



2021

# Solid Waste Division Business Plan



**City of Roswell  
Solid Waste  
Division Mission:**

**To provide  
efficient and  
effective Solid  
Waste  
Management and  
Recycling  
Services**

## Acknowledgements

The City of Roswell Solid Waste Division, a Division of the Environmental/Public Works Department, developed a Business Plan, to review and assess the continued capability to provide household garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection services to the residents and commercial businesses of the City of Roswell. The following staff contributed to the Business Plan.

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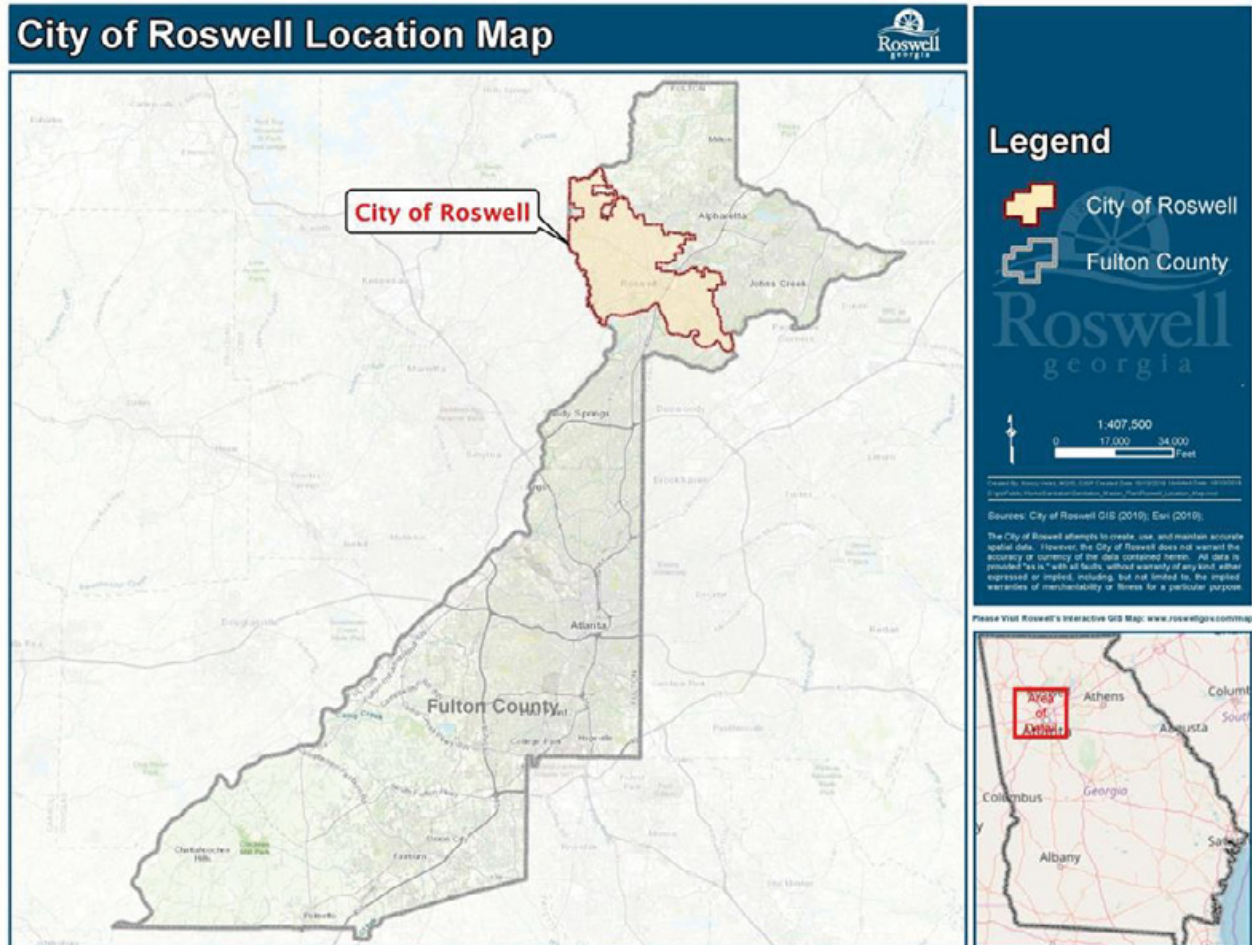
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## Section 1. History and Overview of the Solid Waste Division

The City of Roswell, founded in 1854, is located approximately 20 miles north of Atlanta, Georgia with a geographic area of 42 square miles. The City of Roswell shares borders with Cobb County to the west, the cities of Johns Creek and Alpharetta to the east, and the City of Milton to the north. The Chattahoochee River makes up the southern border of the City with the City of Sandy Springs residing across the river. See Figure 1-1 – City of Roswell Location Map. The City of Roswell has a population of approximately 96,000 residents and an estimated 26,400 households.

Figure 1-1. City of Roswell Location Map



### 1.1 History of the Solid Waste Division

The timeline below describes the history of solid waste collection in the City of Roswell based on readily available documents and historical Mayor and Council meeting minutes.

- **1967:** Mayor and Council adopted an Ordinance regulating garbage collection and other wastes, the size, weight, and placement of household garbage containers.
- **1970:** Mayor and Council adopted an Ordinance establishing requirements for commercial garbage collection, rental, and rates for commercial collection service.

- **1974:** Mayor and Council adopted an Ordinance establishing that City of Roswell will collect all garbage and trash generated within the City Limits and no permits will be issued to private companies unless the City of Roswell was unable to furnish the services.
- **1989:** City assumed management of the Recycling Center.
- **1991:** The City Council adopted an ordinance to add residential curbside collection of household garbage and the standard residential rate was established at \$15.00 per month.
- **1992:** The City contracted with BFI for curbside collection of recycling.
- **1995:** The City of Roswell began residential curbside collection of yard waste on Mondays only.
- **1998:** Mandatory recycling for multi-family development was established.
- **1999:** The Transfer Station opens at 1810 Hembree Road.
- **2000:** The Recycling Center opens at 11570 Maxwell Road. The City of Roswell annexed a large area east of Georgia State Route 400 increasing the number of serviced households.
- **2002:** Curbside recycling contract awarded to Dreamsan, Inc. in the amount of \$2.57 per month
- **2003:** A resolution was approved by Mayor and Council to increase standard residential rates to \$19.00 per month.
- **2004:** A resolution was approved by Mayor and Council to increase standard residential rates to \$22.00 per month.
- **2005:** Mayor and Council directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP#05-083) for the privatization of Solid Waste Management Services. The Evaluation Committee recommended the City issue a separate RFP for the collection of curbside recycling and yard waste and maintain the household garbage collection service.
- **2006:** The City contracted with Community Waste Services (CWS) for curbside recycling and yard waste collection. The City of Roswell annexed additional areas (coinciding with the formation of Johns Creek and Milton) increasing the number of serviced households.
- **2009:** The City contracted with CWS for Transfer Station Operations and Maintenance.
- **2010:** A resolution was approved by Mayor and Council to reduce standard residential rates to \$18.05 per month in part to accommodate the creation of the Stormwater Utility.
- **2018:** The City of Roswell implemented the semi-automated curbside collection program and began issuance of standard City owned garbage and recycling cans to all residents.
- **2018:** Resolution Number 2018-08-62 was approved by Mayor and Council to increase standard residential rates to \$22.03 per month with annual increases of 3% each July 1 beginning in 2020 through 2023. A copy of this Resolution is included as Appendix 1-1.
- **2019:** Implementation of automated curbside recycling program.

A detailed history of Resolutions, Ordinances, and service and rate changes is included in Appendix 1-2.

## **Section 1.2 Community Benefits**

Services provided by the Solid Waste Division are integral to the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City of Roswell and promote the Strategic Goals adopted by Mayor and Council:

1. Promote a Well Designed Community
2. Sustain and Protect the City's Resources
3. Emphasize a Responsive Delivery of Quality Services
4. Celebrate Our History, Culture, Heritage and Character
5. Maintain a Safe and Secure Environment for People and Property, and Provide a Prepared Response to All Emergencies

The Solid Waste Division offers and provides an array of quality services that enhance community benefits including, but not limited to curbside collection of household garbage, recycling, and yard waste, curbside exempt collection for residents a minimum of 65 years of age or with medical conditions, collection of garbage in the historic downtown, MARTA bus stops, and other locations. Also offered are Bulky Trash and Household Hazardous Waste collection events providing Roswell residents with an opportunity to dispose of difficult or potentially harmful items at no cost.

The management of solid waste services in the Roswell historic downtown protects the City's resources as well as enhances the community for residents and visitors.

In 2018, the City funded, purchased, and provided household garbage containers to every household in Roswell to create a consistent and uniform means for collection. This program ensures all residents utilize the same container that is manufactured to work with the hydraulic lifters on the residential rear loaders. The uniformity of the containers enhance the character of the City and maintain the appeal of Roswell's residential communities and neighborhoods.

The Recycling Center collects items that are not collected in the curbside recycling collection program. Serving as an alternative solution for challenging recyclables such as paint, used anti-freeze, motor and vegetable oil, fluorescent bulbs, polystyrene, electronics, tires, and appliances, and metal. All services are offered at no charge to Roswell residents. These services complement the responsive delivery of quality services to all residents.

The combination of Solid Waste services support the protection of the character of the City of Roswell as an urban area with a small city atmosphere. This option allows the City to deliver same day resolution to address missed collections, offer additional amenities such as the conveniently located Transfer Station residential drop off, large item curbside pickup program, special events i.e. Household Hazardous Waste or Bulky Trash collection, Recycling Center, code compliance and enforcement, and local staff that are available to personally respond to resident inquiries or complaints. These services ensure a high quality of life, protection of resources, and a clean environment for Roswell residents and visitors.

### **1.3 Overview of the Solid Waste Division**

The City of Roswell Solid Waste Division is structured under the Department of Environmental/Public Works and currently has 53 approved, budgeted positions. The Solid Waste Division operates as a utility Enterprise Fund that generates revenue through user fees. Services provided by the Solid Waste Division include the following:

- Residential Curbside collection of household garbage, recycling, and yard waste
- Commercial garbage collection
- Operations and management of the Roswell Transfer Station
- Operations and management of the Roswell Recycling Center

The Solid Waste Division is headquartered at 1810 Hembree Road, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009 commonly known as the Hembree Facility. The Solid Waste Division shares the Hembree Facility with the Roswell Department of Transportation and the Roswell Fire Department. See Figure 1-2 below for a location map of the Hembree Facility.



Figure 1-2. Hembree Facility – 1810 Hembree Road



As an Enterprise Fund, the Solid Waste Division is solely funded by the service users or the residents and businesses of the City of Roswell. The residential Solid Waste fee is all inclusive for weekly household garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection, and the Transfer Station and Recycling Center. The fee also includes provision of household garbage and recycling containers.

Moving forward, the demand for services will continue to be driven by local population growth, new residential development and commercial businesses. Service types may alter in response to changes in development and construction activity. However, the main goal and objective of the Solid Waste Division will continue to be to provide a high level of service, maintain a stable and sustainable financial structure, and increase public awareness about services provided and offered by the Division.



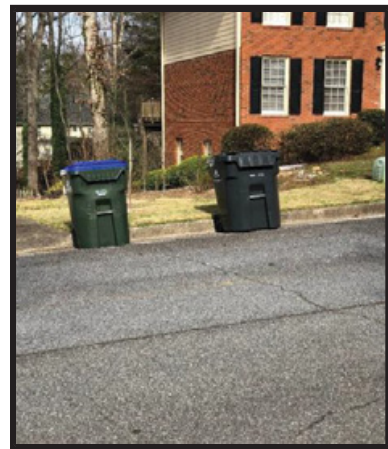
## 1.4 Residential Household Garbage Collection

By Ordinance, the City of Roswell collects all residential garbage, recycling, and yard waste generated within the city limits (currently from approximately 26,400 households). The City of Roswell collects household garbage in City provided cans using in-house personnel and equipment. Residential recycling, yard waste collection, and processing services in the City of Roswell are outsourced via contract with a third party vendor.

Residents are required to pay for garbage collection for all habitable property located in the City of Roswell. The fee for sanitation services is all inclusive for weekly household garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection as well as use of the Roswell Recycling Center and Transfer Station. The fee also includes provision of a household garbage and recycling container. Residential curbside recycling is not mandatory although it is included in the monthly fee. The application to establish a Residential Garbage Collection account is included as Appendix 1-3.

Residential household garbage collection is provided once per week, Tuesday through Friday. The City is “divided” into four (4) sections with seven (7) or eight (8) routes per section. One (1) to three (3) staff, comprised of the truck driver and one (1) to two (2) employees collect garbage on each route. These routes are summarized in Table 1-1. There are also Scout routes for curbside exempt customers that are collected by six (6) staff. These staff also collect items for the curbside large item collection program, small commercial, subdivision amenity areas, and other miscellaneous services.

The City provides standard 95-gallon containers to all residents upon establishment of a utility account. The standardized containers with lids have been successful in a number of ways, including discouraging residents from setting out excess garbage, efficient detection of set-outs that exceed limits, decreases in amount of water in garbage, improved neighborhood aesthetics, and reduction of litter caused by garbage blowing out of containers, and spread by weather related events or animals. The City contracts with a third-party vendor for storage, deliveries, repairs, exchanges, and replacement of household garbage containers.



There are two (2) types of household garbage collection services offered to residents:

Standard Service – One (1) 95 or 45-gallon container\*

Premium Service – Two (2) 95-gallon containers

\*45-gallon containers are provided by request only

Subject to approval by the Solid Waste Manager, Department Director or Deputy Director, residents that receive a 45-gallon container can request an additional container for a one-time fee of \$50. The majority of residents utilizing 45-gallon containers are curbside exempt customers, single-person households, residents in townhouse communities with limited storage space, and subdivisions with restrictive Homeowner Association (HOA) requirements prohibiting outdoor storage of containers.

The City established a Curbside Container Program Policy in 2018, included as Appendix 1-4, to clarify responsibilities of residents for the use, care, and safekeeping of the containers. Residents are required to contact the Solid Waste Division after they establish an account to request a household garbage container which is delivered by a third-party vendor within 48 hours of receipt of the request.

The City purchases and provides residential household garbage containers in 95-gallon or 45-gallon sizes. Containers are reusable and are refurbished with new lids, wheels, etc. for as long as possible; however, the projected maximum life cycle is 10 years. Containers that are damaged beyond repair are discarded and replaced with new or refurbished containers. The spare containers, in each size, will require replacement every few years to maintain an adequate supply to meet existing and new resident demand. Approximately 3,400 containers for the pilot program were delivered in 2017 and approximately 23,000 were deployed in 2018 for the remainder of the city.

**Table 1-1. Number of Residential Customers Serviced Per Day / Per Route**

<b>Day of the Week</b>	<b>Number of Households Collected*</b>
Tuesday	7,128
Wednesday	6,767
Thursday	6,720
Friday	5,807

\*Number of households as of September 2019

### 1.5 Curbside Recycling Collection

Curbside recycling is provided by a third-party vendor. The vendor provides, upon request, a 65-gallon container with a lid or an 18-gallon bin (for curbside exempt customers) for recyclables. Residents can request an additional 65-gallon container for premium recycling services for an extra fee. The monthly solid waste fee includes curbside recycling; however, residential recycling is voluntary so residents are required to contact the Solid Waste Division to request a container. The vendor is responsible for deliveries, repairs, and exchanges of recycling containers.

The vendor utilizes the City's household garbage collection route schedule so garbage and recycling are collected on the same day of the week. The curbside recycling program accepts co-mingled, single stream recyclables listed in the table below.

**Table 1-2. Curbside Recycling Program Accepted Recyclables**

<b>Recyclable Product</b>	<b>Items</b>
Paper	Newspaper, Telephone Books, Magazines, Catalogs, Office Paper, Glossy Forms & Junk Mail, Cardboard & Chipboard, Corrugated Cardboard (required to be cut into sections and placed inside the container)
Plastics	Plastic containers #1 - #7
Metal	Aluminum, Steel Food & Beverage Containers, Foil Pie Tins
Glass	Brown, Green, Clear, and Blue Glass Bottles, and Jars

The vendor owns and operates a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) located in Alpharetta, Georgia, for recyclable processing. This facility is a 33,000 square-foot single-stream materials recovery facility with the capacity to process 250 tons per day; multiple balers, separators, trammel screens, and other state of the art processing equipment. Recycled glass is also re-used in other capacities such as road base.

### 1.6 Curbside Yard Waste Collection

Curbside yard waste collection is provided by the same third-party vendor that provides curbside recycling collection. Per ordinance regulations, yard waste must adhere to specific set out guidelines. Rear loaders (32-cubic yard) are used for weekly curbside yard waste collection. Curbside yard waste collection includes weeds, grass, hedge trimmings, leaves, brush, and tree limbs. Loose material can be stacked neatly at the curb not to exceed two (2) cubic yards or in a maximum of 12 “Kraft” paper bags. Limbs must be cut to four (4) feet in length and no more than six (6) inches in diameter. The program does not include dirt, mulch, rocks, or straw. Landscapers or tree cutting companies are required by Ordinance to remove the yard waste they generate. The vendor offers yard waste collection that exceeds the normal weekly collection maximum amounts. Fees apply to this service that are paid directly to the vendor.

Effective April 1, 2019 the yard waste collection routes were revised to level the number of Monday customers, provide more efficient service, and reduce the number of missed collections. Prior to the route revision, approximately 11,156 residences or 41% of the City’s yard waste was collected on Monday.

This route was originally designed to accommodate City crews when the City collected yard waste. This permitted the majority of yard waste to be collected on Monday to accommodate household garbage collection Tuesday through Friday. The changes impacted approximately 6,686 or 24% of residents that participate in the curbside yard waste collection program. The changes leveled collections to approximately 20% of households per day and has proven successful in reducing missed collections and improving services. The City’s contract includes a provision for the contractor to provide a grapple truck to handle peak season collections and storm debris.



The vendor owns and operates a Materials Management Facility (MRF) in Ball Ground, Georgia for yard waste processing and disposal. This facility, is a 577-acre site permitted for municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris, yard waste, industrial asbestos, and sludge.

## **Section 2. Scout Route and Other Services**

### **2.1 Curbside Exempt Collection**

The City offers a program to residents who are a minimum of 65 years of age or with a certified medical disability to have their household garbage and recycling collected in front of their garage or “at their house” in lieu of taking their containers to the curb. This service is provided by a scout truck that can maneuver residential driveways. Residents are required to complete an application that includes a “right of entry” form allowing staff to encroach onto their property. They are also required to provide proof of age or medical disability. The exemption is valid for a period of two (2) years at which time, the City will notify the resident for renewal. The renewal process ensures residents receiving the service continue to comply with the requirements (i.e. house occupied by different owners, etc.). The Curbside Exemption Application is included as Appendix 2-1. This application can be submitted electronically.

### **2.2 Large Item Curbside Collection**

The Large Item Curbside Pickup program allows residents to request the curbside collection of items including, but not limited to appliances, furniture, grills, etc. for a fee of \$20.00 per item. Residents contact the Financial Services Division who completes a work order and receives

payment for the item(s). The work orders are forwarded to the Residential Supervisor to process and schedule collection. The collections are scheduled Tuesday through Friday. The City does not collect any type of construction and demolition debris (wood, fencing, doors, tile, wood or vinyl flooring, etc.). Scout Trucks collect items for this program. Metal is transported to the Recycling Center for recycling. Other items are delivered to the City Transfer Station for disposal. The current Large Item Curbside Collection list is included as Appendix 2-2.

### 2.3 Safety Routes

Safety Routes are established by the Residential Supervisor and Division Manager to address areas that are not conducive for rear loaders stopping in the street or for small residential developments that cannot accommodate a rear loader to collect household garbage. These routes are serviced by Scout Trucks that can maneuver steep or narrow driveways and can leave the main road to collect household garbage.

### 2.4 MARTA Bus Stops

A Scout Truck services 40 MARTA bus stops in the City of Roswell. The trash containers are emptied twice per week to avoid an accumulation of garbage or spillage onto the ground or in the bus shelters.

### 2.5 Small Business Collection

The residential staff collects containers from small businesses in Roswell. The majority of these businesses do not require dumpster service or do not have the required access or space to accommodate a rear loader. These businesses include attorney, accountant, real estate offices and other small operations. There are also some businesses, including restaurants, in the Historic District that require this service due to the development of their property. Many of these uses are remodeled single-family residences with limited area that does not have the required space, type of construction, or access to accommodate a dumpster. The small business collection service is provided by a Scout Truck. These businesses are provided with a minimum of two (2) 95-gallon containers. Additional fees apply to the businesses that require more than two (2) containers.

Roswell also provides Scout Truck services to a number of subdivision amenity areas who are considered and billed as small businesses. They are also provided with a minimum of two (2) 95-gallon containers for tennis courts, swimming pools, clubhouses, etc. Additional fees apply for more than two (2) containers.

Table 2-1 details the number of customers serviced in the Scout Truck routes.

**Table 2-1. Scout Truck Routes and Number of Customers**

<b>Type of Collection</b>	<b>Number of Customers*</b>
Curbside Exempt Customers <sup>1</sup>	521
Difficult Driveway Customers <sup>2</sup>	27
Safety Route Customers <sup>3</sup>	1,039
Small Commercial Business Customers <sup>4</sup>	192
MARTA Bus Stops <sup>5</sup>	40
Historic District Shops (Canton Street)	27

\*Number of customers as of September 2019

1. Residents who are a minimum of 65 years of age or with certified medical disability (number of customers as of 1/26/2021).

2. Residents with long or steep driveways. This exemption was discontinued in July 2018. Remaining residents are “grandfathered” in this program.
3. City deemed unsafe driveways (not safe for rear loader to stop on street due to high traffic volume area, limited sight distance, topography of road, etc.).
4. Small businesses that generate small amounts of solid waste or do not have adequate access to their property to accommodate a front-loader are provided with a minimum of two (2) 96-gallon containers. Small businesses include attorney offices, accounting offices, real-estate offices, etc. Subdivision amenity areas are also considered small businesses. If more than two (2) containers are required extra fees apply.
5. MARTA bus stops are collected twice per week

## **2.6 Bulky Trash Collection Events**

The City currently holds two (2) Bulky Trash Collection Events per calendar year. The events, held on selected Saturdays at the Roswell Transfer Station, are open to Roswell residents only, who register prior to the event. Registration is provided on the City of Roswell website a minimum of 25 days prior to the event for 150 residents. This event is open to all Roswell residents; however, is intended to assist people that cannot bring their items Monday through Friday. The City’s vendor for recycling and yard waste collection provides roll-off containers to store items for disposal.

## **2.7 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events**

The City conducts two (2) Household Hazardous Waste events per calendar year (spring and fall). The events are held at the Solid Waste Division on selected Saturdays for Roswell residents only. Residents do not have to register; however, staff checks for Roswell residency of all attendees (using driver’s license or utility statement). A third-party vendor collects and disposes of the collected waste. The number of participants per event is approximately 250.

## **2.8 Special Events**

The City provides roll-off containers for the City sponsored event, “Alive in Roswell” held monthly the third Thursday from April through October.

## **Section 3. Commercial Garbage Collection**

The City of Roswell collects commercial garbage from approximately 877 commercial customers as detailed in Table 3-1. By Ordinance, commercial properties with dumpsters and/or small commercial service containers are required to establish and pay for collection service with the City of Roswell.

The City provides commercial account customers with a dumpster(s) for commercial garbage collection. The dumpsters are available in sizes of 4-yards, 6-yards, or 8-yards and customers can select the number of times they will require collection per week, ranging from one (1) to seven (7) days per week. Routes have been established based on location, hours of operation, access to the site, and number of collections per week.

Commercial customers include retail shopping centers, restaurants, schools, vehicle dealerships, and other large developments. There are currently two (2) multi-family developments that receive commercial dumpster collection service.

Financial Services staff oversees the application process for commercial accounts and provides a copy to the Supervisor to add to the route schedule for collection. The application requires the



customer to request a specific size of dumpster and the number of days of collection. The application to establish a Commercial Garbage Collection account is included as Appendix 3-1.

**Table 3-1. Number of Commercial Customers and Collections per Week**

<b>Number of Customers*</b>	<b>Dumpster Size</b>	<b>Number of Times Collected Per Week</b>	<b>Total Number of Collections Per Week</b>
141	4-yard	1	141
23	4-yard	2	46
158	6-yard	1	158
54	6-yard	2	108
14	6-yard	3	42
1	6-yard	4	4
3	6-yard	5	15
1	6-yard	6	6
179	8-yard	1	179
134	8-yard	2	268
84	8-yard	3	252
25	8-yard	4	100
43	8-yard	5	215
10	8-yard	6	60
7	8-yard	7	49
<b>Total Customers</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>Total Collections Per Week</b>	<b>1,643</b>

\*Number of Commercial Customer Accounts as of August 2020

The front loaders return to the Transfer Station a minimum of four (4) times per day during their route collection to unload. Waste from the Roswell Transfer Station is hauled to the third party's contracted landfill for disposal. Approximately 21,000 tons of garbage is collected from commercial businesses per year.

### **3.1 East Alley Compactor Services**

In May 2011, the City of Roswell adopted the East Alley Master Plan to redevelop city-owned property located behind businesses on Canton Street. East Alley provides access to the rear of businesses for outdoor seating, patios, deliveries, storage, parking for downtown patrons, and a location for special events. The development of the alley included a central location for waste management. A compactor system was chosen as the means for waste disposal to provide garbage collection to adjacent businesses due to the lack of space for individual dumpsters or other means of waste collection.

The City of Roswell does not collect garbage from commercial trash compactors, such as multifamily and large retail facilities who hire a private company to service their compactor. The City contracts with a third party vendor to provide compactor services to the East Alley businesses. This vendor utilizes the Transfer Station for disposal of the compactor waste for 17 businesses located on East Alley, the majority of which are restaurants. The businesses are billed monthly utilizing a "pay as you throw" system requiring cards to swipe for every disposal into the compactor. Table 3-2 summarizes waste collection at the East Alley compactor.

**Table 3-2. East Alley Compactor Tonnage FY2019 through FY2020**

<b>Month</b>	<b>FY2019</b>	<b>FY2020</b>
July	34	14
August	25	5
September	15	34
October	26	28
November	24	32
December	30	21
January	23	70
February	19	31
March	36	23
April	24	0*
May	21	12
June	16	26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>296</b>

\*Impact of COVID-19 business closures

### **3.2 West Alley Dumpster Services**

There are three (3) 8-yard dumpsters located in the alley behind businesses on Canton Street. There are currently 11 businesses that utilize these dumpsters. Commercial services empties these dumpsters once per day, seven (7) days per week.

### **3.3 Commercial Recycling Services**

Currently, the City does not offer commercial recycling collection services. There are local private vendors who provide commercial recycling including, but not limited to Waste Management, Republic Services, and Advanced Disposal.

### **3.4 New Development**

Designated Environmental/Public Works (EPW) staff members represent the department on the Development and Permit Review Team (DPRT). This team reviews development plans and meets with potential developers to answer questions and provide information about specific construction specification regulations. One EPW staff member reviews plans for compliance with residential development access, commercial garbage collection including, but not limited to dumpster location, dumpster pad construction and enclosure, and adequate ingress and egress to accommodate garbage trucks.

## **Section 4. Roswell Recycling Center**

The City of Roswell owns, operates, and maintains the Roswell Recycling Center which is open to the public and processes approximately 1,850 tons of recyclable materials annually. The use of the Recycling Center is free for residents of the City of Roswell. Until Mid-March of 2020, non-residents were permitted to use the facility but were subject to fees associated with certain services. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Recycling Center was closed for a period time and when it reopened use was limited to Roswell residents and businesses only.

The Recycling Center offers collection services to City of Roswell schools and City facilities. The Recycling Center also provides tours to interested parties and opportunities for community service.



The Roswell Recycling Center originally opened on September 30, 1989 in a gravel parking lot on Hill Street utilizing barrels for recycling separation of glass, paper, plastics, and aluminum. The Center utilized trailers for recyclable storage until it could be hauled to Lawrenceville for processing. There were six (6) employees and Community Service workers that manned the Center

In 2000, the Recycling Center relocated to Maxwell Road into an estimated 4,000 square-foot facility with office space, breakroom, and recyclable processing areas. Eight (8) trailers are used for storage of paper, cardboard, and other recyclables after they are baled and prepared for collection and transport by various vendors for final processing. In 2012, the second floor of the Center was renovated into additional office space, storage, and a small conference room / work area.



There are separate outdoor containers for the collection and storage of metal (large and small), glass (separated



by color), used antifreeze, motor oil, vegetable oil, books, flags (collected by local Boy Scouts for proper disposal), and eyeglasses (Roswell Lions Club). Items collected and stored in the building for processing include electronics, cardboard, plastics, newspaper, magazines and books, office paper, and paint.

The Recycling Center staff provides weekly collection of paper, plastic, and aluminum from 20 local schools and 19 government facilities.

The City contracts with a third-party vendor who provides a trailer and staff to collect donations of clothes and hard goods including, but not limited to furniture, clothing, lamps, and other household items. The vendor pays the City a monthly fee (\$0.14 per pound) based on the amount of goods collected. The trailer is weighed at the Roswell Transfer Station on a monthly basis to determine the weight of collected goods.

The following amount of tonnage was collected from July 1, 2019 through June 1, 2020.

**Table 4-1. Tonnage Collected and Payment Received for the Donation of Clothes and Hard Goods Program**

Month	Amount (tons)	Amount of Payment
July	35	\$10,080
August	34	\$9,677.80
September	37	\$9,380
October	42	\$10,469.20
November	38	\$11,874.20
December	50	\$10,752
January	134	\$13,955
February	31	\$18,765.60
March	19	\$9,394
April	0*	0
May	0*	\$5,283.60
June	32	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>\$109,631</b>

\*Due to COVID-19 closure and revised Recycling Center schedule

The Recycling Center partners with Keep Roswell Beautiful (KRB) and the Atlanta Humane Society during the annual America Recycles Week in November to collect used blankets and towels and hosts the bi-annual Prescription Drug Take Back Days sponsored by Wellstar Hospital, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Roswell Police Department. The Center also provides foldable recycling containers that separate plastic, aluminum, and glass for private events.

The Roswell Recycling Center provides unique services to Roswell residents. The size and organization of the Center, number of days of operation per week, and the number and type of recyclables collected makes the Center a valuable resource for the community. Most importantly, the tonnage removed from the City’s waste stream saves significant space in area landfills.

Although the Recycling Center provides a valuable service to the residents of Roswell, it has never operated at a profit, or at a break even mode, during its existence. One of the main areas of emphasis for the Solid Waste staff is to constantly evaluate the operation of the facility and determine operation and financial options. A major variable is the fact that the recycling market is constantly changing, and in recent years the revenue that can be realized from many of the recycled materials has dropped dramatically. The Center staff monitors the market to determine the fiscal implications of collected recyclables.

Table 4.2 presents the recyclables that were accepted for Roswell residents and non-residents, with any applicable fees for non-residents at the Recycling Center prior to the COVID 19 restrictions being put into place. Table 4.3 presents the specialty services that are currently provided to Roswell residents at no cost.

**Table 4-2. Recyclables Accepted at the Roswell Recycling Center**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Resident / Non-Resident or All</b>	<b>Generates Revenue</b>
Cardboard	All (including local businesses)	Yes
Paint	Roswell Residents only	No
Glass	All	Yes
Plastic (Numbers 1-5 and 7)	All	Yes
Electronics	All (Non-Resident Fee)	No
Motor Oil, Vegetable Oil and Anti-Freeze	All	No
Paper (newspaper, magazines, catalogs, books, copy paper, junk mail)	All	Yes
Metal	All	Yes
Aluminum	All	Yes
Glass Bottles (clear, brown, green, blue)	All	Yes
Lead acid batteries	All	No
Tires	All (Non-Resident Fee)	No
Appliances	All (Non-Resident Fee)	Yes

**Table 4-3. Specialty Services for Roswell Residents<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Limitations</b>
Paper Shredding	Limit 2 boxes (approximately 10" x 12" x 18" per household per day); Residents may watch shredding of documents from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M.
Fluorescent bulbs	4-foot tube or u-shaped bulbs (maximum of 5 per household per day)
Latex / Oil Based Paint	In liquid form and in original container (maximum of two 5-gallon buckets or 10 1-gallon cans per household per day)
Polystyrene	Preformed, hard packaging polystyrene (no Styrofoam cups, food packaging, or "peanuts")

1. Roswell Residents (Fulton County) that pay the monthly Solid Waste Fee

Most materials accepted at the Recycling Center generate revenue. However, currently there is not a viable recycle market for some items and the Center must pay to dispose of these items. Table 4.4 presents the annual cost for disposal of these items over the past 4 fiscal years.

**Table 4-4. Cost for Disposal of Paint, Electronics, Tires, and Fluorescent Bulbs 2017 through 2020**

<b>Commodity</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>
Paint	\$48,121	\$30,465	\$50,870	\$52,697
Electronics	\$30,573	\$21,877	\$12,977	\$26,629
Tires	\$2,603	\$2,016	\$2,044	\$2,696
Fluorescent Bulbs*	\$0	\$0	\$2,830	\$1,645

\*The City did not begin accepting fluorescent bulbs until FY2019

#### **4.1 Recycling Center Market Challenges and Risks**

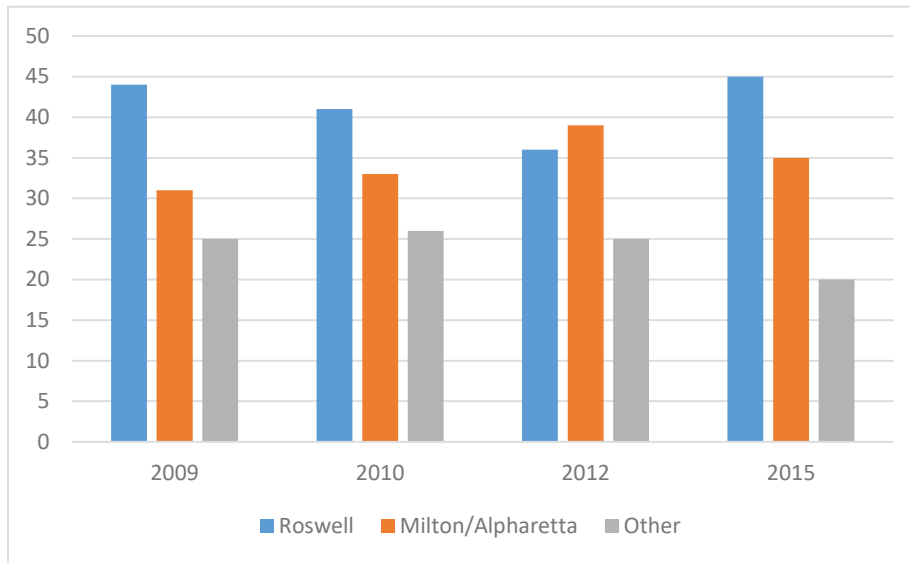
As stated earlier in this plan, the Recycling Center is a valuable asset to the citizens Roswell and to the surrounding community. However, the Center has never operated at a breakeven level and several trends over the previous years have exacerbated this situation and are predicted to continue to impact revenue into the future. Several of these challenges are discussed below.

#### **4.2 Non Resident Use of Recycling Center**

Since the recycling center has been in operation, even before its move to the current location, the center has accepted materials from both Roswell residents and residents of a number of the cities and counties in North Georgia. Although there is limited historical data on daily usage and where customers reside, the existing data does suggest that the majority of users have been non-residents of Roswell.

The Recycling Center and Solid Waste staff have attempted to quantify where recyclables originated. During four periods over the past decade, vehicle counts, and limited surveys of customers were conducted. Although these activities were only "snapshots in time", they do show a consistent pattern. Figure 4.1 shows that Roswell residents have generally represented less than 50% of the users in each survey period.

**Figure 4-1 – Percent Usage by Origin**



Non-residents have been able to recycle the same items as Roswell residents. For certain items a fee was imposed and these charges are presented in Table 4.5.

**Table 4-5. Services for Non-Residents that require a Fee\***

Item	Fee
Televisions (flat screen or CRT)	\$20 each
Monitors (flat screen or CRT)	\$20 each
Tires (off the rim)	\$2 each (maximum of 4 per day)
Tires (on the rim)	\$15 (maximum of 4 per day)
Appliances (with Freon)	\$20 each
Appliances (without Freon)	\$10 each

The Roswell Recycling Center has historically accepted a wider range of items than other centers in the area. Table 4-6 presents comparisons between the Roswell Recycling Center and other centers in the north Metro area.

**Table 4-6. Fees Charged for Selected Items Comparisons**

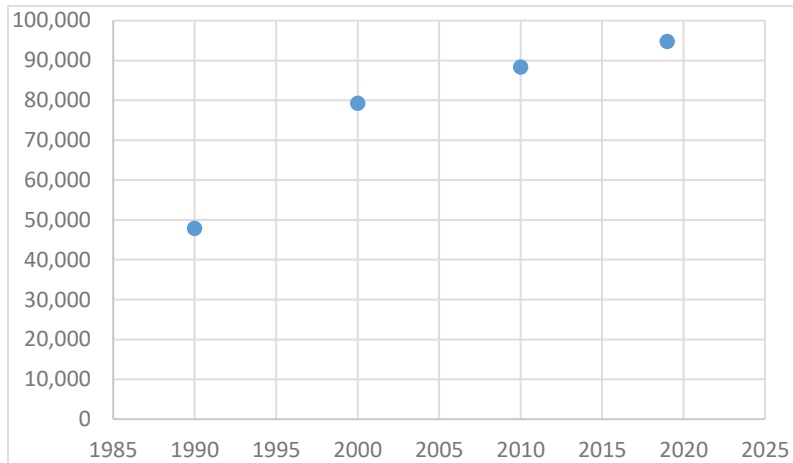
Commodity	Roswell Resident	Roswell Non-Resident	Sandy Springs	Forsyth County
Fluorescent Bulbs	Free	N/A	\$1-\$5	N/A
Appliances (with Freon/Without Freon)	Free	\$20/\$10	\$0/\$30	N/A
Electronics	Free	\$20	\$15-\$55 <sup>1</sup>	\$12
Paper Shredding	Free	N/A	\$0.50/ln.	N/A
Tires (off rim)	Free	\$2	N/A	\$3
Tires (on rim)	Free	\$15	N/A	\$15
Paint	Free	N/A	N/A	\$1-\$15 <sup>2</sup>
Motor Oil	Free	Free	N/A	Free

N/A - Not Accepted; 1; Depending on size; 2 Depending on size of can

### 4.3 Roswell Population Growth

Since the Recycle Center was placed into service in 2000, the population of Roswell has increased substantially, as shown in Figure 4-2. Roswell population has grown from 79,334 to an estimated 94,736 in 2020. This indicates a growing population base that could potentially be using the capacity of the Recycling Center.

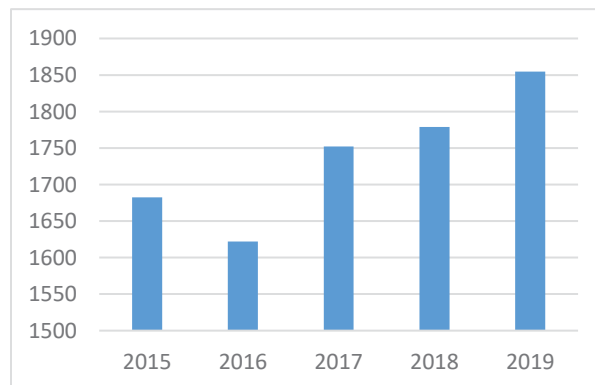
**Figure 4-2. Roswell Population Growth from 1985 through 2025**



### 4.4 Recycling Volumes

Over the past five years there has been a continual increase in recycle tonnage processed at the Recycle Center. The increased tonnage has a number of benefits, including reducing the amount of material in curbside pickup, thereby reducing the City's cost for that service. It also diverts material that might have otherwise gone to landfills and not been recycled. Figure 4.3 illustrates the increase in volumes processed at the Recycling Center over the past five (5) years.

**Figure 4-3. Recycling (tons) 2015 through 2019**



### 4.5 Recyclable Pricing

The recycling market has historically been a volatile market, driven by economic situations and continually changing demand. However in the past several years the market has seen a marked reduction in prices for many of the materials collected at the Roswell Recycling Center, primarily

due to new regulations on materials exported to China and India. [Recycling in the U.S. Is Broken. How Do We Fix It? \(columbia.edu\)](#) in Appendix 4-1 provides insight into the U.S. recycling market. This article discusses recycling contamination, the China ban, the market for recycled material, and best practices.

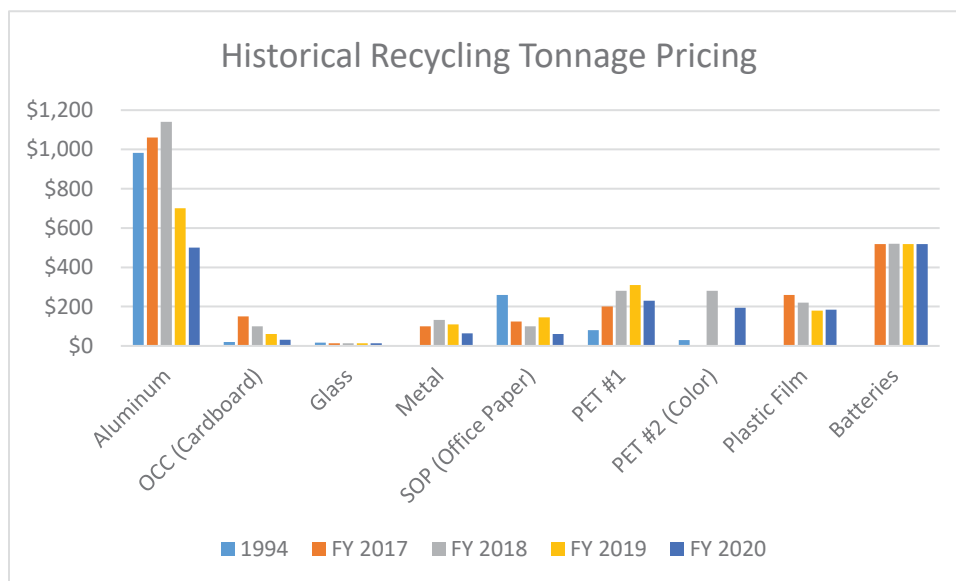
The domestic market remains open and materials are actively being recycled. The City of Roswell Recycling Center utilizes fiscally and environmentally responsible methods to recycle materials and reduce contamination. The City has good relationships with local vendors who accept a wide range of recyclables; however, the payments received for recycled items such as cardboard, paper, and metal have drastically decreased and are projected to continue to do so.

The table below presents representative data for the past several fiscal years, as well as historical prices from 1994.

**Table 4-7. Historical Recycling Tonnage Pricing**

Commodity	1994	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Aluminum	\$983	\$1060	\$1140	\$700	\$500
OCC (Cardboard)	\$20	\$150	\$100	\$60	\$31
Glass	\$16	\$13	\$13	\$13	\$13
Metal		\$100	\$132	\$110	\$64
SOP (Office Paper)	\$260	\$125	\$100	\$145	\$60
PET #1	\$80	\$200	\$280	\$310	\$230
PET #2 (Color)	\$30		\$280		\$194
Plastic Film		\$260	\$220	\$180	\$184
Batteries		\$518	\$520	\$518	\$518

**Figure 4-4. Graph of Historical Recycling Tonnage Pricing**



The increased volumes being received at the Recycling Center are being offset by drops in prices for many materials accepted at the Center, particularly high volume materials such as cardboard and office paper. Appendix 4-2 includes graphs of prices realized for the items in the above Table.



## Section 5. Roswell Transfer Station

The City owns a Transfer Station located at 1810 Hembree that is currently operated and maintained by a third-party vendor. The current contract was effective December 1, 2019 through June 30, 2025. All garbage collected by the City of Roswell is delivered to the Transfer Station where it is loaded into garbage haulers and transported to the Richland Creek Road Municipal Waste Landfill located in Buford, Georgia.



Current on-site operations include the consolidation of all waste collected by the City, both residential and commercial. There is an open top dumpster located at the Transfer Station utilized as a Roswell resident drop-off for limited bulky items. The vendor provides compaction, transport, and final disposal of all waste collected at the Transfer Station. The Station provides a cost effective means for management of solid waste generated within the City as well as an outlet for residents to dispose of excess solid waste and large, bulky items. The only waste

accepted at the Transfer Station is municipal solid waste (MSW). The transfer station processes approximately 42,000 tons of garbage per year.



The Transfer Station does not accept appliances, batteries, construction materials (lumber, concrete, pallets, flooring, etc.), cardboard, hazardous or Freon products, liquids of any type, metal, paint, tires, or yard waste.

**Table 5-1. Solid Waste Tonnage Managed at the City Transfer Station by Month and Fiscal Year 2016-2020 (Includes Residential and Commercial Waste)**

Month	FY 2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
July	3,581	3,364	3,431	3,534	3,512
August	3,427	3,681	3,928	3,839	3,699
September	3,398	3,396	3,448	3,189	3,081
October	3,463	3,146	3,531	3,646	3,608
November	3,492	3,360	3,602	3,620	3,273
December	3,849	3,453	3,439	3,475	3,796
January	3,295	3,522	3,551	3,818	3,815
February	3,106	3,028	3,263	3,256	3,421
March	3,548	3,725	3,521	3,347	3,382
April	3,304	3,406	3,357	3,577	3,105
May	3,668	4,062	4,085	3,847	2,885
June	3,548	3,844	3,558	3,378	3,416
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41,679</b>	<b>41,998</b>	<b>42,712</b>	<b>42,526</b>	<b>40,993</b>

### 5.1 Future Plans for the Transfer Station

Funds are budgeted in the FY2020 and 2021 budget for the design, engineering, and construction of a new Transfer Station. Plans include increased floor square footage, reinforced walls, improved area for tractor trailer ingress and egress to the site, improved access for residential



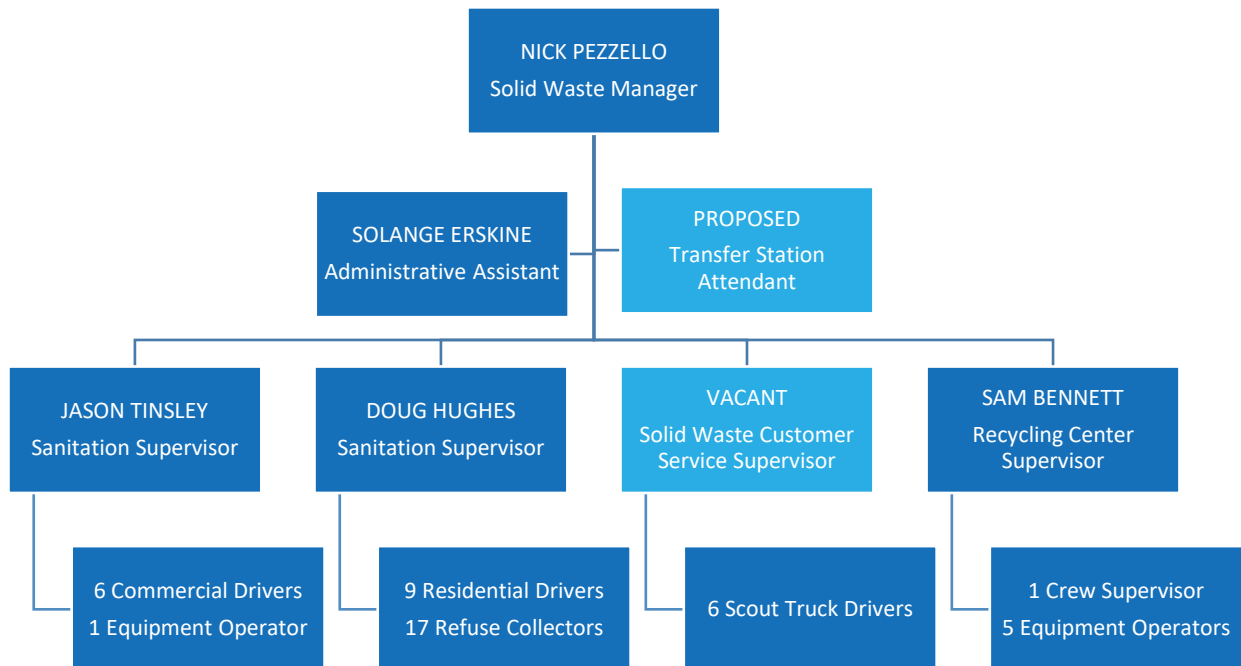
and commercial loaders, new scale with kiosk, and maintaining the designated area for residential drop off. Future plans include construction of a new scale house to accommodate one to two staff members with restroom facilities and an expansion of the residential drop off area.

The City will review options regarding the future operations and maintenance of the Transfer Station. Upon completion of construction of the new Transfer Station, the City may determine to operate and maintain the facility including the possibility of accepting outside municipal solid waste (MSW). Dumping or “Host” fees could be a potential revenue source to partially fund staffing and equipment. Additional capital will be necessary to fund staffing and equipment for efficient operations. Staff is currently reviewing this opportunity to determine the feasibility and fiscal requirements relative to this option.

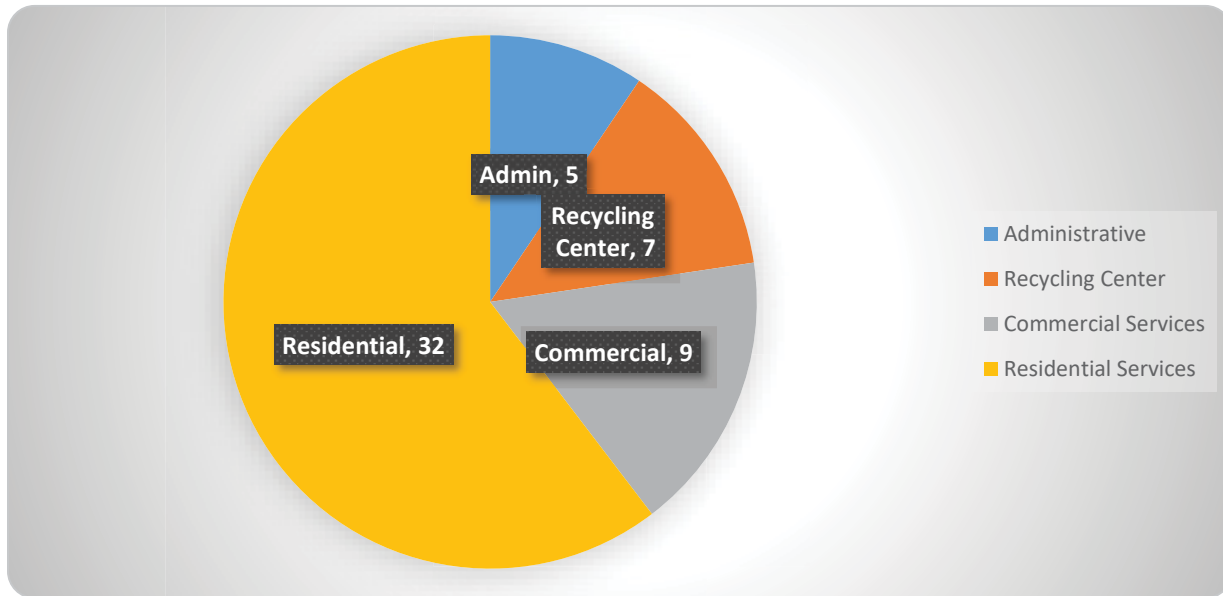
## Section 6. Solid Waste Division Personnel

The Solid Waste Division currently has 53 approved, budgeted positions. The staff consists of collectors, commercial drivers, equipment operators, and administrative personnel. One of the many responsibilities of the administrative personnel is to manage the contracts for the transfer station operations and the residential curbside collection of recycling and yard waste materials. Administration staff of the Solid Waste Division include the Solid Waste Division Manager, Residential Services Supervisor, Commercial Services Supervisor, and Customer Service Supervisor. Figure 6-1 provides the Solid Waste Division Organizational Chart. Figure 6-2 shows the breakdown of how staff is allocated within the division.

**Figure 6-1. Solid Waste Division Organizational Chart**



**Figure 6-2. Solid Waste Division Staff Allocation**



## **6.1 Solid Waste Administration**

The Division Manager oversees all operations, manages third-party vendor contracts for the collection of curbside recycling and yard waste, Transfer Station operations, manages Division budgets, and communicates with the Department Director and Deputy Director.

Administrative support staff provide customer service responses, (via e-mail, telephone, and Hiperweb 311 system) maintain Division databases, administer the Curbside Exemption Program applications and renewals, pay and reconcile invoices for Division purchases and third-party vendor contracts, and work with third-party vendors to request container deliveries, replacements, and repairs.

The Solid Waste Division generates monthly reports that include tonnage for the East Alley Trash Compactor Site, Transfer Station Commercial and Residential Waste, Clothes and Hard Goods Trailer (located at the Recycling Center for slightly used household items), vendor disposal of curbside recycling and yard waste, and for the Roswell Recycling Center.

Weekly reports are generated to document missed curbside recycling and yard waste collections, update curbside exempt and premium garbage customers, and requests for household garbage and recycling containers (new customer, damaged, or replacement).

The Administrative staff for the Division will be using a new Operations Management software beginning in FY 21. PSD-Hiperweb is the current software provider. This software will allow staff to optimize routes to ensure efficient collection of solid waste, provide access to automated, real time work order management as well as collecting information vital to analyzing and optimizing revenues and expenditures of the Division.

## **6.2 Residential Collection**

The Residential Supervisor oversees residential household garbage curbside collection, curbside exempt collection, MARTA route collection, curbside large item collection, safety routes, and small

business collection programs. Residential services also collects bags of trash generated by Roswell's Adopt-a-Road program.

There are 34 employees that provide residential garbage collection services as follows:

**Table 6-1. Residential Collection Staff**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Number of Staff</b>
Residential Driver I	9
Small Equipment Operator I	6
Refuse Collectors	17
Customer Service Supervisor	1
Supervisor	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>

The Residential collection staff works Tuesday through Friday for 10 hours per day, beginning at 8:00 a.m.

### **6.3 Commercial Collection**

There are eight (8) employees that provide commercial collection services as follows:

**Table 6-2. Commercial Collection Staff**

<b>Name of Position</b>	<b>Number of Staff</b>
Supervisor	1
Truck Drivers	6
Equipment Operator II	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>

The Commercial Supervisor oversees the commercial dumpster collection, commercial dumpster deliveries and repairs, East Alley Compactor Services, and West Alley Dumpster Services.

Commercial collection staff works from 5:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to provide commercial collections on seven (7) routes. One driver works on Saturday and one driver works on Sunday from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. to provide collection services for 7-day per week customers, including Historic Downtown Roswell. Staff also cleans the front loaders on Saturday in preparation for the next week. Seven (7) employees are responsible to empty 877 dumpsters per week for a total of 1,643 times which averages to approximately 205 collections per driver per week.

### **6.4 Recycling Center**

The Recycling Center services are provided by seven (7) employees as follows:

**Table 6-3. Recycling Center Staff**

Name of Position	Number of Staff
Supervisor	1
Crew Supervisor	1
Equipment Operators	4
Custodian	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>

The Center has a program for Community Service Workers who can work Tuesday through Saturday. There are normally five (5) to ten (10) Community Service Workers at the Center every day to provide assistance unloading vehicles, sorting materials, and other duties.

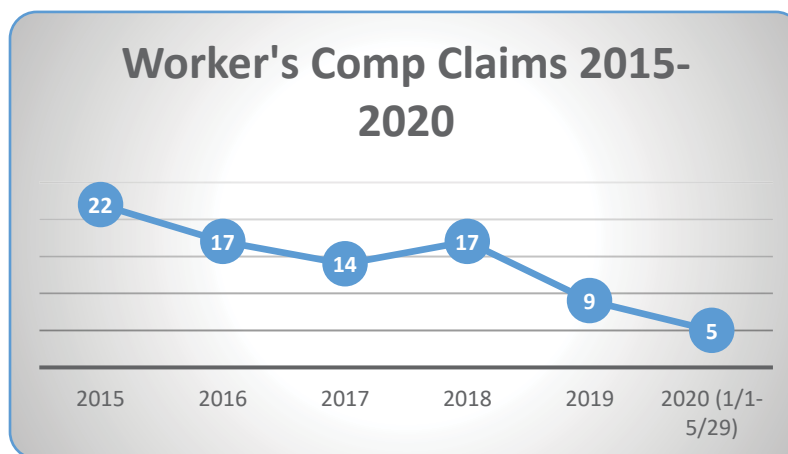
The Recycling Center is open Tuesday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Center is closed on City observed holidays.

### 6.5 Staff Retention

One of the main components of the decision to change the residential collection method to a semi-automated, hydraulic lifting system was employee retention and reduction of injuries resulting in less worker's compensation claims. The majority of injuries over the last five (5) years were sprains (back, leg, arm, etc.). Other injuries included falls and vehicle accidents. Incurred costs have ranged from \$3,943 to \$326,940 in a calendar year. The semi-automated collection system has significantly reduced the number of injuries since implementation in 2018.

The graph below demonstrates the reduction in worker's comp claims since 2015 for the Solid Waste Division.

**Figure 6-3. Worker's Comp Claims 2015 through 2020**



### 6.6 Staff Salaries and Benefits

Providing competitive salaries is critical to retaining staff. In 2019 refuse collectors and drivers received an increase in salary in an effort to retain staff and decrease the loss of staff to private industry. The City at times has difficulty competing with private companies and the wages they offer. However, the City does offer competitive benefits such as health insurance, paid vacation, sick leave, holidays, bereavement leave, and education reimbursement.

The City has been able to utilize temporary employee services to fill staff vacancies resulting in a few of the temporary employees, who meet the City’s hiring protocol, to become full-time City employees.

The semi-automated household garbage collection system has played a vital role in staff retention by reducing the requirement to lift and empty heavy containers into the rear loaders.

The City has several staff members with longevity in the Solid Waste Division ranging up to 47 years of service. Several employees have taken the initiative to seek promotion from a refuse collector position to truck driver which offers increased responsibility and compensation.

Staff has worked diligently to decrease overtime and keep temporary staffing labor low, while maintaining the highest level of customer service.

## **Section 7. Solid Waste Fleet and Equipment Inventory**

The Solid Waste Division utilizes a Fleet of trucks owned by the City, to collect municipal solid waste (MSW) as well as Commercial Waste from businesses.

### **7.1 Residential Collection Fleet Inventory**

The Residential Fleet consists of 13 rear loading garbage trucks. These trucks are equipped with semi-automated collection “tippers” that assist in dumping garbage into the truck for compaction. Pick-up trucks are used to collect curbside exempt customers at their homes. These Scout trucks,



also equipped with hydraulic lifting systems, service curbside exempt customers, difficult driveway or accessible routes, safety routes, small commercial businesses, MARTA bus stops, historic district, and curbside large item pickups. The residential collection fleet consists of 13 rear loaders, six (6) scout trucks, and two (2) pickup trucks designated for collecting metal (curbside large item collections of metal items are transported to



the Recycling Center i.e. grills, swing sets, patio furniture, etc.). Scout trucks also collect bags from the City’s Adopt-a-Road program sponsored by Keep Roswell Beautiful (KRB). Beginning in 2018, the City began purchasing small compacting trucks. These purchases, four (4) as of FY 21, have greatly assisted the collection of the smaller, more difficult to maneuver in neighborhoods. These trucks hold four to five times as much as a pick-up truck, but do not require CDL licenses to operate.

**Table 7-1. Residential Collection Fleet Inventory**

Type of Truck	Service(s) Provided	Number of Trucks	Average Age Range of Trucks	Life Cycle (City)	Industry Standard Life Cycle
Rear Loader/24-yard	Household garbage collection	13	4.5	10	10
Small Compacting Truck/8-yard	Curbside exempt household garbage collection, curbside large item collections, MARTA stops, Historic downtown collection, small businesses	4	2	10	10
Pickup trucks/5 yard	Metal from curbside large item collections	2	9	10	5-7
Hydraulic Tippers	Installed on all rear loaders and scout trucks to lift containers to empty in back of truck	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## 7.2 Commercial Collection Fleet Inventory

The Commercial Fleet of vehicles consists of 8 front loading garbage trucks. These trucks are equipped with metal arms that are used to pick up and dump 4-8 yard dumpsters into the truck for compaction. The Commercial Fleet also utilizes a truck to deliver dumpsters to businesses called a “Jenny” truck.



Front loaders are 30 feet long, 13 feet and 6 inches in height, and weigh approximately 40,000 pounds. The average life span of a front loader is eight (8) to 10 years. The “Jenny” truck is used for delivery and collection of dumpsters. Most requests for dumpsters are addressed the same day unless the area is blocked or inaccessible. Dumpsters are inventoried and tracked by serial and identification (ID) numbers.

**Table 7-2. Commercial Collection Fleet Inventory**

Type of Truck	Service(s) Provided	Number of Trucks	Age Range of Trucks	Life Cycle (City)	Industry Standard Life Cycle
Front Loader	Commercial dumpster	8	4.5	7	10
“Jenny Truck”	Commercial dumpster delivery	1	13	13	10

All drivers are required to perform a safety check on their vehicle prior to leaving on their routes each day. The pre-route checklist is included as Appendix 7-1. All collection vehicles, residential and commercial, are equipped with GPS software. The software tracks important service information such as location, time at location, streets/route traveled, and vehicle speed. This software enhances operational efficiencies. Upon completion of the Hiperweb software

implementation for all Solid Waste vehicles, information gathered will be utilized for route optimization and overall collection analytics.

A stock of commercial dumpsters is maintained on site and re-ordered two (2) to three (3) times per year to ensure a sufficient inventory of all sizes. Approximately 90 dumpsters are purchased and delivered each fiscal year for new developments or replacements due to the age of dumpster, leaks, new lids, request for additional dumpster or larger size, and other equipment related needs.

### 7.3 Recycling Center Fleet and Equipment Inventory

The Roswell Recycling Center also operates vehicles. The Center owns a pickup truck as well as an Isuzu “box” truck. This box truck is used to collect recycling from all Fulton County schools located in Roswell as well as City buildings.

The Recycling Center staff utilizes a skid steer, coolant vacuum, baler, shredder, bulb crusher, polystyrene densifier and forklift to perform daily activities to move recyclables from the floor to trailers, crush fluorescent bulbs, remove Freon, and shred documents.

**Table 7-3. Recycling Center Equipment Inventory**

Type of Equipment	Service Provided	Year of Equipment	Life Cycle (City)	Industry Standard Life Cycle
Skid Steer	Used to load baler with recyclable material	2018	5	5
Skid Steer (New Holland)	Used to crush metal and pick up heavy metal objects	2008	5	5
Coolant Vacuum	Removes Freon from appliances	2008	5	5
Baler	Bales cardboard, plastic #1, #2, and film, sorted office paper, chipboard, and tin	2010	5	5
Shredder	Shreds paper	2018	7	7
Bulb Crusher	Crushes bulbs (containing mercury) under vacuum pressure to be captured or filtered	2018	5	5
Polystyrene Densifier	Densified Polystyrene to a ratio of 90:1	2019	5	5
Forklift	Lifts and moves heavy bales of recyclable material and used for general lifting	2011	5	5
Storage Trailers	Used as dry storage of unbaled and baled recyclable material	NA	7	7

### 7.4 Fleet and Equipment Replacement

Currently, the Division budgets the purchase of one (1) rear loader and one (1) front loader every fiscal year to maintain a reliable fleet. In most cases the trucks are purchased from State Contract to receive the most responsible and responsive bid as well as the most up to date equipment. One truck from each service is used as a spare or for emergencies and the oldest truck(s) is sold as surplus each year.



The replacement of worn, irreparable or damaged equipment is an ongoing, annual requirement. An example of equipment that necessitates replacement is the small, 5-6 yard tippers on the Scout trucks. This equipment is used every day with an approximate lifetime of six (6) years.

Commercial dumpsters are replaced on an annual basis. Dumpsters are exposed to harsh conditions due to use, weather, and other elements. Currently, staff budgets approximately \$70,000 annually to replace 4, 6 and 8 yard dumpsters.

## **7.5 Curbside Recycling and Yard Waste Collection Equipment**

The third-party vendor utilizes an Automatic Side Loading (ASL) collection system for curbside recycling collection. The truck used for this service is fitted with a mechanical arm that extends to the side to lift a container and empty it into a large bin attached to the truck.

This system is manned by a single operator who works the mechanical arm from inside the truck. The truck is equipped with a front, side, and rear camera system to ensure the container empties into the bin, there are no obstructions to the arm, and to document the date and time of collection.



Customers must place all recyclables, including cardboard inside the container for collection. The vendor owns a fleet of six (6) Automated Side Load trucks purchased in 2019.

Yard waste is collected by a fleet of four (4) 32-yard rear loaders utilizing a two-man crew. The rear loaders are also equipped with a camera system used to document date and time of collection and photograph yard waste set outs. Additionally, the vendor has a grapple truck in inventory that is utilized to collect extra yard debris following storms.

## **7.6 Fleet / Equipment Inventory Challenges**

There are several challenges that impact the fleet and equipment in the Solid Waste Division including, but not limited to increasing costs of replacing vehicles and equipment, length of down time when waiting on parts and/or repair, retrofitting equipment on older vehicles, and the impact of COVID-19 resulting in an increase in part costs and the availability and delivery of parts and materials.

In many cases, the garbage trucks (front and rear loaders) have to be taken to the original manufacturer of the equipment for parts and repair increasing down time due to travel time, receipt of parts, repair time, and staff's return to collect the vehicle upon completion of the repair. Out of service time can range from one (1) day to one (1) week depending on the severity or complexity of the repair, availability of parts, and if the repair can be accomplished in-house or if it has to be outsourced.

## **Section 8. State and Local Regulations and Permitting**

The State of Georgia's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990, as amended, requires all local governments to prepare a solid waste management plan, adopt the plan, and update the plan every 10 years by Ordinance or Resolution. Local governments are authorized to establish their own procedures and standards for drafting and updating their solid waste management plan.

The City's current Solid Waste Management Plan, adopted August 22, 2016 includes the following elements. Each element includes needs and goals for the next 10 years through 2024. The Solid Waste Management Plan is included as Appendix 8-1.

#### Waste Reduction Element

- Inventory of current waste reduction and recycling programs
- Recycling facilities and programs
- Yard trimmings mulching/composting
- Inventory of composting and mulching programs
- Special management programs: tires, lead acid batteries, white goods, electronics, and Household Hazardous Waste collection events

#### Collection Element

- Curbside household garbage collection and commercial dumpster collection
- Curbside recycling and yard waste collection
- Staffed Recycling Center
- Adequacy of collection programs
- Frequency of illegal dumping and methods for correcting

#### Disposal Element

- Transfer Station
- Third-party vendor landfill
- Assessment of existing facilities

#### Land Limitation Element

- There are no heavy industrial zoning or district land uses permitted in the city limits of Roswell

#### Education and Public Involvement

- Environmental Education and Outreach Coordinator
- Keep Roswell Beautiful – a nonprofit 501(c) volunteer based organization
- City of Roswell website ([www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com))
- City of Roswell Codes and Ordinances

The following locations are utilized by the City of Roswell and third-party vendors for Solid Waste operations including the disposal of household garbage and yard waste, and recycling sorting and processing.

**Table 8-1. Permits**

<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>EPD Permit Number</b>
City of Roswell Transfer Station	1810 Hembree Road, Roswell	PBR-060-118TS-A
Advanced Disposal Services, Solid Waste (all solid waste materials)	8880 Old Federal Road, Ball Ground	PBR-058-224COL
BFI Waste Systems of Georgia MSWL, Solid Waste (all solid waste materials)	5691 South Richland Creek Road, Buford	067-032D(SL)
Republic Waste Oak Grove Landfill, Solid Waste (all solid waste materials)	967 Carl Bethlehem Road, Winder	007-020D(SL)
Atlanta Material Recycling Facility (MRF), Advanced Disposal - Recycling	5670 Shirlee Industrial Way, Alpharetta	N/A
Chadwick Road Landfill, Solid Waste Facility (including yard waste, C&D materials, etc.)	3700 Chadwick Farm Blvd., Roswell	060-072D(L)

## **Section 9. Education**

### **9.1 Public Education and Outreach**

In 2002, the City created the Environmental Education Coordinator position that also serves as the Keep Roswell Beautiful (KRB) Executive Director. This position is responsible for educating school, community, and civic groups on all aspects of litter, water quality, recycling, beautification, pollution, and waste management. The position also coordinates volunteer opportunities for the Department including Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-a-Stream, Neighborhood Water Watch, and Storm Drain Marking.

The Environmental Education Coordinator works with Community Relations staff to prepare informative videos and social media notices and reminders outlining guidelines for the proper way to set out curbside recycling, Recycling Center activities, and other related Solid Waste responsibilities.

### **9.2 School and Youth Programs**

School and youth programs, offered to students in grades Pre-Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, incorporate solid waste, water quality and conservation, and other environmental education themes into hands-on programs that meet the Georgia Department of Education Standards of Excellence in science. Some examples of program topics include water conservation and pollution utilizing the Earth Balloon, water quality Enviroscope demonstrations, water quality monitoring, recycling, plastics, soil studies, wildlife conservation, and pollinators. Field trips to the Roswell Water Treatment Plant and the Roswell Recycling Center are available for ages seven (7) and up. The City also offers service projects for youth and civic groups to earn hours and give back to the community including Adopt-a-Road Program and Storm Drain Marking near their home or school.

### **9.3 Keep Roswell Beautiful**

As Executive Director of Keep Roswell Beautiful (KRB), the Coordinator supports the KRB Board of Directors and Board Members by serving as the primary liaison between the two groups and

providing guidance and assistance with programs and events. Keep Roswell Beautiful serves as the nonprofit arm for environmental stewardship in Roswell and sponsors programs such as Bring One for the Chipper Christmas tree recycling, and Rivers Alive Annual Cleanup, and conducts the annual KRB Community Appearance Index, which assesses litter throughout the City. The Solid Waste Division provides staffing and equipment to assist with programming. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Roswell and Keep Roswell Beautiful is included as Appendix 9-1.

#### **9.4 Environmental/Public Works Code Compliance**

In 2001, the City received a grant from the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) to employ an Environmental Compliance Officer. This position later became a full time City employee who is responsible for educating residents and businesses on proper solid waste management, disposal, and storage in compliance with the Roswell Code of Ordinances, Federal, and State laws. The Compliance Officer conducts inspections, administers citations for violations, provides evidence in court proceedings, provides compliance assistance for the Water and Stormwater Utility Divisions, monitors scrap tire management, and assists the Community Development Code Enforcement Division. The following items are monitored and enforced by the Code Compliance Officer for the Solid Waste Division:

- Household curbside garbage and recycling containers (set-out and removal times and disposal requirements)
- Yard waste preparation and placement at the curb
- Littering on public or private property
- Illegal dumping
- Prohibited items in household garbage containers or commercial dumpsters (hazardous waste, etc.)
- Requirement for City of Roswell commercial dumpster usage
- Placement or obstruction of commercial dumpsters
- Accumulation of more than four (4) used/scrap tires on residential property

### **Section 10. Solid Waste Division Risks and Challenges**

#### **10.1 Weather Events**

Weather events including, but not limited to storms, high winds, snow, and ice can negatively impact collection of household garbage, recycling, and yard waste. Staff safety during inclement weather is a high priority. Inclement weather can prohibit or slow collections resulting in an accumulation of household garbage, recyclables, and yard waste, resident complaints, and staff overtime to accommodate missed collections.

#### **10.2 State and Local Regulation Challenges**

State and local regulations can impact municipalities and services resulting in unfunded mandates based on new legislation or laws governing the solid waste industry. For example, in 2019, House Bill 792, amending Chapter 8 of Title 12 of the OCGA, was approved for “municipal solid waste disposal facilities operated by private enterprise, the host local government is authorized and required to impose a surcharge of \$1.00 per ton or volume equivalent in addition to any other negotiated charges or fees which shall be imposed by and paid to the host local government for the facility”. This could have resulted in an additional \$1.00 per ton paid to the City’s third-party vendor for waste tonnage disposed of at the City’s Transfer Station. Fortunately, the City’s

contract with the vendor did not allow for this type of increase; however, this could have resulted in an expensive, negative impact on the approved fiscal year budget for disposal costs.

It is imperative for staff to remain educated and knowledgeable about potential changes or new statutes that could negatively impact solid waste services including, but not limited to fees and rates, disposal, and collection.

### **10.3 Long-Term Landfill Storage and Increase in Disposal Fees**

Since the City of Roswell does not own its own landfill, it must rely on outside service providers for disposal of its solid waste. Tipping fees at landfills have been increasing in recent years. The Environmental Research and Education Foundation survey indicates that tipping fees have increased nationwide by 3.5 percent a year in the period 2015 to 2019. Also, while fuel prices are currently low, the cost of hauling is another factor that the City has little control over.

Landfills continue to be subject to regulatory review which could lead to potential changes in operation. Due to several recent landfills experiencing slope stability issues, loading rates for landfills, particularly for wet wastes, are under increasing regulatory review. Further, there are a number of proposed mergers and acquisitions currently underway among large regional and national waste companies which could impact the number of options for disposal in the future.

### **10.4 Contamination in Curbside Recyclables**

Public education is an important aspect of reducing contamination in curbside recyclables. If a contaminated curbside container is emptied and mixed with other recyclables it could be grounds for a collection of materials to be landfilled in lieu of processing through the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for sorting and proper recycling. The City works diligently to enforce specific curbside recycling guidelines by publishing the list of items that are and are not permitted in the containers and reminders that all items must be rinsed prior to placing them into the container. However, this does not prevent all contamination from reaching the curbside recycling program.

Because the City operates its own Recycling Center and offers curbside collection there can be confusion about the type of materials accepted in each program. According to the City's third-party vendor, during separation of items from the curbside program there are items that are landfilled because they are not permitted. These items include certain types of plastic, plastic bags, metal, and other items that are not accepted in the curbside program. Not all residents realize the curbside recycling program and the Recycling Center are separate and different operations.

### **10.5 Public Response to New Programs**

In order to continue to be an effective and forward looking City, the Solid Waste Division continually evaluates its practices and procedures. Often, this can lead to piloting new programs or optimizing current programs. Any time changes occur in the Division's operation it can prompt concerns by the City's residents. For example, prior to 2018, all Roswell residents were required to purchase household garbage containers sufficient to accommodate seven (7) days accumulation of garbage. The containers could not be larger than 50 gallons or filled with garbage in excess of 100 pounds. Residents were allowed a maximum of three (3) containers to meet the 100-gallon criteria or six (6) containers for premium garbage service up to 200 total gallons.

In 2018 the City launched a curbside household garbage container pilot program to approximately 3,500 residents. The City provided a 96-gallon rolling container to the residents residing in the four (4) routes selected by staff for the program. Residents were notified by letter in December

2017 explaining the program and the delivery date of the containers. The pilot program commenced on January 8, 2018. In preparation for curbside exempt customers or single-person households, the City also ordered 37-gallon containers to better meet their needs.

As a result of these changes, the Division received complaints from some residents. The majority of resident complaints were related to the size of the container, date of delivery (during Christmas holidays), difficulty of handling the container, and only be allowed to use the City provided container.

In November 2019, Mayor and Council approved moving forward with a city-wide program to provide all residents with a City household garbage container. This involved the purchase and delivery of approximately 23,000 containers. The program provided residents with one (1) 95-gallon or (2) 95-gallon containers (for premium customers) to the remainder of Roswell households not included in the pilot program. The City also ordered 45-gallon containers for curbside exempt residents, single-person households, and developments with regulations requiring garage storage of containers. A third-party vendor was employed for the delivery, exchange, and repair of the containers.

Staff have worked diligently to continue to educate the residents of Roswell regarding the various requirements, limitations and opportunities related to this program and most residents are happy to have the uniformity of collection and the aesthetics of the City provided cans.

Overall, the City provided container program has been a resounding success. As with all activities of the Division that affect our residents, public education will continue to be a primary component of any future changes in our programs.

#### **10.6 Automatic Side Loading (ASL) Curbside Recycling Collection Program**

With the approval of their contract by Mayor and Council in April, 2019, the City's third-party vendor implemented an Automated Side Loading (ASL) curbside recycling program. This new program requires all recyclables to be placed inside the container, including cardboard. The container must be placed a minimum distance of three (3) feet from the household garbage container and other structures (mailboxes, etc.). These requirements allow the ASL equipment to safely lift the container directly from the street and empty into the side of the truck.

Several challenges have developed during the life of this program, including the perceived limitation of one can, the requirement to have all recyclable in the can and the requirement to have all material placed loosely in the can. Staff continues to educate and work with the residents to ensure timely, efficient service is provided each week. Overall, the ASL recycling collection program has been successful.

### **Section 11. Solid Waste Fund Financials 2015 through 2020**

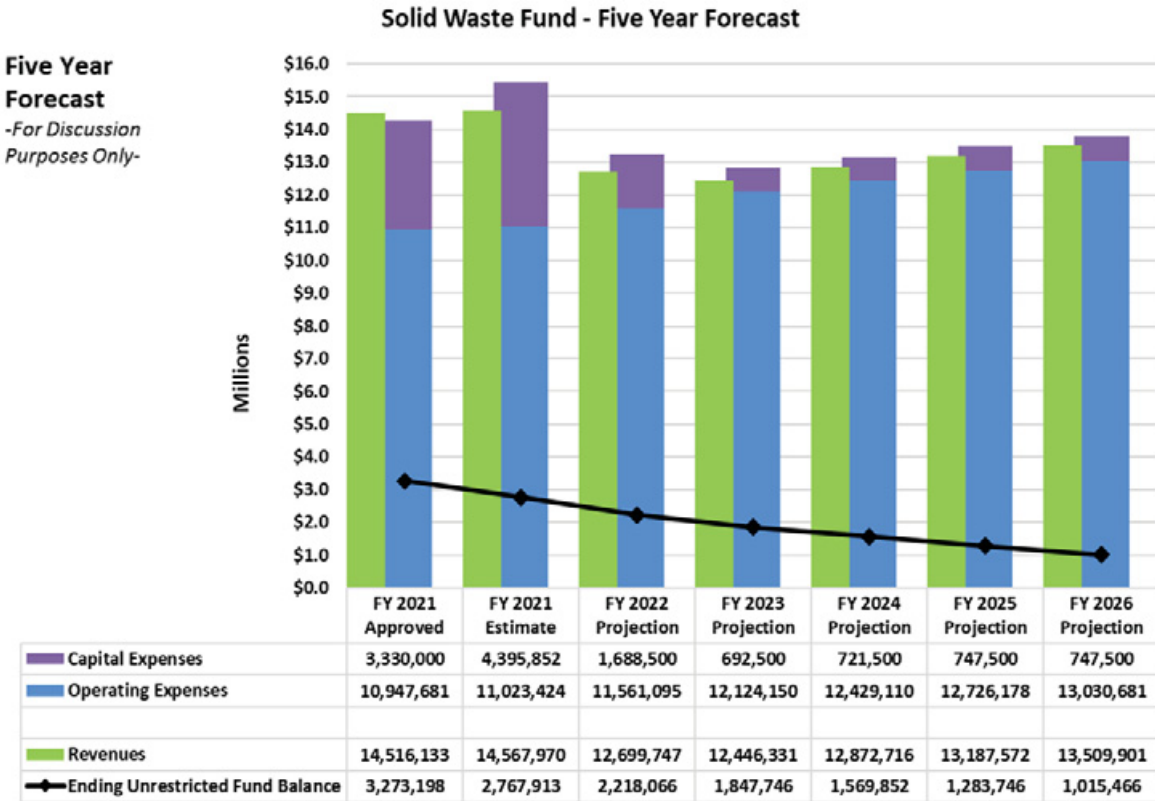
The Financial Outlook for the Solid Waste Division remains strong. Revenue for the Solid Waste Division remain in a slight, but steady, upward trend. This is due to the Resolution adopted in 2018 providing for an annual 3% rate increase that began on January 1, 2018 through 2023. The annual increases will provide sufficient reserves, funding for future capital projects, technology upgrades, modernization of fleet, and funding construction of the new Transfer Station.

The Figures and Tables below provide detailed historical revenue and expense information and the five-year forecast for the Solid Waste Fund.

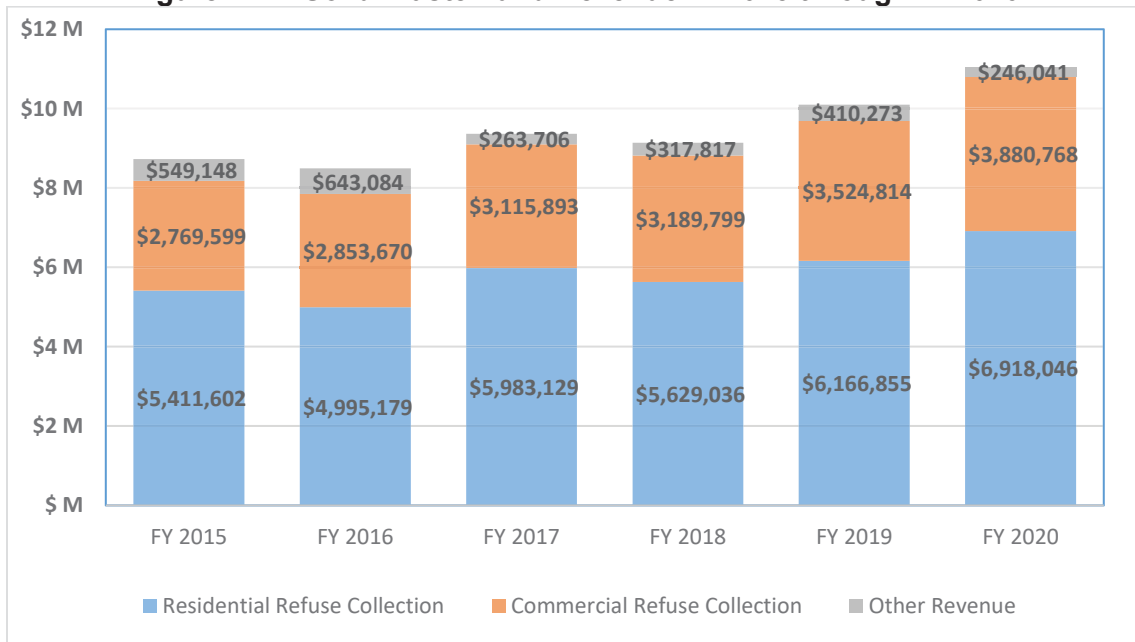


**Figure 11-1. Solid Waste Fund – Five Year Forecast**

**NOTE: Revenue includes a \$3M GEFA Loan for construction of the Transfer Station**



**Figure 11-2. Solid Waste Fund Revenue FY2015 through FY2020**

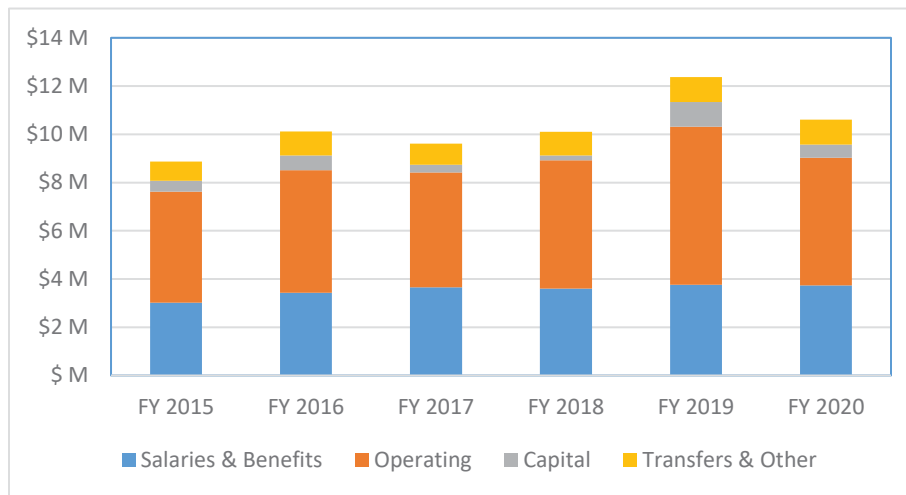


**NOTE: FY2020 is unaudited**

**Table 11-1. Solid Waste Revenue Detail 2015 through 2020**

Fiscal Year	Residential Collection	Commercial Collection	Recycling Center Fees	Large Item Fees	Utility Bill Late Charges <sup>1</sup>	Residential Premium Service <sup>2</sup>	Dumpster Setup Fees
2015	\$5,411,602	\$2,769,599	\$270,837	\$26,585	\$165,241	\$54,382	\$2,172
2016	\$4,995,179	\$2,853,670	\$269,917	\$27,580	N/A	\$109,797	\$2,945
2017	\$5,983,129	\$3,115,892	\$233,537	\$27,704	N/A	\$106,184	\$1,330
2018	\$5,629,036	\$3,189,799	\$272,461	\$40,193	N/A	\$108,821	\$1,710
2019	\$6,166,855	\$3,524,814	\$248,877	\$49,379	N/A	\$200,307	\$1,615
2020	\$6,918,046	\$3,880,768	\$190,915	\$41,574	N/A	\$225,618	\$2,280

**Figure 11-3. Solid Waste Fund Expenditures FY2015 through FY2020**

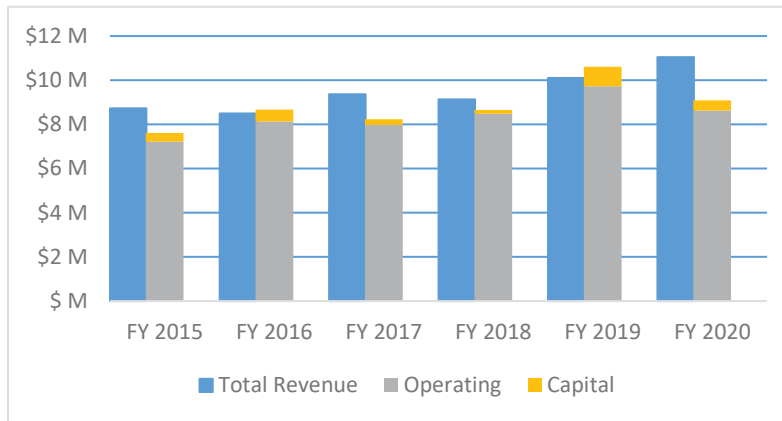


**NOTE: FY2020 is unaudited**

**Table 11-2. Solid Waste Expenditure Detail 2015 through 2020**

Fiscal Year	Salaries & Benefits	Operating	Capital	Transfers and Other	Total
2015	\$3,026,062	\$4,603,941	\$441,333	\$800,412	\$8,871,748
2016	\$3,434,570	\$5,073,804	\$617,964	\$985,524	\$10,111,861
2017	\$3,658,396	\$4,767,484	\$311,982	\$872,395	\$9,610,257
2018	\$3,606,684	\$5,312,917	\$206,710	\$971,679	\$10,097,991
2019	\$3,762,583	\$6,551,757	\$1,021,937	\$1,038,121	\$12,374,399
2020	\$3,732,872	\$5,301,646	\$540,704	\$1,030,228	\$10,605,449

**Figure 11-4. Annual Revenue and Expenses FY 2015 through FY2020**



**NOTE: FY20 is unaudited**

**Table 11-3. Revenue and Expense Detail 2015 through 2020**

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue	Capital	Operating	Total Expenses
2015	\$8,730,249	\$441,333	\$8,430,415	\$8,871,748
2016	\$8,491,933	\$617,964	\$9,493,898	\$10,111,861
2017	\$9,362,729	\$311,982	\$9,298,275	\$9,610,257
2018	\$9,136,652	\$206,710	\$9,891,280	\$10,097,991
2019	\$10,101,943	\$1,021,937	\$11,352,461	\$12,374,399
2020	\$11,044,855	\$540,704	\$10,064,746	\$10,605,449

### 11.1 Comparison of Services and Rates

The information compiled in the Appendix 11-1 was obtained from other Municipal Solid Waste providers in the metro Atlanta area. This comparison of rates shows that the City of Roswell Solid Waste fees are in line with other Municipal providers. Furthermore, the City provides a higher level of services than many other Municipalities. Staff researched 16 Georgia locations for household garbage collection comparisons, including the North Fulton cities group of Alpharetta, Johns Creek, Milton, and Sandy Springs. Of those 16 cities, five (5) locations (including the City of Roswell) provide internal solid waste services and the remainder contract with outside vendors to provide household garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection services. Monthly rates are based on the level of provided services.

The City of Roswell provides additional services included in the monthly solid waste fees including curbside recycling and yard waste collection, missed collection return for late set outs, one-time courtesy move-in and move-out collection of garbage and cardboard, Household Hazardous Waste events, Transfer Station residential drop off for bulky items, and the Recycling Center. The City also funds the continued collection of glass in the single-stream curbside recycling program at no extra cost to residents. Most other Municipalities have stopped the collection of glass in their curbside collection programs. See Appendix 11-1.

Four (4) of the 16 cities provide commercial collection services (includes multi-family, townhouses, and condos). The rate structures are calculated in several ways including size of container and number of collections per week, tier structure based on street frontage, and privately owned container versus county provided container. Billing varies from monthly to annually.

The majority of surrounding municipalities or counties do not provide commercial collection and require vendors to register with the city or county prior to providing services. See Appendix 11-2.

The comparison of rates demonstrates that the City of Roswell offers comparable rates for the same services and in some cases additional services with no extra associated fee.

## **Section 12. Recommendations**

### **12.1 Maintain Fleet**

The average age of the solid waste fleet vehicles is relatively good due to our practice of replacing one commercial truck and one residential truck annually. As the fleet ages, repairs of significant cost and complexity are more likely resulting in increased maintenance costs as well as increased out of service periods.

Staff recommends continuing with replacing two (2) trucks per year - one (1) residential, and one (1) commercial vehicle. This approach helps to ensure the fleet is road worthy, maintains lower repair costs and, ensures adequate back up resources. The estimated cost of one (1) rear loader is \$280,000, and the estimated cost of one (1) front loader is \$290,000. Additionally, the dumpster delivery vehicle requires periodic replacement. The current vehicle has been in service since 2007 and will be included in the FY22 budget.

Staff recommends the purchase of one fully Automated Side Loading (ASL) garbage truck in Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23). This truck would operate in a Pilot Program route each day of collection. This route will be designated as a test for consideration of 100% automated garbage collection. The automation of garbage collection will reduce our manpower and potentially reduce staffing issues and retention as well as lost time due to injuries.

### **12.2 Transfer Station**

Funds are budgeted in the FY2020 and 2021 budget for the design, engineering, and construction of a new Transfer Station. Plans include increased floor square footage, reinforced walls, improved area for tractor trailer ingress and egress to the site, improved access for residential and commercial loaders, new scale with kiosk, and maintaining the designated area for residential drop off. Future plans include construction of a new scale house to accommodate one to two staff members with restroom facilities and an expansion of the residential drop off area.

The City will review options regarding the future operations and maintenance of the Transfer Station. Upon completion of construction of the new Transfer Station, the City may determine to operate and maintain the facility or continue utilizing a third party vendor as is currently the case. Staff will evaluate the possibility of accepting outside municipal solid waste (MSW). Dumping or "Host" fees could be a potential revenue source to partially fund staffing and equipment. Additional capital will be necessary to fund staffing and equipment for efficient operations. Staff is currently reviewing this opportunity to determine the feasibility and fiscal requirements relative to this option.

### **12.3 Utilize Operations Management System**

The Administrative staff for the Division will begin using a new Operations Management software in FY 21. PSD-Hiperweb is the current software provider. This software will allow staff to optimize routes to ensure efficient collection of solid waste, provide access to automated, real time work order management as well as collecting information vital to analyzing and optimizing revenues

and expenditures of the Division. Hiperweb's powerful solid waste routing program gives the division the tools to optimize commercial and residential load routes. It also maintains and manages commercial dumpsters and can track customer billing. Its mobile routing tools give drivers the ability to quickly identify issues along their route with one tap on the app. Our solid waste division will track special pickups and use the collection of real time data for better analytics to report on performance.

#### **12.4 Update Solid Waste Guidelines and Fees**

Currently, the Curbside Large Item Pickup Program requires residents to pay \$20 per item for curbside collection. This includes furniture, nine (9) extra bags of household garbage, furniture (desks, tables, chairs, bed frames, etc.), swing sets, patio furniture, and other bulky items. The maximum number of items per collection is five (5) unless approved by the Environmental/Public Works Director or his/her designee. This program accommodates residents that do not have resources to bring items to the Roswell Transfer Station for disposal.

Residents contact the Financial Services Division to pay for the large item pickup and schedule a date for the collection. The Financial Services Division creates a work order and forwards it to the Residential Collection Supervisor who assigns staff for the pickup. A maximum of 10 work orders are scheduled per day, Tuesday through Friday.

Issues with this program:

1. Staff time; number of trips it takes from route to Transfer Station; limited number of work orders can be accomplished in one day (maximum of 10 items per day)
2. Manpower to lift heavy items or limited manpower
3. Limited space in equipment for collection of bulky items
4. The fee to collect all curbside large items is \$20 per item. This fee is not adequate to recover the costs of staff, fuel, equipment, and disposal.
5. There are currently items on the large item collection list that should be removed i.e. construction and demolition debris (toilets, doors, linoleum [could contain asbestos], garage door, cabinets, etc.); these items are not accepted at the Transfer Station and should not be included in this program. Other items for removal consideration include piano, organ, shed, truck bed topper, water heater, etc.

Staff recommends increasing the fee from \$20 per item to \$30 per item and to implement an annual evaluation of the curbside large item pickup to ensure the fees charged for the program, remains sufficient to cover the staff time, fuel and equipment costs. There are items on this list that warrant a higher fee for removal.

The use of Hiperweb will assist staff in determining those customers that consistently place their household garbage containers out late, and call in for a "missed" collection. One option is to implement a fee for staff to return to collect a "late set out". Staff recommends a minimum fee of \$50 to return to collect household garbage that was not curbside in accordance with City Ordinances (set out no later than 8:00 a.m. on the scheduled day of collection). The City will offer a one-time return courtesy collection per calendar year for no fee; staff recommends a fee of \$50 per occurrence thereafter.

The City's container program requires residents to be responsible for the upkeep of their household garbage containers. If a container is required to be replaced due to damage caused by the resident, staff recommends a fee increase from \$25 to \$50 to recover costs for a new container, delivery, and administrative costs.

Currently, there is a one-time \$95 delivery fee for new commercial businesses/new containers. There is not a fee to deliver replacement of worn or damaged dumpsters to existing businesses. The City delivers an estimated 90 dumpsters, new or replacement, per year. If a dumpster is worn due to age and weather impacts, the City will replace it for no fee; however, if the customer caused the damage or requests a new dumpster for aesthetic purposes, staff recommends a replacement fee of \$150.

Based on records, the City delivered 24 new dumpsters in FY2020 collecting \$2,280 in fees (\$95 per delivery). If the remaining 66 dumpsters of the 90 purchased in FY20 and delivered were replacements, and the fee is updated \$150, this could potentially generate additional revenue in the amount of \$3,630.

The Commercial Division receives approximately 12 requests per month to return to businesses to empty dumpsters that were blocked during their regular, scheduled service times after the truck has left the service area. This activity takes additional staff time, fuel, and equipment usage.

If the City charged a fee of \$100 to return to empty a blocked dumpster, based on 12 calls per month, this could potentially generate \$1,200 per month or \$14,400 per year to recover the cost of staff time, fuel, and equipment usage. The proposed fee for staff to return to empty a dumpster that was blocked during the regular route collection in the amount of \$100 is recommended.

The fee for extra commercial collections for special events is recommended to be increased from \$45 and \$55 (depending on the size of the dumpster) to \$100 per container/per event with an annual increase of 3% to recover increases accounting operating costs, etc. and to align with planned rate adjustments.

Recommended fee changes are included in Appendix 12-1.

## **12.5 Establish Recycling Center Sustainability**

As stated earlier, the Recycling Center has never historically operated at a breakeven point. For the past several years, the Center has operated at an approximate \$200,000 to \$250,000 annual deficit. This shortfall is absorbed by residents of Roswell through their monthly solid waste bill. In considering how to decrease the annual deficit, it must be emphasized that the Recycling Center provides a valuable service for Roswell citizens in diverting considerable material from waste disposal and supports the City's reputation as a Green and Sustainable community.

When the city established the Recycling Center, a high volume of recyclables was desired to generate interest from the recycling marketplace to purchase the material. As the recycling market has matured, the lack of contamination of Roswell's recyclables due to careful sorting has made them desirable in the marketplace. However, China's decision in 2018 to exit the global recycling commodity market has had devastating impacts on that market significantly decreasing the value of recyclables. With our low contamination at the Recycling Center, we have maintained strong relationships with the market but are seeing significantly reduced revenue as described in Section 4-5. To ease the financial burden on the Solid Waste Fund, it makes sense to reconsider offering no cost access to the Center to non-residents.

In order to offer use of the Recycling Center to non-residents, several options were considered including individual memberships, per trip charges for non-residents, and cost sharing with other North Fulton cities. Memberships and per trip charges were eliminated due to additional staff time to administer the programs which could result in additional costs. The recommendation is to pursue a cost sharing approach with North Fulton cities.



In addition to the above analysis, staff has performed a thorough review of services provided at the Roswell Recycling Center. The following recommendations will assist in increasing the amount of recyclable material taken to the Center, thereby increasing its revenue stream:

1. Prohibit all cardboard and metal disposal at the Transfer Station residential drop off location. Tremendous amounts of recyclable material are disposed of each day at this location. This increases disposal costs which could ultimately increase overall cost to residents. Additionally, this is lost revenue for recyclable items that are sold to vendors through the Recycling Center.
2. Employ a full-time attendant at the residential drop off location. This will eliminate the illegal dumping that occurs by non-residents and commercial entities as well keep recyclable material (s) from being transported to the landfill.

Many services which Roswell residents receive free of charge are a significant burden on the budget for the Center. The following is a list of recommendations specifically relative to the Recycling Center cost of services:

1. Paint should no longer be accepted. Latex paint is advised to be dried and properly disposed of in household garbage. Over the past three (3) years the annual disposal costs for paint have ranged from \$30,000 to \$50,000. Should the City opt to continue to accept paint, a fee per gallon should be established to cover the cost of recycling. Fees should be reviewed on an annual basis in conjunction with the annual budget preparation and increased as necessary to sufficiently cover the actual cost of paint disposal. Oil based paint can be accepted at future Household Hazardous Waste events.
2. Shredding while you wait should be constricted to the following days and times. Tuesday through Friday, 2pm to 4pm. Shred while you wait services should be eliminated on Saturday to allow staff time to focus on servicing the greatest number of customers as efficiently as possible.
3. A major component of all the recommendations for the Recycling Center is an assertive public education program that emphasizes the value of the Center to Roswell residents through curbside volume reduction, saving valuable landfill space, and further promoting Roswell as a Gold Certified Green Community.

## **12.6 Improve Transfer Station Residential Drop-Off Services**

In lieu of holding bi-annual Bulky Trash Amnesty events, staff recommends opening the Transfer Station for one (1) Saturday per quarter from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to accommodate Roswell residents that cannot get to the Transfer Station Monday through Friday. This would require two (2) to three (3) Solid Waste employees to check residency and assist with unloading of items into the roll-off container. The cost would be minimal staff overtime, rental of the roll-off container(s) (from third-party vendor), and disposal. Staff estimates a cost ranging from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per event. Disposal costs will vary depending on the amount of items received.

The last citywide Bulky Trash event was held on Saturday March 24, 2018. This event required 23 Solid Waste staff to work Saturday (10 hours) and Monday, March 26, 2018 (4 hours). A total of 769 residents participated including 533 Roswell residents and 236 Milton residents. The total cost for staff was \$8,031 and the cost for disposal was \$1,490 for a total event cost of \$9,521.

In 2019, the City held three (3) bulky trash days on Saturday, June 1, Saturday, August 3, and Saturday, October 5 for Roswell residents only. The hours were 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Registration was required with a maximum number of 100 residents. Ten (10) Solid Waste staff worked at each event. There was not a fee for the roll-off containers for the first two (2) events (included in the vendor's contract). The last event cost the City approximately \$2,500 for rental of dumpsters and personnel to run the event.

## **12.7 Implement Pilot Programs - Small Business Recycling Collection Program and Excess Cardboard Collection**

Staff is recommending a pilot program to provide limited curbside recycling collection to small businesses. Currently small businesses, including but not limited to lawyer offices, salons, accountants, etc. are supplied with two (2) 95-gallon household garbage containers for garbage. The containers are collected from the curb. This provides a unique opportunity to offer limited recycling services to these same businesses.

The pilot program would be offered to all businesses that currently qualify and receive weekly garbage collection as a "small business". The following guidelines would apply:

1. Only small commercial establishments that can utilize curbside collection service will be considered. Recycling containers will not be collected from parking lots or behind businesses.
2. Service will be limited to two (2) 65-gallon recycling containers
3. Comingling of garbage and recyclables will result in non-collection.
4. The fee for service will be evaluated on an annual basis and, if applicable, will be increased on July 1 of each year concurrent with the fee increase for household and commercial garbage collection.
5. The EPW Director or designee and the Advanced Disposal General Manager or designee must agree to the provision of service and fee structure.
6. The following items are proposed to be accepted in the small commercial curbside recycling program:
  - a. Paper (mixed paper, newspaper, telephone books, magazines, catalogs, office paper, glossy forms & junk mail, cardboard and chipboard, and corrugated cardboard). All items must be inside the container.
  - b. Plastic containers (#1 through #7)
  - c. Metal (aluminum, steel food and beverage cans, foil, and pie tins)
  - d. Glass (brown, green, clear, and blue bottles and jars)

Staff is also recommending a pilot program to provide limited collection of excess household cardboard collection for a fee. Currently, residential customers that have an excess of cardboard on a particular collection day are required to take the excess to the Recycling Center themselves. This Pilot Program will allow residents to call and arrange collection of up to twenty (20) flattened boxes for a fee of \$10.

The program rules are as follows:

1. Only cardboard will be collected. There are no exceptions
2. The number of boxes collected will be limited to each home. No more than 20, flattened boxes will be collected from an individual home each week.
3. Failure to flatten and secure (tie) all boxes together will result in non-collection, and the fee will not be refunded.
4. Residents will call the Utility Billing Division to schedule collection, the same as is currently done for Large Item Collection
5. Continuing education will be provided to residents explaining how to best ensure all of their recycling can fit into the existing can provided.

## **12.8 Increase Public Education**

As previously stated, a key to the continued success of the Solid Waste Division's programs and initiatives is consistent and effective public education. The goal of a solid waste public education program is to encourage full participation in the services offered in order to maintain a clean, green, and safe Roswell. It is important for Roswell citizens to understand that the City provides a comprehensive solid waste program that maximizes recycling and reuse and minimizes what ends up in a landfill. Public education and outreach strategies must target a broad audience and clearly describe the programs offered to City residents and businesses, encourage and demonstrate compliance to maintain timely and effective service, and communicate changes in programs with clear explanations and instructions.

While multiple means of communication and education are already in place, it is clear that increased education and outreach is needed to decrease the number of issues that Solid Waste Division staff encounter in the field and increase participation of Solid Waste Division's array of programs. It is also important that residents understand the policies and procedures of the Division and how they impact short and long term operations and funding. A few examples where increased education and communication could be effective include:

- The Solid Waste Division staff needs to consistently enforce set-out limits for household garbage collection. The implementation of the semi-automated collection program policy requires all garbage to be placed in bags in the City provided containers.
- The Division needs to enforce set-out times for household garbage. The current requirement is for all garbage to be curbside no earlier than 6:00 p.m. the day before collection and no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of collection. Staff needs to communicate and enforce set-out times for efficient citywide service as well as preserving man hours, time, and fuel.
- Policy prohibits the collection of any construction and demolition debris. This policy needs to be strictly enforced to eliminate collection of debris that should not go into a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill and increase disposal costs. Collecting this type of garbage costs money and takes more time per household. Communicating the issues related to construction and demolition debris will help raise awareness of this important, and costly, issue. Enforcing the current policies will reduce the amount of prohibited waste collection, reduce disposal costs, and increase efficiency.
- Changes to fees, access, and materials collection at the Recycling Center need to be communicated to residents as well as nonresidents and neighboring municipalities. Given that historically only 50% of patrons to the Recycling Center are Roswell residents, the Recycling Center services should be promoted to the public on a regular basis, particularly

for recyclables that are not included in the curbside collection program and for specialty items.

As previously mentioned, upon completion of the Hiperweb software installation, all vehicles will be able to take pictures during the completion of individual routes to document missing containers at the time the trucks passed a residence, if a commercial dumpster is blocked, or other issues are encountered as staff conducts their activities. Hiperweb will help the Division identify where more focused public education may be needed. It will also help in determining when enforcement action may be necessary.

Roswell is a regional leader in environmental stewardship. Education is also critical to ensure the public understands the value of the services provided by the Solid Waste Division and how they advance the environmental stewardship that the City provides. It is important to understand the City's efforts and investments in reducing waste going to landfills and the aggressive recycling program that the City maintains and delivers to its citizens. It is equally important the value of pilot programs and other innovative solutions that the Division considers are apparent to the public.

Staff recommends a multipronged approach to increasing solid waste education:

1. Develop an annual solid waste education and outreach plan with goals and measurable objectives that build on current education efforts as well as address issues and patterns of behavior. Review and refresh this plan annually with Solid Waste, EPW Support Services, and Community Relations staff.
2. Develop digital and printed informational collateral that simply explains and demonstrates basic solid waste policies and procedures for distribution through the City's website, social media, newsletters, utility bill inserts, public meeting and community presentations, events, and municipal buildings. Provide these materials in English and Spanish. Equip our Environmental Compliance Officer and other appropriate inspectors with materials to distribute.
3. Develop short, fun videos that demonstrate and relay basic solid waste procedures and promote solid waste services.
4. Partner with local schools and civic groups to effectively distribute information and promote campaigns. Specifically develop an environmental education program targeted to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade focusing on solid waste and recycling. This directly aligns with Georgia Department of Education's Standards of Excellence in Science for Pollution and Conservation. Ensure that programs with schools and civic groups can be delivered effectively in person or virtually.

Partner with Keep Roswell Beautiful to amplify education and outreach efforts and creatively promote solid waste services.

## **12.9 Monitor Financial Stability**

The Solid Waste and Financial Services Divisions maintain a comprehensive database on collection services and fees for each Roswell household as well as size of dumpster and number of times per week collected for commercial customers.

One issue that is regularly addressed is the number of Management Companies or HOA's who pay one monthly invoice for all residents in their specific communities. Solid Waste uses the number of all households collected versus the number of billing accounts. This system results in confusion when considering the number of household customers versus the number of actual billed accounts.

It is recommended that the two divisions continue their current working relationship to review and reconcile a quarterly report to include the number and location of residential and commercial customers, the level of service received, and the fee charged for services (regular, premium, curbside exempt, commercial, etc.). Paying particular attention to the billing of Homeowners Associations and Management companies will be important during these reviewed. These accounts often receive a single invoice but provide services for multiple households which need to be included in the total household customer counts that solid waste uses to track its work.

This will prevent inconsistencies including missed collections for new customers (residential and commercial developments) and provide notification to Solid Waste of new customers and type of service choice to ensure the delivery of household garbage, recycling containers, or dumpsters for commercial businesses. This report will also highlight residents or businesses who may be receiving services they are not paying for or are delinquent in their payments. A check and balance system is needed to ensure all new residents and businesses establish an account with the City for garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection, and commercial collection. Ongoing communication between Solid Waste and Financial Services is essential to guarantee services are received and billed appropriately.

On an annual basis, Finance staff presents a five-year forecast of revenues and expenditures for the City's major funds as part of the budget process. As a result of increased operating costs, disposal costs, and an increase in the cost of recycling and yard waste collection, Mayor and Council approved a Resolution in August 2018 to increase all sanitation rates effective January 1, 2019. The increase equated to a \$3.98 per month increase for standard residential garbage collection (from \$18.05 to \$22.03). Also approved were annual adjustments of three percent (3%) each July 1 beginning in 2020 through 2023. The rate adjustments are intended to provide financial stability of the Solid Waste Fund on a long-term basis. The current Pro-Forma is included as Appendix 12-2.

Solid Waste and Finance staff should continue to review rates, operational costs, capital improvement project costs, and other relative costs on a quarterly basis and review rates as part of the annual budget process to ensure continued financial stability of the Solid Waste Fund. Solid Waste staff should continue to compare services provided to Roswell residents versus other municipalities in an effort to ensure all sources of revenue are realized. This will maintain the capability of the fund to continue the provision of high quality services to the public for a fee that keeps the Division self-supporting.

### **12.10 Anticipate Staffing Needs**

The current number of staff budgeted for and employed by the Solid Waste Division adequately meets service needs. The positions, job titles and duties, will be modified as the nature of the Division requirements change to accommodate the continued provision of high quality services.

An annual review of positions will provide the best combination of skills required to deliver service to Roswell's customers. Roles, skill sets, and other qualifications should be reviewed and positions changed as needed. This review should coincide with the preparation of the Annual Budget, beginning in January of each year.

**Table 12-1. Recommendations at a Glance**

Recommendation	Proposed Date
<b>Maintain Fleet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue Commercial and Residential truck replacement program</li> <li>• Pilot Fully Automated Residential Collection Program</li> <li>• Purchase one fully automated side loading residential garbage truck</li> </ul>	Annual FY24 FY23
<b>Transfer Station</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Construction of Transfer Station</li> <li>• Evaluate opportunities to host third party waste</li> </ul>	FY22 FY22/23
<b>Utilize Operations Management System</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Route tracking/optimization</li> <li>• Automated Work orders</li> <li>• Analytics</li> </ul>	Ongoing
<b>Update Solid Waste fees</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curbside large item collection</li> <li>• Late container set out – return trip</li> <li>• Container replacement fee – a container that has reached useful life is exempt from fee</li> <li>• Requested commercial dumpster replacement</li> <li>• Blocked commercial dumpster – return trip</li> <li>• Extra commercial collection</li> </ul>	July 1, 2021
<b>Establish Recycling Center Sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charge a fee of \$3/gallon container for paint recycling</li> <li>• Limit “while you wait” shredding service hours</li> <li>• Modify Hours – 8:30-5pm Tuesday through Saturday</li> <li>• Remain open to Roswell residents only - work with North Fulton cities to develop partnership agreements for use of the center</li> </ul>	July 1, 2021
<b>Optimize Transfer Station Drop Off</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full-time Transfer Station attendant to ensure only City of Roswell residents are utilizing the residential drop off area and to monitor items for disposal</li> <li>• Eliminate semi-annual Bulky Trash Amnesty events; replace with quarterly Saturday 4 hour events</li> </ul>	July 1, 2021
<b>Implement Customer Service Pilot Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Commercial Business Recycling Program</li> <li>• Excess Cardboard Collection</li> </ul>	Complete July 1, 2021
<b>Engage in Education and Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a comprehensive Solid Waste Education campaign and outreach program to ensure residents are aware of guidelines and all services offered by the Solid Waste Division</li> </ul>	In progress
<b>Monitor Financial Sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze and update the Solid Waste Pro Forma annually to include updated CIP and operating expenses</li> <li>• Continue to coordinate all budgeting and billing with Financial Services</li> <li>• Manage Transfer Station Operation, Compactor Service, and Recycling/Yard Waste Contracts</li> <li>• Monitor Waste Management Industry</li> </ul>	Fiscal Year  Ongoing Ongoing  Ongoing
<b>Anticipate Staffing Needs</b>	Ongoing





August 27, 2018

**RESOLUTION TO ADJUST SANITATION FEES  
FOR THE CITY OF ROSWELL**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Roswell is a Georgia Municipal Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council are the governing authority of the City of Roswell, Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the City of Roswell have determined that collection of solid waste from residences and commercial enterprises, and diversion of yard waste and recyclables from the waste stream are essential to the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Roswell, and

**WHEREAS**, the Code of Ordinances of the City of Roswell § 24.2.4 provides that a schedule of rates and service options for sanitation services shall be subject to adjustments from time to time by Mayor and Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council have determined that it is in the public interest to adjust such rates:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Roswell, Georgia that the following rates and service options shall apply to the provision of sanitation services. Such rates and service options imposed hereby shall become effective as of January 1, 2019:

1.

Residential Services

Rates for residential accounts are listed on the chart attached hereto, which is made a part hereof, and incorporated by reference.

Residential Solid Waste Collection Rates

Service Type	January 1, 2019	July 1, 2020	July 1, 2021	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2023
Curbside exempt premium extra	\$53.16	\$54.76	\$56.41	\$58.11	\$59.86
Curbside exemption extra charge	\$35.45	\$36.52	\$37.62	\$38.75	\$39.92
Curbside exemption standard	\$22.03	\$22.70	\$23.39	\$24.10	\$24.83
Residential garbage standard	\$22.03	\$22.70	\$23.39	\$24.10	\$24.83
Residential garbage 2 x per week	\$44.05	\$45.38	\$46.75	\$48.16	\$49.61
Residential premium garbage	\$35.45	\$36.52	\$37.62	\$38.75	\$39.92
Residential premium 2 x per week	\$70.89	\$73.02	\$75.22	\$77.48	\$79.81
Residential scout	\$22.03	\$22.70	\$23.39	\$24.10	\$24.83
Residential scout extra charge	\$35.45	\$36.52	\$37.62	\$38.75	\$39.92
Sanitation vacancy exempt	\$6.10	\$6.29	\$6.48	\$6.68	\$6.89

## Commercial Services

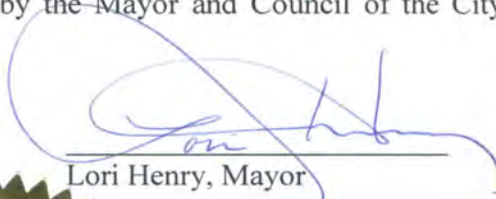
Rates for commercial establishments are listed on the chart attached hereto, which is made a part hereof, and incorporated by reference.

## Commercial Solid Waste Collection Rates

Container Type and Pickup Frequency	January 1, 2019	July 1, 2020	July 1, 2021	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2023
Small Commercial for up to 6 cans, total volume not to exceed 200 gallons	25.81	\$ 26.59	\$ 27.39	\$ 28.22	\$ 29.07
4 Yard 1 x per week	\$ 96.57	\$ 99.47	\$ 102.46	\$ 105.54	\$ 108.71
4 Yard 2 x per week	\$ 186.24	\$ 191.83	\$ 197.59	\$ 203.52	\$ 209.63
6 Yard 1 x per week	\$ 120.36	\$ 123.98	\$ 127.70	\$ 131.54	\$ 135.49
6 Yard 2 x per week	\$ 245.41	\$ 252.78	\$ 260.37	\$ 268.19	\$ 276.24
6 Yard 3 x per week	\$ 374.73	\$ 385.98	\$ 397.56	\$ 409.49	\$ 421.78
6 Yard 4 x per week	\$ 509.54	\$ 524.83	\$ 540.58	\$ 556.80	\$ 573.51
6 Yard 5 x per week	\$ 630.93	\$ 649.86	\$ 669.36	\$ 689.45	\$ 710.14
6 Yard 6 x per week	\$ 763.91	\$ 786.83	\$ 810.44	\$ 834.76	\$ 859.81
6 Yard 7 x per week	\$ 895.06	\$ 921.92	\$ 949.58	\$ 978.07	\$ 1,007.42
8 Yard 1 x per week	\$ 128.90	\$ 132.77	\$ 136.76	\$ 140.87	\$ 145.10
8 Yard 2 x per week	\$ 286.89	\$ 295.50	\$ 304.37	\$ 313.51	\$ 322.92
8 Yard 3 x per week	\$ 430.24	\$ 443.15	\$ 456.45	\$ 470.15	\$ 484.26
8 Yard 4 x per week	\$ 576.03	\$ 593.32	\$ 611.12	\$ 629.46	\$ 648.35
8 Yard 5 x per week	\$ 731.58	\$ 753.53	\$ 776.14	\$ 799.43	\$ 823.42
8 Yard 6 x per week	\$ 875.54	\$ 901.81	\$ 928.87	\$ 956.74	\$ 985.45
8 Yard 7 x per week	\$ 1,020.72	\$ 1,051.35	\$ 1,082.90	\$ 1,115.39	\$ 1,148.86
Compactor	\$ 67.10	\$ 69.12	\$ 71.20	\$ 73.34	\$ 75.55
Entity Fee	\$ 5.13	\$ 5.29	\$ 5.45	\$ 5.62	\$ 5.79

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all other fees for garbage/solid waste operations shall remain in effect as currently established.

The above resolution was read and approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Roswell, Georgia, on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

  
Lori Henry, Mayor

Attest:

  
Marlee Press, City Clerk  
(Seal)





**6. Approval of a Resolution to Adjust Sanitation Fees in the Solid Waste Fund.***Resolution No. 2018-08-62*

The following was approved:

1. The rate increase would be effective January 1, 2019 and would equate to a \$3.98 per month increase for standard residential garbage collection (from \$18.05 to \$22.03).
2. To have adjustments to all other residential and commercial rates.
3. To have annual adjustments of three percent (3%) each July 1 beginning in 2020 and going through 2023.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Marcelo Zapata, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Matt Judy, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Groer, Judy, Palermo, Tyser, Willsey, Zapata

**Community Development Department - Councilmember Michael Palermo**

7. Approval of a rezoning to CX (Commerical Mixed Used), RZ201801972 and a conditional use, CU201801973 for a townhouse, condominium and retail development located on Old Alabama Rd. \*\*\*\*\*(APPLICANT HAS REQUESTED A DEFERRAL TO THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2018 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING)

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DEFERRED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
	<b>Next: 9/24/2018 7:00 PM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Michael Palermo, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marie Willsey, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Groer, Judy, Palermo, Tyser, Willsey, Zapata

## Appendix 2

### Solid Waste Business Plan – History of Rates

The City of Roswell began collecting household and commercial garbage in 1967. The following information, based on research and located documents, outlines the history of rates for these services beginning with the most recent rate amendment in 2018.

#### August 27, 2018

Resolution to adjust Sanitation Fees (Resolution #2018-08-62); Fee adjustment for five years beginning July 1, 2019 through July 1, 2023; with annual increases of 3%

#### Residential

Service Type	1/1/2019	7/1/2020	7/1/2021	7/1/2022	7/1/2023
Curbside exempt premium extra <sup>1</sup>	\$53.16	\$54.76	\$56.42	\$58.11	\$59.86
Curbside exempt extra charge <sup>2</sup>	\$35.45	\$36.52	\$37.62	\$38.75	\$39.92
Curbside exempt standard <sup>3</sup>	\$22.03	\$22.70	\$23.39	\$24.10	\$24.83
Residential garbage standard <sup>4</sup>	\$22.03	\$22.70	\$23.39	\$24.10	\$24.83
Residential garbage 2 x per week <sup>5</sup>	\$44.05	\$45.38	\$46.75	\$48.16	\$49.61
Residential premium garbage <sup>6</sup>	\$35.45	\$36.52	\$37.62	\$38.75	\$39.92
Residential scout <sup>7</sup>	\$22.03	\$22.70	\$23.39	\$24.10	\$24.83
Residential scout extra charge <sup>8</sup>	\$35.45	\$36.52	\$37.62	\$38.75	\$39.92
Sanitation vacancy exempt <sup>9</sup>	\$6.10	\$6.29	\$6.48	\$6.68	\$6.89

1. **Curbside exempt premium extra** – curbside exempt customers with two (2) 95-gallon containers
2. **Curbside exempt extra charge** - requested by residents with difficult or long driveways; **NOTE: this option is no longer available and was discontinued in July 2018**
3. **Curbside exempt standard** – for residents who are 65 years of age or older or certified medical disability with one (1) 96-gallon container
4. **Residential garbage standard** – weekly curbside collection of one (1) 95-gallon container
5. **Residential garbage 2x per week** – twice per week collection of one (1) 95-gallon container
6. **Residential premium garbage** – weekly curbside collection of two (2) 95-gallon containers
7. **Residential scout** – City deemed unsafe driveways (not safe for rear loader to stop on street due to high traffic volume, limited sight distance, topography of road, etc.)
8. **Residential scout extra charge** – for residential scout customers with two (2) 95-gallon containers
9. **Sanitation vacancy exempt** – for residents that do not want to cancel service; however, property is vacant (i.e. between tenants, pending sale, long-term healthcare, etc.)

#### Commercial

Container Type & Pickup Schedule	1/1/2019	7/1/2020	7/1/2021	7/1/2022	7/1/2023
Small Commercial	\$25.81	\$26.59	\$27.39	\$28.22	\$29.07
4-yard Weekly	\$96.57	\$99.47	\$102.46	\$105.54	\$108.71
4-yard 2 times per week	\$186.24	\$191.83	\$197.59	\$203.52	\$209.63
6-yard Weekly	\$120.36	\$123.98	\$127.70	\$131.54	\$135.49
6-yard 2 times per week	\$245.41	\$252.78	\$260.37	\$268.19	\$276.24
6-yard 3 times per week	\$374.73	\$385.98	\$397.56	\$409.49	\$421.78
6-yard 4 times per week	\$509.54	\$524.83	\$540.58	\$556.80	\$573.51
6-yard 5 times per week	\$630.93	\$649.86	\$669.36	\$689.45	\$710.14
6-yard 6 times per week	\$763.91	\$786.83	\$810.44	\$834.76	\$859.81
6-yard 7 times per week	\$895.06	\$921.92	\$949.58	\$978.07	\$1,007.42

8-yard Weekly	\$128.90	\$132.77	\$136.76	\$140.87	\$145.10
8-yard 2 times per week	\$286.89	\$298.50	\$304.37	\$313.51	\$322.92
8-yard 3 times per week	\$430.24	\$443.15	\$456.45	\$470.15	\$484.26
8-yard 4 times per week	\$576.03	\$593.32	\$611.12	\$629.46	\$985.45
8-yard 5 times per week	\$731.58	\$753.53	\$776.14	\$799.43	\$823.42
8-yard 6 times per week	\$875.54	\$901.81	\$928.87	\$956.74	\$985.45
8-yard 7 times per week	\$1,020.72	\$1,051.35	\$1,082.90	\$1,115.39	\$1,148.86
Compactor	\$67.10	\$69.12	\$71.20	\$73.34	\$75.55
Entity Fee	\$5.13	\$5.29	\$5.45	\$5.62	\$5.79

**December 27, 2010**

Resolution to reduce sanitation fees to accommodate the creation of the Stormwater Utility Fee (#2010-12-67)

<b>Residential</b>	<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Rate (per month)</b>
Standard	Up to 3 cans; total not to exceed 100 gallons	\$18.05
Premium	Up to 6 cans; total not to exceed 200 gallons	\$29.05
Scout Truck		\$29.05
<b>Commercial</b>		
<b>Container Size</b>	<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Rate (per month)</b>
Small commercial	Up to 6 cans; total not to exceed 200 gallons	\$21.15
4-yard	Weekly	\$79.15
	2 times per week	\$152.65
6-yard	Weekly	\$98.65
	2 times per week	\$201.15
	3 times per week	\$307.15
	4 times per week	\$417.65
	5 times per week	\$517.15
	6 times per week	\$626.15
	7 times per week	\$733.65
8-yard	Weekly	\$105.65
	2 times per week	\$235.15
	3 times per week	\$352.65
	4 times per week	\$472.15
	5 times per week	\$599.65
	6 times per week	\$717.65
	7 times per week	\$836.65
Compactor		\$55
Entity Fee		\$1.45

**June 7, 2004**

Ordinance to adjust sanitation fees – residential and commercial (Ordinance #2004-06-14)

<b>Residential</b>	<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Rate (per month)</b>
Standard	Up to 3 cans; total not to exceed 100 gallons	\$22
Premium	Up to 6 cans; total not to exceed 200 gallons	\$33
Scout Truck		\$33



<b>Commercial</b>		
<b>Container Size</b>	<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Rate (per month)</b>
Small commercial	Up to 6 cans; total not to exceed 200 gallons	\$33
4-yard	Weekly	\$91
	2 times per week	\$164.50
6-yard	Weekly	\$110.50
	2 times per week	\$213
	3 times per week	\$319
	4 times per week	\$429.50
	5 times per week	\$529
	6 times per week	\$638
8-yard	Weekly	\$117.50
	2 times per week	\$247
	3 times per week	\$364.50
	4 times per week	\$484
	5 times per week	\$611.50
	6 times per week	\$729.50
	7 times per week	\$848.50
Compactor		\$55
Entity Fee		\$1.45

### June 16, 2003

Resolution to increase standard residential and commercial rates (Resolution #2003-06-22)

<b>Residential Collection</b>		<b>Rate (per month)</b>
Weekly standard collection		\$19
Scout Truck Service for long or difficult driveways, upon request		\$28.50
<b>Commercial</b>		
<b>Container Size</b>	<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Rate (per month)</b>
2-yard	Weekly	\$57
	2 times per week	\$142
4-yard	Weekly	\$78.50
	3 times per week	\$211.50
	2 times per week	\$184
	3 times per week	\$272
	4 times per week	\$361
6-yard	Weekly	\$95
	2 times per week	\$184
	3 times per week	\$272
	4 times per week	\$361
	5 times per week	\$450
	6 times per week	\$545
8-yard	Weekly	\$108
	2 times per week	\$209
	3 times per week	\$310
	4 times per week	\$412
	5 times per week	\$513
	6 times per week	\$621

	7 times per week	\$728
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**September 18, 1996**

Ordinance establishing trash (presumed to be yard waste) collection, revising commercial container rates, establish deposits, and entity fees (entities authorized to use a private garbage and trash removal service)

Type of Service	Rate
Collection of wood	\$5 per load for each load up to ½ cord of wood or the equivalent of such for materials other than wood and up to \$40 per load for all loads of more than ½ cord of wood or the equivalent in other materials
Deposits	Residential \$50; Establishments 50% of the first month's billing but in no case less than \$100
Entity Fee	\$1.15 per month; per unit

Commercial		
Container Size	Type of Service	Rate (per month)
4 yard	Weekly	\$62
	2 times per week	\$112
6-yard	Weekly	\$75
	2 times per week	\$145
	3 times per week	\$217
	4 times per week	\$292
	5 times per week	\$360
	6 times per week	\$434
	7 times per week	\$507
8-yard	Weekly	\$80
	2 times per week	\$168
	3 times per week	\$248
	4 times per week	\$329
	5 times per week	\$416
	6 times per week	\$496
	7 times per week	\$577
Shared Dumpsters		Prorated among businesses using container in additional to a fee of \$2.50 per billing

**June 17, 1991**

Ordinance establishing residential curbside collection

Type of Collection	Rate (per month)
Weekly residential collection	\$15
Scout Truck Service for long or difficult driveways, upon request	\$22.50
Scout Truck Service (deemed necessary by the Sanitation Committee)	\$15.00

**November 16, 1970**

Ordinance establishing commercial and industrial garbage collection rates

Container Size	Type of Service	Rate (per month)
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8 cubic-yard	Weekly	\$10
	2 times per week	\$24
	Over 2 times per week	\$3 per pickup or \$12 per month for 1 extra pickup per week
6 cubic-yard	Weekly	\$10
	2 times per week	\$20
	Over 2 times per week	\$2.50 per pickup or \$10 per month for 1 extra pickup per week
4 cubic-yard	Weekly	\$10
	2 times per week	\$16 per month
	Over 2 times per week	\$2 per pickup or \$8 per month for 1 extra pickup per week
Shared Dumpsters		Rates prorated among businesses using container



## UTILITY ACCOUNT APPLICATION

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (      )      -      Secondary: (      )      -

Driver License: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth:      /      /

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Electronic bill? Yes      No

Do you have any prior or current address(es) in the City of Roswell? If yes, provide street address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Own or lease? \_\_\_\_\_

Start date: \_\_\_\_\_

### LEASING PROPERTY INFORMATION

Lease start date: \_\_\_\_\_

Property owner name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property owner address: \_\_\_\_\_

Property owner phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Taken by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Work order #: \_\_\_\_\_



**City of Roswell Curbside Container Program Policy  
(Semi-automated Curbside Collection)  
Last Updated February 7, 2019**

1. The City of Roswell will provide a 96-gallon household garbage container to all residents of the City of Roswell. All household garbage must be placed into the City provided container. Household garbage will not be collected from other containers.
2. Residents are responsible for contacting the ENV/PW Solid Waste Division to request a container if they are a new resident or move into a home that does not have a container.
3. The containers are assigned to individual residences with a serial number and shall not be removed from the premises.
4. Residents are responsible for the care, proper use, safekeeping, loss and cleanliness of their containers.
5. If a resident requests to exchange their provided 96-gallon container for a different size, the new (exchanged) container will be required to be in place for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of receipt.
6. Existing premium service customers will receive two (2) containers. If a resident wants two (2) containers they are required to contact the City of Roswell Finance Department at 770-641-3759 to change their service from "standard" to "premium". Additional fees will apply.
7. Residents can purchase an additional 45-gallon container for a one-time fee of \$50. The ENV/PW Department Director, Deputy Director or Solid Waste Manager will approve these requests. The 45-gallon containers are for customers with limitations who cannot accommodate the 95-gallon container. There is no change in the standard monthly service fee.
8. The City reserves the right to charge residents a minimum of \$25 for the cost of repair or replacement of containers if the repair or replacement is required as a result of abuse, misuse, damage, or fire.
9. If a resident requests a new, clean container when relocating to a home that currently has a container, there will be a charge of \$25.
10. If a container is damaged by City staff it will be replaced at no cost to the resident.
11. Deliveries of containers for new residents and/or replacements will occur within 48 hours of the request.

12. All garbage must be bagged before placing into containers and all garbage must be placed into containers. Please do not leave bags of garbage on the ground. Residents can request a large item pickup for additional bags of garbage up to a maximum of nine (9) bags per request for a fee of \$20 by contacting the City of Roswell Finance Department at 770-641-3759 to schedule and pay for this service.





**OFFICE USE ONLY:**

**Date of Approval:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Renewal Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST FOR CURBSIDE EXEMPTION**

Collection of household garbage and recycling “at the house” in lieu of curbside pickup may be granted at the direction of the Environmental/Public Works Director or his/her designee for senior citizens (age 65 or above) or a medical limitation or disability. The Curbside Exemption must be renewed every two (2) years to ensure accuracy of the program. The applicant will be notified, via phone or in writing, by the Environmental/Public Works Solid Waste Division if the request has been approved or denied within 30 days of receipt of the application.

Please complete the following information and return in person or by mail to: City of Roswell Environmental/Public Works Department, ATTN: Solid Waste Division, 38 Hill Street, Suite 235, Roswell, GA 30075. If you have questions about this service, please contact the Solid Waste Division at 770-641-3961.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, City, State, Zip Code)

38 Hill Street, Roswell, GA 30075  
www.roswellgov.com

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**PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING REASON(S) FOR THE CURBSIDE EXEMPTION REQUEST:**

MEDICAL / DISABILITY ( )

SENIOR CITIZEN ( )

**Please note:** Effective July 2018, the City no longer offers the “Difficult Driveway” exemption. If you are receiving this renewal notice you are “grandfathered” in this category.

Number of people residing in your household: \_\_\_\_\_.

Age(s) of all people residing in your household: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby attest and certify that there is no other resident in my household capable of placing the household garbage or recycling container curbside for collection: \_\_\_\_\_ (initial here)

**For Disability/Medical/Senior Citizen please attach the following:**

- A physician’s statement or certification verifying that you are physically unable to take the household garbage and recycling containers to the curb;
- No other resident of the household is capable of placing the container curbside for collection; • Proof of age (minimum 65 years old) is required with a driver’s license, birth certificate or other official document showing proof of age; a copy for all people residing in your household is required;
- The amount billed will be \$22.70 (one container) or premium service (two containers) in the amount of \$36.52 per month.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**City of Roswell Approval:**

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

38 Hill Street, Roswell, GA 30075  
www.roswellgov.com

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**RIGHT OF ENTRY ON PRIVATE PROPERTY FOR CURBSIDE EXEMPTION RESIDENTIAL  
HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES**

Property Address:

---

(Street, City, State, Zip Code)

---

Printed Name (Owner or Tenant)

---

**Right of Entry** I certify that I am the owner or an owner's authorized agent of the property described above. I grant, freely and without coercion, the right of access and entry to said property to the City of Roswell Environmental/Public Works Department, Solid Waste Division, including but not limited to each of their agents, contractors and subcontractors solely for the purpose of the removal of residential household garbage and recycling.

**Hold Harmless**

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Roswell and any of their agents, contractors and subcontractors, for damages, either to the above-described property or to persons situated thereon due to normal activities of collection and removal of wastes as described above. However, damages resulting from actions outside those necessary for waste collection are not waived. No claim for damage shall be paid for any claim waived herein and any other claims shall be submitted to the City of Roswell for review and assessment.

I forever release, discharge and waive any action, either legal or equitable, that might otherwise arise from the collection of residential garbage and recycling at this location. By signing this document, (I/we) certify that (I/we) (am/are) the owner of this property and/or that (I/we) (am/are) authorized to sign this right of entry and agree to its terms. For the consideration and purposes set forth herein, I hereby acknowledge by my dated signature below:

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

---

Signature

38 Hill Street, Roswell, GA 30075  
[www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com)

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## Residential Curbside Exempt Policy

- PURPOSE:** This policy describes the procedure of applying for a curbside exemption for residential household garbage and recycling collection service and eligibility requirements.
- GENERAL:** The City of Roswell Solid Waste Division allows for curbside exemption of household garbage and recycling collection and will provide “at the house” pickup at the standard rate for senior citizens, disabled and/or certain medical reasons when there is no other able-bodied resident living in the home.
- ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** Citizens who apply for the curbside exemption must submit documentation / certification from a doctor for medical / disability exemptions and senior citizens (age 65 or above) must submit an official proof of age document (driver’s license, birth certificate or other legal document showing proof of age) along with the ***Request for Curbside Exemption*** form.
- COST** for medical / disabled or senior citizens curbside exempt household garbage and recycling collection service will be the standard rate of \$22.70 per month beginning January 1, 2019.
- INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLY FOR CURBSIDE EXEMPTION SERVICE:** To apply for exemption of curbside household garbage and recycling collection services citizens need to contact the Solid Waste Division at 770-641-3961 to receive a Request for Curbside Exemption form by mail or e-mail. Upon completion of the Curbside Exemption and Right of Entry forms, they should be returned or mailed to the Environmental/Public Works Department, ATTN: Solid Waste Division, 38 Hill Street, Suite 235, Roswell, GA 30075 along with the required documentation (see #3). The applicant will be contacted by phone informing them of the curbside exemption start date or the reason the application was denied.
- RENEWAL FOR CURBSIDE EXEMPTION SERVICE PROCESS:** Curbside Exemption Services are renewed every two (2) years from the date of application approval. Applicants will be contacted by the Solid Waste Division to complete the required forms. If your circumstances change (relocate, etc.), please notify the Solid Waste Division as soon as possible so changes and/or updates can be made.
- RIGHT OF ENTRY FOR CURBSIDE EXEMPTION FOR RESIDENTIAL HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES:** All applicants who apply for curbside exemption shall submit the Right of Entry Form with their application. This form states that the property owner and/or occupant applying for curbside exemption will allow City employees, City contractors, or subcontractors and their equipment to enter onto the property to provide “at the house” service. Property owners/occupants agree to indemnify and hold harmless whatsoever to the property within reasonable justification. Citizens should contact the City of Roswell Solid Waste Division at 770-641-3961 for additional information and details.

38 Hill Street, Roswell, GA 30075  
[www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com)

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**CITY OF ROSWELL SANITATION DEPARTMENT LARGE/SPECIAL ITEM FEES 770-641-3961**

**CITY OF ROSWELL SOLID WASTE DIVISION  
CURBSIDE LARGE ITEM COLLECTION PROGRAM**

Air Conditioner (indoor or outdoor unit)	\$ 20.00	End Table	\$ 20.00	Plastic Playhouse	\$ 20.00
Armoire	\$ 20.00	File Cabinet (2-drawers)	\$ 20.00	Patio Table With Up to (4) Chairs	\$ 20.00
Auto Roof Top Carrier	\$ 20.00	File Cabinet (4-drawers)	\$ 20.00	Pools (Plastic for Kids) or Pool Filters	\$ 20.00
Basketball Goal, Pole and Base	\$ 20.00	Linoleum Tiles (1-room)	\$ 20.00	Pressure Washers	\$ 20.00
Bath Tub	\$ 20.00	Fireplace Mantle, Gas Log or Screen	\$ 20.00	Recliner	\$ 20.00
Bed Frame, Headboard or Footboard	\$ 20.00	Fire Pit (Metal Only)	\$ 20.00	Refrigerator	\$ 20.00
Bench	\$ 20.00	Fish Tank with Stand	\$ 20.00	Rocking or Adirondack Chair	\$ 20.00
Bicycle	\$ 20.00	Freezer	\$ 20.00	Shed (Plastic or Metal Only)	\$ 20.00
Bicycle (Exercise Equipment)	\$ 20.00	Furnace	\$ 20.00	Shelving	\$ 20.00
Bird Baths	\$ 20.00	Garage Door Opener	\$ 20.00	Sink	\$ 20.00
Bookcase	\$ 20.00	Garage Door Panels & Opener (over 6')	\$ 20.00	Sky Light/ Window	\$ 20.00
Boxspring	\$ 20.00	Garage Door Panels & Opener (under 5')	\$ 20.00	Sofa, Sofa Bed or Futon	\$ 20.00
Bunky Board	\$ 20.00	Gazebo Frame (Metal Only)	\$ 20.00	Spa Cover (Pool or Hot Tub)	\$ 20.00
Cabinet	\$ 20.00	Grill	\$ 20.00	Stereo Speakers (No Wood Casing)	\$ 20.00
Canvas Gazebo (Disassembled)	\$ 20.00	Gutters	\$ 20.00	Stove	\$ 20.00
Carpet/Padding @ (1) Room	\$ 20.00	Heaters (Kerosene)	\$ 20.00	Stove (Counter Top)	\$ 20.00
Ceiling Fan	\$ 20.00	Household Garbage (9) Bags or (3) Containers	\$ 20.00	Swimming Pool Filter	\$ 20.00
Chair (Living Room) or Chaise Lounge	\$ 20.00	Hot Tub (split in half)	\$ 20.00	Swimming Pool Bowie or Floats	\$ 20.00
Commode and Tank	\$ 20.00	Humidifier	\$ 20.00	Swing Set (Disassembled/Metal Only)	\$ 20.00
Computer Monitor or CPU	\$ 20.00	Kitchen Table or Island	\$ 20.00	Table	\$ 20.00
Copiers	\$ 20.00	Ladder or Footstool	\$ 20.00	Television (under 25")	\$ 20.00
Counter Top ( Up to 8' Long)	\$ 20.00	Lawn Mower (Push)	\$ 20.00	Television (over 26")	\$ 20.00
Crib	\$ 20.00	Lawn Mower (Riding)	\$ 20.00	Trampoline	\$ 20.00
Desk	\$ 20.00	Loveseat or Chaise Lounge	\$ 20.00	Trash Compactor	\$ 20.00
Dinette Chairs (up to 4-chairs)	\$ 20.00	Mattress	\$ 20.00	Treadmill	\$ 20.00
Dinette Table and (4) Chairs	\$ 20.00	Microwave	\$ 20.00	Truck Bed Topper	\$ 20.00
Dishwasher	\$ 20.00	Mini or Exercise Trampoline	\$ 20.00	Vanity Cabinet (only)	\$ 20.00
Door or window	\$ 20.00	Mirror	\$ 20.00	Vanity Cabinet & Sink	\$ 20.00
Dresser or Bureau	\$ 20.00	Oven (single or Double)	\$ 20.00	Washer or Dryer	\$ 20.00
Dryer or Washer	\$ 20.00	Piano or Organ	\$ 20.00	Water Heater	\$ 20.00
Electric Toy Car (No Batteries)	\$ 20.00	Picnic Table	\$ 20.00	Wheel Barrow	\$ 20.00
Elliptical Exercise Equipment	\$ 20.00	Ping-Pong Table	\$ 20.00	Windows or Door	\$ 20.00

**NO COLLECTION OF CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS, CHEMICALS & YARD WASTE**

(Example: Wood, Brick, Cement, Concrete, Ceramic Tile and/or Liquid Items, etc.)



# COMMERCIAL SANITATION APPLICATION

All garbage services are the responsibility of the property owner and can only be altered by the owner or authorized agent.

By completing this form, the responsible property owner and/or its authorized agents agree to be responsible for the security of the dumpster after delivery. Any theft or vandalism of the dumpster could cause the owner/authorized agent to be charged a replacement fee of \$1,000 which will be automatically added to the next month billing.

## PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION ONLY

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Electronic Bill?  Yes  No

\*\* Extra pick-ups are available upon request for an additional charge

## COMMERCIAL SANITATION

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_ New Account?  Yes  No

Service Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: \_\_\_\_\_

For services provided and rates please visit [www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com) or call 770-641-3759.

## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Address Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Accepted By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# State of the Planet

EARTH INSTITUTE | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

## SUSTAINABILITY

# Recycling in the U.S. Is Broken. How Do We Fix It?

BY RENEE CHO | MARCH 13, 2020



Photo: USEPA

Recycling in the U.S. is broken. In 1960, Americans generated 2.68 pounds of garbage per day; by 2017, it had grown to an average of 4.51 pounds. And while many Americans dutifully put items into their recycling bins, much of it does not actually end up being recycled. This post will explain why, and talk about potential solutions.

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Many recyclables become contaminated when items are placed in the wrong bin, or when a dirty food container gets into the recycling bin. Contamination can prevent large batches of material from being recycled. Other materials can't be processed in certain facilities.

Moreover, many items that are collected, such as plastic straws and bags, eating utensils, yogurt and takeout containers often cannot be recycled. They usually end up being incinerated, deposited in landfills or washed into the ocean. While incineration is sometimes used to produce energy, **waste-to-energy plants** have been associated with toxic emissions in the past.



Buckhorn Mesa landfill in AZ. Photo: Alan Levine

Landfills emit carbon dioxide, methane, volatile organic compounds and other hazardous pollutants into the air. And our oceans are drowning in plastic waste.

### China's ban

For decades, China handled the recycling of almost half of the world's discarded materials, because its manufacturing sector was booming and needed these materials to feed it. In 2016, the U.S. exported 16 million tons of plastic, paper and metals to China. In actuality, 30 percent of these mixed recyclables were ultimately contaminated by

non-recyclable material, were never recycled, and ended up polluting China's countryside and oceans. An estimated 1.3 to 1.5 million metric tons of plastic found its way into the ocean off China's coast each year.



Recycling in Harbin, China. Photo: Gabriele Battaglia

In 2018, China's National Sword policy banned the import of most plastics and other materials that were not up to new, more stringent purity standards. The U.S. then sent its plastic waste to other countries, shipping 68,000 containers to Vietnam, Malaysia, and Thailand in 2018. When these countries later instituted bans on imported plastic waste, the U.S. diverted its waste to Cambodia, Bangladesh, Ghana, Laos, Ethiopia, Kenya and Senegal — countries with cheap labor and lax environmental rules. The U.S. still ships

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found that the plastic waste exported to Southeast Asia resulted in contaminated water, crop death, respiratory illnesses due to toxic fumes from incineration, and organized crime.

## When the market disappeared

Without the Chinese market for plastic — as well as for some types of cardboard, paper, and glass — the U.S. recycling industry was upended.

“The economics are challenging,” said Nilda Mesa, director of the Urban Sustainability and Equity Planning Program at the Earth Institute’s Center for Sustainable Urban Development. “If there is not a market for the recycled material, then the numbers do not work for these facilities as well as cities, as they need to sell the materials to recoup their costs of collection and transportation, and even then it’s typically only a portion of the costs.”

As a result, U.S. processing facilities and municipalities have either had to pay more to recycle or simply discard the waste. In 2017, Stamford, CT made \$95,000 by selling recyclables; in 2018, it had to pay \$700,000 to have them removed. Bakersfield, CA used to earn \$65 a ton from its recyclables; after 2018, it had to pay \$25 a ton to get rid of them. Franklin, NH had been able to sell its recyclables for \$6 a ton; now the transfer station charges \$125 a ton to recycle the material or \$68 a ton to incinerate it.



Some waste was simply discarded. Photo: Sarah

Municipalities that couldn’t afford to pay more have cut back on their recycling programs. Over 70 ended curbside recycling (though several have been reinstated after public protests), and many drop-off sites closed; some programs increased costs to residents while others limited what materials they would accept.

## The state of U.S. recycling today

Because U.S. recycling was dependent on China for so many years, our domestic recycling infrastructure was never developed, so there was no economical or efficient way to handle recycling when the market disappeared.

“The way the system is configured right now, recycling is a service that competes — and unsurprisingly often loses — for local funding that is also needed for schools, police, et

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to landfill, recycling will not be 'worthwhile' so we need to start to recognize what landfill really is: a waste of waste!"



Recycling in Baltimore. Photo: KristianBjornard

Making the situation more complicated—the U.S. does not have a federal recycling program. “Recycling decision-making is currently in the hands of 20,000 communities in the U.S., all of which make their own choices about whether and what to recycle,” said Kersten-Johnston. “Many stakeholders with many different interests converge around this topic and we need to find common ground and goals to avoid working against one another. That means companies coming together with communities, recyclers, haulers, manufacturers and consumers to try to make progress together.”

### **What actually gets recycled?**

According to the [EPA](#), of the 267.8 million tons of municipal solid waste generated by Americans in 2017, only 94.2 million tons were recycled or composted.

Sixty-six percent of discarded paper and cardboard was recycled, 27 percent of glass, and 8

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Single-stream recycling, where all recyclables are placed into the same bin, has made recycling easier for consumers, but results in about one-quarter of the material being contaminated.

Plastic recycling presents the biggest challenge because the plastic is often contaminated by other materials and consumer goods companies are reluctant to buy recycled plastic unless it is as pure as virgin plastic.



Paper for recycling. Photo: Todd Lappin



Plastic for recycling needs to be clean.  
Photo: Samuel A. Love

Although companies that make and sell plastic push the idea that recycling is the answer to the plastic pollution problem, six times more plastic waste is incinerated than is recycled. The CEO of Recology, a company that collects and processes municipal solid waste, wrote in a 2018 op-ed, “The simple fact is, there is just too much plastic—and too many different types of plastics being produced; and there exist few, if any, viable end markets for the material.” Moreover, because of the glut of natural gas and the resulting boom in U.S. petrochemical production, virgin plastic is now cheaper than recycled plastic.

A recent Greenpeace report found that some PET (#1) and HDPE (#2) plastic bottles are the only types of plastic that are truly recyclable in the U.S. today; and yet only 29 percent of PET bottles are collected for recycling, and of this, only 21 percent of the bottles are actually made into recycled materials due to contamination. China used to accept plastics #3 through #7, which were mostly burned for fuel. Today #3 – #7 plastics may be collected in the U.S., but they are not typically recycled; they usually end up incinerated, buried in landfills or exported. In fact Greenpeace is asking companies such as Nestle, Walmart, Proctor & Gamble and Unilever that

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Textiles are another large source of waste. Only 15.2 percent of textiles were recycled in the U.S. in 2017. And while the fashion industry is trying to refashion old clothing and vintage items are now chic, this movement is not big enough to solve the problem.



Behind a NYC bagel shop. Photo: Sachi Yoshitsugu

Food waste is by tonnage the most significant source of waste, according to Mesa. "Some cities and countries in northern Europe have had success with using organic waste as a source of energy. And while waste to energy facilities exist in the U.S., there is a history of some of these facilities in the past being sited near vulnerable populations," she said. "While the technology (including air pollution measures) has advanced, it still raises questions. As technology advances and as the search for green energy ramps up in U.S. cities, however, this may become a more appealing

option for cities and regions in the future."

## What are the solutions?

The global market for *high quality* recycled materials is actually growing. Global demand for paper and cardboard is expected to grow by 1.2 percent a year, mainly due to the growth in e-commerce and the need for packaging; recycled paper will be essential to meeting this demand.

And the global plastic recycling market is projected to grow by \$14.74 billion between now and 2024. As a result, companies are trying to enhance the quality of recycled plastic as well as incorporate it into the plastic products they produce. Plastic waste, especially PET and HDPE, is being recycled into packaging, building and constructions, electronics, automotive, furniture, textiles and more.

The key to fixing recycling in the U.S. is developing the domestic market. This means improving the



Recycled paper and cardboard will be in demand. Photo: Paul Swanson

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“What has worked,” said Mesa, “is where institutions and cities require a percentage of recycled content for their purchasing, for example, requiring 100 percent recycled paper, or recycled materials in building materials...A growth in demand for recycled content, or reused content can be driven by changes in regulations and purchasing commitments, and their enforcement.” Another effective measure, she added, is for institutions or governments to limit the disposal of construction and demolition debris, to encourage recycling instead. “These both set up a stable system that then allows for the growth of markets for reused and recycled materials, as well as the facilities that can process them,” said Mesa.

If recycling processors have a market where they can sell their material, they will be motivated to invest in better equipment that can sort materials to minimize contamination, and it will make economic sense to expand recycling programs.

## **Best practices**

Here are some places where recycling is working relatively well.

**San Francisco**, which has set a zero waste goal for 2020, keeps 80 percent of its waste out of landfills. The city requires residents and companies to separate their waste into three streams, employing blue bins for recyclables, green for compostables (the city diverts 80 percent of its food waste) and black for material intended for the landfill. Food vendors have to use compostable or recyclable containers, and every event in San Francisco must offer recycling and composting. Starting July 1, stores will charge 25 cents for checkout bags, including bags for takeout and delivery.

**Los Angeles** recycles almost 80 percent of its waste, with a goal to recycle 90 percent by 2025. Restaurants are required to compost their food waste, and companies get a break on their taxes based on how much they recycle. In addition, an initiative called “Rethink LA” helps residents understand the importance of recycling and composting.

In **Austin, TX**, which is aiming to divert 75 percent of its waste by this year, all properties must provide recycling and composting to their tenants and employees. Large construction projects must reuse or recycle at least half of their debris.

**Germany** recycles 56 percent of its trash by providing different colored bins for different colored glass and other items. The country uses the Green Dot recycling system: When a green dot is placed on packaging material, it indicates that the manufacturer contributes to the cost of collection and recycling. These manufacturers pay a license fee to a waste collection company that is calculated on weight in order to get their packaging picked up, sorted and

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the more they weigh, the more residents are charged. Recyclables are picked up for free, but there is a charge for disposal of other trash, determined by its weight.

Other countries with good recycling rates are Wales, Switzerland, Austria, Japan and Taiwan. Japan requires residents to wash items, remove labels, and fold cartons, and waste must be labeled so that individuals are held accountable. Residents of the tiny village of **Kamikatsu** sort their trash into 34 categories, with the goal to achieve zero waste this year.

**Taiwan** recycles 55 percent of its residential and commercial trash, and 77 percent of its industrial waste. **Yellow trucks** go through neighborhoods playing music to let residents know it's time to dump their trash; white trucks follow behind carrying 13 different bins into which residents sort their recyclables. Recyclables are then sent to companies like Miniwiz that transform them into building materials. In addition, smart recycling booths accept bottles and cans in exchange for added value to transit cards.



Recycling in Wales. Photo: **Dave Goodman**

## **Strategies that work**

### *Education*

Minimizing contamination of recyclables and the flow of recyclable items to landfills requires consumer awareness. Community events, campaigns, and brochures are necessary to educate residents about the importance of reusing, recycling and composting, as well as how to properly recycle in their particular community. They need to understand which items are actually recyclable and which are not.

### *Incentives and penalties*

These can be used to promote recycling and waste reduction. For example, residents and companies can be incentivized to reduce waste if they have to pay more for discarding more. Additional payments or a contract extension can encourage waste contractors to divert more waste.

### *Legislation*

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Senator Tom Udall (D-New Mexico) and Congressman Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach) recently introduced the [Break Free From Plastic Act](#) into Congress. The bill includes bans on single-use plastic bags and polystyrene; requirements for companies that make packaging or food ware to be responsible for their waste collection; a national container deposit system that would charge a refundable deposit on all single-use beverage bottles; standardized labeling on recycling bins; and a suspension on permits for the building of [new plastic-producing plants](#).

Eight states have *bans on single-use plastic bags*. Jennie Romer, founder of [PlasticBagLaws.org](#), says that hybrid bans that ban thin plastic carryout bags and also impose a charge for paper or any other bags are the most effective. Chicago's hybrid ban cut plastic bag use in half; and in San Jose, the hybrid ban with a 10-cent charge for paper bags led to an increase in reusable bag use from 4 percent to 62 percent. On March 1, NYC instituted a plastic bag ban that charges 5 cents for taking a paper carry out bag.

*Extended producer responsibility* (EPR) requires companies that make products to be responsible—financially or physically—for their management and disposal at the end of their lives. Companies can do this through recycling or reusing products, buying them back, or they may hire a third party to deal with their waste management. EPR shifts the financial burden from local governments to manufacturers, which also motivates companies to design and produce more sustainable products. The EU has had an EPR program on packaging since 1994.



A reverse vending machine in Australia. Photo: [Bidgee](#)

*Container deposit laws* or “*bottle bills*” which charge a refundable deposit on all single-use beverage bottles, whether plastic, metal or glass, “are the single most effective means of boosting recycling,” according to the Sierra Club. Ten states already have bottle bills, and six more are considering them.

#### *Innovation*

Many companies are trying to come up with better ways of dealing with waste, from chemical recycling, which uses chemicals or high heat to turn plastic into its original components for reuse,

to new ways to make recycling simpler.

Oregon-based [Agilyx](#) breaks down hard-to-recycle and contaminated plastics to their molecular

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month, customers get a bi-weekly pickup of these items. Ridwell then distributes the items to other places for recycling, reuse or destruction. In 2019, the company diverted 170,000 pounds of waste from the landfill.

**PureCycle Technologies** has patented a process to remove the color, odor and contaminants from polypropylene plastic (used for bottle caps) and turn it into a “virgin-like resin.”

Until now, only one percent of polypropylene has been recycled, even though it is the second most common plastic in the world. It has mostly been recycled into black or gray products, such as benches or car parts, but once purified, it has the potential for many more applications.

**Loop** creates reusable and returnable packaging for consumer products. Items in the Loop store are shipped to buyers in containers for which they pay a deposit; when the containers are returned to Loop in the reusable shipping box, buyers receive a full refund. Carrefour grocery stores are using Loop in France, and Kroger’s and Walgreen’s in the U.S. will soon sign on.



Photo: Purecycle

## What you can do

“It will only ever make economic sense to recycle a small subset of materials, which means we will have to look beyond recycling alone to solve for our broader waste,” said Kersten-Johnson. “We need to tap into new business models that allow us to reduce our consumption in the first place, and re-use materials where we can. This can include things like rental or service models. But while we work to scale these types of solutions, we can’t take our eyes off recycling.”

- Learn which **recycling symbols** correspond to which types of plastic so you know what is recyclable
- Understand what items and materials your community recycles
- Keep a recycling bin handy
- Rinse out bottles, cans and food containers before recycling
- Buy recycled products or items incorporating recycled material

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- Don't buy single-use items
- Urge your representatives to introduce waste-reducing legislation

Here are [more tips](#) from the Natural Resources Defense Council .

China's decision to stop accepting the world's contaminated materials may ultimately prove to be a boon to the U.S. recycling industry. In a [CNBC report](#), Ron Gonen, CEO of Closed Loop Partners, said, "Long term, it's going to be a major benefit because it's going to force the industry to be much much more efficient, and produce a much higher quality product that will actually be able to be used in domestic manufacturing supply chains." According to the report, the U.S. has invested over \$4.4 billion in new and retooled facilities that recover materials; these improvements include advanced technologies such as robotics and optical sorting to deal with the material from mixed streams. Gonen said, "It's forcing everybody to focus on efficiency, product design, and reuse of material."

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### 16 Leave a Reply



Join the discussion...

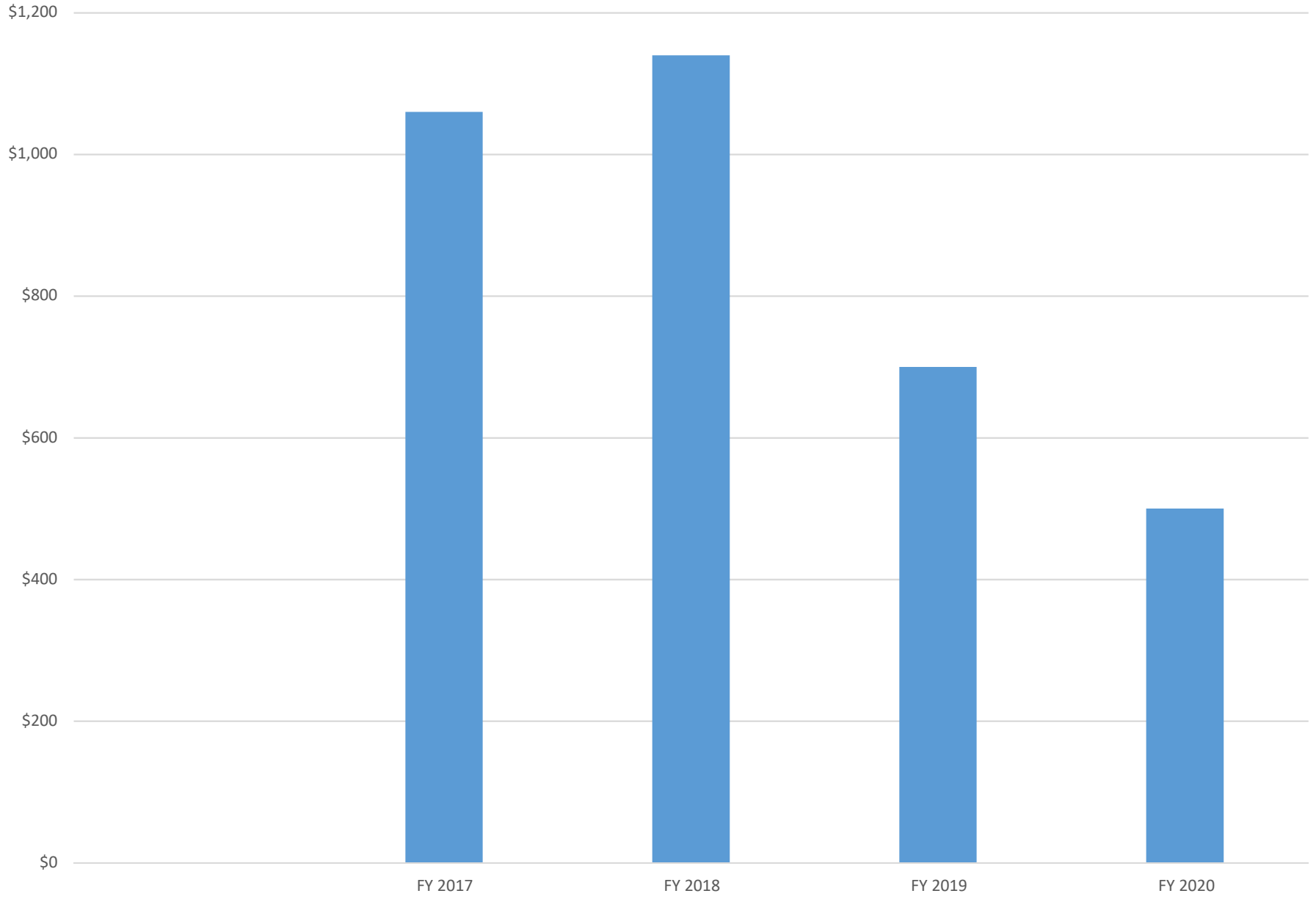
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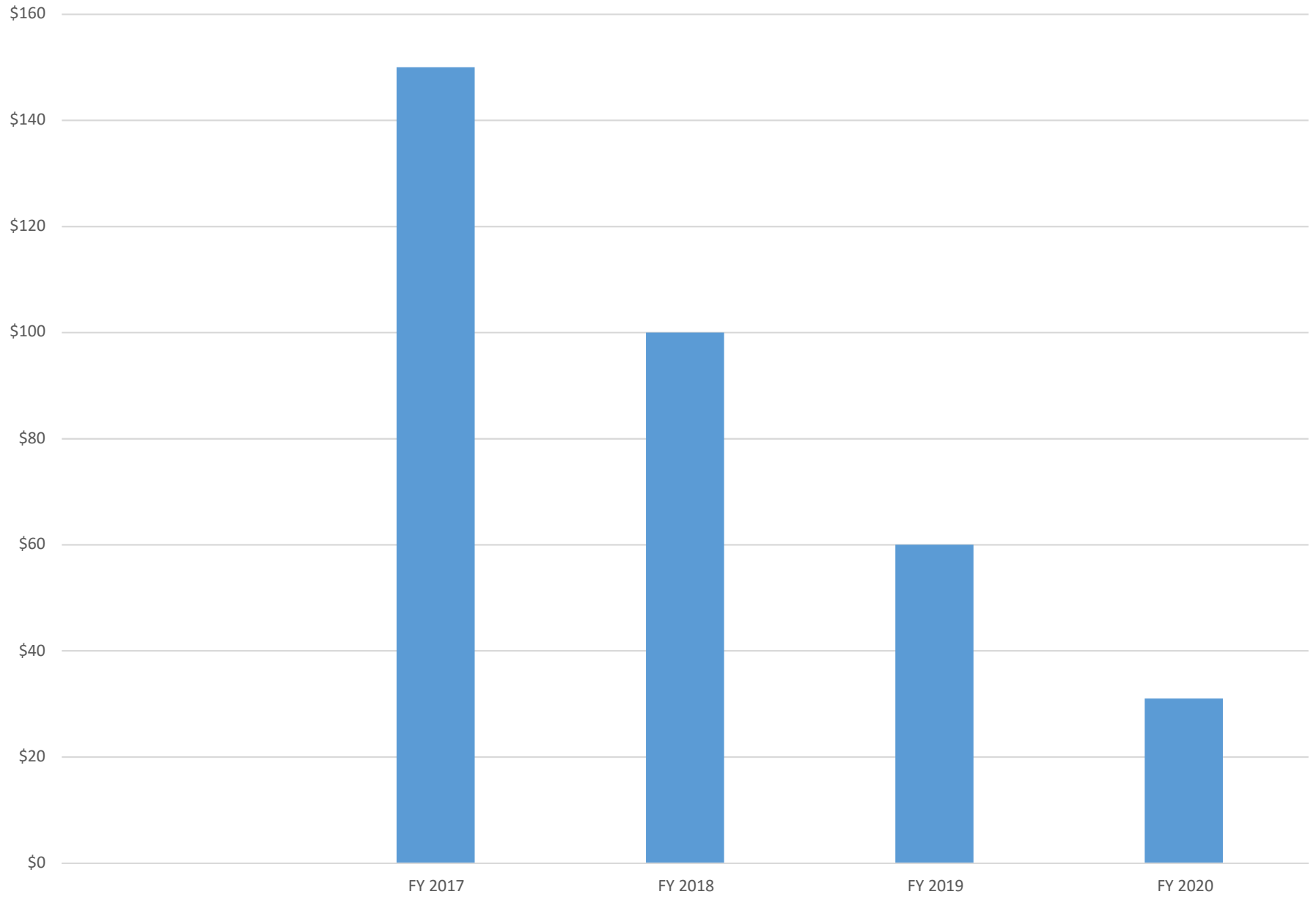
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### Aluminum (Price per Ton)

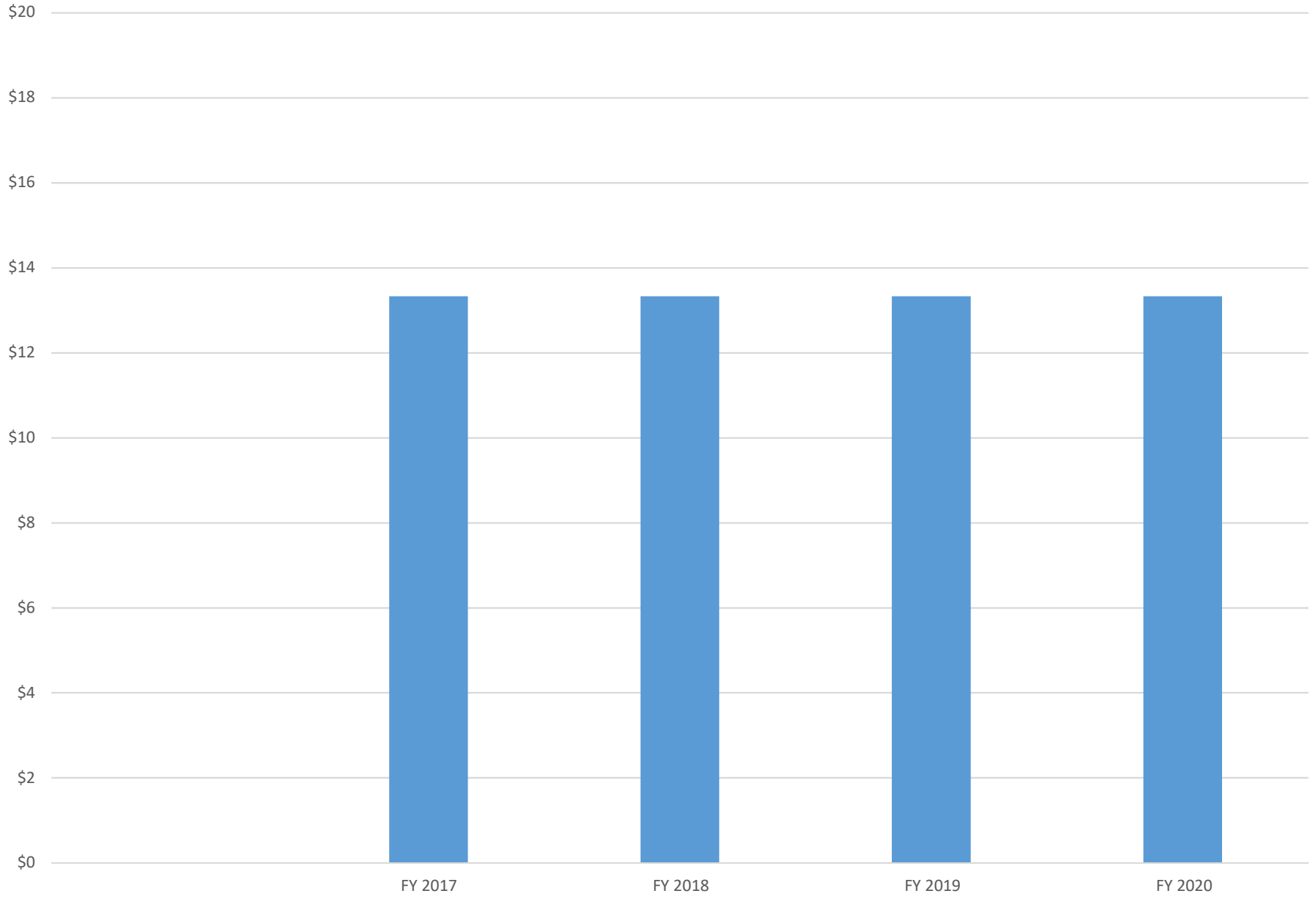




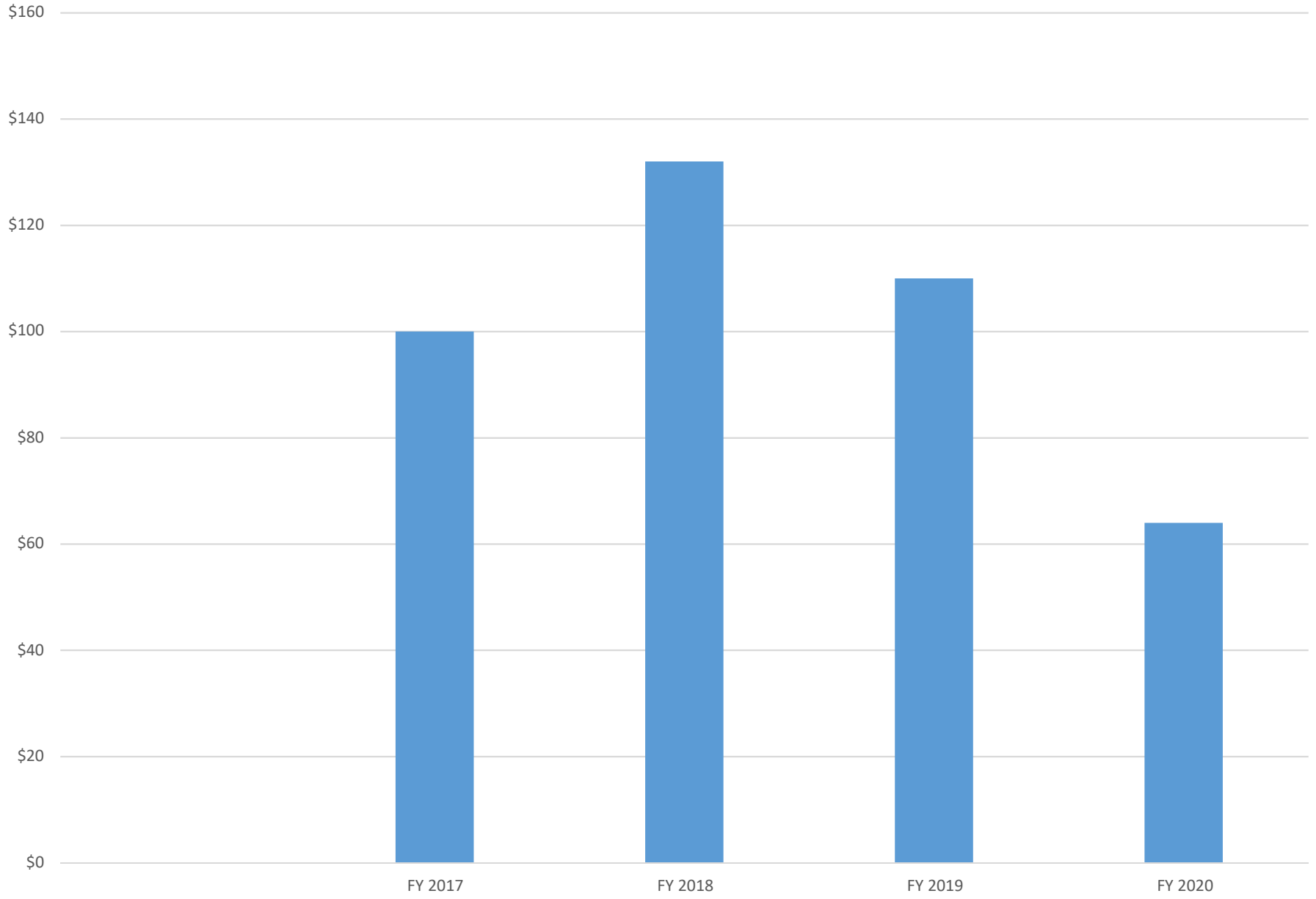
### OCC (Cardboard-Price per TON)



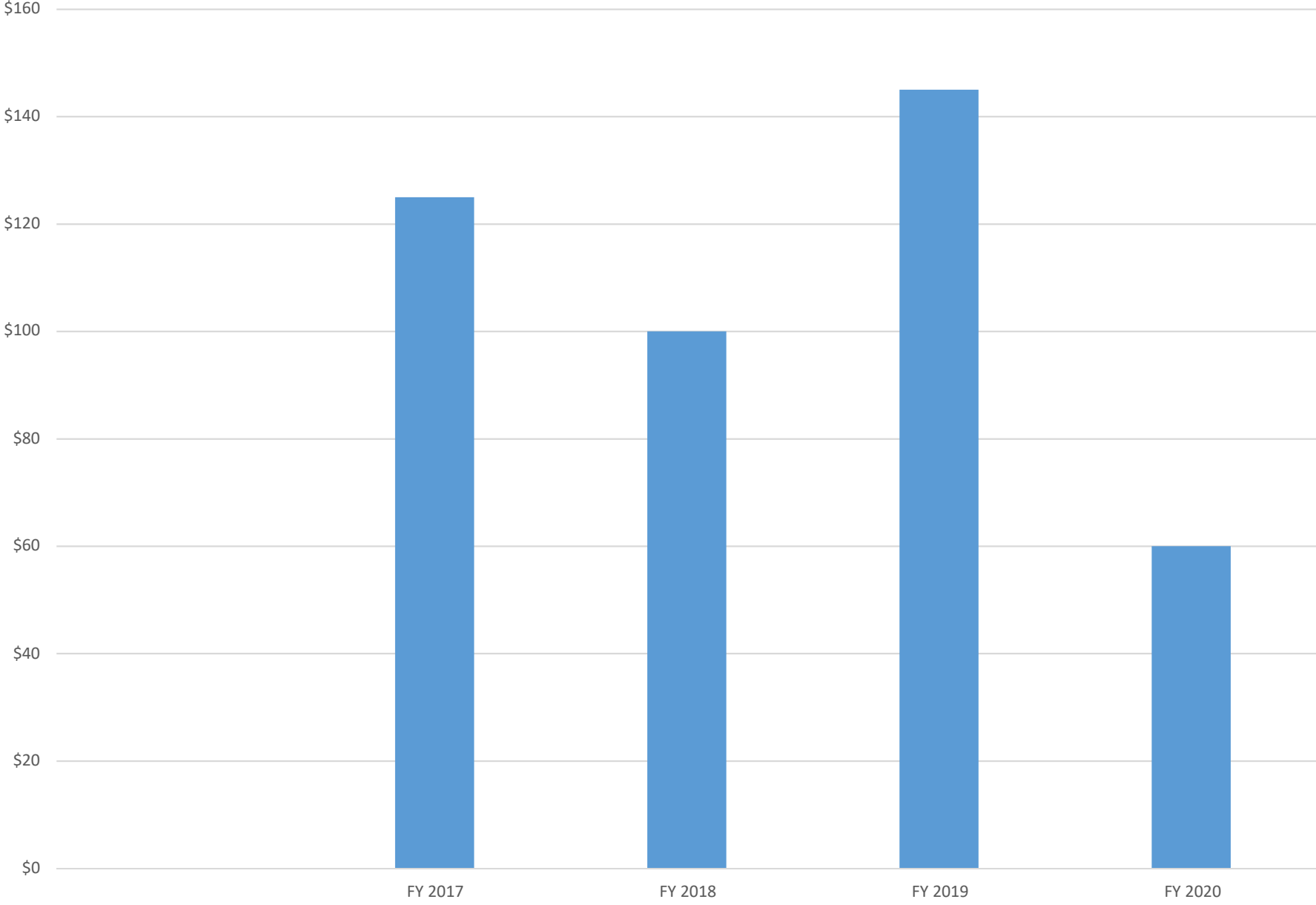
### Glass (Price perTon)



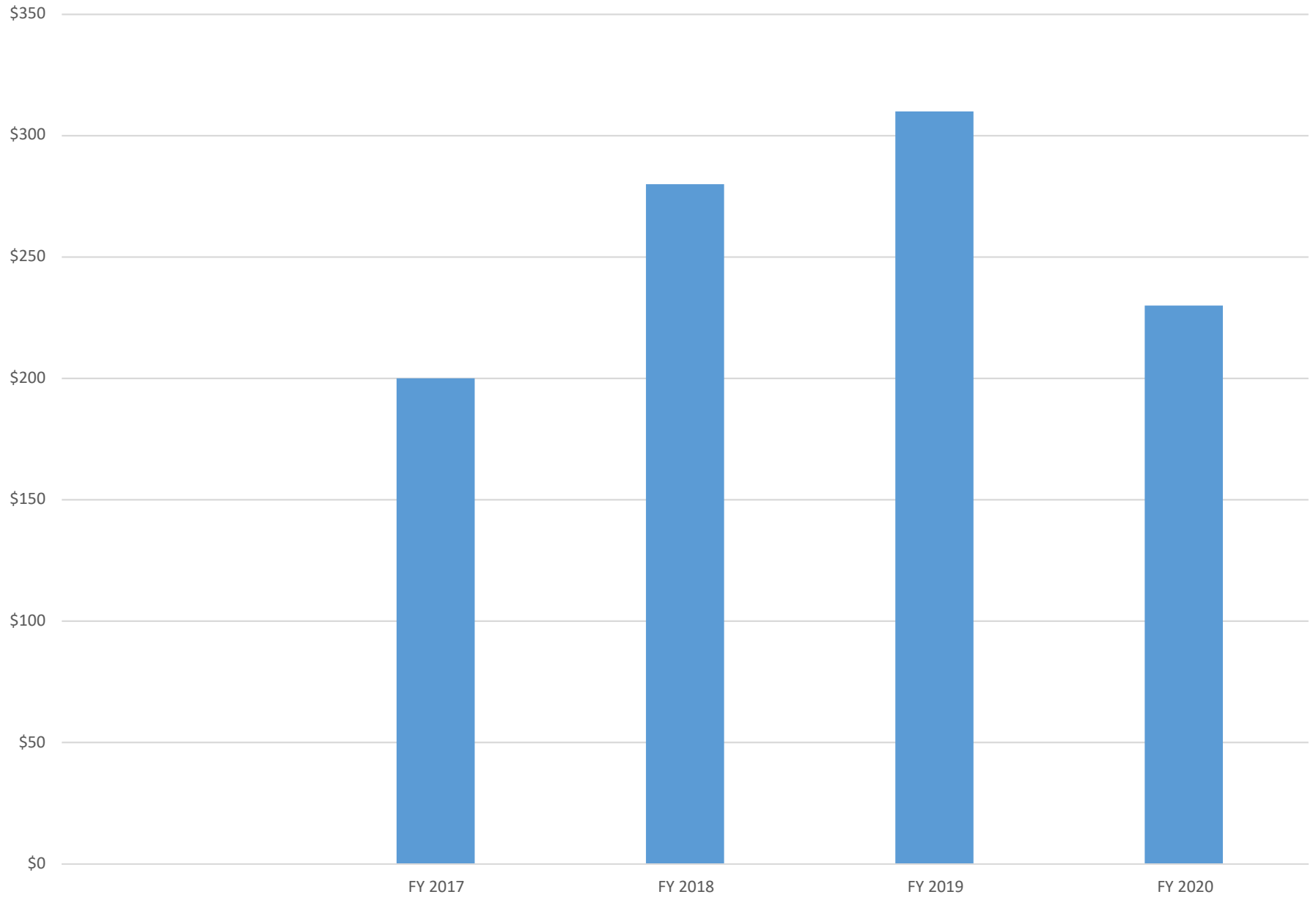
### Metal (Price per Ton)



SOP (Office paper-Price per Ton)

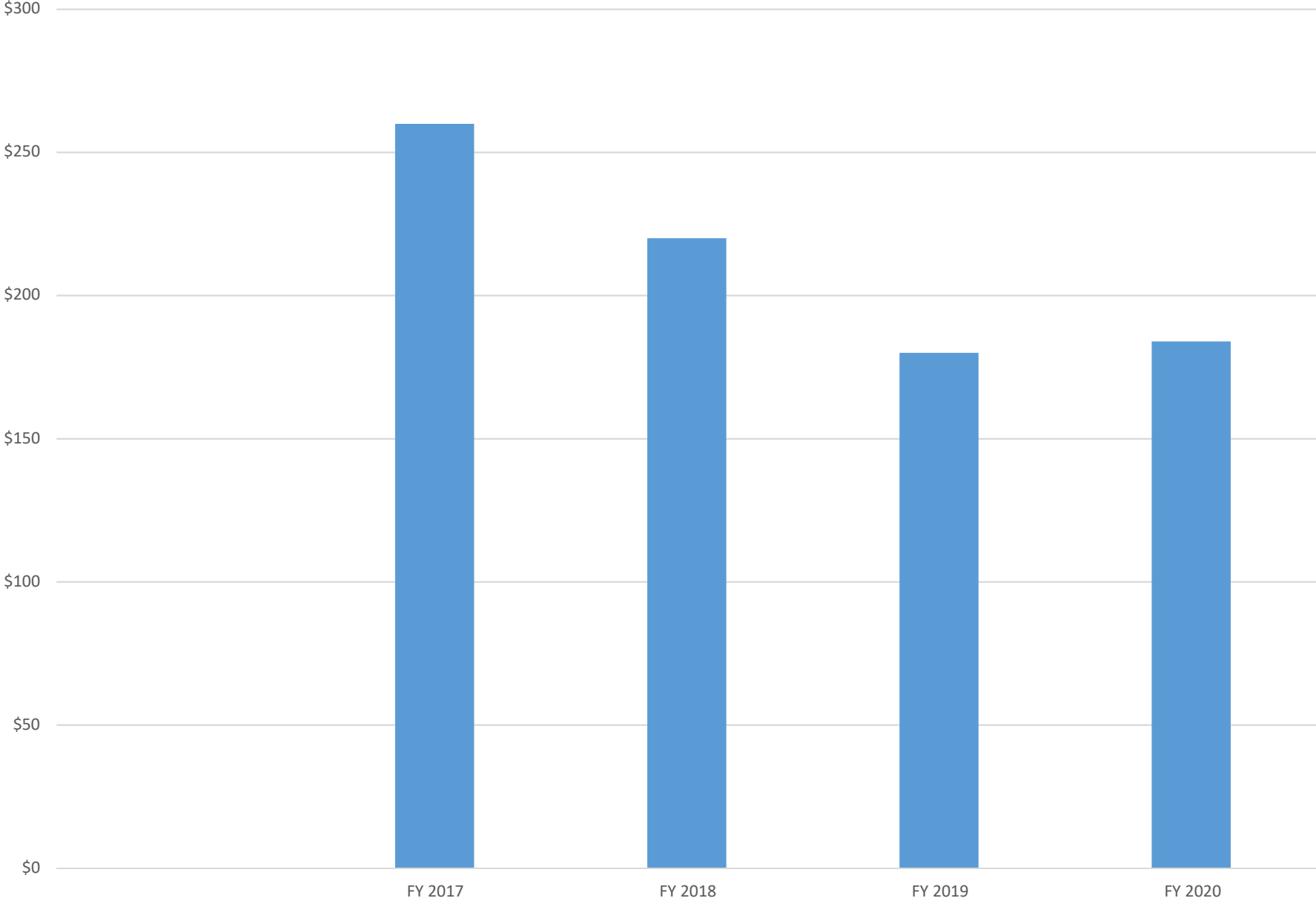


### PET #1 (Price per Ton)

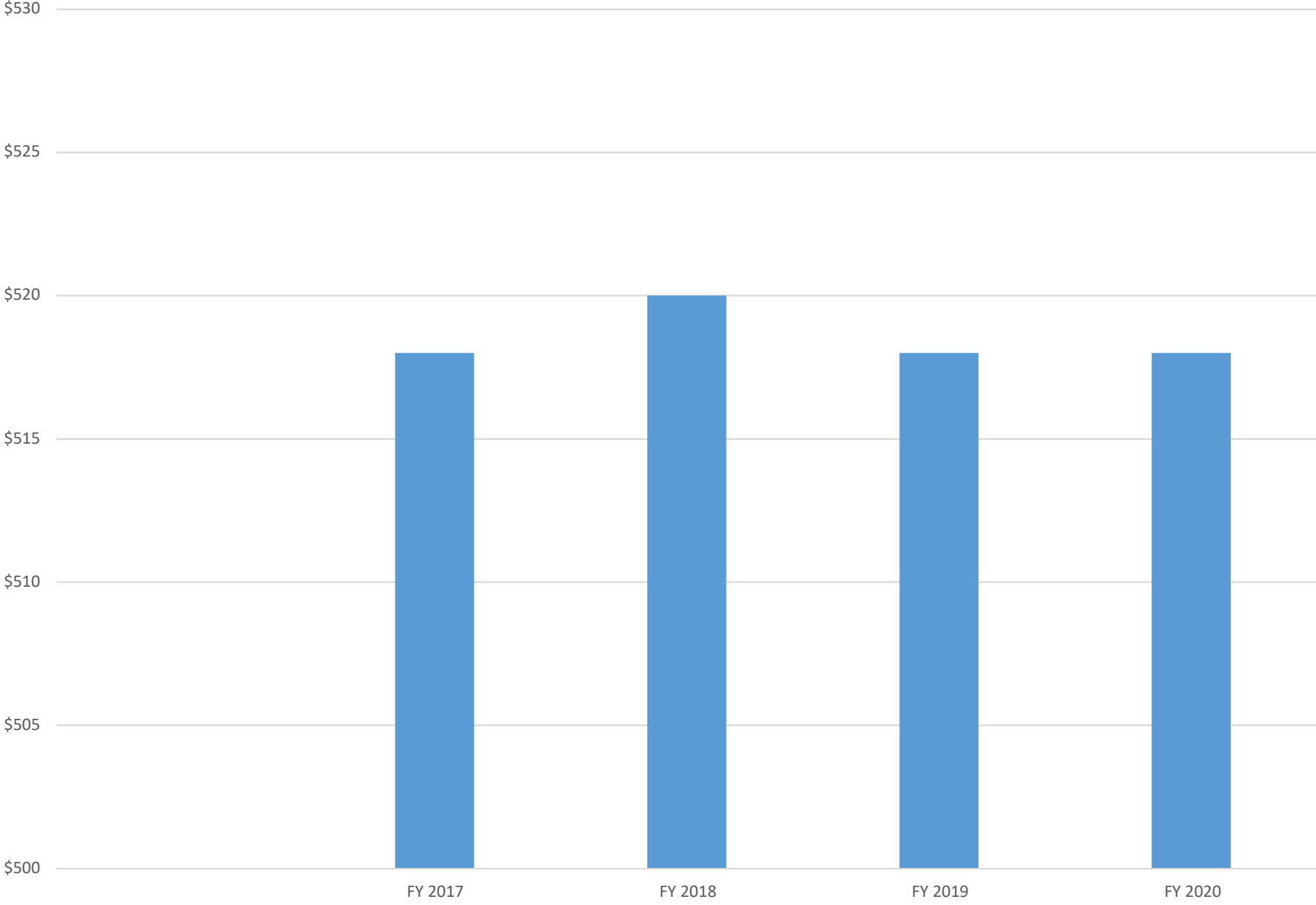




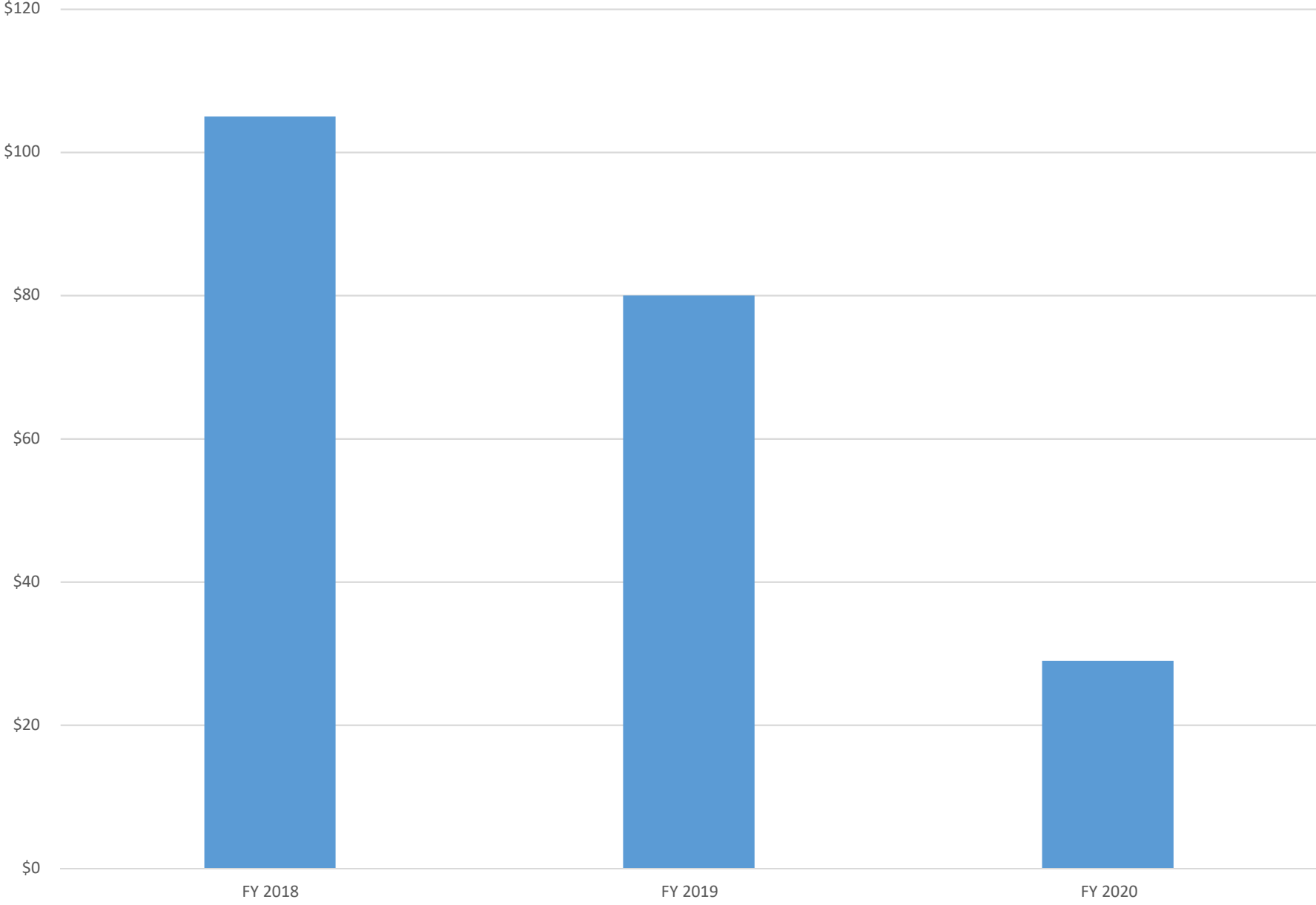
### Plastic Film (Price per Ton)



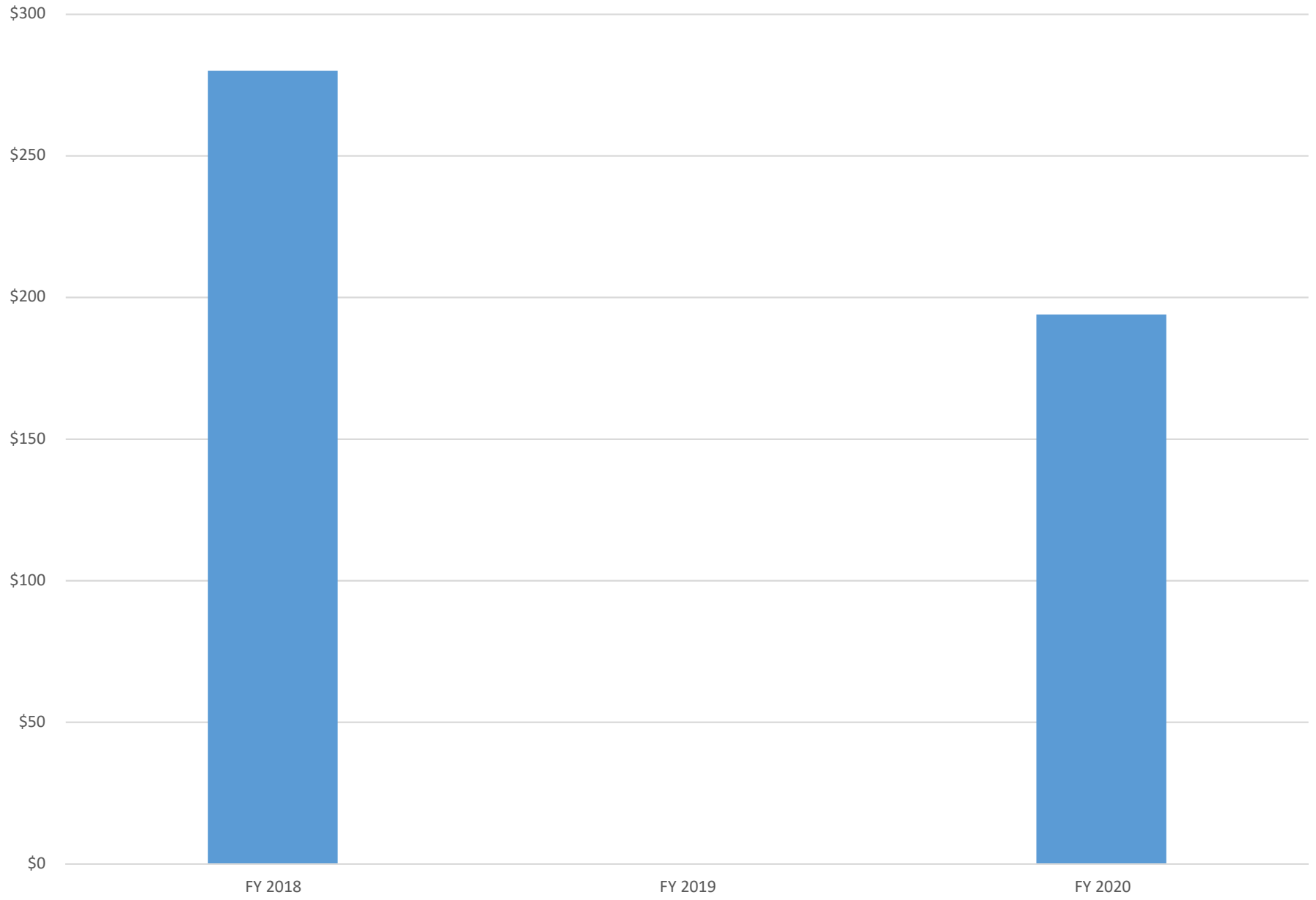
### Batteries (Price per Ton)



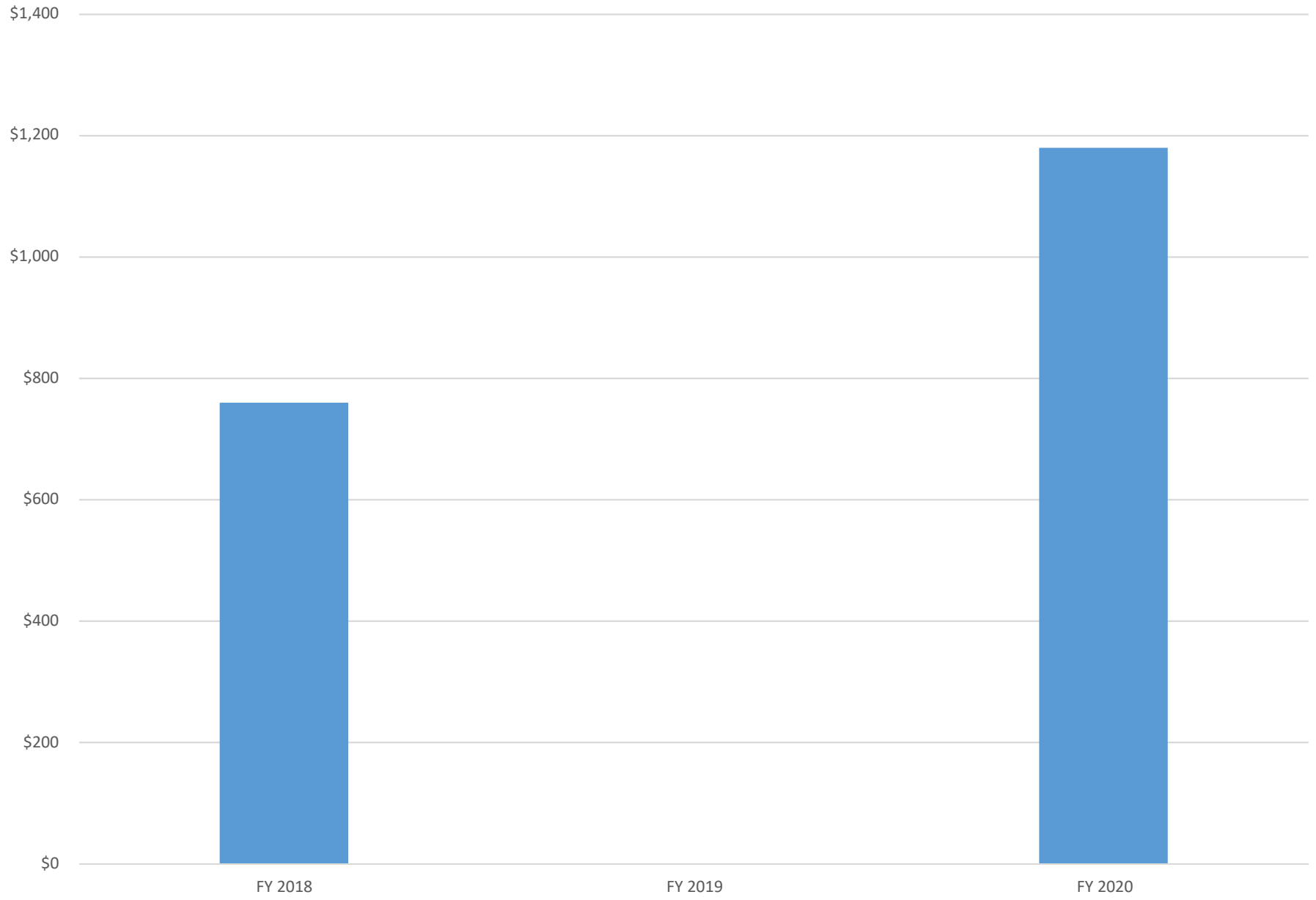
### Books (Price per Ton)



### PET #2 (Color- Price per Ton)

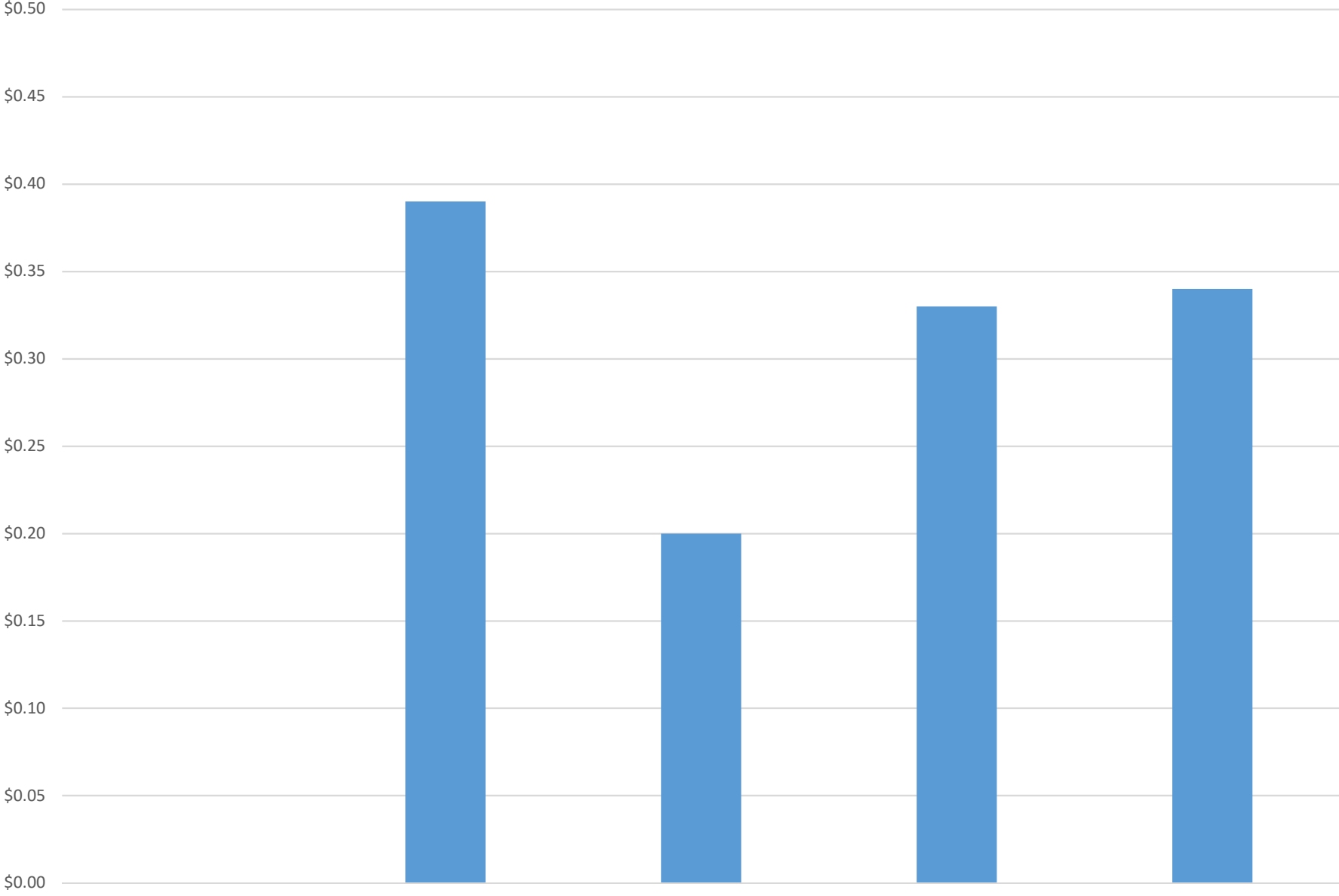


### PET #2 (Natural-Price per Ton)





### Cooking Oil (Price per Gallon)



FY 2017

FY 2018

FY 2019

FY 2020

# CITY OF ROSWELL

## PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE CHECK LIST

ITEMS TO CHECK					OK	NEED ATTENTION
1. TIRES CONDITION						
2. FUEL LEVEL						
3. FLUID LEVELS CHECKED	ENGINE OIL	TRANS	HYDRAULIC	POWER STEERING		
QUARTS ADDED						
4. HYDRAULIC LEAKS						
5. CLUTCH/BRAKE						
6. OIL & WATER LEAKS						
7. ALL LIGHTS (HEADLIGHTS, BRAKELIGHTS, & EMERGENCY LIGHTING)						
8. TURN SIGNALS & BEACON LIGHT						
9. COOLANT LEVEL						

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TRUCK #: \_\_\_\_\_

DRIVER: \_\_\_\_\_

MILES: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHEET MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY DRIVER PRIOR TO  
LEAVING THE PARKING LOT. WILL BE CALLED BACK IF NOT COMPLETED**

STATE OF GEORGIA

August 22, 2016

FULTON COUNTY

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Georgia's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990, as amended, requires all local governments to prepare a solid waste management plan, adopt the plan, and update the plan every ten years by Ordinance or Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 8 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as amended by Act No. 76, Georgia Laws 2011 was passed and signed into law during the 2011 session of the Georgia General Assembly authorizing local governments to establish their own procedures and standards for drafting and updating their solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, O.C.G.A. 12-8-31.1 no longer requires that local governments follow the minimum planning standards or planning guidance established by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Roswell, Georgia has prepared an updated Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) dated August 9, 2016 that among other provisions:

- i. Provides for 10 years of collection capacity and disposal capacity;
- ii. Identifies solid waste handling facilities as to size and type;
- iii. Identifies sites not suitable for solid waste handling facilities based on environmental and land use factors.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Roswell relies upon landfill disposal for solid waste generated within the planning area that is not reduced or recycled; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is required to prepare an Annual Solid Waste Report that identifies the remaining permitted landfill disposal capacity in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, notice to amend and adopt the Solid Waste Management Plan was published on the City of Roswell internet web site at least two weeks prior to the adoption of the updated Plan.

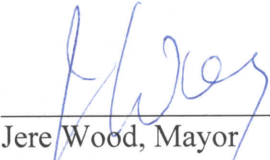
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Roswell SWMP is amended to include the following statement:

“The City of Roswell will continue to demonstrate disposal capacity through the landfills referenced in the SWMP or any of the landfills located outside of Roswell with permitted capacity referenced in the DCA's most recent Annual Solid Waste Report. If the permitted landfill disposal capacity referenced in the most recent DCA report falls below 12 years, the City

will initiate a solid waste management planning process to update the disposal section in the City of Roswell Solid Waste Management Plan.”

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council do hereby approve and adopt the amended Solid Waste Management Plan.

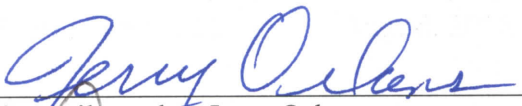
The above Resolution was read and approved by Mayor and Council of the City of Roswell on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2016.

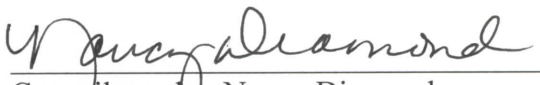
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jere Wood, Mayor




Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marlee Press, City Clerk  
(Seal)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Jerry Orleans

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Nancy Diamond

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Donald J. Horton

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Michael Palermo

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Kent Igleheart

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Marcelo Zapata



**CITY OF ROSWELL**

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
2015 - 2024  
(Adopted August 22, 2016)**

**Jere Wood, Mayor**

**CITY COUNCIL**

- Nancy Diamond**
- Donald J. Horton**
- Kent Igleheart**
- Jerry Orlans**
- Michael Palermo**
- Marcelo Zapata**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Kay Love**

**CITY ATTORNEY**

**David Davidson**

**Daniel Skalsky, P.E.  
Director of Environmental/Public Works**

**Prepared by  
City of Roswell Environmental/Public Works Department  
38 Hill Street, Suite 235  
Roswell, GA 30075  
770.641.3715**

### **Introduction**

The City of Roswell is located just north of Atlanta in Fulton County. Roswell has gone from a small town to a large suburban part of a metropolitan area of approximately 42 square miles and over 94,000 residents. The City of Roswell has provided solid waste services for its citizens from the beginning with curbside recycling added in 1998 and a new recycling center completed in 2000. Customer Service is a key element to the City and focus has been on maintaining the highest levels possible. To that end, the City of Roswell is pleased to present its Solid Waste Management Update. Focus is on education and service to the residents in Roswell.

### **Waste Disposal Stream Analysis**

There are four types of generators in the City of Roswell: residential, commercial, institutional and governmental. The predominate types of waste generated for each generator is as follows:

- Residential – Corrugated paper, paper, metals, glass, food, yard trimmings, white goods, plastic
- Commercial – Corrugated paper, paper, food, plastic, wood, yard trimmings, metals, glass, white goods, construction debris
- Institutional – Corrugated paper, paper, cafeteria and restroom waste, plastics, metals
- Governmental – Corrugated paper, paper, metals, plastics, yard trimmings

The pounds of waste generated by each type of generator for fiscal year 15/16 are as follows:

- Residential – Solid Waste – 19,932
- Residential Mixed solid waste and compost – 6,957
- Commercial/Institutional/Governmental – Solid Waste – 21,679
- Residential Recycling – 6,753
- Recycling Center – 1,629

### **Waste Reduction Element**

#### *Inventory of Current Waste Reduction and Recycling Programs*

The City of Roswell offers two ways for its residents to recycle. Curbside recycling is offered through a City contract with Advanced Disposal, Inc. Collection is once a week and coincides with household garbage pickup. The contract was signed in March of 2015 and will expire on March 1, 2018. There are two (2) one year renewable options. The City plans to continue to provide curbside recycling collection in the future through an outside contractor. The curbside program is available to all Roswell home owners which is, according to the City of Roswell Financial Services Division, is 26,120.



Advanced Disposal Inc., accepts the following items for curbside recycling collection (See Appendix A): aluminum and metal food and beverage cans,; glass bottles and jars; HDPE and PET; newspapers, telephone books, magazines, catalogs, office paper, glossy forms and junk mail removed from envelopes; and corrugated and non-corrugated cardboard (chipboard). New residents are provided with a free 65 gallon recycling container. There is no limit to the number of containers or amount of recycling that can be placed curbside.

The City of Roswell owns and operates a staffed recycling center open 5 days a week. Tours of the facility are given to schools, organizations and other interested parties. Although the Recycling Center is owned and operated by the City of Roswell, it is regional in nature. Customers from any area are allowed to make use of the Recycling Center as long as they have recyclables that the Center accepts. The Center serves the 94,000 residents of Roswell. An unofficial car tag survey showed cars from Fulton, Cobb, Forsyth, DeKalb and Gwinnett.

42 different items are collected and processed at the Recycling Center: PET, HDPE, plastic bags, glass bottles and jars, newspaper, mixed paper, computer paper, magazines, phone books, white paper manuals, corrugated and non-corrugated cardboard, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, aluminum and foil, car tires, batteries (12V or larger), rechargeable batteries, motor oil and anti-freeze, cell phones, printer cartridges, electronics and latex/oil based paint. (See Appendix B) There is a contract with Goodwill Industries to have two trailers on site for reusable household items and clothing.

The City of Roswell has several source reduction programs in place. We encourage recycling as a means of source reduction through regular announcements and reminders on the City of Roswell's website – [www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com), Roswell Connections, and the Environmental/Public Works HOA e-newsletter. Educational programs and tours are held at the Recycling Center. Roswell utilizes paperless requisitions. The City of Roswell's Environmental Education Coordinator offers programs on environmental issues such as recycling, solid waste and water quality/conservation to schools, community organizations and the general public.

#### *Recycling facilities and programs*

The Roswell Recycling Center is located at 11570 Maxwell Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004. It is owned and operated by the City of Roswell. Open to the public 5 days a week, the Center accepts over 42 items for recycling as well as offering educational tours and programs. In fiscal year 15/16 the Recycling Center held tours and recycled over 1600 tons of materials. (Appendix D) The Recycling Center also currently offers free recycling pickup to the schools in Roswell as well as the City of Roswell buildings/facilities.

The City of Roswell employs an Environmental Education Coordinator who works with the area schools on environmental issues including recycling. In fiscal year 15/16, 134 programs in the schools and over 4,000 students were reached.

The City of Roswell contracts with Advanced Disposal, Inc., to provide curbside recycling for the residents of Roswell.

*Yard trimmings mulching/composting*

The City of Roswell contracts with Advanced Disposal for curbside collection of yard waste. The contract is part of the curbside recycling contract and will expire/renew on the same schedule.

The City of Roswell partners with Keep Roswell Beautiful for Bring One for the Chipper. A Christmas tree recycling program, residents may drop off trees at specified locations and the trees are chipped into mulch and offered at no charge to residents, businesses and schools in the Roswell area. In FY16, over 5200 trees were recycled.

*Inventory of composting and mulching programs*

Bring One for the Chipper is an annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program sponsored by the Department of Community Affairs and Keep Georgia Beautiful. The City of Roswell participates each year with Keep Roswell Beautiful in promoting this program to its citizens. Trees are accepted at two locations both of which are The Home Depots in Roswell. The City has every intention of continuing with this program each year.

*Special management programs: tires, lead acid batteries, white goods, HHW and electronics*

The Recycling Center accepts tires (\$2.00 off rim - \$15.00 on rim), white goods (\$10.00 for non-Freon containing items and \$20.00 for Freon containing items), electronics (televisions and monitors are \$20.00 each) and lead acid batteries (no charge). The Recycling Center also accepts motor oil and anti-freeze at no charge. Roswell residents do not pay any fees. Fees listed are for non-residents and businesses. Recently, Roswell businesses have been given the opportunity to recycle up to 10 computer monitors each month at a reduced fee of \$15.00 each.

The City of Roswell has most of the components of a Pay-As-You-Throw program in place even though an official program has not been put into place at this time. Residents may keep their garbage bills lower by recycling more and using the City's standard household garbage plan of no more than three cans or 100 gallons each week. If they wish to use more than the 3 cans they may sign up for Premium service and have 6 cans or 200 gallons each week. As there is no

limit on the amount of recycling that can be placed curbside, residents are encouraged to take advantage of the curbside recycling program. (See Appendix G)

*Needs and goals section*

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for the solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Continue operations of the Recycling Center
  - Looks for ways to promote glass recycling at the Center.
- Continually re-evaluate collection and processing of materials.
- Continue curbside recycling collection program
  - Evaluate materials collected and work with contractor on possible additions/subtractions.
- Education on Recycling as a viable household garbage reduction
  - Create educational promotional publicity plan that will encourage more participation in both the curbside programs and the Recycling Center.
  - Utilize the Recycling Center Facebook page to keep residents updated on Center happenings.
- Continue enforcement of ordinances concerning household garbage and yard waste. This will be combined with an educational program and material that the Environmental Enforcement Officer will take to the residents.

**Collection Element**

*Inventory current solid waste and recyclable collection programs including names, addresses and who manages them*

- Curbside household garbage collection, commercial garbage dumpster collection:  
City of Roswell  
Public Works Division  
1810 Hembree Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
Municipally managed
- Curbside Recycling/Yard Waste collection:  
Advanced Disposal  
560 Shirlee Industrial Way  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
City of Roswell manages contract

- Manned drop-off recycling :  
City of Roswell  
Recycling Center  
11570 Maxwell Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
Municipally managed

*Adequacy of collection programs*

The current collection programs are generally adequate and allow the City to reach a 25% reduction in solid waste. However, stronger emphasis on recycling would make household garbage collection easier to maintain because quantities would be smaller. Emphasis on residential recycling would reduce the amount of pickups needed each week.

*Frequency of illegal dumping and methods for correcting*

In the City of Roswell illegal dumping is reported to the City's Environmental Enforcement Officer. The Officer investigates and when possible, provides an on-site educational opportunity for the party (ies) that were responsible. Cleanup is done by the responsible party (ies) when possible if not, then the City cleans up the area or notifies Keep Roswell Beautiful to see if they can help provide volunteers.

*Needs and goals for current and future collection programs which outline strategy for providing effective and affordable collection for ten years*

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for the solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Provide effective and affordable collection for residents
  - Re-evaluate annually service and collection costs
  - Continue to enforce the limits on weekly collection of household garbage and yard waste
  - Continue to provide recycling information as a viable way to reduce costs of collection
- Provide effective and affordable collection for businesses
- Encourage businesses to use the Roswell Recycling Center in order to reduce their quantity of waste and the cost of collection
- Create program where illegal dumping is addressed to the frequent violators and have the Environmental Enforcement Officer provide training and education to those persons.

*Contingency strategy for collection service if primary option is interrupted:  
alternative collection options and  
estimated length of time to bring contingency plans on line*

The City of Roswell has the ability through the City Administrator's Office to quickly react to an interruption of collection service caused by a natural disaster. Outside contractors will be sought and asked to begin work immediately while City crews will work overtime as necessary to keep collection running as smoothly as possible. Estimated length of time to contract with an outside source is one to two weeks. The City of Roswell maintains a high level of financial reserves and has an AAA bond rating.

### **Disposal Element**

#### *Inventory of disposal practices: type, capacity, ownership, location and types of waste accepted*

- Transfer Station – 1802 Hembree Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
  - Owned by City of Roswell
  - Contracted to Advanced Disposal
  - Capacity – 30 truck-loads of material
  - Waste accepted – residential and commercial solid waste
- Chadwick Road Landfill – 13700 Chadwick Farm Blvd, Roswell, GA 30075
  - Owner – Waste Management
  - Waste accepted – construction and demolition debris, yard waste and asbestos
- Eagle Point Landfill – 8880 Old Federal Highway, Ball Ground, GA 30107
  - Owner – Advanced Disposal
  - Waste accepted – residential and commercial solid waste

#### *Assessment of existing facilities*

The City of Roswell is comfortable that the existing facilities will be adequate for the next ten years and have received letters of assurance from Advanced Disposal and Waste Management.

#### *Needs and goals*

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for their solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Continue to be aware of changes in landfill regulations.
- Contingency strategy for disposal in the event that the primary option becomes interrupted: Other landfills will be utilized. The City of Roswell has the ability through the City Administrator's Office to quickly react to an interruption of collection service caused by a natural disaster. Outside contractors will be sought and asked to begin work immediately while City crews will work overtime as necessary to

keep collection running as smoothly as possible. Estimated length of time to contract with an outside source is one to two weeks. The City of Roswell maintains a high level of financial reserves and has an AAA bond rating.

### **Land Limitation Element**

The City of Roswell has a geographic area of approximately 42.02 square miles and a population of approximately 94,000. Largely developed to suburban and residential levels, there is only about of the area undeveloped. Average land value is \$22,000 an acre and there are no more than 129 undeveloped parcels exceeding 1 acre in size.

Because of these factors of land scarcity, high cost and incompatible surrounding land uses, it is deemed very unlikely that any form of composting or solid waste disposal facility would be economically viable in Roswell, nor are they permitted under the Roswell Zoning Ordinance. Recycling and recovery facilities are allowed uses only in Light Industrial Zones. There are no heavy industrial zoning or district land uses permitted in the city limits of Roswell.

### **Education and Public Involvement**

#### *Inventory and assess current education programs and public involvement opportunities*

The City of Roswell has and supports many opportunities for education and public involvement of their citizens. The City of Roswell employs an Environmental Education Coordinator who is charged with developing and presenting school programs to the 14 public schools and 10 private schools in Roswell. Examples of programs include Waste in Place from Keep America Beautiful, Projects WET and WILD and Project Learning Tree as well programs on Outdoor Classrooms and recycling. The Environmental Education Coordinator is also the coordinator for Roswell's participation in the EverGreen School program, a joint program with the City of Alpharetta and Keep North Fulton/Johns Creek Beautiful, and The City of Milton. The EverGreen School program promotes environmental stewardship to the schools. A school can earn points based on various Environmental Educational activities they do, and the number of points earned dictates the status they earn for that school year. Schools receive a sign they can display outside their school, and each year they earn evergreen status they get a sticker to add to the sign.

The Environmental Education Coordinator, the Environmental Enforcement Officer and the Environmental Programs Manager are also available to civic organizations, Homeowners' Associations and other organizations looking for presentations on environmental programs.



The City of Roswell supports Keep Roswell Beautiful, a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 volunteer based organization that is part of the Keep America Beautiful program. The City provides support by providing their Environmental Programs Manager to serve as Executive Director of the organization. Keep Roswell Beautiful currently has a Board of Directors that number 17 and represent the many different areas of Roswell (business, citizen, school, HOA, student). Keep Roswell Beautiful sponsors the following programs and events throughout the year: Rivers Alive, Bring One for the Chipper, Great American Cleanup, America Recycles Day, Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Stream, and Storm Drain Stenciling. Over the last year, more than 1,000 volunteers have participated in the above events. Keep Roswell Beautiful includes an educational program with each event and the City's Environmental Education Coordinator usually assists in those programs.

The Roswell Recycling Center offers tours to school groups, civic organizations and citizens in general throughout the year. The tours include a, a tour of the facility and a gift bag with recycling information, coloring books and other recycled items. The Roswell Recycling Center also participates in America Recycles Day usually offering special incentives or collection days. The Center also offers free recycling collection from Roswell area public and private schools.

The City of Roswell has their own website ([www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com)) that the Public Works/Environmental Department and Keep Roswell Beautiful can use as communication tools to reach the population of Roswell. The City's monthly e-newsletter is also used to announce changes in policy and, Keep Roswell Beautiful events and programs. The Environmental/Public Works Department creates, and sends out, an e-newsletter to Homeowner's Associations.

*Adequacy of programs to target the waste generating sectors*

In general, the education programs and public involvement opportunities available through the City of Roswell Environmental/Public Works Department and Keep Roswell Beautiful are adequate in reaching the residential generators and teaching them the basics of solid waste management. More direct messages concerning recycling are needed to drive home the message that these are viable ways to reduce costs for the residents, businesses and the City of Roswell. Proactive environmental enforcement rather than reactive enforcement by the Environmental Enforcement Officer could head off potential challenges and keep residents and businesses from having citations written.

The City of Roswell Recycling Center, while owned and operated by the City of Roswell, has the aspects of a regional center. Anyone who would like to bring their recycling to the Roswell Recycling Center is invited to as long as the items are items accepted at the Center and in the condition required by the Center. An informal tag count showed cars from Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, Forsyth, DeKalb and Cherokee are utilizing the Roswell Recycling Center.

The City of Roswell address litter control in its City Code, Chapter 7, Land Development and Environmental Protection, Article 7.6, Litter Control. The code states that:

*It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to dump, deposit, throw or leave or to cause or permit the dumping, depositing, placing, throwing or leaving of litter on any public or private property in this City of Roswell or any waters in this City of Roswell unless:*

- 1) The property is designated by the State or by any of its agencies or political subdivisions for the disposal of such litter, and such person is authorized by the proper public authority to use such property;*
- 2) The litter is placed into a receptacle or container installed on such property; or,*
- 3) The person is the owner or tenant in lawful possession of such property, or has first obtained consent of the owner or tenant in lawful possession, or unless the act is done under the personal direction of the owner or tenant, all in a manner consistent with the public welfare.*

The code also addresses enforcement, violations and penalties.

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for the solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Continue support of Keep Roswell Beautiful and their programs and events.
- Continue to provide an Environmental Education Coordinator to work with schools and civic organizations.
- Education on Recycling as a viable household garbage reduction
  - Create educational promotional publicity plan that will encourage more participation in both the curbside programs and the Recycling Center.
- Continue enforcement of ordinances concerning household garbage and yard waste. This will be combined with an educational program and material that the Environmental Enforcement Officer will take to the residents.
- Continue to provide recycling information as a viable way to reduce costs of collection
- Create program where illegal dumping is addressed to the frequent violators and have the Environmental Enforcement Officer provide training and education to those persons.



**Memorandum of Understanding Between**  
**Keep Roswell Beautiful and the City of Roswell**

The City of Roswell (City), recognizing the importance of Keep Roswell Beautiful (KRB), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, and the work they do in the Roswell community, remains committed to supporting and assisting KRB in their mission. Per an agreement made when KRB was organized, the City provides the Executive Director as well as limited funding to support events/programs where the City partners with KRB. This document seeks to clarify the roles and responsibilities of both the City and KRB.

**The City's Environmental / Public Works Department shall** partner with KRB on programs and events that promote the City's environmental programs, policies, and initiatives towards a greener Roswell. Such programs and events include Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Stream, Storm Drain Marking, community workshops, Earth Balloon education programs, Rivers Alive annual cleanup, America Recycles month, volunteer appreciation, and other initiatives that may be established that encourage participation in environmental stewardship.

**The City's Environmental / Public Works Department shall** provide staff support in the role of Executive Director as outlined herein and serve as primary liaison with KRB on behalf of the City. The Executive Director is a City employee and commits a portion of work time towards KRB as guided by the employee's manager. In the event the Executive Director position is vacant, the City will consult with KRB for a new Executive Director.

**The Executive Director shall** provide support to the Board of Directors in the following manner:

- Attend board meetings and committee meetings as appropriate
- Provide guidance, as requested, for administrative items such as By-Laws, Code of Conduct, and organizational governance, and supply information that could assist in making decisions.
- Develop and distribute board materials prior to board meetings in coordination with Board Officers.
- Provide guidance as needed for fundraising activities, but not responsible for administration of fundraising activities. Play a limited role in soliciting sponsors and donors, preferably in support of a board member or committee.
- Provide guidance and assistance in strategic planning.

- Represent KRB at Keep Georgia Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful trainings and events. Responsible for completing and submitting annual reporting to these organizations.
- Coordinate and provide support to Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Stream, Storm Drain Marking, community workshops, Earth Balloon education programs, Rivers Alive annual cleanup, America Recycles month, volunteer appreciation, and other initiatives as deemed appropriate.
- Assist and advise as needed on KRB stand-alone projects, programs, and community or fundraising events in the capacity as a City liaison or content expert.
- Assist in writing of grants and awards applications.
- Work with Board to ensure general operations and administrative tasks are in order. This may include updating the website, social media content, maintaining contacts, marketing events and programs, maintaining inventory, and other day-to-day activities.
- In collaboration with Board members, track volunteer activity for reporting and recognition purposes.

**The KRB Board of Directors is:**

- Responsible for maintaining 501(c)(3) designation, all licenses from the Secretary of State and other entities, and organizational insurance.
- Responsible for creating, updating, and upholding the By-Laws and all governance activities of the organization.
- Takes the lead on the recruitment, nomination, selection, training, and retirement of all Board members, Board Officers, and standing committees as provided for in the By-Laws with support from the Executive Director.
- Responsible for raising funds for KRB, including the planning, creation, implementation, and solicitation of donors and sponsors for all fundraising activities, tracking donations, and thanking and recognizing sponsors and donors..
- Responsible for the creation and execution of the mission of KRB, and monitoring all activities of the organization.
- To serve as the local affiliate to Keep America Beautiful and Keep Georgia Beautiful and support of the missions of those organizations.
- Responsible for organizing and executing stand-alone projects, programs, and community or fundraising events of KRB. The Executive Director will advise and assist as needed in the capacity of a City liaison or content expert.
- Responsible for setting meeting and event calendar in coordination with Executive Director.
- Collaborate with the City on new environmental initiatives or campaigns that fall within the scope of KRB's mission and work.

This document will be updated every five years and re-signed by all parties by December 31 of that year.

Signed:

Keep Roswell Beautiful:

Board Chair	<p>Digitally signed by David Wright Date: 2021.01.06 13:34:38 -05'00'</p> <p><b>David Wright</b></p> <p>signature</p>	<p><b>Jan. 6, 2021</b></p> <p>date</p>
Vice Chair	<p><b>David Wright</b></p> <p>printed name</p> <p>DocuSigned by:</p> <p><i>Michael Mulling</i></p> <p>1AAF759871B3444... signature</p>	<p><b>1/14/2021</b></p> <p>date</p>
Treasurer	<p><b>Michael Mulling</b></p> <p>printed name</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>signature</p>	<p><b>14 DEC 2020</b></p> <p>date</p>
Secretary	<p><b>H BRENT HETZLER</b></p> <p>printed name</p> <p>signature</p>	<p></p> <p>date</p>

City of Roswell:

Mayor or City Administrator	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>signature</p> <p><b>Gary Palmer, City Administrator</b></p> <p>printed name</p>	<p><b>2/1/2021</b></p> <p>date</p>
Director, Environmental Public Works	<p><i>Dan Skalsky</i></p> <p>signature</p> <p><b>Dan Skalsky</b></p> <p>printed name</p>	<p><b>1/27/2021</b></p> <p>date</p>
KRB Executive Director	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>signature</p> <p><b>Nikki Belmonte</b></p> <p>printed name</p>	<p><b>1/14/2021</b></p> <p>date</p>

**Household Garbage Collection Comparisons**

City	Type of Service	Cost(s) per month	Other Items / Services Associated with Household Garbage Collection
Roswell	<p>Weekly curbside collection - Provided by in-house staff City provides 1 96-gallon container or 1 45-gallon container</p> <p>Advanced Disposal provides weekly curbside collection of recycling (65-gallon container) and yard waste (included in monthly fee); vendor provides container</p> <p>Recycling is mixed, single-stream and includes glass</p>	<p><b>Bills monthly</b> \$22.70 for Standard collection (1 96 -gallon container) \$36.52 for Premium collection (2 96-gallon containers) \$45.38 – residential collection - 2 times per week \$70.89 – residential premium (2 96-gallon containers) 2 times per week \$22.70 - Curbside exempt standard \$53.16 - Curbside exempt premium (2 96-gallon containers) \$36.52 - Difficult or Long Driveway (no longer offered) \$6.29 – Vacancy rate \$3.00 – 2 65-gallon recycling containers</p> <p>Residents with 45-gallon container can purchase a second 45-gallon container for a one-time fee of \$50</p> <p>\$25 - Replacement 96-gallon container</p>	<p>Curbside Large Item Collection - \$20 per item up to a maximum of five (5) items per collection; Tuesday through Friday Roswell residents can take large items to the Transfer Station for no fee; however, proof of residency is required</p> <p>Yard waste is required to be placed into a maximum of 12 “Kraft” paper bags or in plastic containers weighing less than 50 pounds; limbs must be cut to a maximum of 4-feet in length and no larger than 6-inches in diameter</p> <p>If collection day falls on a holiday; collection will be the day following the regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>The City of Roswell also operates a Recycling Center, open 5 days per week; offers most services to all residents and premium services for Roswell residents (shredding, paint, fluorescent bulb, and polystyrene recycling). Proof of residency is required. The Recycling Center offers recycling collection to local schools and government offices for no fee.</p>
Alpharetta	<p>City currently contracts with Republic Services, Inc.</p> <p>Weekly curbside collection of household garbage, glass, recycling, and yard waste</p> <p>Recycling requires separation of glass into separate bin; single-stream for remainder of recyclables in container</p>	<p><b>Bills quarterly in advance</b> \$69.96 quarterly for one 95-gallon household garbage container, 65-gallon recycling container and 18-gallon glass recycling bin</p> <p>\$66.21 quarterly for 68-gallon household garbage container, 65-gallon recycling container and 18-gallon glass recycling bin</p> <p>\$36.24 – seniors (65 and older); if meet certain income restrictions fee is \$0; application process and City approval required</p> <p>City bills quarterly in advance</p> <p>Additional Services: \$20.06 per quarter for each additional garbage and recycling container \$9.39 quarterly for each additional glass recycling bin \$1 bag tag for personal trash containers and/or plastic trash bag that is not placed in the City’s provided standard containers</p>	<p>Backdoor service is provided to customers with physical impairments</p> <p>Bulky trash must be requested 72 hours in advance by completing form or by contacting Republic Services, Inc. – no extra fee</p> <p>Customers can receive a 5% discount on all base/additional service rates (excluding bag fees) by making a non-refundable annual payment in advance and in full on or before July 1 each service year</p> <p>Yard waste must be containerized in paper lawn bags (10 bags maximum) or 35-gallon trash cans or containers (5 maximum); tree limbs (maximum of 3 feet length and 6 inches in diameter) should be tied in bundles (10 bundle maximum)</p> <p>If collection day falls on a holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>Alpharetta residents utilize the City of Roswell Recycling Center. The City offers community shredding, computer and electronics recycling collection, and household hazardous waste and paint collection at the Public Works Department, 1790 Hembree Road one to two times per year.</p>



City	Type of Service	Cost(s) per month	Other Items / Services Associated with Household Garbage Collection
<b>Atlanta</b>	<p>City staff provides weekly curbside collection of household garbage, recycling, and yard waste</p> <p>Glass is not included in the curbside recycling program; residents are referred to CHaRM Facility in Atlanta</p>	<p><b>Bills annually / tax assessment</b>            \$454 per year – includes curbside household garbage; curbside recycling (\$88 per year); \$1,146 per year - Backyard collection (optional)            \$193.35 - Mobile Homes</p> <p>\$500 - Vacant Lot            \$112.50 - Vacant Lots – Adjacent to Homestead            \$750 - Vacant Lots – With Code Violation</p> <p>Fees include solid waste collection and disposal, recycling and street maintenance for residential use; fees are mailed annually by Fulton and DeKalb County Tax Commissioner’s Offices on or about July 1<sup>st</sup> and are due 45 days from mailing</p> <p>Fees also include street sweeping 3 times per year and 12 times per year bulk waste curbside collection</p>	<p>Discount rates for age and income requirements:</p> <p>Residents who receive less than \$8,000 of income per year are exempted from the recycling fee            Residents over the age of 65 and over with an annual income of \$39,000 or less receive a 30% exemption on their solid waste service fee</p> <p>If a resident’s recycling cart contains contaminates, the resident will be required to remove contaminates marked on the “Oops” tag; the cart will then be serviced on the next scheduled collection day</p> <p>Atlanta Recycles Day (held 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month) for paper shredding, clothing donations, single-stream recycling (glass, metal, paper and plastic), electronics (one TV per resident), tires (2 tires per resident), and plastic bags.            Curbside collections for bulky items must be scheduled a minimum of one business day in advance (Monday through Friday – subject to availability); maximum of 12 provided per year; a \$325 fee is imposed for improper placement of bulky items or exceeding the 12 provided collections</p> <p>Refers residents to The Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM)</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p>
<b>Canton</b>	<p>Contracts with Advanced Disposal for the curbside collection of household garbage, recycling, and yard waste</p> <p>Weekly collection of household garbage and recycling collection            95-gallon cart for household garbage</p> <p>Advanced Disposal provides recycling container; no glass accepted; container for glass is located at City’s collection site</p>	<p>Residents are required to contact Advanced Disposal for fees based on requested services</p>	<p>Street Department provides weekly leaf and brush pickup service on the same day as scheduled garbage collection day to all city residents that perform their own yard work; must be in separate stacks and on the right of way; leaves may be bagged up to a maximum of 8 bags per week; must request a work order for removal; small yard waste debris must be in brown paper bags; limbs must be bundled and not exceed 4-feet in length or 4-inches in diameter or weigh more than 30 pounds</p> <p>Curbside recycling includes plastics #1-#7, newspaper, cardboard, aluminum and tin cans, junk mail, magazines, office and school paper</p> <p>Bulk Waste Collection limited to one item per week and must be pre-scheduled; pickup is once per week and on the same day as scheduled garbage collection day</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>Residents can also use the City’s collection site (2525 Ridge Road) for no fee for bulky items</p>
<b>Cumming</b>	<p>City currently contracts with Red Oak Sanitation for weekly collection of household garbage and recycling inside City limits only</p> <p>95-gallon container provided by Red Oak for household garbage that is collected only on Friday</p> <p>Residents must contact Red Oak to set up recycling collection; no extra fee; no glass</p>	<p><b>Bills Monthly</b>            \$15            \$15 each additional requested pickup</p> <p>If residents choose to use another garbage company, the City continues to charge the minimum \$15 fee per month</p> <p>Garbage and Recycling collection is on Friday only for all residential and commercial customers</p>	<p>Cumming Street Department handles curbside collection of bulky trash, yard waste, boxes; residents must contact Street Department to schedule collections</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>Cumming residents can participate in the Keep Forsyth County Beautiful events.</p>

City	Type of Service	Cost(s) per month	Other Items / Services Associated with Household Garbage Collection
<b>DeKalb County</b>	<p>County provides service and issues 45 or 65-gallon container to all new customers; existing customers can upgrade/exchange from a 45, 65 or 95-gallon container for a one-time \$15 pre-paid fee for weekly household garbage collection; allows additional bags to be placed beside the container</p> <p>First garbage container replacement is free. Fee after this:  45-gallon - \$33  65-gallon - \$37  95-gallon - \$43</p> <p>Curbside recycling single-stream program is voluntary; County provides a 35-gallon complimentary cart or for a \$15 prepaid fee, residents can receive a 65-gallon cart</p> <p>First recycling container replacement is free. Fee after this:  35-gallon - \$32  65-gallon - \$37</p> <p>Glass is not collected in curbside recycling; however, DeKalb County provides drop-off areas with bins for glass separation and recycling</p> <p><b><i>NOTE: DeKalb County began the process of implementing automated curbside household garbage and recycling programs using Automated Side Loading (ASL) collection trucks in Fall of 2019; new trucks cost approximately \$350,000 each; implementation is ongoing</i></b></p>	<p><b>Bills annually – tax / assessment</b>  \$265 - 1 container</p> <p>\$350 - Two containers</p> <p>\$350 - Backdoor collection (for residents not exempt by subscription)</p> <p>Coverage Area: Unincorporated DeKalb County, Brookhaven, Dunwoody, Lithonia, Pine Lake, Tucker, Stonecrest, and Stone Mountain</p>	<p>Containers must be placed curbside no later than 7:00 AM and removed no later than 7:00 PM on day of collection; containers not provided by DeKalb County are not be serviced</p> <p>Bulky items can be collected curbside by calling and requesting pickup; fees apply for special collections minimum of \$50 and \$100 per truck load; can be assessed higher fee if collection volume exceeds original request</p> <p>Yard waste collected weekly on scheduled days; can use metal or plastic containers with 2 handles (20-40 gallon capacity); biodegradable paper bags folded at the top; limbs must be stacked neatly at the curb or bundled and tied; cannot exceed 4-feet in length; tree parts cannot exceed 50 pounds; extra yard waste can be collected for additional fee</p> <p>Special collection services for residents with physical limitations/Disability; application process; only for garbage and recycling; yard waste must be placed at the curb</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>DeKalb County operates a drop off facility at 4203 CleveMont Road, Ellenwood GA that will accept limited electronics,</p>

City	Type of Service	Cost(s) per month	Other Items / Services Associated with Household Garbage Collection
<b>Decatur</b>	City provides weekly household garbage and recycling collection	<p>Uses "Pay as you Throw" system for sanitation collection; residents purchase special Pay As You Throw (PAYT) trash bags from local retailers in 3 available sizes (33, 15, and 8-gallon)</p> <p>Estimated cost of PAYT throw bags from local retailers:  8-gallon - \$4.10/10 pack  15-gallon - \$7.02/10 pack  33-gallon - \$14.58/10 pack</p> <p>Cost per household is dependent on the volume of trash collected</p> <p>Recycling collection provided by City of Decatur; residents can request a free 18-gallon green commingled and a glass recycling bin by contacting the Public Works Department; residents can also purchase 95-gallon blue carts at Ace Hardware</p>	<p>Bulky items are collected for no additional fees. A \$50 service fee is required for items containing Freon. Up to 4 tires are collected as part of regular solid waste services. Household Hazardous Waste collection and paper shredding events are held once per year for residents.</p> <p>Christmas Tree curbside collection service is provided for approximately 2 weeks after Christmas Day (i.e. December 28-January 7, 2021)</p> <p>Yard waste collection collected on regularly scheduled sanitation day in separate truck; must be placed into yard waste bags or a container no larger than 32-gallons; bundles of sticks must be securely tied and not exceed 4-foot in length or 50 pounds; special pickups can be arranged by contacting the Public Works Department</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day; however, there are special circumstances:</p> <p>Thanksgiving Holidays – both days are collected on day prior to the holiday; Christmas Holidays – both collected on day prior to the holiday</p>
<b>Forsyth County</b>	County does not provide household garbage, recycling, or yard waste collection; provides a list of 13 waste companies residents can select from for services	<p>Fees dependent upon chosen provider and type of services requested</p> <p>County operates 3 drop-off centers for residents that do not wish to contract with a private service; maximum bag size is 32 gallons; recycling is free;</p> <p>Daily limit for trash is 5 bags; \$.50 per bag for recycling customers, \$1 per bag for non-recycling customers; \$2 per bag exceeding limit</p>	<p>Forsyth convenience centers offer recycling for motor oil and antifreeze, used cooking oil, batteries, and other small items; recommend furniture and household items to donation centers in lieu of disposal</p> <p>All Forsyth County residents can attend the Keep Forsyth County Beautiful (KFCB) special events including Household Hazardous Waste, Recycling Paint, and Electronics at the Cumming Fairgrounds, 235 Castleberry Road, a \$5 donation is requested to support KFCB</p>
<b>Johns Creek</b>	City does not offer services; provides a list of 5 private vendors that can provide weekly household garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection services; weekly curbside collection of 90-gallon containers for household garbage; 30-gallon container for recycling collection, and monthly bulk waste collection	<p>Residents must contact vendor for pricing:</p> <p>Advanced Disposal - \$20 per month  Allegiance Sanitation - \$11 per month  American Disposal Services - \$20 per month  Republic Services - \$15 per month  Waste Management - \$16 per month</p>	<p>Additional services may differ upon chosen vendor for services</p> <p>Johns Creek residents utilize the Sandy Springs Recycling Center</p>

City	Type of Service	Cost(s) per month	Other Items / Services Associated with Household Garbage Collection
<b>Kennesaw</b>	The City contracts with Republic Services to provide household garbage and recycling collection	<p><b>Bills monthly</b> Trash is collected Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday; the city provides 95-gallon household garbage containers to most residential locations; additional containers may be purchased for an additional fee from the City</p> <p>\$18.37 - July 2019; with a 5% increase each year for 5 years (approved in July 2019)</p> <p>Curbside recycling is collected bi-weekly; no glass</p>	<p>Yard waste collected the same day as trash; must be in lawn refuse bags which cannot exceed 30 gallons or plastic/metal cans with tight fitting lids that do not exceed 32-gallon capacity or weigh more than 50 pounds; limit of 15 bags or three containers for regular yard waste collection; branches must be cut into 4-foot lengths or less and a maximum of 2-inches in diameter and weigh no more than 50 pounds. All branches, limbs and shrubbery must be in a pile no larger than 10 feet long x 6-feet x 4-feet tall</p> <p>Bulk waste can be accommodated by the Public Works Department by pre-scheduling and pre-payment. Prices are based on the item, size, weight, and collection time (time required to pick up material); contact Public Works for recycling bin, cart or trash can</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>City charges an extra fee for call-back service for resident's whose container was not at the curb at the required time</p> <p>Keep Kennesaw Beautiful holds E-recycling and shredding events bi-annually in April and November at the City's Public Works facility for residents</p>
<b>Marietta</b>	<p>City provides twice per week household garbage collection at rear door; weekly curbside recycling, and weekly curbside yard waste collection; containers are required to be stored at the rear of each household</p> <p>Recycling containers are provided by the City; green, blue or approved bin that is clearly identified as recycling; each container must display an official City decal and not exceed 32 gallons</p>	<p><b>Bills monthly</b> Standard collection rates: \$20.50 - Mini can/20 gallons \$22.75 - 1 can / 32 gallons \$33.50 - 3 cans / 32 gallons \$38.50 - 4 cans / 32 gallons \$43.50 - 5 cans / 32 gallons \$48.50 - 6 cans / 32 gallons Overall weight of full can shall not exceed 60 pounds</p> <p>Rolling container rates: \$20.50 - 1 roll cart / 68 gallons \$22.75 - 1 roll cart / 95 gallons Extra Container pricing \$21.75 - 2 95 gallon containers \$19.50- 2 65-gallon containers Additional cans above resident's service level will be charged at the rate of \$5 per can per pickup</p> <p>Residents are required to purchase official City decals to place on containers or there will be a \$10 fee per can each time garbage is collected</p>	<p>Bulky Items must be scheduled a minimum of 24 hours before collection day; there is a charge dependent upon the items collected; charge will be placed on Sanitation bill; newspaper recycling provided and picked up on regular curbside recycling day; newspapers must be placed in a grocery bag separate from other recyclables</p> <p>Yard waste – limbs must not exceed 6-feet in length or 4-inches in diameter or weigh more than 100 pounds; grass and leaves must be bagged in biodegradable bags not exceeding 32 gallons in size; excessive yard waste collection fee will be added at the rate of \$100 per load for 4x4x12 (200 cubic feet) or 48 bags or more of yard waste</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>Cobb County operates a Recycling Center</p>
<b>Milton</b>	City does not offer garbage collection services; private vendors are required to register with the City; currently 9 registered vendors for residential collection	Rates vary depending upon vendor and selected services	Additional services may differ upon chosen vendor for services; fees may apply
<b>Richmond Hill</b>	<p>City currently contracts with Atlantic Waste Services for weekly household garbage and recycling collection and EOM Operations for yard waste collection</p> <p>No glass; single stream recycling</p>	<p><b>Bills monthly</b> \$15</p>	Bulky trash collection offered once a year during Georgia Cities Week in April for no fee or items can be taken to the Bryan County Landfill

City	Type of Service	Cost(s) per month	Other Items / Services Associated with Household Garbage Collection
<b>Sandy Springs</b>	10 vendors provide weekly household garbage collection	<p>Fees vary based on vendor and services selected</p> <p>Advanced Disposal American Disposal Services Buckhead Sanitation, Inc. Cox Sanitation Custom Disposal Services Reliable Sanitation Republic Southern Dumpsters Waste Eliminator, Inc. Waste Management</p> <p>Keep North Fulton Beautiful - Recycling</p>	<p>Additional services may differ upon chosen vendor for services; fees may apply</p> <p>Sandy Springs also offers a Recycling Center to residents operated by Keep North Fulton Beautiful. This Center accepts aluminum, cardboard and chipboard, glass bottles and jars, magazines, newspaper, paper, phone books, plastic (#1, #2 and #5), plastic grocery bags, scrap metal, shrink and bubble wrap, steel and tin cans, electronics, batteries (except alkaline), appliances (without Freon), books, clothing and shoes, cooking fats, oils and grease, small furniture in excellent condition (no sofas or couches), home medical equipment, metal items (bookshelves, lawn furniture, fences, grills, etc.) Furniture, clothing and shoes, and home medical equipment are donated to charities.</p> <p>Items only accepted from Sandy Springs residents include the following with fees charged:</p> <p>Appliances (\$30 with Freon) TVs and monitors (fees range from \$15 to \$55) Document shredding (\$0.50 per pound) Fluorescent light bulbs (fees range from \$1 to \$5) Smoke detectors (\$2 each) Thermometers, thermostats, and other items with mercury (\$5 fee)</p>
<b>Smyrna</b>	<p>City provides weekly curbside household garbage collection and recycling; City provides recycling bins</p> <p>City contracts with vendor for the collection of yard waste</p>	<p><b>Bills monthly</b></p> <p>\$21.50 – 1 container</p> <p>\$10 – each additional container</p> <p>\$19.50 – senior rate</p>	<p>Vendor provides yard waste collection in paper bags, limbs, branches with a diameter no larger than 8 inches and no longer than 4 feet collected; no yard waste collection during a holiday week; yard waste collected on Wednesdays</p> <p>City Public Works Department collects bulky items by request for \$25 per item; no large items collected during a holiday week; all bulky trash collections made on Thursdays</p> <p>Yard waste and bulky items are not collected during holiday weeks.</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>Smyrna also offers a Recycling Center</p>
<b>South Fulton</b>	City contracts with vendors for the collection of household garbage and recycling	<p>Rates are based on service type provided by vendor. Some vendors offer senior, and persons with disabilities discounts.</p> <p>Vendors approved for household garbage and recycling collection:</p> <p>Fulton Sanitation and Recycling, LLC Community Waste Disposal Latham Home Sanitation Reliable Sanitation Waste Industries Waste Pro of Georgia</p>	Vendors may offer bulky trash collection; fees may apply

City	Type of Service	Cost(s) per month	Other Items / Services Associated with Household Garbage Collection
<b>Woodstock</b>	<p>City contracts with Waste Management for the curbside collection of household garbage and recycling</p> <p>Waste Management offers 95-gallon carts for household waste and 65-gallon carts for mixed recycling</p> <p>Yard waste and bulk waste are also available weekly</p>	<p><b>Bills quarterly</b> \$33.57 (\$11.19 per month)</p> <p>Backdoor pickup for elderly and disabled citizens through application process; this service is free</p>	<p>Household waste: Maximum of 8 additional bags of household waste, yard waste or the combination of the two; all trash must be bagged; up to 2 bulk items per home, collected on regular service day</p> <p>Yard Waste: glass clippings and leaves must be bagged or placed in a separate container labeled yard waste; limbs must be bundled and tied with rope or string and may not exceed 30 pounds; limbs cannot exceed 4-feet in length and 4 inches in diameter</p> <p>Recycling: All items must be placed in the recycling cart or bin; does not accept glass in curbside recycling</p> <p>If collection day falls on an observed holiday; collection will be the day following regularly scheduled collection day</p> <p>Cherokee County offers a Recycling Center</p>



**Commercial Garbage Collection Comparisons – 8-4-2020**

<b>City</b>	<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Cost(s) per month (as of 7/1/2020)</b>
<b>Roswell</b>	Small Commercial  Commercial	Up to two (2) 95-gallon containers - \$26.59 Extra fees apply to more than two (2) containers  4-yard weekly - \$99.47 4-yard 2 times per week - \$191.83 6-yard weekly - \$123.98 6-yard 2 times per week - \$252.78 6-yard 3 times per week - \$385.98 6-yard 4 times per week - \$524.83 6-yard 5 times per week - \$649.86 6-yard 6 times per week - \$786.83 6-yard 7 times per week - \$921.92 8-yard weekly - \$132.77 8-yard 2 times per week - \$298.50 8-yard 3 times per week - \$443.15 8-yard 4 times per week - \$593.32 8-yard 5 times per week - \$753.53 8-yard 6 times per week - \$901.81 8-yard 7 times per week - \$1,051.35 Compactor - \$69.12 Entity Fee - \$5.29
<b>Alpharetta</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business
<b>Atlanta</b>	Commercial/Industrial Multi-family, townhouses, condos  User Fees billed Annually by the Fulton County Tax Commissioner	Parcel Fee - \$63.39  Tier 1 – \$7.60 per foot of street frontage property located in central business/downtown district receiving street cleaning Parcel Lot Fee (1-1,00 ft.) - \$1,200 Parcel Lot Fee (101-200 ft.) - \$2,400 Parcel Lot Fee (201-450 ft.) - \$5,400 Parcel Lot Fee (451-700 ft.) - \$8,400 Parcel Lot fee (701-850 ft.) - \$10,200 Parcel Lot Fee (>850 ft.) - \$14,400  Tier 2 – \$3.70 per foot of street frontage for commercial property located in all areas receiving special thoroughfare street cleaning Parcel Lot Fee (1-1,00 ft.) - \$500 Parcel Lot Fee (101-200 ft.) - \$1,000 Parcel Lot Fee (201-450 ft.) - \$2,250 Parcel Lot Fee (451-700 ft.) - \$3,500 Parcel Lot fee (701-850 ft.) - \$4,250 Parcel Lot Fee (>850 ft.) - \$6,000
<b>Canton</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Cumming</b>	Commercial/Industrial	\$20 per month \$15 each additional pick-up
<b>DeKalb County</b>	Commercial/Industrial	Monthly Fees – Garbage Offer 3, 4, 6, & 8 cubic yard containers Non-compactor front loader container - \$5.04 per cubic yard Privately-owned compactor front loader container - \$8 per cubic yard Privately-owned compactor commercial roll-off container - \$7 per cubic yard Privately-owned compactor and County owned roll-off container - \$8 per cubic yard County-owned roll-off; open-top container for construction and demolition materials - \$12 per cubic yard Two (2) 95-gallon containers – 2x per week - \$34 Three (3) 95-gallon containers - \$51 Dumpster Delivery Fee - \$75 Dumpster Removal Fee \$75 Extra container - \$50 Return for blocked container - \$50  Monthly Fees – Recycling Mixed paper – 6-yard container - \$7.50 Mixed paper single stream – 6-yard container - \$10.50
<b>Decatur</b>	Commercial	Rates are determined at the time of service request based on frequency of collection and container size. The City supplies 95-gallon recycling containers; however, garbage dumpsters must be supplied by the property owner.
<b>Forsyth County</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Johns Creek</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Kennesaw</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Marietta</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Milton</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Richmond Hill</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Sandy Springs</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Smyrna</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>South Fulton</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City
<b>Woodstock</b>	Does not provide	Private vendors selected by business; Vendors register with the City

**Solid Waste Chart of Fees FY22**

**Residential**

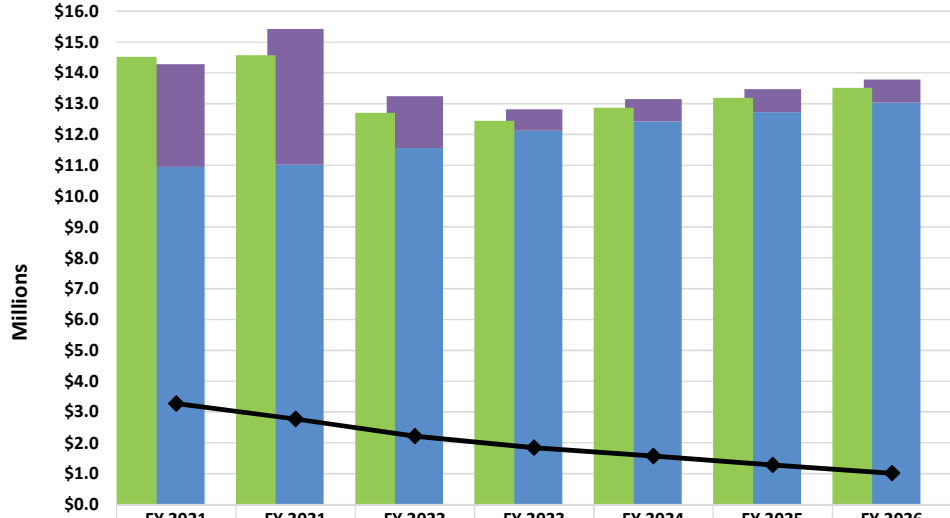
<b>Service</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Recommended Fee</b>	<b>Explanation of Fee</b>
Large Item Collection	\$20/item	\$30/item	This fee has not been annually adjusted to account for inflation, increased operating cost, etc. This fee, as all fees, should be increased 3% annually, the same as all Solid Waste Fees
Late container placement	\$0/occurrence	\$50/occurrence	Each resident would receive 1 courtesy collection each calendar year. This recommended fee is current with industry standards. This is a frequent occurrence that disrupts the collection schedule and accounts for several additional staff hours per week.
Replacement Container Fee	\$25/occurrence	\$50/occurrence	The current fee does not cover the cost of the container. \$50 is less than 10% more than the City pays for a 95 gallon can.

**Commercial Collection**

Blocked Dumpster Fee	\$0/occurrence	\$100/occurrence	There are many occurrences of blocked dumpsters each week. Generally, these are the same businesses each time. Staff spends a significant amount of time each week speaking with customers as well as returning to locations once the blockage has been removed.
Replacement Dumpster Fee	\$0/occurrence	\$150/each	A fee should be established to replace a dumpster due to damage caused by customer abuse. Serval businesses in the City place items or products in the dumpsters that cause rust or other damage.
Extra collection	\$45/\$55/each	\$100/each	This fee has not been annually adjusted to account for inflation, increased operating cost, etc. This fee, as all fees, should be increased 3% annually, the same as all Solid Waste Fees.

### Solid Waste Fund - Five Year Forecast

**Five Year Forecast**  
*-For Discussion Purposes Only-*



	FY 2021 Approved	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Projection	FY 2023 Projection	FY 2024 Projection	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection
Capital Expenses	3,330,000	4,395,852	1,688,500	692,500	721,500	747,500	747,500
Operating Expenses	10,947,681	11,023,424	11,561,095	12,124,150	12,429,110	12,726,178	13,030,681
Revenues	14,516,133	14,567,970	12,699,747	12,446,331	12,872,716	13,187,572	13,509,901
Ending Unrestricted Fund Balance	3,273,198	2,767,913	2,218,066	1,847,746	1,569,852	1,283,746	1,015,466



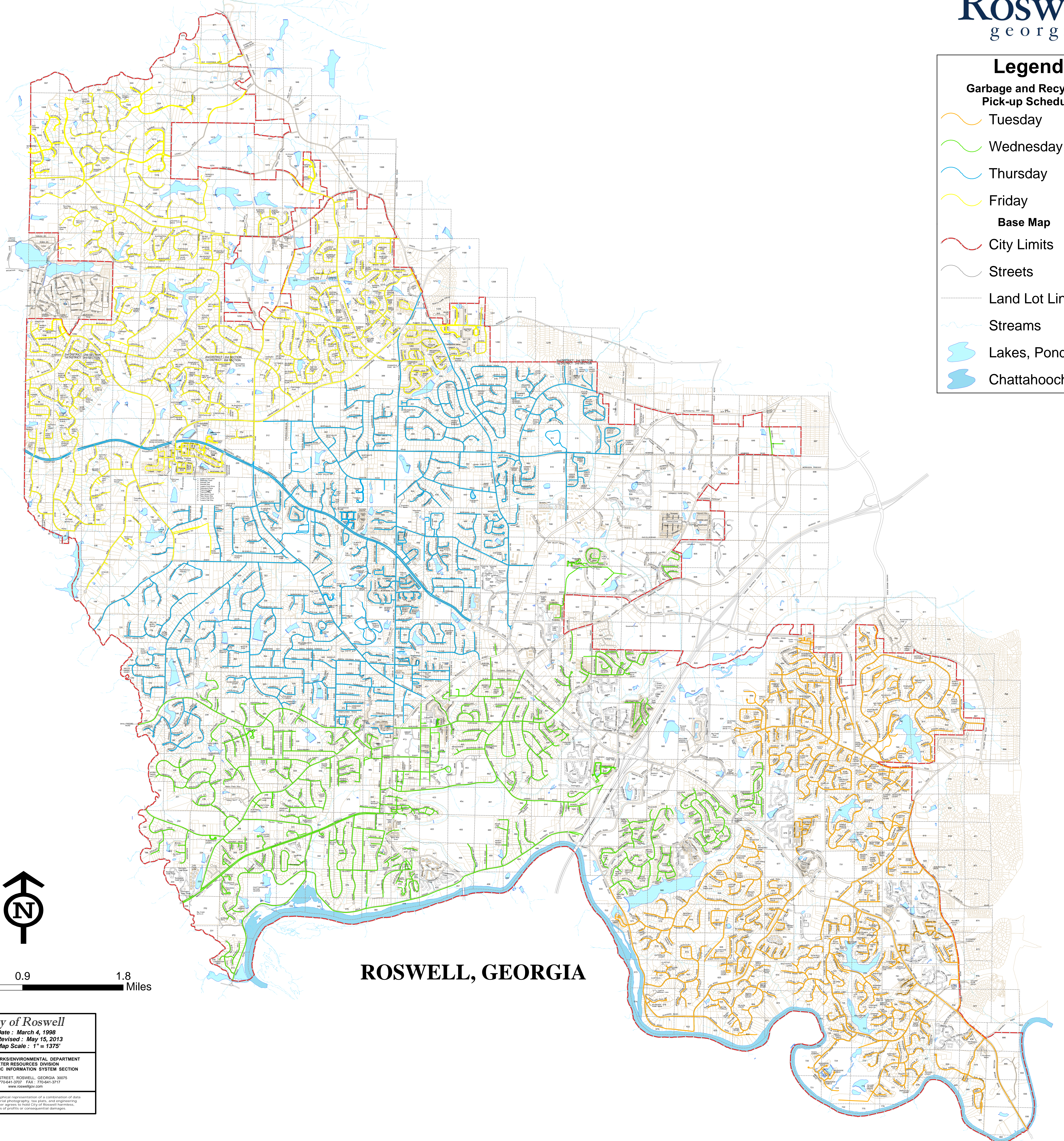
# Garbage and Recycling Pick-Up Schedule



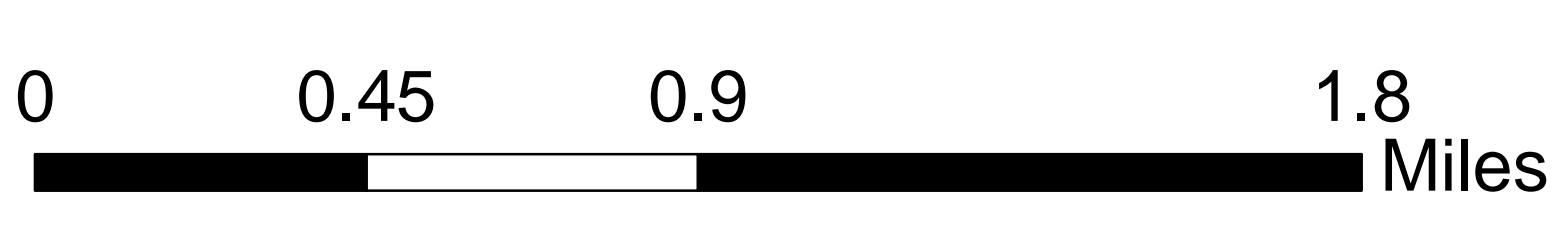
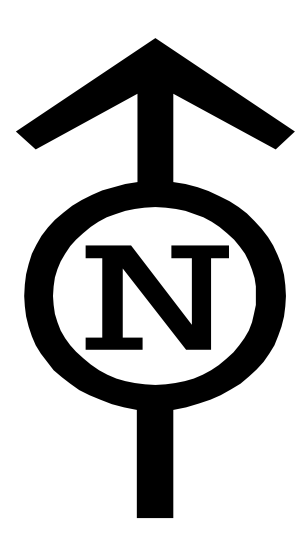
## Legend

### Garbage and Recycling Pick-up Schedule

- Tuesday
  - Wednesday
  - Thursday
  - Friday
- Base Map**
- City Limits
  - Streets
  - Land Lot Lines
  - Streams
  - Lakes, Ponds
  - Chattahoochee River



**ROSWELL, GEORGIA**



**City of Roswell**  
Date : March 4, 1998  
Revised : May 15, 2013  
Map Scale : 1" = 1375'

PUBLIC WORKS/ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT  
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION  
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM SECTION  
38 HILL STREET, ROSWELL, GEORGIA 30075  
PH: 770-641-3707 FAX: 770-641-0317  
www.roswellgov.com

This map is a graphical representation of a combination of data obtained from aerial photography, tax data, and engineering drawings. The user agrees to hold City of Roswell harmless including any loss of profits or consequential damages.



## CITY OF ROSWELL CODE OF ORDINANCES

### Chapter 24 - UTILITIES AND SERVICES

#### Article 24.1 - General

##### Section 24.1.1 - Services Provided.

The city may provide for the following utilities and services:

- (a) Garbage and solid waste disposal;
- (b) Collection of commercial waste;
- (c) Recycling;
- (d) Water and sewer;
- (e) Stormwater management;
- (f) Scrap tire management;

and any other service or utility authorized by the City Charter.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; 2007-02-02, Added, 02/05/2007)

**State Law reference**— Local home rule powers under Georgia Constitution art IX, § II, par. III(a)(6) and (7) include sewage collection and disposal systems and the development, storage, treatment, purification and distribution of water.

##### Section 24.1.2 - Deposit.

As a condition of providing services and/or utilities, there shall be collected a single deposit fee for new accounts within the city. Said fee shall cover all service and utility accounts and shall be refundable. Said deposit shall be held in a general account of the city and shall bear no interest and be determined by resolution of mayor and council.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-10-28](#), § 1, Amended 10/12/2015; 2007-02-02, Added, 02/05/2007)

#### Article 24.2 - Garbage and Solid Waste Disposal

##### Section 24.2.1 - Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them respectively:

*Appurtenances* means, for purposes of this ordinance, includes, but is not limited to water meters, water valves, sample stations, flush stations and fire hydrants.

*Authorized agent* means designee of owner of the property. Excludes tenants.

*Commercial waste* means all waste byproducts of manufacturing or commercial establishments, cinders and ashes from commercial boilers, and cardboard and wooden boxes, crates and barrels.

*Curbside* means a location near the street, behind the curb-line and not blocking a sidewalk, where trash receptacles are readily accessible to collection vehicles. The environmental/public works director or

his/her designee may authorize the location of containers within the public right-of-way at specified places and times when such location is necessary for the expeditious collection of garbage.

*Entity* means the actual business or house for collection.

*Environmental/public works director* means represents the city in matters concerning sanitation, stormwater or water utilities or designates his/her representative.

*Garbage* means domestic waste including meat, vegetable and fruit scraps, cans, bottles, paper, cardboard, rags, ashes and other such waste material ordinarily disposed from residences, churches, schools, small business establishments and other such places. Animals, fowl and fish entrails, bones and carcasses whether in whole or in part, from business establishments such as slaughterhouses and meat and fish markets shall not constitute "garbage", but shall constitute "other waste."

*Large items* means furniture, appliances, and the like which are of no use to a homeowner or charity.

*Other waste* means animal, fowl and fish excrement, entrails, bones, carcasses in whole or in part and dead animals, and any other refuse material not otherwise classified herein.

*Other yard waste* means yard waste which is loose and not bagged.

*Owner* means person or persons who own the actual property whether commercial, industrial, multi-family or residential.

*Recyclables* includes comingled materials designated by the environmental/public works department as part of the city recycling program and not required to be separated prior to collection.

*Recycling* means to treat or process to make suitable for reuse.

*Recycling container* is a watertight plastic container equipped with a lid and authorized by the environmental/public works department for use as part of the city recycling program.

*Scavenger* means any person who salvages or collects for a fee, resale or other use, any garbage, paper, cardboard, boxes, crates or other waste which are to be disposed from any residence or establishment where people reside, congregate or are employed.

*Scout truck* means a collection vehicle used in areas inaccessible to the rear-loading compactor and in additional circumstances when authorized by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee.

*Yard waste* means yard waste such as weeds, grass and hedge trimmings, leaves, brush, tree limbs and other such material contained in bags or other approved container.

( [2019-01-08](#), § 1, Amended 01/14/2019; Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Amended 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.2.2 - City to Collect Garbage, Recycling and Yard Waste.

The City of Roswell will collect all household garbage, recycling and yard waste generated within the city limits. No permits will be issued to private companies to collect household garbage, recycling and yard waste unless the city is unable to furnish the service. Such services shall be authorized by the city as needed. The city shall issue a letter with a set permit fee at that time.

( [2019-01-08](#), § 1, Amended 01/14/2019; Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Amended 07/13/2015)

**Editor's note**— Ord. No. [2019-01-08](#), § 1, adopted Jan. 14, 2019, changed the title of § 24.2.2 from "City to Collect Garbage and Yard Waste" to read as herein set out.

### Section 24.2.3 - Commencement of Service.

All property owners or their authorized agents shall be required to pay for garbage/solid waste collection and disposal for all habitable property within the city and for the payment of fees to the city for such services. An owner or authorized agent shall notify the finance department of the city of proper contact and billing information and shall be responsible for updating said information as needed. Garbage and solid waste collection fees shall be a charge against the property.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Amended 07/13/2015; 2004-06-14, Amended 06/07/2004; 2001-08-06, Amended 08/20/2001)

### Section 24.2.4 - Fees.

The collection fees for residences, commercial establishments, factories and other business places shall be such as may be set from time to time by the mayor and city council.

- (a) *Cost.* The finance department of the city shall maintain on file and make available to the public a record of the costs, fees, service charges and deposits for curbside garbage collection and any additional fees for special circumstances including but not limited to scout truck service. Non-payment of fees shall be cause for the imposition of late fees as determined by resolution of mayor and council and shall also cause a penalty as determined by resolution of mayor and council. Continued delinquent accounts shall be subject to imposition of a lien against the property served, in accordance with the city charter.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-10-28](#), § 2, Amended 10/12/2015; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Amended 07/13/2015; 2004-06-14, Amended 06/07/2004, (a) amended; 2001-08-06, Amended 08/20/2001, deletion of old subsection (b) "Deposits"; 2001-08-06, Amended 08/20/2001, (a) Addition of last sentence))

### Section 24.2.5 - Garbage and Recycling Containers; Collection.

- (a) Every individual residence or premises where people reside shall be provided with a household garbage container or containers sufficient to accommodate seven (7) days accumulation of garbage.
  - (1) Standard garbage collection service shall be provided for one (1) container. Residents must use the provided container for curbside household garbage collection.
  - (2) Premium garbage collection service shall be provided for two (2) containers at an additional cost as determined by mayor and city council.
  - (3) Every individual residence or premises where people reside shall be provided, upon request, with one (1) recycling container for curbside collection of approved recyclables. Residents must use the provided container for curbside recycling collection. It shall be unlawful to place garbage or recycling for collection in a box, tub, crate or container that is not provided by the city. All garbage and recycling must be placed in the provided container(s) for collection. Subject to article 18.2 of the Roswell Code of Ordinances, any garbage, recycling, yard waste, or other waste defined in this chapter left at curbside shall be deemed waste material and shall, subject to the limitations of this chapter, be picked up by the city at a charge to the property owner or his authorized agent. Those owners or authorized agents exceeding the amount or type of garbage and/or waste allowed shall be deemed in violation of this article and shall be subject to those general penalties described in section 1.1.3 of the Roswell Code of Ordinances.
- (b) Garbage and recycling containers shall be placed at the curb no earlier than 6:00 p.m. the day before pickup. To insure pickup, containers should be placed at the curb no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of collection. Containers, including curbside recycling bins, shall be removed from the curb no later than the end of the day of collection.



- (c) Garbage shall be collected from the curbside, or other suitable location authorized by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee, at residential premises once weekly.
- (d) Non-collectable and prohibited items. Certain items, by their nature, prohibit disposal or collection by ordinary or routine means due to their size, weight, volume, bulk, putrescibility, injurious or hazardous characteristics. The following is a nonexclusive list of the type of items that shall not be collected by the service provider as part of its routine service. This includes curbside-recycling collection. Placement of these items or similar items in receptacles serviced by both the garbage and recycling providers is prohibited:
  - (1) The placement of the following prohibited items in receptacles placed on the curb for pickup by the city is unlawful and punishable according to section 1.1.3 of this Code in addition to any federal and state penalties. The environmental/public works department shall maintain, on file, information regarding proper disposal practices for prohibited items.
    - a. Vehicle batteries.
    - b. Toxic, caustic, infectious, contagious, explosive or otherwise hazardous waste:  
The service provider shall not collect nor handle toxic, caustic, infectious, contagious, explosive or otherwise hazardous waste for disposal. Such waste shall be disposed of in accordance with federal, state and local laws and procedures.
  - (2) Items similar to, but not limited by the following, may be collected curbside only after payment by phone or in person at the City of Roswell Finance Department:
    - a. Household appliances and furniture.
    - b. Carpets or carpet scraps.
    - c. Bed mattresses and box springs.
  - (3) Curbside collection of more than five (5) items must be approved by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee. Additional fees may apply.

( [Ord. No. 2019-12-34](#) , § 1 Amended, 12/09/2019; [2019-01-08](#) , § 1, Amended 01/14/2019; Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#) , § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#) , § 1, Amended 07/13/2015; 2005-12-17, Amended 12/19/2005, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph of (a) amended to 50 gallons; 2004-09-20, Amended 09/08/2004, (a) changed to 50 gallons; 2004-09-20, Amended 09/08/2004, (a) amended; 2004-06-14, Amended 06/07/2004, (a) amended; 2003-11-25, Amended 11/17/2003, (d) added)

**Editor's note**— Ord. No. [2019-01-08](#) , § 1, adopted Jan. 14, 2019, changed the title of § 24.2.5 from "Garbage Containers; Collection" to read as herein set out.

#### Section 24.2.6 - Collection Exceptions.

Exceptions to the curbside requirement may be granted, at the discretion of the environmental/public works director or his/her designee of the city. Scout truck service is available upon request and/or upon reasonable verification for the disabled or persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#) , § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#) , § 1, Amended 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.2.7 - Yard Waste—Preparation and Placement for Collection.

- (a) All leaves, pine needles and other small items of yard waste shall be bagged and/or placed in a thirty-gallon, fifty-pound weight, wet strength Kraft paper sack or other container identified as containing yard waste and made of metal or plastic with solid bottom and close-fitting metal or plastic

cover with a maximum capacity of fifty (50) gallons. Containers shall be placed as directed above in subsection 24.2.5(b). Holiday schedules may cause adjustment of the day of collection, and periods of heavy usage, such as following a major storm or annual pruning season, may result in delays.

- (b) Tree trunks and large limbs and other waste that cannot be loaded by hand will remain the responsibility of the property owner. Tree contractors and professional landscaping businesses shall be responsible for disposal of their own waste.
- (c) Yard waste shall be collected by city trucks on days established by the mayor and city council; provided, that at no time shall trash be placed in such a manner as to obstruct gutters, drains, walkways or streets. Tree limbs and branches which exceed four (4) feet in length or six (6) inches in diameter will not be picked up by city crews.
- (d) Routine weekly collection will include up to twelve (12) thirty-gallon Kraft paper sacks or their equivalent in containerized yard waste material or up to two (2) cubic yards of loose limbs and branches as described at subsection 24.2.7(c), or an equivalent total. For pickup of excess quantities beyond the two (2) cubic yards or twelve (12) bags, contact the environmental/public works director or his/her designee for payment and scheduling.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Amended 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.2.8 - "Other Waste", Disposal by Owner; Hospital Wastes, etc.

- (a) "Other waste", as defined in this chapter, shall be disposed of by persons in charge of the residence or establishment where such wastes are generated. Disposal shall be at the disposal facility designated by the city or as authorized by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of any soiled linen, cotton or bandages, or waste or refuse of any kind from any hospital, sanitarium, infirmary, clinic or undertaker's shop, whether public or private, in any manner except by incineration, unless otherwise directed by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee. Kitchen wastes from such establishments are expressly exempt from this requirement.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Amended 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.2.9 - Burning Leaves or Yard Waste on Streets.

No person shall burn leaves or other yard waste in the streets of the city. Open burning of any kind is prohibited except as authorized by this Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)

#### Section 24.2.10 - Littering Prohibition.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, in person or by his agent, employee or servant, to cast, throw, sweep, sift or deposit in any manner in or upon any public way or other public place in the city or the river, creek, branch, public water, drain, sewer or receiving basin within the jurisdiction of the city, any kind of leaves, dirt, rubbish, waste article, thing or substance whatsoever, whether liquid or solid. Nor shall any person, firm or corporation cast, throw, sweep, sift or deposit any of the aforementioned items anywhere within the jurisdiction of the city in such a manner that it may be carried or deposited in whole or in part, by the action of the sun, wind, rain or snow, into any of the aforementioned places; provided, that this section shall not apply to the deposit of material under a permit authorized by any ordinance of the city; or to goods, wares or merchandise deposited upon any public way or other public place temporarily, in the necessary course of trade and removed

therefrom within two (2) hours after being so deposited; or to articles or things deposited in or conducted into the city sewer system through lawful drains in accordance with the ordinances of the city relating thereto.

- (b) All business firms dispensing their product in cups, plates, wrappers, sacks and other similar forms of containers shall provide adequate metal or plastic containers upon the premises for collection of refuse. It shall be the express responsibility of all such business firms to collect all cups, plates, wrappers, sacks and other similar forms of containers dispensed by said business that may be discarded upon the premises or neighboring street and sidewalks. It further shall be the responsibility of said business to collect the aforementioned items from the premises of the neighboring property when the owners of the property specifically request and authorize the business personnel to enter upon their property for that purpose.
- (c) Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of, or who fails to perform any duty imposed by this section or who violates any order or determination of the department promulgated pursuant to this article shall be punished as prescribed in section 1.1.3 and, in addition thereto, may be enjoined from continuing the violation. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense. Any willful and wanton violation of this subsection resulting in the unlawful littering of the streets, sidewalks and neighboring property shall be deemed a nuisance and on conviction thereof by the city court of Roswell, the mayor and council may after notice and a hearing revoke the business license of the violator.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)

#### Section 24.2.11 - Dogs Spreading Garbage.

It is specifically declared that dogs violating the leash provisions of chapter 8 of this Code and which turn over garbage containers or spread garbage over the streets or rights-of-way of the city shall constitute a nuisance capable of abatement in the municipal court of the city, in addition to any penalties imposed under chapter 8 or section 1.1.3 of this Code.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)

Sections 24.2.12—24.2.26 - Reserved.

Article 24.3 - Collection of Commercial Waste<sup>41</sup>

Footnotes:

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**Editor's note**— Ord. No. 2015-07-18, § 1, adopted July 13, 2015, repealed the former Art. 24.3, §§ 24.3.1—24.3.6, and enacted a new Art. 24.3 as set out herein. The former Art. 24.3 pertained to similar subject matter and derived from Ord. No. 2001-08-06, adopted Aug. 20, 2001; Ord. No. 2004-06-14, adopted June 7, 2004; Ord. No. 2007-03-03, adopted Mar. 5, 2007; Ord. No. 2008-01-01, adopted Jan. 7, 2008.

#### Section 24.3.1 - When Commercial Garbage Receptacles Required.

The owners and/or operators of commercial and industrial establishments and/or apartment houses, including public housing consisting of six (6) or more living units, shall, subject to the determination of the environmental/public works director or his/her designee, rent from the city commercial containers in sufficient number to adequately contain the garbage and refuse disposal at the location. The type, size,

number and location of commercial containers required by this section shall be subject to the approval of the environmental/public works director or his/her designee. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of the property to collect fees from tenants, leases or association owners. Common containers may be requested for commercial garbage service; however, a written request must be submitted to the environmental/public works director or his/her designee for approval before such arrangement is allowed.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Added 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.3.2 - Placement of Commercial Containers.

Commercial containers required by this article shall be placed as required by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee. If a commercial container is placed at any location other than that directed by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee or if sufficient access to the container is blocked or obstructed in any manner, the container will not be emptied. The failure of the city to pick up garbage or trash under such circumstances shall not affect the garbage container rental or rate for this service. A written sanitation plan is required and should be approved by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee. At a minimum the sanitation plan should include proposed location and number of dumpsters/containers, frequency of service, sharing information (if applicable) and contact information. All commercial refuse areas must be constructed in accordance with section 12.9 refuse regulations of the City of Roswell Unified Development Code and the City of Roswell Standard Construction Specifications or the Fulton County Standard Construction Specifications as applicable.

( [2019-01-08](#), § 1, Amended 01/14/2019; Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Added 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.3.3 - Commercial Containers Not to be Left on Streets; Exception.

Commercial containers containing garbage, ashes or other refuse material shall not be left for collection upon any street, sidewalk, avenue or other public place, except as specifically authorized by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Added 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.3.4 - Night Collections.

Whenever the mayor and the council shall decide that the best interests of the public will be served by the collection of garbage from certain areas in the city at night, the environmental/public works director or his/her designee shall be directed to make such collection.

The environmental/public works director or his/her designee shall notify the occupants of the places of business within the designated area that the garbage will be picked up during certain hours and that the containers must be placed in the place designated for the pickup. All persons so notified shall comply with such order and shall place the containers as designated within such hours.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Added 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.3.5 - Rates for Trash Collection; Rates for Pickup for Industrial and Commercial Establishments and Certain Other Units.

- (a) *Commercial.* Rates for commercial collection as established from time to time by the mayor and council shall be maintained on file in the finance department. Non-payment of fees will be subject to

penalties and interest and continued delinquent accounts will be subject to imposition of a lien against the property served, in accordance with the city charter.

- (b) *Pick up for containers not provided by the City of Roswell Environmental/Public Works Department.* The environmental/public works director or his/her designee can decide to authorize collection of garbage (trash) not contained in an authorized city container. The rate for collection will be determined by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee depending upon the particular circumstances of the request.
- (c) *Cost for use of private service.* Any entity authorized to use a private garbage and trash removing service under section 24.1.2 of this article, shall pay the city for use of city infrastructure and other costs to the city, a monthly sum per unit and/or using entity as established by mayor and council such as to offset the costs to the city.
- (d) *Service fee.* Every establishment (commercial, industrial, multi-family) shall be required to pay a fee to the city to cover the cost of setting up service and provisions of dumpsters for use. This will apply to all new accounts opened after September 1, 2001. These fees are non-refundable. The service fee shall be established from time to time by the mayor and council and shall be maintained on file in the finance department.

( [2019-01-08](#), § 1, Amended 01/14/2019; Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2016-05-04](#), § 1, Amended 05/09/2016; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Added 07/13/2015)

#### Section 24.3.6 - Special Requirements.

- (a) No building materials or refuse from building, remodeling, repair operations or landscape work will be handled by city forces. All waste material of this nature shall be removed by the contractor, or in the event of his failure, by the owner of the property; provided, that the owner may make application to the environmental/public works director or his/her designee may, if practical, remove the rubbish at the expense of the owner. The charge made for such service shall be determined in each case with relation to the service performed or if a hardship exists determined by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee.
- (b) Industrial wastes from factories, processing plants, dry cleaning operations and other manufacturing operations shall be collected, removed and disposed of by the operator of the enterprise.
- (c) The environmental/public works director or his/her designee may remove any waste materials for which no provision is made in this section, provided the cost that is determined by the environmental/public works director or his/her designee as being reasonable for the service performed is paid by the person making application for the removal of such waste material.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; [2015-07-18](#), § 1, Added 07/13/2015)

#### Article 24.4 - Recycling at Multi-Family Complexes

##### Section 24.4.1 - Definition.

For purposes of this article, the term "multi-family complex" shall have the meaning ascribed in sections 2.1.1, building type descriptions, of the Unified Development Code (UDC). This ordinance shall apply to condominiums and townhomes not presently receiving curbside service.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017; Ord. No. 2014-02-03, § 1, Amended 2/24/2014)

##### Section 24.4.2 - Recycling Program Created.



All multi-family complexes located within the corporate limits of the city shall institute a recycling program within sixty (60) days of the enactment of this article.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)

#### Section 24.4.3 - Collection.

At a minimum, all such complexes shall collect and make provision for the collection of the following items: newspapers, glass separated by color (clear, brown, and green), aluminum cans, bi-metal cans (i.e. vegetable and pet food cans), and number 1 (milk jugs) and number 2 (soda bottles) plastics, and aluminum foil.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)

#### Section 24.4.4 - Notice of Location of Collection Devices.

All such complexes shall notify each resident, in writing, of the availability and location of collection devices. Proof of such notification shall be tendered to the city.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)

#### Section 24.4.5 - Quarterly Reports.

All such complexes shall make quarterly reports to the city of the material collected and their respective weights.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)

#### Section 24.4.6 - Penalty.

The failure of any such complex to comply with the provisions of this article shall subject the owner thereof to punishment as provided in section 1.1.3 of this Code. In addition, such failure shall constitute a nuisance capable of abatement in the municipal court of the city.

(Ord. No. [2017-07-08](#), § 1, Amended 7/10/2017)