

**Carts Will Be Delivered
By March 26, 2014**

**First Collection
Week of April 1, 2014**

**First Collection Day On
East Side Will Be Tuesday,
April 1st, And On West Side
On Wednesday, April 2nd**

**Only trash placed in the
cart will be collected.
Lids must be TOTALLY CLOSED
or cart will not be emptied.**

**If you have questions or
would like additional information
Contact: City Hall 254-857-4641**

**Email:
Public Works Director
kneal@lorenatx.gov
City Manager
bclemons@lorenatx.gov**

**City of Lorena
107-A S. Frontage Road
Lorena, Texas 76655**

URGENT - PLEASE READ

**FIRST CLASS MAIL
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PERMIT #16**

CITY OF LORENA AUTOMATED RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE COLLECTION



**AFTER YOUR CART IS DELIVERED
DO NOT USE YOUR CART UNTIL
YOUR COLLECTION DAY
ON THE WEEK OF
MARCH 31, 2014**

WHAT IS AUTOMATED GARBAGE COLLECTION?

Automated Collection of garbage uses specialized vehicles and carts. The collection vehicle is equipped with a robotic arm lift system that reaches out from the truck, grasps the cart, and lifts it to empty the contents into the truck. The arm then returns the cart to the curb and the truck moves on to the next house to complete the process. The driver will not get out.

It's all accomplished in about 15 seconds by one operator who stays in the cab of the truck, without the need for outside crews to handle containers or toss trash into the back of the truck.

After collection, the resident rolls the durable, weather resistant cart(s) back to the storage position near the house.

WHY ARE WE CHANGING TO AUTOMATED COLLECTION?

The City of Lorena has been using its existing collection method since 1992, collecting both commercial and residential garbage. Due to the steady increase in the amount of garbage we collect, our existing collection method is being pushed to its limits, both for equipment use and for personnel needs, which translates into costs that must be passed to us. We are currently collecting way more garbage annually than we did in 1992.

Carts provide a cleaner appearance at the curb than piles of waste which are more susceptible to being scattered by animals or falling over and spilling the contents. Some residents also use their own containers, without lids, that can result in more windblown litter, so we will not empty personal containers, only City-owned ones.

Automated cart service alleviates the risk of injury resulting from repetitively lifting approximately 5,000 + containers of trash monthly and stepping up and down from the collection truck. It does away with the risk associated with having workers continually working in the streets with other moving traffic.

WILL MY SANITATION COLLECTION RATES INCREASE?

NO! Your sanitation rates will remain the same. One of the reasons for the City assuming this responsibility is to control our own rates. There may be a time later for an increase, but it's not now.

WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THE CARTS?

The automated truck must be compatible with the carts it grabs. The carts are specially made to withstand years of household use, as well as the punishment that comes from the mechanical grabbers that will be used to hoist the carts.

The carts are also made to be user friendly for homeowners:

- They roll easily to the curb, so there's no lifting when it's time to "take out the trash."
- The carts have tight fitting lids to keep out animals and other pests while reducing windblown litter.
- Since the carts are all alike, neighborhoods will have a more pleasant appearance on collection day.
- Most importantly, the City of Lorena will furnish the carts to homeowners at NO CHARGE. While the carts remain the property of the city, residents are expected to make reasonable efforts to keep them clean and serviceable. Missing carts will be replaced at the customer's expense.

DO NOT USE YOUR OLD CONTAINERS. The new truck will not empty your old trash containers.



WHEN WILL I GET MY CAN?

Delivery of carts will begin around the middle of March, 2014. You can begin using your can on March 26, but do not set it out for the first time until April 1st on the east side and on April 2nd on the west side. When your cart is delivered to your residence, it will be placed in a position in front of your residence that is best for the automated truck to collect it. Please make note of this position. We will initially mark the street.

WILL MY COLLECTION DAYS CHANGE?

Residential collection days will be on Tuesdays east of the Interstate and Wednesdays on the West side, so collection days will change for some residents. As always, your garbage will be picked up once a week.

WHEN DO I PLACE MY CART?

Carts should be set out by 8:00 a.m. on collection day, or you can place it the night before collection. After collection, you should remove your cart from the curb and store it in a convenient place near your residence. The container should be removed from the curb by 8:00 a.m. the day after collection.

WHERE DO I PLACE MY CART FOR COLLECTION?

Carts should be positioned at the curb or at the edge of the street. They should be approximately two (2) feet from the street. Do not place your cart in the street or on the sidewalk. The handle of your cart should face your residence. You must place your cart a minimum of five (5) feet from objects such as parked cars, fire hydrants, power poles, mailboxes, etc. When your cart is delivered, it will be placed at the best location for dumping. After collection, roll you cart back to a safe storage location. Do not leave the cart at the street where it can be stolen or damaged.

WHAT CAN I PUT IN MY GARBAGE CART? WHAT DOESN'T GO IN THE CART?

Typical household garbage goes in the cart. The garbage must be placed in a plastic bag to prevent litter and to help keep your cart clean.

- Please do not place large amounts of yard waste in your cart.
- Do not put lumber, shingles, rocks, dirt, batteries, or tires in your cart. Do not use the cart to dispose of hazardous waste such as paint, motor oil, poisonous and flammable liquids.
- Do not place hot coals from your fireplace or barbeque grill in the cart.

IS MY CART LARGE ENOUGH?

A 96 gallon trash cart is equivalent to three (3) regular size trash cans. It will hold approximately 75 pounds of trash. The average household in Lorena produces 45 pounds of trash per week.

Only items placed in the cart with the lid closed will be collected by the automated truck. Over filled carts WILL NOT be collected. Do not place anything on top of the cart, such as trash bags, boxes or other forms of refuse. Only trash placed in the cart will be collected.

WHAT IF I NEED A SECOND CART?

If you routinely have more household garbage than will fit in your cart, you may request an extra cart. The cost of an extra cart is \$10.00 per month.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE CART IS LOST OR STOLEN?

The cart is the property of the City of Lorena. We expect residents to take reasonable care of this city property. The carts must not be painted, mutilated, altered or modified in any way. If the collection truck damages your cart, it will be replaced at no cost to you. If the damage or loss of the cart is caused by negligence of the resident, the container will be replaced and there will be a \$60.00 replacement charge. In case of vandalism, call the Police Department at 857-9614.

DO I TAKE MY CART WITH ME WHEN I MOVE?

Each cart has a serial number and will be issued to a specific address, and must not be removed from that address. If you are moving somewhere else contact City Hall at (254) 857-4641 to arrange for a cart to be placed.

RECYCLE

The City will continue its recycle program, but totes will not be provided. Instead, residents will be required to put their recycle materials in a clear plastic bag and tie it securely. If you cannot find clear plastic bags, the City will buy them in bulk and sell them at City Hall for a low price. Put your recycle bag out the same day as your home garbage, but you can wait until as late as 10:00 AM to put out your recycle bag, while your regular cart needs to be out by 8:00 AM. Recycle material will be hauled in an open top trailer to the recycle center, so it all must be either bagged or tied in a bundle. You can save a lot on your garbage bill especially by collapsing cardboard boxes and tying them securely in a bundle. RECYCLE IS PICKED UP FREE OF CHARGE! Help preserve space in the landfills by being an active recycler.

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR NEW CART

PLUS

TIPS FOR MOVING AND HANDLING THE CART

- Make sure the cart lid is closed before moving. Grab the handle and slowly tip the cart towards you. You can push or pull the cart to move it, but do not drag it. Always make sure the lid is closed before tilting or rolling the cart.
- When rolling the cart on a slope, it's easier to PUSH the cart when going downhill, and pull the cart when going uphill. Be extra careful when rolling your cart when the ground is slippery from rain or frozen precipitation.
- Keep the lid closed to keep out rain. This keeps materials dry, reducing any extra weight inside your cart, and keeps out insects and varmints.
- Store your cart beside your residence, garage, or any other convenient, safe location. Rinse out your cart periodically to keep down odors.





CITY OF LORENA RESIDENTIAL TRASH CART PLACEMENT GUIDE

1. Do not block access to cart. Must maintain a minimum of five (5) feet clearance from objects such as parked cars, fire hydrants, power poles, mail boxes, etc.
2. Do not place cart more than two (2) feet behind curb or from the edge of pavement.
3. Do not place cart closer than five (5) feet from another cart.

4. Do not place anything on top of cart, such as trash bags, boxes or other forms of refuse. Cart lid must be **COMPLETELY CLOSED**. Only trash placed in the cart will be collected.
5. Do not use non-approved container. Only city provided or approved carts will be picked up.

If you have questions or would like additional information contact City Hall 254-857-4641