

Public Works

SCARECROW CONTEST

Fair warning to crows in the Woods! It's almost time for the BART Board's annual scarecrow contest. Pick up a frame and an entry form at the DPW office between September 18 - 29 and display your scarecrow in your yard by October 14. Voting takes place from October 15 - 31. Let's make this like the 4th of July parade: half the town builds 'em and the other half votes! And you won't believe the first prize - it's so good, it's scary! Call DPW if you need more info.



WATER/SEWER

It is everyone's responsibility to protect our water sources. What goes down our drain or into the storm drains will eventually, after scrupulous cleaning and processing, come back out of the tap for drinking. Please take care with pesticides, fertilizers, and for the love of water, don't ever put dog-waste bags into the storm drains!

WATER METERS

Please maintain a clear path to your outside meter reading device, year round. This little black device is linked to your water meter and is used by the city to read the meter from outside. DPW employees have to connect directly to the black box. If you can't get at it easily, neither can we.



LEAF PICK UP

Fall leaf collection begins in October and continues into early December, weather permitting. The leaf vacuums will be down every street at least once a week. Rake all leaves into the street, and make sure that there are no rocks, sticks, pumpkins, potted plants, or debris of any kind in the leaf pile. These objects can easily damage the equipment. Please do not park cars in the street during business hours in leaf season. Residents living on Eleven Mile Road should put their leaves on the right-of-way for Thursday afternoon pickup.

CHIPPING: MONDAYS, ALL YEAR

Chipping is for branches 2" to 4" in diameter and 4' - 8' long. Smaller branches should be put in yard waste containers, for Tuesday pickup. Stack branches neatly with cut ends toward curb. Have branches out for chipping by 7:00 am on Mondays. (In case of inclement weather on chipping day, the branches will be picked up the following day.)

RODENTS

Trash containers, including the heavy duty city recycling carts, can be susceptible to rodents. To lessen the likelihood, keep them clean by rinsing the container often and spray the inside with bleach. Remember, rodents are looking for any food remnants, and rats in particular are seeking pet waste. Double bagging your trash can discourage rodents. Also, police your yard for situations that can feed or shelter rodents: wood piles, overgrown vegetation, and dog droppings all invite rats.



ADOPT-A-GARDEN

As the weather cools, it's time for a little fall cleaning of the beds. If you have adopted a garden, and are cleaning up for the season, call DPW for help in picking up bags of yard waste. If you don't have a garden, but would like to help someone else in their Adopt-A-Garden, we will help to match you with a garden in need. And thank you to all of the people who work so hard to keep the parks and boulevards beautiful. hwdpw@hwmi.org or 248.547-1888.

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING

As you may remember, thanks to a generous donation from the HW Men's Club, the city was able to obtain single stream recycling bins several years ago.

With the other SOCRRA communities soon getting single stream recycling containers, they will all be getting better at recycling and improving their ratios of recycling to trash. **While this is a great thing, we still want to maintain our #1 position among the member cities.**

Single stream recycling makes recycling SO EASY!
Be sure to take advantage!

Remember, things going into the landfill costs taxpayers, while recycling is a revenue stream. Yard waste keeps things out of the landfill and provides us with free compost. So let's minimize "mixed solid waste" and move as much material as possible to recycling and yard waste.

BE SURE TO CHALLENGE YOURSELF AND FAMILY!



SOCRRA SIGN-UP

Stay informed with SOCCRRA eNews. If you'd like to receive e-mail updates from SOCCRRA on changes to what can be recycled in the curbside bin or brought to the Recycling Drop-Off Center, upcoming workshops, special events, etc., please enter your name and e-mail address on the SOCCRRA website: socrra.org.

Environmental Advisory Committee & Friends of the Library ELECTRONICS/SHREDDER/SCRAP METAL EVENT Sunday, October 16, 1:00 - 5:00 pm



HELD AT THE DPW YARD. Don't miss this opportunity to conveniently recycle your electronic items, stacks of unwanted paper, and any metal. Put those old phones, computers, TVs, CD players, radios, printers in your car, drive into the DPW, and our volunteers will lift them out for you. You can also bring paper to be securely shredded for recycling on site. Our scrap metal dumpster is convenient for metal items that don't fit in your recycling bin. Finally, you can bring gently used books to donate to the Friends of The Library.

RECYCLING, YARD WASTE & LANDFILL (TRASH) GUIDE

TUESDAY PICK UP

Please note: pick up will be delayed one day following Labor Day. There is no change the week after Thanksgiving.



LABOR DAY

KEEP IN MIND:

- Curbside collection is on Tuesdays, unless noted, between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm.
- If you experience problems with collection, please contact the DPW at 248.547-1888 or hwdpw@hwmi.org, as soon as possible.
- Containers or items for recycling, yard waste, or landfill (trash) may be put at the curb no earlier than 4:00 pm Monday and no later than 7:00 am on Tuesday.
- Empty containers must be removed by midnight on Tuesday. They should be stored behind the back wall of your home or out of sight whenever possible.

MAXIMUM CONTAINER SIZES AND WEIGHTS:

- **Landfill (trash):** 35 gallon cans/50 lbs or 2 mil plastic bags/40 pounds
- **Recycling:** City-supplied wheeled cart /60 pounds. Call DPW if you need a second cart.
- **Yard waste/kitchen scraps:** 35 gallon cans/ 50 lbs or paper yard waste bags/40 lbs. Free stickers for cans available at DPW. Little bins are available for \$15 at the DPW for kitchen scraps, if you prefer.

LANDFILL/TRASH

- Trash must be put into either a 2-mil-thick plastic bag or in bags inside of a 35-gallon covered container.
- Be sure to have trash set out at the curb by 7:00 am on Tuesday or it could be missed.
- Bulk items, like appliances, can be set out next to other trash.
- Optional "LANDFILL" stickers are available for your trash containers at the DPW office.
- Wheeled 35-gallon trash carts are available, at cost, at the DPW for \$39.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Pick up of yard waste continues through the third week of December. Place it either in a marked 35-gallon can or brown paper yard waste bags. This is where you can recycle your fruit/vegetable scraps, jack-o-lanterns, corn stalks, hay bales, spent potted plants, small branches, small tree roots, wood chips, potting soil, wood ashes, small logs, garden material, untreated and unpainted wood with nails removed.

Yard waste cans cannot weigh more than 50 pounds (40 pounds for the paper bags), and the material inside should be as dry as possible when using bags. The DPW has Yard Waste stickers for cans available at no charge. We also sell yard waste bags for \$2 for a bundle of five.



RECYCLING CURBSIDE PICK-UP

With our single stream recycling bins, curbside recycling is fairly simple: everything goes into the bin with no need to separate them (with the exception of batteries, see below). What can't go in the bin can be dropped off at SOCRRA.

Put in your bin:

- cardboard
 - paperboard (cereal boxes, paper towel rolls, etc.)
 - paper, including envelopes with windows, a staple or two. Shredded paper should go in a clear plastic bag (available at DPW) and placed in or next to the recycling bin.
 - plastic containers (including "clamshell" and thermoform packaging). If it once held something, it's a container.
 - metal that fits in the bin, or items that are at least 50% metal.
 - Glass containers – jar, bottles, vases, but no window glass or mirrors. Any color of glass is ok.
 - Household batteries, collected in a small clear plastic bag
- Overflow can be placed next to the cart in clear plastic bags (available at DPW), or nested cardboard boxes – just keep distance from trash cans. Or obtain a second recycling bin from DPW at no charge, to keep or to borrow.

DPW

Department of Public Works
Phone: 248.547-1888
hwdpw@HWMI.org

DPW OFFICE/YARD HOURS

Monday - Friday, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Closed weekends and holidays

DROP OFF AT DPW:

Scrap metal container accessible during business hours. Trash roll-off for city-use only or with permission from DPW staff

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Director - position open
Supervisor: Marty Wozniak
Office Manager - Amy Hood

NOT ACCEPTED FOR COLLECTION

There are certain items that are not acceptable for curbside collection. These items must be disposed of privately. Please check the SOCRRA website or contact the DPW to find out how to dispose of these items: liquids, radioactive items, flammable products, explosives, infectious materials, asbestos insulation, tires, hazardous waste, tree stumps, engines, transmissions, rear axles, construction items from a contractor's work, bricks, concrete.

SOCRRA DROP-OFF

Many items can be dropped off, with no appointment, at SOCRRA, 995 Coolidge Hwy, between 14 Mile and 15 Mile Roads. You will be asked for proof of residency. They will accept your electronics, styrofoam, CDs/VHS tapes, and household hazardous waste, such as:

- Automotive fluids, filters, oil
- Lawn & garden products
- Medical items (Rx or over-the-counter, dumped in an unmarked zip top baggie; needles in a rigid plastic or metal container
- Any household cleaners with labels intact
- Paints, adhesives, caulk
- Rechargeable batteries, household batteries
- CFL bulbs, fluorescent tube lights

If you have questions about other materials, call SOCRRA, 248.288-5150. At their website, the "FAQ" tab has a wealth of information: www.socrra.org.

Questions?
Call 248.547-1888