

City of Newton



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Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
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January 29, 2020

Changes to Bulky Waste Collection Policy

Effective February 1, 2020

- **Newton City Council approved changes on December 16, 2019 to the Bulky Waste Collection policy.**
- **The approved change is a per item fee of \$20 for this curbside collection service.**
- **Definition of a bulky waste item is on page 2.**

New Bulky Waste Collection Program (effective 2/1/20):

- Per item fee of \$20
- Residents may request a bulky waste curbside collection appointment using the Newton Online Bill Pay service or by going to Newton City Hall Customer Service
 - Payments received by 10:00am on Friday are picked up the following week on the resident's trash day
- A refund will be issued only if the request is cancelled by 10:00am the business day prior to the resident's trash day
- Refunds will not be issued if the item is scavenged from the curb prior to pickup nor if the resident fails to set the item out by 7:00am on their trash day

Goals of Changing the Bulky Waste Collection Policy:

- 1) Encourage residents to exhaust reuse options before using the bulky waste collection service.
- 2) Reduce hauling costs to the City, especially due to the other cost increases in waste hauling service – this change saved \$140,000 from the FY20-FY25 waste/recycling hauling contract. Even with this change, the new contract cost is increasing by 17%.
- 3) Reduce tonnage costs to the City – an estimated \$75,000 will be saved annually on the City's disposal costs.

Previous Bulky Waste Collection Program (prior to 2/1/20):

- Up to 5 bulky waste items per household per week allowable at no out-of-pocket cost
- Residents must make an appointment by 3:30pm one business day prior to their trash day

Bulky waste items include:

- Any single item that is too large to fit into the trash blue cart and is not recyclable through an existing City program. *Appliances, items that contain over 50% metal, home entertainment and office electronics, tires, and 100% rigid plastic items are recyclable through existing City programs at the Newton Resource Recovery Center.*
- Carpet and loose scrap wood must be tied in a roll or bundle that is no more than four feet in length and weighs no more than fifty pounds. Each roll or bundle counts as one item.
- One mattress, regardless of size, counts as one item. This includes children's mattresses, futon mattresses, foam mattresses, and spring mattresses.
- One complete box spring or a pair of split box springs counts as one item.
- A wooden futon frame counts as one item.
- One couch, including all sections of a sectional couch and any loose couch cushions counts as one item.
- All pieces of a wooden bed frame, including headboard, footboard, and rails counts as one item.
- All pieces of a wooden furniture item that has been dismantled counts as one item. This could include a wooden bookshelf or desk that has been dismantled into a set of pieces.
- A dining table with up to 4 matching chairs count as one item.
- One pair of skis counts as one item.
- Vacuum cleaner or any other mixed-material item that is not primarily made of metal counts as one item.