



## Trash & Recycling Updates, etc...

JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 2011

860-429-3333

<http://www.mansfieldct.gov/content/1914/3973/4005/default.aspx>

### TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE

There are no changes in trash & recycling collection days this quarter.

### CHRISTMAS TREES

Bring your tree to the transfer station where it will eventually be turned into wood chips.  
**The charge for each tree is \$5.00.**

### IN-YARD SERVICE

If you receive backyard collection service, on snowy/icy days please sand and plow your driveway wide enough for the refuse truck. Otherwise, please place your refuse by the curb.

### FLATTEN BOXES

Flatten boxes, cut down to 2 feet by 3 feet and tie together with string.

### FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

The Town of Mansfield began recycling electronics in 1999 when it became apparent that televisions and computers contained hazardous metals that could cause pollution and health problems if not reclaimed through a recycling process at the time of disposal. Since 1999, Mansfield has recycled a total of 324,628 pounds of residential electronics. Up until now, Mansfield residents have been charged for recycling computers, computer accessories and televisions at the transfer station to help offset the Town's cost from the electronics recycling company. In anticipation of a new Connecticut electronics recycling law, the electronics recycling company that the Town uses, WeRecycle!, is no longer charging for electronics. In fact, once the State electronics recycling law is in effect, electronics manufacturers will bear the responsibility and cost of recycling their own defunct products.

**Mansfield residents can now bring their computers, computer accessories and televisions to the Mansfield Transfer Station to be recycled for free.** The Mansfield Transfer Station is located on Route 89 one mile from the intersection of Route 195 and Route 89 in Mansfield Center. The transfer station hours are Tuesdays, 8:30 to 4:00, Thursdays, 12:00 to 4:00 and Saturdays, 8:30 to 4:00.

### CHRISTMAS LIGHTS RECYCLING

Recycle your old incandescent string of lights by sending them to [Holidayleds.com](http://Holidayleds.com) and you will receive a coupon good for **25% off** any purchase of energy efficient LED Christmas lights. Go to [http://www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom\\_christmas\\_light\\_recycling\\_program](http://www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom_christmas_light_recycling_program) or call 866-492-4330.

### RECHARGEABLE BATTERY RECYCLING

Although the Town no longer recycles alkaline batteries, rechargeable and button (disc-shaped) batteries are still recycled at the Mansfield Transfer Station. Rechargeable batteries, some of which do contain the toxic heavy metal cadmium, are found in cordless appliances and electronic gadgets such as cell phones. The Regional Chemical Waste Drop-off Facility in Willington as well as Home Depot, Sears, Lowes, Wireless Zone, Whole Foods Market and Ikea accept rechargeable batteries for recycling.

**CELL PHONE  
RECYCLING**

The Mansfield Town Hall, Community Center, Mansfield Middle School and Southeast School have collection boxes for cell phone recycling. Through CollectiveGood, the phones are sorted in the US and the majority of them re-sold. The remainder are sent to a metal refinery in Belgium. *Before donating, be sure to deactivate from phone service.*

**REUSABLE BAGS  
REDUCE LITTER**

According to the National Marine Debris Monitoring Program, plastic bags account for over 10% of the debris washed up on the US coastline. Plastic bags have been found floating north of the Arctic Circle and as far south as the Falkland Islands, and there are reports of a floating “island” of plastic debris in the Pacific Ocean. Another reason to use reusable bags.

**PLASTIC BAG  
RECYCLING**

The Town accepts clean plastic grocery bags, and any plastic bag that has stretchable properties, for recycling at the transfer station. *Please remove all receipts and make sure the bags are clean and dry.* Soiled bags belong in the trash.

**ONLINE REUSE  
EXCHANGES**

**Freecycle**—select the Storrs group—[www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)

**Craigslist**—the largest classified site on the web—[www.craigslist.org](http://www.craigslist.org)

**ThrowPlace**—the site provides a way to donate directly to charities that are registered with them—[www.throwplace.com](http://www.throwplace.com)

**Gigoit**—an newer re-use exchange—[www.gigoit.org/index.php](http://www.gigoit.org/index.php)

**Book Mooch**—for people who love books—<http://bookmooch.com>

**U-Haul Box Exchange**—after you move, give (or sell) your boxes to someone else—<http://tinyurl.com/u-haulboxexchange>

**Zwaggle**—devoted to exchanging gently used children’s items—[www.zwaggle.com](http://www.zwaggle.com)

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
ON FACEBOOK**

The Town of Mansfield is proud to announce the release of its new Facebook page. The Mansfield Facebook page can be found by searching for “Town of Mansfield, Connecticut” when signed in to Facebook, or by clicking the link to the Facebook page found on the Mansfield website, [www.mansfieldct.gov](http://www.mansfieldct.gov).

**BE A PART OF THE  
NEIGHBOR TO  
NEIGHBOR ENERGY  
CHALLENGE**

For the next two years, Mansfield and 13 other Connecticut towns are taking part in an innovative community energy savings program focused on helping residents lower their home energy use and save money. Through the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge, made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, residents who participate will receive personalized assistance in making energy efficiency and conservation changes. Mansfield’s goal—enlisting 500 households to cut their use of conventional energy by at least 20%. If you would like to participate in the challenge, please contact us at 860-429-3333 or [waltonvd@mansfieldct.org](mailto:waltonvd@mansfieldct.org).