

# **\*\*\*\*ATTENTION\*\*\*\***

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CHANGES TO THE GARBAGE COLLECTION ROUTINE FOR THE TOWN OF LA GRANGE**

For the past five years, the Town has utilized inmate labor to minimize the cost to provide this service to our citizens. Unfortunately, due to State budget cuts and the closure of Duplin Correctional Institution, the town will no longer be able to get inmates. In order to keep garbage collection rates at current levels and increase the efficiency of the Sanitation Department, the Town of La Grange will begin using an automated garbage truck, which will replace the need for inmate labor in its entirety in the near future. An automated garbage truck has a mechanical arm that grabs, empties, and returns the cart to its original position; therefore, only a driver is in the vehicle and no one will be going to the curbside to get the carts.

Although it should never have been done before, we will no longer be able to pick up any trash, bags, boxes, or other items that are not placed inside of the cart. In fact, if these items are in front of your cart, the cart will not be emptied. With an automated truck, there will be no additional people on the outside of truck to pick up bags of garbage outside of the cart. There will be a transition period from hand collection to automatic pick-up and also a training period for the truck operator. The drivers are instructed to only dump carts issued by the Town of La Grange scheduled for that pick-up as follows:

- Special pick-ups on Monday
- Brown Carts for yard waste on Tuesday
- Blue Carts for Recyclables on Wednesday
- Green Carts for household waste on Thursday (South of the Railroad Tracks)
- Green Carts for household waste on Friday (North of the Railroad Tracks)
- If you need extra carts or have any questions please call Town Hall at (252) 566-3186.

### **Proper Cart Placement**

- **Please take note of the location you find your cart after it is dumped during the week of July 1<sup>st</sup>, as this is the location that we would like you to put your cart in the future to be pickup by the automated truck in the future.**
- Carts must not be blocked by vehicles or other obstructions such as mail boxes, fire hydrants, trees, utility poles or they will not be emptied.
- Carts must also be at least three feet from other objects such as other carts, mail boxes, fire hydrants, trees, utility poles or they will not be emptied.
- Lids must be closed. If the lid is not closed, garbage would fall out of the cart when it is being picked up and turned upside down to be dumped.
- Place the carts within one foot, but no more than two feet from the curb.
- Please take note of the arrow on the top of your cart and ensure that the arrow is pointing toward the street.

## GARBAGE COLLECTION POLICIES (UNCHANGED)

### Household Carts

The collection of household carts occurs Thursday (South-side) and Friday (North-side). **Green Carts** are provided to each customer for household garbage. If the following items are placed in the green carts, the cart(s) will not be emptied:

- Car Parts (Special Pick-up Item)
- Carpet (Special Pick-up Item)
- Recyclables
- Loose Ashes (they must be cold and in a bag)
- Construction Materials (Special Pick-up Item)
- Oils of any Kind
- Pesticides
- Yard Waste or other organic matter (Leaves, grass, branches, dirt, rocks, etc.).

*Helpful Hints: Place all loose trash items in bags to make sure nothing comes out of cart when emptying them.*

### Yard Debris Carts

The collection of Yard Debris carts occur on Tuesday. **Brown carts** are provided to each in-town customer for collection of yard debris. These carts are provided to you for removal of leaves, grass clippings, hedge clippings, and limbs up to four feet long and etc. **NO LUMBER ALLOWED!!!**

*Helpful Hint: If it does not grow it does not go in yard cart.*

### Recycling Carts

The collection of recyclables occurs weekly on Wednesday. Blue carts are provided to each customer. State law prohibits placing of recyclables in your household trash. You can recycle the following items:

- Corrugated Cardboard (shipping and packing boxes, usually identifiable by a squiggly layer of paper sandwiched between two sheets)
- Paper and Paperboard (office paper, notebook paper, newspaper, cereal boxes, and some pre-packaged food boxes)
- Plastics (milk jugs, shampoo bottles, detergent bottles, vitamin bottles, plastic soda and water containers, etc)
- Glass (beer bottles, wine bottles, pickle jars, jelly jars, etc)
- Cans (food, soda, beer)
- Items not accepted are Light bulbs, Pyrex, ceramics mirrors. All items must be empty to be considered recyclables.

### Missed Carts

Please set your carts out the night before scheduled day of pick-up to ensure pick-up. If your cart was not picked up before 4 p.m. on collection day, call Town Hall after first considering the following common reasons your cart(s) was not dumped:

- Items not allowed in the cart are present.
- Cart was overfilled or was too heavy to be pick-up by truck.
- Was not placed out when driver went by on route, or was not in a proper location.
- Trash was not inside a Town-issued cart.
- Ensure that the correct cart was placed out. Schedules sometimes are changed due to holidays. Please see the back of your bills every month or look online ([www.lagrangenc.com/official\\_holiday\\_schedule](http://www.lagrangenc.com/official_holiday_schedule)) to see the Holiday schedule.

### Special Pick-ups

Special pick-ups include yard waste, construction debris, white goods and household items that will not fit in the cart provided.

- There will be an additional charge of \$10 applied to your account if you call in a special pick-up of yard debris and construction items (lumber, siding, carpet, doors, toilets, tiles, rock, concrete, and etc.).
- Large items such as furniture, refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, freezers, etc., are collected at no charge if you call in and request a pick-up.
- Please separate special pick up items that are placed out at the same time. We will not separate them. Piles should be at least three feet (3') apart.
- The Town of La Grange does not pick-up hazardous materials of any kind (paint cans, motor oil, pesticides, etc).
- The Town of La Grange does not remove any items that are put out by contractors or individuals who are paid to do a job. If a contractor or paid individual put items out on the right-of-way, Town employees will not pick items up. If items sit out there they will be billed for removal at cost. (Equipment, manpower, and tipping fees will apply).
- If you place any items out on the right-of-way and did not call in to notify the Town of the special pick-up, a \$25 fee is applied to your Utility Bill.
- The Town of La Grange also offers a Fall and Spring Clean-up during the months of April and October. Look for more details inside of your utility bills.

### Leaf Collection

Leaves are collected free of charge and are not required to be inside of the brown yard waste carts during the months of November, December, and January ONLY. Any limbs, sticks, rocks, or other items that cannot be collected by the vacuum machine will be left for the customer to dispose of properly. If you wish to use bags they must be in clear biodegradable bags.

*Helpful Hint: If you wish to have your leaves picked-up weekly you should use your yard debris carts. We cannot guarantee our ability to cover the entire town every week.*