

Public Works

What if my blue 95 gallon trash/recycle bin is damaged, lost or stolen?

If your trash/recycle bin is damaged, lost or stolen, please call Public Works at 219-365-4655 to schedule a replacement. The Town's refuse company, Republic Services, will be contacted and they will exchange the damaged bin or deliver a replacement. Do not attempt to repair the bin yourself as it could void the warranty.

May I write on the recycling bin?

Yes.

May I use the blue recycling bin on wheels for trash?

No, never place trash in any recycling container. Never discard hazardous materials with household trash.

Must my recycling materials be sorted?

No

What day is garbage pickup?

Garbage day is every Monday. Garbage should be out by 6:00 a.m. Monday morning.

What about holidays, how does that effect my garbage and recycling pickup day?

Recycling and garbage pickup is delayed a day when a NATIONAL HOLIDAY falls on a Monday.

THE FOLLOWING ARE CONSIDERED NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

- New Years Day
- Christmas Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- 4th of July
- Labor Day
- Memorial Day

When one of these days occurs on a Monday your garbage and recycling will be picked up on the Tuesday of that week. Both recycling and garbage needs to be out by 6:00 a.m.

Does the Town have an electronics recycling program?

Yes we do. Electronics should be brought to the Public Works facility for recycling Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 am – 2 pm. Please check in at the front office and we will direct you where you may bring your items. You are responsible for unloading your items. Please do not leave your items by the facility if the office is closed.

Does the Town pick up large items?

No, the Town does not pick up large items. Republic Services will pick up one large item per week during regular trash pick up. Examples include a chair, couch, mattress & bedspring, etc. Republic Services will pick up

appliances with freon for an additional charge. Please contact Republic Services to make arrangements at 219-662-8600.

I do a lot of recycling; can I have another recycle bin?

You may contact Public Works and request one additional 95 gallon recycle bin at no cost.

What do I do with small bushes that I removed from my yard?

Remove the roots from the bushes and place the roots in your regular garbage. The remaining bush will be collected during branch collection and placed in the chipper.

Does our refuse company pickup leaves?

No, landfills will not allow leaves to be dumped in them. The Town has a leaf collection program that runs twice a year.

Spring leaf collection begins in April and fall collection begins in October through the end of November. Exact dates for these collections will be posted in the spring flyer that will be mailed to every home. [Please click here for details.](#)

Does the Town have a dumpster I can put things in?

Yes, the dumpster is accessible for St. John residents only. The town dumpster is available on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please go to the Public Safety building and present Indiana state ID to be let in.

Items that cannot be placed in the dumpster:

- batteries
- cleaning solvents
- combustible liquids
- freon canisters
- motor oil
- paint
- railroad ties
- roofing shingles
- tires

Construction debris – including but not limited to:

- Asphalt
- Bricks
- Concrete
- Dirt
- Drywall
- Sand
- Yard Waste

Appliances – including but not limited to:

- Air Conditioners
- Refrigerators
- Microwaves
- Washing Machines and/or Dryers
- Water Heaters

Hazardous materials

How do I dispose of household hazard waste materials?

Hazard waste items like tires, railroad ties, roofing shingles, motor oil, etc., can be disposed at one of the Lake County Solid Waste Management District sites. Call for a schedule 800-946-4449. [Please click here for details.](#)

When does leaf collection start?

Spring leaf collection begins in April and fall collection begins in October through the end of November. Exact dates for these collections will be posted in the spring flyer that will be mailed to every home. [Please click here for details.](#)

Do leaves need to be bagged?

No, leaves should be loose and not bagged. Residents with curbs are asked to place leaves along the edge of the curb, but not in the curb or street. Residents whose street have no curbs are asked to place their leaves on the grass parkway directly behind the curb. Please avoid putting leaves behind mailboxes or around street signs. Leaves that are bagged or in containers will not get picked up.

When does branch collection start?

In April, there will be 2 designated weeks for branch collection. Exact dates for these collections will be posted in the spring flyer that will be mailed to every home. Please click here for details. In October, there will be 2 designated weeks ending collection for the year. Exact dates for all collections will be posted in the spring flyer that will be mailed to every home. [Please click here for details.](#)

What size branches are acceptable?

Branches must be at least 48 inches in length. Anything shorter should be cut up and deposited in the blue trash bin for the Town's regular trash collection. Branches can be up to 10" in diameter. Do not bundle or place in bags.

Grass clippings should be placed in the regular trash container (not to exceed 35 lbs) and placed at curb for regular trash pickup. No special bags are required.

What do I do with small twigs, bush clippings, old flowers, etc.?

These items are considered yard waste and can be placed in an open bag or container and deposited in the regular weekly trash collection. If placed in a bag please mark YARD WASTE. No special bags are required.

Do I need a water softener?

No, getting a water softener is a personal choice.

What is the hardness of our drinking water?

28 grains.

Why does my water smell like eggs or sulfur?

St. John's water does not have an odor, the annode rod in your hot water tank most likely is the cause which would cause both your hot and cold water to appear to have that odor. You need to contact your builder/plumber to replace the annode rod.

Why does my water have a rust color or why is my water yellow?

This is usually caused by a water main break near you and should clear itself up within 48 hours from when you have noticed it. We recommend you do not wash your white clothes at this time. Should it continue past the 48 hours, please contact the Public Works Department. During the summer, if you live in area where there is a high volume of irrigation (sprinklers) systems being used, you may also experience discoloration.

Will the Town restore the areas that were disturbed due to water main breaks, sewer breaks, projects, etc.?

Yes, the Town will replace sod, seed, concrete, asphalt or any other type of surface that was damaged. With water main and sewer breaks it could take several months to do restoration, due to the depth of the repair. The ground needs to settle before completing the restoration.

Does the Town of St. John have Lake Michigan water?

No, the Town sits on two different water sheds which supplies water for the Town's wells.

Can I park vehicles on the street when it snows?

No, once it starts snowing or sleeting there is no parking allowed on residential streets. There are snow signs posted at the entrances of all subdivisions.

Who is our garbage and recycling contractor?

Republic Services, 219-662-8600.