

Howard County

CURBSIDE COLLECTIONS GUIDE

Be In The Know:

- Sign up for our email blasts and monthly newsletter
- Request tours of the Alpha Ridge Landfill
- Request presentations for your school or civic group
- Request a waste audit of your business
- Attend composting and rain barrel workshops hosted by the County's Master Gardeners



Weekly curbside collection is provided to households that pay the yearly Trash and Recycling Service fee.

Visit KnowBeforeYouThrow.org to check your collection days and more information

KNOW before you THROW



 **Calvin Ball**
County Executive
Bureau of Environmental Services
9801 Broken Land Parkway
Columbia, MD 21046
(410) 313-6444
Help@HowardCountyRecycles.org

AUGUST 2023



RECYCLING COLLECTION

Howard County provides residents with ONE FREE recycling container. Containers are assigned to each address and must remain there, even if the resident moves. You can put your street name and number on the container which will help it stay where it belongs. Contact the County for any repairs. Additional carts may be purchased on our website.

YES We Will Collect:

- ✓ Paper – newspaper, office paper, junk mail, milk cartons, paperboard cans
- ✓ Glass – any color bottles or jars
- ✓ Cardboard – clean and flattened
- ✓ Plastic – bottles, tubs, jugs, jars and trays
- ✓ Metal cans – aluminum, steel cans and EMPTY aerosol cans.

NO We Can't Collect:

- ✗ Acrylic plastic
- ✗ Disposable plates and utensils (paper or plastic)
- ✗ Food-stained cardboard
- ✗ Napkins, paper towels, tissues
- ✗ Plastic bags or plastic bagged material
- ✗ Plastic clamshell containers and packaging
- ✗ Plastic film, wrap, bubble wrap, or air bags*
- ✗ Styrofoam
- ✗ "Tanglers" – hangers, wires, hoses, cords
- ✗ Textiles or clothing*
- ✗ Window glass, ceramics, mirrors*

***Visit our website for drop-off recycling options.**

Cart Repairs & Replacements

Contact our office for recycling cart repairs and replacements.

Missing a wheel?

Recycling cart wheels are available at:

Kendall Hardware
(12260 Clarksville Pike)

Clarks ACE Hardware Columbia
(8895 McGaw Road)

Bureau of Environmental Services
(9801 Broken Land Parkway)

GENERAL RULES

Keep it **loose, loose** the bag.

Place recyclables **Loosely together.**

No need to **remove** lids, caps or labels from items.

Make sure Containers are **CLEAN, EMPTY, and DRY.**

Recycling markets and products change. While we may wish to recycle everything, it's important to Know Before You Throw. When in doubt, leave it out (of the blue bin). Stay up to date by visiting our website.



TRASH COLLECTION

Before disposal explore our reuse, recycle, and donation options first at KnowBeforeYouThrow.org.

Up to four (4) cans, bags or bundles will be collected weekly on your trash day. Each item must weigh less than 40 pounds. Bundles must be less than 4' in length and 18" in diameter.

Collection Rules

- Reusable containers must be made of metal or tough plastic, equipped with handles and watertight, well-fittings lids. County-provided recycling or food scrap container cannot be used.
- If the container is larger than 40 gallons, each bag inside is counted as one item.
- Disposable trash bags must be heavy gauge plastic that can be picked up and carried without tearing. Securely tie the top to prevent spillage.
- The clean-up of trash or recycling, especially in grouping areas, that is spilled and/or spread by animals or wind is the responsibility of the residents.

NO We Can't Collect:

- ✗ Car parts: tires, wheels, batteries, etc.
- ✗ Landscape debris: dirt, rocks, stumps, sod, mulch, compost etc.
- ✗ Construction debris: concrete, drywall, lumber, carpet, fencing, cabinets, appliances, toilets, sinks, etc.
- ✗ Liquids such as paint, cooking oil, chemicals and motor oil. Other liquids are prohibited.
- ✗ Containers larger than 40-gallon containing loose trash will not be serviced
- ✗ Mirrors/plate glass
- ✗ Paint cans (unless completely empty or dried with the lid off)
- ✗ Rechargeable batteries
- ✗ Electronics including laptops, computer monitors, TVs, motorized toys, chairs with electric plugs, etc.
- ✗ Hazardous, toxic or flammable materials: asbestos, ammunition, explosives, compressed gas tanks, dead animals, firearms, medical waste, etc.



YARD TRIM COLLECTION

Curbside yard trim collection is provided to most homes in Howard County and runs from early spring through mid-January. Not sure if you receive collection? Call **410-313-6444** or visit our website.

Collection Rules

- Use reusable open-top containers, County-provided green cart or paper bags.
- Tie brush and branches using string or twine. Bundles may not exceed 18" in diameter, 4' in length.
- Yard trim will not be collected as trash during yard trim collection season in areas that receive curbside yard trim collections.
- Cans, containers, paper bags and bundles must weigh less than 40 pounds.
- Yard trim in plastic bags will not be collected.

YES We Will Collect:

- ✓ Bamboo
- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Brush/weeds
- ✓ Seed pods (pine cones, sour gum balls, etc.)
- ✓ Grass
- ✓ Small limbs or branches less than 4" in diameter and 4' in length
- ✓ Hedge clippings/light brush

NO We Can't Collect:

- ✗ Bushes with root bases attached
- ✗ Stumps
- ✗ Dirt/Soil/Mulch
- ✗ Yard trim mixed with trash or non-organic materials
- ✗ Japanese Stiltgrass
- ✗ Yard trim placed in plastic bags, recycling carts or wheelbarrows
- ✗ Logs over 4" in diameter or 4' in length

Did you know?

Certain areas receive food scrap collection with their yard trim. Visit FeedTheGreenBin.org to sign up!



BULK ITEMS & SCRAP METAL

A maximum of four (4) bulk trash items will be collected on your trash day. Items must be able to be lifted by two collection crew members (oversized and unaccepted items will be tagged and left for the resident's disposal). Bulk trash is not recycled. Scrap metal collections must be scheduled by calling **410-313-6444**.

YES We Will Collect:

- ✓ Appliances
- ✓ Mattresses and box springs
- ✓ Broken Furniture
- ✓ Gas Grills
- ✓ Lawn mowers

NO We Can't Collect:

- ✗ Batteries*
- ✗ Medical waste
- ✗ Carpets/rugs
- ✗ Mirrors/plate glass
- ✗ Chairs with electric plugs
- ✗ Motorized toys
- ✗ Compressed gas tanks*
- ✗ Pallets
- ✗ Construction & demolition debris
- ✗ Sofa beds
- ✗ Drum containers/fuel & oil tanks
- ✗ Stumps & logs*
- ✗ Electronics/TVs*
- ✗ Tires*
- ✗ Wooden picnic tables, toilets and swing sets

*These items can be recycled at the Alpha Ridge Landfill at 2350 Marriottsville Road in Marriottsville.

Donation Options

Please consider donating or consigning items and help keep useable material out of the landfill. Visit KnowBeforeYouThrow.org to download our Donation Directory.

***Items set out for donation (Purple Heart, Freecycle, etc.) should be clearly marked and kept close to the house to avoid accidental curbside collection.**

GENERAL COLLECTION RULES

- Items are collected between the hours of 6 am and 7 pm. Pickup time may vary week to week. Items must be placed out before 6 am on the day of collection.
- Contractors will not return to collect items set out after the truck has serviced the area.
- Place carts and items within 5 feet of the nearest public road. Some communities are required to group items in designated areas.
- Do not block mailboxes, cars or fire hydrants.
- Incorrect items and improperly set out material will not be collected.
- Electronics, motorized toys and rechargeable batteries should never be set out for collection. These items cause fires and pose a serious hazard to our staff and contractors. Recycle these responsibly at Alpha Ridge Landfill

Holiday Slide Schedule

Recycling, yard trim and trash collections occurring on or after these holidays will slide and be made one day later that week. No collections will be made on:



NEW YEAR'S DAY



MEMORIAL DAY



INDEPENDENCE DAY



LABOR DAY



THANKSGIVING DAY



CHRISTMAS DAY

Inclement Weather

Every effort will be made to continue to provide scheduled collections as weather and road conditions permit. Residents are reminded that collection containers must be free of snow and ice. Changes will be announced on the website and social media.

Have Questions?

Email Help@HowardCountyRecycles.org, visit HowardCountyRecycles.org or call **410-313-6444**.