

# **Town of Westford**

## **Solid Waste & Recycling – Implementing Act 148**

Under Act 148, recycling is mandatory and to incentivize recycling the law requires unit-based pricing for trash disposal. This means that you may recycle an unlimited amount of recyclable materials during twice per month recycling pickup. You will, however, be charged extra for exceeding the maximum amount of trash that may be put out each week.

### **When will the new system be implemented?**

September 2, 2015

### **What materials are subject to the extra fee?**

Under Act 148, trash that you put in plastic bags for disposal is subject to the extra fee. The intent of Act 148 is to try to increase recycling of paper, plastic, etc. that can be taken out of the waste stream, so people will be charged extra for trash overages of this type.

### **What is NOT subject to the extra fee?**

Under Act 148, neither recyclable materials nor large/bulky items are subject to the extra fee. No new items have been added to the list of what Gauthier Trucking is contracted to pickup at curbside. Some large/bulky items which will still be serviced at the curbside include: mattresses, couches, and furniture. Items that Gauthier Trucking cannot take curbside will continue to include: any appliances - stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, large metal items or any electronic equipment - TV's, computers, etc. Please call the Town office or Gauthier's Trucking with specific questions.

### **What is the weekly amount of trash that may be disposed without incurring an extra fee?**

One 64-gallon garbage can/cart (24" wide, 32" deep, 42" high) or equivalent...a common large garbage bag size is 32 gallons, so two, 32-gallon bags.



**64-Gallon Can/Cart**



**32-Gallon Bags**

### **What is the fee for extra trash?**

\$3.00 per 32-gallon bag. So, you may dispose 64 gallons each week without additional charge, then for each 32 gallons you will be charged \$3.00. Remember, there is no charge for unlimited recycling or disposal of large/bulky items.

### **Do I need to buy new garbage cans?**

No, you do not need to buy new garbage cans. Keep putting your trash out as you always have done it...trash bags, empty grain bags, Hannaford's bags, etc. within a garbage can or just the bags alone.

**Who will send me a bill and when will I be billed?**

During weekly waste pickups, Gauthier Trucking will record trash in excess of 64 gallons per week and they will direct bill each home with overages. Gauthier intends to send out bills on a quarterly basis.

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The Selectboard would like to thank Westford residents for your cooperation in implementing Act 148. The law is well intentioned...to increase recycling and reduce the rate at which landfills are filled. While we're sure there will be hurdles to overcome, let's work together. Please let us know if you have questions by contacting the Town office or feel free to ask questions directly to Selectboard members.

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**Aggregated, Multi-Family Pickup**

For people who live on a road with aggregated trash from multiple homes at the end of the road, the Town will provide you with stickers to place on trash bags/cans. These stickers will identify your address, so Gauthier Trucking can identify which trash bags/cans belong to you.

**Apartments**

For people who live in an apartment, the Town will provide the landlord with stickers to place on trash bags/cans. *Landlords will be responsible for providing tenants with the stickers unless the landlord notifies the Town to make other arrangements.*

If you use trash cans, place a sticker on each of the cans. If your trash fits into your trash cans, then you do NOT need to put stickers on the trash bags that are inside the cans. You must put stickers on all bags that that are not placed in trash cans.

**You should receive your stickers within a few days of this mailing.  
When you run low on stickers, please contact the Town Office to get additional stickers at no cost to you.**

**Single Family Pickup**

You will NOT receive stickers and you do NOT need to put stickers on trash bags or cans if your trash is the only trash at the end of your driveway. Gauthier Trucking will direct-bill you for trash overages.

**Contact Information**

For questions on trash pickup, please contact

Westford Town Office  
878-4587  
[townclerk@westfordvt.us](mailto:townclerk@westfordvt.us)

OR

Gauthier Trucking  
879-4020  
[www.gauthiertruckingvt.com](http://www.gauthiertruckingvt.com)