



# Talkin Trash!

*Solid Waste Collection and Disposal News for the City of Meridian*

*Published by Sanitary Services Company, Inc. with assistance from the City of Meridian*

**Issue #34 / Fall of 2011**

## Free Curbside Leaf Collection!

SSC will collect leaves at the curb for recycling free of charge from **October 31 to November 18, 2011**. To participate, place your leaves in clean boxes or paper lawn bags and set them out at the curb on your normal trash collection day. Please keep the leaf containers open for easy identification.

SSC will collect the leaves separate from your trash and curbside recycling. The leaves will be taken to the Ada County sanitary landfill, where they will be composted.

**Leaves placed in plastic bags or mixed with trash must be disposed of in your SSC wheeled trash cart.**

Brush and branches can also be recycled curbside during this time if they are shorter than 4 feet in length and tied in bundles.

In addition to the scheduled pickups by SSC, Meridian residents can bring their leaves to the SSC transfer station for recycling free of charge during the month of November.

Hidden Hollow Landfill will also accept leaves from Ada County residents at no charge for recycling from **October 10 – December 10, 2011**.

## How Do I Dispose Of...?

- **Household hazardous waste** (paints, fluorescent lights, computer monitors, cleaners, pesticides, automotive fluids, lithium batteries, etc.) can be disposed of free of charge every Monday (except major holidays) in the SSC parking lot between 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.
- **Out-of-date and/or unused prescription drugs** can be disposed of free of charge at the Meridian Police Department, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- **Needles, sharps, and lancets** can be disposed of in a free sharps disposal container, available at the SSC facility. When the container is full, you can bring it back for another. Participants in this program remain anonymous.

## Holiday Schedule

Residential and commercial trash is not collected on a holiday when the Ada County sanitary landfill is closed.

If your collection day falls **before** the holiday, your trash will be collected on your usual day.

If your regular garbage collection day falls **on or after** the holiday, your garbage will be collected **one day later** that week.

Upcoming holidays that **delay** collection:

**Labor Day** – Monday, September 5  
**Thanksgiving** – Thursday, November 24

There is **no delay** in service for  
**Columbus Day** or **Veteran's Day**

## Sign Up for SSC Email Notices

Want to be notified of upcoming events, program changes, and holiday collection schedules by email?

If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, send an e-mail request to [listserve@sscwaste.com](mailto:listserve@sscwaste.com). Sanitary Services Co. will not sell or share your email information.

 Find us on Facebook!

**Sanitary Services Company**  
2130 W. Franklin Road  
Meridian, ID 83642  
phone 888-3999  
fax 888-5052  
[www.sscwaste.com](http://www.sscwaste.com)  
[supervisor@sscwaste.com](mailto:supervisor@sscwaste.com)

*Printed on Recycled Paper*

## Oil, Fats, & Grease Disposal

Oils, fats and grease should never be poured down the sink, drains, or flushed down the toilet. Trying to throw out these items can be confusing and messy. Meridian Public Works and SSC have come up with ways for residents to dispose of these items safely, easily, and help the environment in the process!

To properly dispose fats and grease, contact the Meridian Public Works Department at 898-5500 to request a Fat Free Drain Kit. Use the free grease scraper to transfer cooking fats and grease into a tin can, place the free plastic lid (also included in the kit) on the can, and then throw the can away with your household trash.

Meridian residents can recycle up to 2 gallons of used cooking and/or motor oil every week curbside. All used oil should be placed in transparent plastic jugs, and placed next to your SSC wheeled garbage carts on your trash collection day. To assist SSC's drivers, please write "Used Oil" on the container. Please do not mix oil with any other materials such as food, antifreeze, brake fluid, gasoline, water, or paper.

## Quick Facts: Electronic Waste

- Electronic waste accounts for 70 percent of the overall toxic waste currently found in landfills. When placed in a landfill, even in small doses, these materials can contaminate soil and drinking water.
- Electronic circuit boards and color cathode ray tubes (CRTs) contain lead and mercury. CRT television monitors contain an average of four to eight pounds of lead.
- Cell phone coatings are often made of lead, but possibly the most hazardous component of the cell phone is the battery, which may contain lithium, lead, or cadmium.
- Electronic waste contains useful materials such as copper, aluminum, plastic, and other components that can often be extracted and reused.

Source: *Earth911.com*

## Raking Your Yard Doesn't Have to Be a Pain

Raking is a great way to get fresh air, exercise, and a nice looking yard. Unfortunately, many people fail to enjoy the outcome of their raking adventure because they wind up with a sore back.

To help reduce injury, try these easy suggestions:

- When you head out to the yard to rake, remember to pace yourself and be careful of your back.
- Move your feet instead of standing in one spot and constantly bending and straightening.
- Try not to twist the trunk of your body as you rake – instead, rake leaves straight back and move with the rake as you walk backwards.
- Take frequent breaks while you work, and give your back a good stretch by leaning backwards to help reduce pain.
- Switch hand positions periodically to reduce the amount of stress on one arm and side of the body.
- Be sure to drink plenty of water while engaging in outdoor activities.

Source: *Homeownernet.com*

## Wheeled Cart Set Out Reminders

To ensure your trash and recycling is collected, please place the front of the wheeled cart on the edge of the curb - not in the gutter - at least 3 feet from the nearest car, mailbox, and free of overhead obstacles (basketball hoops, trees, etc.).

Carts must be out at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day. If your cart is not in place by 7:00 a.m. and a special trip is required to pick up your trash, you may be subject to a service fee.

Please remember that the lid must be closed in order for our drivers to service your carts.

SSC wheeled carts are designed to hold a maximum of 150 pounds when full. Overloaded carts may not be emptied if our drivers feel the cart will be damaged during an attempt to empty.

## Is Your Business Recycling?

Businesses that recycle gain financially through reduced disposal fees and keep materials out of the landfill. For a small monthly fee, businesses can recycle aluminum cans, magazines, catalogs, newspaper, plastic containers, mixed paper, and corrugated cardboard. For more information, contact Doug Mason at 412-3688.