

# City of Grand Rapids Recycling Newsletter

WINTER 2024-2025 (VOL. 7)



The City of Grand Rapids Public Works Department Recycling Program makes it easy to recycle! Since 2010, Grand Rapids has been a single-stream recycling program. This means that all clean recyclable materials are able to be recycled together in one cart.

Recycling is available to all residents of Grand Rapids. For more information on how to start, stop or change your service and to find the recycling pick up schedule, click on the City of Grand Rapids Public Works link below.

Recycling does not need to be a chore. There are so many ways you can recycle. Donating clothes, reusing plastic bottles and cups, or even turning old materials into new art projects. With recycling the possibilities are endless!



We aim to make sure the City's environment is healthy. To do this, we use the latest cutting edge technology for waste, recycling, and street management. We are also committed to making the City of Grand Rapids one of the most sustainable cities in the U.S.

*Each recycling cart is made with 40% recycled plastic and the program is available to all residents who have access to public streets.*

[CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC WORKS WEBSITE](https://www.grandrapids.org/public-works)

# Snow Removal Guide

Having trouble walking through the snow? Per City Ordinance, all occupants, residents and businesses must clear the public sidewalks in front and surrounding their buildings of snow or ice within 24 hours of the accumulation of snow or ice.

Rapid Bus Stops will be maintained by their staff.

City of Grand Rapids maintains roadways and major high traffic streets and are first-attention streets including: Burton Street, Division Avenue, Fulton Street, Leonard Street and Monroe Street. We apply salt to all first-attention streets to make travel safe.

Steepletown Neighborhood Services is one agency servicing Grand Rapids, with the support of Kent County Senior Millage funding, Steepletown offers Lawn Care & Snow removal services for residents over 60.



[Click Here for the City Ordinance](#)

[Click Here to Report a Snow or Ice Covered Sidewalk](#)



[Click Here for the Winter Preparedness Guide](#)

[Click Here for Steepletown Services](#)





# Winter Parking

Seasonal parking restrictions allow us to clear roads of leaves, tree debris and snow in addition to allowing cars and our service and emergency vehicles to travel safely on neighborhood streets in the winter. These restrictions are in effect from 12:01 a.m. on November 1 of each year to 11:59 p.m. on April 1 of the following year

Hey, Grand Rapidians.

## SEE THESE SIGNS?

Then, *think ahead before bed*. Odd-even parking is enforced on this street.



- On even dates, park on the side of the street with even addresses (1 AM – 6 PM).
- For 7 hours each night (6 PM - 1 AM), you can park on either side of the street. Just make sure to **think ahead before bed and move your vehicle** to the side of the road matching the next day's date by 1 AM.
- On odd dates, park on the side of the street with odd addresses (1 AM – 6 PM).



### One-Side Parking

Parking is prohibited at all times on the posted side of the street.

[Click Here For More Information](#)



# Yard Waste Continues In Winter!

Curbside yard waste pickup ends the **2nd Friday in December**, but the City of Grand Rapids has a resident drop off site located at **2001 Butterworth St SW**. This is offered to Grand Rapids residents only for no out of pocket cost **year round**, so bring your ID for proof of residence. Residents may drop off up to **4 cubic yards each week, at no out of pocket cost**. Yard waste must be loose or in a paper bag. Plastic bags are not allowed.

## **Winter Hours:**

Monday- Friday 7:30a to 4:30p

[Click Here and Scroll to the Yard Waste Services tab to Learn More!](#)



# Make Sure Your Trash And Recycling Are Picked Up This Winter With These Tips:

- Clear a path 3 feet wide from your refuse and recycling carts to the alley or street and make sure the carts can be moved freely
- Shovel out your refuse and recycling carts the night before your collection day!
- Bag your trash – it keeps your cart cleaner and helps us do our job! Un-bagged trash can freeze in the cart, making it difficult to empty. Avoid a partial tip and keep bags and materials from freezing to the bottom by putting a small amount of rock salt in the cart
- Keep the cart lid closed! Melting snow and rain can easily fill and freeze bags to the cart which can result in an overweight or cracked cart. We will not return to empty carts with bags frozen to the cart.
- REMEMBER: If your cart is placed on a snow bank, it will NOT be serviced for the safety of our refuse and recycling workers.

For more information about Winter Preparedness [CLICK HERE](#)





# HOLIDAY TREE RECYCLING

We offer FREE drop-off sites for Christmas trees after the holidays. All trees collected are chipped and returned naturally to the ground.

The sites, open December 30 to January 31, are located at:

- Riverside Park, 2001 Monroe Ave. NE, north entrance at Boat Launch #3
- MacKay-Jaycees Park, 2531 Kalamazoo Ave. SE
- Lincoln Park, (Garfield Ave. NW entrance) 231 Marion Ave. NW
- Huff Park, (Ball St. parking lot) 2286 Ball Ave. NE







# RECYCLING GUIDE

Kent County Recycling & Education Center | [reimaginetrash.org](http://reimaginetrash.org)



KENT COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS

## RECYCLE THESE ITEMS

CLEAN, EMPTY & LOOSE (NOT BAGGED OR BUNDLED)

### CARDBOARD & PAPER



### PLASTIC BOTTLES, CUPS & CONTAINERS

Rigid plastics #1-7; no foam or flexible plastics



### GLASS BOTTLES & JARS



### METAL CANS, BOTTLES & FOIL



### MILK, JUICE & SOUP CARTONS



If the cap/lid and container are the same material, keep them attached. If they're different materials, detach and recycle separately.

## KEEP OUT OF RECYCLING CONTAINERS!



**SEPARATE  
OUT  
RECYCLING  
TRASH**



**No hazardous waste  
or chemicals:**  
Batteries, electronics,  
propane tanks, fuel,  
chemicals, ammunition  
or other hazardous waste.



**Nothing that  
would tangle:**  
Plastic bags, flexible  
plastics, string lights,  
extension cords, clothing,  
hoses, tarps, hangers, etc.



**No bundled or  
bagged recycling:**  
Recyclables need to be  
loose in order to be  
sorted properly.



**No foam plastics:**  
Foam take-out containers  
or cups, blocks of styro-  
foam, packing peanuts,  
foam coolers, etc.

Have an item you'd like to recycle that's not on this guide? We can help!  
[www.reimaginetrash.org](http://www.reimaginetrash.org) | [recycle@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:recycle@kentcountymi.gov) | 616-632-7920



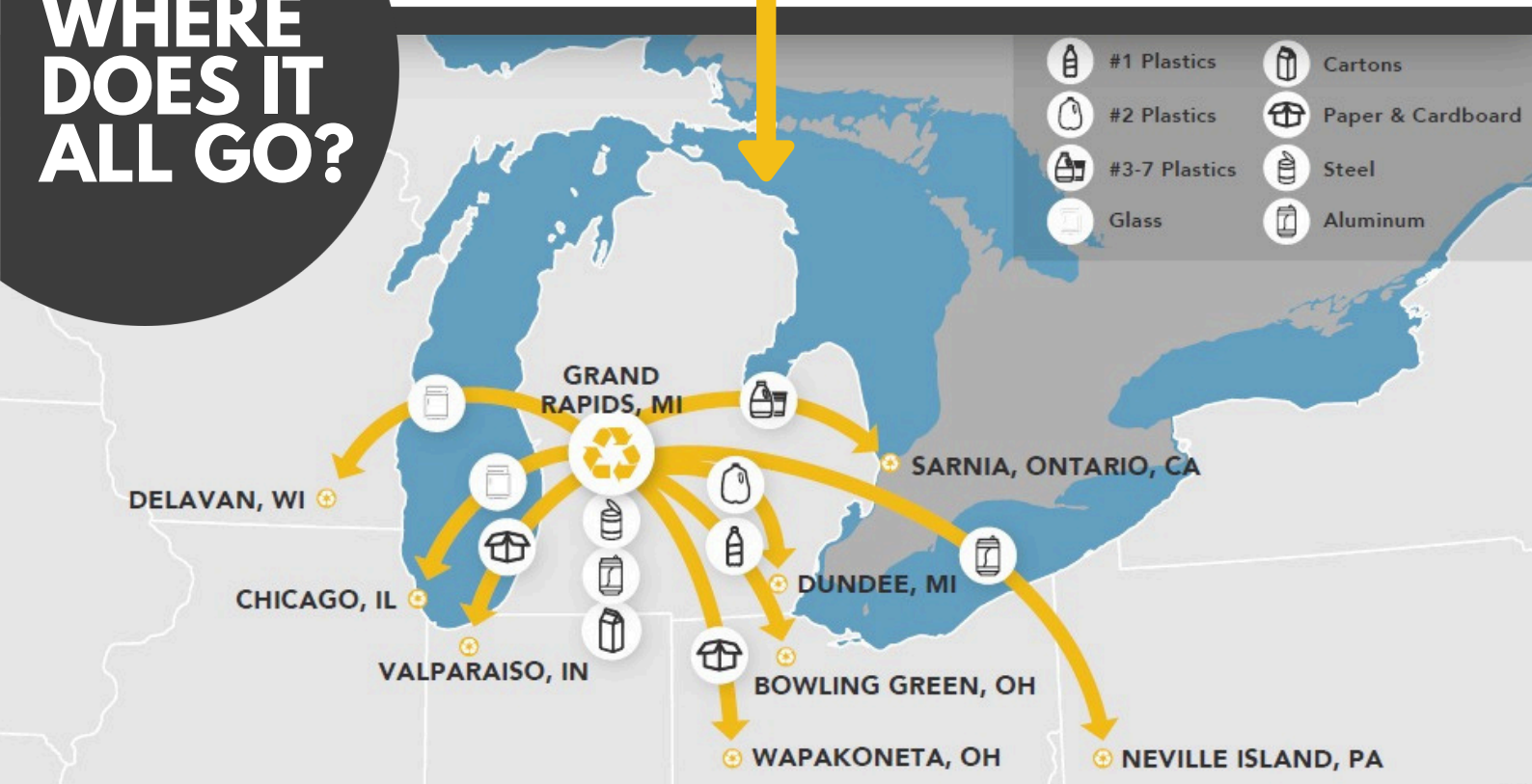
# DO YOU RECYCLE?

## *Economic Benefits* *Environmental Benefits*

- Recycling creates American jobs in the recycling industry
- Recycling supplies American manufacturers with raw materials
- Recycling keeps valuable materials out of landfills

- Recycling conserves natural resources and energy
- Recycling is an investment in our community's environmental health
- Recycling prevents pollution and other environmental impacts from raw materials extraction

**BUT  
WHERE  
DOES IT  
ALL GO?**



## TO START RECYCLING

[www.reimaginetrash.org/recycle](http://www.reimaginetrash.org/recycle)