



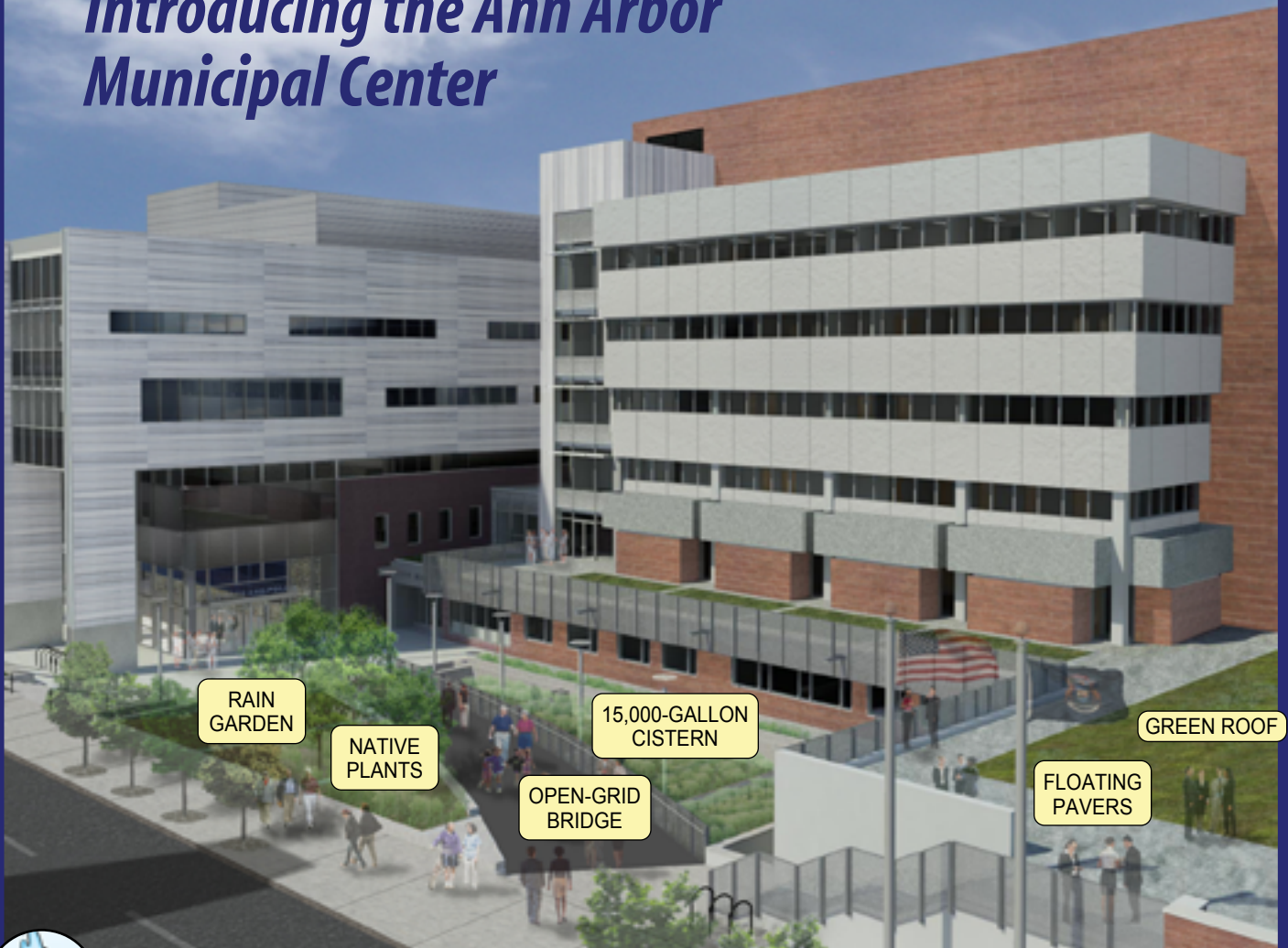
Waste Watcher

See inside:

Compost and Mulch Sales, pages 8, 24

Electronics Recycling, page 11
Recycling Guide, page 13

Introducing the Ann Arbor Municipal Center



NEW WasteWatchers Comic: *A Tale of Two Raindrops*, pages 20-24

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL



Dear WasteWatcher Letter	2
Holiday Collection Schedule	3
Phone & Web Hotlines	3
Ask Dr. Recycle	6
Bulletin Board	19
WasteWatcher Comic: "A Tale of Two Raindrops"	20-23

REFUSE



Refuse Carts	4
Bulky Refuse Items	14
Drop-Off Station	12
Safe Refuse Preparation	16

COMPOST



Compost Carts	4
Compost & Mulch Sales	8, 24
Compost Collection	7
Food & Plate Composting	9
Drop-Off Station	12

RECYCLING



Recycling Carts	4
Dirty Dozen	5
Reuse Options	15
Recycling Guide	13
Drop-Off Station	12
Batteries, Motor Oil	10
Home Toxics Center, Electronics	11
Commercial Recycling	17
Recyclebank	18, 24

The calendar and thermometer are indicating that spring is returning to Ann Arbor. It's time to put away our snow shovels and start enjoying the return of blooming flowers.

Weekly compost collection resumes the first week of April, as described on page 7. For residents and schools wishing to purchase an optional compost cart (see one-time price details on page 4), you may take advantage of composting a greater range of organic materials, including food and vegetable scraps, paper napkins and **uncoated** paper plates and cups. The expanded compostable materials are explained on page 9. These items are also accepted at the Drop-Off Station. Ann Arbor residents may drop-off up to one cubic yard of compostables at no charge per visit, year-round.

Gardeners will be glad to see that clean, sturdy plant pots and trays are acceptable in the recycling carts, as listed on page 13. (Please do not recycle flimsy plastic plant "cell-packs" however. These items are similar to the Dirty Dozen items #2 and 4, as described on page 5)

For sales information on compost, mulch, and topsoil, please see pages 8, 12, and 24 for the Compost Center and Drop-Off Station options. Spring Saturday hours at the Compost Center are available from 8 a.m. to noon during April, May, and June to handle sales of compost, mulch, (blended topsoil is expected to be available) in quantities of two or more cubic yards. Residents can pick up one cubic yard of free compost or mulch during the Compost Center's Saturday hours. In addition, Ann Arbor residents in single- and two-family homes are eligible for a half-off price for two cubic yards of mechanically-loaded compost at the Compost Center through the Recyclebank Rewards program.

Have you signed up online for the free recycling rewards program at Recyclebank.com or by phoning 1.888.727.2978? Ann Arbor residents in single- and two-family homes are also able to collect points for setting their recycling cart at the curb for pickups. All Recyclebank members are able to collect points and can select Recyclebank Rewards coupons for offers provided at many local and national stores. It's free to sign up, so please give this a try!

We have not been hibernating this winter! An advisory committee representing Ann Arbor residents, businesses, and agencies has joined staff, City Council, and the Environmental Commission to prepare a Solid Waste Plan Update. The plan will include a summary of solid waste program progress to-date and will offer an outline of options to consider over the next five years, as cost-effective opportunities arise. A public survey is anticipated to be a component of this Solid Waste Plan Update process. The survey will be promoted to the public via numerous media channels. If you would like to be e-mailed the survey link—and to receive periodic e-mail updates on the city's solid waste announcements—please sign up for the free GovDelivery service by selecting the red envelope at www.a2gov.org/recycle. For non-computer users, just leave your address at 734.794.6000 x 43112 and you will receive a mailed survey that can be mailed back or dropped off at the Customer Service Center.

The construction barricades are gone and Ann Arbor's Municipal Center now incorporates a new Justice Center (for the 15th District Court and Police Services), upgrades at Larcom City Hall, and beautiful rain gardens and green roof areas. The landscape is designed to capture all the rain water that falls on this site, as described in the comics on pages 20-23 and online at www.a2gov.org/LEED. Stop by to enjoy the gardens, benches, green roof promenade area and—when Larcom is open during business hours—see the two-story ash wood wall in the atrium, visit the new café, and possibly purchase an Ann Arbor refillable A2H2O bottle or reusable bag from the Customer Service Center (selection at www.a2gov.org/a2H2O).

I hope to see you around the rain gardens. They are beautiful to view in all seasons, rain or shine!

-Dr. Recycle

2012 Collection Schedules

The weekly residential curbside Compostable collection program resumes Monday, April 2, 2012 and is scheduled to end for the growing season on Friday, Dec. 14, 2012 as posted at www.a2gov.org/compost.

Please mark your calendars for these **six holidays**, which affect the weekly solid waste collection schedule for 2012:

Memorial Day, Mon., May 28

Independence Day, Wed., July 4

Labor Day, Mon., Sept. 3

Thanksgiving Day, Thurs., Nov. 22

Christmas Day, Tues., Dec 25

New Years Day, Tues., Jan 1, 2013

The normal solid waste collection routes will not occur on the above specific holidays and will resume one day later for the rest of the week, with the normal Friday routes serviced on Saturday.

Other holidays (MLK, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day) do not affect the solid waste collection schedule.

Information Resources



CITY OF ANN ARBOR

Customer Service & Payment Center, 994-2807. 220 E. Huron, www.a2gov.org/recycle. M-F, 8-5. For information on the city's refuse, compost collection services and cart sales.

- **99-GREEN** (994.7336) 24-hour recorded information on solid waste, refuse, compost, and recycling services and the holiday collection schedules. Provides audio format for visually-impaired.
- **Phone connection for audio-impaired individuals is available by dialing 7.1.1 for a "TDD" connection.**
- **Waste Management, 1.800.796.9696**, is contracted by the city to provide for-fee refuse dumpster hauling services for non-residential locations.
- **Online Citizen Request System** Use this option at www.a2gov.org to notify the city of non-emergency public service concerns, such as a missed solid waste pickup, a pothole, hanging tree branch, low water pressure, etc.
- **CodeRed emergency alerts** Sign up for free city-only, emergency notifications (e.g., tornado, water main breaks requiring "boil water" procedures). Sign up online at www.a2gov.org or fill in a paper form at the Customer Service Center.

Compost Center & MRF, 794.6380, 4150 Platt Rd., Wheeler Service Center, M-F 8-4 p.m. April, May, June open Sat 8-12, www.a2gov.org/compost. For bulk compost and wood mulch sales and yard waste drop-off arranged at the MRF Scale House. Also see pages 7-8. Pre-registered MRF recycling plant tours and open houses are available, www.a2gov.org/mrf.



RECYCLE ANN ARBOR

662.6288, 2420 South Industrial, www.recycleannarbor.org.

Nonprofit organization contracted by the city to provide residential and commercial recycling assistance and collection. Manages the city's recycling cart distribution. RAA also operates the **ReUse Center**, 2420 S. Industrial for building materials and other reusables and **Calvert's Roll-Off Containers**, 7891 Jackson Rd. for construction and demolition debris recycling, with public recycling drop-off options.

RAA's Drop-Off Station, 2950 East Ellsworth, 971.7400, is the state's largest community recycling and disposal center. Sells compost and mulch. Also see page 12.



WASHTENAW COUNTY

222.6874, <http://recycle.eWashtenaw.org>

Provides area-wide recycling and waste reduction information.

- **Home Toxics Center, 222.3950**. Also see page 11.
- **Trash-to-Treasures** disposal guide posted online.
- **WasteKnot** recognition program for local businesses and agencies.

Ann Arbor's Cart Options At-A-Glance

This chart is also posted at www.a2gov.org/carts.

	A2 REFUSE CART	A2 RECYCLING CART	A2 COMPOST CART*
Cart management summary & contact information	Managed by City of Ann Arbor Customer Service Center, 734.994.2807, Larcom City Hall, 301 E. Huron, during weekday business hours. Since 2005 A2 refuse carts are required unless the location uses a trash dumpster for refuse.	Managed by Recycle Ann Arbor, Recycle Ann Arbor (RAA), 2420 S Industrial Hwy, 734.662.6288. 8:30am - 4:30pm Mon-Fri. Since summer 2010, recycling carts are required unless location is using an approved recycling dumpster for materials.	Managed by City of Ann Arbor, Customer Service Center, 734.994.2807, Larcom City Hall, 301 E. Huron, during weekday business hours. Since 2008 compost carts are available to use as an optional container. Compost collection season runs April to mid-Dec.
Program parameters	All refuse items must fit inside refuse cart with the lid closed. Acceptable items on the "Refuse" tab at www.a2gov.org/recycle .	All recyclables must fit inside the recycling cart with the lid closed. Acceptable items linked to "Recycle Guide" tab posted at www.a2gov.org/recycle .	Paper yard waste bags and bundled brush may also be used for yard waste. A compost cart is required if used for storing grass clippings, fruit and vegetable scraps, uncoated paper plates, cups and napkins as posted at www.a2gov.org/compost .
Costs: single-family/duplex	For one 32 or 64 gallon trash cart, no charge per household. Upsizing to one, 96-gallon refuse cart is \$38/year. Additional refuse carts at same address are \$110/year. Cost is added to the water bill once/year.	New recycling carts were delivered July-August 2010. Additional recycling carts \$50 each, one-time cost, payable to RAA. Purchase additional carts or swap carts at RAA.	Each 32, 64, 96-gallon cart costs \$50 one-time charge, paid and picked up from the Customer Service Center, Larcom City Hall, 301 E. Huron, during business hours, 734.994.2807.
Costs: multi-family apartments	96-gallon refuse carts are provided at a pro-rated level based on number of residential units. Annual \$110 fee for additional refuse carts. Locations with 10+ units must use trash dumpsters.	No charge for delivery of initial recycling carts, based on need.	Multi-family property managers may purchase and use compost carts for the seasonal collection program for eligible food waste items where routes are available. For more details, please contact Customer Service Center, Larcom City Hall, 301 E. Huron, 734.994.2807.
To change or exchange carts	Free first cart delivery to a new construction or annexation address. \$25 fee for new refuse cart deliveries, replacements, or pickups. A \$25 power wash fee may be charged if needed.	No fee for swapping cart size from Recycle Ann Arbor location at 2420 S. Industrial Hwy., 8:30am-4:30pm M-F. \$25 delivery fee, if service requested.	Customers pick up own compost cart from Customer Service Center, Larcom City Hall, 301 E. Huron, during business hours.



Place carts **with the cart opening facing the street** at the curb or driveway **before 7 a.m.** on your weekly collection day and remove all carts by noon the following day. Solid waste carts must be stored the rest of the week at the rear of the building or at least 15 feet from the front (or elsewhere, screened, as part of an approved variance).

All materials must be stored inside the carts with the lids closed. No materials are accepted outside the carts except bundles and bags of seasonally-collected yard waste.

Provide at least 3 feet between each cart and obstacle and 15' overhead clearance to allow for efficient automated truck collection. Thank you. Prices effective July, 2011 and subject to change.

Remove these “Dirty Dozen” so your recycling cart won’t be left behind.

1 No garbage, compost, or building materials in recycling carts. Garbage and compost are serious contaminants if mixed with clean recyclable papers, bottles, cups, and cans. Details at www.a2gov.org/carts.

2 No plastic bags in recycling carts. Plastic bags wrap around the mechanical sorting gears at the city’s recycling plant and cause breakdowns. Instead, reuse bags at home or take them back to the grocery store for recycling. Better yet, reduce waste by taking reusable bags with you for shopping. (Note: clear plastic bags are accepted for holding large quantities of shredded paper from businesses. These paper-filled bags are hand-removed at the recycling plant before approaching the gears.)



3 Remove all bottle caps before recycling. When the bottles are compacted during recycling, the bottle caps can become dangerous projectiles. Loose caps are too small to mechanically sort, so they default into the crushed glass bin, where they become a contaminant. There are a few special programs that accept separated bottle caps and lids, such as those listed at www.recyclemyplastics.com.

4 No plastic lids (such as yogurt lids), flatware, fast-food drink tops/straws, toy packaging, or plastic bottle caps in recycling carts. Only clean, firm plastics in the shape of a bottle, jar, cup, or tub are designed to be sorted at Ann Arbor’s recycling plant, which processes 20 tons of materials per hour. Flat yogurt lids and flimsy plastic cookie holders are automatically routed to the paper recycling line, where workers are required to remove them by hand. Also, the buyers who remanufacture items from bottles and tubs are not interested in other types of plastics.

5 Recycle only clean containers with no liquids. All bottles and plastic cups must be empty and clean. It’s exciting that Ann Arbor now recycles yogurt tubs, beer cups, and “frappuccino with whipped cream” cups, but these containers must be washed before placing in the recycling bin. Otherwise, the gooey foods and odors cause problems at every step of recycling collection, sorting, shipping, and processing.

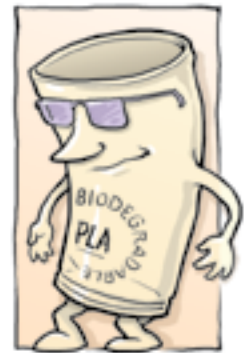
6 No light bulbs, ceramics, Pyrex®, window glass, mirrors in recycling carts. Glass bottles and jars have different melting points and chemical compositions than these items. Fluorescent light bulbs and compact fluorescents (CFLs) can be taken to special recycling locations (some fees may apply) such as the Drop-Off Station, County Home Toxics Center, Home Depot, Gross Electric, etc.

7 No computers, televisions, electronics, or electronic media (DVDs, tapes, etc.) in recycling carts. Many electronics contain hazardous materials and need to be gently delivered—intact—to separate recycling locations. Michigan’s e-waste takeback law requires all manufacturers to provide free recycling programs. Check the manufacturer listing at www.michigan.gov/deqewaste or see page 11.

8 No hazardous waste, including pesticides, motor oil, motor oil filters, car batteries, automotive fluids, household batteries, etc., in recycling carts. Take these items to the county’s home toxics center, <http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org>. Ask your auto service center about recycling vehicle items. As posted at www.rbrc.org, rechargeable batteries are accepted for free at many drop-off locations and stores that sell batteries. Alkaline batteries may be placed in the trash.

9 No syringes or medical waste in recycling carts. Medical needles and sharps are not recyclable and are dangerous to the public and recycling workers. Securely wrap and place them inside trash carts or check Washtenaw County’s www.dontflushdrugs.com for other disposal options.

10 No biodegradable plastics (marked PLA or biodegradable) in recycling carts. All biodegradable plastics create havoc for conventional plastics recyclers. These plastics are designed to “evaporate,” and they create holes in products made from traditional recycled plastics. Do not place PLAs in the compost carts: the industry has inconsistent standards of biodegradability and Ann Arbor does not want to compromise our compost products.



11 No paper cups, napkins, paper plates, hand towels, candy wrappers, snack bags, etc., in recycling carts. Put these items in the trash. Look for reusable options. Uncoated paper plates, paper cups, and napkins can be placed in the city’s compost carts for compost pickups.

12 No Styrofoam™ in recycling carts. Foamed plastic is impossible to mechanically sort because it breaks into tiny pieces and contaminates other recyclables. Take clean foam to the Drop-Off Station (some fees apply) or donate foam peanuts to local mailing shops.

A few other reminders: Always flatten boxes before recycling. Don't wedge cardboard or plastic lawn chairs tightly into your recycling carts. That creates a situation where the cart can't be emptied when it is mechanically lifted and tipped into the truck. Also, only place smaller scrap metal items (up to 1 cubic foot, 20 pounds per piece) into recycling carts. Larger pieces will break the truck compactors. Over-stuffed carts or ones with protruding pipes, etc., cannot be serviced.

Ask Dr. Recycle!

Q. What's an easy way to recycle my old computer and television? I'm graduating this year and I can't take all this old gear with me.

A. Congratulations on reaching this milestone. Best Buy stores have been accepting most electronics for recycling at no charge for several years. Michigan Goodwill Industries will take back computers and peripherals (there is one located in Saline) and Habitat for Humanity just started taking computers, televisions, and many electronics—both for-free. The Drop-Off Station continues to accept computers, televisions, and many electronics (some fees may apply). Please see page 11 for more information.

Q. I have a hard time telling apart my trash and recycling carts because they are both blue.

A: The recycling carts are a bright blue color while the trash carts are navy blue/black. At night that difference can be hard to distinguish. How about looking at the cart lids to tell them apart? The trash cart lids are black and the recycling cart tops are light gray and include a bright white strip with photographs showing what's acceptable for recycling.

Q. How can I recycle my old CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes?

A. If your music and video disks are in perfect shape, the area music resale shops may be interested in handling them. However, there are only so many copies of "Titanic" that any resale store can stock. The good news is that the Drop-Off Station is accepting CDs, DVDs, and VHS tapes for recycling.

CDs, DVDs, and VHS items should not be placed in the recycling cart. The types of plastic used in media disks and jewel cases are not similar to flexible plastic resins used for the acceptable, recyclable "bottle, tub, and cup" shapes taken in the city's recycling program. In addition, brittle CDs and jewel case plastics will shatter at the city's single-stream recycling plant at the stage where glass bottles and jars are mechanically broken and removed from the mixed papers and other containers. The plastic shards contaminate the glass. When the VHS tape case is shattered, it releases ribbons of VHS tape that wrap around the MRF sorting line gears and grind the whole line to a stop—having the same effect as the unwanted plastic bags.



When the VHS tape case is shattered, it releases ribbons of VHS tape that wrap around the MRF sorting line gears and grind the whole line to a stop—having the same effect as the unwanted plastic bags.

Q. OK, you just explained (again) why you don't want plastic bags in the recycling carts. But business locations are asked to put quantities of shredded paper into clear plastic bags. Why the double standard?

A. Large (33+ gallon size) clear plastic bags filled with shredded paper are hand-removed at the beginning of the recycling plant sorting lines—before the bags get stuck in gears. The shredded office paper is eminently recyclable, but has to be contained to avoid having thousands of tiny paper pieces hurled into the air and rendered impossible to capture for recycling.



Q. I really want to see what happens to my recyclables. Is it worth my bother to sort my trash?

A. We invite you to tour the city's recycling plant—the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). You can view a great five-minute video posted online at www.a2gov.org/mrf, which follows the collected recyclables through the MRF sorting equipment and on to the re-manufacturing markets.

MRF public open houses are offered once a month on Saturday, as posed on a2gov.org/mrf. These free events include a walking tour and an activity, such as paper-making, composting, a recycled-content craft, or a special presentation.

Groups may also schedule tours of the MRF during weekdays between 8-5. Please contact Nicole at nberg@a2gov.org, 734.794.6000 x 43118 to arrange a guided visit. We have over 3,000 visitors each year. Come join us!

Q. I enjoy knowing a lot about recycling. Do you have something to satisfy the advanced recyclers like me?

A. The MRF education center coordinator Nicole Berg has created a "Super Recyclers" web page linked to www.a2gov.org/recycle where responses are posted to the more-involved questions from MRF visitors. Printed copies are available from Nicole—see her contact information above. And one does not have to be a super recycler to be a good recycler—simply remember to recycle papers (flatten boxes) with clean containers (glass, metal, plastic bottles/cups/tubs).



Seasonal Curbside Compost Collection

Place properly-prepared compost carts, paper bags, or bundled brush at the residential curb before 7 a.m. on the weekly solid waste collection day during the growing season from April 2 through Dec. 14, 2012, unless extended as posted at www.a2gov.org/compost.



30-GALLON PAPER BAGS may be used for the basic yard waste collection storage. Each bag may weigh up to 50 pounds. Paper bags are available from local retailers and may be used for the basic yardwaste collection trimmings such as leaves, plants, and branches.

Paper bags may not be used for grass clippings or uncooked fruit or vegetable scraps in order to avoid attracting wildlife, producing odors, or creating unsafe conditions from wet, overweight, broken paper bags at the curb. Residents interested in participating in the expanded compost program must use a city-approved compost cart.

BUNDLED BRUSH and TREE LIMBS must be cut into 4-foot lengths or shorter. Please tie with natural twine into bundles up to 18-inches in diameter, and up to 50 pounds per bundle. Tree limbs must be under 6-inches in diameter.

Optional **COMPOST CARTS** in 35-, 64-, and 96-gallon sizes are available for a one-time purchase price of \$50 each and are picked up from the city's Customer Service Center, 99.GREEN (734.994.7336). The center is open weekdays from 8-5 at 301 E. Huron in downtown Ann Arbor. Branches may not stick out of carts—the lids must be closed.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS Ann Arbor residents may include grass clippings, fruits and vegetables, uncoated paper plates, cups and napkins to their normal compost materials, placed inside compost carts. *Please see page 4 for more compost cart information.

PROHIBITED MATERIALS for compost collection:

NO: plastic bags, trash, meat, fish, bones, oils, dairy products, recyclables, stones, dirt, sod, animal waste, logs over 6-inches in diameter, stumps, painted or treated wood.



CITY RESIDENT COMPOSTABLE DROP-OFF DISCOUNT

Ann Arbor residents may deliver up to one cubic yard (or 6 yard waste bags) of acceptable yard waste materials per visit year-round at no charge during hours of operation to Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station, 2950 E. Ellsworth Road, 734.971.7400, www.recycleannarbor.org.

The DOS is open 3 days/week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (non-holidays). Ann Arbor residents must show proof of residency (a current water bill) to have the \$3 DOS entry fee and allowable yardwaste drop-off charges waived.

The optional fall leaf drop-off program for Ann Arbor residents and their designated haulers will resume in the fall. Details will be provided later this summer at www.a2gov.org/leaves.

City of Ann Arbor's Compost & Mulch

DROP-OFF and SALES Options at Two Locations!

For 2+ cubic yard transactions, please use:

The City of Ann Arbor Compost Center,

4150 Platt Road, 48108 - 734.794.6380

This site is operated by WeCare Organics. Transactions are handled at the city's Scalehouse, **open weekdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Additional seasonal hours: Saturdays in April, May, and June, from 8 a.m. - Noon.** www.a2gov.org/compost. Checks and credit cards accepted only.

The Compost Center handles compost, mulch, and yard waste (compostables) transactions for **2+ cubic yards per visit, per vehicle**. Customers pre-pay at the MRF scalehouse at 4150 Platt Road, get a receipt, and are directed to designated areas where to unload or pick-up materials. Present a copy of the paid receipt must be provided to the compost facility operator/loader. WeCare Organics also provides for-fee delivery of compost mulch, and topsoil, call 734.489.4518. Ann Arbor resident discounts are explained to the right.

COMPOSTABLES DROP-OFF FEES

(minimum 2 cubic yards per visit)

Grass, leaves, other vegetation.....\$15/cubic yard
Wood waste, brush\$15/cubic yard
Chipped wood..... \$5/cubic yard

COMPOST SALES:

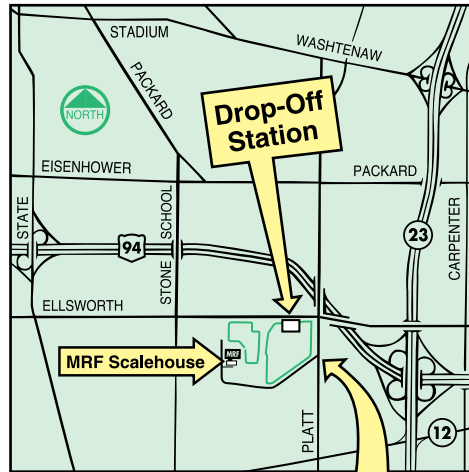
\$18/cubic yard (minimum 2 cubic yards per visit)

MULCH SALES:

\$18/cubic yard (natural wood, or white wood/pallet) (minimum 2 cubic yards per visit)

NEW! BLENDED TOPSOIL: Expected to become available from WeCare Organics

Please note: Pricing for all products and services is set by WeCare Organics LLC, which reserves the right to change pricing without notice. Large quantity deliveries of 5+ cubic yards must set up a WeCare Organics account and provide empty truck weights. Empty truck weights and accounts are not required for compost and mulch sales. To confirm the most up-to-date pricing and bulk options, please follow the link www.wecareorganics.com/annarborcompostcenter or contact Don Butynski, Facility Manager at 734.477.0334. This posting is provided by the City of Ann Arbor for general informational and promotional purposes.



Wheeler Service Center ENTRANCE

Special Programs at the Compost Center from WeCare Organics for Ann Arbor Residents Only

Free self-loaded compost and mulch for Ann Arbor residents is available on Saturdays, April 7 through June 30, 2012 from 8 a.m. to noon, while supplies last. Residents must bring their own shovel and containers. Residents proceed to the scale house and provide proof of Ann Arbor residency: a recent water bill and driver's license. The scale house operator will direct the resident to the location of the free compost. Limit 6 bushels (or 1 cubic yard) per household/year.

Half-off compost coupon for Ann Arbor residents via Recyclebank.com for two cubic yards of mechanically-loaded compost for the price of one, purchased from the Compost Center, while supplies last. The free Recyclebank Rewards program is available to Ann Arbor residents in single-family and duplex homes. The compost coupon can be printed at home. Register for the free Recyclebank program online at www.Recyclebank.com or phone 1.888.727.2978.

For all transactions under 2 cubic yards, please use:

Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station (DOS), 2950 E. Ellsworth Road, at Platt Road in Ann Arbor, MI 48108, 734.971.7400, www.recycleannarbor.org.

The DOS is open 3 days/week on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.** (non-holidays). Cash, Visa, MasterCard payments only. \$3 DOS entry fee is waived for customers purchasing compost or mulch.

The DOS is the City of Ann Arbor's designated location for handling all yard waste drop-off and compost/mulch sales in bushel and cubic yard quantities. **Drop-off and sales under 2 cubic yards MUST be handled at the DOS.** Customers pay at the DOS gatehouse and proceed to the designated site for drop-off or pick-up. The DOS accepts additional materials not taken at the Compost Center, including separated stumps, larger logs, painted or treated lumber, etc. **Prices are posted at www.recycleannarbor.org.** The DOS also provides for-fee delivery of compost and mulch.

- **COMPOST & MULCH SALES:** Sold by the self-loaded bushel and mechanically-loaded cubic yards to all interested customers. All customers purchasing compost or mulch will have the \$3 entry fee waived.
- **COMPOSTABLES DROP-OFF:** The DOS accepts Compostables in paper yard waste bags and cubic yards.

City resident compostable drop-off discount. Ann Arbor residents may deliver up to one cubic yard (or 6 yard waste bags) of acceptable yard waste materials per visit at no charge, year-round, during hours of operation. Ann Arbor residents must show proof of residency (a current water bill) to have the \$3 DOS entry fee and drop-off charges waived.

Getting the most out of your Compost Cart (by putting the right things into it)

What is accepted in the compost program?

(Seasonal weekly pickup April 1-December 15, on curb before 7 a.m.)

- Fruit and vegetable waste*
- Coffee grounds*
- Grains*
- Uncoated paper plates, cups, napkins, paper towels, etc.*
- Bamboo dinnerware*
- Grass clippings*

**These items are only accepted in compost carts in order to avoid attracting wildlife, or creating odors and unsafe conditions of wet, overweight, broken bags at the curb. Items placed in compost carts do not need to be bagged or bundled.*

- Leaves
- Bundles of brush <6" diameter (cart lid must close)
- Unpainted, untreated lumber (cart lid must close)
- Weeds
- Halloween pumpkins
- Undecorated holiday trees
- Garden prunings, garden surplus, crab apples, etc.



NO:

- Plastic Bags
- PLA Bio-Plastic
- Trash or Recyclables
- Meat, Bones or Fish
- Oils or Dairy Products
- Stones, Dirt, or Sod
- Animal Waste
- Logs (over 6" in diameter)
- Stumps
- Painted or Treated Wood

Why can't all paper products be composted?

Traditional paper cups and plates have a thin coating of petroleum-based plastic to improve durability. This plastic lining is not compostable, and these products are not accepted in the city's curbside compost program. Uncoated paper cups and plates are manufactured without this lining, enabling full decomposition in the municipal compost program. Recent research on problems with plastic fragments in compost from coated paper products and plastics in compost are posted at www.ecocycle.org.

What about Compostable Plastic (PLA)?

Not all items marked compostable, bio-compostable, or PLA are safely or fully biodegradable. The opportunity for plastic contamination poses a risk to the finished compost. Bio-plastic products appear similar to conventional plastics and there are products available that are a mixture of petroleum and starches. Accepting compostable plastics in the city compost program would lead to contamination (and plastic fragments) in our finished product.

For low-waste events, first consider using reusable plates, cups, silverware and napkins. Some serving items are recyclable, such as beverage bottles and cans and plastic cups marked as #1-2, #4-7. Uncoated paper plates, cups, and napkins can be composted.

There is a short list of truly biocompostable plastic foodware that are certified by the U.S. Composting Council – not easily found on store shelves. The U.S. Composting Council and the Biodegradable Products Institute lists the products that meet US and European standards and marked with ASTM D6400 and/or ASTM D6868, are posted at <http://www.bpiworld.org/>. **These are not accepted in city compost** collection at this time.

Safe Battery Disposal

More information at a2gov.org/recycle

Alkaline (Single-Use)

Rechargeable

Automotive or Car (Lead-Acid)

How to Identify

Individual batteries or packaging may say "Alkaline" or "single-use"

*Button batteries, see below.***



Labeled as "rechargeable" and/or Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-Ion), or Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn).

Rechargeable batteries can be in many forms including regular AA and AAA sizes, cell phone batteries, and laptop batteries.



Found in most gas-combustion engines. They are large, long-lasting batteries used to provide electricity to vehicles.



Toxicity

A United States federal law in 1996 banned mercury from Alkaline batteries. With the absence of toxic mercury, alkaline batteries are safe for municipal solid waste landfills.

Rechargeable batteries contain heavy metals such as nickel, cadmium, or lithium which cannot be safely placed in municipal landfills.

Contain toxic substances such as lead and sulfuric acid which cannot be safely placed in municipal landfills. Once recycled, much of the content is reused in new batteries.

Proper Disposal

Place used alkaline batteries in curbside trash receptacle (to be landfilled).

Batteries Plus on Packard accepts alkaline batteries for recycling for \$1/lb. Seal ends with clear tape.

The Home Toxics Center takes all alkaline batteries for disposal in a hazardous waste landfill, page 11.

Return to one of the many free drop-off locations, listed on www.Call2Recycle.org, such as Batteries Plus on Packard or at Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station.

Batteries must be individually bagged or sealed with clear tape over positive (+) end for proper recycling.*

Michigan requires all automotive services stations and auto supply stores to accept used vehicle batteries when purchasing a new one. Vehicle batteries are also recycled locally at Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station and Washtenaw County's Home Toxics Center.

Do not place on curb for pick-up.

*In 2009, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) placed restrictions on the management and shipment of batteries. Under the new regulations, all rechargables must be hand-sorted and sealed with clear tape on the positive ends (or placed in individual baggies) before shipped for recycling. These precautions prevent battery terminals from coming in contact with each other or any metal surface and starting fires.

**Button-cell and lithium batteries can be recycled locally at Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station, Washtenaw County's Home Toxics Center, or Batteries Plus.

Free rechargeable battery collection and mail-back box from [Call2Recycle](http://Call2Recycle.org), www.Call2Recycle.org

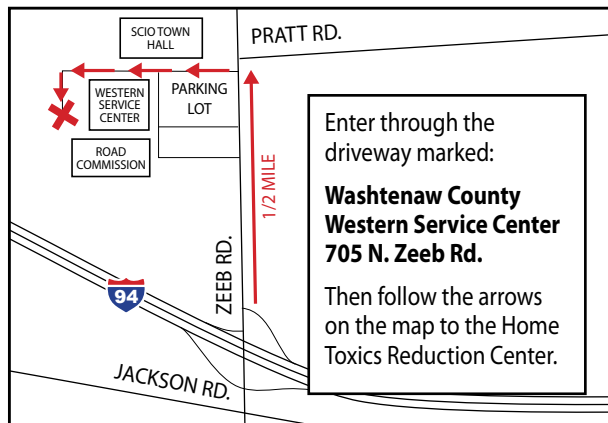
Recycling used motor oil

Many automotive supply stores and service stations will accept used motor oil from the public. Place used motor oil in a sturdy, sealed, clear container. Call ahead to confirm any requirements. A small fee may apply. The Home Toxics Center (see page 11) and Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station (see page 12) accept used motor oil for recycling (a \$3 entry fee or donation may apply). Do not place at curb for pick-up.



Home Toxics Disposal Options

Poisons, solvents, heavy metals, and other toxic products should never be poured down a drain or thrown into the trash and landfilled. Instead, use up toxic products completely according to the label, or take unwanted products to Washtenaw County's permanent Home Toxics Center for free, proper disposal. Computers, electronics, and selected automotive fluids are recyclable through the Drop-Off Station (\$3.00 user fee) and other locations. Please purchase less toxic products in the future.



Home Toxics:

- Cleansers & Polishes
- Fertilizers & Phosphorus
- Home Repair Products (glues, caulk)
- Mercury Thermometers, Thermostats
- Oil Based Paints (not latex)
- Paint Thinners, Solvents, Varnishes
- Motor Oil
- Pesticides & Weed Killers
- Roofing Tar & Asphalt
- Wood Preservatives
- Needles, Syringes & Sharps in a sealed, unbreakable container
- Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- Rechargeable Batteries
- Alkaline Batteries

Take these items to **Washtenaw County's Home Toxics Reduction Program, 705 N. Zeeb Road** near Jackson Road, open 9-Noon, first three Saturdays of each month through November and by appointment during winter months 734.222.3950, donations accepted. This collection program – with suggestions for less toxic alternative products – are described at <http://recycle.eWashtenaw.org>.

Please keep toxic products in their original containers. All containers, including gasoline cans, must remain at site.

Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station accepts many toxic items for recycling. Some fees may apply after the \$3 entry fee. See page 12 for details.

Computers, Televisions, and Other Electronics

Michigan's e-waste takeback law requires free and convenient take-back programs to be established by manufacturers to ensure that all televisions, computers, and printers are fully recycled. The following programs are now available in the Ann Arbor area.

Best Buy - 3100 Lohr Rd., 741.1357, www.bestbuy.com

Accepts all televisions, computers, printers, scanners, peripherals, cell phones, and many other electronics for free recycling.

Drop-Off Station - 2950 E. Ellsworth, 971.9400, www.recycleannarbor.org \$3 entry fee. Accepts computers, printers, scanners, televisions, cell phones, and many other electronics for recycling. Some fees may apply. See page 12 for hours of operation.

Goodwill - 557 E Michigan Ave. Saline. 429.2789, www.goodwillsemi.org. In partnership with Dell, all Goodwill locations will accept computers, printers, scanners, cell phones, and most peripherals for free recycling. <http://www.goodwillsemi.org/index.php/donations/free-computer-recycling>

Habitat for Humanity ReStore - 170 Aprill Drive, 822.1530, www.h4h.org/restore/. In partnership with Vintage Tech Recyclers, this location accepts computers, televisions, peripherals, cell phones, audio equipment and selected other electronics for free recycling.

Other Options

There are several mail-back options for computers and televisions offered by the different manufacturers posted at www.michigan.gov/deqewaste. Periodic computer and television collection-day events are held in the area. Subscribe to the City of Ann Arbor's free e-mail service for recycling updates via the GovDelivery red envelope on the web page at www.a2gov.org/recycle. Some stores, such as Big Georges and Best Buy, will pick up an old television when a customer buys a new TV to be delivered.

Before you recycle your computer, be sure to erase the unit's hard drive to eliminate personal data. Best Buy's web site offers a two-minute video showing how to erase data from a hard drive under "recycling."

Due to the toxic chemicals that can be released when computer monitors and televisions are crushed, these items are prohibited from Ann Arbor's trash and recycling carts and dumpster collection program.



DROP-OFF STATION

One-Stop Location for Recycling, Refuse, and Compost

The Drop-Off Station is open to the general public and operated by Recycle Ann Arbor. Prices are subject to change. For 24-hour information and a complete list of recycling fees, please visit www.recycleannarbor.org. **No paints, liquids, or toxics. Entry fee: \$3.00***

**RecycleBank points can be used to cover the entry fee*

2950 E. Ellsworth Rd.
Just West of Platt Rd.

HOURS:
Tues & Thurs
8:30-6:30
Sat 9-6
734.971.7400

COMPOST & MULCH SALES

MUNICIPAL COMPOST
MIXED MULCH
WOOD CHIPS

Prices posted at
www.recycleannarbor.org

Delivery is also available from Recycle Ann Arbor, 971.7400.

Loaded 2+ cubic yards bulk compost and mulch are also handled at the MRF Scalehouse at 4150 Platt Road. Call 794.6380 for hours, prices, and availability.

RECYCLABLES (See the Recycle Guide for preparation guidelines)

PAPER: Newspaper • Magazines • Office Paper • "Junk" Mail • Phone Books • Paperbacks • Catalogs
Flattened Bagged Boxboard • Flattened Corrugated Boxes and Paper Bags

MIXED CONTAINERS Empty, Rinsed: Milk Cartons • Juice Boxes • Glass (bottles, jars) • Plastic Bottles & Tubs #1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 • Metals (steel cans, lids, empty aerosols, aluminum cans, foil, pie tins)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS (Not accepted on collection routes): Rechargeable Batteries • Hardcover Books • Styrofoam (with no food waste) • Packing Peanuts (bagged) • Egg Cartons (foam)
Plastic shrink wrap • Plastic Grocery Bags #2 and #4 (empty and dry)

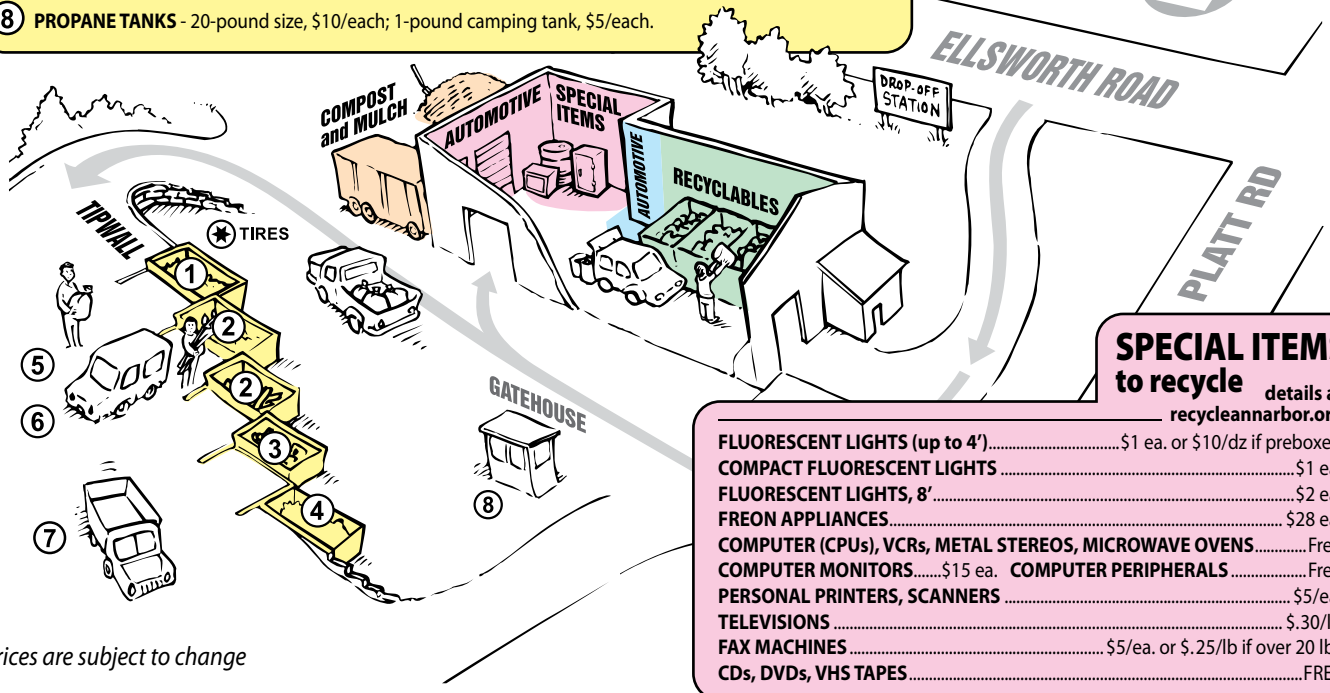
TIPWALL MATERIALS

Fees and volumes (to next quarter yard) are assessed at the Gatehouse. Pick-up available for additional charge. Please call 734.971.7400.

- ① **LIGHT WASTE** and ② **HEAVY WASTE** - All non-hazardous municipal solid waste such as carpeting, furniture, and trash; and building debris, drywall, shingles, plywood, painted or treated wood, concrete with steel, or bricks. \$23/cy or \$3/bag. Mattresses (variable fee).
- ③ **YARD WASTE** - Includes soft yard debris and branches up to 6" in diameter. No stumps or logs. \$14/cy or \$2/bag.
- ④ **FERROUS (STEEL) METALS** - Includes small appliances (e.g., toaster ovens), gutters, bikes, auto parts (empty of oil and fuel). No charge.
- ⑤ **CONCRETE** - No painted concrete or imbedded steel or brick. \$15/cy.
- ⑥ **NON-FERROUS METALS** - such as aluminum, copper, etc. No charge.
- ⑦ **UNFINISHED WOOD** - Includes clean lumber (no painted, treated, stained or glued wood/plywood) and pallets. \$12/cy.
- ⑧ **PROPANE TANKS** - 20-pound size, \$10/each; 1-pound camping tank, \$5/each.

AUTOMOTIVE

- ★ **CAR TIRES** \$5/tire up to 16 inches
- ★ **TRUCK TIRES** \$15/tire up to 25 inches
- CAR BATTERIES** no fee
- TRANSMISSION FLUID** \$1/gallon
- ANTIFREEZE** \$1/gallon
- BRAKE FLUID** \$1/gallon
- MOTOR OIL** no fee
- OIL FILTERS** no fee



SPECIAL ITEMS to recycle

details at
recycleannarbor.org

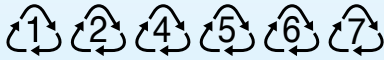
- FLUORESCENT LIGHTS (up to 4') \$1 ea. or \$10/dz if preboxed
- COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTS \$1 ea.
- FLUORESCENT LIGHTS, 8' \$2 ea.
- FREON APPLIANCES \$28 ea.
- COMPUTER (CPUs), VCRs, METAL STEREOS, MICROWAVE OVENS Free
- COMPUTER MONITORS \$15 ea. COMPUTER PERIPHERALS Free
- PERSONAL PRINTERS, SCANNERS \$5/ea.
- TELEVISIONS \$.30/lb
- FAX MACHINES \$5/ea. or \$.25/lb if over 20 lbs
- CDs, DVDs, VHS TAPES FREE

Prices are subject to change

All Together Now: Ann Arbor Recycling

Carts must be out before 7 a.m. for pickup

PLASTIC BOTTLES & TUBS



GLASS & METAL



PAPER & FLATTENED BOXES



BULKY PLASTICS



All items must be empty and clean.
Everything must fit inside the cart with the lid closed. Place cart with the metal lift bar facing the street.

Place shredded paper in see-through, sealed plastic bags.

Earn rewards for recycling with **Recyclebank**

More details at www.a2gov.org/recycle.

NO:

- Plastics
- Plastic Bags
- Styrofoam™
- Batteries
- Plastic Lids, Caps
- Light Bulbs
- Syringes
- Biodegradable Plastics
- Paper Cups, Napkins, etc.
- Automotive Fluids
- Hazardous Wastes
- Hardcover Books
- Ceramics, Pyrex
- Electronics
- Trash



Recycle Ann Arbor - Recycling information, recycling cart management, recycling collection, and the Drop-Off Station are services of Recycle Ann Arbor, 662-6288 www.recycleannarbor.org



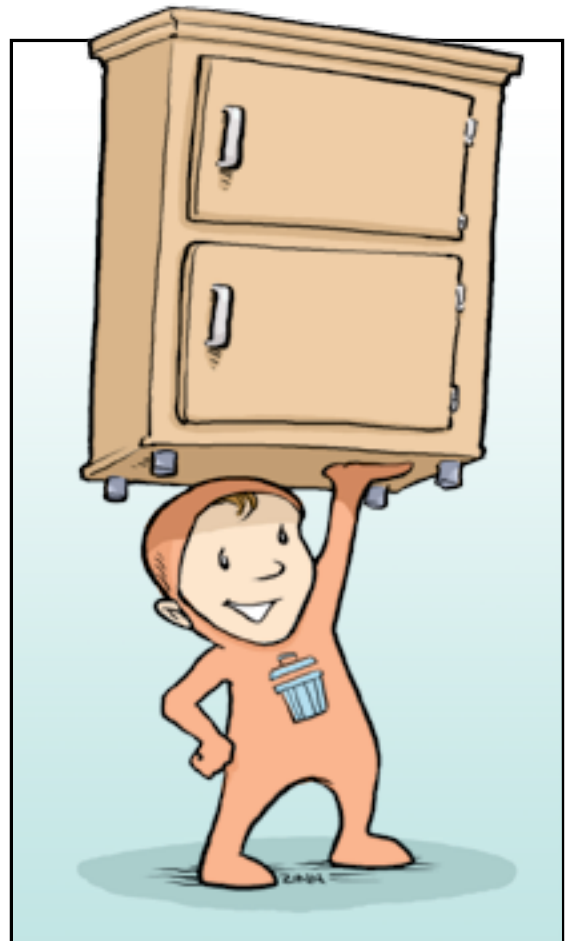
City of Ann Arbor
99-GREEN (994-7336)
www.a2gov.org/recycle

Bulky Item Disposal Options

What can you do with an old refrigerator, unwanted sofa, mattresses, broken television, rolls of carpeting, or the dozen bags of “stuff” you just cleaned out of your closet, basement, attic, or garage?

Bulky items, recycling, and trash bags cannot be placed outside of trash or recycling carts. Trash and recycling found outside of Ann Arbor’s solid waste carts can be cited and subject to fines up to \$1,000. You may be able to save some surplus recycling or dry trash for the next week, when your carts are less full. If excess trash is an ongoing situation, you may subscribe to have additional refuse carts serviced weekly (\$110/year for each additional 96-gallon cart) by calling the City of Ann Arbor’s Customer Service Center at 734.994.2807. Additional recycling carts can be purchased for \$50 each (free for multi-unit housing) from Recycle Ann Arbor at 734.662.6288.

Freon must be removed from appliances before disposal. This is a Federal requirement to reduce a significant greenhouse gas. Cost is generally \$28 per appliance for freon recycling by a certified extractor. Freon extraction is available at the Drop-Off Station and some scrap metal sites. Many appliance stores will offer to take back and recycle old appliances when delivering new ones.



Contact a PRIVATE WASTE HAULER or Reuse Operation. Many haulers are listed in print and Internet “yellow pages” under *Rubbish & Garbage Removal* or a similar heading. The haulers listed below are recognized as Washtenaw County Waste Knot Partners and provide waste pickup and recycling services.

1-800-GOT-JUNK? 1.800.468.5865. Provides waste pickup and disposal services as well as recycling options for most items, including renovation debris. Fees include removing items from inside building. www.1800gotjunk.com

Big Time Services 734.330.9000. Provides waste pickup, disposal, and recycling services.

Calvert’s Rolloff Containers, Inc. Operated by Recycle Ann Arbor. 734.426.2280. Rents containers of all sizes to handle construction or clean-out debris. Processes collected materials for recycling and disposal. Provides some pickups and accepts drop-off of bulky items on a for-fee basis. www.recycleannarbor.com

Honeymoon Hauling 734.761.4030. Provides waste, appliance, compost, and recycling pickup and disposal.

Recycle Ann Arbor’s Drop-Off Station 734.971.7400. Allows drop-off of a wide variety of bulky waste materials, including furniture, appliances, and electronics for recycling and disposal. Pickups also available. \$3.00 entry fee. Additional fees may apply. www.recycleannarbor.org, page 12.

Rocky’s Hauling 734.975.8727. Provides trash, compost, appliance, junk cars and business equipment pickup to recycle and donate as much as possible before disposal.

TDF II Hauling & Plowing 734.994.3484. Provides pickup and disposal/recycling services for many items, including appliances, computers, furniture, and yard waste. Also donates items such as cleaning products, toys, clothing, and books to local charities. tdf2@aat.net

The listing of these haulers is not and does not imply an endorsement of their services or products by the City of Ann Arbor or by any City of Ann Arbor official or employee.

Reuse Options for used (but not used up) items

NONPROFIT RESALE/DONATION CENTERS for items in new or gently used condition

Ann Arbor District Library, Main Branch
www.faadl.org. 343 S. Fifth Ave., 302.7774.
Accepts books, CDs and DVDs for Friends of the Library Book Store, delivered to the loading dock during library hours.

Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop
a2ptothriftshop.org.
2280 S. Industrial, 996.9155. Accepts and sells small household goods, jewelry, antiques, clothing, and toys.

Ann Arbor Thrift Shop
www.annarborthriftshop.org.
3530 Washtenaw, 662.6771.
Accepts and sells clothing, toys, jewelry, antiques, books, and small household items. Donations accepted at the blue side door.

Drop-Off Station
www.recycleannarbor.org.
2950 E. Ellsworth, 971.7400.
\$3.00 entry fee. Recycles appliances, computers, TVs and most electronics. Some fees may apply.

Food Gatherers www.foodgatherers.org.
One Carrot Way, 761.2796. Call or visit web site for food and personal care item donation guidelines.

Friends in Deed
www.friendsindeed.info. 484.7607. Provides free, good-condition furniture and cars to needy of Washtenaw County.

Goodwill of Southeastern Michigan
www.goodwillsemi.org. 557 E Michigan Ave, Saline. 429.2789. Accepts clothing, household items, toys, furniture, and small appliances. Accepts computers for recycling.

Habitat for Humanity ReStore
www.h4h.org/restore. 170 Aprill Drive, 822.1530 and 3909 Jackson Rd. Accepts and sells building materials, tools, appliances, and furniture. Also accepts many electronics for recycling. Will schedule pickups.

House by the Side of the Road
824 Phoenix Dr., 971.2550. Accepts clothing, bedding, toys, and small household articles. Call for donation and pickup information.

Humane Society of Huron Valley
www.hshv.org. 3100 Cherry Hill Rd., 662.5585. Accepts towels, pet articles, dog collars, leashes, and more.

Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor - Downtown
www.aakiwanis.org. 200 S. First at Washington, 665.0450. Accepts and sells clothing, furniture, tools, toys, books, used cars, and small appliances. Schedules free pickups.

Military Order of the Purple Heart
www.donatestuff.com.
Westland, 734.728.4560.
Accepts clothing, household items, and small working appliances and TVs. Schedules free pickups.

Recycle Ann Arbor ReUse Center
www.recycleannarbor.org.
2420 S. Industrial, 222.7880. Accepts and sells salvaged building materials, working appliances, TVs, books, furniture, sporting goods, and household items. Pickup service available (some restrictions apply).

St. Vincent De Paul Society
<http://svdpaa.org>. 1001 Broadway, 761.1400. Accepts and sells clothing and household items.

Salvation Army Store, Area Drop-Off Center
www.sawashtenaw.org. 1621 S. State. 332.3474. Accepts clothing, household goods, books, furniture, and jewelry. Call 800-728-7825 to schedule free pickups.

The Scrap Box www.scrapbox.org.
581 State Circle, 994.4420. Accepts and sells craft items from industrial discards. Public welcome to recycle film canisters, corks, coffee cans, CDs, seashells, and baby food jars.



CONSIGNMENT AND RESALE SHOPS

Consignment shops will pay for your used items. Telephone before dropping off items.

Children' Orchard , 887 W. Eisenhower Pkwy - www.childrensorcharchard.com	995.8889
Encore Online Resale , 1958 S. Industrial - www.encoreonlineresale.com	761.6187
The Klothes Kloset , 2401 S. Industrial Hwy	971.6211
www.klothesklosetconsignment.com	
Once Upon a Child , 4559 Washtenaw Ave	971.6822
www.onceuponachildannarbor.com	
Play it Again Sports , 2461 W. Stadium - www.playitagainsportsannarbor.com	747.6277
Top Drawer Women's Designer Apparel , 1960 S. Industrial Hwy	994.4646
Treasure Mart , 529 Detroit Street - www.treasuremart.com	662.9887
Value World , Maple Village Plaza - www.valueworld.net	728.4610

You can also try selling your useable items to antique, used book, and music shops. Try holding your own yard sale or use Freecycle.org or other free local internet listings.

This list covers Ann Arbor resale locations. Find Washtenaw County-wide options at <http://recycle.eWashtenaw.org> or call 222.6874 for a printed Trash-to-Treasures booklet.

Safe Refuse Disposal

YES! The following materials are acceptable inside refuse carts. Some special preparation may be required:

Normal household trash is allowed - Up to the weight printed on the outside of the trash cart.

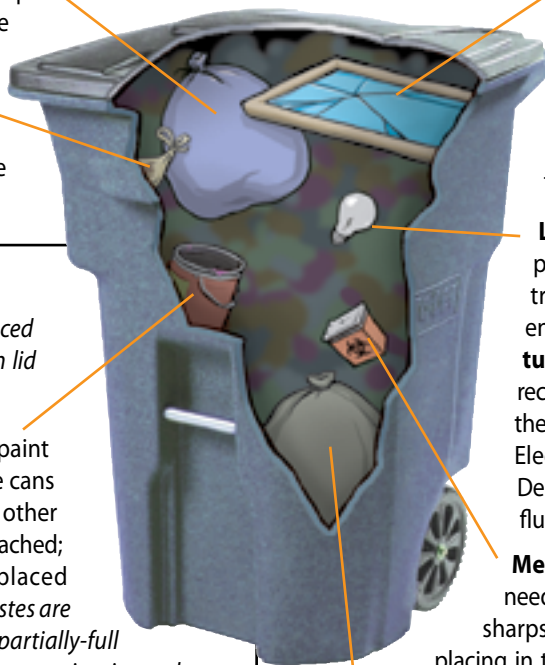
Animal waste & diapers - Must be secured in double plastic bags to reduce odors before placing in the trash cart.

PAINTS:

Paint, empty, dry cans - Should be placed in the recycling cart with the paint can lid removed.

Paint, latex (water-based) - Latex paint is acceptable as refuse if/when: 1) the cans are dried out with cat litter, "oil dry" or other absorbent; 2) the lids are securely reattached; and 3) the sealed paint cans are placed inside the refuse carts. *Why: Liquid wastes are banned from Michigan landfills. Also, partially-full paint containers break open upon compaction in trash trucks and leak into the street.*

Paint, oil based (brushes cannot be cleaned with water) *Prohibited in Refuse. See Household Toxics below.*



Building materials - Small quantities of building materials such as painted wood, pane glass, mirrors, flooring, etc., may be placed inside the refuse carts as long as the refuse does not stick out above the top of the cart and the overall cart weight does not exceed the maximum cart weight limit.

Light bulbs - Michigan regulations currently permit placing residential light bulbs in the trash. However, to reduce the release into the environment of toxic mercury from **fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs**, please recycle at the Drop-Off Station (variable fee, page 12), the Home Toxics Center (free, page 11) or to Gross Electric 2232 S. Industrial (variable fee), or Home Depot, 3300 Carpenter, Ypsilanti (no fee for compact fluorescent bulbs).

Medical waste, needles & sharps - Store used needles at home in a sturdy, marked container. Seal sharps containers and put inside a trash bag before placing in the refuse cart. Dispose of other home medical waste in trash bags placed inside your cart. Note: Some pharmacists offer a free sharps collection program. Never place sharps in recycling bins or place loose sharps in trash! www.dontflushdrugs.com

Sawdust, cold ashes, loose packing materials - Must be secured in plastic bags to prevent blowing during collection.

PROHIBITED ITEMS. DO NOT DISCARD IN REFUSE CARTS (OR DUMPSTERS)

Illegally discarded materials may be cited and subject to fines up to \$1,000.

Ashes, hot - Fireplace and grill ashes must be cold and bagged before placing in the cart. *Why: Hot ashes can start fires in the cart at the curb, in the collection truck, at the transfer station, or even in the landfill.*

Computer monitors & TVs - Consult the free take-back program on page 11 or take to the Drop-Off Station. *Why: Monitors contain toxic materials, including 3-8 pounds of loose lead, a known neurotoxin, that can be released into landfills to pose potential groundwater contamination.*

Household Toxics - including oil paints, pesticides, solvents, weed killers, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, mercury thermometers, photography and pool chemicals, and other products labeled Danger, Warning, Poison, Flammable or Corrosive. Never discard these items in the trash. Use them up as described

on the label and discard empty container as refuse or deliver partially-unused containers to the Washtenaw County Home Toxics Center, 222-3950, see page 11.

Recyclables - Place recyclable paper and container items in the recycling bins, as described on page 13.

Yard wastes are prohibited by state law from burial in Michigan landfills. Prepare your yard waste for the Compostable collection, see page 7.

Michigan landfill-prohibited residential materials include liquids, deposit beverage containers, used motor oil, whole vehicle tires, lead acid batteries, yard clippings, sewage, PCBs, asbestos, radioactive and/or hazardous waste. <http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-ess-p2tas-BannedLandfillMaterials.pdf>.

Free Recycling Pickups Available to All Ann Arbor Businesses

Ann Arbor's commercial sector generates approximately 60 percent of the city's overall waste. Most commercial waste is 50-75 percent recyclable cardboard and office paper. Currently over half of Ann Arbor businesses have recycling programs in place. All business locations are eligible for recycling collection containers and pickup services at no additional cost. In 2009, City Council approved a commercial recycling plan submitted by a committee of local business representatives. As part of the plan, Ann Arbor's city code was updated to require all business locations to receive the city's free recycling collection services. At the same time the city initiated a recycling-friendly waste collection contract with Waste Management to provide group rates for waste hauling and remove impediments for downsizing the dumpster size or collection frequency. In other words, local businesses now have even greater incentives to recycle and save money from avoidable trash costs. Look for bright blue recycling dumpsters and carts throughout town as part of this expansion.



As part of setting up a business recycling program, the city provides free educational materials, staff training, and storage containers for each site, including 6-yard recycling dumpsters or 96-gallon curb carts. Weekly or more frequent pickups are provided by municipal collectors or the city's nonprofit recycling partner Recycle Ann Arbor.

All Together Now: Ann Arbor Recycling

PLASTIC BOTTLES & TUBS
 (Images of various plastic bottles and tubs)

GLASS & METAL
 (Images of glass bottles, jars, and metal pots/pans)

PAPER & FLATTENED BOXES
 (Images of flattened cardboard boxes and paper products)

BULKY PLASTICS
 (Images of a plastic chair and a plastic basket)

Place shredded paper in see-through, sealed plastic bags.

NO TRASH DUMPING
 Unauthorized use can result in fines up to \$500.

NO:

- Plastics
- Plastic Bags
- Styrofoam™
- Batteries
- Plastic Lids
- Ceramics, Pyrex
- Biodegradable Plastics
- Automotive Fluids
- Hazardous Wastes
- Hardcover Books
- Light Bulbs
- Syringes
- Paper Cups, Napkins, etc.
- Electronics
- Trash

More details at www.a2gov.org/recycle 734.99.GREEN

Translations at www.a2gov.org/recycle

To start recycling where you work, simply contact either service partner for more information and a quick site visit:



Recycle Ann Arbor
www.recycleannarbor.org
 734.662.6288
info@recycleannarbor.org



City of Ann Arbor
www.a2gov.org/recycle
 734.994.2807
recycle@a2gov.org

TURN YOUR RECYCLABLES INTO REWARDS!

With Recyclebank, you can earn points every time you recycle. Use those points to shop at **Recyclebank.com** for rewards like discounts and deals from national and local businesses in categories like:



FOOD & BEVERAGES



RESTAURANTS



HOME, OFFICE, & ELECTRONICS



APPAREL & ACCESSORIES



GIFT CARDS



ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION

JOIN TODAY!

Register at **Recyclebank.com**. Watch for an email and follow the prompts to verify your home address to start earning points for recycling at home.

No access to a computer? You can still join Recyclebank. Just call 1.888.727.2978.

Recyclebank

HOW RECYCLEBANK WORKS:



Recycle all that you can.



Earn Recyclebank Points every time you recycle – they'll be deposited to your account.



Go to **Recyclebank.com** to shop for the rewards of your choice.

Recyclebank

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Bulletin Board Announcements

Dumping in parks causes problems

When yard waste is dumped in a nature area, the natural system can be thrown out of balance. While materials from yards are natural and organic, they were not produced by the same system as a natural park area. Dumped vegetation may contain pests, chemicals, garden seeds, and non-native/invasive plants. These debris piles take years to decompose and will kill plants trapped underneath. During controlled ecological burns, piles of waste create smoke billows and may cause large, hazardous flames. Finally, dumping on park property is illegal and subject to fines of up to \$500.

Please use the city's weekly compostable pick-up, available April 1 through mid-December, or deliver materials to the Drop-Off Station. You may also compost some materials at-home. Details are posted online at www.a2gov.org/compost or by calling 99-GREEN.

ADOPT-A-PARK



Saturday, May 19: The **Adopt-A-Park Spring Kickoff** will take place at adopted parks all over town. Volunteers participate in a variety of activities, ranging from tree plantings to garden maintenance. City staff help develop goals and activities and provide publicity, plant materials, and tools, as needed. For a list of locations and times, or if you are interested in adopting a park near you, please call 734.794.6627 or visit www.a2gov.org/adopt-a-park.

Saturday, May 19: Join hundreds of volunteers planting flower beds in downtown Ann Arbor for the **A2 Downtown Blooms Day**, 9-11:30 a.m. Volunteers check in at 9 a.m. at the Maynard and Liberty street "tent" to receive supplies and be oriented by Master Gardeners. Then--dig in! Celebrate with a free pizza lunch and complementary event t-shirt. Pre-register at 734.794.6000 ext 43112.



Friday, June 8: The City of Ann Arbor Mayor's Office will host the **12th annual Green Fair on Main Street** from 6-9 p.m.

Downtown Main Street will be closed to automotive traffic but will remain open for walkers to enjoy environmental displays and entertainment, provided in cooperation with the Clean Energy Coalition, getDowntown's Green Commute, local environmental nonprofits, and Washtenaw County's WasteKnot Business Partners. Over 100 exhibitors provide information and hands-on activities for all ages. More information at 734.794.6161, www.a2gov.org/greenfair.



Pedestrian-activated crosswalk beacons arriving in A2

New pedestrian-activated crossing beacons are being installed at four locations on Plymouth Road and at the crosswalk on W. Washington and S. Seventh. Here's how these devices function: The pedestrian pushes a button to activate a flashing light bar, or beacon, attached to the sign. This signal alerts drivers to stop and wait

behind the crosswalk until the pedestrian has safely crossed the street. Pedestrians must confirm that oncoming vehicles have stopped before stepping into the road. As a reminder to all, motorists may not pass vehicles that are stopped at a crosswalk.

April showers bring... basement backups?

Intense precipitation creates the potential to overwhelm the city's drainage systems. In rare instances, basement wetness from seepage or sanitary sewer backups can result. The City of Ann Arbor initiated a Footing Drain Disconnect (FDD) program over a decade ago to address one of the major causes of basement



flooding in Ann Arbor. You can be part of the solution! Eligible expenses associated with disconnecting your home's footing drains from the sanitary sewer system will be reimbursed according to city regulations. Check www.a2fdd.com or call one of the city's FDD program staff at 734.794.6410 for more information.



A WASTEWATCHER COMIC:

A Tale of Two Raindrops

OR...

"WHAT RAINS IN ANN ARBOR
CAN STAY IN ANN ARBOR"

HIGH ABOVE THE ANN ARBOR MUNICIPAL CENTER, A SCATTERING OF RAIN DROPS JUMPS FROM A PASSING STORM CLOUD, RACING EACH OTHER TO THE GROUND BELOW:

HEY, OLD-TIMER!
I'M NEW AROUND HERE;
HAVE YOU RAINED ON
THIS PIECE OF GROUND
BEFORE?

I SURE HAVE...
SIGH

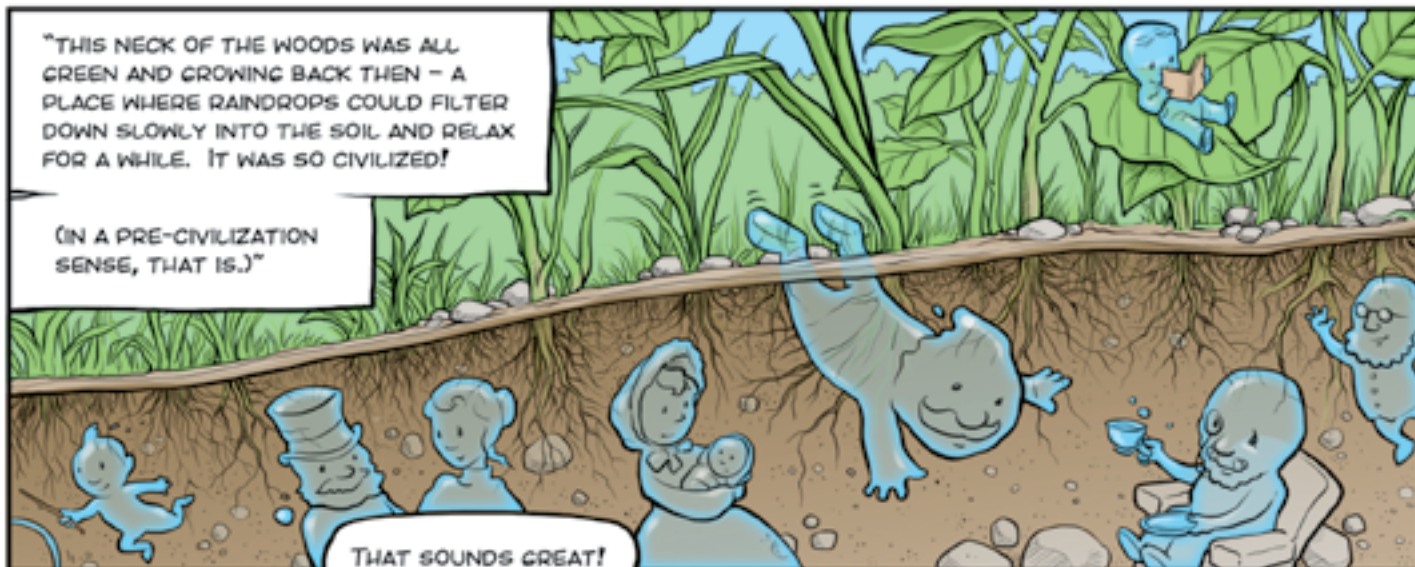
GOSH! WHY
DO YOU LOOK
SO WORRIED?

WELL, I'VE FALLEN ON
THIS SPOT MANY TIMES
OVER THE YEARS...

THE FIRST TIME WAS WAY
BACK IN 1819, AND IT WAS
A GREAT RIDE THEN!

"THIS NECK OF THE WOODS WAS ALL GREEN AND GROWING BACK THEN - A PLACE WHERE RAINDROPS COULD FILTER DOWN SLOWLY INTO THE SOIL AND RELAX FOR A WHILE. IT WAS SO CIVILIZED!"

(IN A PRE-CIVILIZATION SENSE, THAT IS.)"

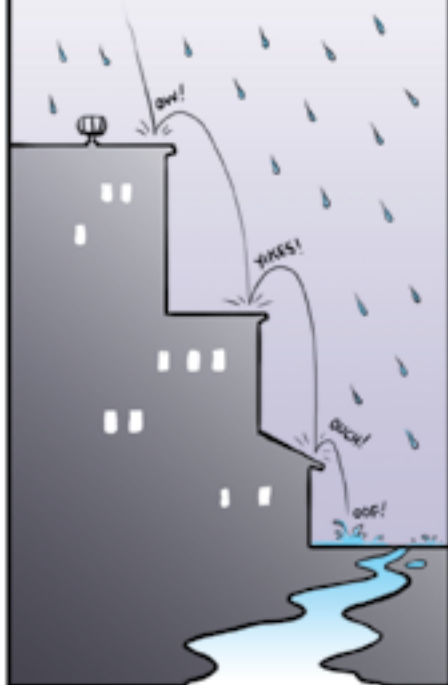


THAT SOUNDS GREAT!

IT WAS! BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO, AND A LOT OF THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE THEN.

THE LAST TIME I RAINED DOWN IN ANN ARBOR WAS AS PART OF THE FLOOD OF 1968 ... AND WHAT A RUCKUS THAT WAS!

"FIRST, YOU COULDN'T EVEN REACH THE GROUND WITHOUT GETTING BOUNCED AROUND ON A HOT DIRTY ROOF, SIDEWALK, OR PARKING LOT FIRST..."



"WHEN WE GOT TO THE STREET, WE WERE CROWDED THROUGH GUTTERS AND DRAINS ... AND EVEN FLOODED INTO PEOPLE'S BASEMENTS, WHERE WE WERE NOT EXACTLY WELCOME VISITORS."

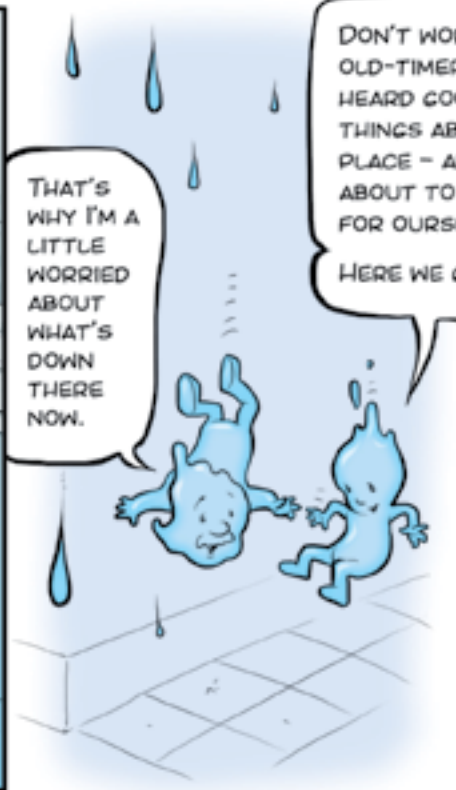


"WHEN WE FINALLY REACHED A RIVER, WE WERE SO RUSHED AND CROWDED THAT WE JUST KEPT GOING, TAKING MOST OF THE RIVERBED (PLUS OIL SLICKS AND FERTILIZER) WITH US! IT WAS ANFUL!"



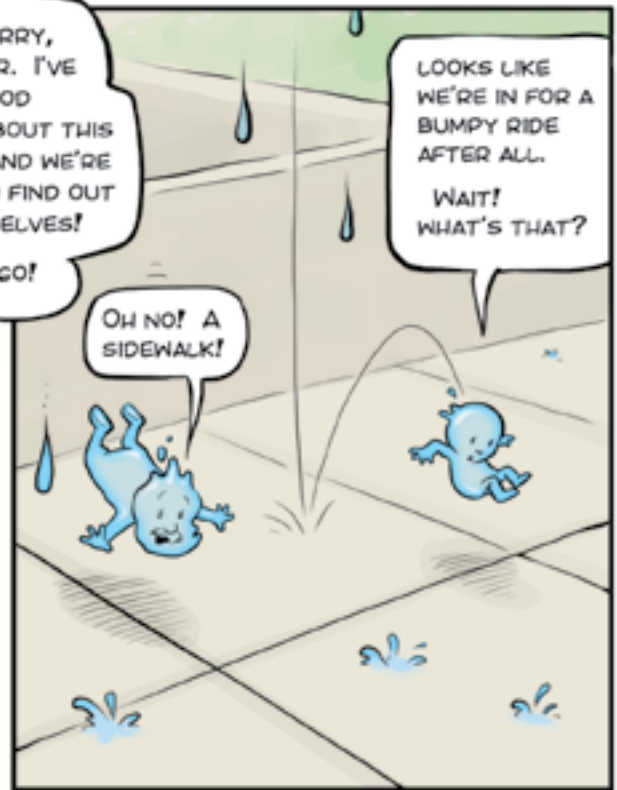


"THAT RUSH OF WATER TOOK ME SO FAR SO QUICKLY, IT TOOK ME YEARS JUST TO GET BACK!"



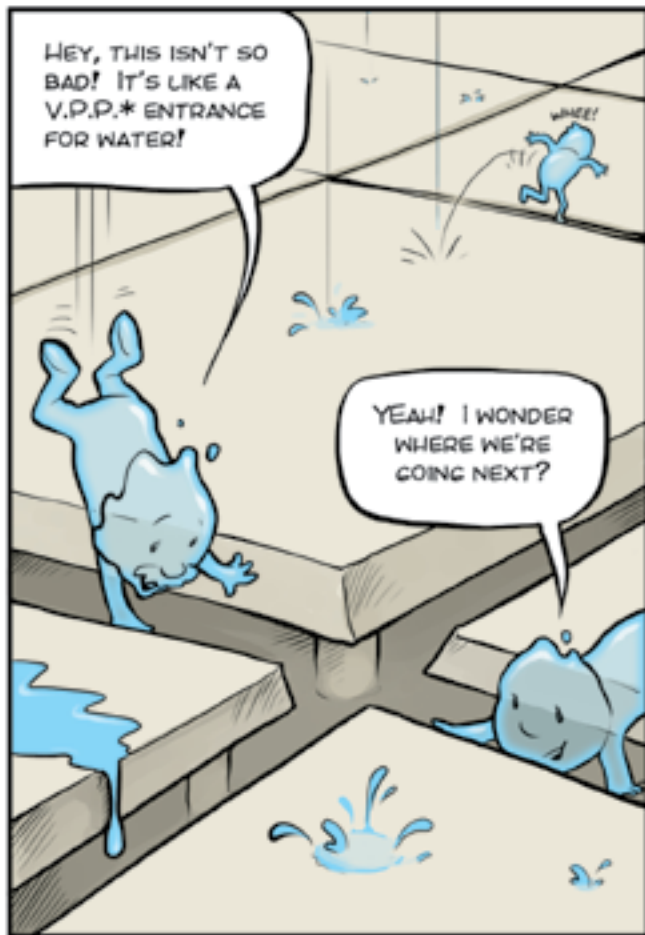
THAT'S WHY I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT'S DOWN THERE NOW.

DON'T WORRY, OLD-TIMER. I'VE HEARD GOOD THINGS ABOUT THIS PLACE - AND WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT FOR OURSELVES! HERE WE GO!



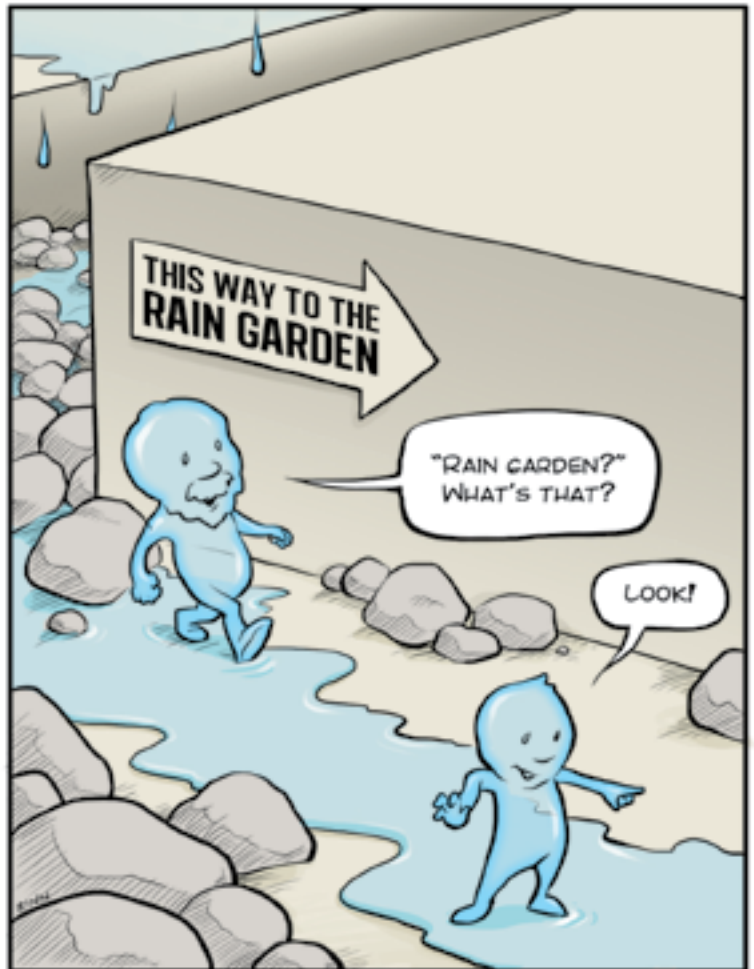
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE IN FOR A BUMPY RIDE AFTER ALL. WAIT! WHAT'S THAT?

OH NO! A SIDEWALK!



HEY, THIS ISN'T SO BAD! IT'S LIKE A V.P.P.* ENTRANCE FOR WATER!

YEAH! I WONDER WHERE WE'RE GOING NEXT?

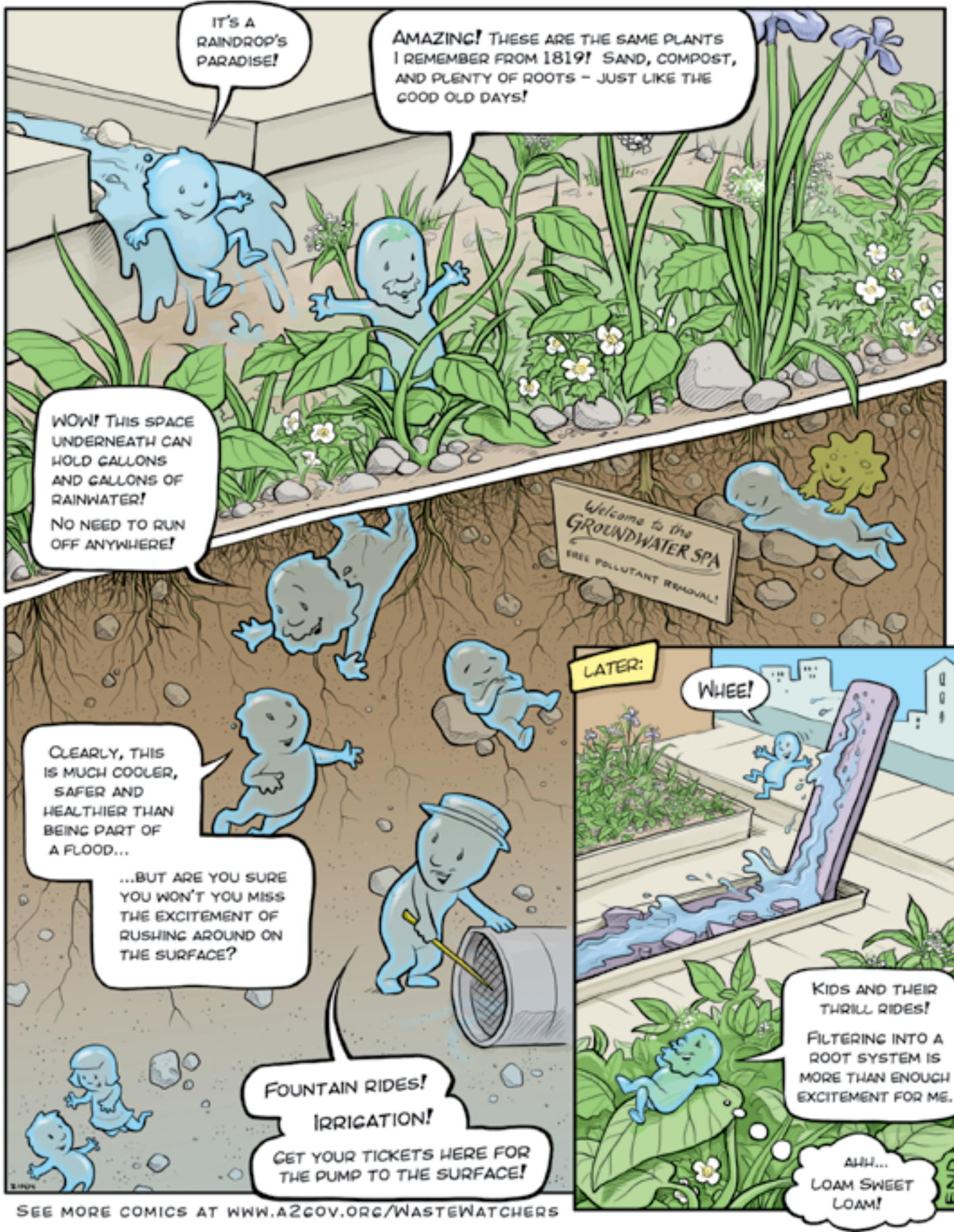


THIS WAY TO THE RAIN GARDEN

"RAIN GARDEN?" WHAT'S THAT?

LOOK!

*VERY PERVIOUS PAVEMENT



IT'S A RAINDROP'S PARADISE!

AMAZING! THESE ARE THE SAME PLANTS I REMEMBER FROM 1819! SAND, COMPOST, AND PLENTY OF ROOTS - JUST LIKE THE GOOD OLD DAYS!

WOW! THIS SPACE UNDERNEATH CAN HOLD GALLONS AND GALLONS OF RAINWATER! NO NEED TO RUN OFF ANYWHERE!

Welcome to the GROUNDWATER SPA FREE POLLUTANT REMOVAL!

CLEARLY, THIS IS MUCH COOLER, SAFER AND HEALTHIER THAN BEING PART OF A FLOOD...

...BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU WON'T MISS THE EXCITEMENT OF RUSHING AROUND ON THE SURFACE?

FOUNTAIN RIDES! IRRIGATION! GET YOUR TICKETS HERE FOR THE PUMP TO THE SURFACE!

LATER:

WHEE!

KIDS AND THEIR THRILL RIDES! FILTERING INTO A ROOT SYSTEM IS MORE THAN ENOUGH EXCITEMENT FOR ME.

AHH... LOAM SWEET LOAM!

SEE MORE COMICS AT WWW.A2GOV.ORG/WASTEWATCHERS

City of Ann Arbor
Public Services
P.O. Box 8647
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107
(734) 994-2807
www.a2gov.org/recycle

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Think Spring Announcements

Also see page 8 for details.

Special programs for Ann Arbor residents, pg 8

Free self-loaded compost and mulch for Ann Arbor residents is available on Saturdays, April 7 through June 30, 2012 from 8 a.m. to noon, while supplies last. Residents proceed to the on-site scale house and provide proof of Ann Arbor residency: a recent water bill and driver's license. The scale house operator will direct the resident to the location of the free materials. Residents must bring their own shovel and containers. Limit 6 bushels (or 1 cubic yard) of either material per household/year.

Half-off compost coupon for Ann Arbor residents via Recyclebank.com for two cubic yards of mechanically-loaded compost for the price of one, purchased from the Compost Center during hours of operation, while supplies last. This Recyclebank Rewards benefit is available to Ann Arbor residents in single-family and duplex homes, www.Recyclebank.com.

City resident free Drop-Off Station (DOS) delivery of compostables. Ann Arbor residents may deliver up to one cubic yard (or 6 yard waste bags) of acceptable yard waste materials per visit at no charge. Ann Arbor residents must show proof of residency (a current water bill) to have the \$3 DOS entry fee and compostables drop-off charges waived.



Sturdy clean plastic flower pots and trays are recyclable! Please do not recycle flimsy plastic "flower cell-packs." Put these in the trash. Also see page 13.

Compost and mulch are available for-sale at the Compost Center and Drop-Off Station.

The Compost Center, 4150 Platt Road is open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. -Noon during April-May-June.

NEW! Blended topsoil is expected to become available from WeCare Organics at the Compost Center.

YOU ALREADY RECYCLE.
GET REWARDED FOR IT.

GET REWARDED FOR RECYCLING.
Visit Recyclebank.com to sign up today.

Recyclebank®

