

The Village eNews

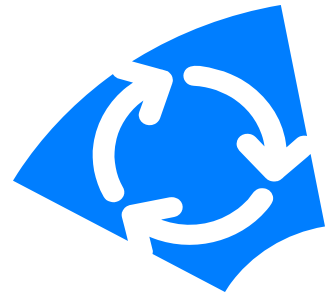
An Electronic Newsletter for Residents of The Village

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CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAM TERMINATED

The City of The Village has terminated the curbside recycling contract with Allied Waste Services effective June 30, 2009. The City's curbside program has been in place since the early 90's but recent changes in the commodity markets have forced the City to temporarily suspend curbside collection. The world-wide recession and financial crises, which began last fall has resulted in a drastic decline in demand for recyclables. In December 2008, the City was notified by our recycling contractor that local recycling centers would no longer accept single-stream recyclables from the City due to the depressed market conditions. Since that time, all of the recyclables collected at curbside have been disposed of in the landfill. Unfortunately, we have been told by our contractor (and confirmed by other recycling companies) that it is unlikely that single-stream recyclables will be accepted for the foreseeable future.



The decision to temporarily terminate the program was not an easy decision for the City as The Village was the first City in the state to provide curbside recycling. However, why should the City continue to pay a recycling company to dispose of our recyclables in a landfill? We are already paying another contractor to do that. With no relief on the horizon, continuation of the program would simply be irresponsible.

As part of the mutual agreement to terminate the contract, Allied Waste Services will transfer ownership of all recycling containers to the City of The Village at the end of June. **Residents are asked to place their recycle carts at curbside on their normal collection day. There is no need for you to empty the carts.** The City will pick up the carts and properly dispose of the contents. It is anticipated that it will take several months to collect all of the 1,500 carts that are in service. City crews will leave a notice at each home where carts are retrieved explaining the current situation and why the program has been terminated. **Please do not use a recycling cart for regular trash, as our waste contractor (Waste Connections) will not pick it up.**

The City has provided a drop off facility at 1701 NW 115th for residents to use until a new curbside program can be provided. The commodities that can be dropped off are paper, cardboard, plastics, metal cans, and glass. Various churches and schools in the area also provide drop-off facilities for paper and cardboard.

The City is hopeful that a new recycling program called "Recycle Bank" will be available in Oklahoma in the near future. The depressed commodity markets have delayed the program's debut in Oklahoma. We will keep you posted as more information about the program becomes available. – *Bruce K. Stone, City Manager*