

Report to the Citizens

Spring 2011 • Vol. 8 • No. 2



Oak Ridge Earth Day Festival Expands Into a Two-Day Event

The 4th Annual Oak Ridge Earth Day Festival has expanded into a two-day event that will take place on Friday, April 29th, and Saturday, April 30th.

On April 29th, festival fun begins with a new race for youth and adults called the Green Mile. The Green Mile will take place at the Oak Ridge High School Track Stadium from 4 p.m. – 10 p.m.

On Saturday, the Festival continues at A.K. Bissell Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend this family-friendly, FREE celebration of Earth Day in Oak Ridge. The festival features lots of activities for children to keep them entertained including animal encounters, a climbing wall, a scavenger hunt, and a fun run.

A major focus of this year's event is to promote healthy living through exercise and healthy eating at the Healthy Hut display. Vendors and exhibitors will provide examples of good environmental products and services while area students will show off their creative art talent using trash and recyclables. Great music and food will also add to the enjoyment of the day.

The festival has another new activity this year called "Erase Your Trace." "Erase Your Trace" is a special recycling program meant to help individuals reduce their carbon footprint through recycling. The event will be held on Badger Road above the

festival site near Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). The event will collect shoes, small electronics, cell phones, eye glasses, empty ink cartridges, books (for Friends of the Library), and compact fluorescent light bulbs. People can also bring documents to be shredded on site during the festival. The Oak Ridge Police Department will also be participating at the Earth Day Festival, collecting old and expired medicines.

For information about the festival, including details about the Green Mile, please visit the festival web site at www.orearthday.org.

Earth Day 2011 is presented by Keep Anderson County Beautiful, the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge, First United Methodist Church of



Festival attendees wait to receive free Dogwoods during last year's Earth Day Festival.

Oak Ridge, the Environmental Quality Advisory Board of Oak Ridge, in cooperation with the City of Oak Ridge.

Inside This Issue:

Recyclebank[®]

RecycleBank Program Turns "2" in Oak Ridge

p.2



Cedar Hill Park Playground Rebuild

Cedar Hill Playground Community Build Needs Volunteers

p.4



Mayor Beehan sends a "thank you" to former DOE Oak Ridge Manager

p.5



Take Pride in Oak Ridge's Natural Beauty

The City of Oak Ridge takes pride in all the natural scenery available in Oak Ridge. The area has a number of well-manicured parks and greenways that allow residents to enjoy the outdoors. Additionally, the City has several greenbelts that are maintained in a natural setting providing sanctuary for wildlife and native plants while increasing the attractiveness of Oak Ridge. It is also important to recognize the hard work performed by city staff in beautifying the city and maintaining current landscapes and greenways all year.

Recently, a number of trees located on city property were illegally removed by residents. As a result of this dilemma, the City has stepped up

efforts to monitor illegal tree removal and asks that the public not remove trees on city property without following proper guidelines.

Oak Ridge City Code, Title 13, Property Maintenance Regulations, has an entire chapter devoted to trees on city property for residents who are looking to learn more about the tree regulations. One section explicitly states, "It shall be unlawful for any person to cut, top, prune, trim, or remove any tree on any city greenbelt, right-of-way, park, or other city property without the written permission of the city manager."

It is important to protect Oak Ridge's nature areas from encroachment and to respect city property lines and the efforts of city staff to properly maintain these areas. Nature areas, such as

Oak Ridge's greenbelts, were established for the enjoyment of the community and to add to the quality of life in the City.

If a resident is interested in learning if their property line abuts a greenbelt or city property, please contact the Oak Ridge Recreation & Parks Department at (865) 425-3450. Residents can also contact the Parks Department or the Police Department to report any suspicious activity on greenways, greenbelts, or other city property.



City's Partnership with RecycleBank "Pays Off"

On March 2, 2009, the City of Oak Ridge "set the bar" for other municipalities by becoming the first community not only in Tennessee, but in the Southern United States to begin its citywide operation of the RecycleBank program, which offers users rewards for their recycling efforts.

Ever since the program's inception recycling participation by Oak Ridge residents has increased substantially. According to the latest numbers provided to the City from RecycleBank, over 70% of households that have recycling containers are participating, and an estimated 67% of active participants have registered an account with RecycleBank.

The significance of the aforementioned numbers is that the program is popular, so much so that "RecycleBank" has become a household name for Oak Ridge residents. RecycleBank's popularity is understandable as it offers an opportunity for residents to divert trash from landfills using an efficient single-stream recycling method and allows them to take advantage of a program that rewards their efforts with money-saving offers.

Waste Connections, the City's waste contractor, has been partnering with RecycleBank to pay special recognition to the Oak Ridge resident(s) who recycles the most in a given year. This year's "Recycler of the Year" award will be presented

during the May 9th City Council meeting by a representative from Waste Connections. Residents can tune in to BBB TV 12 to find out who won!

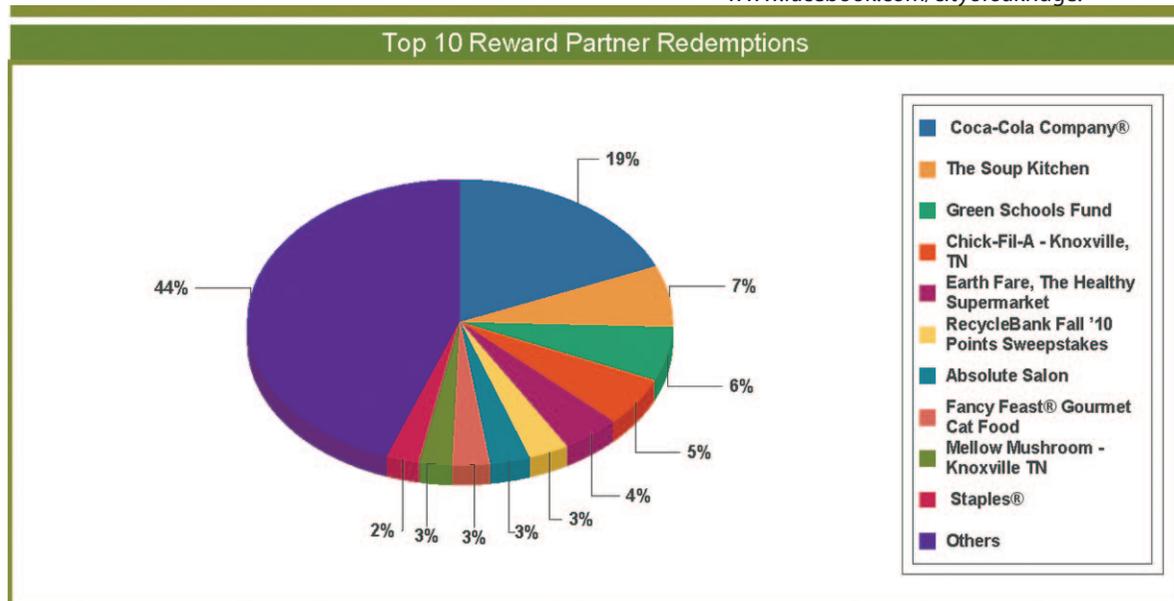
For questions regarding the program or to create a new account with RecycleBank, please contact Waste Connections Customer Service at (865) 522-0078.

The pie chart below was provided by RecycleBank and shows the top 10 reward partner redemptions during December.

Follow the City of Oak Ridge on Twitter and Facebook



To receive up-to-date information and announcements, please follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/cityofoakridge or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cityofoakridge.



Oral History Collections Continue to Grow

The Center for Oak Ridge Oral History (COROH) in association with the City of Oak Ridge and the Department of Energy is proud to announce that it has contracted with award winning local videographer Keith McDaniel to produce 100 video oral histories over the next two years. McDaniel has already produced twenty videos for COROH with notable community members, including former Superintendent of Oak Ridge Schools Robert Smallridge, former Oak Ridge City Manager Mike Walker, and Cecilia Klemski, who worked as a stenographer for General Groves during the Manhattan Project.

Several oral history transcripts are now available at the Oak Ridge Public Library, including transcripts from the Oak Ridge Heritage & Preservation Association (ORHPA) collection and the Oak Ridge Public Library collection.

COROH recently received a generous donation of video and audio interviews prepared by

History Room volunteers at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), including videos conducted by the Smithsonian to document work on the Manhattan Project. Oak Ridge City Manager Mark Watson acknowledged the importance



of the donation: "The Manhattan Project is widely regarded as the most significant event of the 20th Century. With the possibility of Oak Ridge receiving a designation as a Manhattan Project National Historical Park, these histories will be invaluable to the National Park Service and DOE as they develop public educational and interpretive materials about Oak Ridge. We are grateful to ORNL for the donation."

COROH continues to accept volunteers for oral

history interviews and would like to encourage everyone who lived in the Oak Ridge area before, during, and following the Manhattan Project to consider donating their oral history.

For more information about COROH or to participate in an oral history interview, contact:

The Center for Oak Ridge Oral History
Oak Ridge Public Library
1401 Oak Ridge Turnpike
(865) 425-3455

Email: coroh@cortn.org

Recreation & Parks Events At-A-Glance

Summer Camp Registration
www.orrecparks.org, starting April 1

Community Egg Hunt
Bissell Park,
April 16, 11 a.m.

YAB Battle of the Bands
Bissell Park
April 29, 6 p.m.

Scarboro Center Community Share Day
Scarboro Community Center
April 30, 1-5 p.m.

Earth Day Festival
Bissell Park
April 30, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Cedar Hill Park
Community Build Week**
Cedar Hill Park
May 18 - 22, 2011, 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.
Volunteer Sign-up at
www.cortn.org/cedarhillpark

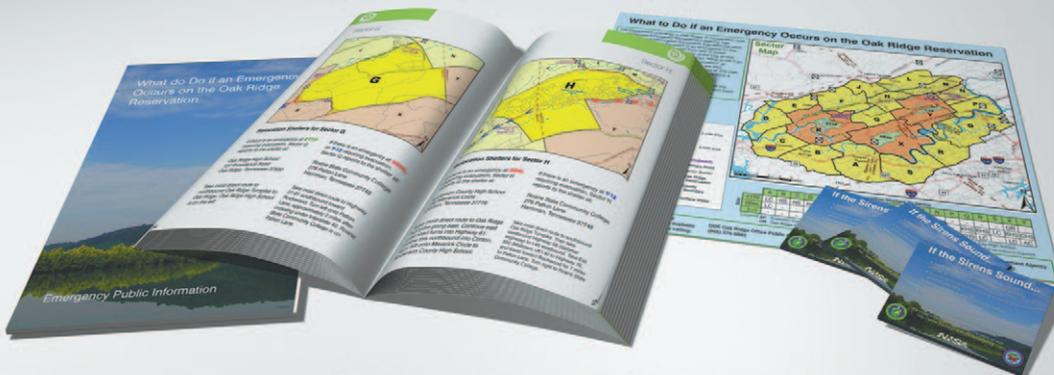
Graduation Celebration
Civic Center
June 2, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

For more information about these or future events, please visit the Recreation & Parks Department website at www.orrecparks.org.

What to do if an Emergency Occurs on the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Reservation

STAY INFORMED. BE PREPARED.

The Department of Energy and its contractors in Oak Ridge are focused on the safety of their employees and the local community. However, in the unlikely event that an emergency were to occur on the Oak Ridge Reservation, it is important that everyone know what actions to take. If you live, work, or travel within five miles of the DOE's Oak Ridge Reservation, there are materials available that can educate you and your family about what to do if an emergency occurs at one of the DOE facilities. These important publications contain valuable information about what to do if warning sirens sound, how to shelter in place, locations of evacuation shelters, as well as other important information about the major DOE facilities in Oak Ridge. Pick up a copy of the publications today so you can stay informed and be prepared.



Publications are available at the DOE Information Center at 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike or by calling 865-241-4780. You can also download them online at www.oakridge.doe.gov/emergency



New Cedar Hill Playground Rebuild Needs Volunteers

In 1988, over 1,200 volunteers came together for an experience of a lifetime during the week long construction period to build a one-of-a-kind playground at Cedar Hill Park. For those who have been inspired by this story of volunteers working together, committed to a community and an awe-inspiring project, the opportunity has returned to participate in a project of similar magnitude during Community Build Week, May 18 – 22, 2011.

For months, the Cedar Hill Playground Rebuild Project Steering Committee has been working with representatives from the playground design firm, Leathers & Associates, in planning for the community build. The most important aspect of the planning has been the effort to recruit

volunteers.

In order to make this project a success, volunteers of all skill levels are needed. Even if an individual has never picked up a hammer, let alone swung one, there will still be dozens of ways to help. A few main areas of interest include: construction, public relations, volunteer coordination, children's committee, childcare, materials, food, tools, and special needs.

One key, critical volunteer area is construction captains. Construction captains are volunteers who will work alongside the Leathers' construction consultants for the entire duration of the build. They will oversee and instruct crews, while helping to keep efficiency and maintain attention to details. The Cedar Hill Park Playground Rebuild Project calls for a minimum of 10 construction

captains. Anyone interested in learning more about this particular volunteer position, should contact Jon Hetrick, Project Coordinator, at jhetrick@cortn.org.

One of the most important goals for this project is to involve the entire community as the playground will serve as a neighborhood gathering space for family and friends, and most importantly will be enjoyed by the children of Oak Ridge. Anyone interested in either volunteering for this project or learning more about volunteer opportunities, should contact Athanasia Senecal Lewis, Volunteer Coordinator, at asenecal@cortn.org. Individuals can also volunteer at the front desk of the Oak Ridge Civic Center, as well as complete an on-line registration form at www.cortn.org/cedarhillpark.

Food Donations

The Cedar Hill Park Playground Rebuild is accepting food donations from businesses, organizations and residents to help feed all the volunteers during Community Build Week.

If interested, please contact Mindy McNabb at mcpark23@comcast.net, or Naomi Thompson at (865) 425-3446 or nthompson@cortn.org.

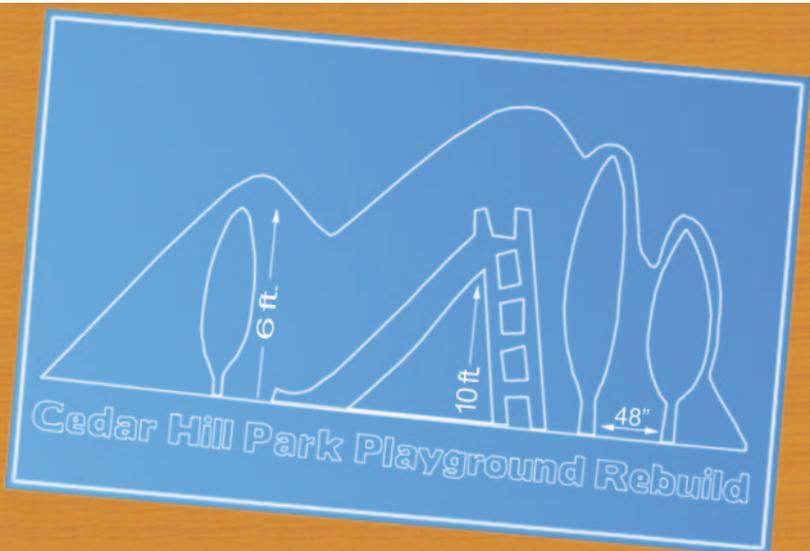
The information below was listed in the playground build handbook provided by Leathers and Associates:

Job Description of Construction Captains:

"Some captains will have tasks that involve complex and precise carpentry. Others will oversee work that requires no carpentry skills at all. All, however, will spend time supervising and instructing others—sometimes 2 people, sometimes 20 or more. Some captains will work on only 1 or 2 things the entire time. Others may see 10 different tasks through to completion."

Here are some other things to know about captains:

- ▶ "The minimum number of captains required for any project is 10, but the total needed will vary, according to the size and complexity of the project."
- ▶ "Captains must enjoy working with people, be strongly committed to the project, and be willing and physically able to "go the distance" during construction. They should also be organized, flexible, and able to keep their wits and humor about them under difficult circumstances. Leadership skills are a plus!"
- ▶ "Of all the qualities good captains may possess, people skills are by far the most important. Most other things can be easily learned on site."
- ▶ "At least three captains should be skilled in carpentry."
- ▶ "Try to recruit an equal number of men and women as captains."
- ▶ "All captains must attend Organization Day so that our office representative can brief them about what's ahead."
- ▶ "Captains are always welcome to attend committee meetings. At the very least, they must attend the job meeting the night before construction begins — that's when the construction consultant will describe the various tasks, which are then assigned at 7:15 each morning."
- ▶ "It is important for captains to be easily identifiable on site. We [Leathers' & Associates] recommend colored T-shirts or hats."



SAVE THE DATE

Community Build Week May 18 - 22

www.cortn.org/cedarhillpark

Mayor's Message

Acknowledging Leadership in Oak Ridge

By: Mayor Tom Beehan

Recently, Gerald Boyd, manager of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge Office, retired after serving in his current position for more than eight years.



While serving as the Mayor of Oak Ridge, I had the honor to become acquainted with Gerald and witness, firsthand, his unmatched leadership skills. Over the years, the City of Oak Ridge has been fortunate to

"Oak Ridge has been fortunate to have leaders in the business community who have always had the area's best interest as a top priority"

have leaders in the business community who have always had the area's best interest as a top priority, and this was the case with Gerald. He had a great relationship with our community and took the time to listen and learn about many of the issues facing Oak Ridge.

This type of influential leadership is what has set Oak Ridge apart from other DOE-host communities, and I would like to personally thank him for his efforts in helping to make Oak Ridge an exemplary city.

The Secret City Festival Takes Home the Gold, Silver & Bronze in Regional Awards

Earlier this year,

festival organizers held a special press conference at the Oak Ridge Civic Center to acknowledge six Kaleidoscope Awards that the festival won during February's Southeast Festivals and Events Conference.

The Secret City Festival received the following Kaleidoscope Awards for 2011:

- Silver Best Festival – Over \$75,000 budget – Secret City Festival
- Silver Best Sponsor – Oak Ridge Chapter of Credit Unions
- Silver Best Green Component – Secret City Festival
- Bronze Best Volunteer – Over \$75,000 Budget – Jane Miller
- Gold Best Other Merchandise – Secret City Festival Re-useable Shopping Bag

- Silver Best T-Shirt – Secret City Festival Commemorative Shirt

During the press conference, members of the Secret City Festival Executive Committee recognized the volunteers, sponsors, and other contributors whose festival partnerships were distinguished through the aforementioned Kaleidoscope Awards.

Festival organizers also used this opportunity to officially announce the entertainment headliners for the 9th Annual Secret City Festival. Friday, June 17, will feature 70's disco group, the Village People, and country musician Ricky Skaggs will perform on Saturday, June 18.

For more information about the 2011 festival, including a list of sponsors and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.secretcityfestival.com.



City of Oak Ridge staff and business leaders pose with their various Kaleidoscope Awards during the 2011 Secret City Festival Press Conference which was held at the Oak Ridge Civic Center in February.



Spring Pickup Programs

Every spring, the City of Oak Ridge has a citywide household trash and brush pickup. This collection service allows residents to remove rubbish from their property without taking a trip to the convenience center. The household trash pickup starts Monday, April 4, 2011 and concludes on Friday, April 29, 2011, while the brush pickup begins Monday, May 2, 2011 and ends on Friday, June 3, 2011.



The City will make every attempt to adhere to the pickup schedules as closely as possible. The actual pickup day may change depending on weather conditions and participation by residents. Residents are asked to have all their materials in place (near the curb) no later than 7:30 a.m. on their pickup day to ensure that the rubbish is picked up.

The pickup schedules are available on the City's website at www.cortn.org. If residents have any questions, please contact Waste Connections of Tennessee at (865) 482-3656.

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St. Mary's Catholic School Receives Special Recognition

St. Mary's Catholic School was among the 50 private schools in the country to be honored as a Blue Ribbon School in 2010.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes both public and private schools that exhibit high performance in academics.

A special Blue Ribbon Ceremony was held at St. Mary's Catholic School on November 19, 2010 to celebrate the occasion.

The City of Oak Ridge takes great pride in the success of St. Mary's School and would like to recognize its students and faculty for their outstanding work.

City of Oak Ridge Pickup Programs

Household Trash Pickup

- Scheduled annually during the spring
- Household trash, old appliances, furniture, bicycles, swing sets, and minor remodeling materials will be picked up
- A one truck load limit of material per residence
- Materials should be placed near, but not beyond the curb
- Residents are required to keep all materials off sidewalks, parking areas and out of gutters

The citywide household trash pickup program begins Monday, April 4, 2011. The full schedule is available on-line at the City's website, www.cortn.org. Residents can also look for the schedule in the local newspapers. For questions, contact Waste Connections of Tennessee at 482-3656.

Brush Pickup

- Scheduled annually during the spring
- Yard clippings, bagged leaves, and tree limbs will be picked up (yard clippings and leaves must be in plastic bags)
- A one truck load limit of material per residence
- Brush should be placed near, but not beyond the curb
- All limbs should be placed with the butt end near the street
- Limb diameter should be no larger than three (3) inches at any point
- Crews will not pick up piles which have brush or limbs mixed with trash
- Residents are required to keep all materials off sidewalks, parking areas and out of gutters

The citywide brush pickup program will begin on Monday, May 2, 2011. The full schedule is available on-line at the City's website, www.cortn.org. Residents can also look for the schedule in the local newspapers. For questions, contact Waste Connections of Tennessee at 482-3656.



(standing left to right) Mayor Tom Beehan, Senator Randy McNally, Principal Sister Andrea Marie, O.P., Father William McKenzie, Dr. Sherry Morgan, and Chamber of Commerce President Parker Hardy. St. Mary's School was awarded the 2010 National Blue Ribbon which recognizes schools with exceptional academic achievements.

City Manager's Report



Citizens of Oak Ridge By: Mark S. Watson, City Manager

next Chief of Police, including three internal candidates. By charter, the selection of Chief is the responsibility of the City Manager. However, due to the changing nature of Oak Ridge and its law enforcement needs, I have chosen to engage the community through the process. Your input at two community meetings helped me develop a profile for the desired chief that yielded the 117 candidates to choose from.

Our consultant is now identifying those qualified candidates that deserve further consideration. It is my intent to invite six candidates to Oak Ridge for interviews. Again, I will involve others during my selection process with an "Internal Committee" consisting of those working with the ORPD every day. I will also have a "Community Committee" that will represent various organizations that have day to day contact with our Police Chief. They will be asked to narrow the field of six to their

preferred "Top Three."

At the end of a grueling day of interviews and tours, we will have a public meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters, where the general public can attend and listen to their responses. Then, it is time for the City Manager to get to work.

Final background checks and an accepted employment offer will conclude the selection. I am excited about the process ahead which will be scheduled in the coming days. I welcome the community's input and have received a number of excellent comments from the public about our candidates. I look forward to completing this decision, so we can begin to proceed with addressing the many law enforcement challenges I know will be ahead for the new Chief. Thanks to everyone for their part in this process!

For the past several months, I have been actively engaged in a selection process for a new Chief of Police. This is the first time since 1994 that the City of Oak Ridge has had need for a search process. The search is being conducted nationwide for the successor to David Beams.

At this time, the City has 117 applicants that have expressed interest in becoming our

YAB Spends Day at State Capitol

In February, the Youth Advisory Board (YAB) traveled to Nashville for a State Government Trip.

While visiting the Capitol, the board observed a House and a Senate session and took part in several tours, including one of the Nashville Public Library and the capitol building. The YAB also had the opportunity to participate in a mock senate session with State Representative John Ragan and State Senator Randy McNally.

The highlight of the trip was a photo opportunity with Governor Bill Haslam on the steps inside the capitol building.

The YAB is a 16-member board of Oak Ridge students who serve as a liaison between City Council and community youth on issues affecting Oak Ridge's younger age group.



Members of the Youth Advisory Board and city staff having their picture taken with State Senator Randy McNally, Governor Bill Haslam, and State Representative John Ragan inside the capitol building.

Photo Courtesy of TN Photo Services



WASTE CONNECTIONS & THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE

Weekly Curbside Recycling with Rewards Program

Newly constructed homes or existing homes – Move In

- Customers will need to contact Waste Connections Customer Service at (865) 522-0078 to setup curbside recycling pick up for their home.
- Waste Connections will then schedule for a 65 gallon recycle cart to be delivered within 7-10 business days.
- Waste Connections will mail the customer a Welcome Packet that includes a list of recyclable items and information about the RecycleBank Rewards Program.
- The customer's information will then be forwarded by Waste Connections to RecycleBank to be enrolled in the rewards program.
- Once RecycleBank has received the customer's information, RecycleBank will then send the customer a registration mailer with instructions on how to activate their account and begin receiving rewards.
- Please contact RecycleBank at 1-888-727-2978 for issues you have activating your account.

****If you are moving into an existing home, and if a 65 gallon recycle cart is found on site at time of setup, the customer will need to provide the recycle cart serial number to Waste Connections customer service representative at (865) 522-0078.*

Move Outside the Service Area

- Customers will need to contact Waste Connections Customer Service at (865) 522-0078 to cancel curbside recycling pick up for their home.
- Waste Connections will then schedule the removal of the 65 gallon recycle cart.
- Carts are to be left outside next to the home – not at the street
- Customer information will then be sent to RecycleBank by Waste Connections. RecycleBank will then remove the cart information from the customers account.
- RecycleBank accounts will remain active for 12 months from last activity by a resident no matter where they move.

Moving within the City

- Customers will need to contact Waste Connections Customer Service at (865) 522-0078 to update their account information.
- It will be the customer's responsibility to take their current 65 gallon recycle cart to their new location within the city.
- Waste Connections will then update the customer's information with RecycleBank.
- The new address will then be associated with the customer's cart, ensuring that the account stays active and continues to earn rewards.
- If another 65 gallon recycle cart is found at your new home, please call Waste Connections at (865) 522-0078 to have it scheduled for removal. Please provide the serial number on the 65 gallon recycle cart which you need to have removed.

For questions regarding the 65 gallon recycle cart or creating an account with RecycleBank, contact Waste Connections Customer Service at (865) 522-0078.

Residential Recycling Reminder

1. City Code §17-124 requires that recyclable materials not be placed at the curb prior to 7 p.m. the day prior to scheduled collection, and must be removed from the curb the same day they are serviced.
2. The 65 gallon recycle cart is the property of Waste Connections. If the cart is lost, stolen or damaged beyond normal wear and tear the resident will be subject to a fee for the replacement of the 65 gallon recycle cart.



Please Recycle

