



Container Placement Tips

The City's Solid Waste Division utilizes a fully-automated collection system to service customers' refuse, recycling and organics containers. Full-automation is the solid waste industry standard and keeps labor costs at a minimum.

The automated arm that grabs and empties each container eliminates the need for a second collection worker on each vehicle. However, for this system to work effectively, waste containers must be placed out in a manner that allows the collection vehicle to reach and empty each container, without having the driver leave their vehicle.

To ensure that your container is serviced on its scheduled collection day, and to minimize collection costs, please adhere to the following collection guidelines:

- **Place your container out on time.** Containers should be placed out no later than 6:00 a.m. in commercial areas and by 7:00 a.m. in residential areas. Cans may be placed out the night before after 6:00 p.m. Containers not out on time will be subject to an extra service charge for the driver to return.
- **Place container in proper location.** Bins must be placed where the arms of the collection vehicle can reach, face the street or alley, be spaced a minimum of 18-inches apart from one another and 3-feet from fences, utility poles, vehicles and other objects.
- **Do not overfill your container.** In order to prevent trash from being spilled on the ground, collection drivers are instructed not to service containers that are overflowing or have open lids. In addition, bags placed outside of the trash container (e.g., on the ground) will not be picked up.

Curbside Service



Alley Service



Containers should be placed out with at least 18+ inches between containers with at least 3-feet away from fences, walls, utility poles, vehicles, and other objects.

Curbside Service



Alley Service



If a driver is unable to service your container, a yellow tag may be affixed to the container to let you know the reason. If your container was not serviced by 2:30 p.m. on your scheduled collection day, please call the Solid Waste Office at (805) 875-8024 as soon as possible.

Prohibited Materials

Do not place prohibited materials in containers. Items such as hazardous waste, concrete, bricks, soil, liquids, hot ashes/coins, and oversized items are prohibited from your waste containers. For a list of items prohibited in your recycling and/or organics container, please visit the Division's web page.

