

Sarasota County

Commercial solid waste guide



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Commercial Solid Waste Guide



The Commercial Solid Waste Guide provides valuable information about solid waste programs and services for businesses in the unincorporated area of Sarasota County. The guide contains information on the proper management of construction and demolition debris, garbage, recyclables, hazardous waste and yard waste. The information may help businesses save money while complying with the law.



Businesses in Sarasota County's municipalities may find information on solid waste programs at the following numbers.

City of North Port - Garbage and Recycling: 941-240-8050

City of Sarasota - Garbage: 941-365-7651

City of Sarasota - Recycling and Yard Waste: 941-953-6559

City of Venice - Garbage and Recycling: 941-486-2422

Town of Longboat Key - Garbage and Recycling: 941-316-1988

Garbage Collection

All businesses must properly dispose of their waste and, in accordance with Ordinance 2003-092, must have a collection account with the county's franchised waste hauler, Waste Management. Call 941-493-4100 for collection and cost information.

All businesses must have their garbage collected at least once a week regardless of container size or type.



Garbage does NOT include:

- Appliances or white goods
- Auto, truck or marine batteries, rechargeable batteries
- Construction and demolition (C & D) materials
- Electronics including computers, monitors, televisions, printers, scanners
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste
- Needles
- Recyclables
- Tires
- Used motor oil and filters
- Landscaping waste

Landscaping Waste

You may need to consider a separate container for landscaping waste if you maintain the grounds surrounding your business. Landscaping waste includes grass clippings, leaves, shrub trimmings, palm fronds, tree limbs and branches.



Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex

The county landfill is expected to meet the solid waste disposal needs of Sarasota County for at least the next 38 years. Since opening in 1998, the estimated lifespan of the landfill has increased by more than 10 years due to mandatory recycling, composting of landscaping waste, and processing of construction and demolition materials.

A Citizen's Convenience Center opened at the landfill in October 2007. Businesses can bring their recyclables to this location free of charge or drop off electronics for a fee. The center's hours of operation are the same as the landfill's hours.

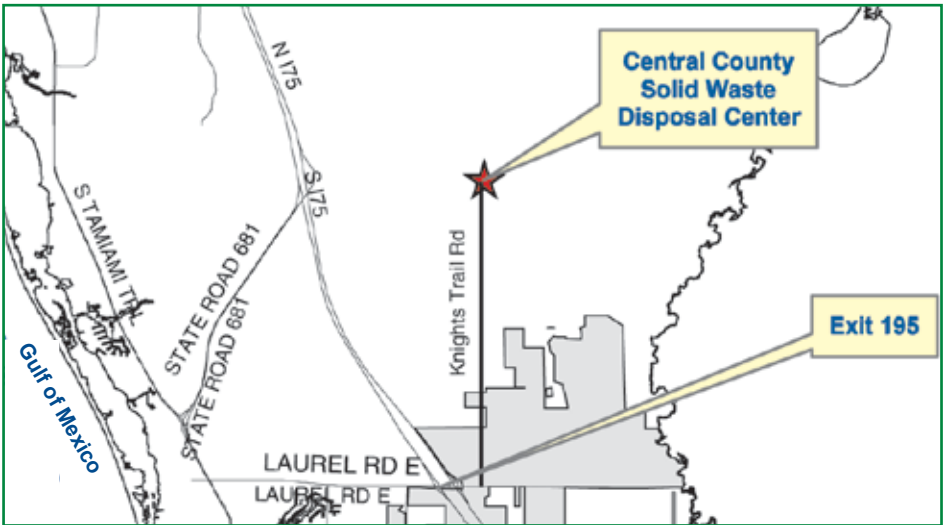
Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex

4000 Knights Trail Road, Nokomis

Landfill hours Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed on New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Administration office hours Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., closed on government holidays



Recycling

Recycling is mandatory in Sarasota County.

Recycling is mandatory in the unincorporated portions of Sarasota County as well as the municipalities of Venice, North Port, Sarasota and Longboat Key. County Ordinance 2003-092 requires all businesses in unincorporated Sarasota County to recycle. Failure to recycle may result in fines. For questions about recycling in Sarasota County, contact the county Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for the Recycling Program Coordinator.

Recycling services

In Sarasota County, businesses must use the county's franchised hauler for garbage services. However, businesses may choose their recycling hauler. As with any service a business contracts for, shop for the recycling hauler who best fits your needs. Refer to www.scgov.net/EnvironmentalServices/SolidWaste/Commercial/ServiceProviders.asp for a listing of recycling service providers.

What to recycle

Check with your recycling service provider or municipality for a list of acceptable materials or contact the county's Recycling Coordinator. Bilingual recycling posters are available [here](#).

The following materials are required by county ordinance to be recycled:

Paper container

- Cardboard
- Writing and office paper
- Junk mail
- Envelopes
- Newspapers (including inserts)
- Magazines
- Catalogs
- Phonebooks
- Brown paper bags/kraft paper

Commingle container

- Aluminum cans/foil trays
- Steel and tin cans with lids
- Aerosol cans (empty)
- Plastic bottles (♻️ and ♻️ with a neck)
- Metal jar lids
- Drink boxes
- Milk/juice cartons
- Glass bottles and jars

Note:

- Place food-contaminated paper/cardboard products in the garbage.
- Lightly rinse all containers before placing them in the recycle bin.
- Remove plastic bottle caps and place them in the garbage.

Many other materials such as shrink wrap, other plastics, metals and process residues that are not required to be recycled can be recycled or reused. Recycling more of your waste could result in being able to reduce your garbage service...and your garbage bill!

For more information resources about recycling and reuse, refer to page **11**.

How to recycle.

Recycling is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Do a waste assessment.

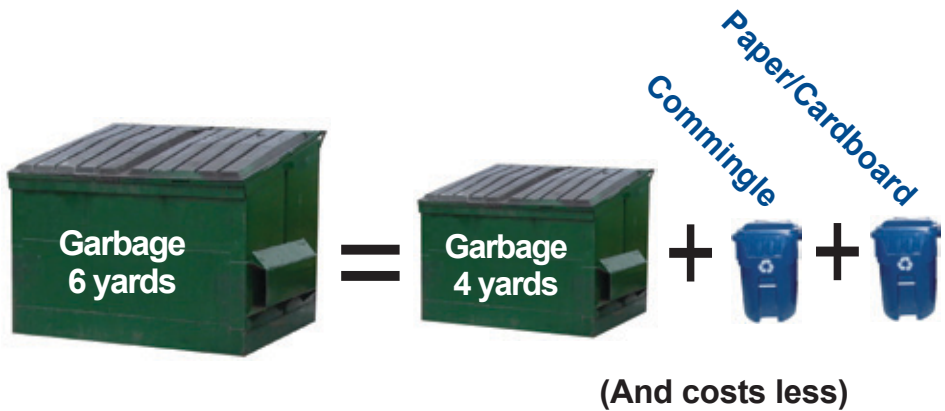
What is in the garbage container that should be recycled? How much garbage and recyclables are you generating? Determine your baseline of garbage and recycling amounts so you can measure your program's progress. Identify a "recycling champion" or team in your organization to spearhead your recycling efforts and identify potential recycling opportunities. For a free recycling assessment or assistance in setting up your recycling program, contact the county Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for the county's Recycling Program Coordinator.

2. Begin separate collection efforts.

Use separate containers for garbage, paper/corrugated cardboard recyclables, and for glass, plastic and metal recyclables. Inform your employees of the system. Remember that you will need a smaller garbage container or fewer garbage pick-ups per week as the amount of materials recycled increases. Place containers in strategic locations such as office areas, the copy machine area, break rooms and shipping/receiving areas. Make sure your janitorial staff knows how to handle recyclable materials!

3. Decide how to get recyclables to a recycling center.

Businesses may contract with a recycling hauler or take their recyclables to a recycling center themselves. Check the yellow pages under "Recycling", refer to the Recyclers' List at www.scgov.net/EnvironmentalServices/SolidWaste/Commercial/ServiceProviders.asp or contact the county's Recycling Program Coordinator. Shopping around and negotiating for best prices and tailoring recycling services to meet your particular needs can save you money!





Recycling service solutions for small businesses

Commercial recyclable materials are an open commodity (i.e. not franchised) and you can select the service provider that best suits your needs. Shop around and negotiate for the best combination of price and service needs. Or use one of these alternative solutions:

- Self-hauling – motivated employees may take recyclables to a recycling center. Save the receipt for your records to show you are complying with the recycling ordinance.
- Piggybacking – a business already recycling may allow you to share service with them.
- Back-hauling – trucks bringing supplies or inventory to you may take recyclables back with them.
- Pooling – coordinate efforts with nearby businesses.

If your business office space or facility is rented or leased, contact your property management company or property owner for specifics regarding your responsibility for procuring or paying for recycling and garbage services.

Closing the Loop – Recycled Content Products

Recycling programs have value when the collected materials are used in the manufacture of new products. By purchasing recycled/recycled-content products, your business helps create demand for recyclable materials. A higher demand for recycled content products will reduce their price.

Look for these symbols on products



Enclosures

Sarasota County ordinance 2003-092 requires that all new commercial construction have a paved surface and an enclosure for trash and recycling containers, unless there is a permanent storage area for the containers inside a walled and roofed building. This ordinance applies to all commercial buildings constructed after Dec. 7, 1993. Enclosures must have a minimum internal dimension of 12'x12' and walls must be a minimum of 8' high. The gated opening must be a minimum of 12'.



The gates must have a mechanism to hold them open. The gates must have a NO PARKING sign no larger than two square feet and with lettering at least three inches high and 3/4" wide. Enclosures must be of sufficient size to accommodate all recycling and garbage containers.

The above dimensions are minimum requirements. The type of business(es) occupying the facility and their potential garbage and recycling generation rates will dictate the size and number of enclosures needed to adequately hold the necessary containers. Garbage and recycling haulers can assist you in estimating your potential garbage and recycling rates, garbage and recycling service requirements, and determining the appropriate enclosure size(s) and location(s).

The approach to and location of the enclosure must be clear of overhead wires, fuel tanks, fuel fill ports, septic systems, low hanging branches or tree limbs. Garbage and recyclable materials will not be picked up if the enclosure is blocked or otherwise inaccessible to the hauler. Special pick-ups to collect material that was not collected on the regular service day due to blocked access can be arranged for an additional fee.



If you would like further information about Sarasota County enclosure requirements, please call 861-5000 and ask for the Solid Waste program or refer to www.scgov.net/EnvironmentalServices/SolidWaste/Enclosures.asp for enclosure diagrams, specific ordinances and other related information.

Hazardous Waste

Virtually all businesses today generate some hazardous wastes. These range from simple fluorescent lamps or obsolete electronics to wastes that are flammable, corrosive, toxic or reactive and include wastes specifically listed for toxicity or other hazards.

As a business owner or operator, federal regulations require that you assess all of your waste to determine if there are any hazardous materials and if so, they must be managed in accordance with applicable laws.

Typical wastes to look for include, but are not limited to ...

- Waste petroleum products such as motor oil
- Flammable solvents and paints
- Strong acid and alkaline wastes (pH less than 2 or greater than 12.5)
- Waste paints containing toxic metals
- Pesticides used to control insects or vegetation
- Lamps (tube and compact fluorescent and high intensity discharge) and ballasts
- Electronics - Computer monitors, CPU's, back-up batteries, printer/scanners, and copy machines
- Batteries (lithium ion, lead acid, nickel cadmium and all other rechargeable batteries)
- Containers of compressed gasses
- Mercury containing devices (thermostats, rheostat, etc.)

Project Green Sweep provides a cost-effective way to dispose of small quantities of the following hazardous waste:

- Fluorescent lamps
- Computers
- Photographic waste
- X-ray foils
- Rechargeable batteries
- Flammable solvents
- Paints
- Automotive fluids

For more information, contact the county Call Center at 941-861-5000 or go to www.scgov.net/EnvironmentalServices/SolidWaste/HazardousWaste/ProjectGreenSweep.asp.

Assistance is available.

Sarasota County can provide guidance and assistance with all aspects of compliance. Contact the county Call Center at 941-861-5000 for further information.

For more hazardous waste regulatory compliance help, go to www.scgov.net/EnvironmentalServices/SolidWaste/HazardousWaste/HazardousWaste.asp.

Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D)

Construction, demolition or renovation (C&D) materials can be recycled or re-used. You can find a positive use for these items by checking the list of C&D service providers and recyclers on the county Web site or by calling the county Call Center at 941-861-5000 and asking for the Recycling Program Coordinator.

Some of the materials that can be recovered from a C&D project are:

- Acoustical ceiling tiles
- Appliances
- Asphalt
- Asphalt shingles
- Bathroom fixtures
- Bricks
- Cabinets
- Cardboard
- Carpet and carpet pad
- Concrete
- Concrete blocks
- Dimensional lumber
- Doors
- Drywall
- Ductwork
- Flooring
- Fluorescent lights and ballasts
- Insulation
- Land clearing debris (vegetation, stumps, dirt)
- Landscaping materials
- Lighting fixtures
- Marble
- Metal framing
- Metals
- OSB and plywood
- Paint
- Paneling
- Pipes (plastic and metal)
- Plastic film (sheeting, shrink wrap, packaging)
- Siding
- Tile (ceramic/stone)
- Trim/antique moldings
- Windows and window glass
- Wire
- Wood
- Wood beams and posts

Planning and designing your construction or demolition jobs with consideration for waste minimization and recycling can save time, money, and resources. Thoroughly planning how you manage construction waste generated by your projects can:

A. Trim Costs – Using Construction Waste Management planning will identify opportunities for utilizing reuse and salvage methods on site. Reusing and salvaging will reduce the need for new materials, reduce the amount of material that is landfilled, create a cleaner and safer project site, and improve community relations.

B. Establish a Market Advantage – A company’s experience in waste prevention and recycling is a valuable marketing tool for bidding on projects in response to customer interest in Construction Waste Management. Efforts to prevent waste, to recycle, and to use recycled-content materials on a project can help the project team earn points towards qualifying for LEED and other local and national programs.

C. Create Environmental Benefits – Preventing waste reduces dependence on natural resources such as trees, oil, and minerals, and it creates less pollution by reducing manufacturing and transportation related emissions.

D. Help the Economy – Recycling and reuse of construction waste can also help the economy through the creation of jobs related to salvaging and recycling of construction waste.

E. Assist Charitable Organization – Organizations such as Habitat for Humanity can use surplus building materials. Pick-up of materials at the project site can sometimes be arranged.

For more information about Construction Waste Management, go to the Construction and Demolition page on the county’s Web site, www.scgov.net.



Special Programs

The Green Business Partnership Program assists, recognizes and promotes environmentally responsible businesses. On-site assessment is required for certification. Benefits businesses can realize by becoming a certified Green Business Partner are:

- Money savings from implementing cost-effective waste management, water and energy conservation practices
- A healthier and more productive work environment
- Recognition as a community leader
- Listing in the GBP directory
- Permission to use the GBP logo in advertisements and on company literature

Visit www.scgov.net/greenbusiness for more information or contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for the county's Recycling Coordinator.



Outreach Presentations

County staff can provide an interactive presentation to your employees or service organization covering Solid Waste programs and services. Contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for the Solid Waste program.

Keep Sarasota County Beautiful

Your business can help keep Sarasota County beautiful. Join volunteer efforts of other businesses and individuals making Sarasota County a cleaner place to live and work. As a club, business, or individual, you can help by getting involved in any of the following programs:

- Adopt-a-Park
- Adopt-a-Pond
- Adopt-a-Road
- Adopt-a-Shore
- Adopt-a-Spot
- Bag-it-in-Your-Car Day
- Litter-free Day
- The Florida Coastal Cleanup
- The Great American Cleanup
- 365-TAGS Program – Cigarette Pollution Prevention



To volunteer, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for Keep Sarasota County Beautiful or go to www.scgov.net/EnvironmentalServices/KeepSarasotaBeautiful/KSCB.asp.



Resources to help in your efforts

Sarasota County
www.scgov.net
941-861-5000

Florida Department of
Environmental Protection
[www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/
categories/recycling](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/recycling)

Southern Waste Information
Exchange, Inc. (SWIX)
www.wastexchange.org

The American Plastics Council
1-800-2-HELP-90
www.plasticresources.com

Paper Industry Association Council
www.paperrecycles.org

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov
Waste WiSe (US EPA program)
1-800-EPA-WISE

Epa.org
www.epa.org
Environmental topics search Web site

The Official Recycled Products Guide
Recycling Data Management Corp.
1-800-267-0707
www.recyclingdata.com

Habitat for Humanity
www.habitat.org

