



LET'S

TALK

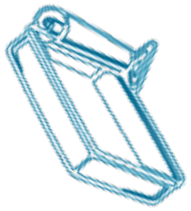
TRASH



Trash Disposal and Waste Alternatives Guide

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Let's Talk Trash!

In Alachua County our mission is to Embrace Zero Waste, which means to eliminate the inefficient use of our resources. By reducing, reusing and recycling we can do just that! In addition, all counties are mandated by Florida Statutes to reach a 75% recycling goal by the year 2020. We need your help to meet this goal. By following the suggestions in this guide, we can make it happen. It's amazing how much there is to know about trash. Between curbside cart pick-up, lawn waste, recycling programs and recycling alternatives, we could fill up a whole booklet...and we have...this is it!

Inside you'll find:

- How to properly set out your trash, recycling and yard waste for collection day
- Instructions for recycling household waste
- Ways to save money by throwing away less
- Information on composting
- Creative ways to donate old materials for reuse in the community

Thanks for taking time to read this booklet. Embrace Zero Waste!

*- Your Friends at the Alachua County
Office of Waste Collection*



Curbside Trash Pick-up

Once a week trash left curbside is picked-up on your neighborhood's designated day. Be Cart Smart!

Trash Carts

Rolling carts, provided by the County, are available in four sizes:

- Mini Can – holds 1 kitchen-sized bag of garbage
- 35 Gallon – holds 2 kitchen-sized bags of garbage
- 64 Gallon – holds 5 kitchen-sized bags of garbage
- 96 Gallon – holds 7 kitchen-sized bags of garbage

Think before you toss, can an item be reused, recycled or donated?

Households are billed for trash pick-up based on the size of their cart. You can save money by requesting a smaller cart from the Office of Waste Collection at 352-338-3233.

Please follow these guidelines...

- Bag and tie trash bags to prevent debris from flying out
- Seal animal waste and cat litter in plastic bags
- Do not throw away dead animals, yard waste, hot ashes, solvents, paints, hazardous materials or other flammable liquids (see Hazardous Waste Disposal on page 9)
- Keep the cart lid closed to deter flies and animals
- Periodically wash your cart with soap and water
- Keep items that decompose quickly in a cool, dry place until pick-up day
- Do not overflow your cart
- Place excess trash next to your cart in officially-marked yellow bags that are available for purchase at Publix Super Markets
- For cart repairs or replacement, call 352-338-3233



Trash Collection Day



Please follow these instructions...

- Carts must be at the curb by 7am, but can go out as early as 5pm the night before
- Garbage, recycling and yard waste are all collected on the same day
- Roll your cart to the curb or the edge of the street, front facing the street
- Do not place your cart in the street or in the path of the mail truck
- Place your cart at least four feet away from recycling bins, yard waste, furniture and other obstacles
- Call ahead for appliance pick-up and information on disposing of construction and demolition debris
- Remove your cart from the curb by 9pm on your collection day

You may be eligible for back door service at no additional charge if you have a disability or other physical limitation. Please call 352-338-3233 for more information.

Curbside Special Pick-up

Alachua County offers free curbside pickup of bulk items to residents that participate in the Curbside Collection Program. Bulk items include furniture such as couches, tables, chairs and desks which may be placed curbside four feet from your garbage cart on your collection day.

Residents who would like appliances such as stoves, washers and dryers picked up must call the Office of Waste Collection at 352-338-3233 to schedule a pick up.

Holidays

Only six holidays will affect collection service!

New Year's Day • Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
Memorial Day • July 4th • Thanksgiving Day • Christmas Day

Collection for these holidays and the remainder of the week will be delayed one day if the holiday occurs on a weekday. Collection will return to the normal schedule the following week.

Collection will not be delayed if the holiday falls on the weekend.

Curbside Recycling Pick-up

Alachua County makes recycling easy with color-coded bins you can fill as outlined below and place curbside four feet from your trash cart on your designated trash collection day.

Blue Bins (may be green or black in some areas)

- Plastic and Glass Bottles and Jars
- Yogurt Cups
- Aerosol Cans
- Metal Cans
- Margarine Tubs
- No Plastic Bags or Styrofoam**

Orange Bins

- Junk Mail and Catalogs
- Office Paper
- Brown Paper Bags
- No Pizza Boxes**
- Newspapers and Magazines
- Telephone Books
- All Cardboard including pasteboard (up to 3' x 3' flattened)

If you have a green/black bin put paper recyclables in a paper bag and place it next to your green/black bin.

If you live in an apartment, condo or mobile home park, check with the property's management for recycling options.

Curbside Yard Waste Pick-up

Yard waste must be left curbside in reusable containers or in paper lawn and leaf bags and placed curbside four feet from your trash cart on your designated trash collection day.

Yard waste includes...

- Leaves
- Grass Clippings
- Small Tree Limbs

No Boards or Lumber



Reusable containers include plastic or metal outside collection bins available from most home goods or home improvement stores. Paper lawn and leaf bags are available at your local Publix Super Markets, Lowe's and Home Depot. Cans or bundles should not exceed 40 pounds each and limbs can be no larger than 5 feet in length or 6 inches in diameter. Yard waste should never be left on the street or in storm drains.

Oversized yard trash can be collected for a fee by Emerald Waste Services. Call 352-377-0800 for more information.

Alternative – Make Yours a Zero Waste Yard

Grasscycling is a way to reuse this valuable resource in your own yard. Instead of putting your yard waste to the curb, use a mulching mower blade and leave clippings on the lawn. Your lawn will recycle them, producing an environmentally-healthy lawn. Use leaves and small shrub trimmings as mulch or add to your backyard compost pile.

Call Waste Alternatives at 352-374-5213 for information on free backyard composting bins.

Moving or Taking an Extended Vacation?

When you move, please leave your cart and recycling bins at your old address. If taking an extended vacation – 90 days or more – you may be eligible for a vacation credit by petitioning the County for a refund at the end of the fiscal year. Call the Office of Waste Collection at 352-338-3233 for more information.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

Improper disposal of household hazardous waste and unwanted electronics (known as e-scrap) can cause problems for the entire community. These materials can contaminate our water supply and the air we breathe if not disposed of safely.

Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HWCC)

This is a FREE service to Alachua County households. Some of the items that may be brought to the Hazardous Waste Collection Center are:

- Automotive and Rechargeable Batteries
- Automotive Fluids and Oil Filters
- Combustibles
- E-Scrap
- Fluorescent Lamps and CFL's
- Paint Products
- Pharmaceuticals and Sharps
- Poisons and Pesticides



For a complete list, please call the HWCC at 352-334-0440 or visit www.alachuacountyhazwaste.us - address and hours of operation on page 15.



E-Scrap



Some electronic items contain a variety of heavy metals and other substances known to pose hazards to human and environmental health. Non-working items such as TV's, computers, printers, cell phones, etc. should be dropped off at a Hazardous Waste disposal site. If items are still in good working condition, please consider donating to your local thrift store or posting them on www.AlachuaExchange.com.

Rural Collection Centers (RCCs)

The RCCs are rural, regional facilities for the collection of recycling, solid waste, yard waste, used clothing, bulk items and household hazardous waste. These facilities are for residential use. There is a limit of one visit per day. The load limit is one level truck bed per day of any combination of bagged household garbage, yard waste or any other acceptable item. See page 15 for the five centers' addresses and phone numbers. Contact your local RCC for a complete list of what is accepted.

Leveda Brown Environmental Park and Transfer Station

If you are over your load limit at the RCCs, or if you have a prohibited item (such as a tire), visit the Transfer Station. Here you can dispose of white goods, tires and garbage for a small fee.

While you're there why not pick up some mulch for your garden? Mulch is offered for free, just bring a truck or container to haul the load!

To arrange for a tour of the environmental park and to schedule other educational programs, please call the Office of Waste Alternatives at 352-374-5213.



Waste Disposal Alternatives

Donate It

Do you have gently used items that could still have some use? Don't throw it away. There are several ways to donate these materials in our area.

Tools for Schools

This reusable resource center for Alachua County public school teachers takes donations of new and gently used items. Teachers then visit our Center where they shop for "free" for items such as traditional paper, pencils and crayons to familiar and unusual materials in various colors, textures, densities, sizes and shapes for creative learning exercises.

Visit www.toolsforschools.alachua.fl.us for more information.

AlachuaExchange.com

This FREE online trading service provides individuals and businesses with an interactive way to make their reusable waste available to others. Anyone with Internet access may donate, find and request items at no cost. Everything on the site is free. Furniture, toys, car parts, plastics, appliances and more are there for the taking.

Thrift Stores and Charities

Local charities are always looking for ways to raise money to provide services for those in our community. Consider donating reusable materials to your favorite thrift store or charity. Look them up online or in the yellowpages.

Compost It



Backyard composting means putting food scraps, grass clippings, dead leaves and other organic materials into a pile or container and allowing decomposition to occur. As the material decomposes it turns into a nutrient-rich soil perfect for fertilizing plants and gardens.

You can also Embrace Zero Waste by composting cereal boxes, yard waste, paper towels, old bread or any food scraps that do not contain dairy or meat. Free wire bins and compost education programs are available from the Office of Waste Alternatives by calling 352-374-5213.



Contact Information

Comments or Suggestions

Your feedback helps us serve you better. Please feel free to contact our customer information lines.

Alachua County Office of Waste Collection **352-338-3233**
Open Mon-Thurs 7am-5:30pm

Emerald Waste Services **352-377-0800**

City of Gainesville Solid Waste Division **352-334-2330**

If you live in a community other than Gainesville, call City Hall for your hauler's information.

Office of Waste Alternatives **352-374-5213**
Education Programs for youth and adults

Enviro-Hero Partners

Communities of Alachua, Archer, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, LaCrosse, Micanopy, Newberry and Waldo.

Questions

For questions about any of our waste collection, recycling or waste alternative programs, **352-338-3233**
www.TheWasteWatcher.com



Drop-Off Locations and Hours

Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HWCC) **352-334-0440**
5125 NE 63rd Ave, Gainesville

Mon-Fri 7am-5pm • Sat 8am-Noon
Closed Sundays and Holidays
www.alachuacountyhazwaste.us

Leveda Brown Environmental Park and Transfer Station (LBEP) **352-334-0172**
5115 NE 63rd Ave, Gainesville

Mon-Fri 7am-5pm • Sat 7am-Noon
Closed Sundays and Holidays

Rural Collection Centers (RCCs)

Archer **352-495-3257**
19401 SW Archer Rd.

Alachua/High Springs **386-454-2563**
16929 NW US HWY 441

Fairbanks **352-334-3873**
9920 NE Waldo Rd.

North Central **352-334-3875**
10714 NE State Rd. 121

Phifer **352-334-3874**
11700 SE Hawthorne Rd.

Mon, Tue, Fri, Sat 7:30am-5:30pm
Closed Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays and Holidays

THANK YOU Alachua County, and please continue to

Embrace Zero Waste



Alachua County
Office of Waste Collection
PO Box 1188
Gainesville, FL 32602-1188