

# Trash Limits & Rules

## City of Allentown Curbside Collection Program

### Curbside Rules:

- ▶ Twice a week trash collection and once a week recycling. Call if unsure of your nights.
- ▶ Put trash & recycling out between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. on your nights only.
- ▶ **TRASH & BINS MUST BE PLACED IN FRONT OF YOUR PROPERTY.**
- ▶ Trash must be in bags or cans. No trash in boxes. Boxes must be recycled.
- ▶ **NO LOOSE OR MESSY TRASH.**
- ▶ Empty containers must be removed from curb within 12 hours after collection.
- ▶ Trash & recycling bins cannot be stored on the front porch or on the front of the property.
- ▶ **Household trash may not be placed in sidewalk litter baskets.**

### Trash Limits - Two Times Per Week

- 5 bags of trash (30 gallon bags, 40 pounds max)  
**OR**
- 2 trash cans (70 pounds max weight per can)

**NO TRASH IN BOXES. BOXES MUST BE RECYCLED.**

### Bulk Item / Construction Material Limits

**ONLY on the Second Collection Night  
(Wednesday, Thursday or Friday Night Zones)**

- One bulk item (furniture, mattress, carpeting, etc.)  
**OR**
- 40 pounds maximum of contained construction material  
(lumber, drywall, sheet rock, etc.)

**No Tires, Liquid Paint, Bricks, Concrete or Hazardous Wastes.  
No piles or loose materials.**

**Landlords— You must provide this  
Information to your tenants.  
Call for more copies.**

### The Allentown Recycling Drop Off Center

Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive next to 15th Street Bridge  
Open 24/7 to Everyone!

### Recycle at the Drop Off Center:

- Cardboard, cereal & food boxes, paper egg cartons, paper drink carriers, etc.
- Mixed white & colored paper, catalogs, junk mail, magazines
- All types of metal items, cans & bottles
- Newspapers, books & phone books
- Clothing, shoes, towels, drapes, etc.

**Paper Accepted  
For Shredding  
Monday-Saturday  
8 am to 4 pm**

### At the Recycling Center, we do not accept:

**NO**

- Freon Appliances
- Construction Debris
- Trash or Mattresses

This is illegal dumping and subject up to \$5,000 fine plus removal costs.

## Recycling Is The Law

**Every resident and tenant must have a  
Green and Blue recycling bin. They are FREE.**

### Recycle Cans & Bottles in the Green Bin:

- Aluminum and steel cans, glass bottles, plastic #1 through #7 bottles and containers (water, soda, milk, laundry, yogurt, margarine, cups, etc.)

### Recycle All Paper, Newspapers, Cardboard Boxes and Paperboard in the Blue Bin:

- All white and colored paper
- Mail, magazines, catalogs
- Cardboard and paperboard (cereal boxes, tissue boxes, drink carriers, etc.)
- Newspapers, circulars, flyers, brochures
- Phone books, hard & soft covered books
  - Brown paper bags

Put your cardboard in the blue bin or flatten and tie large amounts and place next to the blue bin. NO loose Cardboard. Large blue bins are available.

**Yard Waste Recycling:** Curbside yard waste pickup on your recycling night begins in April and ends the week of Thanksgiving.

- GRASS in 30 gallon brown paper yard waste bags only.
- YARD WASTE, BRANCHES, TRIMMINGS, ETC. in a separate can, 30 gallon brown paper yard waste bag or bundled. Yard waste stickers are available for your cans. Yard waste drop off sites are open from April through Thanksgiving. Call for more information.

**Appliance Recycling :** Please call for pickup. \$20 Fee for Freon Appliance Collection. Fee of \$20 must be paid to the City of Allentown, Bureau of Recycling & Solid Waste, 1400 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Allentown, Pa. 18102, prior to pickup of refrigerators, air conditioners, water coolers, and dehumidifiers. No charge for other appliances or large metal items. Appliance stickers are available to prevent scavenging. Please call 911 if you see scavenging in progress.

**QUESTIONS / PREGUNTAS  
610-437-8729**

**Si necesita una explicación en  
Español, por favor llámenos.**

# City of Allentown Litter, Trash & Recycling Laws

## Neighborhood Improvement Ordinance, Article 720

- Littering, causing litter or allowing debris to scatter is prohibited. Children over the age of 10 and/or their parents can be ticketed.
- Trash and/or debris may not accumulate on the exterior of a property.
- Cannot permit or store furniture on the exterior of the property including the front porch.
- Litter must be cleaned and removed daily from the property, including sidewalks and tree wells.
- Sweeping or depositing litter in the street or storm sewer is prohibited.
- Property owners are responsible for the condition of their property.
- Grass or weeds may not exceed 10 inches on property, tree wells and planter strips.
- Illegal dumping on public or private property is prohibited. Dumping of hazardous materials, such as motor oil, is prohibited.
- Litter baskets are for hand-held trash. Household or commercial trash is prohibited in litter baskets.
- Damaging a City litter basket is illegal.
- Handbills and flyers cannot be placed on vehicles or posted in the public right of way or on private property without the permission of the owner.
- Advertising and newspapers must be delivered to private property so as not to cause litter and may not be delivered to property owners who decline delivery.
- Property owners must have graffiti removed within 10 days of notification.
- Shopping carts from stores may not be used on City streets or sidewalks.
- Shopping carts shall not be removed from the store premises.
- The sale to or possession of spray paint by minors is prohibited.
- The possession of spray paint or permanent markers in public parks and buildings is prohibited.
- Those caught in the act of graffiti are subject to arrest.

## City of Allentown SWEEP Solid Waste Education & Enforcement Program

Allentown SWEEP is reducing litter and trash problems through sustained, comprehensive, proactive education and enforcement

**PLEASE REPORT GRAFFITI,  
SCAVENGING, ILLEGAL DUMPING  
AND OTHER PROBLEMS  
TO 610-437-8729  
(In progress call 911)**

**SWEEP Officers and other  
City Bureaus are issuing  
\$25 and \$100 Tickets for  
Ordinance Violations.**

The City's contracted hauler is rejecting items over the allowed limits and in violation of the rules and notifying Allentown SWEEP.

**For Example, tickets are  
issued for:**

- ▶ Large piles of trash and cleanouts on the curb.
- ▶ Excess amounts of construction material.
- ▶ Illegal dumping.
- ▶ Litter accumulation on sidewalks.
- ▶ Litter, trash or debris accumulation on property.
- ▶ Not removing rejected items from curb.
- ▶ High grass and weeds over 10 inches.

## Solid Waste Ordinance, Article 1131

- Trash must be set out for collection in closed bags or containers with tight-fitting lids. Boxes may not be used as trash containers.
- No more than 5 bags of trash allowed on each night (30 gallon bags, 40 pounds maximum weight) or no more than 2 trash cans allowed (70 pounds max weight per can) may be placed out on each trash night.
- On the second trash collection night of the week (Wednesday, Thursday or Friday night zones) only 1 bulk item (furniture, mattresses, etc.) or 40 pounds of maximum of construction material (carpeting, lumber, drywall, etc.) may be placed out for collection.
- Trash and recyclables must be set out in front of the property where they are generated.
- Trash and recyclables from residences must be set out between 5 pm and 10 pm on the designated nights of collection for your area.
- Trash may not cause litter.
- Trash and recycling containers may not be stored in front of a property or on the front porch.
- Containers must be retrieved from the curb within 12 hours after collection.
- Hazardous waste, computers, batteries, liquid paint, tires and auto parts with fluids may not be set at the curb for City collection. *Call 610 437-8729 for disposal info.*
- Businesses, non-profits, organizations, etc. must pay the annual City trash fee to use City collection.
- Trash and recyclables from businesses in City collection may not be set out before 5 pm and 10pm on the designated nights of collection for your area.
- Entities with private trash collection containers must prevent waste from overflowing, causing litter or creating a nuisance.
- Mixing recyclables with trash is prohibited.



City of Allentown  
Bureau of Recycling & Solid Waste  
1400 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-437-8729  
[www.allentownrecycles.org](http://www.allentownrecycles.org)

## Residential and Commercial Recycling Ordinances, Articles 1137 and 1139

- Residents and businesses in City curbside collection must recycle cans and bottles in the green bins. All paper, cardboard & newspapers must be recycled in the blue bins.
- All businesses, non-profits, schools and institutions are required to recycle cardboard, office paper, cans and bottles.
- Apartment complexes with private collection must provide recycling bins in each unit and education to the tenants.
- It is illegal to steal recyclables, including appliances, from the curb, the Recycling Center or any private property.

*Printed on recycled  
and recyclable paper.*