



# The WORKS Space

Department of Public Works Newsletter Winter 2025



## Director's Message

As we head into 2025, we have many news items from the Department of Public Works. Thank you for taking the time to read through this issue of the Works Space to learn about these updates.

The Department of Public works consists of several divisions including Engineering, Streets, Municipal Parking, Metro Transit, Geographic Information Systems, the Clean Water Plant, and Recycling and Solid Waste.

We know many of our services impact the daily lives of those in our community and we take pride in making these services as efficient and effective as possible.

We look forward to continuing to provide high quality services in the new year.

**Alex Damien, P.E.**  
Director of Public Works

## 2025 Public Works Preview

The city has budgeted **\$29.2 million** for 2025 major capital projects including **\$620K** for parks-related infrastructure projects, **\$13.1 million** for Clean Water Plant projects, and **\$15 million** for road and utility reconstruction projects.

### Here are some of the major projects coming this year:

- 1) **Silvernail Rd.** (from STH 318 to N University Dr.) utility and street improvements.
- 2) **Bethesda Ct. and W Park Ave.** utility and street improvements.
- 3) **N Hartwell Ave. and E Broadway intersection** and traffic signal improvements.
- 4) **W Sunset Dr. and S Prairie Ave.** and **W Sunset Dr. and Oakdale Dr.** traffic signal improvements.
- 5) Resurfacing and utility improvements in the vicinity of Fox River Pkwy, Mesa Verde Dr., Cone View Ln., Napa Tr., Elk Ln., Everett Dr., Woodfield Cir., Sunrise Ct., Cambridge Ave.
- 6) **Alley #92** (in the vicinity of Lander Ln., Comanche Ln., Madison St. and S University) reconstruction.
- 7) **Sunset Dr. bridge** rehabilitation (in the vicinity of Fox River Pkwy).
- 8) Flood mitigation project in **Area 7** (in vicinity of Summit Ave., Greenmeadow Dr., Sherry Ln., and Waukesha North High School)
- 9) **South Side Pump Station** reconstruction (continuation from 2024).
- 10) **Ruben Dr. Pump Station** replacement.



Silvernail Rd.



Sunset Dr. bridge

To view all projects, visit [www.waukesha-wi.gov/currentprojects](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov/currentprojects)

## What's Inside!

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## Rebates Offered for Water Softener Removal

Following the requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the city is taking steps to protect our local waterways by addressing chloride levels in discharged water. Chlorides, which can harm fish and aquatic life, are primarily introduced through water softener salt that enters the sanitary sewer system and ultimately reaches the city's Clean Water Treatment Plant. Unfortunately, standard water treatment processes cannot remove chloride, making reduction at the source critical.



### Why Remove Your Water Softener?

With the transition to Lake Michigan water—which is 60% softer than the previous groundwater supply—many households and facilities no longer need water softeners. Most Lake Michigan water users do not have softeners. Removing your softener saves money by eliminating the need to purchase and handle salt, and reducing water usage from softener regeneration cycles.

If you have bypassed your water softener and are satisfied with the quality of the Lake Michigan water, removal is highly recommended. Keeping a bypassed softener in place can lead to bacterial growth, and the need to sanitize the softener should it be reactivated.

### Rebate Program Details

To encourage sewer users to remove their water softeners, the city is now offering a rebate program:

- **\$200 Rebate:** Available for softener owners who remove their water softeners and submit the required application and documentation.
- **\$150 Rebate:** Available after June 30, 2025 if funding remains.

This program will run until the allocated funding is exhausted, so don't wait—apply now!

### How to Apply

To apply for the rebate, complete the application form located on the city's website: [www.waukesha-wi.gov/softenerrebate](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov/softenerrebate) or by scanning the QR Code on this page. Hard copies of the application are also available at City Hall (201 Delafield St.) at the 2nd floor reception counter.



QR Code to Water Softener Rebate webpage.

### Mandatory Optimization Deadline

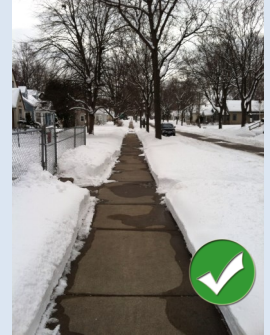
For sewer users who choose to keep their softeners, full optimization is mandatory. Full optimization includes adjusting settings for salt dosage, reserve capacity, and the lake water hardness level. Although optimizations were required by December 31, 2024 per city code, you can still schedule your full optimization with an approved optimizer company ([www.waukesha-wi.gov/optimizers](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov/optimizers)). And even if your softener was optimized before October 2023, you must still ensure the hardness setting is adjusted to 8 grains per gallon.

**For more information, contact the Clean Water Plant at 262-524-3628 or email [tyoung@waukesha-wi.gov](mailto:tyoung@waukesha-wi.gov).**

## Winter in Waukesha

This winter, the city once again asks all property owners and residents to do their part to keep up with winter-related citizen obligations. Chief among these is to **keep the sidewalks, handicap ramps, fire hydrants, and bus pads clear of snow and ice all winter long**. City ordinance 6.12 requires property owners to maintain these facilities adjacent to their property immediately (within 12 hours) after a snowfall and keep sidewalks clear all winter long (freezing water, snow drifts, etc.).

**Property owners can be subject to fees for not keeping up with this obligation.** If a property fails to keep clear the sidewalk or curb ramp, the city may take action to clear the sidewalk (by contractor) with or without warning to the property owner. The cost of the service is charged to the property owner. The cost to the property owner is \$2/linear foot for sidewalks, \$25 per curb ramp and bus pad, and \$100 per fire hydrant. And, repeated failures may result in additional fines and fees.



For more information and to view city ordinance 6.12, visit: [www.waukesha-wi.gov/snowremoval](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov/snowremoval)

# SNOW and ICE CLEARING TIPS

### 1. Shovel



Clear walkways and other areas before snow turns to ice. The more snow you remove manually, the less salt you'll use and the more effective it will be.

### 2. Scatter



If you use salt, scatter it so that there is space between the grains. One coffee mug of salt is enough for a 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares.

### 3. Switch



When pavement temperatures drop below 15 degrees, salt won't work. Switch to sand for traction or a different ice melter that works at lower temperatures.

## 2025 Parking Prices

Parking permits can be paid online or in-person at 241 South St. or the police station (1901 Delafield St.) during normal business hours.

Parking ramp payments must be paid when using the ramp over 2 hours. **Users who leave the**

**ramp without paying will be sent an additional \$25 fee in the mail for non-payment.**

For more information, visit: [www.waukesha-wi.gov/parking](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov/parking) or call 262-524-3622.

Street Parking	
3-Night	\$6.00
30-Day	\$18.00
90-Day	\$42.00
365-Day	\$160.00

Surface Lots	
3-Night	\$6.00
30-Day	\$30.00
90-Day	\$90.00
365-Day	\$360.00

Parking Ramps	
Up to 2 hours	Free
1-Day	\$3.50
3-Day	\$10.00
30-Day	\$35.00
90-Day	\$105.00
365-Day	\$420.00

## New Garbage and Recycling Contract

Beginning March 31, 2025, the city of Waukesha will have a new garbage and recycling hauling company for eligible residential properties. Through a competitive bidding process, Johns Disposal was selected for the next contract once the current contract ends with Waste Management.



The initial 6-year contract with Johns Disposal will conclude Friday, March 28, 2031.

The contract may be extended up to 2 years after the initial term expires. The current contractor, Waste Management, will continue services through Friday, March 28, 2025.

When the new contract begins, pickup days will remain the same, with the possibility of small adjustments in select locations. Proper notice will be given to any property if its pickup day changes. Johns Disposal may have different route patterns than Waste Management, so pickup times might be different. Set out materials by 6 a.m. to ensure pickup.

As we approach the conclusion of the current contract, we wish to thank the drivers and staff of Waste Management for their work in our city. Their efforts have contributed to the high quality of life we enjoy in Waukesha.

**For more information on the transition to the new contract, visit: [www.waukesha-wi.gov/wastetransition](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov/wastetransition)**

**For more information on Johns Disposal, visit: [www.johnsdisposal.com](http://www.johnsdisposal.com) or call 262-473-4700**

## New Bulky Item Pickup System

Beginning March 31, 2025, eligible residential properties will have to schedule and pay for bulky item pickups on demand with Johns Disposal.

Bulky items include trash items too big to fit into a cart (if the cart was empty), appliances, and other items such as tires and electronic waste.

Residents should call Johns Disposal directly to schedule and pay for bulky item pickups (**262-473-4700**). Bulky item pickups must be prepaid.

Johns Disposal accepts credit card payments over the phone or checks by mail.

2025 Appliances, Bulky, Electronics, and Other Item Pickup Prices	
<b>Non-Freon Appliance.....\$45/item</b>	Examples: Microwave, dishwasher
<b>Freon Appliance.....\$60/item</b>	Examples: Refrigerator, freezer, dehumidifier
<b>1 Bulky Trash Item.....\$45/item</b>	Examples: Sofa or mattress or other
<b>2-3 Bulky Trash Items.....\$60/pickup</b>	Examples: Sofa and loveseat
<b>4-5 Bulky Trash Items.....\$75/pickup</b>	Examples: Sofa, loveseat, table, chair
<b>E-Waste Item.....\$50/item</b>	Example: Television or computer
<b>Motor Oil/Antifreeze.....\$45/pickup</b>	Must be containerized, limit of 10 gallons/pickup
<b>Tires.....\$45/pickup</b>	Must be off rim, limit of 4 tires/pickup
<b>Items 100 lbs. or Heavier.....Call for Price</b>	Examples: Piano, very heavy furniture

## The Great Cart Exchange

As part of the transition in waste hauling contracts, the carts used for automated pickup will be exchanged at eligible households.

The current (old) carts are the property of Waste Management, and they will be retrieving them once their hauling contract ends. In turn, the city is purchasing new carts which will be delivered to properties. The new carts will be property of the city of Waukesha and will stay at the households for any new contract in the future.



Renderings of new city owned carts.  
Recycle carts will have yellow lids.

The timeline of the cart exchange will be approximately as follows:

- 1) New carts will begin being delivered the 3rd week of February and continue through the month of March. Residents are not to use the new carts until the week of March 31.
- 2) Residents are to keep using the old carts through March 28.
- 3) Waste Management will begin to retrieve RECYCLE carts from B week properties the week of March 17. B week recycle properties are advised to leave their recycle carts out after servicing, empty, and tipped on their side at the curb.
- 4) Waste Management will begin to retrieve both garbage and recycle carts from all properties starting the week of March 24 after servicing. Residents are to leave their old carts at the curb empty and tipped on their sides awaiting pickup.
- 5) Residents are to begin using the new carts for Johns Disposal servicing the week of March 31.

### Additional Notes:

- The new carts will not have the small metal bar on the front of the cart. That bar is unnecessary and not included.
- If a resident believes they have received the wrong cart, **they should contact the city at 262-524-3600** to discuss.
- The delivery of carts and retrieval of the old carts will take several weeks on both ends. We appreciate your patience.

## Manual Pickup Locations

Eligible properties for the city contract with manual pickup will see no major changes to servicing with the change of contract. As with all properties, Johns Disposal may use different route patterns and arrive to your property at a different time than you are accustomed. Materials must be out by 6 a.m. on service day to ensure pickup.

A reminder that properties with manual pickup should use an adequate container for garbage collection that is no larger than 32-gallons in size, is durable, and has a tight fitting lid. Properties may use up to three 32-gallon garbage containers out for pickup. These garbage cans are self-provided, as needed. Please use any color but blue for garbage pickup. Keep blue for recycling only.

The city continues to have available free blue recycling bins for properties with manual pickup. Contact the city at 262-524-3600 if you have a manual pickup and are in need of a replacement or extra recycling bin.



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



## 2025 Drop-Off Center Prices\*

Visit [www.waukesha-wi.gov/dropoffcenter](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov/dropoffcenter) for more Drop-Off Center information or call 262-524-3593.

### RECYCLABLES

Any Vehicle ..... No Charge for Recyclables

### YARD MATERIAL

Vehicle Load ..... \$3/load  
 Trailer Load ..... \$4/load  
 Double Loads and Moving Trucks (Ex. Uhauls)..... \$5/load  
 Day Pass 1—Vehicle Loads ..... \$11/day pass  
 Day Pass 2—Trailer..... \$15/day pass  
 Day Pass 3—Double Loads and Moving Truck Loads..... \$19/day pass  
 Season Pass (Yard Material Only) ..... \$30/season pass  
 \*Seniors 62+ ..... \*No Charge for Yard Material

### LANDFILL TRASH (All Age City Residents)

Cars (Sedans) ..... \$8/load  
 Hatchbacks/SUVs/Vans ..... \$12/load  
 Pickup Trucks ..... \$16/load  
 Trailers and Large Pickup Trucks with “walls” ..... \$21/load  
 Double Loads and Small Moving Trucks (Ex.10 foot and 15 foot UHauls)..... \$28/load  
 Large Moving Trucks (Ex.: 20 foot and 26 foot UHauls)..... \$35/load

### OVERHEAVY TRASH ITEMS (To Set on Ground) (All Age City Residents)

Boat..... \$90/item  
 Hot Tub..... \$80/item  
 Piano..... \$75/item  
 Trailer..... \$65/item  
 Jet Ski..... \$60/item  
 Other..... \$TBD (\$60 minimum)

### LATEX PAINT (All Age City Residents)

Sample and quart containers..... \$1/sample or quart  
 1-gallon container..... \$3/1-gallon container  
 5-gallon container..... \$7/5-gallon container

*Charged by container size, not fullness. Empty/dry containers should be put in home trash. Latex paint charged separately—or in addition to—other materials.*

### **NOTES:**

- 1) Charges are determined by the vehicle type/size for Yard Material and Landfill Trash.
- 2) Vehicle types/sizes determined at sole discretion of Drop-Off staff.
- 3) Combination loads are subject to highest applicable fees.
- 4) Items intended for donation may be subject to landfill trash fees.
- 5) Old Red Punch Cards will be honored. (Limit of 5 gallons of latex paint per punch)
- 6) Cash and check only. Small bills or exact payment very much appreciated.

*Prices were adjusted for the first time since 2021 due to increased costs of operations and disposal.*

*\*Prices are subject to further adjustments in 2025.*

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



## City of Waukesha 2025 Recycling Collection Calendar

### Route A

### Route B

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4						1							1			1	2	3	4	5	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
														30	31												

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																					31						

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
														30													

### How the Holidays Work

Annual holidays that may affect your garbage/recycling service days are 1) **New Year's Day**, 2) **Memorial Day**, 3) **4th of July**, 4) **Labor Day**, 5) **Thanksgiving Day**, and 6) **Christmas Day**. When these holidays fall on a WEEKDAY, the service is bumped one day later as are subsequent days that week. If the holiday falls on a WEEKEND, there is no change the days prior and the days after the holiday—all pickups will be on the normal schedule. **RED** dates above are affected this year.

City Hall  
201 Delafield St.  
Waukesha, WI 53188

### DPW INFORMATION

**CITY HALL**  
201 Delafield St.  
Waukesha, WI 53188  
262-524-3600

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**CITY GARAGE (STREETS):** 262-524-3615

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**GARBAGE AND RECYCLING:** 262-524-3600

**METRO TRANSIT:** 262-524-3636

**PARKING SERVICES:** 262-524-3622

**CLEAN WATER PLANT:** 262-524-3625

**WEBSITE:** [www.waukesha-wi.gov](http://www.waukesha-wi.gov)

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*Please email with feedback and suggestions!*

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this newsletter, please place  
loose in recycle bin. Thank you!

