



# WASTE & RECYCLING COLLECTION GUIDELINES



Additional information is available at <http://bit.ly/VH-waste-collection>

## Collection Schedule

- Waste is collected **2x per week**. Unsure of the pick-up days at your address? Enter your home address at <https://amwaste.net/vestaviahills>.
- Materials should be **out by 6:30am** on your service days. (Routes begin at 7am.)
- First collection day each week:** household garbage and small bulk/brush. Everything collected that day will be taken to the landfill.
- Second collection day each week:** "mixed stream" – everything collected that day is transported to RePower South and sorted to separate recyclables from waste.
- Collection missed or other issue? **Report issues in the Action Center.** Amwaste has direct access to our Action Center and will react to your request promptly. You may also email [jswann@vhal.org](mailto:jswann@vhal.org) or call 205.978.0150.

## Holidays

- Annual observed holidays:** New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving & Christmas.
- Service is delayed by one day** following the holiday. If the holiday falls on a weekend, service will not be interrupted.

## Recycling

- The **second collection each week is transported to RePower South (RPS)** and sorted to separate recyclables from waste. Residents wanting to recycle are encouraged to retain recyclables until their second collection day each week.
- Nearly everything is recycled**, other than food, organic waste (dirt, rocks, grass, etc.) and glass. Of the remaining materials, RPS transforms approximately 70% of this waste into two products:
  - **Sold commodities.** Recyclable commodities are baled and sold into established commodity markets.
  - **ReEF fuel.** Some materials, such as non-recyclable papers and some plastics, are not able to be sold as a commodity. RPS recycles these materials into "ReEF" fuel, which is used as a replacement for coal in industrial and energy utility boilers.
- How does RPS "work"?** No need to sort/clean recyclables – recycling and household waste should be bagged together. At RPS, the materials are put through a system of sorters that separate waste materials from recyclables. View the RePower South **recycling process video** at <https://youtu.be/qOxJaOQOkPM>.

## Carts & Placement

- Use existing cart(s) for service.** If your cart is broken, submit a "Deliver New Cart" request in the Action Center.
- Place recycling and waste in SAME CART** – recycling is NO LONGER collected separately. If you no longer need your former recycling cart, submit a "Cart Removal" request in the Action Center.
- Place cart on the curb by 6:30am** with the arrows on the lid pointing to the street (3' or less from the curb).
- Do not place carts on:** sidewalk; storm drain cover; gutter; steep slope; elevated platform; under low-hanging utility line/obstruction; or within 6' of a fixed object (mailbox, hedges, parked vehicle, etc.)
- Garbage and recycling **should be bagged** to minimize litter during collection.
- Carts/single bags may not exceed 50 lbs.**

## Backdoor Collection

- Available at no cost for residents with a medically certified need; fee-based for those who prefer the convenience. For more info, email [jswann@vhal.org](mailto:jswann@vhal.org), call 205.978.0150 or submit a request in the Action Center.

## Debris & Bulk Collection

- There is **NOT** a designated **bulk trash pickup day**. Submit a request for pickup of large piles of yard debris/bulk trash in the Action Center or call 205.978.0150.
- Small amounts of **loose debris should be bagged and placed in cart for the first collection of each week**. If it can not be bagged, place small piles next to cart for first collection each week. Submit a pickup request for 15+ bags.
- Only homeowner-generated materials will be collected.** Contracted work (landscaping, construction, etc.) must be removed by the contractor. Use a roll-off dumpster for construction/reno projects generating significant debris.
- Place materials no more than 3' from the curb** and away from obstructions.
- Branches may **not be longer than 6' long**.
- Cross ties (railroad ties) will not be collected.** They contain creosote and are not accepted by landfills.
- Refrigerated appliances require a Freon removal tag** issued by a certified technician.
- Visit <http://bit.ly/VH-waste-collection> for a **list of materials that will/will not be collected**. If you have questions or are unsure, email [jswann@vhal.org](mailto:jswann@vhal.org) or call 205.978.0150 for clarification.