



START DATE
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Pleasanton's New Curbside Recycling Program and Trash Rate Restructure

The rates for Pleasanton Garbage Service refuse and recycling services were recently adjusted. Concurrently, a new residential curbside recycling program that will begin in the fall of 2009 was approved. These actions resulted in two refuse and recycling collection rate adjustments. For residential customers, this adjustment results in monthly collection fees increasing from \$28.04 to \$31.97(+\$3.93) for 96-gallon cart customers and from \$25.20 to \$28.73 (+\$3.53) for 35-gallon cart customers. Monthly rates with the 15% senior discount are \$27.17 for 96-gallon cart customers and \$24.42 for 35-gallon cart customers.

Why do we need a new recycling program?

Pleasanton residents will take a larger role in protecting the environment with a new three cart trash and curbside recycling program that will capture more recyclable material and send less material to the landfill. Collecting and sorting your metal, glass, plastic and paper recyclables also supports the effort to meet a 75% diversion target adopted by all cities in Alameda County.

When does the new recycling program go into effect?

The program will be implemented by fall of 2009. Watch the mail for a postcard with information about the program and the opportunity to select a trash cart size. Later this summer, a brochure that fully explains the new recycling program will also be mailed to residents. Local businesses will join residents in this effort through a similar commercial recycling program.

What do I have to do to participate in the new recycling program?

One of the most important things that you can do as a resident is to respond to the postcard mailer asking you to select size of your trash cart. Then, just watch the mail this summer for a comprehensive brochure explaining the program in its entirety. The new cart will be delivered to your home by PGS.

How does the new recycling program differ from the current program?

The green waste carts currently used for grass clippings, garden debris and other organic plant material will still be used, as will the existing bins for non-recyclable materials. The only difference is that a third cart will be added, a 96-gallon recycling cart for bottles, cans, jars, cardboard, aluminum and paper. The blue bags currently used to separate out recycled items will no longer be used.

What is the cost difference for the new program in comparison to the existing program? Please see the table below.

Why is there a rate increase and why is it so large?

First, it is important to note that the current rate adjustment covers all existing services, including the green waste program which, up until this time, has been provided at no cost to residents. It does not involve the new curbside recycling program or changes in the size of your refuse collection cart. The increase is necessary to fund current services such as increased operating costs resulting from basic inflationary pressure on the industry, the cost of new equipment, increased landfill charges, and increased regulatory fees.



How will the curbside recycling program work?

The new program includes each household having three collection carts as follows:

- One collection cart for trash
- One collection cart for green waste
- One collection cart for recyclable material

The new recycling cart will be used exclusively for mixed paper, cardboard, aluminum beverage containers, steel or tin cans, aluminum foil, glass and plastic bottles.

Within the next few weeks, Pleasanton households will receive a notice in the mail requesting selection of either a 35-gallon or 96-gallon collection cart for refuse. Your selection will impact the amount of your future PGS bill beginning in October 2009. (See table below.) As a result, it is important that you review your options carefully and return the reply card that will be included in the mailer. Shortly before the new program begins in the fall, PGS will deliver each household its new collection cart for recyclables and a color brochure outlining the new program. At the same time, they will also make the switch in size of your refuse container if you elected to change.

Is there a summary of the rate adjustments?

The table below outlines the two rate adjustments.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS AND NEW MONTHLY RECYCLING AND REFUSE SERVICES

96-Gallon Monthly Service Rates			35-Gallon Monthly Service Rates		
Previous Rates	Current Rates	Rates for Curbside Recycling Program (October 2009)	Previous Rates	Current Rates	Rates for Curbside Recycling Program (October 2009)
\$28.04	\$31.97	\$34.57	\$25.20	\$28.73	\$29.13

As noted earlier, customers will be given the choice to select either a 35-gallon or 96-gallon trash cart prior to the second rate adjustment and your selection will impact your new recycling and refuse collection rates.

