



# Talkin Trash!

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

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## Spring Clean Up Week

Sanitary Services Company (SSC) is offering extra trash and yard waste collection for no additional charge **between April 2 and April 6**.

During this week, you can place extra household trash and yard waste at the curb without penalty. Please fill your SSC wheeled trash carts first. **Your SSC wheeled trash cart must be at the curb for trash service to be provided.**

This extra collection **does not include** recycling, bulky items such as furniture and appliances, hazardous materials, or construction and/or remodeling debris.

If you have additional household trash and/or yard waste, please limit bags to 25 pounds or less, and cans to 50 lbs or less. Our drivers will not be responsible for overweight bags that tear.

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

## Community recycling funds are back!

SSC returns the revenue it receives from the curbside recycling program back to the City of Meridian. These proceeds are once again being offered for community enrichment projects through a simple application process. The projects must be within Meridian City limits and pertain to recycling.

These funds have previously been used for many beneficial projects throughout Meridian including:

- Expanding the Idaho Food Bank in Meridian to include perishable food.
- Purchasing reusable bags for Meridian residents.
- Helping fund a reader board for a local school.
- Acquiring playground equipment & benches at parks, schools, and community play areas in Meridian.

For more information about this program, or to apply for the funds, please contact Mollie Mangerich of the Meridian Solid Waste Advisory Commission at 489-0379.

## Holiday Schedule

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

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

The only upcoming holiday that **will delay** collection is:

**Memorial Day – Monday, May 28**

There will be **no delay** in service for:

**President'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**. SSC 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)

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## Why was my trash missed?

At SSC, we do our best to collect your trash and recycling in a timely manner, but there are times when external factors make it so we unable to service your home.

The most common reasons your cart may be missed are:

- The cart wasn't out when the truck came through your neighborhood.
- Your cart was placed too close to a mailbox and the truck couldn't service it.
- A vehicle was parked in front of (or too close to) your cart so the truck couldn't reach it.
- The cart was overloaded (lid open, trash/recycling exposed).
- Overhead obstacles (basket ball hoops, trees, etc.) prevented the driver from being able to empty the cart.
- The cart was facing the wrong direction and/or was too far from the curb for the arm on the truck to reach it.

Our route trucks are equipped with cameras to document each instance when trash and/or recycling aren't collected, so we can let you know why your cart wasn't serviced.

## Routeware™ helps us work safer

Sanitary Service Company's trucks are equipped with a special communication system that lets our drivers connect with the office.

This communication system tells us exactly where our fleet is, what they are doing, how fast they are going, or if they are idling.

Schedule changes, truck locations, and pick-up/drop-off activity are relayed automatically between the truck and the office.

Knowing this information enables us to be more productive, visible, accountable, and energy efficient.

## Why do I have to have my trash out at 7:00?

Many customers wonder why we require you to have your trash and recycling at the curb by 7:00 am on your collection day, when your driver normally services your home later in the day.

While we try to be consistent in our weekly collection times, there are a variety of factors that may cause your trash and recycling to be collected at a different time.

- Road construction and/or detours can cause our drivers to service a neighborhood earlier, or delay collection until later in the day.
- If a truck breaks down, the helper truck that replaces it may service your neighborhood earlier or later than usual.
- As routes grow and expand we have to rebalance them, which may change the time our drivers collect your trash.

When all of our customers have their trash out at the same time, it allows us to provide uninterrupted service when these situations occur.

If you placed your wheeled cart(s) out by 7 am on your designated collection day and your cart(s) did not get emptied, call 888-3999 as soon as possible. SSC will try to service your cart(s) by 5 pm the same day if you call before 12 noon. If you call later in the day, your cart(s) may not get emptied until the following day.

## Recycling may lower your trash bill

If you want to reduce the amount of trash you generate, consider participating in the voluntary co-mingled curbside recycling program.

Recycling helps decrease the amount of trash you throw out, and may enable you to downsize to a smaller wheeled trash cart – saving you money, and helping the environment.

Items that can be recycled curbside include magazines, aluminum and tin cans, catalogs, newspaper, plastic containers, mixed paper, telephone books, and cardboard.

There are no additional charges to participate in the curbside recycling program, and there are three sizes of carts to choose from.

To order a recycling cart, please call SSC at 888-3999.