



**The City of Leominster Municipal Solid Waste and  
Recycling Program Residential Guidance Handbook**  
Updated July 12, 2021

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This information is also available at: [www.leominster-ma.gov](http://www.leominster-ma.gov)

Prepared by the Leominster Health Department

## **Contact Information**

### **Health Department**

**978-962-3558**

25 West Street

Leominster, MA 01453

[www.leominster-ma.gov](http://www.leominster-ma.gov) – See Health Department: Trash and Recycling page

### **Disposal Contractor**

**1-800-649-7419 or 603-878-4108**

G. W. Shaw and Son, Inc.

Email: [julie@gwshawandson.com](mailto:julie@gwshawandson.com)

4 Old Wilton Road

[david@gwshawandson.com](mailto:david@gwshawandson.com)

Greenville, NH 03048

### **Transfer Station**

**1-800-965-9425**

AKS Recycling

15 Cobbler Drive

Fitchburg, MA 01420

## **Holiday Schedule for Curbside Collection**

Observed holidays that may change the weekly rubbish/recycling schedule.

**New Years Day**

**Labor Day**

**Memorial Day**

**Thanksgiving**

**Independence Day (July 4th)**

**Christmas Day**

The Rubbish/Recycle collection schedule will not change for any other holidays even if City Hall is not open to the public. If the observed holiday falls on a weekday, there will be no collection that day and the remaining days of collection will be one day later than normal. For example, if the holiday is on a Monday, the weekly rubbish/recycling collection will begin on Tuesday and finish on Saturday. Therefore, if your collection day is normally Tuesday, for that week it will be collected on Wednesday. If one of these holidays falls on a Sunday, it is typically observed the next day, Monday, resulting in a one-day delayed Holiday collection schedule. There is no collection on Thanksgiving, so the trash normally collected on Thursdays will be collected on Friday, Friday's routes will subsequently be collected on Saturday.

If you have any questions about holiday schedules, please call the Health Dept. at 978-962-3558

## **Curbside Collection of Trash**

**Household Waste** – Each household will be limited to a 64-gallon volume of household waste per week. Household waste is defined as what is normally generated by families during everyday life. Waste must be put into tied plastic bags before it is placed into the tote. If residents need additional volume, they can dispose of 1 bag per week for free at the AKS Transfer Station or they can purchase official “Overflow Bags” for \$3.00 each (Bags can be purchased at the Health Dept., City Hall, 25 West St., Leominster, MA). Nothing else will be picked up other than what is contained in the tote and official “Overflow Bags”.

**Additional Totes** – Additional totes may be purchased with a onetime fee of \$89, however, there will be an additional annual collection fee of \$250 per year, subject to yearly increases thereafter. Contact the Health Dept at 978-962-3558 to arrange for another tote.

**Acceptable Refuse:** Rubbish, including but not limited to, Garbage or all organic waste matter (animal, fish, fowl, fruit and vegetable) produced from the preparation of food for human consumption, waste paper, pizza boxes, soiled paper plates, wax paper milk and juice containers, earthen ware (china), clothing, shoes, boots, rubber, glassware, plastics, toys, and small tools.

**Not Acceptable Refuse:** Demolition and construction debris, windows, screens, doors, microwave ovens, car seats, luggage, air conditioners, explosives, metal objects, televisions, computer monitors, large appliances (stoves, refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, trash compactors, de-humidifiers), bulk items, biological waste, toilets, shower stalls, sinks, chemicals, radioactive materials, oil, oil sludge, highly flammable substances, cardboard, septage or human waste, human or animal remains, motor vehicles, large auto or motorcycle parts, by-product waste of rubber, leather or plastics, yard machinery (lawn mowers, snow blowers, leaf blowers), liquid wastes, wood (excluding furniture), fluorescent light bulbs, liquid paint, caustic materials or liquids, paint thinner or remover, pesticides, soil and stone will not be picked up curbside.

**Care and Feeding of Your Trash Totes** – All rubbish must be placed in tied plastic bags before placing them into the green tote. Loose rubbish in the tote will create more litter on the street which the homeowner or landlord is responsible for picking up. Do not over fill the tote. If the bags do not slide out when tipped into the truck, the contractor will not stop to manually pull the contents out, the tote will not be emptied, and it will be the responsibility of the homeowner for disposal. The top flap on the totes must be closed, do not leave them open and pile up bags of rubbish on top.

**Christmas Trees and Holiday Wreaths** – Will be picked up curbside during the month of January. They do not have to be placed inside a tote. Do not put Christmas trees in plastic bags, they will not be taken.

## **Curbside Collection of Recyclables**

**Items Acceptable for Recycling** – Plastics #1-7, glass and metal food containers that have been rinsed out, newspapers, magazines, catalogues, phone books, brown paper bags, waste paper and broken-down cardboard products. Do not place recycling in plastic bags before putting them into the blue tote.

**Items Not Acceptable for Recycling** – Any pizza boxes or paper products that are soiled with food or drink, any type of plastic bag, Styrofoam of any kind, soiled tissue or paper products, coffee bags, tea bags, organic materials, colored wrapping paper, broken glass, wax paper and wax paper milk and juice containers. Do not place recycling in plastic bags before putting them into the blue tote.

**Care and Feeding of Your Recycling Totes** – All containers must be washed and rinsed of residual food products. Paper, glass bottles, cardboard, metal cans and plastic all go into the same container. Do not put items in plastic bags for recycling. Do not overload the tote with heavy paper or pile up materials so the top cannot be closed. Most small plastic and metal food or drink containers can be stomped flat on the ground prior to placing them into the tote. This will save some volume in the container. Do not place rubbish or anything else that is not recyclable into the blue recycling tote. Improperly loaded recycling totes will not be picked up and the contractor will not return until the following week.

## **Storage of Totes**

Trash and recycling totes shall only be stored on the property that they service. The storage area shall not be located to cause a nuisance to any abutting property and the totes shall be stored so they are not visible from the street.

Emptied totes shall be removed from the curb within 24 hours of being emptied.

## **Bulk Items**

Are limited to upholstered and wooden furniture, mattresses, box springs, rolled rugs (<5' long and < 50 lbs) and large plastic toys. This does not include metal or plastic furniture, pieces of wood or other construction and or demolition materials. Residents may put out one bulk item per week with their rubbish and recycling. A mattress and box spring are considered one item, a table and chairs would also be considered one item, a couch, stuffed chair, ottoman, or other large pieces are considered one item.

If you need clarification, contact the Health Department at 978-962-3558 before putting the item(s) at the curb.

## Leaf and Yard Waste Program

Leaf and yard waste will be picked up at the curb for 8 weeks in the spring and 8 weeks in the fall. NO PLASTIC BAGS ALLOWED. Residents can also take any amount of this material to the AKS Transfer Station all year long. Dates for spring and fall pickup for 2019 are as follows:

- **April 5, 2021 thru May 28, 2021**
- **October 4, 2021 thru November 27, 2021**

## Household Hazardous (HHH) Waste Collection Days

Residents will be able to dispose of this type of waste 4 times per year at the DPW yard, 109 Graham Street. Dates for 2021 are as follows:

- **March 20, 2021**
- **June 19, 2021**
- **August 21, 2021**
- **November 20, 2021 (Paper Shredder Available)**

### HHH Waste Collected:

Antifreeze, Fluorescent light bulbs, Paint thinner/solvents, Art supplies, Furniture polishes, Pesticides, Auto fluids, Gasoline products, Photographic supplies, Button Batteries, Insect sprays, Rodent killers, Creosote, Kerosene, Root killers, Chemistry sets, Lead acid batteries, Septic tank cleaners, DDT, Metal polishes, Spot removers/solvents, Disinfectants, Mothballs, Pool chemicals, Drain cleaners, Motor oil, Thermostats, Dry gas, Muriatic acid, Toilet cleaners, Engine Degreaser, Nickel-cadmium batteries, Varnish, Flea killers.

Paint: Oil, Marine, Lead Stain & Preservatives. **\*\*No Latex Paint\*\***

**\*\*Latex paint will not be accepted as hazardous waste. Leave cans open until they solidify and dispose of them in your normal rubbish. The paint must be dried and solid prior to disposal. If it is still in liquid form when the truck compacter is activated, the can will rupture, and the paint will be released onto the ground. There is a product (Homax Waste Away Paint Hardener) which can be added to the paint to make it harden. It is available at most home centers.\*\***

## **AKS Recycling & Transfer Station**

Residents of Leominster may bring trash, recycling and yard waste to the AKS Transfer Station located at 15 Cobbler Drive, Fitchburg, MA 01420. You no longer need a sticker for your vehicle, but you must have a current driver's license or other proof of residency to present at time of drop off.

**The hours of operation for the AKS Transfer Station are as follows:**

- **Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 AM to 1 PM**
- **Thursday and Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM**
- **Saturday 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM (except on certain holidays)**

Residents are limited to bringing 1 bag per week of trash or 1 item that would be equal in volume to a 32-gallon trash bag to the transfer station without a charge. Residents are also allowed to bring in any amount of yard waste and recycling to the transfer station at no charge.

Additional trash will be directed across the scale and paid for in a private transaction with AKS. There is a \$90 minimum charge and users will pay by the pound for whatever they wish to dispose of. The current charge is \$130 per ton. Please note that if you go to the transfer station at anytime other than the schedule outlined above, you will have to pay a higher commercial rate.

**Prices for disposal of these items at the AKS Transfer Station: July 2021  
(Please note that these prices are subject to yearly increases)**

Microwave oven: **\$37.00**

Refrigerators, freezers, air-conditioners, de-humidifiers or any item containing Freon (The doors of these items must be removed prior to disposal): **\$28.00**

Stoves, washers, dryers, dishwashers, trash compactors hot water heaters: **Free**

Lawn mowers, snow blowers, (no oil, gas or hazardous materials): **\$39.50**

Television sets and computer monitors: **\$39.50**

Console TV: **\$58.00**

Car tires: **\$29.00** With rims: **\$50.75**

Mattresses or box springs: **\$40.00**

Propane Tanks: **\$28.00**

Oil tanks: **Not Accepted**

Lightbulbs (any kind or size): **\$14.00**

Gas/charcoal grilles (outdoor type, no propane): **Free**

**AKS will provide prices for other items not specifically listed above by calling 1-800-965-9425**

## Metal Items

Scrap metal can be taken to Fiore for no charge, please contact them at 978-353-3193 for specific information on these items.

Winthrop Metals in Fitchburg will take all metal items for no fee except for those containing Freon. Call 978-343-3627 before going to the facility.

## Electrical Component Recycling and Disposal

### Raw Materials Recovery Corp.

461 W. Broadway  
Gardner, MA 01440  
978-730-8266

### Blue Knife Recycling LLC

25 Mohawk Drive  
Leominster, MA 01453  
978-906-5520

## Tire Disposal Sites

Tires are not picked up curbside. The following is a list of establishments and fees charged for dropping off tires:

### Establishment & Disposal Fee:

**Monro Tire** \$3.00 per tire  
45 N. Main St.  
Leominster, MA 01453  
Tel: 978-534-1100  
\$3.00

**Town Fair Tire** \$2.00 per tire  
875 Merriam Ave.  
Leominster, MA 01453  
Tel: 978-466-8801

**Sears** \$3.00 per tire  
Commercial Rd.  
Leominster, MA 01453  
Tel: 978-534-2295

**Sullivan Tire** \$4.00 per tire  
162 Main St.  
Leominster, MA 01453  
Tel: 978-534-9112

**Tire Warehouse** \$3.00 per tire  
212 Bemis Rd.  
Fitchburg, MA 01420  
Tel: 978-345-7335

**B J's Wholesale Club** \$1.00 per tire  
115 Erdman Way  
Leominster, MA 01453  
Tel: 978-840-0900

## Propane Tank Disposal Sites

Propane tanks and cylinders cannot be picked up curbside due to State Waste Ban regulations. The following is a list of establishments and fees charged for dropping off propane tanks:

### Establishment & Disposal Fee:

**U-Haul Co.** \$10.00 per tank  
207 Central St.  
Leominster, MA. 01453  
Tel: 978-534-7904

**Taylor Rental Center** \$8.00 per tank  
197 Mill St.  
Leominster, MA 01453  
Tel: 978-537-9793

**Liberty Supply** \$10.00 per tank  
195 Hamilton St.  
Leominster, MA. 01453  
Tel: 978-534-5464

**B J's Wholesale Club** \$5.00 per tank  
115 Erdman Way  
Leominster, MA 01453  
Tel: 978-840-0900

## Official Overflow Bags – Where to Purchase

Health Department: City Hall, 25 West Street - Room 11  
Price per bag: \$3.00, or a roll of 5 for \$15.00

## Disposal of Used Syringes, Prescriptions & OTC Drugs

Used syringes can be taken to the Health Dept. in City Hall where they can be deposited in a kiosk in the hall outside of our office.

Prescription drugs and OTC (Over the Counter) drugs may be brought to the Police Dept. 29 Church Street. There is a kiosk in the entrance.