



# RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE REGULATIONS



## City of Waukesha – Department of Public Works

262-524-3600 • [DPW@waukesha-wi.gov](mailto:DPW@waukesha-wi.gov)

Approved by the Board of Public Works on November 20, 2024.

Document updated: November 20, 2024.

These regulations are empowered by city ordinance 13.055. The Department of Public Works shall serve as administrators of residential solid waste and recycling service and set forth additional regulations to the ordinance as necessary. Residents shall refer to these regulations for current policies.

### CART REGULATIONS

**Carts Ownership:** For properties with automated pickup, the carts provided are owned by Waste Management. Each cart has a specific ID number attached to a property. All carts must stay with the property where it is attached.

**Standard Cart Sizes:** 64-gallon trash cart, 96-gallon recycle cart. There are also 48-gallon size small carts available. **When the City exchanges cart inventory, property owners are given an opportunity to select alternative sized carts from the standard sizes. For the selection of a 96-gallon large trash cart, there is a \$15 charge, per unit/cart, paid to the City.**

**Replacement Cart:** If a cart is lost, stolen, or rendered unusable per user neglect as determined by the Department of Public Works, property owners must pay to replace the cart through Waste Management. The cost of a replacement cart is \$75 per cart, paid directly to Waste Management. (Call WM at 262-369-3080)

**Damaged Carts from Servicing:** If a cart is damaged by the normal collection service or by normal wear and tear over time, Waste Management will repair or replace it at no charge. (Call WM at 262-369-3080)

**Exchanging of Cart:** If a property owner wishes to exchange a cart for a different size or other reason, property owners must pay to exchange the cart through Waste Management. The cost of an exchange is \$75 per cart, paid directly to Waste Management. When property ownership changes, new owners may exchange carts at no cost within their first month of owning the property (any subsequent cart exchanges are subject to the exchange fee).

**Additional Carts:** If a property wishes to have an additional trash or recycling cart, they may pay for the extra cart annually through Waste Management. The cost of having an additional cart increases each year. (Call WM at 262-369-3080)

#### Summary of Cart Related Fees:

	Cost	Paid to
Replacement Cart (Resident Negligence)	\$75	Waste Management
Exchange Cart (Resident Request)	\$75	Waste Management
Additional Cart	\$ Varies per size and year.	Waste Management
Initial 96-gallon Trash Cart Selection	\$15	The City of Waukesha

## BULKY ITEMS AND APPLIANCES

**What is a Bulky Item:** Bulky items are large trash items which literally do not fit in the cart, even if the cart was empty. Smaller items which would fit in the cart if the cart was empty are NOT bulky items. Extra bags are not bulky items. Extra recyclables or large cardboard boxes are not bulky items – there is not a “bulky recycling” option.

**Appliances:** All appliances pickup requests must be called in for a pickup to Waste Management (262-369-3080). Waste Management typically does appliance pickups on Tuesdays in Waukesha and may have additional instructions.

**List of Appliances:** Refrigerators, freezers, microwaves, dishwashers, dehumidifiers, washers and driers, stoves/ovens, space heaters, water softener brine tanks. (Potentially more not listed, call with questions.)

**Limitations:** Eligible properties are limited to setting out 3 bulky items or appliances per week, 6 per month, and 12 per year. Additionally, if an item is deemed too heavy, too large to fit in truck, or dangerous to move it can be denied pickup.

**Procedure:** Properties may set out bulky items for pickup on the same day as normal garbage service. **Residents should make a call to schedule pickup with Waste Management (262-369-3080) for all bulky items.** Bulky items should be placed at the end of the driveway or on the curb for pickup. Properties with alleys shall set bulky items in front of their property at the curb of the street. Bulky items set out must adhere to the same timing rules of normal garbage and recycling services.

**\*\*See Disposal Chart Below for Specific Bulky Item Instructions\*\***

### BULKY ITEMS DISPOSAL CHART

Item	Limit	Set Out Guidelines Call Ahead for All Bulky Items
<b>Appliances</b> (Refrigerators, freezers, microwaves, dishwashers, dehumidifiers, washers and driers, stoves/ovens, space heaters, water softener brine tanks)	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	All appliances <b>must be called</b> into Waste Management (262-369-3080) for pickup and instructions. Appliances are typically picked up on Tuesdays.
<b>Artificial Trees</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	The city prefers placing this item into the TRASH cart if it will fit reasonably. If not, set on ground as bulky item.
<b>Bathtubs and Sinks</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Only fiberglass bathtubs and sinks can be taken – no cast iron tubs. Bathtubs must be cut into two pieces. Any sharp objects or edges must be removed or covered.
<b>Car Seats</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	The city prefers placing this item into the TRASH cart if it will fit reasonably. If not, set on ground as bulky item.
<b>Carpeting, Padding, and Rugs</b>	6 rolls per week (1 additional bulky item allowed in addition to the 6 rolls).	Rolls must be cut to 4-foot lengths, rolled, and tied. Rolls must not weigh more than 50 lbs. per roll.
<b>Countertops</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Countertops must be normal household items. Must not be more than 4 feet in length and weigh more than 50 lbs. per item. Any sharp objects or edges must be removed or covered.
<b>Couches, Sofas, and Cushioned Chairs</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	If soaked in rain, service may not be able to pick up due to weight. Cannot be covered with other trash items.
<b>Doors</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Doors must be normal household items, not unusually large or heavy.
<b>Exercise Equipment</b> (Treadmills, ellipticals, stationary bikes, etc.)	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Exercise equipment <b>must be called</b> in for pickup to Waste Management, like an appliance pickup (262-369-3080).

Item	Limit	Set Out Guidelines Call Ahead for All Bulky Items
<b>Furniture</b> (Kitchen chairs, dressers, desks, tables, shelving units, etc.)	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Better to leave these items <b>WHOLE</b> rather than breaking down into many small pieces on the ground. Many small pieces will not be picked up and should be placed into TRASH cart.  Whole furniture must not be longer than 6 feet in length nor weigh more than 50 lbs., else they should be broken down to these sizes.
<b>Grills</b> (Stand up, larger ones)	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Grills <b>must be called</b> in for pickup to Waste Management, like an appliance pickup (262-369-3080).
<b>Garbage Cans and Recycle Bins</b> (Old ones you wish to dispose)	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Old garbage cans and recycle bins must be set out empty, upside down, and with a sign attached indicating “TAKE FOR TRASH”.
<b>Lumber and Pipes</b>	6 bundles per week (1 additional bulky item allowed in addition to the 6 bundles).	Bundles must be cut to 4 foot lengths and tied. Bundles must not weigh more than 50 lbs. per bundle. All nails, screws, or any other sharp objects or edges must be removed or fixed for pickup.
<b>Mattresses and Box Springs</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	King and queen size mattresses <b>MUST</b> be folded at the crease (built in to mattress) and tied.  If soaked in rain, service may not be able to pick up these items due to weight.
<b>Railroad Ties</b>	6 railroad ties per week (1 additional bulky item allowed in addition to the 6 ties)	Ties must be cut to 4 foot lengths and must not weigh more than 50 lbs. per tie.
<b>Tires</b> (Normal Vehicle Tires)	4 free tires per year, per address. Each additional tire is \$5 per tire, paid to solid waste contractor.	All tires <b>must be called</b> in to Waste Management (262-369-3080) for special pickup. All tires must be off the rim.
<b>Toilets</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Toilets must be broken in two pieces – the bowl/seat and tank must be separate. Any sharp objects or edges must be removed or covered.
<b>Vacuums and Carpet Cleaners</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	The city prefers this item placed into the TRASH cart if it will fit reasonably. If not, set on ground as bulky item.
<b>Windows</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Windows must be normal household items, not unusually large or heavy.
<b>Wood Sheets/Panels</b>	Included with normal limit of all bulky items – 3 per week, 6 per month, and 12 total per year, per address.	Must be <b>AT LEAST</b> 3 feet wide by 3 feet long to be considered a bulky item. Must not be larger than 4 feet by 6 feet and must not weigh more than 50 lbs. per piece. Any sharp objects or edges must be removed or covered.

**SPECIAL ITEMS NOT COLLECTED**

Not all items can be collected by normal garbage or recycling pickup due to state law or by the limitations of the contracted service. These items **MUST** be handled specially – residents can call for information.

Item <b>NOT</b> Collected	Note
<b>Excessive amounts</b> of regular garbage, recycling, or bulky items.	See limitations in city ordinance and regulations (above).
<b>Yard Material</b>	Invasive species are OK in the normal trash in clear plastic bags and labeled as “Invasive Species”.
<b>Medical Sharps Waste</b>	Take to a proper ‘sharps’ drop off location.
<b>Hazardous Waste</b>	Take to a household hazardous waste drop off location.
<b>Liquid Paint</b>	Water based paint which has been <u>dried solid or empty paint cans</u> are OK in the normal trash.  Oil based paint should be brought to the Household Hazardous Waste drop off collection. Call for information.
<b>Stones/Concrete/Bricks/Asphalt</b>	Take to a proper drop off location.
<b>Small Remodel Waste Not Fitting in Trash Cart</b>	Including shingles, drywall, random small scraps of wood, etc.
<b>Motor Oil, Oil Filters, Lead Acid Batteries</b>	Take to a proper recycling drop off location.
<b>TVs and Electronics</b>	Take to a proper TV or electronics recycling drop off location.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Waste Management customer service** can be reached at 262-369-3080 for residential services.

Residents may also call the city **Department of Public Works** at 262-524-3600.

For recycling specific questions, residents should contact **Waukesha County Recycling** at 262-896-8300.