment by taking common household hazardous waste products to the MHHP Facility for disposal. <https://www.watertown-ma.gov/832/Household-Hazardous-Waste>

WHAT YOU PUT IN YOUR RECYLING BIN MATTERS. FOOD, LIQUIDS, AND PLASTIC BAGS CAN RUIN AN ENTIRE LOAD OF RECYCLABLES.

Guide to Trash and Recycling by Material/Category:

Household Furniture / Burnable Bulk Items – Each week on your regular trash day, up to two (2) large items may be left curbside per household. Acceptable items include couches, chairs, tables, book cases, mattresses, box springs, and dressers. Do not disassemble furniture. Each “piece” of a sectional counts as one large item. No miscellaneous pieces of wood or carpet.

Mattresses – Place mattress and/or box spring out on your regular trash day. This is considered a burnable bulk item.

Glass – Items include colored or clear food and beverage containers, sauce jars, and condiment jars, liquor and wine bottles (remove the cork) may be recycled. You do not have to remove labels. No light bulbs, pyrex, or ceramics. Florescent light bulbs may be dropped off at DPW or the Recycling Center.

Paper – Newspapers, inserts, magazines, paperback books, catalogs, junk mail, phone books, brochures, and office paper (any color), window envelopes may be recycled. Paper items with staples are OK. **NO soiled napkins, paper towels, paper plates, coffee cups, hard cover books, or shredded paper are permitted for recycling.**

Carboard – Corrugated cardboard, file folders, poster board, frozen food boxes, cereal boxes, egg cartons, paper towel rolls, and show boxes may be recycled curbside or at the Recycling Center. **NO pizza boxes and no wax coated cartons (i.e. Wax based milk/juice containers).**

Plastic – Plastic bottles, jars, jugs and tubs must be rinsed with caps replaced to be recycled. Water, soda, detergent bottles, plastic milk jugs (not wax coated cartons) may be recycled. PLASTICS #5 (i.e. Yogurt cups, hummus tubs, or cottage cheese containers, and medicine bottles) are recyclable. Replace the cap for all plastic bottles to recycle. **Styrofoam is NOT recyclable even if designated with a #6!**

Metals – Items are only accepted at the Recycling Center. **Please note that there is NO curbside pickup for Metals.**

Aluminum – Beverage cans and Food cans may be collected curbside and at the Recycling Center.

White Goods – Stoves, refrigerators (remove the door, it's the law), freezers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, humidifier, dishwasher, washer machine, dryer, hot water heater and microwave may be picked up curbside on Friday after purchasing a White Goods Sticker at Public Works. White Goods Sticker cost \$20.00 per item and must be purchased by Thursday at noon for the Friday pick-up.

Electronics – CD's, cell phones, house phones, cameras, hard drives, keyboards, printers, fax machines, cassette tapes, VHS tapes may be dropped off at the recycling center. **Please note that there is NO curbside pickup for Electronics.**

TV's and Computer Monitors – Items are collected curbside every Friday. Schedule pick up with DPW at (617-972-6420) by Thursday at noon. These items may also be dropped off at the Recycling Center.

Textiles – Acceptable textile items (see link below) may be dropped off at the Recycling Center. **Please note that there is NO curbside pickup for Textiles.**

<https://www.watertowndpw.org/DocumentCenter/View/470/Acceptable-Textile-Recycling-List>

Hazardous Waste – To dispose of oil-based paint and stains or other hazardous materials, contact the Town Health Department at 617-972-6446.

Latex Paint – Paints must be completely dried out and placed in your trash container double bagged. To dry out latex paint, leave the cover off until the paint dries. Alternatively, you may add kitty litter to speed up the process of solidification.

Propane Tanks – Empty propane tanks may be brought to Pizzi Farm Market & Deli in Waltham (781-891-1032). **For not completely empty tanks, contact the Town Health Department at 617-972-6446.**

Gas Grills and Treadmills – Items may be brought to the Recycling Center to the “mixed metals” dumpster. Remove the tank on the grill prior to drop off.

Hard Plastics – Items such as kiddie pools, Tyke toys, and resin outdoor furniture may be dropped off at the Recycling Center. **Please note that there is NO curbside pickup for Hard Plastics.**

Plastic Bags – You may bring plastic bags back to the supermarket for recycling. **NO plastic bags recycled at the curb or at the Recycling Center.**

Batteries – Alkaline Batteries (i.e. AAA, AA, C, D, 9-volt batteries) may be disposed of regular trash. Rechargeable Batteries may be dropped off at the Recycling Center, Radio Shack, or Staples. Lithium, Button Cell, or Nicad Batteries are hazardous materials and may be dropped off at DPW, the Recycling Center, or Atlantic Battery (309 Main Street – Rear in Watertown).

Florescent Bulbs and Mercury containing products – Items may be dropped off at DPW office or recycling center.

Fire Extinguisher – Contact Keane Fire and Safety Equipment (1500 Main Street, Waltham, MA) at 781-899-6565. Extinguishers will be picked up for a \$10.00 fee.

Automobile Batteries – Contact Atlantic Battery at 309 Main Street, Watertown (617-924-2868).

Automobile Parts – Contact Carroll's Used Auto Body Parts in Lexington (781-861-6060) or Schiavone Brothers Salvage in Newton (617-332-9074)

Lawn Mowers and Snow Blowers – Remove all fluids (leave the caps off) and bring to the Recycling Center.

Yard Waste – Leaves, grass clippings, weeds, twigs, and brush. Dirt and rocks are NOT acceptable. Branches must be less than three (3) inches in diameter and branches should be bundled in three-foot lengths. Yard waste must be placed in paper yard waste bags or loosely in a trash barrel. Do not put yard waste in plastic bags or in Town trash or recycling containers.

Christmas Trees – Items are picked up curbside on your trash day during the month of January. The trees are chipped and recycled by the Town. No ornaments or plastic bags.

Rain Barrels – Items are available for purchase at DPW. Rain Barrel cost is \$65.00 and an optional drain pipe diverter may be purchased for an additional \$16.00. Call DPW at 617-972-6420 to schedule a 24-hour notice prior to pick up.

Compost Bins – Items are available for purchase at DPW. Each bin costs \$40.00. Call DPW at 617-972-6420 to schedule a 24-hour notice prior to pick up. Bootstrap Compost (617-642-1979) provides composting services (private vendor – not Town-Sponsored) for residents, offices, and restaurants of Watertown.