

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is automated single stream recycling? Does this mean I no longer need to separate my trash from my recyclables?

No. Automated single stream recycling does not mean you can mix your trash together with your recyclables. With automated single stream recycling, all recycle materials are placed in your new blue recycling cart and your trash is placed in your burgundy trash cart. Both carts are then emptied by two different automated trucks. One of the main benefits of single stream recycling is that you no longer need to separate the glass from the tin, nor keep the paper and cardboard separate from the other items which make it easier for residents to recycle. It is suggested however, that you put the heavy newspapers at the bottom of your cart and the lighter material on top.

What do I do with the old recycling bin?

You may keep your existing 14-gallon recycle bin to use inside your home for your recyclables or other home uses. If it is no longer usable, you may put it in your recycling cart for recycling. All recyclables must be placed in your automated single stream blue recycling cart for collection.

Can I change the size of my recycling cart? No. If you currently have a 95- gallon trash cart, you will receive a 95-gallon recycling cart. If you currently have a 35-gallon trash cart, you will receive a 65-gallon recycling cart.

What if I have more recyclable materials than will fit in my recycling cart?

Your new automated single stream recycling cart will have 5 to 6 times the capacity of your present 14 gallon recycling bin so by flattening the corrugated cardboard, there should be more than enough room. If necessary, additional carts may be purchased by calling the Highway & Grounds Division of Public Works @ 860-675-2550. A \$50 one-time cart charge plus a \$50 one-time delivery charge will be billed for an additional recycling cart.

Is this cart mine to keep?

No. The cart is the property of the Town of Farmington. The homeowner is responsible to maintain the cart in reasonable condition during the service period. Should you move, even within the town, the cart remains at the residence.

What items are acceptable for single stream recycling?

A complete list of recyclables is available on the Town's website: www.farmington-ct.org

How far from the curb and other obstacles can I place my cart?

Please face the handle away from the street and no more than 4 feet away from the curb. It is recommended that you put your trash cart on one side of your driveway and your recycling cart on the other side. Both carts should be at least 4 feet away from all other objects (parked vehicles, fire hydrants, mailboxes, telephone poles, trees, etc.) to avoid interference with the automated truck's arm. Both carts should be placed curbside the night before your regularly scheduled pickup day.

DO NOT place carts in the street. The Town will not be responsible for damaged carts due to auto accidents, etc. Carts placed in the street hamper mail delivery and snowplow operations.

What is the policy for damaged carts?

If the damage is the result of normal wear and tear, (example, broken lid or wheel), it will be replaced or repaired at no charge to the homeowner. If the damage is the result of abuse or neglect, there will be a \$50 charge to the homeowner to replace the recycling cart along with a \$50 re-delivery charge. All normal wear and tear repairs or replacement of carts will be handled by the Town.

Can I now put leaves and grass in this new recycle cart?

No. These items are not part of this automated single stream recycle collection program and must still be recycled separately.

Do I still need to rinse my recyclables?

Yes. All glass, tin, aluminum, plastic containers and aseptic packaging must be rinsed clean prior to placing in your automated recycle cart. No change from previous requirements.

What if my recycling cart becomes dirty? Can I get a new one?

No. Residents are responsible for keeping their carts clean. By disposing of clean, rinsed recyclables, your cart should stay clean.