

Single Hauler Trash Service

Single-hauler service is a method of trash collection where contractors bid for the right to provide trash and recycling service to all single family homes in Louisville. A single-hauler system also provides the opportunity to charge differentially for waste disposal – the more you recycle, the less waste goes to the dump and the less you pay. This is known as **Pay-as-You-Throw**. Along with curbside recyclables collection, studies have shown that Pay-as-You-Throw pricing systems are the most effective way to encourage and reward recycling.

The City of Louisville currently is soliciting bids from trash collectors and plans to make a decision on November 3rd. The city intends to provide trash pick up and curbside recycling for all single-family residences within the city and to bill this service as part of the monthly utility bill. This will be a long-term service to residents, with the transition to this service transparent to the customer. Homeowners Associations (HOAs) currently negotiate for trash and recycling service separately and are therefore not included in the proposed program.

Nearby cities using a contracted single-hauler system:

Lafayette, Superior, Dacono, Frederick.

All of these communities have had good success with the system.

Positive aspects of the single hauler system using Pay as You Throw:

- Significant cost savings by having the city negotiate for services
- Free curbside recycling for all single-family homes in Louisville
- Cleaner streets – one pick up day per week
- Increased materials processed locally at the Boulder County Recycling Center – assuring high-quality recycling and providing grant money available to the community
- Reduces energy consumption by trash haulers
- Significant savings on street repairs with fewer big trucks on residential streets
- Less neighborhood noise and air pollution
- Increased diversion rates for recycled materials means less materials end up in the landfill
- City mediation of service issues – offering greater leverage in resolving problems
- Revenue from recycled materials goes to City of Louisville
- Lower costs to contractor due to economies of scale

Recyclable material

Recycling will be automatically included as part of trash pickup for no additional fee. Each resident will be given two receptacles – one for trash and one for single-stream recycling. Since residents only pay for the trash, they have an incentive to recycle more – leading to higher “diversion rates” from the landfill to recycling centers. This system is known as “Pay as You Throw,” because residents pay according to the size of trash receptacle, increasing incentives for lower overall trash volume.

Potential drawbacks

With a single-hauler system, the choice of contractor is negotiated at the city level. Residents with a strong preference for a particular hauler may need to adjust to service with the chosen hauler.

Current Trash Costs in Louisville – Quarterly Rates

NOTE: Quarterly rates below include surcharges, “fuel surcharges” etc.

	<u>32 gal / w/recycling</u>	<u>64 gal / w/recycling</u>	<u>96 gal / w/recycling</u>
Western Disposal*	\$35.25 / 53.25	\$42.45 / 60.45	\$49.80 / 67.80
Waste Connections	\$50.89 / 50.89	\$57.91 / 57.91	\$64.94 / 64.94

Lafayette (single hauler)	\$21 / 21	\$37 / 37	\$57 / 57

Boulder City (ordinance)	\$63.15 / 63.15	\$98.85 / 98.85	\$133.33 / 133.33
Boulder County (ordinance)	\$52.50 / 52.50	\$80.25 / 80.25	\$108.00 / 108.00

* Western offers additional pickup of yard waste/ branches with the 64 and 96 gal container sizes

* Boulder City ordinance currently requires trash and recycling for all SFH's (Single Family Homes)

* Boulder County ordinance currently requires trash, recycling, and compost for all SFH's

We anticipate our costs to be close to those of Lafayette, which switched to a single hauler in 2007.

What you can do to help:

- Write a letter to Louisville City Council expressing your support for single hauler service in Louisville: citycouncil@ci.louisville.co.us (or fax a letter to the city manager's office at 303.335.4534). Please cc michelle@louisvillecitizens.org on any emailed letters so we can keep count.
- Call your representative directly – see the city website: <http://www.ci.louisville.co.us/council.htm>
- Write a letter to the editor of our local newspapers (less than 300 words in length) opinions@coloradohometown.com and openforum@dailycamera.com
- Attend the Monday, November 3rd City Council meeting at 7:00 pm when they discuss the incoming bids and the recommendation from public works – City Council Chambers City Hall Building 749 Main Street 2nd floor (old town) Louisville 80027
- Spread the word – if you are interested in Joining LCCI please do! See our website: <http://www.louisvillecitizens.org>

Details of the City of Louisville's City Council meeting concerning the RFP:

<http://www.ci.louisville.co.us/Council/2008minutes/19august2008regminutes.htm>

LCCI (Louisville Citizens for Community Involvement)

We are a group of ordinary citizens seeking to improve the City of Louisville. We were drawn together by a desire to encourage the City of Louisville to pursue an RFP process for a single hauler trash removal and recycling provider. Our current goal, as a community group, is to ensure that the City of Louisville select a single hauler trash removal and recycling provider as a result of the RFP process. As residents of Louisville, we are concerned about the future of our great community and will continue to seek opportunities to improve our community.

For more information about LCCI, see: <http://www.louisvillecitizens.org>

Other potential issues for LCCI:

- Banning plastic bags at grocery stores, etc. – Other cities have done it!
- Phone book “Do not Deliver” list – avoid all those unwanted phone directories
- Trash / Compost collections – reduce methane gas in landfills (a major factor in global warming)

We welcome your opinions about how to improve our community. Please get involved!