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## Recommendations for Single Stream Collection

Harrisonburg, VA – The city of Harrisonburg’s Public Works Department will start a new refuse and recycling program on **Monday, August 3**.

Starting on that date, those who currently receive the city’s curbside refuse and recycling collection services will have an easier way to get rid of their household waste and recycling.

Single Stream Collection, also called the “all in one” system, will accept waste and recyclables in the same container. One major benefit of this new program is that everyone in Harrisonburg will now recycle.

The city’s ordinance, pertaining to waste disposal, requires residents to remove liquids (example: milk, juice, water, etc.) from containers and hazardous materials (example: batteries, fluorescent bulbs, paint, herbicides, pesticides, etc.) from the trash.

As a recommendation or best practice, the city suggests residents remove as much food from the trash as possible; however, this is not a requirement, simply a recommendation. For those who are able, the city also encourages residents to compost on their own.

Please visit the [Virginia Cooperative Extension’s website](#) for more information on composting.

“We have received several questions about the new program and are happy to answer them,” said Harsit Patel, business services manager with Public Works. “Education of the Single Stream Collection Program is important and it is encouraging to know people are taking an interest in this program. If something isn’t clear or people need more information, we are here to help and will continue answering questions as quickly as possible.”

The current recycling rate is 27%. Once the Single Stream Collection Program begins, the recycling rates are expected to increase to a minimum of 50%. Through this new program, a larger variety of materials from the city will be recycled.

This new program applies to those customers, who currently receive curbside collection from the city. Apartment complexes and others, who have private trash collection or place their trash in a large dumpster, should continue doing so. Those with private trash collection should also continue placing their recycling by the curbside for collection.

To view additional details on this program and general guidelines in waste and recycling collection, visit [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/single-stream-collection](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/single-stream-collection). Questions? Contact Public Works at 540-434-5928.



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