WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

JULY 2026 – JUNE 2027

CHECK IT OUT!
Medford Smart Waste events calendar at medfordenergy.org!

GO GREEN | Medford

COMPOSTING

RECYCLING

YARD & LEAVES

TRASH

Medford Collection Schedule

Holidays w/ delay | Blue Recycling Week | Green Recycling Week | Paint Shed

Yard & Leaves (2026): Collected **opposite week from your recycling** collection from July 1 – December 18

Holiday Tree Collection: Opposite week from recycling

JULY 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2026

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2026

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

FEBRUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH 2027

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Yard & Leaves (2027): Collected **opposite week from your recycling** collection from March 29 – June 30

APRIL 2027

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Delays are planned for the following holidays only:

July 4th • Labor Day • Thanksgiving • Christmas Day • New Year's Day • Memorial Day

When a holiday subject to delay falls on a normal collection day, collections will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

Service Delays

In the event collection services are delayed, the City will notify residents through its alert messaging system. Sign up to receive alerts at **medfordma.org/alerts**.

Care and placement of the carts

- Always keep the lid closed to keep rain, snow, and animals out.
- Clean carts periodically.
- Since automated waste collection requires clearance for the vehicle's lifting mechanism, cars parked at the curb should be at least 5 feet from the cart.
- To allow for safe collection, 3 feet of clearance on both sides of each cart and 12 feet of clearance above each cart is required.
- Carts should be no more than 3 feet away from the road edge, with the arrow facing the road and the handles facing the house.

Have a Question or Problem?

Call the DPW office at **(781) 393-2417.**

Trash, Recycling, Bulky Items, & White Goods Collection

Contact **WM** *(formerly Waste Management):*

- Visit **wm.com**
- Call **(800) 972-4545**

Curbside Composting Collection

Contact **Garbage to Garden:**

- Email **info@garbagetogarden.org**
- Call **(617) 977-4547**
- Set up or log into your account at **medfordcomposts.com**

Yard & Leaves and Holiday Trees Collection

Visit SeeClickFix at **medfordma.org/for-residents/see**

Contact **Casella***:*

- Email **medfordyardwaste@casella.com**

What if I need an additional cart?

If you consistently generate more trash or recyclables than will fit in your carts, you can lease additional carts. For an additional trash or recycling cart, please **CALL WM at (800) 972-4545** to order and pay:

- **Additional 64-gallon trash cart costs $288.16 per year**
- **Additional 96-gallon recycling cart costs $128.55 per year**

For an additional compost cart, contact **Garbage to Garden** to order and pay:

- **Additional 12-gallon curbside composting bin cart costs $22.50 for the bin, and $108 per year for service**

Visit **recyclesmartma.gov** to get answers to all of your recycling questions.

Visit **medfordma.org/waste** for additional tips on reducing your trash.

Dear Medford Resident,

We are excited to bring you our new annual Waste and Recycling Services Guide. This guide informs all Medford residents about the waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting options available to everyone and also includes detailed information about City-funded collection services for eligible residents.

For questions, please call the office of the Department of Public Works (DPW) at **(781) 393-2417** or refer to the City's website at **medfordma.org/waste**. Look for the **Waste and Recycling Information** button on the City's homepage.

Am I eligible for City-funded collection services?

To be eligible for collection services at no cost to you, you must be a resident living at an address with 4 units or fewer within the City of Medford, MA. Collection services for multi-family buildings 5 units or more can be arranged by your building manager through a contract with any City-permitted private collection company: **medfordma.org/permits**.

What are City-funded collection services?

From July 2026 through June 2027, eligible service recipients will receive weekly trash collection, every-other-week recycling collection, and 20 weeks of yard and leaf pick up. Medford households may receive City-funded weekly compost collection as part of the City's opt-in compost collection program. Visit **medfordcomposts.com** to sign up today!

What is my schedule for City-funded collection services?

Trash is collected weekly. Compost is collected weekly for residents who have opted-in at **medfordcomposts.com**. Recycling is collected every-other-week. Recycling carts with blue lids will be picked up on the **"Blue Lid"** schedule and recycling carts with green lids will be picked up on the **"Green Lid"** schedule. A calendar including these collection services as well as seasonal collection (yard & leaf pick up, holiday tree collection) is on the back of this guide.

What do I need to know?

RECYCLING

Place all your recyclable items into the 96-gallon recycling cart with the blue or green lid. **DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES** – place loose recyclables directly in cart.

- **DO NOT PUT TRASH IN YOUR RECYCLING CART.**
- Residents must pay **$80.34** for replacement of recycling carts that are **lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair**.
- Recyclables can also be brought to the City Yard; see **Drop-off Recycling** section.

What can I recycle?

Refer to the **RecycleSmartMA** chart at right, or visit **recyclesmartma.org**.

Recycle Smart

TRASH

All regular household trash should be bagged and placed in the 64-gallon green WM cart for collection. **State law prohibits discarding as trash any materials subject to MassDEP Waste Disposal Bans (including recyclables, mattresses, textiles, yard debris).** Learn more here: mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans.

- **Household trash outside of the cart will NOT be collected, unless in approved green "overflow" bags.** Overflow bags are available at the Stop & Shop in the Wellington area, Wegmans, Uniao's Meat Market, as well as the City Treasurer's office at City Hall. Bags are sold in rolls of **5 for $9.99** and each holds up to 33-gallons. Bags are only needed for trash that will not fit into your trash cart. **DO NOT PUT ANY OF THESE ITEMS IN YOUR TRASH CART OR OVERFLOW BAG:** Recyclables • Yard trimmings • Dirt, sod, concrete, or rock • Construction/demolition debris • Household hazardous waste • Hot ashes or flammable materials such as oil, gas, or paint • Clothing & textiles
- Residents must pay **$64.27** for replacement of trash carts that are **lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair**.
- Trash of any kind should not be put out on the sidewalk until the late afternoon or early evening of the day prior to your scheduled pickup. **Violations will incur a $300 fine per day.**

YARD & LEAVES AND HOLIDAY TREES

Yard trimmings will be collected on weeks **opposite from your recycling** – see the calendar for details (July 1 – December 18, 2026, and March 29 – June 30, 2027). **DO NOT** rake leaves into the gutter or street.

- Yard trimmings, including leaves, must be set out in paper bags, open barrels, or in bundles tied with a natural fiber string. **DO NOT USE PLASTIC BAGS.**
- Keep yard trimmings bags, barrels, and bundles **at least 3 feet** from your trash and compost carts.
- Barrels should not exceed 32-gallons and should not weigh more than 50 pounds.
- Shrub prunings & twigs must be less than 1 inch in diameter and 3 feet in length.

Metal

FOOD AND BEVERAGE CANS
Empty and rinse

Plastic

BOTTLES, JARS, JUGS, AND TUBS
Empty and replace cap

Glass

BOTTLES AND JARS
Empty and rinse

Paper & Cardboard

MIXED PAPER, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPER, AND BOXES
Empty and flatten

NO!

No Plastic Bags
Do Not Bag Recyclables

No Clothing or Linens
Use donation programs

No Hazardous Items
No propane tanks, sharps, batteries or chemicals

No Tanglers
No hoses, wires, chains, electronics

No Food or Liquid
Empty all containers

CURBSIDE COMPOSTING

Eligible residents can receive curbside composting service at no additional cost. **Opt in at medfordcomposts.com**. Participating households will receive a 12-gallon curbside bin and How-To manual. Residents are responsible for lining their bin using certified compostable liners or brown paper bags to help ensure they can be emptied completely.

All questions regarding this service (e.g., signing up, service requests, bin replacements) should be directed to **Garbage to Garden** by calling **(617) 977-4547** or emailing **info@garbagetogarden.org**. There is an extensive FAQ at **medfordcomposts.com**.

What can I compost?

- **All food scraps!** Including cooked, spoiled, raw, & frozen food • Vegetables & fruit • Meat (cooked or raw), bones, seafood shells • Dairy, yogurt, cheese, butter • Eggs & eggshells • Coffee grounds, filters, and tea bags (non-synthetic) • Natural wine corks & toothpicks • Napkins & paper towels • Food-soiled uncoated paper & newspaper (best recycled if clean) • Cooking oil, fat, & grease • Brown paper bags • Certified* compostables (e.g., liners, serviceware, packaging, take out containers) ***Look for certification by BPI Certified, CMA, OK Compost.***
- **DO NOT PUT ANY OF THESE ITEMS IN YOUR CURBSIDE COMPOSTING BIN:** Plastic or plastic bags • Styrofoam • Coated paper • Chemicals or pesticides Metals • Glass • Pet waste & diapers • Plastic wrap • Fruit stickers • Staples • Tin foil Condiment packets • Twist ties & rubber bands • Yard waste, brush, or sticks
- Residents must pay **$22.50** for replacement of compost carts that are **lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair**.

BULKY ITEMS

Please consider donating or reusing bulky items before using this service. See webpage for suggestions: **medfordma.org/for-residents/recycling**

- Bulky items are any household items that cannot be recycled and will not fit into your trash cart, such as chairs, tables, or shelves. The cost for bulky item collection is **$15** per item.
- Eligible residents must contact WM to schedule & pay for bulky item collection.
- Please visit **wm.com** or call **(800) 972-4545** to schedule a pickup.
- Bulky items will be collected on your recycling day.
- Bulk items should not be put out on the sidewalk until the late afternoon or early evening of the day prior to your scheduled pick up. **Violations will incur a $300 fine per day.**

What bulky items are acceptable?

- Examples include mirrors, area rugs, furniture, carpeting (not exceeding 4' in length and 2' in diameter rolled and tied), and large toys.

What bulky items are NOT acceptable?

- Demolition or construction materials including wall-to-wall carpet/rugs, sinks, toilets, and cabinets. Mattresses & box-springs: see disposal options at right.
- Items banned from disposal by the Massachusetts Waste Ban Policy: **mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans**

Waste Reduction Options Available to All Medford Residents

Medford residents only; proof of residency is required

WHITE GOODS, APPLIANCES, TVS, & MONITOR RECYCLING

Recycle white goods, appliances, metal items, lawn mowers, snow blowers, and exercise equipment for **$27.85 per item.** Recycle televisions and monitors for **$42.85 per item.**

- Eligible residents must contact **WM** to schedule & pay for bulky item collection.
- Please visit **wm.com** or call **(800) 972-4545** to schedule a pick up.
- These items will ONLY be picked up on Tuesdays.

PAINT SHED

Located at the **City Yard, 21 James Street (off Mystic Avenue)**

Dates: September 19th and October 17th, 2026, May 8th, 2027: 9 a.m. to noon

- Latex and oil-based paint ONLY; All cans MUST be clearly labeled; 5-gallon limit per household.
- If there is less than ¼" of paint remaining, remove lid, air-dry, and dispose of can in your trash cart or use kitty litter/speedy dry to cover up ¼" of paint.

DROP-OFF RECYCLING

- Acceptable recyclable materials (paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, and scrap metal – *please flatten all cardboard boxes!*) can be brought to: **City Yard, 21 James St.** (off Mystic Avenue), Mon through Sat 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Mercury-bearing items (thermometers, etc.), rechargeable batteries, CFL bulbs, and fluorescent bulbs (tubes, limited to 4 and up to 4 ft. long only) can be recycled at **DPW Office, Room 304, Medford City Hall** during business hours.

CLOTHING & TEXTILES

As of November 1, 2022, it is against Massachusetts State Law to dispose of these items in the trash. The City of Medford has partnered with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, to offer a free and easy home pickup clothing recycling service.

- Sign up at **helpsy.co/medfordma** or call **1-800-244-6350**.
- Curbside pick ups are available weekly on Saturdays 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. for all Medford residents.
- Residents can also drop off textiles at any time in Bay State Textiles collection boxes at Medford Public Schools.

MATTRESSES & BOX SPRINGS

Please refer to **medfordma.org/waste** for a list of vendors available for mattress and box spring collection. As of November 1, 2022, it is against Massachusetts State Law to dispose of these items by any other method. Available to all Medford residents.

Visit **recyclesmartma.gov** to get answers to all of your recycling questions.

Visit **medfordma.org/waste** for additional tips on reducing your trash, and for translated versions of this guide.