

SWEEP

Streets & Walkways Education & Enforcement Program



SWEEP is a Streets Department program created in June 1991 to educate Philadelphia citizens about their responsibilities under the Sanitation Code. Initially, **SWEEP** focused on commercial areas. As the program has grown, officers have expanded their patrols city-wide.

SWEEP enforces the law against violators through intensive street patrols by uniformed enforcement officers. Through education and enforcement, **SWEEP** supports and enhances individual and community efforts to maintain a clean city. A clean area improves the image, environment, and conditions of business districts and residential neighborhoods, making the City more aesthetically pleasing to residents, workers, business owners, and tourists.

Why is **SWEEP** essential?

A clean city is a better place to live and work. A litter-free environment will enhance the city's image and economic vitality and, as a result, will attract tourists, shoppers, and businesses. Compliance with the Sanitation laws is cost effective, since keeping litter off the streets is less expensive than cleaning them.

How does **SWEEP** operate?

Specially-trained Sanitation enforcement officers meet with residents and individuals responsible for the operation of businesses and apartment buildings to review clean-up responsibilities. **SWEEP** officers will work with residential communities to address problem locations. In instances of non-compliance, **SWEEP** officers issue warnings and citations to the appropriate individuals.

What are the benefits of **SWEEP**?

SWEEP is a comprehensive, centralized, and accessible resource for information about the Sanitation Code. To help make Philadelphia a cleaner and safer place to live and do business, **SWEEP** increases awareness of the Sanitation Code, reduces the number of violations, and holds violators accountable.

How can citizens and business owners/operators comply with **SWEEP**?

Trash/Recycling Timetable:

Winter: October 1 through March 31, trash and recycling should be set out between 5:00 PM the night before

collection day and 7:00 AM the day of collection.

Summer: Set-out times from April 1 to September 30 will return to 7:00 PM the night before and by 7:00 AM the day of collection.

Early Collection: (Vine St. to South St., from Schuylkill River to Delaware River): **Winter:** Set out between 6:00 PM the night before collection day and 6:00 AM on the day of collection. **Summer:** Set out between 8:00 PM the night before collection day and 6:00 AM on the day of collection at your regularly authorized pickup site

Recycling: Recycling is collected citywide every week. Residents are able to place all recyclables in a container next to their trash for curbside collection on the same day as their trash day. Along with steel and aluminum cans, glass jars and bottles, flattened cardboard and #1 through #7 plastics (numbers on bottom), cartons – refrigerated (milk, juice, etc.) and shelf-stable (soup, broth, etc.) – may be included with recyclables. For more information, please contact Streets' Recycling hotline at 215-685-RECYCLE (7329), or 215-685-7329, or visit www.phillyrecyclingpays.com.

Recycling Bins: Residents may pick up a recycling bin at a Streets Department Sanitation Convenience Center, Monday to Saturday, 8am –6pm, or at their local recreation center. Please call first to find out if the containers are in stock. Residents may also use any household container and mark it "RECYCLING." Contact the Customer Affairs Unit at 215-686-5560 or visit www.philadelphiastreet.com for center locations.

Commercial Recycling

The City of Philadelphia's Commercial Recycling Regulations went into effect on October 15, 1994. All buildings served by private trash haulers and the haulers themselves are affected by the recycling rules. Retail stores, offices, larger apartments, institutions, and government agencies must use approved licensed haulers. A list of these can be obtained from the Recycling Office at 215-686-5444.

Helpful Cleaning Tips:

- All cardboard boxes should be broken down and set out for recycling collection.
- Your property and sidewalk must be kept free of trash and litter. Sweep litter into proper containers, never into the street.
- Businesses that sell food for takeout should provide trash receptacles at all points of access.
- It is the property owner's responsibility to inform tenants about the City of Philadelphia's guidelines for trash and recycling collections. Property owners are responsible for their properties, including tenant activity.
- Within six (6) hours of the end of a snowfall or freezing rain, you must clear a path at least 36 inches wide on your sidewalk including curb cuts. Do not shovel the snow into the street.
- City litter baskets are for pedestrian use only. Do not use them to dispose of household trash.

PHONE NUMBERS



Call one number
215-686-5560

Cell Phone call *FIX

**For the Streets Department's
Customer Affairs Unit**

- Trash and Recycling Collection
Recycling Hotline
215-685-RECY(CLE)/215-685-7329
- Illegal dumping/clean-up
- Philadelphia More Beautiful Committee (PMBC, Block Captains)
- SWEEP
- Pothole and street repair
- Traffic signals and signs
- Alley lighting
- Street lighting

Visit us at www.philadelphiastreet.com

Interpreter services available. | خدمات الترجمة الشفهية متوفرة لدينا. | អាចផ្តល់សេវាបកប្រែទស្សនាវា ។ | 提供口译服务 | Services d'interprétation disponibles. | 통역이 제공됩니다 | Предоставляются услуги устного переводчика. | Se brindan servicios de interpretación. | Có sẵn dịch vụ thông dịch.

Guidelines for Businesses with Private Trash Collection

Solid Waste Recycling Plan

In accordance with the Commercial Recycling Regulations, an official Philadelphia Commercial Solid Waste Recycling Plan must be filed with the Philadelphia Recycling Office and posted in a public area within your premises.

Trash/Recycling Timetable

Trash/recycling must be set out not more than two hours prior to collection. For collection scheduled after business hours, **trash/recycling must be set out no more than 30 minutes prior to the close of business.** Dumpsters not licensed for public right-of-way placement must be kept inside the business premises until the proper set-out time.

Trash Containers

Regulations require rigid containers equipped with lids for all trash set out for private collection. Each lid must be securely closed when waste is in the receptacle and containers must be fully leakproof.

- Cardboard boxes may never be used as containers for trash/recycling.
- City litter baskets are for pedestrian use only. Do not use them to dispose of your trash.

Dumpster Laws

Laws governing dumpster usage and placement are in effect. Consult your **SWEEP** officer for specific rules pertaining to licensing, identification, frequency of emptying, standards of cleanliness, proper closure, and screening requirements. Dumpsters may not be used for grindable food waste disposal.

Adherence to the Sanitation Code provides cleaner sidewalks, less litter, and a more beautiful city for everyone.

Citizens should not offer payment, monetary or otherwise, for service. It is unlawful for City employees to accept such gratuities.

Guidelines for Businesses & Residents with City Trash/Recycling Collection

Trash/Recycling Timetable

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Early Collection: (Vine St. to South St., from Schuylkill River to Delaware River): **Winter:** Setouts between 6:00 PM the night before collection day and 6:00 AM on the day of collection. **Summer:** Set out between 8:00 PM the night before collection day and 6:00 AM on the day of collection at your regularly authorized pickup site.

Trash/Recycling Containers

Place all trash in personal trash cans with tight-fitting lids or leak-proof bags, filled only to the 40-pound limit.

- Place all recyclables in your recycling containers of 32 gallons or less.
- Cardboard boxes may never be used as containers for trash/recycling.

Trash/Recycling Setouts

- Wood scraps along with tree and brush cuttings shall be cut in pieces small enough to fit in a receptacle for set out
- Effective December 1, mattresses and box springs must be bagged and sealed in plastic mattress bags for collection. Mattresses and box springs not properly bagged will not be collected nor accepted at our Sanitation Convenience Centers.

Trash/Recycling Weekly Limits

Trash – Maximum Amounts Per week

Rubbish (including yard waste if not leaf season)

- Premises with 1 unit/single family: 4 cans or 8 bags (32 gallon maximum)
- Premises with 2 to 6 units: 6 cans
- Premises with businesses: 6 cans
- Two bags may be substituted for one can.
- No bag or container may weigh more than 40 pounds.

Private collection is required if you exceed these limits, if your business is manufacturing or wholesaling, or if your building includes more than six units. To arrange for private collection, look in the Yellow Pages under “Rubbish and Garbage Removal.” Businesses contracting for private trash services are not entitled to any collection by the City.

Recycling - No limit

Yard waste during leaf season - No limit



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

The Honorable Michael Nutter

Mayor

Richard Negrin Esq.

Managing Director

Rina Cutler

Deputy Mayor/Deputy Managing Director

STREETS DEPARTMENT

David J. Perri, P.E.

Acting Commissioner

Donald Carlton

Deputy Streets Commissioner



CLEAN AND SAFE STREETS

Streets Department Internet site:
www.philadelphiastreet.com

Philadelphia Recycling website:
www.phillyrecyclingpays.com

Streets Department Customer Affairs

Phone: 215-686-5560

On Cellular phones: *FIX

All City Services

Phone: 3-1-1

Language interpretation services available

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Planning and Public Affairs Office

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Let's Work Together for a Clean Philadelphia



STREETS
PHILADELPHIA

SANITATION DIVISION

Information about SWEEP and Guidelines for Trash/Recycling Collection