

# Important Trash and Recycling News for Residences with City Pick Up

## TYPE AND SIZE OF TRASH CONTAINERS

- Plastic bags for trash are preferred.
- Plastic or metal barrels are acceptable.
- Rubbish will not be collected if set out in paper shopping bags or cardboard containers.
- **Maximum size barrel is 45 gallons with contents not exceeding 45 pounds.**
- To avoid accidental injuries, broken glass must be placed in a box taped closed and clearly marked "broken glass" so that it is visible to the collector.



✓ Less Than 45 Gallons



✗ Exceeding 45 Gallons

## RECYCLING OF CARDBOARD

Massachusetts law prohibits the city from picking up cardboard and other recyclable materials with the solid waste. DEP is now aggressively enforcing this ban.

- Please do not dispose of any cardboard with your trash.
- Cardboard must be cut into approx. 2' x 2' squares to fit into the recycling truck.
- Cardboard must be flattened.
- Pizza boxes must be cleaned and turned inside out. If not clean, rip off soiled portion.
- Larger pieces can be recycled at the City Yard.
- No stacking of cardboard boxes.



✓ Cardboard DO'S



✗ Cardboard DON'T

## RECYCLING REMINDERS

- ✓ Do keep papers separate from commingles
- ✓ Do cut and flatten cardboard
- ✓ Do use larger barrel for commingles only
- ✗ Don't overfill bins
- ✗ Don't mix paper with commingles
- ✗ Don't use Plastic Bags



✓ RECYCLING DO'S  
(Large barrel sticker)



✗ RECYCLING DON'TS  
(Bins over filled)



✗ RECYCLING DON'TS  
(Mixed recycling)

**ECRWSS**  
Resident Customer  
Melrose, MA 02176

**Some trash and recycling routes change effective June 28, 2009 • [www.cityofmelrose.org](http://www.cityofmelrose.org) - 781-979-4170**

## **RECYCLING DO'S**

- ✓ Recycle all newspaper, magazines, junk mail, phonebooks, scrap paper, cereal, pasta and cracker boxes, cardboard tubes from paper towels and toilet paper, and egg cartons.
- ✓ Put shredded paper in stapled paper bags.
- ✓ Recycle all glass bottles and jars, all steel and aluminum food and drink cans and lids.
- ✓ Recycle all plastics with 1-7 symbols.
- ✓ Recycle all yard waste (leaves, grass clippings; and brush up to one inch in diameter, 4 foot lengths bundled and tied).
- ✓ Yard waste must be in paper bags or barrels marked yard waste.

## **RECYCLING DON'TS**

- ✗ No mixing trash with recycling.
- ✗ No mixing of paper and commingles (glass, metal and plastics).
- ✗ No broken glass, light bulbs, window or auto glass, dishes, Pyrex or aluminum foil, no soiled containers.

## **YARD WASTE AND RECYCLING STICKERS**

- As in prior years, stickers will be required to gain access to the city yard for recycling and yard waste drop-off events.
- Stickers are available free in the city yard dispatcher's office.
- Please present your license and vehicle registration to obtain the sticker.
- Stickers are available Mon- Fri 7:45 AM – 2:45 PM and 9 AM – Noon on Saturdays, April through November.
- No Commercial vehicles – no box trucks – no dump trucks.
- Pick-up trucks/cars with trailers must check in with the dispatcher before entering the yard.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE**

- Melrose has Household Hazardous Waste Day every year on the third Saturday in October.
- The following items can only be disposed of on HHWD: oil paint; stains and varnishes; paint thinners: antifreeze, oil, car wax, driveway sealer, insecticides, weed killer, oven cleaner, lighter fluid and gasoline.
- **Latex Paint in not hazardous, but it takes time to dispose.** First, dry the paint by placing a commercial paint hardener or kitty litter in the can. The trick to both methods is to stir the drying agent well at the beginning and leave the lid off the paint can and the stir stick in the paint. This should be done at least two days in advance, as the paint takes time to dry. Please leave the stick in the paint can so the dispatcher at the City Yard can be certain that the paint is dried when it is dropped off Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM-2:45 PM, at 72 Tremont Street.

**Any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 781-979-4170.**  
**<http://www.cityofmelrose.org/recycling>**