

Sarasota County

HOW-TO GUIDE

for homeowners



Garbage ♦ Recycling ♦ Yard Waste ♦ Electronics ♦ Chemicals ♦ Appliances



How-to Guide for homeowners

This guide provides important information about Sarasota County’s solid waste programs and services. The guide is intended for residents living in the unincorporated area of the county. Residents who live in a city or town may contact their municipality for program information. Information on household hazardous waste applies to all residents regardless of where they live in the county (see pages 9-11).

Unincorporated Area (Waste Management): 493-4100, 861-5000, or www.scgov.net

City of North Port – Garbage and Recycling: 240-8050

City of Sarasota – Garbage: 365-7651

City of Sarasota – Recycling and Yard Waste: 497-8088 (Waste Management)

City of Venice – Garbage and Recycling: 486-2422

Town of Longboat Key – Garbage and Recycling: 316-1988

Residents who are not provided curbside collection service should check with their property manager for information on collection schedules and pick-up locations.

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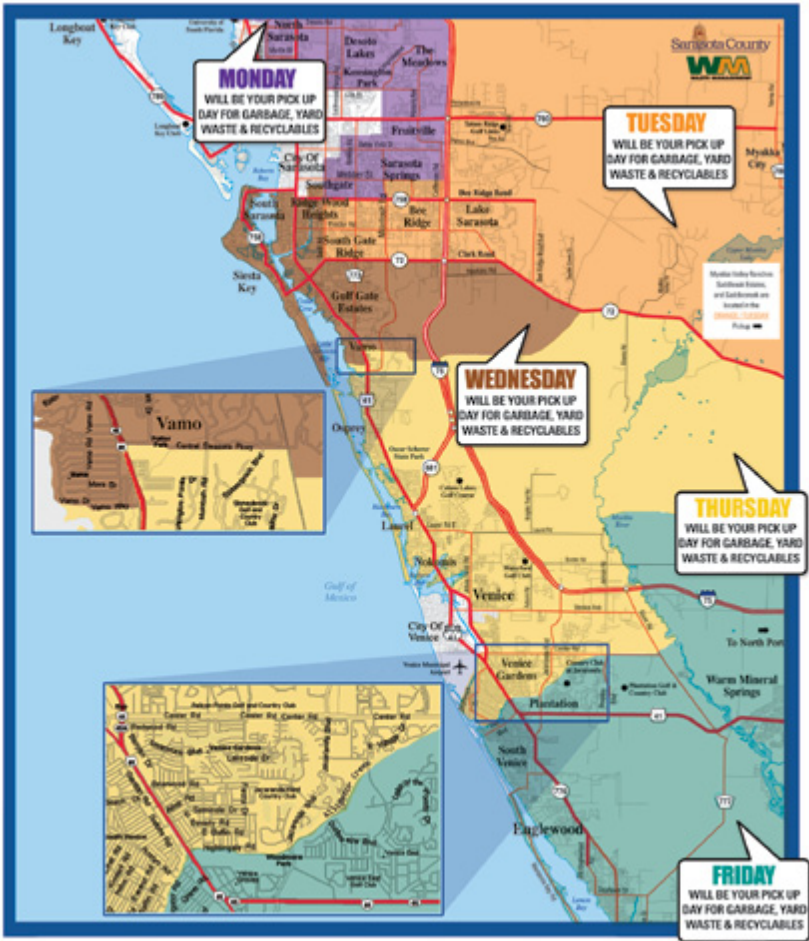
KEY

Curbside
Collection

General
Information

Don'ts

Collection information



Collection containers and other **items should be placed at the curb no earlier than 5 p.m. the day before your scheduled collection day.** All items must be at the curb by **6 a.m.** on your collection day. **Containers must be removed from the curb by 10 a.m. the day after collection** and stored inside the garage, beside or behind the house.

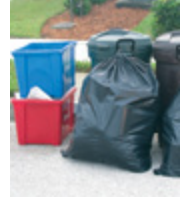
If you need more information, experience a problem or have a question, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 861-5000 and ask for Solid Waste or visit the county website at www.scgov.net.

Holiday Collection Schedule

No collections will be done on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, 4th of July, or Thanksgiving Day when they fall on a Monday through Friday. Collections will be delayed one day from the holiday continuing throughout the rest of the holiday week. Any regular Friday collections delayed by a holiday will be done on Saturday.

Garbage

- Garbage must be placed in containers with closed lids, or in closed plastic bags.
- Each garbage container or bag cannot weigh more than 40 pounds. Items that weigh more require a special pick-up and a separate disposal fee will apply. Call 493-4100 for a price quote.
- Construction materials such as lumber and drywall are limited to four 32-gallon containers per week.
- Place all containers and items no more than three feet from the curb. Stack bags and other items neatly.
- Auto parts are not accepted. Contact a scrap metal dealer or junk yard for disposal.
- Separate garbage and yard waste containers by placing them on opposite sides of your driveway.
- Do not mix household hazardous waste, motor oil, recyclables, needles or yard waste in garbage containers or bags.
- Store garbage containers beside your home or in the backyard, not in front.



Appliances and Electronics

Residents may call Waste Management at 493-4100 to schedule a pick-up for an appliance or an electronic item. Requests for pick-ups must be made three business days prior to your regular collection day. This service is included at no additional cost (item limits may apply).

- Air conditioners (window units only)
- Clothes dryers
- Dehumidifiers
- Dishwashers
- Refrigerators and Freezers (remove food and take doors off)
- Stoves, ovens and stove tops
- Microwaves
- Trash compactors
- Washing machines
- Water heaters
- Televisions
- Computers
- Fax machines
- Keyboards



TIPS

- Appliances such as blenders, coffee makers, paper shredders, radios, stereos, VCR and DVD players can be placed in the garbage for disposal.
- Electronics may also be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste collection center. See page 10.
- Electronics from businesses or other organizations are not accepted at curbside. See page 10.

Bulk items

Bulk items are picked up at no additional cost.

The following items can be picked up on your collection day:

- Furniture
- Bathroom fixtures – toilet, sink and small vanity
- Barbeque grills – remove the propane cylinder before placing the barbeque grill at the curb for pickup (see page 9 for how to dispose of the propane cylinder).
- Carpet – must be cut to four feet in length, no heavier than 40 pounds, rolled and tied or folded and tied.
- Push lawnmowers – remove the oil and gas before placing the mower at the curb for pickup. See page 9 for how to dispose of the oil and gas.
- Wooden pallets



TIPS

King-size mattresses, including box springs and sofa beds must be scheduled for pickup. Call Waste Management at 493-4100 to schedule.

Oversized items

Oversized items **are not** included in the residential collection program. You may contact Waste Management at 493-4100 for collection cost of the following items:

- Basketball poles
- Bathtubs
- Carpet – rolls longer than four feet
- Christmas trees more than six feet tall
- Construction debris exceeding four 32-gallon containers
- Garage doors and openers
- Large exercise equipment
- Large glass windows and tabletops
- Large mirrors
- Pianos and organs
- Picnic tables
- Playground equipment
- Riding lawn mowers
- Sheds
- Sliding glass doors
- Unprepared yard waste exceeding 40 pounds, 16 inches in diameter, four feet in length, or debris that is not canned, bagged, or bundled and tied
- Fencing – unprepared

Yard waste

Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, shrub trimmings, palm fronds, tree limbs and branches. **Unprepared yard waste will not be picked up.**

- Each container, bag or bundle cannot be more than four feet in length or weigh more than 40 pounds per piece.
- Place yard waste in containers or tie in bundles.
- Branches, limbs and stumps cannot exceed 16 inches in diameter or weigh more than 40 pounds per piece.
- Treated wood is not considered yard waste. Place treated wood with your garbage for collection.
- Remove all tinsel and ornaments from holiday trees before placing them at the curb. Trees taller than six feet must be cut in half.
- Yard waste placed in cardboard boxes, wheel-barrow or recycling bins will not be picked up.

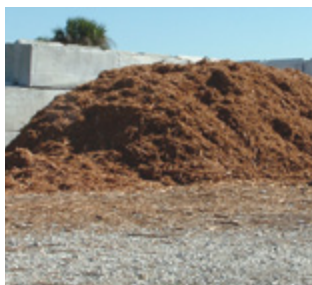


TIPS

- Using plastic bags is discouraged. Use reusable containers instead.
- Remove all fruit from tree branches and dispose of fruit in the garbage.
- Residents are encouraged to compost and use mulching mowers.
- Lumber is not yard waste, place lumber by the garbage for collection.

Free compost and mulch

Sarasota County residents may pick up compost for home use, dependent upon availability, at the following locations. Bring your own containers and shovels and be sure to cover your load when you leave.



Longwood Park
6050 Longwood Blvd.
Sarasota, FL 34235

Central County Landfill
4000 Knights Trail Road
Nokomis, FL 34275

**Shamrock Park and
Nature Center**
3900 West Shamrock Drive
Venice, FL 34293

Butler Park
6205 West Price Blvd.
North Port, FL 34287

Nokomis Community Park
234 Nippino Trail East
Nokomis, FL 34275

Mulch is only available at the Central County Landfill in Nokomis.

Motor oil and filters

Motor oil and oil filters can be picked up at the curb.

- Place oil in plastic containers with a screw top cap. Label the container “used oil.” Place filters in sealed clear plastic bags.
- Limit of five gallons of oil and five oil filters per week.



Tires



Automotive tires up to 25 inches in diameter, either on or off the rims, can be placed next to your garbage for pick-up.

- Limit of four tires per week
- Do not place tires in garbage containers.

Needles

Never place needles or lancets in garbage or recycling bins.

Needles are not collected at the curb.

- Sarasota County offers free needle collection containers and disposal services to residents.
- For program information call the Department of Health at 861-6133.



Recycling

Recycling is mandatory for everyone in Sarasota County. Residents who are in the unincorporated area of the county, please follow these guidelines:

Red bin

Place **only these items in the red bin**. Excess materials can be placed in a paper grocery bag or tied in bundles and placed next to the bin.

- Brown paper bags
- Catalogs
- Corrugated cardboard
- Cardboard boxes (must be broken down to a size of two feet by three feet)
- Junk mail (including window envelopes)
- Magazines
- Newspapers and advertisements
- Phone books
- Writing and office paper
- Shredded paper placed in a closed brown paper bag



Blue bin

Place **only these items in the blue bin**.

- Empty aerosol cans
- Aluminum cans, foil and trays
- Glass bottles and jars (all colors)
- Milk and juice boxes made from wax-coated paper
- No. 1 and No. 2 plastic bottles that have a neck
- Steel cans



These items are **NOT** recyclable.

- Ceramic items
- Dishes and glassware
- Egg cartons
- Flowerpots (plastic and ceramic)
- Gift-wrap and tissue paper
- Clothes hangers (plastic and wire)
- Hard-cover books
- Prescription bottles
- Mirrors
- Pool and other chemical containers
- Packing materials
- Pizza boxes
- Plastic bags
- Plastic deli trays
- Plastic toys
- Pots and pans
- Shoe boxes
- Styrofoam
- Styrofoam peanuts
- Tissue boxes
- Window glass
- Yogurt cups

TIPS

- **Sarasota County offers a one-time courtesy curbside cardboard pickup for new residents. Call Waste Management at 493-4100 to schedule.**
- Remove all caps from bottles and place the caps in the garbage.
- Glass bottles and jars can be any color. Please, no broken glass. No window glass, mirrors, bulbs, ovenware, ceramic, drinking glasses or eyeglasses.
- Place the blue bin on top of the red bin for collection, especially on rainy days to hold papers down and to minimize the amount of rain soaked paper materials.
- Do not put recyclables in plastic bags or garbage containers.

Need a recycling bin?

You can either call Waste Management at 493-4100 for new or additional bins to be **delivered** to your residence or you can pick them up at one of the following locations.

Bee Ridge ReUzIt Shop
8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota
Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jackson Road Chemical Collection Center
250 S. Jackson Road, Venice
Wednesday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

Citizen's Convenience Center
4010 Knights Trail Road, Nokomis
Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Sunday



Household hazardous waste

What is household hazardous waste?

Common household products like aerosols, cleaners, and fluorescent lamps are safe enough fresh off the store shelf, but they can release toxic propellants, chemicals and mercury into our atmosphere and waterways when they're abandoned in garages or crushed in waste hauling vehicles and placed in the landfill. You may be surprised at the products in your home that have the words "danger," "warning," "caution," and "poison" on the label. Never dispose of these toxic household items down the sink, on the ground, down a storm drain or in your garbage. Some household products without warning labels are also considered hazardous such as computers, televisions, compact fluorescent lamps, and batteries.

Household hazardous wastes, other than motor oil and oil filters (page 6), and electronics (page 3) are not collected at the curb. You must bring these items to a collection center, neighborhood collection or community collection program for proper disposal:

- Paints and stains
- Pesticides, herbicides, poisons, and fertilizer
- Pool and spa chemicals
- Motor oil, antifreeze, gasoline and other automotive fluids
- Paint thinners and solvents
- Household cleaners
- Batteries (alkaline based batteries can go in the garbage for disposal)
- Art and hobby supplies
- Aerosol spray products
- Propane tanks and bottles from barbecue grills
- Fluorescent lamps, compact fluorescent lamps, ballasts
- Mercury containing items such as thermometers and thermostats
- Beauty products such as nail polish, remover, hair perms, alcohol based perfumes
- Cellular phones
- Electronics (see page 3)
- Medications (see page 11)
- Televisions
- Computers
- Fax machines
- Keyboards
- Monitors
- Power supplies
- Printers
- Scanners



TIPS

- Dispose of empty containers in the garbage.
- Dispose of dry paint cans in the garbage without the lids on.
- Dispose of alkaline batteries in the garbage. (AAA, D, AA, etc.)
- Used motor oil, filters and electronics can be picked up at the curb. (See pages 3 and 6 for more information).
- Rechargeable batteries may be taken to Lowes, Home Depot, Batteries Plus and Radio Shack.
- Home Depot stores in Sarasota County are able to take fluorescent lamps.

Collection centers for hazardous wastes

Please read carefully the operation days and hours for each collection center as they vary:

Citizens Convenience Center at the Landfill

4010 Knights Trail Road, Nokomis
Open Monday through Saturday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.



North County

8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota
Open Wednesday through Saturday,
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.



South County

250 S. Jackson Road, Venice
Open Wednesday through Saturday,
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Is it free?

Hazardous wastes are accepted at no cost as long as the waste has been generated from your personal **residential** use. Waste generated from a business, a not-for-profit organization, community service, or other entrepreneurship ventures is not eligible for free disposal. These types of operations can enroll in Project Green Sweep for their disposal needs if they meet program qualifications. Call 861-5000 for program information.

What's not accepted?

- Ammunition, fireworks, flares (call your local law enforcement agency for collection information)
- Cylinders – only propane barbeque grill size or smaller are accepted
- Empty containers
- Microwaves, stereos and small appliances
- Tires

Medications



To keep medications out of the wrong hands and provide a disposal method that is safe for the environment, the Sheriff's Office has installed collection boxes at the locations listed below:

North Office

861-4081
Lobby hours: 24-hours a day
2071 Ringling Blvd.
Sarasota, FL 34237

South Office

861-1704
Lobby hours: 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
4531 State Road 776
Venice, FL 34293

North Port Police Department

429-7300
Lobby hours: 24-hours a day
4980 City Hall Blvd.
North Port, Fl. 34291

Citizens may also bring over-the-counter and prescription medications that are not controlled substances to one of the hazardous waste collection centers for disposal (See page 10).

TIPS

If you have expired or unused medications, don't discard them down the sink or toilet, as they can harm the environment and wildlife.

Neighborhood collection

If your residential development is at least eight driving miles from the nearest collection center, we can bring a one-day neighborhood collection event to you. Neighborhood volunteers organize and advertise the event, and participate by directing traffic and unloading vehicles. County staff will take it from there. Guidance and assistance for a successful neighborhood program will be provided by county staff.



Community collection

Want to organize a continuous community collection program? The community collection program is operated by and for your community with training and disposal assistance provided by county staff. You may set your own collection schedule where community volunteers collect household hazardous waste and then transport the waste to one of our collection centers for disposal on pre-arranged delivery days.

For more information on collection centers, neighborhood collections or the community collection program, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 861-5000.

Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex

The Central County Landfill is expected to meet the solid waste disposal needs of Sarasota County for the next 35-40 years. Household garbage, yard waste, appliances, construction debris, tires, bulk waste and oversized waste may be taken to the landfill for disposal. Landfill fees will be charged.



Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex

4000 Knights Trail Road
Nokomis, FL 34275

Administration

Open Monday – Friday,
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed government holidays

Landfill

Open Monday – Saturday,
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed New Year's Day,
Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day
and Christmas Day

Landfill Fees

For a complete list of landfill fees,
contact the Sarasota County Call
Center at 861-5000.

TIPS

All loads must be covered; it's the law!

Citizen Convenience Center

A drop-off location for household hazardous waste, garbage and recyclables is available at the Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex. Household hazardous waste and recyclables can be dropped off at no charge. There will be a disposal fee of \$57.56 per ton, or a minimum fee of \$7.50 for garbage that is brought to the convenience center.



4010 Knights Trail, Nokomis
Open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Storm debris

Prepare now to prevent storm debris by trimming trees and cleaning up your property before the start of hurricane season, June 1.

If a storm causes damage to your property, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 861-5000 for instructions on how to prepare storm-related debris for removal. If debris is not properly prepared, the property owner/resident is responsible for debris disposal and the cost to remove the debris.

TIPS

- Avoid stacking debris by utility poles, under power lines, on top of water meters or other water connections, by fire hydrants, by vehicles, next to mailboxes or fences or on storm drains.
- Do not place storm debris in the street.

Separate storm debris into the following categories:

- Garbage – place spoiled food in containers, or double bag it for pick-up
- Household goods – furniture, clothes, books, toys and carpet
- Vegetative – tree limbs and trunks
- Construction materials – drywall, roof shingles, aluminum
- Appliances – refrigerators, water heaters, televisions and computers

Live on a private road?

Residents who live on a private road must grant the county the right to enter the roadway for debris removal prior to any debris removal occurring. This requires a completed Right-of-Entry and Hold Harmless form that is notarized and signed by the legal owner of the road or a legal representative, such as a homeowner's association.

When the form is signed and notarized, it must be recorded (at the owner's expense) with the Sarasota County Clerk's office. A copy of the recording must then be provided to Sarasota County Solid Waste.

For further information about debris removal on private roads or to obtain the Right-of-Entry/Hold Harmless form, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 861-5000.



ReUzIt Shop



Before you head to the store to purchase paint, cleaning supplies, or yard care and automotive products, check out what's available at the ReUzIt Shop.

Items are free with a photo identification. Shoppers must be 18 years of age or older.

ReUzIt Shop Hours

Monday – Friday
7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Location

8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota

Presentations

Outreach presentations

Staff can provide an interactive presentation to your homeowner group or service organization.

To schedule a presentation, call 861-5000 and ask for Solid Waste.

Keep Sarasota County Beautiful

Litter prevention and beautification programs include:

- Community Clean-up
- Adopt-a-Park
- Adopt-a-Pond
- Adopt-a-Road
- Adopt-a-Shore

Special Events

- Cigarette Litter Prevention Program
- Make a Difference Day
- The Great American Cleanup (April)
- The International Coastal Cleanup (September)
- Volunteer Recognition Awards Program



How can you make a difference?

Sponsor a special event or beautification program, or become a volunteer. Contact the Sarasota

County Call Center at 861-5000 and ask for Keep Sarasota County Beautiful.





Sarasota County

Solid Waste

8750 Bee Ridge Road

Sarasota FL 34241