

# CITY-WIDE GARBAGE & RECYCLING CONTRACT

## MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



***Assuming the City of New Berlin makes the decision to contract for city-wide collection:***

**Will the fee be included on my property tax bill?**

Yes, as a separate line item fee.

**I don't currently contract for garbage collection. Can I continue to opt out?**

No. In order to receive the low rates from the private contractors, the City has to agree to an exclusive contract that includes the participation of all residents living in single-family dwellings or multi-family dwellings with less than four units.

**I currently contract for garbage pick-up. Will this save me money?**

Absolutely! – The average cost to privately subscribe for recycling and refuse collection is \$360/year/household. A city-wide contract would save you over 50% annually. The estimated cost is \$150/year/household.

**I don't generate very much garbage, so I currently utilize the "bag & tag" option. Can I continue to do so?**

No - The "bag & tag" option is being discontinued by the hauler whether the City contracts for city-wide pick-up *or not*. You will, however, be reimbursed for any "bag & tag" vouchers which you have already purchased, and are unused as of April 1, 2015.

**I understand that residents would be issued the *industry standard* 96 gallon-sized carts – one for recycling and one for garbage. Can I opt for a different size?**

No. The City believes that even low volume waste generators will occasionally need the extra capacity afforded with the larger carts.

**I currently have drive-up service. Can I keep it?**

Yes – but you will need to make that arrangement yourself with the hauler. There will be an extra charge for that service which will be payable directly to the hauler. The City's contract will limit the cost of that premium service, and the associated annual increases, to a reasonable amount.

**Will this now include pick-up of yard waste and/or leaves?**

No

**Will the hauler take large bulky items (i.e. furniture) that don't fit in the cart?**

Yes – However, if the item is heavy (over 50 lbs) or large enough (longer than 60 inches) to require 2 people to pick it up, there will be an additional charge. Residents should call the hauler in advance for more details.



**Will the City Recycling Center remain open?**

Absolutely! – The City will continue to accept yard debris, oil, electronics, as well as glass and other recyclable items.