

Milwaukee Avenue Homeowners Association Garbage and Recycling Guide

Garbage storage and pick-up for MAHA can be confusing. Here is a summary of how it works.

Hennepin County Solid Waste and Recycling:

(612) 673-2917 (or call 311 to be connected)

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste>

Residents' Bins:

- Each homeowner has a city issued garbage container and recycling bin (either large 94 gallon @ \$5/month or small 26 gallon @ \$2/month). Consider upgrading or downgrading your containers' size to fit your household's needs.
- Homeowners on 22nd Ave S, East 22nd St (west of the Mall), East 24th St and the west side of Milwaukee Ave who have alley access store their bins on their property. Homeowners on 23rd Ave S, East 22nd St (east of the Mall) and the east side of Milwaukee Ave who don't have alley access can use MAHA garbage enclosures in the parking lots 2, 3, 4 & 6.
- Carts are city property and their code numbers are tied to billing for your water and sewage. The city will provide you with your garbage and recycling bins' code numbers (stamped on the front of each container) if you are unsure which ones are yours. It is helpful to include your house number on your containers.

Garbage Removal:

- The city removes garbage from the alley, curbside and enclosures once a week on Friday (Saturday during holiday weeks)
- The enclosures should only contain the issued bins.
- Any additional solid waste must be labeled as such and set at the curb or alley for pick-up.

Recycling Removal:

- Recycling is removed every other week (also on Friday or Saturday during holiday weeks).
- Bins must be moved to the alley or from the enclosures and placed on the curb. Bins left in the enclosures will not be emptied.
- Homeowners who live around parking lot #3 have made arrangements with the city to place their recycling bins on the MAHA sidewalk near the parking lot so that the truck can back in for pick up. Since this is a public area, homeowners are asked to retrieve their carts as soon as possible after pick up.
- Contact solid waste management to request a cheat sheet of pick-up dates and to learn about what can and cannot be recycled. FYI: plastic bags cannot go in the recycled bins, but can be recycled at grocery stores.

Organics Recycling Services (aka composting):

- Residents will soon be able to recycle their food scraps and other current non-recyclables such as pizza boxes in the spring of 2016.
- Carts will be 32 gallons for residences with 1-2 units, and 64 gallons for more than two units.
- Compost recycling requires use of certified compostable bags for all items.
- To take part, residents must sign up by contacting Solid Waste and Recycling at (612) 673-2917

Yard Debris:

- Bring bagged and bundled yard debris to the curb or alley.
- Leaves / lawn trimmings must be in certified compostable plastic bags or paper bags. Regular plastic lawn bags will not be picked up.
- Stems and woody material must be bundled together with string / twine.
- It is against city ordinance to burn trash and a special permit is required to burn yard debris.

Other Solid Waste:

- Label refuse that is too heavy or big to place in bins, such as small appliances, as “solid waste” and set at the curb
- The city provides free vouchers to residents for large items and building waste to take items to city collection points for disposal.
- Call the city to arrange for pick-up or to ask about their general removal policies if in doubt.

City ordinances and Garbage Etiquette Summary:

- Sharing of all types of solid waste bins is not allowed under city ordinance 225.10. Please use your own bins.
- Garbage must be bagged or wrapped before being placed in your cart. No loose items.
- Do not put individual pet waste bags directly in your container. Pet waste is supposed to be double bagged, or included in the same bag as your regular garbage.
- Recycling can be loose and unsorted. The exception is batteries, which should be put in a zip locked plastic bag and placed on top of your recycling cart.
- Carts cannot be used for yard waste. Place in separate recyclable bags.
- Carts should be set out by 6:00 a.m. on your assigned collection day and removed by 7:00 a.m. the morning after pick up. The city can charge you \$12 per cart if they have to move them.
- Enclosure space is tight! Organize the bins so they all fit in the enclosures and rake out debris when needed.
- The enclosures are for bins only. Bring solid waste and yard debris to the curb or alley. Contact the city if it is not picked up.

Thanks!