

CURBSIDE COMPOSTING PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

When does the program begin?

The program is available year-round, and, residents can subscribe at any point throughout the year.

How do I sign up?

Residents are able to sign-up via the Village's website at www.glenellyn.org/composting

Is the program voluntary?

Yes. The curbside composting program is available for residents to sign up and participate on a voluntary basis.

Is the program offered year-round or seasonally?

Year-round. The cart will be picked up on Mondays, the regular yard waste pick up day. Collection will occur weekly from April through November. After November, the frequency of collection adjusts to *every other week* during the winter months (December – March). For those who suspend service during the winter months, the yard-waste cart would remain at your property until the yard-waste season starts again the following April.

Do I have a choice on the size of container to use for the curbside composting?

Residents have the choice of a 35 gallon, 65 gallon or 95 gallon wheeled cart.

What is the cost?

The curbside composting program is a subscription based program that is billed year-round, depending upon the below cart size chosen.

Container Size	Resident Monthly Subscription Cost
35 gallon	\$ 10.54
65 gallon	\$ 12.27
95 gallon	\$ 15.27

*Please note that included in the above cost is the cart rental fee.

** A cart change out fee is \$18.00

How would I be billed for this program?

The Village handles the billing for this program. Residents who sign up would receive the additional charge on their monthly Village services bill.

Who can sign up for the program?

The program is open to Glen Ellyn residents already enrolled in the Village's refuse program.

What organic items will be acceptable for collection under the program?

- Yard waste such as grass clippings, garden vegetation, leaves and brush.

- Food scraps, bread, vegetables, table scraps, dairy, coffee grounds and pasta.

What items are prohibited?

- Meat
- Plastic packaging, bags and serving ware such as plates, cups and utensils
- Pet waste
- Sanitary products
- Diapers
- Dairy cartons
- Soiled paper products

Can I sign up for the program and just use it for landscape waste?

Yes. An added benefit to signing up for this program is that residents will no longer have to purchase stickers or purchase yard waste bags for their lawn clippings or leaves.

What if I fill my container with landscape waste and/or food scraps, and still have additional yard waste/leaf bags at the curb?

Any additional yard waste placed at the curb (i.e. outside of the container) would require a sticker.

What if I determine that the cart that I initially selected is either too small or too large for my needs?

The program will allow residents to switch out the cart. There is a 60-day trial period for new subscribers that would allow residents a one-time, no charge cart exchange. However, outside the trial period, similar to the current curbside refuse/recycling program, the resident would incur a cart change out fee.

Can I use a separate curbside container for food scraps or simply place food scraps in a bag at the curb?

No. Food scraps must be placed only in the designated container for operational efficiencies, and also to mitigate attracting nuisance vermin.

Where can I purchase additional supplies for composting to put my food scraps in?

Kitchen containers, specifically designed for food scraps, are available at some stores and on-line. These containers, lined with bio-bags, offers residents an opportunity to discard compostable food scraps conveniently in their house, if you choose. Once the kitchen container is full, residents are able to empty the compostable material in the curbside container---in many ways just like many do now with their normal trash or recycling.

Compostable bags must meet ASTM 6400 or 6868 standards. Bags, such as Bio-Bags (<http://biobagusa.com/>), are sold nationally at Whole Foods and Petco stores, as well as at select Costco, Target, Kroger, Bed, Bath & Beyond and Walgreens stores.

What if I don't want to house my container during the months in the off-season?

In the off-season, residents have the option of having the container picked-up or cleaned-out. However, this will incur the cart change out fee for *each* pick-up and delivery.

Would the program include the senior discount?

No. This would not be available in the pilot program.

Can I sign up at any time or just for April 1?

You can sign-up at any point throughout the year for the program. Keep in mind, this is a subscription based program that is billed on a monthly basis. Collections occur weekly during the months of April – November, and then changes to *every other week* collection from December – March.

What are the benefits of curbside composting?

The benefits include: decreasing the amount of organic waste that is sent to landfills, decreasing the amount of associated greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, and also creating a valuable end product --- a natural fertilizer that can be re-used by farmers and other agricultural and landscape operations, and also repackaged and sold at retail operations.

What will happen with the compost once it is hauled away?

The collected compost will be hauled to a licensed compost facility.