City of Gallatin

Public Works Department

Overview

of

Solid Waste Disposal

Telephone: (615) 452-2147

City of Gallatin Public Works Department

This informational booklet has been prepared to provide the citizens of Gallatin an overview of solid waste disposal in Gallatin. Most questions about solid waste should be answered; however, if you have questions, please call the Environmental Services Supervisor at 452-2147.

The Sumner County Resource Authority is responsible for all solid waste disposals in the county. The Authority operates a county transfer station located at 625 Rappahannock Wire Rd. The Sumner County Resource Authority is currently under the direction of Larry Wright, Operations Manager who can be reached at (615) 452-1114.

The Environmental Services Division of the Department of Public Works is hard at work attempting to keep the community free from accumulation of waste which may be potentially harmful to our community. The cooperation of everyone is needed to accomplish the goal of a clean, healthy, litter free community.

Recycling

The State of Tennessee is asking all communities to reduce their garbage disposal 25% through the use of recycling. A good place to start is by separating your recylables at home and then dropping them off at recycling bins throughout the City.

The City of Gallatin offers recycling bins at three locations:

Public Works Service Center, 641 Long Hollow Pike
Public Utilities, 229 Hancock Street
Civic Center, 210 Albert Gallatin Avenue, in front of Project Play

Our recycling station located at 641 Long Hollow Pike offers the most comprehensive recycling bins including tin, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, glass bottles, various plastics, and cardboard. ***This particular location is for Gallatin Residents only, sorry no businesses.*** Also, most Sumner County Schools offer newspaper recycling to staff, students and families

Backyard compost is another good way to recycle. Many people overlook the value of a backyard compost bin or pile. Lawn trimmings, leaves, and vegetable food waste may be converted, with a little care and effort, into humus-rich mulch for use with flowers and vegetable gardens. This may be as simple as a pile in the corner of the yard or a homemade or commercially available compost bin. This practice reduces collection and disposal costs.

Garbage Disposal in Our Area

As of July 1, 1994 the 90-plus gallon curbside rollout trash containers used in Gallatin became the property of the owner, occupant, or other responsible person at each address. The containers are now the responsibility of the user. Containers must be kept clean and in good condition. Overloading containers shortens the life of the container, and overstuffing these containers will eventually cause these containers to break or crack. If this should happen, it is the owner's responsibility to replace the container. Keep you container in good condition by cleaning it at least once a month inside and out. Try to avoid storing the containers in sunlight. This can cause the can to age more quickly. Citizens are required to use City approved trash containers in order to ensure compatibility with our equipment. The City offers curbside rollout trash containers at cost; however, containers can be purchased locally from Lowe's. The containers are non-refundable but are covered by a 10 year manufacturer's warranty. Warranty repair or replacement information may be obtained by contacting the Environmental Services Division at (615)452-2147. You may purchase your container at City Hall, 132 W. Main St., in the Recorder's office. They are open Mon-Fri 7:30 A.M. -4:30 P.M.

Each resident or business is permitted to have two (2) curbside rollout trash containers. If that is not sufficient, you may request approval for additional containers from the Superintendant of Public Works, by calling 451-5909. Each owner/occupant will be charged a per-container per month charge. This amount is determined by the City Council and is subject to change. It is charge on the water/gas bill for each location. **Be aware, if you are not in agreement with the number of cans for which you are billed, it is your responsibility as the user to bring it to our attention immediately as we can only adjust current billing charges.**

Trash Pick Up Vs Bulk Pickup

Roll-out containers are normally collected Monday thru Thursday. Please help us to help you. Monday-Thursday pick up is designated specifically for dumping refuse contained within the curbside rollout carts. We request that you not place dirt, rocks brush, hazardous materials-such as hypodermic needles, paint, lacquer thinner, mineral spirits, human waste, or building materials-such as roofing, flooring and lumber in

your curbside rollout cart. Bagged yard waste will be picked up, but it must be placed at the curb and will be picked up on Fridays.

Collection of bulk and/or items too large to fit into the trash container can be scheduled for pick-up by calling the Environmental Services Division at (615) 452-2147, Monday – Thursday 7:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Pickup for these items is on Fridays. Bulky items include but are not limited to furniture, appliances, and scrap metal. New move-ins will be entitled to as many as three (3) cardboard box pick-ups, feel free to call us for details. All other cardboard boxes can either be cut up and placed in the trash container or brought to the Recycling Center at 641 Long Hollow Pk. Items that will **NOT** be collected include dead animals, dirt, rock, concrete, bricks, tires*, gas tanks, and building materials. This collection is scheduled on Fridays with the exception of weeks during which a city observed holiday falls**. This service is provided free of charge.

* Tires should be returned to your local tire retailer where they will charge a nominal environmental/disposal fee
** An annual Holiday Trash Schedule will be enclosed with either your November or December Utility Bill.

Solid Waste Collection

Waste collection is one of the most dangerous tasks that City Employees perform. Due, in part to that fact, the city is currently employing the use of both automated and semi-automated systems. Since their inception, we have witnessed a drastic reduction in back injuries. With this system, we must make certain stipulations in order to operate the equipment safely and effectively while minimizing the risk of personal injury or property damage and/or loss. First, the container must have a lid and it must be kept closed at all times (except when depositing waste). The cart should be placed in an upright position at the curb with the handles facing the house. The user should allow three (3) feet between the can and any other object (i.e. mailbox, power pole, second can). The container must be in serviceable condition, meaning the bars must all be intact, the can should be free from cracks, and both wheels must be present and in working order.

Containers are to be placed at the curb/street side by the user no later than 7 A.M. on collection day and returned to the back of the property in 24 hours. Special back door collection is available for disabled persons who have no able-bodied person living in the home. One must only present to the Superintendent of Public Works a doctor's statement that the disabled individual is unable to push the roll-out container to the street. The statement should be mailed or delivered to the Superintendent of Public Works at 641 Long Hollow Pike to receive this service.

If for any reason our staff incurs difficulty dumping your container they are equipped with a notification form and they have been instructed to attach the form to the container that has posed the difficulty. This is just to let you, the user, know how to enable us to

service you quickly and efficiently. Sometimes even the smallest detail can make the biggest difference!

It's Fall and Leaves are Here.

Brush collection is accomplished with the use of Knuckle Boom Loaders and 22-yard trailers which continuously collect brush throughout the city by patrolling each and every street. When you put brush and limbs at the road, please place the tops all in the same direction. This will assist our staff in making the pick-up. Brush should be free of any other debris, i.e. paper, treated/painted wood, metal, furniture. These items cannot be collected by the brush truck. Place brush away from driveways and/or intersections so as not to reduce visibility. ***Do not place brush in drainage ditches.***

The City will remove up to one 22 cubic-yard trailer load of brush from each location each trip. Removal of additional loads must be prearranged at a cost of $75.00 per load.

Lawn trimmings, leaves, and small limbs should be placed in bags at the curb and will be picked up on Friday. During the fall leaf season, leaf collection trucks will collect leaves as often as possible if leaves are bagged and placed at the curb/street. Loose leaves will not be collected.

Got Questions?? We Got Answers!!!

Question: What items should not be placed in my container?

Answer: Please do not place brush, dirt, bricks, rocks, tires, hazardous materials (such as hypodermic needles, paint, muriatic acid, and gasoline), or building materials (such as lumber, drywall, shingles, and ceramic tile) in the container.

Question: Why do I keep getting notes left on my can by the Environmental Services Department?

Answer: If for any reason the driver has difficulty dumping a container, the driver has been equipped with notification forms to instruct the user exactly how, where, and when to place their curbside roll-out container in order that we may service them more quickly and efficiently.

Question I have been instructed to purchase a new container. Where do I go?

Answer: You will need to go to the City Recorder's Office in City Hall at 132 W. Main Street. After the container is purchased, the City will deliver it to your home.

Question: Is it all right for me to burn my leaves and small branches?

Answer: No, it is not if you live in the City. It is safer for all if the leaves and small branches are picked up. Any burning must be done by permit through the Gallatin Fire Department. You can contact the Fire Department at (615) 452-2771.

Question: What if I need the City to pick up more than a 22-yd trailer full of yard clippings?

Answer: The additional pickup would cost the owner $75.

Question: What is considered too big for pick up on trash collection?

Answer: Anything that is too large or too heavy to fit in your curbside rollout container. Some examples are: refrigerators, couches, mattresses, stoves, ranges, guttering, etc.

Question: How can I get these items picked up?

Answer: Call 452-2147 and tell the staff member the location of your residence and what you need picked. Your address will be placed on a list for pick-up on the next available Friday.