



# Longview Recycles

RECYCLING INFORMATION FOR LONGVIEW RESIDENTS

## Carts-for-Tubs Program a big success!

### Recycling Corner

By Gregory Hannon  
Solid Waste/Recycling Manager

Welcome to the first of many issues that will be dedicated to better educating our community on recycling. There are many benefits recycling brings into most communities, including decreased landfill charges and increased recycling revenue. Both of these factors are taken into consideration each year when determining rates.

#### Missed Collection?

Waste Control has been very good at responding to our requests if garbage and/or recycling tubs or carts are missed on collection day. If for some reason your garbage or recycling container was missed, please give my office a call at 442-5222 and we'll see that your tubs or carts get picked up as soon as possible. Most of the time pick-ups are on the same day of your call (if received prior to 3 p.m.).

#### Yardwaste Program

Longview does not have a yardwaste program in place at this time. We are, however, researching various alternative yardwaste pro-grams and will present our findings to the Longview City Council in the near future for their review and consideration. In the meantime, please haul your yardwaste material (grass clippings, brush, tree clippings, etc.) to the County landfill, or dispose directly into your garbage tub or cart (not in your recycling container).

#### Keeping Longview Clean

I am often amazed at how the thoughtlessness of just a few can have such a huge impact on the beauty of our community. Many times I have witnessed our alleyways full of littered debris, mostly from bulky items like mattresses, chairs, and couches. If you see that someone illegally dumping in your alley, please contact my office so that we can immediately look into it.

If bulky or oversized items appear in the alleys and we have no idea where the items came from, the City will have the items removed at the expense of all garbage and recycling customers. If you have bulky items that you no longer need, please haul these items to the County landfill, or contact Waste Control at 425-4302 to come out and pick them up for you (for a modest charge).

#### Future articles?

What would you like to see in future issues? If you have questions or comments about how we can do a better job in our educational efforts, please let us know by calling 442-5222, or email [gregg.hannon@ci.longview.wa.us](mailto:gregg.hannon@ci.longview.wa.us).

### Are you one of the participants in the new "Carts-for-Tubs" program?

On September 10, the City of Longview rounded up the shared 300-gallon garbage and recycling tubs in several Highlands alleyways and replaced them with new 90-gallon garbage and recycling carts for each individual residence.

Providing the new containers offers a solid waste and recycling collection system that is safe, clean, and fair for all customers. Each residence is responsible for removing their carts from the alleyway after the garbage and recycling materials have been picked up by Waste Control. The City hopes to see a significant

reduction of litter and illegal dumping under this new program.

After just a few short weeks, the City is pleased to report that everyone has done a great job so far, and the alleys are looking better than ever!

Additional Carts-for-Tubs programs may be implemented in other areas of the city over the next several years.

The City would like to hear your thoughts on this new program. Do you like the program? Could the City do something better or different? Please call the Solid Waste & Recycling Office at 442-5222 to voice your opinions.

#### Helpful Reminders

By observing the following reminders, we can keep this successful program on track:

- ★ Please remember that all the green garbage carts go on one side of the alley while the brown recycling cart goes on the other side. If you are not sure – look and see where your neighbors have placed theirs. If carts are not on the correct side, they may not be collected.
- ★ When the containers are emptied, please bring them back into your

yard. By removing them from the alley, this will decrease the likelihood that others will use your containers.

- ★ Your garbage and recycling pick-up day is on Monday if you are part of the Carts-for-Tubs program. Please bring your carts to the alley (unless you have been told

otherwise) either on Sunday night or early Monday morning.

- ★ Be courteous to your neighbors. Please do not use any container other than your own. Also, if you find litter on the ground next to your container, please pick it up rather than have it litter the alleys.



A typical alley BEFORE Carts-for-Tubs



A typical alley AFTER Carts-for-Tubs

### Recycling Just Makes Cents

Recycling not only makes sense from an environmental standpoint, but also makes good financial sense. For example, creating aluminum cans from recycled aluminum is far less energy-intensive and less costly than mining the raw materials and manufacturing new cans from scratch.

There are several key benefits to recycling, such as reducing the need for landfills, conserves natural resources such as timber, water, and minerals and helps sustain the environment for future generations.

Locally, the more people recycle, the more revenues the City can use to offset future rate increases.

#### Residential recycling

Since Longview's curbside recycling program began back in July 1992, the County landfill received approximately 217,800 tons of garbage from our residential customers. With a total of 43,200 tons of recyclables collected during this period, Longview's residential recycling rate is 16.5%. The State of Washington's annual residential recycling rate is approximately 44%.

Longview can do better!



#### Translating tonnage to savings

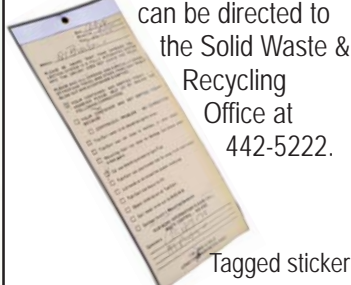
Our average monthly tonnage is approximately 237 tons, or a regular savings of about \$9,000 in landfill fees. Since the city's curbside recycling program began, over \$1.65 million has been saved in landfill charges.



### How to avoid having your cart 'tagged'

Your cart or tub may get tagged by Waste Control if any of the following violations occur on your pickup day. Your container may or may not be emptied due one or more of the violations listed.

Questions about violations can be directed to the Solid Waste & Recycling Office at 442-5222.



#### Heavy container

Remember that dirt and concrete are not allowed in your garbage or recycling containers. Violators will be charged to have the container hand emptied. When the City cannot determine who the violator is, fees get passed on to current ratepayers.



#### Overstuffed container

Both the large and small lids must be closed on your container so that the lid doesn't catch on the side of the truck and dump debris on the ground.



#### Containers too close together

Carts need to be pulled at least two feet apart to allow the truck arm to maneuver without tipping over the carts. Also, make sure your carts face the direction of the truck.



#### Vehicle blocking container(s)

Report these violations to the Solid Waste & Recycling office at 442-5222. Include the license number, license state, and brief description of the vehicle, if possible.



### Do you have an address clearly displayed on the backside of your residence or garage?

If your garbage and/or recycling cart is missed on collection day – Waste Control needs to be able to locate your residence from the alley. By clearly displaying your address on the backside of your residence or garage, they will be able to locate the containers much easier.



### Have you heard of the City's "2good2toss" program?

Do you have a washer or dryer you no longer need? How about those books that have been stored in your closet? An extra bed you no longer need?

Check out Cowlitz County and City of Longview at [www.2good2toss.com](http://www.2good2toss.com), your online marketplace for reusable materials and household items. This is a great resource to save you money and time while keeping valuable items from going to the landfill.

The service is easy. Just create an account, then begin listing your items. All listings can either be free or have a maximum value of up to \$99. Other limitations apply.



### Do you recycle?

The following are general guidelines for preparing your recyclables.

#### NEWSPAPERS

No need to remove labels. Do not bundle with string.



#### TIN CANS

These cans are magnetic and will have a seam. Rinse, remove all labels, remove both ends and flatten.



#### ALUMINUM CANS AND FOIL

These cans are not magnetic and will not have a seam. Rinse and flatten (optional).



#### BOTTLES AND JARS

No drinking glass, plate glass or light bulbs. Rinse and remove lids. No need to remove paper labels.



#### #2 H.D.P.E. PLASTICS

(natural and colored) - Natural includes milk jugs, distilled water and juice bottles. Colored includes detergents, soaps, shampoos, bleaches, juices, etc. Rinse, flatten, remove lids and leave labels.



#### #1 P.E.T. PLASTICS

These include pop, cranberry and cooking oil bottles, peanut butter jars, etc.



#### MAGAZINES

These should be glossy throughout.



#### CARDBOARD

Empty contents, remove liners and flatten boxes.



Do you have questions about recycling?

Contact the Solid Waste/Recycling Office at 442.5222 for more specific information, or visit us online at [www.mylongview.com](http://www.mylongview.com).