

Recycling Changes Coming to Lake County Unincorporated Neighborhoods

There are recycling changes coming to your neighborhood. If you don't currently have recycling as part of your trash service, a new law now requires your hauler to provide recycling, along with your trash service. In an effort to increase recycling and extend the life of our landfills, the Lake County Board approved modifications to the Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance effective January 1, 2014 making it mandatory for haulers in the unincorporated area to provide recycling containers.

This FAQ aims to answer your questions about this new requirement. Please visit www.lakecountyil.gov/Recycle/NewLaw for more information.

Why Recycle?



Recycling helps extend the life of our landfill.

Lake County's landfills are reaching capacity, but much of the waste entering the landfill is recyclable—and it can be used for new products. If we do not increase our recycling rate and divert recyclable materials away from our landfills, we may be out of capacity by around 2024.

Recycling saves valuable natural resources.

Recycled materials use less energy and water, and create less pollution.

It's the law.

As of January 1, 2014, residents in the unincorporated area are required to have recycling service as part of their trash service and haulers are required to give customers containers for collecting recyclable materials.

The Lake County Board has a goal to divert 60% of the waste stream away from landfills by 2020. Lake County, as well as many municipalities, are adopting regulations toward achieving this goal (as recommended in the 60% Recycling Task Force Report).



Visite www.lakecountyil.gov/Recycle/NewLaw para ver una versión en español de este folleto.

Want to do more? Visit RecycleFirstTrashLast.org for everything you need to know about recycling in Lake County!



Who does this impact?

Unincorporated single-family residences that do not currently have recycling as part of their trash service will now begin receiving recycling service along with their trash service as of January 1, 2014.



How much will this cost?

If you do not currently have recycling as part of your service, it's estimated that the cost may be an additional \$4.50 to \$6 per month, depending on your hauler. (Remember, you may be billed in advance for your service, so you may see the increase this fall). If you already have recycling as part of your service, you should not see an increase.



What do I need to do?

Make recycling a daily habit by changing your mind set to recycle first - trash last! Simply, place recyclable materials in your container. For a list of what can and cannot be recycled in Lake County, visit www.RecycleFirstTrashLast.org, or check out the recycling guidelines on the other side of this flier.

Other Info

- Ask your hauler for a larger recycling container and/or about a volume based pricing option. You could be eligible for a discount!
- Homeowner associations and townships have the opportunity to form a franchise among a group of residents that could end up saving them money. Contact the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) at 847-336-9340 for information on forming a franchise.
- Contact your hauler with questions about your bill.



RecycleFirstTrashLast.org

Here are the first things you need to know when recycling curbside in Lake County, IL. Place these items together in your recycling container:

METAL



ACCEPTED: All clean and empty aluminum cans, foil and foil pans; steel and tin cans; spray cans and paint cans; kitchen pots, pans and trays; utensils.

Caps, lids, pull tabs and labels may remain on the containers. Place metal lids inside of empty cans.

NOT ACCEPTED: Propane or helium tanks; needles or syringes; electronics, small appliances; batteries; hangers; wire; holiday lights; ammunition; flares; combustible liquids or gases.

Metal containers and foil should be clean, empty of all liquids and free of food residue.

PLASTIC



ACCEPTED: All clean and empty plastic household containers, bottles of any size; jugs; tubs; cups; clamshell style containers; reusable food containers; laundry baskets; hangers; buckets; storage totes; kitty litter tubs; plant pots; unmotorized toys; small non inflatable pools.

Caps, lids, rings, handles and labels should be left on the plastic containers.

NOT ACCEPTED: Foam cups; foam cartons; foam packaging material; plastic bags; plastic wrap; plastic utensils and garden hoses.

Plastic containers should be clean, empty of all liquids and free of food residue.

Clean and empty plastic bags and wrappers should be stuffed into one bag and tied closed. Recycle them at your nearest participating grocery or retail store. Do not place plastic bags and wrap in your recycling container. For more info go to filmrecycling.org

Include grocery bags; newspaper bags; bread bags; produce bags; zip lock bags; toilet paper, napkin and paper towel wraps; case wrap; diaper wrap; dry cleaning bags; plastic retail bags; bubble wrap; electronic wrap; furniture wrap; tyvek and other plastic shipping envelopes.

DO NOT include frozen food bags, prewashed salad bags, bio-based, degradable or compostable bags.



PAPER



ACCEPTED: Scrap paper; mail; envelopes, including window; copy paper; office paper; shredded paper; cards; cardboard boxes; cereal & frozen food boxes; newspaper; ads; inserts; catalogs; magazines; phone books; hardcover and soft cover books; paper egg cartons; paper cups; milk, juice and other paper beverage cartons; paper tubes; wrapping paper.

Shredded paper should be bagged.

Cardboard boxes should be flattened and must be cut down to pieces no larger than 3'x 3'.

NOT ACCEPTED: Plastic bags, plastic wrap and straws; corrugated cardboard that contains food residue or wax-coating; paper towels; napkins; facial tissue; photos; laminated paper or paper coated with food, wax or foil.

Paper boxes and cartons should be clean, empty and free of all liquid, food residue or packing materials.

GLASS



ACCEPTED: Clean and empty glass bottles and jars, all colors.

Remove all caps and lids.

NOT ACCEPTED: Light bulbs; drink glasses; ceramics; bakeware; mirrors; ornamental glass; window and auto glass.

Glass containers should be clean, empty of all liquids and free of food residue.

For more information on how to properly recycle or dispose of items not listed, please contact SWALCO at (847) 336-9340 or go to RecycleFirstTrashLast.org.

This information was last revised September 2012.

