



SAVE THIS INFORMATION!

Your Guide to Worthington City Services

“How do I get rid of this? Does this go in the trash can, or the recycling bin? How do I dispose of yard waste? When will the leaf vacuum be down my street? Will the snow plow ever clear the road? Does the City shovel snow from sidewalks? What is storm water?” These are some of the commonly asked questions when residents call the Worthington Department of Public Service. This special pull-out edition of the Village Talks is designed to answer these questions and more. Please keep it and refer to it as questions arise. It is our hope that these pages will help residents better understand your City services and how the Service Department works to make Worthington a safe and clean community in which to live, work and play.

Solid Waste Collection

The City of Worthington provides refuse, recycling, and yard waste collections to all single-family, two-family, and condominium residences within the City. Residents are not billed directly for this extensive service.

Collection Day

Refuse, recycling and yard waste collections take place on Friday on a year-round basis. All items are to be placed at the curb or edge of the paved roadway no later than 6:00 a.m. Friday. By City Ordinance, no items may be placed curbside before 6:00 a.m.

Thursday and empty containers must be removed by 6:00 p.m. Saturday.

Residents must have solid waste at the curb by 6:00 a.m. Friday. Rumpke is not required to pick up any solid waste set at the curb late.

Collections will be moved to the Saturday following the Holiday during these weeks:

- New Year's Day (January 1)
- Memorial Day (Last Mon. in May)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day (First Monday in Sept.)
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day (December 25)

For all other holidays, collection will continue to occur on Friday unless otherwise noted by newspaper or post card.

Service Problems

If you experience any problems with your refuse, recycling, or yard waste service, please contact the Worthington Department of Public Service at 431-2425. Missed collections may also be reported to Rumpke on Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to Noon at 1-800-828-8171.

Authorized containers include:

- Sealed plastic or paper bags
- Metal/plastic cans with two handles and a tightly fitted lid
- Containers may not exceed 35 gallons and all bags and cans must weigh less than 50lbs. Rumpke may refuse to accept all unauthorized containers, such as cardboard boxes, if not serviceable.

Disposal Guidelines

All refuse is to be properly wrapped before being placed in an authorized refuse container to allow for greater collection efficiency and to reduce littering. Animal waste must be wrapped in moisture-proof material and be undetectable by odor.

Quantity of Refuse

Residents may set out an unlimited quantity of refuse at the curb; however, all refuse must be placed in an authorized container. To facilitate pick-up, please alert the City in advance if setting out a bulk item

Furniture/Appliances/Carpet

Sofas, stoves, hot water heaters, tables, mattresses, washers/dryers, etc. will be collected. Carpet must be rolled and less than 5ft. in length and 1 foot in diameter. Items that are not permitted include all CFC Appliances (refrigerators, dehumidifiers), tires, motor oil & car batteries. Please call the Service Department at 431-2425 for disposal options.

Construction Material

Lumber, fencing, bricks, broken concrete, etc. will be collected. Place in container for easy handling or stack neatly at the curb. Individual items and containers need to weigh less than 50 lbs. and be less than 5 ft. in length. All nails, screws or staples must be removed. To facilitate pick-up, please notify the City in advance.



Yard Waste

Yard waste is required to be completely separated from trash since it is not allowed in the landfill. Yard waste includes grass clippings, branches, sticks, leaves, logs, and plant material. Soil, vegetables/food, rocks and pebbles, and treated wood should be placed in the trash.

Disposal Requirements

Yard waste may be placed at the curb in the following methods:

- Paper yard waste bags (purchased at lawn/garden stores)
- Permanent containers with two handles
- Bundled with string or twine no longer than 5 ft. in length and no larger than 2ft. in diameter.
- No plastic bags of any type may be used, including mulch bags.
- All yard waste, in bags, containers, and/or bundles, must be less than 5 ft. in length and less than 50 lbs. Rumpke will not accept ANY loose yard waste. Fireplace logs, stumps, and root balls must be less than 3 ft. in length and 10 inches in diameter.

Labeling Guidelines

Residents who use their own container for yard waste must place a “Yard Waste Only” decal on the upper portion of the container. The decal must face the street so it is visible to the yard waste driver.

Decals are available at the Service Department free of charge. Do not place decals on paper yard waste bags.

Yard Waste Drop-off

The Service Department offers free yard waste drop-off for all Worthington residents. Residents, with proof of residency, may drop off their yard waste weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the last Saturday of each month (March to October) between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. There are no quantity, size or bundling restrictions. Weekdays, check in the main office for assistance. Saturdays, enter the gate at the north end of the Service Building. Residential use only. Residents using private contractors for large tree removals should contact the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) at 871-5100 for information about other “free” drop-off locations that can better accommodate larger quantities.

Household Hazardous Waste

HHW items such as solvents, car batteries, driveway sealers propane tanks, and fertilizers are not collected during the weekly solid waste collection since they are dangerous to people, animals and the environment.

Collection Drives

To encourage the proper disposal of household hazardous waste, the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) offers free collection drives in various municipalities. These events are open to all Franklin County residents and typically operate on weekends between April to October. Trash, medical wastes, and materials from businesses/schools are not accepted. For more information, please contact the Service Department at www.worthington.org, 431-2425 or call SWACO at 871-5100.



Recycling

Recycling is provided at no additional charge to residents who receive the City’s solid waste collection service. Initially, residents may receive two bins free of charge, one with a lid and one without a lid. Bins are available at the Service Department. Additional bins may be purchased for \$5.00. All recyclable materials may be placed in the same bin.

Items that May Be Recycled

- Clear, brown, and green glass
- Aluminum/Bi-metal beverage cans
- Clean aluminum foil and pie pans
- Plastic bottles and jugs # 1 thru #7
- Tin and Steel food cans
- Juice boxes- not including the straw
- Newspapers, magazines, catalogues
- Phone books, Junk mail & envelopes
- Corrugated cardboard - 2 ft. by 3 ft.
- Office, school, fax papers
- Chipboard - detergent boxes & dry packaged food boxes (crackers, cereal, cake mix, etc.) Remove all plastic linings.
- All cardboard larger than 2 ft. by 3 ft. may be collected by the trash driver

Styrofoam, wrapping paper, ribbon, napkins, tissues, and plastic bags are not recyclable.

Curb Side Leaf Collection

The Worthington Service Department offers leaf collection services to all Worthington residents during the autumn season. The Department's goal is to provide efficient and effective leaf collection that is convenient for residents. Limited staff and equipment make it necessary to schedule vacuum collection services within two pre-designated zones, EAST of High St. and WEST of High St. The Department picks up Citywide during the first and last weeks of collection. Each zone will receive a minimum of three scheduled collection weeks. The Leaf Collection program begins in October and ends in early December. For the specific schedule please visit www.worthington.org, or consult your City Calendar or annual post card.

Leaf Collection Guidelines

- All leaves must be raked to the curb in a neat pile or row - do not place leaves in street. Leaves in streets causes storm sewers to clog and creates traffic hazards.
- Do not include foreign materials, such as brush, twigs, or grass clippings. Such material damages the leaf vacuum machine.
- Remove vehicles from the street during your collection week. The leaf vacuum truck will not be able to pick up any leaves blocked by a parked vehicle and will not come back.
- Leaf collection crews may come to your house anytime during the scheduled week. Conditions such as weather, leaf volume and staffing keep the department from being able to schedule specific streets on specific days. Please place leaves at the curb by Monday of your scheduled collection week to ensure pick up. The Service Department cannot guarantee collection of leaves placed at the curb late in the scheduled week.

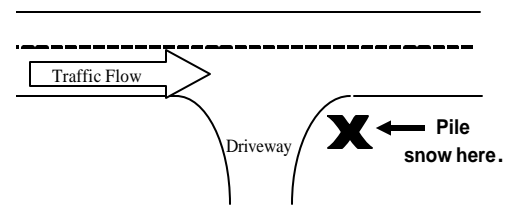
Snow Removal

The Service Department's number one responsibility in terms of snow removal is to make Worthington streets as safe and clear as possible for those who live, work or travel through the City. The Service Department has a "clean street policy," which means that crews work until all streets are plowed or salted and cleared to bare pavement. In extreme cold, de-icing agents will not work as effectively and streets may remain slick until traffic and weather help the products to work. Major thoroughfares, bridges, hills and bus routes receive priority, followed by residential streets.

Why did you plow snow in my driveway?

In order to clear a street of snow, plows must push snow to the side of the street. This creates a necessary but unfortunate consequence: snow is pushed into driveways. The Service Department asks for your understanding, and offers the following suggestions:

- Avoid shoveling snow into the street. Shoveling snow from your driveway into the street creates several problems: if streets have already been cleared, this may cause safety problems; if the street is not yet cleared, then this snow will be pushed into your driveway by the plow.



- When shoveling your driveway, shovel the snow to the side of your driveway on the far side of the traffic flow. When snow is piled in this manner, plows will push it toward the curb strip rather than over the driveway approach.
- When conditions exist that require snow plowing or salting, please move vehicles off the street. This will greatly assist Service crews in their efforts to keep streets safe and clear.

Sidewalk Snow Removal

Residents are responsible for clearing their sidewalks of snow and ice. City Code requires that the home owner or occupant remove snow and ice from sidewalks and curb ramps abutting their premises within twelve (12) hours of daylight after any snowfall or accumulation of ice occurs in order to give safe passage. If the homeowner fails to clean the sidewalk, the City may serve notice giving the homeowner 24 hours to clear the sidewalk. If the owner does not comply, the City will have the sidewalk cleared and the property owner will be billed.



Storm Water Management

Leaves and Water Pollution

The wonderful trees in your yard that provide cooling shade in the summer provide plenty of yard work in the fall. Yes, lots of leaves fall into your yard. What are your options for this annual chore that won't hurt our near by waterways?

Leaves left on sidewalks, driveways, alleys and streets can be carried by storm water runoff into local streams and eventually into lakes and rivers. As the plant material decomposes in the water it releases nitrogen and phosphorus. Leaves and grass clippings from your garden that enter the streams with storm water runoff overwhelm the waterways and provide conditions for excessive algae growth. Large amounts of algae deplete dissolved oxygen levels necessary for aquatic life. Leaves may also accumulate and obstruct storm drains, causing them to function improperly or even flood. Leaves, grass clipping and other yard waste dumped on stream banks kill the plants that hold the stream banks in place. Healthy plants along a stream or pond edge help slow erosion.



By taking these small steps, you can help protect our waterways from these pollutants:

- Use lawn bags to dispose of leaves and debris.
- Compost leaves in the backyard. Information on composting can be found at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/com-fact/0001>.
- Drop leaves off at local composting facilities. The Service Department at 380 Highland Ave. Is open for drop-off 8am-4:30pm weekdays.
- Sweep up and recycle leaves that are on sidewalks, driveways, and in alleys.
- Do not dump leaves or debris onto stream banks or in floodways.
- For lighter leaf accumulation mow over the leaves with a mulching mower.

These simple solutions to protect waterways can make a difference in water quality for the benefit of people, rivers, plants, and wildlife.

 This article is part of an on going effort to provide information for better storm water quality. A majority of Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District's funding is for storm water education. Storm water is also the focus of Franklin SWCD's backyard conservation program.

Important Phone Numbers

Worthington Department of Public Service (614) 431-2425
 Rumpke Recycling (800) 828-8171
 American Electric Power (877) 237-2886
 Columbia Gas of Ohio (800) 282-0157
 AT&T Telephone (800) 572-4545
 Columbus Division of Water (614) 645-8270
 Columbus Health Department (614) 645-7417
 Poison Center of Central Ohio (800) 682-7625

Worthington Administration & Finance (614) 436-3100
 Division of Fire & EMS (non emergency) (614) 885-7640
 Division of Police (non emergency) (614) 885-4463
 Parks & Recreation (614) 436-2743
 Engineering Department (614) 431-2424
 Law Department (614) 436-7429
 Griswold Senior Center (614) 842-6320
 Worthington Schools (614) 883-3000
 Worthington Libraries (614) 807-2626