

**TOWN OF CHELMSFORD**  
**TRASH AND RECYCLE**  
**GUIDE**

**REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE**



App QR Code

## Chelmsford Recycle App Features

View your waste collection schedule.  
Get reminders for your collection day.  
Discover which materials are recyclable.

Print your calendar at: <https://www.chelmsfordma.gov/200/Recycling-Solid-WasteSustainability>

Stay informed with event and service updates.

*Download Chelmsford Recycle App on  
Google Play or the Apple App Store*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- 9 Alpha Road Chelmsford MA
- 1-978-250-5203
- chaley@chelmsfordma.gov



Trash or Recycle missed?

Call E.L. Harvey to Report:  
1-800-321-3002

## RECYCLE SERVICES

- Unlimited Single Stream Recycling, containers must not exceed 100 pounds or 96 gallons each.
- Containers should be **labeled** as recycling.
- Free recycling stickers are available at the DPW or Town Hall.

## TRASH SERVICES

- **64-Gallon barrel limit Per Week**
- Containers must not exceed 50 pounds.
- 1 combustible bulk item, per household, per month can be placed curbside, except during a holiday week.
- Town overflow bags available at select stores.
- Separate trash and recycling containers by 3 feet or more.

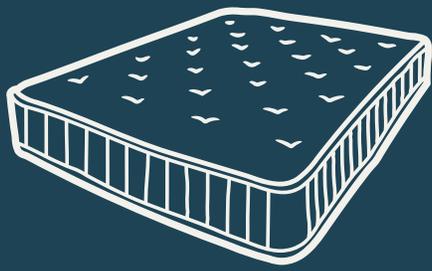
## Trash and Recycle Bins

Purchase Trash or Recycle Bins and have new bins delivered.  
Call E.L. Harvey at 1-800-321-3002

- 96 Gallon Recycle Only Bin: \$90
- 64 Gallon Trash or Recycle Bin: \$80
- 35 Gallon Trash or Recycle Bin: \$70
- **(64 Gallon per week limit on trash)**



**Place containers at the curb by 6:30 am, every week on your collection day.**



## MATTRESS & BOX SPRING RECYCLING

UTEC will collect and recycle mattresses and/or box springs at the curb every two weeks. Visit [Mattress Recycling - UTEC \(utecinc.org\)](http://Mattress Recycling - UTEC (utecinc.org)) to schedule and pay for collection.

The fee for pickup is \$30 per piece (\$30 for the mattress and an additional \$30 for the box spring).

You will receive your scheduled collection date in a confirmation email from UTEC once scheduling is complete. Once payment is processed, it will not be refunded.



## TEXTILE RECYCLING

To schedule a pickup online, see a complete list of acceptable items or to notify Simple Recycling of a missed pickup visit: [www.simplerecycling.com](http://www.simplerecycling.com) or call 1-866-835-5068.

On your scheduled day, place items outside of your door in self-provided bags or boxes and wait for pick up. Disposal of textiles in the waste stream is prohibited.

## Household Hazardous Waste Day DPW at 9 Alpha Road

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

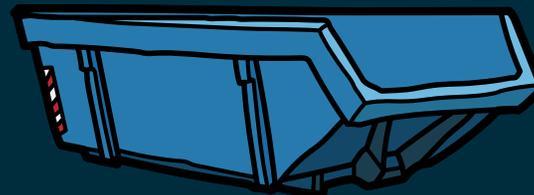
- Antifreeze
- Brake fluid
- Car polishes and waxes
- Degreasers
- Drain openers
- Driveway sealers
- Epoxies, adhesive strippers, and preservatives
- Fertilizers, fungicides, herbicides, and pesticides
- Hobby/photography chemicals
- Metal or furniture polish
- Motor oil, gasoline, and transmission fluid
- Oil paint, paint thinner, solvents, stains, and varnishes
- Oven cleaners
- Pool chemicals
- NO SHARPS
- NO LATEX PAINT



## CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE

Construction and demolition waste includes debris from home improvement projects and house clean outs. It is also trash that exceeds curbside pickup requirements, including bulk items.

Call E.L. Harvey & Sons at 1-800-321-3002 for vendor preferred pricing or dumpster rental for Chelmsford residents.



October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
McCarthy School parking lot

Zero Waste Day is an opportunity for residents to keep usable goods out of the waste stream. This is a FREE “one-stop drop” event that allows residents to donate used items to multiple non-profits at the same time and same place.

The Shred event (for Chelmsford residents only) will be incorporated during this event.

The full list of vendors who will be available at the event will be announced later via our media and the Recycle App.



## PAPER SHREDDING EVENTS

Events are located at Zero Waste Day at McCarthy School (Oct 25, 2025) and Chelmsford DPW (May 9, 2026).

- Events offer a way to securely recycle your paper documents.
- Paper during this event is shredded into small pieces during the event and 100% of that paper will be recycled.



## Mercury Waste

Mercury is toxic and state law prohibits the disposal of mercury products in the trash.

These products include:

- Blood pressure cuffs
- Button batteries
- Electrical switches
- Mercury thermometers and thermostats
- Fluorescent and neon bulbs

These items can be dropped off at the Battery and Bulb Shed located behind Town Offices, during open hours.

(Check Page 7 for times and dates)

## Medical Waste

### Sharps

Sharps can be dropped off at the Chelmsford Board of Health Office during their scheduled Sharps Disposal Collection event.

Items accepted include:

- Needles
- Syringes with needles
- Lancets
- Empty or full EpiPens

## Prescription Drugs

Old unneeded, or unused medication can be dropped off in sealed plastic bags in the disposal box located in the lobby of the Chelmsford Police Station.

No needles or liquid. If in doubt, follow FDA guidelines for disposal.

The lobby is open 24/7 no questions asked



## Leaf and Brush pick up



**Curbside Pickup service 5 times a year. See Calendar for dates**

### Brush

- Max size of 3" diameter x 6' long.
- Piles must be no larger than 4' x 6'.
- No more than 3 piles.
- Brush must be tied in rope or twine.
- Real Christmas trees will only be accepted during brush pickup days, all wires and ornaments must be removed.

Curbside brush or leaf pickup collection is not offered to multi-family or condominium complexes.

Community Tree accepts brush all year for a FEE: 978-256-0341.

### Leaves and Grass Clippings

- Must be in PAPER bags or barrels.
- Mulch leaves and grass clippings into your lawn as a natural fertilizer.
- No rocks, dirt, sand, or mulch will be accepted.



## String Light Collection

From November to January, collection bins for broken or non-operational lights, will be placed at certain locations throughout the Town. Exact locations and dates will be provided in October each year.

If you have working lights, you can schedule them to be picked up by Simple Recycling. You can schedule a pickup appointment (for working lights) at [simplerecycling.com](http://simplerecycling.com).

## Compost and Rain Barrels

Every Spring, the DPW partners with a vendor to offer compost bins and rain barrels to residents. Composting at your home is easy and a great way to divert food waste from the trash.



Collecting rainwater runoff from your roof to water plants, grass and gardens is an easy way to reduce your water and sewer bill.

Check out [www.townofchelmsford.us/735/Compost-Bin-and-Rain-Barrel-Program](http://www.townofchelmsford.us/735/Compost-Bin-and-Rain-Barrel-Program) for more information.

## Curbside Compost

Sign up for the Curbside Subscription Program

As a courtesy from the Chelmsford DPW, we will also provide you with a free starter Kit. 13 Gallon Starter Kit - \$36 value

Includes a 13-gallon curbside bin with locking lid and wheels plus 15 liners for the curbside bin. Countertop container not included.

4 Gallon Apartment Starter Kit - \$16 value Includes a 4-gallon curbside bin with lid and 24 bin liners. Up to 2 bins per plan.

Sign up Here:

[blackearthcompost.com/residential-curbside-compost-pickup/](http://blackearthcompost.com/residential-curbside-compost-pickup/)

Scan QR code to Sign up



# Multi-Family Guidance

The Chelmsford collection program services condominium complexes and multi-family apartments with up to three units.

Recycling and solid waste may be collected in centrally located dumpsters, totes or curbside.

- Extra pickups are paid for by property owner/manager.
- Prepare recyclables according to instructions. **NO PLASTIC BAGS** and **NO TRASH!**
- Contaminated recycling loads are paid for by property owner/manager.
- Do not park in front of trash or recycling dumpsters, totes, or barrels.
- Place bulk items next to the dumpster (NOT inside of it).
- For Curbside Collection units follow same guidelines as single family homes.
- Set trash out separately from other units so trash hauler can see that you're within the 64-gallon limit.
- Curbside yard waste collection is not offered to multi-family or condominium complexes.



**Metal**  
Food and Beverage Cans  
empty and rinse

**Plastic**  
Bottles, Jars, Jugs and Tubs  
empty and replace cap

**Glass**  
Bottles and Jars  
empty and rinse

**Paper & Cardboard**  
Mixed Paper, Newspaper, Magazines, Boxes  
empty and flatten

**NO!**

**Do Not Bag Recyclables No Garbage**

**No Plastic Bags or Plastic Wrap**  
(return to retail)

**No Food or Liquid**  
(empty all containers)

**No Clothing or Linens**  
(use donation programs)

**No Tangles**  
(no hoses, wires, chains or electronics)

## Important Information to Remember

Check the “Chelmsford Recycles” App or check <https://www.townofchelmsford.us/200/Recycling-Solid-Waste> for your collection week and day based on your address.

Place weekly recycling and solid waste at the curb by 6:30 am on your collection day.

Do not block sidewalks or mailboxes.

Leave 3' between recycling and trash barrels/bins.

Download the “Chelmsford Recycle” App for real-time updates and events.

Reducing your waste by participating in the Curbside Organics program.

Instead of replacing it, try fixing it. Check out the Library’s Fix it Clinic: <https://www.chelmsfordlibrary.org/get-involved/become-a-fixit-clinic-fixer/> (If you can fix things, volunteers are always needed for these events).



**DO NOT BAG YOUR RECYCLABLES**

## American Flag Retirement

Retired flags can be dropped off at:

- Veterans Memorial Park (a metal bin located at side entrance near bridge)
- American Legion post 313 at 90 Groton Road (open from 10am-10pm)



## Appliances and Bulk

E.L. Harvey & Sons will collect appliances and other large metal items, electronics for a fee.

Call 1-800-321-3002 to schedule a pickup.



## Reuse or Donate

Accepting new and used clothing, household goods, and many other items:

- Epilepsy Foundation 1-800-332-1000
- Big Brother Big Sister 1-800-483-5503
- Savers 1-603-888-0409
- Household Goods Inc. 1-978-635-1710
- The Wish Project 1-866-947-4360
- Mass Coalition for the Homeless 1-781-595-7570
- Salvation Army 1-800-958-7825; 1-603-880-0271
- St. Vincent de Paul 1-800-675-2882; 1-978-453-7750
- Goodwill Industries 1-617-628-3618; 1-603-742-4299
- Senior Center's Treasure Shop 1-978-251-0533
- Drop-off at Goodwill Location: Stop & Shop parking lot, 299 Chelmsford St. Open 7 days a week, 8 am-4 pm
- Books, CD's, and DVD's can be brought to Chelmsford Adams Public Library



# COMPOST

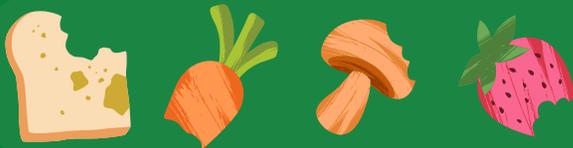
### FOOD SCRAPS



### SOILED PAPER PRODUCTS



### CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE TABLEWARE



# RECYCLE

### GLASS, METAL & PLASTIC



### PAPER, CARDBOARD & BOXES



# TRASH

### NOT CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE, NON-RECYCLABLE PACKAGING & TABLEWARE



### PLASTIC BAGS & WRAPPERS



### July 2025

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

### August 2025

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

### September 2025

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

### October 2025

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

### November 2025

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

### December 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						 6
7	 8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	 25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### January 2026

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

### February 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	 16	17	18	19	20	21
16	23	24	25	26	27	28

### March 2026

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

### April 2026

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

### May 2026

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

### June 2026

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

## EVENT LISTINGS

-  Holiday Observance: One Day Delay
-  Battery and Bulb Shed Open 9am-3pm
-  Compost Bin and Rain barrel Distribution
-  Medical Sharps Collection

-  Household Hazardous Waste Day
-  Yard Waste Pick-Up Curbside
-  Paper Shredding Event-DPW: 9am-1pm
-  Zero Waste Day-Mccarthy: 9am-1pm

**2025-2026**

Town of Chelmsford  
Department of Public  
Works  
9 Alpha Road  
Chelmsford, MA 01824  
978-250-5203

**DOWNLOAD** 

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