



April 20, 2021





## Oak Park's 2021 Municipal Solid Waste Collection Program Highlights

### Municipal Solid Waste Collection Program:

The Village of Oak Park's comprehensive municipal solid waste collection program is designed to effectively deal with increasing amounts of refuse, rising collection and disposal costs, legislative restrictions and growing environmental concerns. Municipal waste hauling services can be divided into five categories which include trash, recycling and food scrap/yardwaste collection in addition to the Fall leaf collection and hazardous and electronic waste. The Municipal solid waste collection services are provided to residential properties with five or fewer units. Owners of larger multifamily dwellings and commercial buildings must contract directly with a private waste hauler.

Residents participating in the municipal waste hauling program are provided refuse carts (garbage, recycling and food scrap/yardwaste) which are serviced by the waste hauler on a weekly basis. Trash carts are available in two sizes, 64 gallon or 96 gallon, recycling carts are available in one size, 64 gallon, and food scrap/yardwaste carts (add on service) are only available in 96 gallon. Currently the Village services approximately 11,200 residential locations.

### Refuse Program Numbers

Total Refuse Accounts	11,200
Total 96gal trash carts	7,215
Total 64gal trash carts	4,550

Note: some accounts have more than one cart.



### 2021 Solid Waste Collection Program Highlights:

TYPE	CART COLOR	SIZE	COLLECTION	2021 PROGRAM NOTES
Recycling	Blue	64 gallon only	Weekly	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recycling cart collection cost is included in the base rate, additional blue carts can be requested at no additional cost.</li> <li>2. Additional recyclable items can be placed into a box or paper bag and be stored next to the recycling container for collection at no charge.</li> <li>3. Heavily contaminated carts receive a note and are not collected. Resident must remove contaminates.</li> </ol>
Garbage	Green / Brown	64 or 96 gallon	Weekly	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Residents can choose from either a 64 or 96 gallon trash cart. Monthly fee, 64g is \$26.39 / 96g is \$29.06.</li> <li>2. Pink Refuse stickers can be purchased for items that do not fit into the trash cart. One pink sticker for 30 gallon container or less. Two pink stickers for any item larger than 30 gallons. One pink sticker cost \$3.10.</li> <li>3. White goods (appliances that cannot be landfilled) require resident to contact the Village call center.</li> <li>4. Large quantity of bulk items falls outside the residential program and requires commercial waste hauling service (i.e. dumpster, WM bagster, etc.)</li> </ol>
Food scrap / Yardwaste	Grey	96 gallon only	Weekly (bi-weekly from Dec - April)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Grey cart collection includes food scrap, Yardwaste, and shredding paper collection.</li> <li>2. One size compost cart available, 96 gallon. Monthly fee \$15.68.</li> <li>3. Yardwaste season ends the last full week of November. Bi-weekly compost collection begins the first full week of December. Yardwaste and weekly compost collection begin first full week of April.</li> <li>4. Food scrap drop off location available for commercial properties (102 N. Lombard-Water Pumping Station).</li> <li>5. Holiday Tree Collection occurs the first 3 week of January free of charge.</li> <li>6. Compost carts can be shared by two households.</li> <li>7. Six free truck loads of compost annually provided by the waste hauler.</li> <li>8. Green Yardwaste stickers required for paper Yardwaste bags, 32 g rigid containers or bundles of brush . One green Yardwaste sticker cost \$3.10.</li> </ol>



<b>Fall Leaf Collection Program</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Street Collection</b>	<b>Weekly collection for 6 week period</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Six week program beginning the first full week of November. Total cost for 2021 \$194,316.</li><li>2. Residents under the waste hauling program rake leaves into the street for collection.</li><li>3. Commercial residential buildings, not in the program, rake leaves in the street for collection.</li><li>4. Collection requires both Village staff (push leaves into piles) and Waste Hauler to remove leaves.</li></ol>
<b>Household Hazardous Waste/Electronics</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Unlimited amount</b>	<b>Call to schedule a collection</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Home collection of electronics and household hazardous waste.</li><li>2. Overwhelming positive response from Oak Park participants.</li><li>3. Accepts latex paint.</li></ol>



**Waste Hauling options for consideration:** (highlights indicate Staff's recommendations)

### **Refuse Cart Color**

✓ **Option A:** Maintain the current color-coding refuse cart system.

- Recycling = Blue
- Garbage = Green
- Food scrap/Yardwaste = Grey

#### Comments:

1. Residents are familiar with the current color-coding system.

✓ **Option B:** Provide one color cart with different color lids for recycling, trash, food scrap/Yardwaste

#### Comments:

1. Carts would be uniform providing a cleaner look for alleys.
2. Cart repairs/replacements could occur more efficiently with only one color being used.



### **Refuse Cart Size**

✓ **Option A:** Maintain the current refuse cart sizing options

- Recycling = 64 gallon only
- Trash = 64 or 96 gallon
- Food scrap/Yardwaste = 96 gallon

Comments:

1. Different size carts allow residents to choose the proper sizing for household refuse needs.

✓ **Option B:** one size carts for all refuse types either: all 64 gallons or all 96 gallons.

Comments:

1. Some alleys may not have room for the larger carts.
2. One size cart results in uniformity in alleys.
3. Waste hauler can maintain a single inventory of carts eliminating the periodic shortage of refuse cart supply.



### **Food Scrap/Yardwaste Program**

With the goal of decreasing the amount of organic refuse sent to landfills, the Village of Oak Park offers a Food Scrap/Yardwaste cart program to residents throughout the community. Participants receive a grey refuse cart for organics that is comparable in volume to three Yardwaste bags. Subscribers participating in the Food Scrap/Yardwaste program avoid purchasing green Yardwaste stickers for materials placed in the cart.

Total Refuse Accounts	11,200
Total Food Scrap/Yardwaste Participants	2,227

- ✓ **Option A: “Opt-in Program”:** No change to the current compost program. Residents can contact the Village to participate. Residents have the option to share a Food Scrap/Yardwaste cart with one neighbor.

Comments:

1. Approximately 20% of residents currently participate in the Food Scrap/Yardwaste cart program. The number of participants has increased 70% over that last 3 years.

- ✓ **Option B: “Universal Village-wide Program”:** **Seek Pricing as an Alternate to Option A:** An all-inclusive Food Scrap/Yardwaste cart participation. All residents would receive a refuse, recycling, and Food Scrap/Yardwaste cart. Residents would have the option to have the Food Scrap/Yardwaste cart removed, however the fee for the cart would be included in the base refuse rate (Similar to the cost for recycling being included in the base rate).

Comments:

1. All Oak Park residents would participate reducing the overall landfill production.
2. Could consider a 35 gallon cart for Food Scrap/Yardwaste with additional Yardwaste to be placed in Kraft bags requiring a green sticker. The smaller cart could be beneficial fitting in alleys.
3. Food scrap service would be more consistent allowing the waste hauler to provide service to all households resulting in permanent food scrap collection routes.
4. Refuse billing would be more consistent. The cost for food scrap service would provide the most favorable rates based on volume pricing.
5. Additional food scrap drop-off locations could be created to provide options for residents not currently in the Villages waste hauling program. Staff is proposing three. Currently, a food scrap drop-off location is located at 102 N. Lombard Ave.



- ✓ **Option C: “Opt-out Program”:** This program would allow residents to decline participation in the compost program and hence not have to pay for the service.

Comments:

1. Waste haulers have stated that since the number of users is unknown it will be difficult to provide favorable pricing for the service. Prices could be inflated to compensate for the uncertainty of participants.
2. Waste haulers are concerned that they will be purchasing carts for this service at +/- \$50 each only to have them returned. There are 11,200 accounts. If only 50% of the community participated, 5,600 carts would be returned unused. Currently 20% of the community participates in the Opt in program.
3. If instituted, roll out would need to be phased in over time to allow for better pricing and tracking of who will be utilizing the service. Additional Village staff and waste hauler staff may be needed for the program.
4. “Opt-out” is the less efficient option, resulting in logistical complexities and an inordinate amount of manpower to complete implementation.
5. Staff is not aware of other “Opt-out” programs to use as a guide.





### **Fall Leaf Collection Program**

Since 1994, the Fall Leaf Collection Program has been provided as a joint operation between the Public Works Department and the waste hauler contractor (Waste Management). Prior to 1994, the Fall Leaf Program was performed entirely by the Public Works Department. The Fall Leaf Collection Program runs for a six -week period, beginning the first full week of November and ending two weeks into December. The Village collection route is divided into four sections that are labeled Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Fridays are used for the Washington Boulevard corridor and as a “catch up” day in the event that crews were unable to complete a section due to heavy leaf volume. The process for collection includes three Street Division staff working nights (11pm – 11am) to push leaves to the end of the block. The refuse contractor utilizes a minimum of three crews (minimum of three people per crew) to collect the leaf piles.

- ✓ **Option A:** No change to the current six-week leaf collection program. Program begins the first full week of November. A price is requested to add two additional weeks to make it an eight week program, similar to years prior to 2020, should the Village wish to do so.
- ✓ **Option B: Seek Pricing as an Alternate to Option A:** Modify fall leaf collection to a bagged leaf program. Residents would be responsible for bagging leaves rather than raking leaves into the street. Most communities in the Chicagoland area utilize the bagged leaf program. Bags would be collected at residents regular trash collection area. An unlimited amount of bags would be collected during the six-week collection period without the need for green refuse stickers.

#### Comments:

1. Bagging of leaves would eliminate challenges relating to non-collection due to parked cars.
2. Less polluting vehicles and energy would be needed to collect leaves.
3. Commercial locations, not in the Village’s waste hauling program and not paying for leaf collection service, would no longer be part of the program. All commercial locations have landscaping companies that benefit from street leaf collection.



### **Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collection Service**

Waste Managements AT YOUR DOOR special collection program is Oak Park's convenient service for safely disposing of electronics and common household hazardous waste. Residents participating in the Village's waste hauling program can schedule an at-home collection of materials such as garden chemicals, automotive fluids, paint products and household cleaners as well as electronic items like televisions, computers, fax machines, printers and cell phones. The cost for the program is incorporated into the monthly refuse fee.

- ✓ **Only Option:** To ensure that household hazardous waste and electronics are disposed of responsibly, the Village intends on making the program a requirement as part of the request for proposal. Not all Waste Haulers have household hazardous waste collections.