



Frequently Asked Questions for Garbage Services

Per New City of Hughson Agreement with Gilton Solid Waste Management

When is my garbage serviced for residential?

"The service date will remain the same as in the past; meaning if your garbage was serviced on Monday under Waste Management it will continue to be serviced on Monday under Gilton Solid Waste Management (Gilton). If your garbage was serviced on Tuesday, it will continue to be serviced on Tuesday. However, Gilton will service both containers (black and green) each week."

Why is recycling no longer provided? What do we do with recyclables if they are not serviced any longer?

"Recycling is available but through a different model. Food waste, yard waste and paper and cardboard, which now go in the green waste container, will all be turned into compost and thus recycled. Glass bottles and plastic will go in the black waste container or you may recycle them yourself at a recycling facility. The closest location is Dos Palos Recycling on Hughson Avenue and 3rd Street."

It should be noted that in addition to the compost recycling, i.e. all waste in the green container, at least 90% of all garbage serviced in Hughson goes to a facility called the Waste to Energy (WTE) facility per the executed Regional Solid Waste Agreement with Stanislaus County. This waste is burned to produce energy. This means that 90% or more of the waste in the black containers is also recycled to produce energy and does not end up in landfills. Since operation began in early 1989, The WTE has processed over 4.9 million tons of garbage and generated over 2.4 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity."

Why aren't we recycling? I thought we are supposed to be environmental friendly and thought the State of California demanded all cities to recycle.

"The State does require recycling through what is called a 'diversion rate', i.e. the percentage of waste that must be diverted from typical landfills. Gilton is confident that they will meet or exceed the State's diversion rates and have a track record of doing so in neighboring communities."



Why does my green waste container have a recycling symbol and say “recycling” if I cannot put all recycling in it?

“The recycling symbol on the green waste container refers to yard waste, food waste, paper, cardboard and items that can be recycled as compost.”

Is there any sorting being done by Gilton at their facility of items placed in the black or green containers?

“Gilton does sort items placed in the green containers to ensure that waste can be recycled as compost. Items placed in the black container are minimally sorted out at the facility but the City is exploring options for how to make it easier for Gilton to do this including the creation of a Community Drop Off Recycling Site and providing Recycling Bags for residents to place such items on the top of waste inside the black container.”

Why am I not getting a Grandfathered/Disabled/Senior discount anymore on my garbage service?

“Proposition 218 limits a municipality’s ability to offer different rates to residents for the same service. In essence, it is unfair and inconsistent with Proposition 218 for the majority of customers to subsidize rate reductions for a few customers. To comply with Proposition 218, it was determined that a flat rate for all residents was the most appropriate and equitable. If a senior or disabled resident requires special assistance to have their container serviced, please contact Gilton Solid Waste Management Services.”

Why did we go from 3 containers to 2 containers, isn’t that a downgrade of service?

“The City does not believe this is a downgrade in service going from 3 cans to 2 cans. Gilton provides a cost effective model, using their one-pass truck that allows both cans to be picked up by one truck thus alleviating alternating cans, truck trips on residential roads, noise and pollution issues as well as traffic issues. Further, there are new services provided including curbside oil, bulky item and electronic waste collection by appointment up to 2 to 4 times per year at no additional charge. This will relieve the City of undesirable garbage throughout the year.”

What can I put in my green can?

“You may put yard waste (grass clippings, tree limbs, Christmas trees, etc.), food waste, magazines, paper, cardboard, and anything that can be recycled as compost.”



How much am I being charged for the garbage service?

"The new garbage service rate per the executed contract with Gilton is \$21.50 per month for two 96-gallon containers (one for household trash/garbage and the other for green waste, food waste and other items that can be recycled as compost). This is compared to Waste Management's prior rate of \$22.18 per month for 64-gallon service and \$35.30 per month for 96-gallon service and compared to Waste Management's proposed rate for this contract of \$23.98 per month for 64-gallon service and \$37.10 per month for 96-gallon service."

Can we have additional containers?

"Yes. However, each additional 96-gallon container will cost \$6.75 per month."

Why am I being charged for additional containers if they were free before?

"Under the prior garbage service contract the cost of additional containers was incorporated into the base rate, therefore, those that did not have additional containers were paying extra. Under the new contract, this has not been included in the base rate. That way only those residents that need the additional containers are being charged."

What is the size of the containers they delivered?

"They are 96-gallon containers."

Can I order smaller containers and will I pay less?

"Yes, you may order a 64-gallon container; however, the cost will remain the same."

How long will it take to receive additional containers if requested?

"Most additional containers will be received by the next service day."

Is there a delivery charge?

"There is no fee for the delivery of additional containers."



I have a large yard and do not want to pay for an additional container, what am I going to do?

"Your green waste will be picked up every week now instead of every other week so that may adequately meet your needs."

Will I be getting billed separately by Gilton Solid Waste Management?

"No, your billing will not change at this time although the new agreement does allow for that if the City of Hughson deems it necessary. If any changes occur, you shall be made aware and you will be properly notified."

How can I get a hold of Gilton Solid Waste Management?

"For all customer service needs, please contact Gilton Solid Waste Management at (209) 527-3781."

What were the factors that went into the City Council decision to go with the two cart/one pass system as provided by Gilton Waste Management Services effective July 1, 2015.

"There were many factors that went into the decision to move forward with Gilton Solid Waste Management and the One-Pass Truck System, including the cost-effectiveness of the service for residential and commercial customers, efficiency of the model, the service provider's expertise and track record in neighboring communities, the reduction in road wear-and-tear and thus maintenance, a focus on road safety, as well as the value added services, and an emphasis on customer service."