

IMPORTANT NOTICE OF CHANGES TO YOUR TRASH COLLECTION SERVICE AND FEES



Recently, the Lawrence Common Council made several changes to the city's trash ordinance. **Please read the following information thoroughly to understand how these important changes will impact your household.** For more information and Frequently Asked Questions, please visit: cityoflawrence.org/solid-waste.

TRASH SERVICE FEES

Effective with your August 2024 utility statement, the minimum base price for residential trash service for all households serviced by the City of Lawrence Department of Public Works (DPW) will be \$17.50 per month.

The minimum base price for residential trash service will increase by sixty cents (\$0.60) per year, effective annually on January 2. The first annual \$0.60 increase will occur on January 2, 2025.

A senior citizen discount of \$5.00 per month off the minimum base price is available to all one or two-person households if one or both household residents is 65 or older and the household uses a maximum of 7,500 gallons of water per month. If you already pay the city's senior citizen

discount rate for trash removal, you will automatically receive the discounted rate of \$5.00 off the minimum monthly base price. For the rest of 2024, your monthly price for trash removal will be \$12.50 per month; that price will increase to \$13.10 on January 2, 2025.

If you don't already receive the senior citizen discount on trash removal and want to request it, contact City of Lawrence Department of Public Works at 317-545-8787.

BASIC SERVICE

The **\$17.50 per month minimum base price** for solid waste collection covers curbside pickup of one **(1) solid waste container** per household, per week, and one **(1) recycling container** per household every other week.

Additional containers for solid waste and recycling are available for **\$4.00 per container, per month**, up to a maximum of two (2) trash containers and/or **two (2) total recycling containers**, per household. To request additional containers, contact City of Lawrence Department of Public Works at 317-545-8787.

Overage tags for bags or boxes of trash that don't fit into your Lawrence DPW container may be purchased for **\$2.00 each** from the DPW office. For more information, call 317-545-8787.

Heavy trash pickup will take place during the first full week of the months of May and October every year. Each household may place three (3) heavy or bulky items out for collection during those weeks. Beyond the specified weeks, Priority Waste will pick up heavy trash or bulky items for a fee of **\$10.00 per item**. To arrange pickup, contact Priority Waste at 855-WASTE-65 (855-927-8365) or 586-228-1200 **at least 48 hours before** putting your item out for collection.

Lawn and leaf removal will occur in April and November of each year; each household may set out up to fifteen (15) bags of lawn and garden waste total, during those months. Other months, the lawn and leaf materials can be placed in the trash toter.

THE LAWRENCE LIFT

LAWRENCE UTILITIES TO FLUSH MAINS

City of Lawrence Utilities will be flushing water mains during normal business hours from Monday, September 23 through Friday, October 18, 2024.

As a result of this activity, some customers may experience a temporary discoloration of their water and/or a low water pressure condition. Color can range from a light yellow to an orange-red. If this occurs,

the customer should run a medium stream of cold water until the water clears. If a customer is experiencing this problem, the customer should not run hot water or wash clothes until the water clears up. The City does not reimburse customers for water used to flush their service lines due to iron discoloration. Main flushing is necessary in order to properly maintain the water distribution system and helps

to improve water quality and maintain adequate disinfectant levels per regulatory requirements.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact City of Lawrence Utilities at (317) 542-0511, press 0 to speak with a Customer Service Representative.

LAWRENCE UTILITIES AND SANITARY SEWERS

Here are just a few of the many tasks our Sewer crews perform in maintaining and operating the city's sanitary sewer system:

- ▶ Routine cleaning and maintenance of sewer mains.
- ▶ Using robotic cameras to inspect main pipes and building sewers for cracks and roots.
- ▶ Installing liners in old pipes to eliminate l&l and extend the pipes' useful life.
- ▶ Digging up and replacing pipes that are broken beyond repair.
- ▶ Repairing cracks, holes and other defects in manholes.
- ▶ Raising manhole covers in areas that are prone to flooding.

HOW CAN PROPERTY OWNERS HELP?

▶ Inspect and repair damaged sanitary sewer lateral lines. Damaged laterals can allow dirt and roots to enter the pipe and cause unwanted sewer backups. Residents are responsible for the maintenance and repair of their sanitary sewer laterals to

the point of connection at the city's main sewer line.

- ▶ Replace older clay sewer lateral pipes that are beyond their useful life. Old clay pipes can crack and break easily which allows dirt and roots to enter the pipe which can cause unwanted sewer backups.
- ▶ Make sure sump pumps and down spouts are not connected to your sanitary sewer system. Downspouts and sump pump discharge pipes are prohibited under section §5-1-2-2 of the city ordinance and cannot be connected to sanitary sewer laterals. They must be directed to storm sewer pipes or ditches. Check your cleanout cap. Make certain that your cleanout pipe is sealed, and cap is secure.
- ▶ Please help us eliminate these unwanted sources of rain and groundwater from our sanitary sewer system and avoid possible code enforcement action by being proactive about taking care of the portion of the sanitary sewer system that is your responsibility as a property owner.

Also, please remember to call our After-hours On-Call number at 317-260-0220 if you are experiencing sanitary sewer issues at your home or business located in Lawrence. It could save you money if the issue turns out to be something in the public main rather than with your sewer lateral.

We can also help if the issue is determined to be damages resulting from a 3rd party contractor who was working in the area. There has been an increase in the number of sewer laterals damaged by contractors installing underground fiber optic lines for the new 5G cable upgrades. If you hire a contractor to come out and they determine it is an issue with the public main, we do not reimburse those contractor costs.

NEW AMENITIES AT CIVIC PLAZA

Exciting News! We've just unveiled a brand-new outdoor community grill at Lawrence Civic Plaza, along with a fun selection of outdoor games including domino's, checkers, Connect Four, and corn hole!

To kick things off, Mayor Whitfield and the City of Lawrence team hosted a cookout today and hopes you will visit Civic Plaza and make some great memories with your neighbors! **It's located at Otis Ave & Wheeler Rd.**

