



City of Cortez
Service Center
110 West Progress Circle
Cortez, CO 81321

Draft: New Resident Informational Packet for Residential Services

1. Waste and Recycling Disposal Options and Resources
2. Bear and Critter mitigation options
3. Cleanup/Construction Guidelines
4. City Clean-up Event Information
5. General information



***City of Cortez
Service Center
110 West Progress Circle
Cortez, CO 81321***

Follow this QR code



Guidelines for Bear-Deterrent Carts

Please remember the following:

Bear-deterrent carts are available for a one-time setup fee. Carts must adhere to the same guidelines as regular polycarts for daily operations. They are designed to secure household waste for day-to-day storage. However, to ensure successful collection it is important that your cart is unlocked or unfastened when setting it out for pickup.



Availability is limited.
Carts and lock styles may change without notice.

For questions or additional information, call the Service Center at 970.565.7320.
To schedule a cleanup dumpster or extra services, call 970.564.4012.



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TOWN OF DOLORES RESIDENTIAL TRASH AND RECYCLING SERVICES

Call City Hall to Set Up Service: 970.564.4012

WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH TRASH SERVICE?

- 1. The City will place one Polycart for weekly pickup.** Do you need more than one cart? Do you have a project? Ask about our Second Polycart discounts and Cleanup/Construction Dumpster Rates. All Polycarts need to be situated on a flat, level surface at the edge of your curb for pickup on your regular pickup day no later than 6:00 a.m. (pickup locations and times may vary, Limitations may apply)
- 2. Year-Round Free Curbside Recycling** (See reverse recycling flyer, included with service; limitations may apply)
- 3. Twice annual Bulk Material Pickup** (Third full week of May and October), (included with service, see online or flyers for details, limitations may apply)
- 4. DO NOT PUT HOT ASHES IN THE POLYCART;** the ashes will melt the cart. Set ashes in a separate small 1 or 2-gallon metal bucket so crews can check and dispose of them.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. When do trash routes run?

A. Once a week, Monday through Friday. Your pickup day depends on location.
When you sign up for trash service, you will be informed of the pickup day.

Q. Is there an additional charge for a second polycart?

A. Yes - if you generally overrun the capabilities of one polycart, you can order a second Polycart for a discounted rate. Check online or call for current rates.

Q. Is there an online payment option?

A. Yes - set it up the same time you sign up for water/trash service. Call 970.564.4012.

Q. Can I order a temporary dumpster for residential cleanup or construction projects?

A. Yes - call 970.564.4012. or Check online for current rates.

Q. Are there composting options?

A. Yes- depending on location, we do have seasonal composting routes available. Limitations and service areas may have restrictions; call for information.

Q. Do you have Single Stream Recycling Options?

A. We are currently operating source-separated recycling routes and drop-offs. Single-stream recycling is being planned as a future option, with pilot routes currently open, but it is not available to all customers at this time.



Residential Recycling

On their regular residential route, our Recycling Crew will pick up source-separated recyclables: **CLEAN** Aluminum Cans; Type #1 Plastic; Type #2 Plastic; Tin/Steel cans; and small quantities of glass, paper, and cardboard.

Source Separated Routes - Please Separate

All Items must be clean and sorted into bags or containers so that our crew does not have to hand-sort them. Mixed containers, or materials that are not properly sorted, will be left on-site until either disposed of, or properly sorted by the resident.

Type #1 Plastic: Check for the triangle symbol on the bottom of most plastic containers for either a #1 or #2 inside the triangle. All other numbers are currently not accepted and considered contamination by our mills. Lids are not accepted.

Type #2 Plastic: Check for the triangle symbol on the bottom of most plastic containers for either a #1 or #2 inside the triangle. All other numbers are currently not accepted and considered contamination by our mills. Lids are not accepted.

Tin/Steel/Ferrous: Clean Tin/Steel cans and small ferrous items such as pots, pans, brake rotors, etc. A good way to tell is that if a magnet sticks to it, it is a ferrous metal and should be put in with tin cans.

Aluminum: Clean aluminum cans, pans, and foil.

Cardboard Mix: Corrugated cardboard, brown paper, and paperboard (i.e. cereal boxes, cracker boxes, beverage boxes, etc.).

Office Paper Mix: Magazines, junk mail, post-its, office paper, shredded paper, and plain paper.
Sorry, No Newspaper, No Books, and No Phonebooks at this time.

FREE Recycling is included with Trash service, so call and sign up today!
(Restrictions may apply)
Call to Set Up Service: 970.564.4012

Holiday Pick-Ups: Residential recycling does not run on Holidays. Holiday pick-up schedules will be listed on the City website and on the City's social media pages.

What happens to all this stuff? The City contracts with the [Montezuma County Landfill](#) to bale the paper, cardboard, and plastic. The Landfill then sells the material to recycling brokerage companies, who, in turn, sell the raw material on the open market. The aluminum, tin, and steel cans are taken to local scrap yards for processing. Yard debris and composting routes are processed locally.

WHAT TO DO WITH MY EXTRA TRASH



SECOND POLYCART: We understand that sometimes a single trash container isn't enough to contain all your trash. **Polycarts are not to be loaded so full that the lid will not close.** If you are continually overloading your polycart, or have additional bags each week, please order a second polycart or request to have a clean-up dumpster delivered to your residence [\(Available to all Refuse Customers\)](#). Our new policy allows you to request **a second and third polycart at a 50% discount from the original rate**. We hope this will make managing your waste a breeze! **To request a second polycart, call Utility Billing at City Hall at 970.564.4012.**

CLEAN-UP DUMPSTERS: Trash pickup is available for a 2-yard or 3-yard dumpster [\(Available to all Refuse Customers\)](#). No heavy materials such as concrete, rocks, dirt, chemicals, tires, large wood products, metal, or steel are allowed. **Dumpsters are not to be loaded higher than the rim of the dumpster.** Call Utility Billing at City Hall at 970.564.4012 to order a clean-up dumpster or check for availability.



Bulk Trash: Residential bulk trash program runs twice a year (City Clean-up) and is a service for items too large to fit in your trash container.



Electronics, tires, and certain other items will not be picked up. Check the City's website for updated guidance, restrictions, schedules, and information.

Bulk Items like mattresses and upholstered furniture, and even E-waste, can be hauled in our back billing program via dispatched request.

Call **970.564.4012** for dispatch service.

Is your pile size too big? Contact **970.564.4012** and get information on our Cleanup Dumpsters. (limitations may apply).

For more information, visit our website at www.cortezco.gov. To schedule any of these services, contact Utility Billing at 970.564.4012 or the City Service Center, 110 West Progress Circle, in the Industrial Park, or call 970.565.7320.



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For Guidance:



CITY OF CORTEZ

RESIDENTIAL

**TRASH
AND RECYCLING SERVICES**

Call City Hall to Set Up Service: 970.564.4012

Extra Material Options

Please Leave 3' of Clearance Between Containers

FREE CURBSIDE RECYCLING: There is a limit of two 18-gallon residential City recycling bins per household. These bins remain the property of the City of Cortez. All recycling routes (except Monday) run the same day as your trash service. (*Limitations may apply: Call 970.565.7320 to learn more*).



Single Stream Carts are now active in select locations. Look for them at events.



Phone: 970-565-7320

www.cortezco.gov

Fax: 970-565-8356



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Bulk Trash/City Clean-up

The City of Cortez's residential bulk trash program runs twice a year (City Clean-up) and is a service for items too large to fit in your trash container. Please follow the guidelines set below.

All items collected in our bulk trash program are taken to the landfill or recycled. Household trash **is not accepted for bulk pickup** and should be bagged and placed in your curbside trash container (polycart). Have a large project? Doing some remodeling? Contact **970.564.4012** and get information on our Cleanup Dumpsters and Flatbed Services (limitations may apply).

Acceptable Items:



We Collect

- Mattresses/Upholstered Furniture (**These items will be back-charged at the current landfill rate + current load fee.**)
- Microwaves, Dishwashers
- Appliances (e.g. washers, dryers, stoves, and water heaters)
- Toilets
- Glass that is boxed, sealed, and labeled
- Yard waste:
 - ❖ Trimmings less than 4' in length and hand-bundled, 50 pounds or less
 - ❖ Grass, leaves, and weeds must be bagged and tied
 - ❖ Cacti, roses, and/ or thorny bushes must be boxed and labeled, or placed in a separate container



We Don't Collect

- Contractor waste
- Household garbage
- Tires
- Hazardous waste (e.g. vehicle fluids, paint, chemicals, propane tanks, and cleaning products)
- Flat-screen TVs or other electronics
- Appliances with freon (e.g. air condition units, refrigerators, etc.)
- Demolition debris (e.g. rocks, dirt, sod, and concrete)

(Continued on other side)

Pile Size Limit:

- **Pile must be one (1) single pile *no larger* than 10' long x 5' wide x 5' high (10 x 5 x 5)**



Is your pile size too big? Contact **970.564.4012** and get information on our Cleanup Dumpsters and Flatbed Services (limitations may apply).

Pile Placement:

- Place all acceptable bulk items at the curb and keep items orderly and organized by material (i.e. metals with metals, yard waste with yard waste, etc.). This will help our team dispose of materials properly and efficiently.
- Place items at least five feet (5') away from all obstacles, like polycarts and recycle containers, vehicles, or other objects that will interfere with our ability to pick the pile up.

Bulk Schedule:

- Pickup is **the third full week of May and the third full week of October each year** and is scheduled on your regular trash pick-up day. Crews will not backtrack for piles that are not put out in accordance with the collection schedule.
- Check your collection schedule online and place your pickup items out:
 - ❖ No earlier than the Saturday prior to your collection week
 - ❖ No later than 6:00 AM on Monday of your collection week

Not sure where to take items? Follow this QR code to the City's disposal tool for year-round guidance.

Questions? Call: **970.565.7320**





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Year-round Disposal Tool:



Guidelines for Cleanup Dumpsters

Please keep in mind the following information:

City cleanup dumpsters can be used for various waste disposal activities, and they can be emptied more than once a week. This makes them a great option for small projects or property cleanup. If a dumpster needs to be emptied more than once a week, there is a minimum one-month billing requirement. Additionally, short-term weekend drop-offs on Friday with removal on Monday are available at the current mid-rate charge.

Dumpsters for both residential and commercial use are available for light property cleanup and light-duty construction materials. Items such as couches, chairs, and cabinets can be put in the dumpster if they fit inside, but applicable fees may apply. It's important not to overload the dumpsters or put in any unacceptable waste materials. **Overloaded dumpsters or unacceptable waste will be left for the owner to dispose of at the landfill, or back-charged to the residence.**

Unacceptable Waste:

- Tires
- Chemicals
- E-waste
- Concrete
- Large Rocks
- Large amounts of Rubble
- Large amounts of Dirt
- Batteries
- Appliances **(call for guidance)**
- Large quantities of asphalt shingles **(call for guidance)**
- Logs or dense materials

Light-duty Construction Debris: Use common sense, don't fill the dumpster higher than the brim. Do not overload dumpsters with heavy dense materials.

For questions or additional information, call the Service Center at 970.565.7320.
To schedule a cleanup dumpster, call City Hall at 970.564.4012.

Do NOT put hot ashes in your trash for pickup. They will melt the polycart or could cause a fire in the trash truck. Polycart replacement costs will be added to your bill.

TAKE CARE WHEN DISPOSING OF HOT ASHES!

DISCARDING THE ASH AND WOOD FOR TRASH COLLECTION

- 1. Allow the wood and ashes to cool completely in the fireplace.** If indoors, let your embers cool down completely with the fire screen closed. Even if it appears the ashes and wood aren't hot, they may remain warm and capable of starting a fire for some time. Allow several hours for the embers to cool. They will not radiate any heat when they are completely cold.



The damage above resulted when hot ashes were placed in a City of Cortez polycart. A new polycart will cost you and be added to your bill.

- 4. Wet the wood and ashes with water.** Use a water bottle or watering can to wet down your ashes and any wood pieces in the bucket. Use enough water to saturate the materials in the bucket, so they are thoroughly wet.
- 5. Transfer the metal container outside until garbage day.** Place your metal bucket of fire waste outside your home. Choose a location away from any combustible materials, such as oil or paper. While it might be tempting, do not discard any additional trash or flammable materials in the bucket.

5. **Leave your Ashes in a small 1-2 Gallon **METAL** Bucket** For collection by crews on your collection day, this will give our crew the opportunity to check the ashes before they dump them.

Follow This QR Code for Different Disposal and Recycling
Options Around Cortez



1. Leave Three Feet of space between carts and obstacles

2. Opening of the cart should face the road with the lid closed

Thanks!





For Year-round guidance try our disposal tool at this QR code:





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POLYCART PLACEMENT ETIQUETTE

Do Your Research Beforehand

Curbside pickup has evolved, so take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the policies and schedules for your garbage and recycling.

Only Use Approved Containers

Ensure that you use approved containers for your garbage and recycling.

Use Trash Bags

To prevent spills and other problems for the professionals collecting your garbage, place all of your trash in bags. This practice will also help keep your bins clean and minimize odor buildup and windblown debris.

Put Your Bins Out on Time

It's crucial to put your recycling and garbage bins out on the curb before collection day. Aim to have them out the night before to avoid any last-minute scrambling. This preparation ensures that your items are picked up on time and allows you to manage space in your bins throughout the week.

Don't Overfill Your Bins

Make sure your bins are fully closed. Keeping them closed prevents issues during pickup and prevents animals from getting inside your bin and creating a mess.

Don't Block Sidewalks

When placing your recycling and garbage bins on the curb, ensure they do not block the sidewalk, mailbox, or driveway. Blocking these areas can create problems for pedestrians and other service providers.

Be Courteous

After your curbside pickup service is complete, promptly put your garbage and recycling bins away. This action helps keep your street and neighborhood clean and well-maintained.

Curbside pickup services are convenient for both homeowners and apartment renters. By following these tips, you can help the professionals collecting your garbage and recycling do their job quickly, efficiently, and without any issues.