



CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Watertown Announces New Refuse Collection Guidelines Effective December 1, 2025

On September 15, 2025, the Watertown City Council approved new refuse collection procedures to improve service efficiency, expand service availability, and ensure compliance with City Code Chapter 161.

These updated refuse and recycling guidelines will go into effect on December 1, 2025. A complete copy of the guidelines is attached and made available on the City's website and at the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Key Changes Include:

- **Containment Requirements:**
Pursuant to City Code §161-1, all rubbish must be contained in approved watertight trash/garbage cans, or trash/garbage totes for proper disposal pursuant to Section 161-1.1.
- **City-Provided Tote Sticker:**
The Department of Public Works will provide a tote sticker at no cost for residents to affix to their personal container to verify authorization for curbside collection.
- **New Collection Routes:**
Residents are advised to carefully review the updated collection routes, as pickup days may have changed. The attached maps provide a general overview and may not reflect all changes. *Residents should use the link provided in the guidelines to access the official interactive maps on the City's website to verify their specific collection day.*
- **Expansion of Services to Commercial Properties:**
In accordance with City Code §161-6, refuse collection services are now being extended to commercial (non-residential) properties at the discretion of the Superintendent of Public Works based on site location, site access, and the type and quantity of refuse generated.

Commercial Service Opportunity

Any commercial property owners who are interested in participating in the City's commercial refuse service are encouraged to contact the Department of Public Works at 315-785-7842 for further information or the City website at:

<https://www.watertown-ny.gov/departments/PublicWorks/RefuseRecycling>

Effective Date: All new guidelines and procedures become effective December 1, 2025.

For additional information or questions, please contact the City of Watertown Department of Public Works at 315-785-7842.