Questions & Answers

Do I have to use a City approved container?
Yes! Only trash placed in City approved refuse containers will be collected.

Are different-sized containers available?
Yes. The standard 96-gallon automated refuse container has the capacity of three regular trash cans — ample space for the average household. Smaller 64- or 32-gallon containers are also available by phoning a customer service representative at 858-694-7000. A $70 user fee per container applies. Delivery charge is $25 per container.

Do I take the containers with me if I move?
No! Do not take automated containers with you when moving. They are the property of the City of San Diego. Containers are manually registered to the address which they are originally delivered, and it is recommended that residents record container numbers. Customers are responsible for container storage and cleanliness.

What can I do with household hazardous waste?
It is dangerous — and illegal — to toss hazardous or flammable materials in the trash or down the drain. Do not place electronics, fluorescent lights, paints, pesticides, pool chemicals, or motor oil in automated containers. Call 858-694-7000 to learn how to safely and legally dispose of hazardous wastes.

If you have any additional questions, please call 858-694-7000 for a Recycling Guide that lists recycling centers and materials accepted.

Please call the Environmental Services Department’s Customer Service Center at 858-694-7000 for the following information:

• Determine user cost for container replacement.
• Check availability of containers and desired sizes, arrange pickup or exchange of containers for a different size.
• Report stolen containers.
• Report damage done to your container. Please include your container number when providing this information.

To obtain an additional container, you must send $70 for each container (add $25 each if delivered). Please include your name, address, phone number and size of container desired. We accept Visa, MasterCard and ATM debit cards. We can also take cash for the exact amount if being picked up in person. Make check or money order payable to City Treasurer, and mail to: Environmental Services Department Operations Center 8353 Miramar Road San Diego, CA 92121

For further information, service requests and on-line services, log on to www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/..

Record Container I.D. #(s) Here:

New Year’s Day
Dr. King’s Birthday
President’s Day
Cesar Chavez Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Veteran’s Day
Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day

Starting the day of the holiday, trash is collected one day later for the remainder of that week. When holidays fall on Sundays, there is no Monday pickup and trash collection is delayed one day for the rest of that week.

For a downloadable Automated Refuse Collection brochure, please go to:
www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/refuse/index.shtml

Automated Refuse Collection

Safe Fast
Inexpensive Clean
Efficient

Customer Service: 858-694-7000

KEEP FOR YOUR FILES

This information is available in alternative formats upon request.

Printed on recycled paper

December 2008
Automated Refuse Collection

What is it?
Automated Refuse Collection is a service of the City of San Diego that facilitates safe and cost-effective collection of household trash.

How does it work?
New housing developments participating in the City of San Diego’s refuse collection program are provided one automated refuse container at no cost. Residents can select a 32-, 64- or 96-gallon size container. Additional or replacement containers are available for a $70 user fee. This fee may be prorated if a broken container is less than 10 years old. (See back for more details.) You may alternatively purchase an acceptable container at a home improvement store. Approved containers must be used for your weekly trash pickup. Automated refuse collection trucks are equipped with specially-designed arms that grasp, lift and empty the city-approved refuse containers. Trash outside of the automated containers will not be collected.

Participation in Automated Refuse Collection is mandatory — and is as easy as 1 - 2 - 3!

1. Fill your automated container with only household trash. No paint, chemicals, motor oil or other household hazardous waste, construction materials, dirt, rocks, auto parts, major appliances, hot ashes, or coals. Please bag your trash before placing it in the container to reduce litter. Keep containers clean and prevent spilling. To ensure collection, containers filled with trash may not exceed the 300 pound weight limit.

2. Close lid, grasp container handles firmly with both hands and wheel the container to the curb or point of collection by 7 a.m. on your collection day.

3. Set your automated container at the curb or point of collection, wheels and the handle facing your home. Make sure your container is at least three feet from other containers, parked cars, lamp posts, fences, trees, mailbox posts, away from overhead wires or any other structures so that the automated collection truck can pick up your container. After collection, remove your container from the street or alley by 6 p.m.

Remember:
• If you receive City curbside collection, please place your containers at your point of collection by 7 a.m. on your scheduled collection day.
• Please remove your automated collection containers from your point of collection by 6 p.m. on your scheduled collection day.
• If you move, do not take the automated container with you. It belongs to the City and must remain at the original address.
• Do not put hot coals, ashes, or cigarettes in automated containers.
• Do not overfill the container. The automated system works best if the lid is completely closed. This helps to prevent trash spilling in your neighborhood.
• For safety reasons: place both hands on the handles when moving containers; and from points of collection and storage; stay clear of automated trucks while in operation; and do not permit children to play in or with automated containers.
• Please recycle! Call the Environmental Services Department’s Recycling Hotline at 858-694-7000 for a Recycling Guide that lists acceptable items.

Automated Refuse Collection is a service of the City of San Diego that facilitates safe and cost-effective collection of household trash.

Remember:
If you have any additional questions, please call a customer service representative.
858-694-7000
Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Environmental Services Department’s website is www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/
Se habla Español.