

**NEW RUBBISH
AND RECYCLING CARTS
FOR RESIDENTS**



Background

- Rubbish/Recycling Collection Contract (REPUBLIC SERVICES)
 - Current contract expires June 30, 2026
- Once our current contract expires, manual rubbish/recycling collection will not be an option (automated collection only)
- Carts will be delivered (April, 2025) to every household currently receiving rubbish/recycling collection by the Town
- Included amenities to continue under current contract
 - bulk items, leaves, scrap metal, paper shredding
- Carts will help mitigate rodents, rainfall issues, litter on windy days, and give better aesthetics for the Town.

New Rubbish and Recycling Carts

- In April 2025, (1) 64 gallon trash cart and (1) 96 gallon recycling cart will be delivered to every household currently receiving rubbish/recycling services from the Town
- 48 gallon trash/recycling carts and 64 gallon recycling carts will be available on a limited basis
 - Priority will be for seniors (60+) or anyone who is disabled
 - Wait list established due to limited quantities
 - See Town staff after this presentation, or contact Public Works to be added to the wait list (for a smaller cart)
- 2nd 64 gallon trash carts will available for an annual lease of \$200

How Do The Carts Compare In Size?



48 GALLON



64 GALLON



96 GALLON

Anticipated Questions

- ***Why is the Town switching to carts now?***
 - Having carts in place now would ensure a smooth transition when the Town moves to automated collection in the next rubbish/recycling contract starting on 7/1/2026.
- ***Why am I not able to use the cart that I already have?***
 - The Town needs to ensure that all carts will be to the same quality and specifications and Public Works does not have the resources to be able to verify every existing cart
 - Carts from Home Depot, while they may appear to be the same, are not the same quality
 - If the carts get damaged, the Town will repair or replace them at no cost to the resident
 - Every cart will have a serial number on the front of it assigning it to the household
- ***Why is the Town issuing a 96 gallon cart for recycling?***
 - Preserves the opportunity for the Town to shift to bi-weekly (every 2 weeks) recycling collection in the future
 - Gives the Town more pricing options with vendors for the next collection contract

Anticipated Questions (cont.)

- ***How will Republic Services empty the new carts given that the current contract remains with manual collection through 6/30/26?***
 - Republic Services will utilize “tippers” which are attached to the rear of the rubbish/recycling trucks and will allow the carts to be “tipped” into the back of the trucks.
 - In the next contract (automated collection), trucks will be staffed with only a driver. A mechanical arm and claw on the side of the truck will grab the cart and empty it into the top of the truck.
- ***How will the carts be delivered to households?***
 - The Town’s vendor would perform the initial delivery of the rubbish and recycling carts to each household, and then the Department of Public Works would perform maintenance and all future deliverables as needed (10 – 12 year warranty on carts).
 - Residents can expect to receive more information forthcoming as the cart rollout nears closer regarding scheduling and when you can expect the delivery of your carts to occur.

Anticipated Questions (cont.)

- ***Am I able to get carts that are smaller than 64 or 96 gallons?***
 - Both smaller rubbish and recycling carts will be available, but priority will be given to seniors (60+) or anyone with a disability. Please see me after this presentation to get put on the wait list, or contact DPW.
- ***What can residents do with their old carts/containers?***
 - The old red recycle bins make great storage containers; one option is to continue using your red bin to hold recycling indoors, and then transfer the contents of the red bin as needed into the recycling cart
 - Your old containers can be re-purposed for holding leaves for curbside collection events, storage, or other purposes (make into a home composting bin!)
 - The Town will most likely arrange a special curbside collection through Republic Services for residents to get rid of their old carts/containers
 - The Town will hold its own collection events for residents to get rid of old containers

Anticipated Questions (cont.)

- ***Will the carts contain RFID chips?***
 - No! The carts will not contain RFID chips.
 - The Town will not be measuring how much trash an individual household throws out, nor has it ever.
- ***What is the Town doing to ensure we get the best pricing for the next rubbish/recycling collection contract (effective 7/1/2026)?***
 - Town staff is already working to assemble a new contract that will then be solicited to area collection companies to ensure the Town receives the best pricing possible.
 - Town staff meets monthly with a MassDEP working group (including officials from MassDEP, Boston, Natick, Andover, Groveland, and Wakefield to name a few) where all share what their contracts look like, what works, what doesn't, and what to look out for so everyone can formulate the best collection contract possible for their community.

Anticipated Questions (cont.)

- ***Will residents be able to put their address on the side of the cart?***
 - No. Since the cart will be property of the Town and could potentially be used for another address one day (if it were ever switched out for a different size cart, etc.), the Town would want to preserve the appearance of the cart for potential future users.
- ***Once the new carts are in place, how would I dispose of an item such as a broom that was too tall to fit inside the cart?***
 - In this case, the lid to the cart should remain propped open to allow the broom handle to stick out of the cart.
- ***I will be storing my carts outside. Will the new carts have locking lids to keep animals out?***
 - No. The new carts will not have locking lids. If you will be storing the carts outside and wish to keep the lids from being opened, you should use something like a bungee cord.

Anticipated Questions (cont.)

- ***Who do I contact if one of my carts break?***
 - If something on one of your carts breaks you should contact the Public Works Dept. Public Works will come to your property and either make the repairs onsite, or provide you with a replacement cart, if necessary, that same day.
- ***Am I able to change the size of my cart after the initial delivery?***
 - If you find that you require a smaller cart after the initial delivery, DPW can provide you with a smaller cart assuming that we have one in stock at the time (more carts will be ordered as necessary as funding allows). Larger carts can also be provided as well (providing stock allows). Maximum allowable size for trash is 64 gallons.

ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS??

***PLEASE COME UP TO VIEW THE CARTS
AFTER YOU FINISH YOUR LUNCH.***

(and kindly do not throw your trash in the carts 😊)