To ensure Village residents are paying a fair market rate for waste and recycling collection the Village solicited bids for refuse and recycling collection services. The lowest, most responsive bidder, Roy Strom Refuse Removal Service, was awarded the work. The Village’s updated program now makes recycling more convenient and helps clean up “garbage day.” A “pay as you throw” component has been incorporated in the program to encourage recycling and better control costs. Those who generate less, recycle more, and are a bit more environmentally conscious will pay less. Those who generate more for disposal or chose to recycle less will pay more on a “pay as you throw” basis. Each family in the Village is provided a:

- 96 gallon (Brown Lid) cart for refuse (the equivalent of 3 standard size refuse cans)
- 35 gallon (Blue Lid) cart for recycling

**Here’s How the Service Works**

**HOUSEHOLD REFUSE.** Each residence has one (1) 96 gallon cart for household refuse. Each additional approved container of waste set out for collection must have a pre-paid Village of River Grove Waste Tag placed through the handle of the container. For public health and safety reasons all additional refuse must be set out in approved containers. The container:

- Cannot exceed 32 gallons in capacity (size),
- Must be waterproof, have handles for lifting, and a tight fitting lid, and
- Cannot weigh more than 50 pounds when full.

Bulk or large items may also be set out. Each large item (including appliances) set out must have a pre-paid Village of River Grove Waste Tag affixed to the item. Example of items that can be set out:

- Household furniture, grills, TVs, mattresses, tables, bicycles, etc.,
- Washing machines, dishwashers, refrigerators, hot water tanks, etc.

The program is designed to assist families meet common household generated waste disposal needs.

**RECYCLING.** The Village’s single stream recycling program is designed for convenience (no separating). These commingled recyclables are to be placed in the recycling cart or recycling bin.

- Aluminum containers (rinsed out, beverage/food)
- Glass containers (rinsed out beverage and food - green/clear/brown)
- Bi-Metal containers (soup, juice, etc.) / empty paint - aerosol containers
- Newsprint (anything paper that comes with / in a newspaper)
- Chipboard/Corrugated boxes (cereal, food, tissue boxes, gift/shoe boxes, etc.), breakdown/cut large boxes into flat 16’ by 16’ pieces (place along inside wall of the cart)
- Mixed Paper (junk mail, envelopes, phone books, office/notebook, computer, white or colored paper, no metal fasteners attached to it, magazines and catalogs, paper grocery bags, etc.)
- Plastics: Any empty plastic PETE or HDPE container with the number or stamped on the bottom of the container. (Rinsed out, milk/water/juice jugs, two liter beverage bottles, laundry detergent, liquor containers / other food containers, etc.)

The 35 gallon blue lid recycling cart is to be set out in the alley or at the curb only on collection day.

The cart is not to be left in the alley or the curb after collection.

The cart’s slim profile, hinged lid, and mobility make it convenient to use and store by the back door, on a porch, in the garage, or inside your fence until collection day.

The cart can be easily rolled to the alley or curb after 6 PM the day before collection and rolled back by no later than 7 PM to a convenient location for daily use.

Existing 18-gallon recycling bin(s) may also be filled and set out on collection day or residents may rent an additional recycling cart for a nominal monthly charge.

Program recyclables are to be placed in the 35 gallon recycling cart and your existing recycling bins, if needed. To help you fit all recyclables in the cart flatten plastic and metal containers, and small boxes. Break down large boxes to a 16” x 16” size, place heavier newspapers, magazines on top to help compress material.

More Information on Reverse Side
YARD WASTE. Unlimited Yard Waste (YW) collection is provided. YW consists of grass clippings, twigs, leaves and plant material. YW is to be set out in 30 gallon Kraft paper bags designed for the collection of YW or in approved refuse cans (described above). Residents using a conventional refuse container (32 gal can) for YW must clearly mark the can with a large X. Marking the can helps to identify it as containing YW. YW bags or containers are not to exceed 50 pounds when full. Brush must be tied into bundles, four (4) feet in length, and should not exceed 50 lbs. Yard waste set out in plastic bags cannot be collected. (Plastic jams tub grinders / does not compost.) YW is limited to what is generated at the residence being serviced. YW is to be placed out by 6 AM along with refuse and recycling during the YW collection season. YW is collected between April 1 and November 30 each year.

Rocks, sod, bales of hay and landscape timbers are not landscape waste and should not be placed in yard waste cans or bags. These items require a special pick-up service.

BUILDING MATERIALS. Household remodeling debris / building materials from “do-it-yourself” projects will be accepted. Each approved refuse container (described above) or bundle of “do-it-yourself” home remodeling debris set out for collection must have a pre-paid Village of River Grove Waste Tag placed through the handle of the container or affixed to the bundle. Bundles are not to exceed 4’ in length, and the containers and / or bundles are not to exceed 50 lbs each when set out for collection. Residents are asked to set out neatly.

Large volumes of construction, demolition, remodeling, repair, and residential house clean-up debris require a special pickup or a commercial collection box. For a special pickup or collection box: Call 708-344-5000.

SOLID WASTE TAGS NOW USED FOR ADDITIONAL REFUSE

Starting October 3, residents must place a pre-paid Village of River Grove Waste Tag on each additional container and/or large item that is set out for collection outside the 96 gallon refuse cart which has been provided each residence. Village Waste Tags are available at the following cooperating merchant locations. Village Waste Tags are $2.00. The merchants listed below are selling the tags as a community service to River Grove residents. These merchants receive no revenue from the sale of the tags; therefore, cash purchases are appreciated.
- ADA’s European Market & Deli, 8301 West Grand Avenue
- Dominick’s, 3141 North Thatcher
- Village Hall, 2621 North Thatcher
- BP Gas Mart & Mc Donald’s, 8800 Grand Avenue
- Walgreen’s, 8361 W. Belmont
- Super Low Foods, 7411 W. Grand Ave, Elmwood Park

REFUSE, RECYCLING AND YARD WASTE SHOULD BE AT THE CURB-ALLEY NO LATER THAN 6:00 A.M. ON YOUR SCHEDULED COLLECTION DAY.

PLEASE NOTE. Each residence is provided a wheeled refuse cart and a wheeled recycling cart. The collection company is responsible for normal refuse / recycling collection maintenance items on the cart (lid, wheels, cart body, etc.); homeowners are responsible for damage caused if a cart is used for a purpose other than what it is designed for (residential collection), damaged as a result of negligence / abuse, is lost or stolen.

ADDITIONAL CARTS. Additional program carts may be rented from the Village for a monthly charge. The monthly fee incorporates the tag charge; therefore, tags will not be required for refuse placed in the additional program cart.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE. If a holiday falls on collection day (Monday), refuse, recycling, and yard waste will be collected on Tuesday of that week! The following holidays will be observed each year:
- New Year’s Day
- Independence Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Memorial Day
- Labor Day
- Christmas Day

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROGRAM CALL: 708-344-5000