



Christine Clancy, P.E.
DPW Commissioner

TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*

FROM: Christine Clancy, DPW Commissioner; Chris Haley, Solid Waste & Recycling Coordinator

DATE: March 31, 2022

RE: C. Gitschier – Request City Manager Provide Council With The Current Yard Waste Contract And Future Schedule For Yard Waste Pick-Up

This motion requested a copy of the current yard waste contract. The City has a contract with Waste Management through December 2024 which includes solid waste, recycling and yard waste removal. The following excerpts from the current Waste Management contract as requested specifically relate to yard waste pick-up.

“In the Waste Management Solid Waste & Recycling contract yard waste is defined as “any grass clippings, leaves, twigs, branches, and all other garden refuse. Any brush, branches, and tree limbs must be less than three (3) inches in diameter and three (3) feet or less in length. Any such brush or limbs must be tied (non-metallic twine) in bundles that weigh less than thirty-five pounds”

*“Section 9 – Residential Collection Of Refuse and Recyclables
... “The Contractor shall provide periodic curbside collection and composting of Yard Waste on weeks designated by the City. City agrees to provide Contractor B schedule of specific weeks for collection by February in of each Contract Year. Residents must place Yard Waste curbside in biodegradable paper compost bags, or clearly marked open containers not exceeding 34 gallons in capacity or 50 pounds in weight. Yard Waste collection may also include at the election of the City, a special pick up of Christmas Trees. Contractor, for the rates set forth in Exhibit B, shall provide 10 weeks of weekly collection in the Spring, 20 weeks of every-other-week collection in the Summer and 10 weeks of weekly collection -in the Fall. Contractor will be responsible for the cost to compost collected materials. Should the City elect to revert back to the 39-week yard waste collection frequency per the 2013-2018 Agreement, the annual price would increase by \$40,000.00. There shall be no weekly limits, of yard waste, imposed on eligible addresses”.*

Exhibit B included in the Waste Management contract provides the annual costs for yard waste. The annual costs are as follows:

2019: \$530,990
2020: \$568,105



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2021: \$594,862
2022: \$658,202
2023: \$693,112
2024: \$718,771

The following penalty schedule applies to yard waste in addition to curbside trash and recycling.

Beginning curbside trash, recycling and yard waste collections before 7:00 am, or City Public barrels before 6:00 am, or unless so authorized by the Commissioner of Public Works.

\$500.00 for first occurrence per CY, \$750.00 for second occurrence per CY; and \$1,000.00 for third or more occurrences per CY

Missed Routes: An event where Contractor does not substantially complete (5 or more streets missed) refuse and/or recycling collections within 24 hours of the scheduled day or yard waste collections within 48 hours of the scheduled day but in no event later than Saturday of the scheduled week.

\$1,000.00 for first occurrence per CY, \$3,000.00 for second occurrence per CY and \$7,000.00 for third or more occurrences per CY

The yard waste schedule began the week of March 21st. Every other week yard waste collection begins the week of May 30th. Fall weekly yard waste collection begins the week of October 10th and ends the week of December 12th. The complete schedule can be found on the Solid Waste and Recycling page on the city website. It can also be accessed via the “LowellRecycle” phone app. For people without access to these resources, residents can call the DPW Solid Waste & Recycling office at 978-674-4309 to obtain a calendar.