

ROLLING out a Better Way to Recycle!



Goodbye to bending, sorting, bagging and backboards ... hello, simply dropping your recycled items loose into your new Recycling Cart!

Cottleville is officially on a ROLL! New Recycling Carts are reaching Cottleville homes as our community prepares to launch a "single-stream" collection service. Residents will begin recycling with the Recycling Carts the first full week of January 2025 (*the week starting Monday, Jan. 6.*)

A postcard has been mailed to homes with a *new collection schedule beginning Jan. 6.* The postcard will remind you to KEEP IT LOOSE—no longer will we place recycled items in bags. The 95-gallon Recycling Carts replace the Blue Cart Crew bag-based recycling collection program. Residents will simply place cans, plastic containers, paper and glass loose in the Recycling Cart and wheel out the cart on your Recycling collection day.

The Recycling Carts will be easier to use and will save us a lot of money. By eliminating Blue bags, this new program will save \$500,000 per year. Plus, we secured a grant from recycling experts to help launch the program.

We can make this a big WIN for our community, our planet, and our wallets! The more we recycle, the less we *put in* the landfill, the less we *pay* the landfill, and the more we *get paid* for recycled products.

Recycling "Makes Cents" by keeping our waste collection bill low.

Recycling makes CENTS for Cottleville!

The recycling program was funded with a grant from The Recycling Partnership, an organization committed to building a better recycling system in U.S. communities and states. Our community was selected to receive grant support because of our dedication to advancing recycling in the community. The grant from The Recycling Partnership, with support from the American Beverage Association's "Every Bottle Back" initiative and the Missouri Beverage Association, helped provide 20,000

new carts and includes funding for education and outreach about the new collection process.

Please continue to do your part by placing only recyclable materials in your Recycling Cart. To help limit contamination, give food and drink containers a quick rinse and then place them directly into the Recycling



Cart—no sorting needed.

Some items that cannot be recycled include plastic bags, paper towels, pizza boxes, electrical equipment, batteries, and clothing. These items often get mixed into recycling carts because of "wishcycling," or the hope that they can be recycled. While well-intentioned, non-recyclable items cause serious issues.

For more information on what can and can't go into the cart, and other Frequently Asked Questions, visit www.stpetersmo.net/recycle.

Tips to Cut Your Household Waste

Over a quarter-century ago, when our community went to a Blue Bag recycling system and had twice-weekly pickup, the idea is that half of your trash cart would be filled with recycled materials placed inside Blue Bags. It was meant to be a “dual stream” recycling system, not merely trash service twice a week. The goal: one cart, filled halfway with recycling Blue Bags, collected twice weekly. In fact, no other area community offers twice-weekly trash collection—and you’d be hard-pressed to find any community *anywhere* that collects trash twice-weekly. The new Recycling Cart system will still have twice-weekly collection. Once per week, trash will be collected. And, once per week, recycling will be collected. All your recyclable items will go in one Recycling Cart—a single-stream system. (See pages 4-5 for more information.)

Now, there’s a bigger incentive to recycle. The more cans, plastic containers, glass, paper and cardboard that you put in your Recycling Cart, the more room for trash you have in your Trash Cart. Plus, we cut out the waste of those Blue Bags—which *weren’t recyclable!*

In addition to Recycling, you also can Reduce and Reuse to cut down on trash and household expenses. Here are some tips:

- Use washable dishes, cups and coffee mugs instead of paper plates and paper cups.
- Use silverware instead of single-use plastic utensils—and *tell them to hold the utensils when you order takeout!*
- Go paperless for your bills. Waste collection customers can sign up at www.iwebms.net/cottleville and choose to receive electronic bills to avoid mailed Utility Billing postcards.



- Donate unwanted clothing instead of throwing it in the trash.
- Use a lunch box instead of paper bags.
- Use dish cloths or old towels, not paper towels, for cleanup.
- Bring reusable shopping bags to the store.
- Reuse household items such as glass jars for storage.
- Buy your favorite foods in bulk to cut down on packaging.

BROWN CART BRIGADE TAKES A WINTER BREAK IN FEBRUARY



During the month of February, curbside Brown Cart yard waste collection will be suspended for a short winter break. This allows staff to focus on vehicle maintenance while saving on fuel during a period with little yard waste. Our Brown Cart Brigade will be back in action beginning in March.

Need to dispose of yard waste during this period? Remember that Earth Centre at 115 Ecology Drive is open for yard waste disposal year-round. Earth Centre yard waste disposal hours through February are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Cottleville residents may drop off up to 10 cubic yards (about 5 pickup truck loads) of yard waste per calendar year at no charge. Bring a valid Resident Privilege Card to get this benefit.

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