

# Headlines



## **New Solid Waste Collection & Disposal Services to Begin**

*January 25, 2006*

The City of Rock Island is announcing the implementation of four new solid waste collection and disposal services: *Automated Refuse Collection, Special Pickup Service, Refuse & Yardwaste Drop Off Center, and Surplus Refuse Can Collection*. Each service is described below.

### **Automated Refuse Collection.**

Automated refuse collection will begin during the **week of February 6<sup>th</sup>** for about 13,600 Rock Island refuse customers. Customers have been notified by mail about their new refuse collection day and a "Solid Waste Service Guide" was attached to each refuse cart when it was delivered.

Customers are asked to **remember the following rules** for automated collection....

- 1) Place the refuse cart at its collection point by 7am on collection day with the handle towards your home.
- 2) Place the refuse cart one foot from the curb or alley and three feet from any obstacle such as a parked vehicle or utility pole.
- 3) All refuse must be contained in the refuse cart and the refuse cart lid must be closed.
- 4) Do not place rocks, concrete, asphalt, hazardous waste such as paint, solvents and pesticides, flammable liquids, brush or yardwaste in the refuse carts.
- 5) Do not overload the refuse cart. The maximum weight is shown on the refuse cart lid.

A couple hundred refuse customers will be served by a manual or semi-automated collection system due to truck access restrictions or physical handicaps.

### **Special Pickup Service**

Each refuse customer may schedule one, free Special Pickup each year. Customers may request a Special Pickup by calling the Public Works Department (732-2200) between the hours of 8am and 5pm beginning on **Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**. Additional Special Pickups may be scheduled for a service charge of \$25.00 per Special Pickup.

Special Pickups provide a convenient method for customers to dispose of refuse that will not fit into a refuse cart, but they may not be used for tires, hazardous waste or appliances. Customers may call (800) 917-1969 to arrange for the free collection of tires and appliance and (563) 381-1300 to make arrangements for the free disposal of household hazardous wastes.

## **Refuse and Yardwaste Drop-Off Center**

Beginning on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, the City will provide a Refuse and Yardwaste Drop-Off Center at the Public Works Department (1309 Mill Street). The Center will be open to Rock Island residents from 8am to 6pm every Saturday except holidays.

- **Refuse**

Customers may drop-off all types of refuse without charge except tires, appliances and hazardous waste. The Center is particularly well suited for the disposal of items that are too large to fit in a refuse cart.

- **Yardwaste**

Customers may drop-off yardwaste for the following charges:

\$1.00 per bag

\$10.00 per mid-size pickup truck

\$20.00 per full size pickup truck

There is no charge for the disposal of brush.

Yardwaste and refuse may not be mixed in the same container

Customers are required to unload their own waste materials at the Center and place them in disposal areas or containers as directed by the attendant.

## **Surplus Refuse Can Collection**

Many customers will want to dispose of refuse cans that are no longer needed. This can be accomplished in one of four ways.

- 1) If desired by the customer, the refuse collection crews will dispose of refuse cans as well as the refuse during the last week of collection with the old system (week of January 30<sup>th</sup>). Customers can indicate this desire with a note taped on the can. The City will not be able to recycle the surplus cans collected during this week.
- 2) The City will also collect surplus cans during the first week of the automated collection system (week of February 6<sup>th</sup>). Plastic cans will be placed in one truck

and recycled. Since it is not feasible to recycle the galvanized metal cans, they will be placed in another truck and taken to the landfill for disposal. In order to be collected during this week, the cans must be empty. Customers should place the surplus cans at their regular collection point on their regular collection day.

- 3) Customers may dispose of surplus cans on Saturdays at the Refuse and Yardwaste Drop-Off Center.
- 4) Customers may include surplus cans in scheduled Special Pickups.