



30 August 2024

Dear Resident,

The City of Mount Vernon continues to provide weekly garbage pick-up service for your address. This is service for your **gray garbage cart**, or your large commercial bin/dumpster (for businesses). In June 2024, the city completed a **Solid Waste Utility Study**; based on the following:

1. Skagit County solid waste tipping fee increase from \$104 to \$131 per ton, effective September 1, 2024.
2. City Staff labor costs, and
3. Software costs associated with the solid waste proprietary/utility fund operations.

Council Approved Residential Collection Rates

Service	Current Rates	October 14, 2024	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027	January 1, 2028
35-gallon cart	\$24.20	\$28.85	\$30.45	\$31.80	\$33.20
65-gallon cart	\$35.35	\$36.00	\$37.90	\$39.60	\$41.35
95-gallon cart	\$47.55	\$49.00	\$49.30	\$49.30	\$49.30
20-gallon senior	\$10.20	\$12.20	\$12.85	\$13.40	\$13.95
35-gallon senior	\$18.70	\$20.20	\$21.30	\$22.25	\$23.25
65-gallon senior	N/A	\$25.20	\$26.54	\$27.70	\$28.95

Council Approved Commercial Dumpster Rates

Service	Current Rates	October 14, 2024	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027	January 1, 2028
1 Yard Weekly	\$83.58	\$98.35	\$103.21	\$107.34	\$112.26
1.5 Yard Weekly	\$110.72	\$130.55	\$137.04	\$142.40	\$148.76
2 Yard Weekly	\$137.86	\$162.74	\$170.87	\$177.46	\$185.26
4 Yard Weekly	\$246.43	\$291.51	\$306.19	\$317.70	\$331.25
6 Yard Weekly	\$367.09	\$442.39	\$464.65	\$482.17	\$502.80
8 Yard Weekly	\$463.57	\$556.47	\$584.59	\$606.31	\$631.79

Proposed changes take effect on October 14, 2024; and will be shown on your November invoice (for October service). If you have questions regarding the rate schedule, the data found in the rate study, or any other City utility questions, please contact the City of Mount Vernon utilities staff at: 360.336.6218, or email at mvutilities@mountvernonwa.gov

ORDINANCE NO. 3896

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON AMENDING SECTION 8.12.120 OF THE MOUNT VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE, REGARDING GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon has an agreement with Skagit County for solid waste disposal. The rates within the agreement for services have increased requiring the City to amend its solid waste rate fees respectively; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 35.21.157, the City has notified the public of proposed rate changes and changes to the City's garbage ordinance by publishing notice of such changes once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the collection area on August 29 and September 5, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON, DO HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Section 8.12.120 of the Mount Vernon Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

8.12.120 Fees - Designated -Increases authorized when - Special charges -Record keeping.

The fees for garbage collection and refuse services, and for collection of recyclable materials, shall be as follows:

- A. Residential Buildings of One to Four Units. Garbage collection for residential dwellings with four or fewer living units shall be performed once per week. Curbside collection of recyclable materials for residential dwellings with four or fewer living units shall be performed once every other week. Fees shall be assessed for the collection of garbage and refuse and for curbside collection of recyclable materials as set forth below:
 - 1. The monthly base fee for garbage collection of residential dwellings with four or fewer living units including Washington State refuse tax shall be as follows:

Roll Cart Service Rates:

Roll Cart Service	Current Rates	October 14 , 2024	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027	January 1, 2028
35-gallon cart	\$24.20	\$28.85	\$30.45	\$31.80	\$33.20
65-gallon cart	\$35.35	\$36.00	\$37.90	\$39.60	\$41.35
95-gallon cart	\$47.55	\$49.00	\$49.30	\$49.30	\$49.30
20-gallon senior	\$10.20	\$12.20	\$12.85	\$13.40	\$13.95

35-gallon senior	\$18.70	\$20.20	\$21.30	\$22.25	\$23.25
65-gallon senior	N/A	\$25.20	\$26.54	\$27.70	\$28.95

Extra garbage:

In addition to current service level:

\$5.50 per extra 35 gallons; \$2.25 per extra 20 gallons

Customers subject to garbage collection charges shall enroll for the desired level of service by applying to the office of the Finance Director in the form and manner provided by the office.

Fees are payable regardless of whether garbage is set out for collection. Where no service level has been designated by the current owner it shall be assumed that service level will be at the base rate of one regular 35-gallon cart.

- B. Business-Commercial (Including Five Residential Units or More). Collection fees for the collection of garbage and refuse of business and commercial establishments, including but not limited to hotels, restaurants, boardinghouses, apartment houses of five or more units, schools, garages, service stations and manufacturing establishments and other businesses without limitations shall be as follows:

- 1. A monthly fee shall be established at a base rate including Washington State refuse tax as follows:

Service Level - Cart:

Any customer using more than four cans, or where garbage is not adequately contained, may, at the discretion of the Solid Waste Utility Supervisor, be required to utilize a bin for garbage disposal and shall be charged at the commercial rate set forth above.

Service Level -Bins (bin size in yards):

Regular Commercial Container Service	Current Rates	October 14, 2024	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027	January 1, 2028
1-yard weekly	\$83.58	\$98.35	\$103.21	\$107.34	\$112.26
Extra Pickup - 1 yd.	\$24.59	\$24.59	\$25.80	\$26.84	\$28.07
1.5-yard weekly	\$110.72	\$130.55	\$137.04	\$142.40	\$148.76
Extra Pickup - 1.5 yd.	\$32.64	\$32.64	\$34.26	\$35.60	\$37.19
2-yard weekly	\$137.86	\$162.74	\$170.87	\$177.46	\$185.26
Extra Pickup - 2 yd.	\$40.69	\$40.69	\$42.72	\$44.37	\$46.31
4-yard weekly	\$246.43	\$291.51	\$306.19	\$317.70	\$331.25
Extra Pickup - 4 yd.	\$72.88	\$72.88	\$76.55	\$79.43	\$82.81

6-yard weekly	\$367.09	\$442.39	\$464.65	\$482.17	\$502.80
Extra Pickup - 6 yd.	\$110.60	\$110.60	\$116.16	\$120.54	\$125.70
8-yard weekly	\$463.57	\$556.47	\$584.59	\$606.31	\$631.79
Extra Pickup - 8 yd.	\$139.12	\$139.12	\$146.15	\$151.58	\$157.95

Note: Extra Pickup is charged when a customer requests an unscheduled pickup.

Temporary Container Fees:

Temporary Containers	October 14, 2024	January 1, 2025	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027	January 1, 2028
Delivery Fee	\$17.00	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$19.00	\$20.00
Daily Rental Fee	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$7.00	\$8.00
1-yard Pick-up Fee	\$24.59	\$24.59	\$25.80	\$26.84	\$28.07
1.5-yard Pick-up Fee	\$32.64	\$32.64	\$34.26	\$35.60	\$37.19
2-yard Pick-up Fee	\$40.69	\$40.69	\$42.72	\$44.37	\$46.31
4-yard Pick-up Fee	\$72.88	\$72.88	\$76.55	\$79.43	\$82.81
6-yard Pick-up Fee	\$110.60	\$110.60	\$116.16	\$120.54	\$125.70
8-yard Pick-up Fee	\$139.12	\$139.12	\$146.15	\$151.58	\$157.95

- For business-commercial establishments served by city-owned 10-yard, 20-yard or 30-yard bins, the following base daily/monthly fees including Washington State refuse tax, plus actual tipping fees charged to the City by the disposal site, will apply and entitles the customer to one collection per month.

Drop Box/ Roll Off Compactor Service:

Drop Box / Roll Off Compactor Service	October 14, 2024	January 1, 2025	January 1, 2026	January 1, 2027	January 1, 2028
Drop Box Haul Fee	\$213.00	\$213.00	\$227.00	\$239.00	\$251.00
Compactor Haul Fee	\$258.00	\$258.00	\$274.00	\$288.00	\$302.00
Disposal Fee per Ton	\$131.00	\$131.00	\$134.00	\$137.00	\$140.00
Drop Box Delivery Fee	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$66.00	\$70.00	\$74.00
Drop Box Moving Fee	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$66.00	\$70.00	\$74.00

10-yard rental - daily	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$12.00	\$13.00
10-yard rental - monthly	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$85.00	\$90.00	\$95.00
20-yard rental - daily	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00
20-yard rental - monthly	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$90.00	\$95.00	\$100.00
30-yard rental - daily	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	\$18.00
30-yard rental - monthly	\$97.00	\$97.00	\$103.00	\$109.00	\$115.00

Other Service Rates:

Service Description	Rate	Service Description	Rate
Additional Garbage Fee (per 20 gal increments)	\$2.25	Cart Replacement Fee	Actual
Return Trip Charge	\$20.00	Repair Fees	Actual
Dumpster Cleaning fees - per occurrence	\$50.00	Lock and Keys	\$15.00
Compactor Cleaning fees - per occurrence	\$100.00	Hourly Charge	\$95.00

- C. Recognizing the constant increase in costs of maintenance and operation of the garbage service facilities of the City, the Mayor shall be and is specifically granted the power and authority to increase the charges for garbage collection services to business-commercial customers an additional 50 percent through administrative order. This authority shall be a part of the currently established fees and may be exercised by the Mayor without the necessity of additional public hearings or legislative action. No charges in excess thereof shall be made except by specific consent and approval of the city council.
- D. Any person who qualifies for exemption from all excess property taxes pursuant to the terms of RCW 84.36.381 shall be entitled to a 50 percent reduction of the 20-gallon cart rate, if applicable, or a 25 percent reduction of the 35-gallon cart rate, if applicable, for the garbage and refuse collection fees associated with the resident to which the property tax exemption of RCW 84.36.381 applies; provided, however, that no person shall be entitled to such reduction without first providing proof satisfactory to the city Finance Director that they are currently entitled to the property tax exemption. Such proof may consist of documents or copies of documents from the county assessor's office showing that the applicant meets the necessary qualifications set forth in RCW 84.36.381. The fee reduction shall be granted for 12 months from the date the person shows proof that they are entitled to such reduction and may be renewed on an annual basis by again showing proof that the person is still entitled pursuant to the

terms of this subsection. Such reduction in rates shall not be applicable to that portion of the fees in subsection A of this section that are charged for recycling collection.

- E. There shall be no credit given for fees charged to residences or other buildings on the basis that such residence or building is, has been, or may be vacant. Exemptions for service charges may be granted with prior notice for a minimum period of two months on the basis that such residence or building will be vacant. No credit will be granted for after-the-fact notification.
- F. Should there be needed or desired additional services than as provided by the normal routine pick-up schedules of the Solid Waste Utility or should there be any request for the cleaning up and removal of brush, weeds, rubbish or debris, or for bulk collection of garbage and refuse, or should there be a need for unclassified and miscellaneous service or collection needs, all fees for such special service shall be fixed and determined in advance through the City Solid Waste Utility Supervisor and request therefore shall be made at such office prior to the furnishing of any collection service as outlined above. The City Solid Waste Utility Supervisor is authorized to establish reasonable fees for such services which shall be sufficient to recover the cost of providing the service, including labor, equipment and administrative costs. Fees for collection of extra garbage shall as nearly as possible follow the rates established for routine collection, and shall be \$5.50 per extra can, and \$2.25 per extra 1/2 cans.
- G. "Extra bags/cans" shall refer to any bag or can placed out for collection more than that for which the customer is currently enrolled.
- H. Yard Waste Punch card. The fee for yard waste disposal service shall be as follows:
 - 1. For brush (for purposes of this section, any yard waste material which must be chipped prior to disposal, such as branches, etc.):
 - a. A minimum charge of \$1.00; for loads more than one cubic yard additional charges will apply.
 - 2. For compost materials (for purposes of this section, any yard waste materials which do not need to be chipped prior to disposal, such as grass, leaves, fruits, vegetables, etc.):
 - a. A minimum charge of \$1.00 per two - 35-gallon cans, or the equivalent if in bags.

The fee for yard waste disposal must be prepaid through the purchase of a punch card. Punch cards shall be available for purchase at either the City Yard Waste Facility, 409 W Fir Street, or at City Hall, 910 Cleveland Avenue, in the finance department, during normal business hours. Each punch card shall entitle the bearer to yard waste disposal service in the amount of \$5.00, \$10.00, or \$20.00.

SECTION 2. Invalidity. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, the invalidity or unconstitutionality thereof shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. Repealer. Ordinance 3895 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect October 14, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon at a regular meeting thereof this 11th day of September 2024.

SIGNED AND APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Peter Donovan, Mayor

Attest:

Becky Jensen, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Kevin Rogerson, City Attorney

Published: _____, 2024