

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NEWS TO USE  
CELIA DIANNE BARNES  
5E09 SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT COMMISSIONER  
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JULY 13, 2020

## Residential Trash Collection:

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Due to the increase in roaming rodents, residents need to adhere to the guidelines provide by DPW. The Department of Public Works collection of trash occurs only once-a-week in Ward 5. 5E09 SMD scheduled trash collection day is on Wednesday Morning.

**Holiday Trash and Recycling Schedule:** When a holiday falls on a trash and recycling collection day, collections will "slide" to the next day for the rest of the week after the holiday through Saturday.

**What Goes in the Trash?** To learn about what materials belong in the trash bin and NOT in the blue recycling bin, please visit <https://zerowaste.dc.gov/page/trash-residents>.

**Avoiding a Sanitation Ticket!** Keep the public space around your property free of litter. Place trash and recycling containers out for collection no earlier than 6:30 pm the night before collection and no later than 6 am on your collection day. Residents are required to remove trash and recycling containers from public space by 8 pm on your collection day.

**How to Handle Medicine?** Medicine (DO NOT FLUSH OR POUR! Take to drug take-back-site (check [National Drug Take-Back Day](#) for next date). OR Mix with dirt, cat litter or used coffee grounds, then put in trash. Recycle empty bottle after marking out personal information or removing the identification label from bottle.)

**Preventing Theft of Trash and Recycling Containers:** Record each container's serial number and provide that information to 311 to report a missing/stolen container. - Paint your address (including street name and number) on at least two sides of your containers using a bold, bright color that attracts attention and distinguishes your containers from your neighbors' containers.

**Where Your Materials Go?** DPW manages the disposal of the District's solid waste materials in an environmentally-sensitive way. The majority of trash, yard waste, and associated materials collected residentially or commercially at the agency's transfer stations, are disposed at Fairfax County's Energy Resource Recovery Facility in Lorton. Recycling materials are taken to a near-by Maryland facility where they are sorted and processed to be reused as raw materials.

**Request the following services by calling 311 or using [311.dc.gov](https://311.dc.gov).**

**Litter Can – Collection:** Report a public space litter can that is full or overflowing and needs to be emptied.

**Trash Collection – Missed:** Report missed regular trash collection. If scheduled trash collection falls on a holiday, the collection will “slide” to the next day.

**Yard Waste:** Request the collection of yard waste. DPW collects up to five bags (per week) of yard waste from residences that receive DPW trash and recycling collection services. DPW’s collection priority is trash; therefore, yard waste will be collected as space in the truck permits.

## How You Can Help?

- Visit [collectionday.dcgis.dc.gov](http://collectionday.dcgis.dc.gov) for your trash/recycling day(s).
- Place trash and recycling containers out for collection after 6:30 pm the night before collection or before 6 am on collection day. Residents are required to remove trash and recycling containers from public space by 8 pm on your collection day.
- Between collections, store trash and recycling containers on your property rather than in the alley or on the sidewalk. Otherwise, you may receive a solid waste ticket.
- Paint your address on your trash and recycling containers and record the number that appears on these containers to help prevent theft or loss.

## Street and Alley Cleaning

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DPW cleans residential and arterial streets using mechanical sweepers of various sizes. Due to COVID-19, between March 1 and October 31, sweepers operation have been lifted.

## How You Can Help?

- Pick up the litter and trash in your alley and around your property, rather than sweeping these items into the gutter to eventually end up in one of the District’s rivers.
- Residential property owners are responsible for maintaining the sidewalks and tree box spaces around their property. Commercial property owners are responsible for the public space around their property up to 18 inches from the curb into the street.
- Use the street litter and recycling cans as you walk along the District’s commercial streets. The litter cans are for pedestrian trash only, not household trash.
- Avoid a street sweeping ticket by obeying the parking (No Parking Street Cleaning) signs along residential streets. Eighty percent of the residents of these streets signed petitions pledging to move their cars so sweeping would be effective.
- Overnight scheduled sweeping of the District’s major roadways occurs year-round, weather permitting. Motorists are urged to obey the signs when parking in these areas during the posted overnight sweeping hours.

**Just the Facts:** DPW collects trash separately from recycling. The trucks used for both services look the same, but the contents are not comingled. For more info, go to DPW web site.

**Contact Email:** [dpw@dc.gov](mailto:dpw@dc.gov)

**Contact Phone:** (202) 737-4404;

**Contact Fax:** (202) 671-0642;

**Contact TTY:** (202) 673-6833

**Office Hours:** Monday to Friday 8:15 am - 4:45 pm

Note: To request to be added to 5E09 SMD News to Use Distribution List, please do not hesitate to forward your request to [5E09@anc.dc.gov](mailto:5E09@anc.dc.gov). Do continue to stay safe and healthy as well.