



Town of Merton

Town-Wide New Garbage and Recycling Program

Dear Town of Merton Resident,

The Town Board of Merton has voted to enroll the community in a municipal garbage and recycling collection.

What led to this?

In September of 2014, the Town Board held a meeting to discuss municipal collection. After this meeting, it was decided that a survey would go out to the Town residents to get a clear picture of what direction the Town wanted the board to go. The survey was sent out early in 2015 and the results were that 2/3 of the returned surveys would like municipal garbage pickup. In June the Town Board took action to reduce the cost of refuse disposal to Town of Merton residents while increasing the volume of materials collected and recycled in the Town.

When will the Town-wide collection begin?

Negotiations have culminated in the selection of Advanced Disposal Services to provide collection of refuse and recyclables starting on **January 1, 2016**.

Do I need to take my garbage cans to the roadside every week?

No, the agreement with Advanced Disposal Services features weekly, **up-the-drive** collection of refuse and recyclables. You can leave your garbage can and recycling container where you normally store them, as long as they are near your driveway and easily accessible.

Can I still use the Town of Merton bags at the Transfer Station?

Starting January 1, 2016, No. This option will no longer be available. The contract signed with Advanced Disposal Services is an exclusive contract and does not allow the Town to collect refuse and garbage.

When collection begins on January 1, 2016, who should I contact if a problem arises?

Please contact Advanced Disposal Services directly at 262-367-6040.

What size containers will I receive?

In late December each resident will receive a 32-gallon container from Advanced Disposal Services for disposal of recyclables.

What kind of container will I need to provide?

Each resident is responsible to provide their own garbage container. Containers must be able to be easily lifted and managed by one collection specialist.

What if I have more garbage than will fit in my can?

Advanced Disposal Services will collect larger bulky items, which do not fit into standard refuse cans. Items that will not be collected include televisions, electronic waste, yard waste and branches, broken concrete and asphalt, remodeling debris, liquids including oil and paints, tires and batteries, and appliances containing Freon.

Will the Transfer Station (Dump) stay open?

The Town of Merton Transfer Station will still be open on Saturdays but will not accept garbage after January 1, 2016. It will still accept recyclables, oil, tires, batteries, Freon appliances and bulk items.

Will the fee be included on my property tax bill?

The Town residents will be assessed **\$215.80 per household** to cover the cost of collection, processing and disposal, and the administration of the contract with Advanced Disposal Services for 2016. This assessment will be included in the annual property tax bill. The fee from Advanced Disposal Services will be adjusted annually to reflect the actual cost of living, but will not exceed 4% per year over the seven year term of the agreement.

I currently contract for garbage pickup. Will this save me money?

It is estimated that most Town residents will save \$100 to \$200 per year with the municipal service, relative to their current individual agreements with waste collection providers.

Will the Town receive any additional funding from Waukesha County to help offset the cost?

The Board entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Waukesha County for the processing of recyclables materials at the new Materials Recovery Facility that is jointly owned by the County and the City of Milwaukee. Under the terms of this agreement the County will compensate the Town for the cost of the 32-gallon recycling containers and the cost of transporting the recyclables to the processing facility in Milwaukee. In 2016 the Board expects that the financial assistance from the County will be **over \$13,000**.

I currently contract for garbage pickup, do I need to cancel my contract?

It is important that those residents make the necessary arrangements to **terminate their individual collection services effective January 1, 2016**, and to contact your banks to discontinue the automated withdrawals before the payments are made for the January 2016 services.

Will the recycling items that will be picked up differ than the items I recycle now?

The new single stream collection system will make it even more convenient to be an active recycler. Recycling containers, paper, and cardboard reduces not only the amount of material that is disposed in local landfill, but reduces the cost of waste disposal to the Town. Look for information about the new service, and details on the recycling program on the Town website and in mailers in December.

Any further questions can be emailed to Town Clerk at clerk@townofmerton.com or he can be reached by phone at the Town Hall at 262-966-2651.

The Town Board of Merton

