

Town of Portsmouth

Curbside Waste & Recycling Program

2025-2026

Dear Subscriber,

Thank you for participating in our curbside program and helping Portsmouth maintain an excellent recycling rate. Contaminating recycling carts increases the cost for the town's waste management and raises sticker prices for residents. Please ensure only the correct materials are placed in your recycling bins.

For detailed guidelines visit:

<https://rirrc.org/recycling-composting-disposal/what-to-recycle-in-your-bin-cart>

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Waste Diversion Manager

2200 E Main Road

Portsmouth RI 02871

401-683-0362 or e-mail

curbside@portsmouthri.gov

More Info @

<https://www.portsmouthri.gov/182/Transfer-Station-Solid-Waste>



Customer Service

If there is an issue with your trash, recycling or yard waste collection, please contact the Waste Diversion Manager at Town of Portsmouth at 401- 683- 0362 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:30am to 4:30pm Thursday 8:30am to 6:30pm and Friday 8:30am to 2:30pm.

Household Hazardous Waste

Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation sponsors Eco-Depot events across the State. Eco-Depots collections provide the community an opportunity to dispose of items such as cleaning chemicals, electronics, pesticides, garage chemicals herbicides, etc. To make an appointment, call RIRRC's Eco-Depot 401-942-1430 x 241 or www.RIRRC.org. All event dates are available at www.RIRRC.org.

Donate Locally

Remember to donate gently used items to Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club of Newport, Child and Family Services, International Institute of RI, Maher Center, Salvation Army, or try giving it away using freecycle.org, craigslist.org or the Aquidneck Island Families Sell & Swap Facebook page.

Placing Carts Out

When placed at the curb, carts must be at least three feet from each other and any obstructions to allow enough room for proper collection.

Portsmouth's ordinances specify trash, recycling carts, yard waste and bulky waste items cannot be put out for collection prior to 7 p.m. the night before your scheduled collection day. Carts must be removed from the curb by 7 a.m. the day following pick up. Thank you for your help in keeping Portsmouth tidy.

Snow & Weather Delays

Snowstorms and severe weather may cause delays in the collection schedule. For updates on delays, please call 401-683-0362, visit www.portsmouthri.gov, or contact MEGA at 401-424-4580.

In the event snow is falling, no matter what the predicted amount, do not leave your carts in the street. They will be in the way of plow trucks clearing and/or treating the roadway. The trash and recycling truck's arm can reach out five feet to collect the carts - so placing carts on the "inside" of snowbanks is an option.

Schedule

The grey refuse cart and grey recycling cart with blue lid are collected weekly. All materials should be placed by 6 a.m. on your collection day. A 2025-2026 collection calendar is included with this guide indicating holidays and yard waste collections.



Recycling- Grey Cart with Blue Lid

Your recycling cart should be placed curbside every week on the same day as your regular trash collection. You do not need to sort your recyclables – all acceptable recyclable materials go in your blue recycling cart loose without bags. For more information, visit RIRRC.org or AtoZ.RIRRC.org. Please no plastic bags.

Yard Waste & Christmas Trees

Yard waste (leaves, grass clippings, branches, etc.) is collected 24 weeks during the year.

Weekly from April 1st to April 30th, every other week from May 1st to October 31st, then weekly from November 1st to second week in December. Yard waste must be placed in containers marked 'Yard Waste' or in paper compost bags. Branches must be tied in bundles, no longer than four feet. All yard waste must be placed curbside on your regular collection day. Containers/bags/bundles should weigh no more than 50 pounds each. 10 containers/bags max. Yard waste placed in refuse or recycling carts will not be collected. All yard waste is composted at RIRRC, so please NO plastic bags and DO NOT place any trash in your yard waste.

Please remember to leave either your trash or recycling cart out with your yard waste, so the driver will be able to identify your yard waste as belonging to a curbside customer.

Christmas Trees will be picked up by Portsmouth DPW during the month of January per voting district.

Bulk Waste

Bulk waste includes items such as sofas, chairs, mattresses, recliners, refrigerators, washers, microwave ovens and air conditioners, etc. Please save E-Waste & rigid bulky plastic items for special events. For curbside collection of bulky items, residents must contact MEGA to schedule an appointment at 401-424-4580 or Megadisposal.com. An itemized list can be found on the Portsmouth website.

Note: Mattresses if clean and dry may be taken to the Transfer Station at no charge. If soiled they will not be accepted at the Transfer Station and you will need to make an appointment with MEGA for pickup.

Compliance

The Waste Diversion Manager will conduct random route inspections to monitor recycling, trash, and program participation. Carts containing improper recycling materials will receive an "OOPS" sticker and will not be emptied. Additionally, the waste hauler will monitor compliance and label any excluded items with a sticker. Compliance leads to reduced sticker costs, improved recycling rates, and environmental preservation.