



# From the City of Toledo

## New Refuse and Recycling Program Ready To Launch!

Dear fellow Toledo resident,

As you know, the City of Toledo implemented a pilot program for automated refuse and recycling collection services last year. The automated collection program was designed to make refuse and recycling collection easier, more cost efficient, reduce on-the-job injuries of employees and increase recycling, which prolongs the life of the city's landfill. After achieving the goals and measures set for the pilot program, we are pleased to announce that all city residents will be using this system for refuse and recycling collection.



The program roll-out will span over several months. These changes are an investment in making our community cleaner, safer and more attractive.

Please take the time to read the information provided, as it will answer many of the questions you may have regarding upcoming program improvements. If you are a landlord, please be sure to forward this information to your tenants who may be affected. Should you have further questions or concerns, I encourage you to call the Division of Solid Waste at 419-936-2511 or visit our website at [www.toledo.oh.gov](http://www.toledo.oh.gov). We look forward to serving you better with this exciting program improvement!

From Toledo—An International Award Winning City!  
Mayor Carty Finkbeiner

### *The City of Toledo New Automated Refuse and Recycling Program*



#### **What's New?**

- **Expanded & Easy Recycling Program**—"single stream" recycling allows residents to place all recyclables in the same container—no sorting or separating!
- **Appointments for Bulky Items**—Residents that have large items such as furniture or large non-appliance items, must call the City Division of Solid Waste at (419) 936-2515 at least 1 business day in advance of your collection day.
- **New Automated Collection Vehicles** for the collection of refuse and recycling. Look for the "one-armed" trucks that reach, grab and empty your carts.

For more information, please see the reverse side.

# Questions & Answers about the New Automated Refuse and Recycling Program!

## **When will I get my carts?**

The delivery of carts will take several months to be distributed to all residents. Cart delivery will begin at the end of November 2009 and be completed by February 2010.

## **When do I start using my carts?**

Once you receive your carts, please begin to use them on your next collection day.

## **What is automated collection?**

Automated collection is a technologically advanced system of refuse and recycling collection. The system is called “automated” because the collection truck is equipped with a mechanical/robotic arm, automatically lifts and empties refuse and recycling carts without the driver ever leaving the cab of the truck.

## **Will my collection color change?**

No, your collection color will remain the same. Your recycling week, however, may change. Residents should refer to the recycling calendar at [www.toledo.oh.gov](http://www.toledo.oh.gov).

## **What can I put in my cart for refuse?**

Only bagged household refuse can be put into your cart. Tires, batteries, automotive parts, hazardous waste such as paint, large appliances and hot ashes are prohibited. All refuse items must be contained in the cart or it will not be collected. For large bulky items such as furniture, residents must call the Solid Waste Division to schedule a pick-up.

## **Will a 96-gallon cart be sufficient for my refuse?**

Experience has shown that the large 96-gallon carts are sufficient for most homes. One cart holds the equivalent of three average garbage containers. Recycling also helps reduce the amount of refuse per household. Be sure to recycle as much as you can!

## **What if I have more refuse than the cart will fit?**

While most household waste should fit into the cart, if you should have more waste, such as yard waste or large bulky items like furniture, you must schedule a pick-up at least 24 hours in advance of your collection day. Please call the Solid Waste Division at (419) 936-2515 between 8 am – 4:45 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

## **What do I do with large appliance items?**

Residents must arrange for removal of these items with a private hauler. For more information, please visit [www.toledo.oh.gov](http://www.toledo.oh.gov) for a list of companies to contact.

## **Do I have to separate my recycling?**

Residents may place plastics, metals, glass, paper, and cardboard inside their container. Please flatten all boxes and tape them together. Also remove the lids from plastic containers. DO NOT include: Styrofoam, electronics, ceramics, dishes, food waste, yard waste, motor oil containers, light bulbs, hazardous waste, window glass, mirrors, or trash.

## **Where should I put my carts out for collection?**

Carts should be placed on the curb or in the street in front of the curb, with the lid opening facing out, and at least three feet from objects such as parked cars, utility poles, trees, mailboxes or fire hydrants, and at least two feet between each cart.

## **Why do I need to provide space between my refuse cart and recycling cart?**

Access is important since two different vehicles collect each cart. The collection arm on the truck requires adequate space to safely collect carts so it will not tip over or damage property.

## **When should I put my carts out?**

This rule has not changed. Place carts out to collection point no later than 7:00 am on your collection day. Refuse is collected weekly, and recycling is collected every other week.

## **What about my old garbage cans and recycle bin?**

Please keep your old containers for use for additional refuse that requires a special pick-up. Also consider reusing these containers around the house or garage.

## **What if I was in the pilot area?**

Residents in the pilot program area already have carts and are using the system outlined here. The pilot program area may experience a recycling week change. Residents should refer to the recycling calendar at [www.toledo.oh.gov](http://www.toledo.oh.gov).

For more information, please visit our website [www.toledo.oh.gov](http://www.toledo.oh.gov) or contact the Division of Solid Waste at 419-936-2511 between 8 am—4:45 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.