

**THE COVID19 PANDEMIC** has many residents at home all day, generating an excessive amount of trash. Industry reports note residential trash increases by more than 25 percent nationally, including in Philadelphia. Excessive trash tonnage can cause delays across the City with the Streets Department curbside collection service. Delays can create litter conditions, cause horrible odors and attract insects and pests.

We all have a role to play to help curb the amount of trash set out for collection during these unprecedented times. Here are some simple tips for residents that will go a long way to help reduce collection delays and improve litter conditions. The **“10 Curb Your Waste Tips”** will go a long way to help our workers and City.

1. Reduce Food Waste by using garbage disposals, consider composting, or freeze food waste until your collection day to eliminate odors and pest. Did you know composting can cut your trash by 1/3! Learn more at:  
[www.CleanPHL.org/composting](http://www.CleanPHL.org/composting)
2. Stay within the collection setout limits for trash collection. The setout regulations are 8 bags, or 4 containers per household.
3. Check the weight of the trash bags. Each bag should not exceed 40LBS. Overweight trash bags can cause injury to sanitation workers, break open and cause litter conditions and cause garbage collection delays.
4. Hold off on DIY projects that can increase curbside tonnage. Reduce excessive construction debris, wood or furniture that exceed set out limits.
5. Limit Bulk Waste to 2 items per household only. No white metals, electronic waste such as computers or televisions, No hazardous materials. Help protect our sanitation workers.
6. Set Out Trash Properly. Make sure all trash is placed in sturdy trash bags. Cover containers with lids. Turn handles toward the street. Eliminate excess water weight in cans by drilling drainage holes a couple of inches from the bottom.
7. Drop-off trash, recycling, yard waste, electronics, and other materials at Sanitation Convenience Centers located throughout the City. Sanitation Convenience Centers are now open 7 days a week from 6AM to 8PM. Find locations at:  
[www.philadelphiastreet.com](http://www.philadelphiastreet.com)
8. Place trash in front of your own property no earlier than 7PM before the regularly scheduled collection day. Do not place bags on corners, near litter baskets or vacant lots. This is illegal dumping. Immediately report illegal dumping to 311.
9. Listen for Streets Department announcements regarding trash and recycling collection updates. Report collection delays of more than a week to 311.
10. Thank our sanitation workers for their hard work and service they are providing during these challenging times. A thank you goes a long way to show your support and appreciation.

These tips can go a long way in protecting the health & safety of our workers, improving Streets Department collection service, reducing litter and help in keeping the City clean. Each day, our sanitation workers are on the frontlines serving our community during this pandemic. We're all adjusting and responding to unprecedented change. Regular trash pick up is resuming, keep recycling, schedules will normalize.

**The Streets Department thanks the residents in the City of Philadelphia for their patience, support and cooperation during these unprecedented times.**

