



Trash & Recycling Updates, etc...

OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2017

860-429-3333

www.mansfieldct.gov/trash

TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE

For the 2017 trash service calendar, go to www.mansfieldct.gov/trash

The week of **Columbus Day, October 9** - No change in service.

The week of **Thanksgiving, November 23** - Thursday service will be on Friday, Friday service will be on Saturday.

The week of **Christmas, December 25** - all trash & recycling collection will be one day later.

The week of **New Years, January 1** - all trash & recycling collection will be one day later.

PUT TRASH OUT BY 6:00 AM

The time of day when the truck picks up both your trash and recyclables can fluctuate. Please put your trash and recyclables out either the night before collection or by 6:00 a.m. to avoid missing the trash/recycle truck.

TRASH & RECYCLE TRUCK - ONE TRUCK

It may look like your trash and recycling are being mixed together in one truck, but there are actually *two* compartments on the truck – one for trash and the other for recyclables. After your trash container is emptied, the trash compartment on the truck is closed to allow the contents from your recycle container to empty into the recycle compartment. Trash is delivered to one of Connecticut's trash incinerators and the recyclables are sorted for market at Willimantic Waste Paper. The Town is paid for the recyclables it collects.

EXTRA HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE

From December 26 through 30, 2017 you may put out extra household garbage on your collection day. Extra garbage does not include bulky items, which should be taken to the transfer station. Please note, non-metallic wrapping paper, tissue paper and gift boxes should be recycled.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY

The Regional Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility, located at 57 Hancock Road in Willington, will be open Oct 7 & 21 and Nov 4, 2017. The hours are 9 am to 2 pm for residential hazardous waste disposal. For more information call 860-429-3333 or go to www.mansfieldct.org/hhw.

PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING

Please do not put plastic bags or plastic wrap of any kind in the blue recycle container. The recyclables in the blue containers go to a recycling plant where cans, bottles, and paper get sorted. Plastic bags tangle up the sorting equipment which can shut down the plant! Big Y, Price Chopper and the transfer station accept plastic bags as long as they are clean and dry.

RECYCLE WRAPPING PAPER AND BOXES

Please recycle non-metallic wrapping paper, tissue paper and gift boxes. Place them in the blue recycling container with other household recyclables.

STRING OF LIGHTS RECYCLING

Recycle your string of lights that no longer work by bringing them to the Mansfield transfer station. They will be recycled with other wire products. *Please do not place them in the blue recycle container.*

**FREE REPAIRS
OCTOBER 14, 2017**

Free sewing, electrical, electronic, mechanical, woodworking repairs and knife sharpening will be available during the next **Repair Café** on Saturday, October 14, 10 AM to 2 PM, at the First Congregational Church, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic. Skilled volunteers will repair – or teach you to repair - your broken item. While you are there, enjoy bake sale refreshments and chat with a neighbor. You must be able to carry your item in and out of the Café. For more information, contact Virginia Walton at 860-429-3333 or waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

**LED BULB SWAP
AND SALE
OCTOBER 28, 2017**

Join us at a LED bulb swap and sale held at the Mansfield Community Center on October 28, 2017 from 10 am to 2 pm. Exchange up to 5 incandescent light bulbs, at no cost, while supplies last. The LED bulbs are equivalent to 60-watt incandescent bulbs. Additional energy-saving lighting products will be available to purchase at discounted rates.

**REUSABLE BAG
PROMOTION**



On the path to becoming a less wasteful community, the Mansfield Solid Waste Advisory Committee has turned its attention to reuse and prevention, focusing on strategies to move away from single-use plastic bags to reusable ones. It is estimated that 8.6 million plastic shopping bags are used in Mansfield alone each year. That is about 1 plastic bag per person per day.¹ As convenient and useful as plastic bags are, they have a downside:

Plastic bags are a problem when mixed with other curbside recyclables. The Town's recycling contractor, Willimantic Waste Paper, does not accept plastic bags with the grouping of cans, bottles, paper and cardboard because plastic bags and plastic films, when put in curbside recycling, routinely clog and shut down the sorting lines of their automated recycling facility.

Plastic bags are made from non-renewable oil.

Plastic bags kill wildlife. Plastic bags are lightweight and aerodynamic, making them a good candidate for litter. Sadly, littered bags can be mistaken as food by wild animals. Plastic bags choke, strangle and entangle turtles, whales, sea lions, seals, birds and fish among other species. Many of these animals are already threatened due to over fishing or habitat loss.

Plastic bags do not biodegrade. Although they do fragment through mechanical action and photo degradation in the presence of light, these processes are slow taking an estimated 200+ years to complete. When an animal is killed by a plastic bag, the bag may go on to kill again. When plastic bags finally do break down, they do not dissolve into benign substances, instead they fracture into smaller and smaller bits called "micro plastics." These small particles present the greatest long-term danger, as these particles displace food supplies in the world's oceans.

**REUSABLE BAGS FOR
\$1**

Teal blue reusable bags with the Mansfield Bring Your Own Bag logo are for sale at the Mansfield Town Hall in the public works/engineering office. Coming soon, free reusable bags in a "Bag Share" container at the library.



1. 102 billion bags/year according to U.S. International Trade Commission (May 2009). "[Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Indonesia, Taiwan, and Vietnam](#)" (PDF). p. IV-7. 315 million people in US 102,000,000,000/315,000,000 = 323.809 bags per year/365 day= .89 bags per person per day. 323.809 bags per year X 26,543 residents in Mansfield = 8,594,862 bags used in Mansfield