



Public Works Newsletter

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Did You Know?

The Department of Public Works now has a free drop-off center for many items.



All drop-off items may be brought to the DPW Facility, 75 New Crossing Road Monday thru Friday from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm and Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Styrofoam - The Town has partnered with ReFoamIt of Leominster to offer this drop-off location. Please remove all tape and labels. **Important:** Food containers must be clean.

Electronics - Electronics should no longer be placed curbside with your trash. We are partnering with All-American-Recyclers to offer this program. We will accept anything with a plug! **Please note:** TVs, CRTs and major appliances will not be accepted. As always, please call JRM to dispose of these items properly.

NEW WATER/SEWER RATES EFFECTIVE FOR USAGE AFTER AUGUST 6, 2015

WATER \$ 8.83
SEWER \$ 9.76

The new rates are in effect with the December 2015 water billing cycle. The early payment discount is eliminated effective with these new rates. Everyone now receives the discount since rates were lowered as announced in March 2015. See our website for more details.

Christmas Tree Recycling

This January, the Town is providing two options for recycling of Christmas trees. On Saturday, January 16, 2016 residents may take their trees to the Compost Area on



Strout Avenue from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (leaves and branches will also be accepted at this time). In addition the contractor will collect Christmas trees curbside on your regular rubbish collection day the week of January 11 – 15, 2016. All decorations, including tinsel, must be removed from the trees. Trees in plastic bags or not completely cleaned of this material will not be picked up or accepted at the Compost Area. *Please note, to use the Compost Center, you will need a 2016 Community Access Sticker.* For further information regarding the Community Access Sticker contact the Police Department.

Snow & Ice Removal



With winter weather

approaching, the Department of Public Works would like to remind residents that their cooperation is needed to keep our streets clear and safe. The Town of Reading's General Bylaws prohibit depositing snow or ice on a portion of any street or sidewalk that has been plowed or cleared for travel. Violation of this General Bylaw is punishable by a fine of up to \$300. The owner of the property is responsible for the violation, even if it was done by a contractor hired by the owner or tenant of the property. We appreciate your cooperation in our efforts to clear all the streets and sidewalks in the school and business districts.



Holiday Recycling Guide

The Holiday season is upon us, and with the Town’s trash limits we would like to offer some helpful hints of what to recycle this holiday season.

Recycling

Cardboard: Please recycle all of your cardboard boxes. Flatten and either fold or cut to a size not larger than 4 feet by 4 feet. You may bundle cardboard, put it in a paper bag, place it under your recycling bin, or place it standing in or between recycling bins.



Gift Boxes and Wrapping Paper: Please recycle all wrapping paper, tissue paper, and gift boxes. No need to flatten or fold, but must be contained. Treat like any other paper, put in paper bags or place in your paper bin. Tape is OK, but no ribbons please.



Holiday Cards and Calendars: Holiday cards (including envelopes and gift tags) and calendars can be recycled with your paper.



Other Non-trash items: During the holidays, we receive extra magazines & catalogs, and do a lot of extra cooking. This is a great opportunity to make sure we recycle everything possible. Please recycle all paper. In a separate container, remember to recycle all glass, plastic and metal bottles and cans. This will also help you stay within the trash limits.



Styrofoam & Electronics: The Town offers a permanent drop off container for Styrofoam and electronics. This is free to all residents and is located at our DPW Facility located at 75 Newcrossing Rd. Drop off is available Monday – Friday from 7:30-2:30, and Saturday 9-12. For more information, please go to www.readingma.gov.



The Three R’s of the Holidays

REDUCE

- ❖ Wrap with holiday fabric, gift bags, fancy boxes, maps, comics or just a bow.
- ❖ Give gift cards or event tickets
- ❖ LED lights use less electricity. Put a timer on all lights
- ❖ Shop locally. Plan your trips to avoid wasting gas.
- ❖ Email cards or pare down your mailing list.

REUSE

- ❖ Save gift bags, wrapping paper, boxes, and bows for next year.
- ❖ Use cloth bags when shopping for groceries and gifts.
- ❖ Buy rechargeable batteries.
- ❖ Donate old usable items when you receive new ones.
- ❖ Buy an artificial tree.
- ❖ Use cloth napkins, not paper.

RECYCLE

- ❖ Recycle wrapping paper.
- ❖ Recycle holiday cards and tags.
- ❖ Recycle empty food containers and other party waste.
- ❖ Buy items made with recycled content.
- ❖ Recycle your Christmas tree.
- ❖ Recycle ads and catalogs.
- ❖ Recycle cardboard boxes.

