

Town of La Plata

Mayor
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Council
R. Wayne Winkler
C. Keith Back
Lynn D. Gilroy
Joseph W. Norris



Town Manager
Daniel J. Mears

Assistant Town Manager
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Wheeled Recycling Containers

Frequently asked questions:

1. **Is this container mine to keep?** No, the containers are the property of the Town and stay with the property should you move.
2. **Can I get a different size container?** The Town has a limited number of 95 gallon, 65 gallon, and 35 gallon wheeled and covered containers, the Town also has the smaller uncovered carry bins.
3. **Does using a 95 gallon recycling container cost me anymore?** No, your residential recycling rates are the same, regardless of the container size.
4. **Who is the Town's recycling contractor?** Southern Maryland Recycling as of November 2016.
5. **Once I receive my new Town container, how do I dispose of my old container?** You may keep the small recycling carry bin and use it for extra recycling or other purposes, or you can put the old container out on your trash day empty and clearly marked that it is to be taken back by the Town.
6. **Do I have to use the Town container?** Yes, please do. It will assist the recycling contractor in efficient delivery of service.
7. **Can I take the container with me when I move?** No, it is the property of the Town.
8. **What happens if the previous resident does not leave the container when they leave?** The container is assigned to the property. This should be addressed through settlement or your landlord to assure the container remains. If the container is no longer at the property the property owner will have to pay \$50 for the container.
9. **How will the \$50 for the missing recycling container be billed?** The \$50 will be placed on your next quarterly utility bill.

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10. **Can I mark my container for easy identification?** Yes, you may put a label with your house number or other identification on the inside lid of the container. Please do not mark or alter the outside of the container. The Town can identify the container with the serial number imprinted on the container.
11. **What do I do if my container becomes damaged?** The containers are very sturdy and with normal use have a long and useful life span. Should the need arise to replace the container there will be a \$50 replacement fee charged.
12. **Where do I store this container?** As with all of your waste including recycling, please store the container in your garage, a shed, or behind your home. Per the Town Code “Only containers provided by the Town of La Plata (your new container) for mechanical collection may be stored discretely in the front or on the side of the premises”. All other containers will need to be placed in the rear of the residence. Your neighbors appreciate the most discrete storage of your trash and recycling containers.
13. **How does the Town keep track of the assigned containers?** Each container is assigned an ID number and is Geo-coded to your residence. It will help manage inventory, and may assist the recycling contractor in efficient routing of recycling routes.
14. **Why are there only a limited number of larger recycling containers?** Residents have requested larger recycling containers and containers with lids. A complete change in one year was deemed too expensive, so the Town Council initially authorized the purchase of 300 containers (enough for 10% of customers). With sufficient interest in larger containers, the Town subsequently budgeted for more and now over half of recycling customers use the wheeled containers with lids. Future budgets may include funding to allow every interested customer to have a wheeled container with a lid.
15. **When would more large recycling containers be available?** For the past few years, The Town has ordered a few hundred additional containers, which has kept pace with demand. There may be a short delay, depending on when containers are ordered.
16. **Where can I find out more information on this program?** There is additional information at <http://www.townoflaplata.org> under the Sanitation tab on the left side of the screen. Or call the Town and ask for Public Works at (301) 934-8421.