

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](http://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, call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 861-5000 and ask for Solid Waste or visit the county website at [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net).

## Holiday Collection Schedule

No collections will be done on New Year's Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas 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

at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on collection day

- 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

at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on collection day

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
- Computers Monitors
- Fax machines
- Keyboards



*\*May be placed in trash if less than 40 lbs.*

# TIPS

- Appliances such as blenders, coffee makers, paper shredders, radios, stereos, VCR and DVD players can be placed in the garbage for disposal.
- Electronics (other than TVs & Monitors) 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

at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on collection day

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

at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on collection day

Oversized items **are not** included in the residential collection program. You may call 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 lumber, fencing, or yard waste exceeding 40 pounds, 16 inches in diameter, four feet in length, or debris that is not canned, bagged, or bundled and tied

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.



- 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.



## TIPS

## Motor oil and filters at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on collection day

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 at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on collection day



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

at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on collection day

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 boxes (must be broken down and no more than 2'x3')
- Junk mail (including window envelopes)
- Magazines, phone books
- Newspapers and advertisements
- Empty pizza boxes
- Writing and office paper
- Shredded paper placed in paper/opaque plastic bags
- Paperboard (cereal boxes, soda cartons, tissue boxes)



## 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
- Plastics with symbols #1-5, 7



- Steel cans (lids if separated)



## These items are **NOT** recyclable.

- Ceramic tiles
- Dishes and glassware
- Egg cartons
- Ceramic/clay flowerpots
- Gift-wrap and tissue paper
- Clothes hangers (plastic and wire)
- Shrink wrap/plastic film
- Mirrors
- Pool and other chemical containers
- Packing materials
- Plastic bags
- Plastic deli trays
- Plastic toys
- Pots and pans
- Styrofoam®
- Styrofoam® peanuts
- Window glass
- Hard-cover books

**Sarasota County offers a free one-time courtesy curbside cardboard pickup for new residents. Call Waste Management at 493-4100 to schedule.**

## TIPS

- Glass bottles and jars can be any color. **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 Chemical Collection Center Office**

8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota  
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Closed Saturday and Sunday

### **Jackson Road Chemical Collection Center**

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

### **Citizen's Convenience Center**

4010 Knights Trail Road, Nokomis  
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Closed Sunday



**Questions? Call Sarasota County Contact Center at 861-5000**

# 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
- Fire extinguishers
- 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)
- Computers
- Fax machines
- Keyboards
- 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 Lowe's, Home Depot, Batteries Plus and Radio Shack.
- Home Depot and Lowe's 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  
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.



## North County

8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota  
Open Monday 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 a.m.-8 p.m.

4531 State Road 776

Venice, FL 34293

### Sarasota Police Department

366-8000

Lobby hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

2099 Adams Lane

Sarasota, FL 34236

### North Port Police Department

429-7300

Lobby hours: 24-hours a day

4980 City Hall Blvd.

North Port, Fl. 34291

### Venice Police Department

941-486-2444

Lobby hours: 24 hours per day

1350 Ridgewood Ave.

Venice, FL 34292

## 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.

## 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.

For more information on collection centers, neighborhood collections or the community collection program, call the Sarasota County Contact 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-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Closed New Year's Day, July 4th,  
Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and  
Christmas Day

### Landfill Fees

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

## TIPS

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

### Citizen Convenience Center

Located just inside the gates of the Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex, the Citizens Convenience Center provides a one-stop drop location for residents to dispose of household hazardous waste, recycling materials and garbage. Disposal rates may apply to some items.



4010 Knights Trail, Nokomis

Open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 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, call the Sarasota County Contact 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.

## 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

## 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.



## 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, call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 861-5000.

# Keep Sarasota County Beautiful



Keep Sarasota County Beautiful (KSCB) is a county-wide beautification program that initiates community cleanup projects to help keep our community free of litter.

Locally, our mission is “to enhance and promote public interest and participation in the general improvement of the environment throughout Sarasota County” which is done through education, cleanup programs, recycling and other methods of reducing solid waste. Cleanup projects can take place in any location throughout Sarasota county that volunteer groups wish to target.

KSCB is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful Inc., a national, non-profit, public education organization dedicated to improving waste handling practices in American communities.

## Special Events

- The Great American Cleanup (spring)
- Liberty Litter Cleanup (July 5)
- The International Coastal Cleanup (fall)
- Annual Volunteer Awards Recognition Program

## How can you make a difference?

Volunteer for one of the county-wide KSCB cleanup events.

For more information, please visit [www.scgov.net/kscb](http://www.scgov.net/kscb) or call 861-5000 and ask for the KSCB office.



## 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  
8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### Location

8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota

Limit 10 items per person per visit

## 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.



# Sarasota County

Solid Waste

8750 Bee Ridge Road

Sarasota FL 34241