

COVID-19 WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FACT SHEET

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented changes to our daily lives. The City of Santa Monica is planning to meet these challenges while balancing the need to follow public health guidelines, protect the health and safety of City essential workers, provide the best services to the community, and uphold the City's commitment to zero waste and environmental sustainability during these unique times.

Below is an update on the City's waste management services during COVID-19:

Collection: Trash

Trash collection services are provided as usual by our hard-working Resource Recovery and Recycling essential sanitation workers during COVID-19. Remember: Personal protective gear (PPE), such as used disposable masks, mask filters, or gloves should be properly disposed of in the trash can, NOT the recycling can. If you live in a single-family home, please roll out your waste containers to the curb the night before your regular collection day to avoid a missed collection.

Please note that many businesses have suspended or reduced their waste collection service during this time. If you observe an overflowing waste dumpster, please note the address and tell us by visiting www.smgov.net/santamonicaworks, email us at recycling@smgov.net, or call us at 310.458.2223.

Collection: Recycling

The City continues to be committed to recycling with no service interruption during COVID-19. In the recent months, we've seen an uptick in recyclable materials discarded in the residential areas—likely due to an increase in online shopping activities and the generation of delivery boxes.

Remember to recycle the right way: Keep the recyclable materials dry; make sure the containers are free of foods and liquids to avoid contamination; and flatten and fold up your boxes before placing them in the recycling container. The last point (breaking down boxes) is especially important for those who live in apartments and condos and share a recycling bin with others. Thank you for being a considerate neighbor!

Collection: Organics (i.e. Green Waste and Food Waste)

If you live in a single-family home in Santa Monica, please know you can place both green waste and food waste in the green cart in the City of Santa Monica. Grass clippings, yard waste, and food waste can all go into the organics cart without separation. The City collects mixed organics materials and sends them to a composting facility so that the waste can have a second life and turn into nutrient-rich, garden-friendly compost. If possible, place organics waste directly into the green cart without any plastic bags. To minimize odor and mess, wrap the waste in paper bags or line the green cart with newspapers.

Street Sweeping

Residential areas: The City's street sweeping schedule has changed to once a month during the first full week of each month. Cars parked on the street severely hinders the ability of our sweepers to maneuver safely and clean the street effectively, so please observe the no parking street sweeping signs. For a residential area street sweeping calendar for the remainder of 2020, please [click here](#).

Commercial areas: All major arterial streets in the City are swept once a week. Sweeping at the Beach parking lots was suspended during the beach closure but service has now resumed.

Bulky Item Removal and Illegal Dumping

Moving out? Clearing out your garage? Have oversized boxes that won't fit in the recycling bin? Email recycling@smgov.net or call 310.458.2223 to schedule a bulky item removal appointment today! Residents are entitled to three (3) complimentary bulky item removal services each year. Don't just leave unwanted items next to the curb or in the alley because illegal dumping creates a safety hazard and an eyesore to the community. Call or email the City to schedule a pickup today. Your neighbors will thank you. If you witnessed any illegal dumping activities, email recycling@smgov.net or call 310.458.2223 and we'll take care of it.

Compost Bins, Worm Bins, and Refuse Bags Sales

Residents can continue to purchase compost bins, worm bins, and City-issued refuse bags for excess trash that won't fit into their trash containers at the City Yards. New contactless sales protocols have been implemented to ensure public safety. To find out more or to schedule a contactless pickup, email recycling@smgov.net or call 310.458.2223.

Household Hazardous Waste

Residents: You can continue to bring Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) to a Los Angeles County S.A.F.E. center. A list of S.A.F.E. center locations can be located at www.lacitysan.org. Alternatively, Santa Monica residents can schedule a free HHW pick-up from their homes by visiting www.stericycleenvironmental.com/santa_monica or by calling 800.714.1195.

Businesses: Businesses and City departments that generate less than 220 pounds, or approximately 27 gallons of hazardous waste per month can continue to bring hazardous materials to the City's Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Center for Small Business located at 2500 Michigan Avenue on the second Wednesday of the month from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please leave a voicemail message at 310.458.8255 to schedule an appointment. Appointments are required.

Litter and Recycling Containers

Litter and recycling container on the sidewalks, at bus stops, and in parks are serviced at the appropriate levels: Depending on the location, some public containers are emptied once a week and others are serviced every day. To report an overflowing public container, visit www.smgov.net/santamonicaworks, email us at recycling@smgov.net, or call us at 310.458.2223.

The City is continuing to closely monitor public health guidelines and adjust our operations to meet the community's needs. Operation changes may continue to evolve, so stay tuned.

Click here for a downloadable [Street Sweeping Online Calendar Reminder](#).

If you have further questions regarding the above information, please email recycling@smgov.net or call 310.458.2223.