

Quarterly Trash & Recycling Service Updates

APRIL THROUGH JUNE 2019

860-429-3333

<http://www.mansfieldct.gov/trash>

TRASH & RECYCLING SERVICE CHANGES

The week of Memorial Day – all trash and recycling collection days will be one day later.

The week of Fourth of July – Thursday service will be on Friday, Friday service will be on Saturday.

On the www.mansfieldct.gov/trash website you can access a 2019 trash service calendar. Select the “Residential Trash/Recycling Collection” page, then click on “2019 Collection Schedule.”

WHAT’S HAPPENING WITH RECYCLING THESE DAYS?

Recycling has been getting media attention of late and not in a good way. China, the primary buyer of recyclables from the United States, abruptly stopped accepting shipments. Although this is sending shock waves through the recycling market, recycling is not over. In our region, the recycling processor, Willimantic Waste Paper, continues to find markets for the materials collected from your households. The difference is, it is much more costly for them and in turn that cost is being passed onto communities. Where Mansfield once got paid for recyclables, we now have to pay, but it is still less expensive than incinerating trash. Mansfield is in a better position than most towns since the money you pay for trash service is kept in a solid waste fund - separate from your taxes - that pays for everything related to trash/recycling/hazardous waste operations. A reserve has been maintained in the fund for unanticipated expenses. We should be able to absorb this new cost without raising your trash fees. In the meantime, a more robust domestic market for recyclables has already started to develop. The take home message— keep on recycling.

PAPER SHREDDING, APRIL 13, 2019

Bring your sensitive documents to be shredded on-site to the transfer station on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 9 am to 12 pm. Charge: \$3.00 per medium-sized box or equivalent.

PLASTIC CHECKOUT BAGS BANNED STARTING SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

Beginning September 13, 2019, Mansfield businesses will no longer be allowed to offer plastic checkout bags. Residents are encouraged to get into the practice of bringing their own bags, and donate their extra gently used reusable bags to the bag share container located at the Senior Center. The ordinance can be found at www.mansfieldct.gov/reusable-bags.

REPAIR CAFÉ, APRIL 13, 2019

What do you do with a dress that has a tear or a lamp that no longer works? Bring it to the **Repair Café** on Saturday, **April 13, 2019 from 10 am to 2 pm**, at the First Congregational Church, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic. The Repair Café is a FREE event open to the public. Skilled volunteers will repair – or teach you to repair – your broken item.

TRASHY MOVIE SERIES

Concerned about the state of the planet? Let’s watch some trashy movies and discuss what we can do to save the Earth. Here’s what we will be watching at the Mansfield Public Library, Buchanan Auditorium:

Bag It, Saturday, March 30, 2019 4:30 pm

No Impact Man, Tuesday, April 16, 2019 7:00 pm

Just Eat It, Tuesday, May 28, 2019 7:00 pm

Waste Land 2010, Saturday, June 15, 4:30pm

COMPOST COLLECTION CONTAINERS AVAILABLE

2.25 gallon kitchen compost collection containers are available for \$20.00 through the Town. If you would like to purchase one, call 860-429-3333 or e-mail waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

SUSTAINABLE LAND CARE WORKSHOP SERIES

Register for one or more of the workshops through the Parks and Recreation Spring brochure, found at www.mansfieldcc.com:

Organic Lawns, Saturday, April 20, 2019, 10:00 to 11:30 am

Invasive Plant Identification, Saturday, April 27, 2019, 9:30 to 11:30 am

Backyard Composting, Saturday, May 4, 2019, 10:00 to 11:00 am

Learn to Build A Rain Garden, Saturday, May 18, 2019, 9:00 am to noon

HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY 2019 SCHEDULE

The Regional Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility, located at 57 Hancock Road in Willington, will be open on the following Saturdays in 2019 from 9 am to 2 pm for residential hazardous waste disposal: May 4 & 18, June 1 & 15, July 20, August 3 & 17, September 7 & 21, October 5 & 19 and November 2. For more information call 860-429-3333 or go to www.mansfieldct.gov/trash.

RID LITTER DAY, APRIL 27, 2019

Join your neighbors in picking up litter along your stretch of road. Bags of litter may be placed out with household trash for those with collection service or taken to the Mansfield transfer station for no charge.

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN RECYCLE THESE ITEMS FOR FREE AT THE TRANSFER STATION?

Shredded paper— Up until recently residents were told that shredded paper could be put in the recycle cart with cans, bottles, paper and cardboard. But with the demand for a cleaner recycle sort, it turns out that when shredded paper is mixed with blue bin recyclables little bits of paper adhere to plastic bottles, glass jars and cans, reducing the quality of these materials. There is separate container just for shredded paper at the transfer station. You can still recycle shredded paper but keep it out of your blue cart and bring it to the transfer station.

Plastic film/plastic bag— Grocery bags, produce bags, bread bags, newspaper bags, bubble wrap, packaging pillows, dry cleaner bags, and plastic shrink wrap used around cases of bottled water, paper towels, toilet paper and other commodities are recyclable, but not in the blue cart. Either return them to a retailer such as Big Y or Price Chopper, or bring them to the transfer station. At the transfer station there is a separate container just for plastic bags and film.

Mattresses & box springs— Through the Connecticut mattress stewardship law, mattresses and box springs are accepted at the transfer station for recycling as long as they are not severely damaged, wet, twisted, frozen, soiled or infested with bed bugs.

Electronics & televisions—Through the Connecticut electronics stewardship law, computers, laptops, printers, fax machines, monitors, televisions, cell phones, tablets, video games, game consoles, VCR/DVD machines, remote controls and keyboards are accepted at the transfer station for recycling.

Paint—Through the Connecticut paint stewardship law, interior and exterior latex, acrylic, water-based, alkyd, oil-based, enamel and floor paints, deck coatings, primers, sealers, and stains are accepted for recycling at the transfer station. Latex paint is blended into recycled-content paint and oil-based paint is either incinerated or used as a blended fuel for cement kilns.

COMPOST FOOD SCRAPS AT THE TRANSFER STATION

Residents are invited to bring their separated food scraps to the transfer station for composting. When you arrive at the transfer station, you will be directed to the leaf compost pile. Examples of what is accepted: Bread, Cake, Cereal, Coffee grounds, Cookies, Egg shells, Flower bouquets, Fruit including pits & seeds, Nuts including shells, Pasta, Pizza, Salads, Sandwiches, Soup, Table scraps, Tea bags, Vegetables.