

December 1, 2025

Dear Whittier Residents,

Your new solid waste collection carts are coming soon!

Beginning January 5, 2026, Athens Services will begin exchanging residential trash, recycling, and organics carts throughout the City of Whittier. This exchange includes removal and replacement of carts currently being used in single family residences, multifamily properties and commercial customers. The exchange process will continue through January 30, 2026.

You will receive the same number of carts as listed on your current bill. As part of our ongoing commitment to improving service and ensuring every household has the correct number and type of carts, only the co-branded City of Whittier and Athens Services carts will be serviced after the exchange is complete. If you would like to discuss your service levels, please contact our Customer Service Center.

What to Expect

- Cart exchanges will occur between Monday, January 5 through Friday, January 30, 2026, on your regular service day
- Please have your current carts placed at the curb and accessible **by 6:00 a.m.** on your service day during this period

You How Will This Affect Your Service?

Your service days will not change. Once your carts are exchanged, please continue separating your materials as follows:

- **Black cart:** trash
- **Blue cart:** recyclables
- **Green cart:** organics waste

For your convenience, we've included a *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet* and a *Recycling Guide* to help you get started.

Need More Information?

If you have any questions, need to request a different cart size, or need more carts, Athens is here to help!

For more details, visit AthensServices.com or contact the Athens Customer Service Center at (888) 336-6100.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm | Saturday, 7:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Sincerely,
Athens Services and the City of Whittier



Why is the City of Whittier receiving new carts?

As the exclusive waste collection provider for the City of Whittier, Athens Services is committed to delivering a new set of standardized carts to all residents. This ensures everyone has the proper containers for efficient and reliable service.

When will the exchange start in Whittier?

Cart exchanges will begin Monday, January 5 and will be completed no later than January 30, 2026.

Who is eligible for cart exchange?

All Whittier residential customers, multifamily properties and commercial businesses who utilize carts for their waste collection will be included in this exchange.

Will I receive the same size carts?

The standard residential service level includes (1) 64-gallon black trash cart, (1) 96 gallon blue recycling cart and (1) 96 gallon green organics cart. For your convenience, you may also opt for (2) 32-gallon black trash carts. Please see the chart for additional services.

Additional 64-gallon refuse cart(s)	\$9.33 each per month
Additional 96-gallon Green Waste carts-after the first (2) *1 cart included in the bundle and an additional cart is free of charge	\$9.33 each per month
Additional 96-gallon Recycling carts	Free of charge

What will customers receive?

Each customer will receive exactly what they are currently paying for according to our system. For example, if our records show you are paying for 2 trash, 2 green, and 2 recycle carts, you will receive precisely those numbers. Any extra carts found on-site will be removed during the exchange.

How will the exchange happen?

On your service day, Athens Services collection trucks will empty your carts. Then a contracted service provider will remove all your current carts. Finally, Athens Services, or a contracted service provide will replace your carts with the number of carts and types in accordance with our records.

What if I need more carts?

You may request extra carts for recycling, trash, or organics at an additional cost. To adjust your service, contact the Athens Customer Service Center at (888) 336-6100.

Will my pick-up day change?

Your service day will remain the same. You will be notified in advance if any changes take place.

What is acceptable in each cart?

- Recyclable materials include plastics, metals, paper (clean and dry), cardboard, and glass
- Organics waste includes green waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper (100% fiber-based)
- All other materials should be disposed of in the black cart

For a full breakdown of acceptable materials, check out the Athens interactive recycling guide at CanIRecycleMy.com. The guide features more than 450 items and is the go-to resource for correctly reducing, reusing, recycling, composting, and disposing of unwanted waste material. For recycling signage and additional education materials, visit AthensServices.com/Outreach.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Online self-service options are available 24/7 at AthensServices.com. Customers can also speak with a local customer service representative by calling (888) 336-6100. The Athens Customer Service Center is available Monday – Friday, from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, and on Saturday, from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.

GUIDE TO YOUR NEW CARTS		
		
Recycle = Blue	Green = Organics	Black = Landfill
Paper products, empty plastic containers, bottles, and aluminum cans	Food waste, green (yard) waste, food-soiled paper waste	Non-recyclable waste and mixed material

RECYCLING CHEAT SHEET

Learn more:



RECYCLABLE

PLASTICS

**Keep caps on plastic beverage containers*

- Plastics number 1 (PET) as bottles or clamshells
- Plastics numbers 2 (HDPE)
- Plastics numbers 5 (PP)
- Recyclable plastics include, but are not limited to:
 - Beverage & detergent jugs
 - Food containers
 - Soda, juice, & water bottles



METALS

- Aluminum foil & pie tins (clean)
- Scrap metal
- Steel cans, dishware, etc.
- Tin & aluminum cans

PAPER (clean & dry)

- Envelopes
- File folders (paper only)
- Junk mail & magazines
- Newspaper
- Paper (white & mixed color)
- Paper grocery bags
- Telephone books
- Acceptable (but may not be recycled)
 - Cereal boxes (no plastic insert)
 - Egg cartons (paper only & clean)
 - Frozen food boxes
 - Soup, milk, & juice cartons



CARDBOARD (or similar)

- Cardboard & corrugated boxes
- Pizza boxes (clean sections only)

GLASS

**No window glass, porcelain, or non-food related glass. Please remove caps/lids.*

- Amber, green, & mixed-color glass
- Clear food glass jars
- Soda, tea, & liquor bottles

No Liquids or Food In Recyclables

LANDFILL

FOOD WRAPPERS/CONTAINERS

- Candy & protein bar wrappers
- Chip bags
- Disposable coffee cups & lids
- Juice & food pouches
- Bags with a mix of metal & plastic



GLASS/PORCELAIN

- Dishware
- Flower pots
- Incandescent light bulbs
- Porcelain
- Vases & glass figurines
- Window glass



PAPER

- All receipts
- Facial tissue, toilet paper, or wipes
- Gift wrap with plastic or metal
- Hardback books
- Laminated or plastic coated paper
- Padded or Tyvek-type envelopes
- Photographs

PLASTICS

- All plastics #3 & #6 (hard & foam)
- All black plastics
- Plastic toys
- Plastic bags, dry cleaning bags, cellophane, & bubble wrap
- Small plastics (utensils, straws, loose caps, & anything less than 4 inches)
- Garden hoses & plastic tarps
- Latex and plastic gloves
- Empty motor oil



MISC

- Disposable diapers
- Empty aerosol cans
- Pet waste
- Produce stickers
- Lint or unusable clothing & fabric
- All tea bags & tea bag wrappers
- Menstrual products
- Hard shells (e.g. clams, mussels, & oysters)

ORGANICS & SOILED PAPER

**Only if there is no green waste/food scrap collection. See list to right.*

- Includes all food scraps, green waste, & food-soiled paper

COMPOSTABLES

GREEN WASTE

- Grass clippings
- Flower & hedge trimmings
- Leaves & branches
- Lumber, scrap wood, & plywood types (not painted or treated)
- Weeds



FOOD SCRAPS

**Check your city page at [AthensServices.com](https://athensservices.com) to confirm acceptability. Food Scraps includes putrescible matter produced from human or animal food production, preparation, & consumption activities. No produce stickers. Food scraps can be bagged in clear plastic bags or paper bags.*

- Bread, rice, & pasta
- Cheese & dairy
- Coffee filters & grounds
- Flowers & herbs
- Fruits & vegetables
- Meat, bones, poultry, seafood, & soft shells (e.g. lobster, crab, & shrimp)



FOOD-SOILED PAPER

**Must be 100% fiber-based. NO materials with bio-plastic, wax, or petroleum-based coating, liner, or laminate.*

- Egg cartons (paper)
- Food-stained paper
- Paper napkins & kitchen towels
- Pizza boxes
- Plates
- Straws (100% plant-fiber)
- Stir sticks (edible or wooden)
- To-go boxes (no coating)
- Utensils (fiber-based or wooden)

Updated February 2025. For a complete list, visit Athens' What Goes Where Guide at CanIRecycleMy.com.