



Mount Rainier Reuse and Recycling Guide

Did you know the average Maryland resident generates 6 pounds of waste each day? This adds up and in the City of Mount Rainier this totaled close to \$75,000 in landfill tipping fees in 2013. Reducing waste, recycling and composting can help save the planet, help people in need and save money. The purpose of this guide is to help residents navigate the many alternatives and beneficial uses of your waste.

City Recycling Programs

Curbside Recycling Pickup

The City picks up recycling every Friday. If there is a holiday, it will be picked up the following Monday. Accepted materials include aluminum and steel/tin food and beverage cans, glass bottles and jars, mixed paper and cardboard, plastics #1-#7. All materials should be placed in the City's yellow recycling bins before 7AM on the day of pickup. If you need a bin contact Public Works at 301-985-6583.

Curbside Yard Waste Pickup

Biodegradable yard waste is collected every Monday March through November. Yard waste must be in biodegradable paper bags or in reusable containers—no plastic bags. Residents are allowed 3 cubic yards per pick up, anyone going over the limit will be asked to pay for the overage. Bamboo and wood are not yard waste, these are collected as bulk trash. Yard waste such as brush and branches must be tied in bundles not more than 4' in length and/or 50 pounds.

Backyard Composting Program

The City launched a program to help residents compost by offering compost bins for residents at a subsidized cost of \$20. The bins generally retail for more than \$80. The city has a three-year goal to get 225 new Mount Rainier single family homes turning food scraps and paper products into useful compost for their gardens. Help keep food waste out of the landfill and contact Public Works to purchase a bin at 301-985-6583.

Electronic Waste Days

The City generally has a few electronic waste recycling days a year where residents can bring their items to Public Works. Acceptable items include computers, tablets, keyboards, mice, printers, scanners, fax machines,

TVs, VCRs, DVD/CD/MP3 players, stereos, radios, turntables, telephones, cell phones, cables/cords, and ink jet and toner cartridges. Contact Public Works for dates.

Other Recycling Options

Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners

Pepco has an appliance recycling program and will recycle old, working refrigerators or freezers and give you \$50. Through this program you can also recycle working window air conditioners and get an extra \$25 at the same time. You can schedule a pickup by calling 877-395-5540 or visit the [Pepco Appliance Recycling Program website](#).

Building Materials & Furniture

Community Forklift

Community Forklift in Edmonston accepts donations of mostly new and salvaged building & landscaping materials, appliances, and tools, as well as antique and vintage housewares. They also accept furniture and commercial materials on a case-by-case basis. More information is available by contacting the donations coordinator at (301) 832-0781 or by visiting <http://communityforklift.org/donate/donate-materials/>

Habitat For Humanity

The Habitat for Humanity Restore accepts donations of household goods, building supplies and furniture donations. All household goods and furniture donations are sold to the public at deep discounts and all proceeds are used to fund the building of affordable housing in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. You can drop off items or they will pickup. More info at <http://habitatmm.org/furniture-donations>

Concrete

Do you have concrete, bricks or chunks of clay and rubble in your yard you don't know what to do with? Welcome to Mount Rainier! Luckily there is a local business that will recycle this material for a small price at 3334 Kenilworth Ave in Hyattsville. Contact DC Materials at (301) 403-0200 or <http://www.dcmaterials.com/>

Scrap Metal

Scrap metal is a hot commodity in Mount Rainier. One option is to place it on the curb and likely it will disappear within hours. However, if you'd like to get some cash for your metal, you can bring it to Metro Re-Uz-It Co., Inc. at 3401 Kenilworth Ave in Hyattsville. More information is available at <http://www.metroreuzit.com/>

Clothing, Housewares, Etc.

Goodwill

Find a local Goodwill to donate items to: <http://www.goodwill.org/donate-and-shop/donate-stuff/>

Charity Pickups

Find a charity that will pick up your donations for free: <http://www.donationtown.org/donation-pick-up.html>

Freecycle

Freecycle is a moderated listserve for people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Each local group is moderated by local volunteers: <https://www.freecycle.org/>

Mount Rainier Listserve

If you have something to get rid of, consider posting it to the Mount Rainier listserv. If you aren't on the list you can join by contacting: mountrainiermd-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Something else not listed? Check out this great website to search for recycling/reuse locations: <http://search.earth911.com/>

Hazardous Items

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs)

Do NOT throw CFLs away in your household garbage. CFLs contain a very small amount of mercury within the tubing – an average of 5 milligrams – and are safe to use in your home. However, the bulbs should be handled with care. Broken CFLs are considered hazardous waste. Unbroken CFLs can be brought to any Home Depot store or you can search here for other locations near you: <http://www.lamprecycle.org/>

Hazardous Waste

The City is not permitted to collect hazardous material. All material must be brought to the Brown Station Road Sanitary Landfill in Upper Marlboro. For information **call 311**. It is free of charge to County citizens and residents who need to dispose of harmful household waste. The County does offer collection for Senior citizens and the disabled. To qualify, no one living in the home can be under 65 years of age or be physically able to transport the material to the County's facility. Residents who qualify for this service should call 311 to schedule an appointment for the at home collection of household hazardous waste.

Recycling Quick Guide

Ever wonder if you are recycling the right stuff? Here is a quick guide of what the County accepts.

Glass

- * Food and beverage containers

Metals

- * Empty aerosol cans
- * Aluminum, bimetal, ferrous, and steel food and beverage containers
- * Aluminum foil
- * Coat hangers

Mixed Paper/Corrugated Cardboard

- * All paper
- * Aseptic/gable-top milk and juice cartons
- * Catalogs & Magazines
- * Flattened corrugated cardboard (boxes)
- * Frozen food packaging
- * Hard- and soft- covered books
- * Newspapers with inserts
- * Paper board (cereal and cracker boxes)
- * Telephone books

Plastics

- * Drinking cups/glasses
- * Flower pots
- * Narrow-neck containers numbers #1 through #7
- * Wide-mouth containers such as peanut butter, yogurt, cottage cheese, sour cream, mayonnaise tubs
- * Prescription bottles
- * Coat hangers

Remember to rinse all food and beverage containers and to recap or place the lids in the recycling cart/bin.

What is Hazardous Waste?

Items include:

- Car & household batteries
- Automotive fluids
- Cooking oil
- Cleaning agents
- CFLs
- Oil-based paints
- Poisons
- Insecticides, herbicides and fertilizers
- Solvents, varnishes and stains

More information is available by calling 311 or visiting <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/>