



Annual Rate Review Process Overview

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Department of Health and Human Services

www.washingtoncountyor.gov

→ Rate transparency project

Goals: Increase transparency, provide timely & relevant information, and ensure content is clear and understood.

2023 Website modifications

- Formatting changes
- Development of FAQs
- Uplifting the annual rate review process

2024 Community liaison engagement

- English & Spanish content reviewed
- Web format and layout assessments
- Consolidating content and ensuring use of plain language



Where to find established rates

[Residential Service Rates | Washington County, OR \(washingtoncountyor.gov\)](https://www.washingtoncountyor.gov)



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Residential Service Rates

Residential service rates for customers in unincorporated Washington County.

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- [Residential service rates for customers in unincorporated Washington County](#)
- [Residential service rates for customers within city limits](#)
- [Residential collection service rates](#)
- [Recycle+](#)
- [Pickup service for customers with a disability](#)
- [What makes up my collection rate?](#)
- [Drop box, compactor and occasional container collection service](#)
- [Asbestos waste disposal](#)

Washington County regulates garbage and recycling collection services within the county's unincorporated areas. Check if your [residential address](#) is located within unincorporated Washington County and confirm which franchised garbage and recycling collection company serves your address.

Contact us by phone at [503-846-3605](tel:503-846-3605) or email recycle@washingtoncountyor.gov for more information.

Translations

- [Tarifas de Servicio Residencial](#)

[Battery Recycling](#)

[Food Scraps Collection](#)

[Household Hazardous Waste](#)

[Recycle+](#)

[Reduced Rate Program](#)

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[Service Interruptions](#)



Where to find established rates

Commercial Service Rates | Washington County, OR (washingtoncountyor.gov)



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Commercial Service Rates

Commercial service rates for customers in unincorporated Washington County.

Washington County regulates garbage and recycling collection services within the county's unincorporated areas. Check if your [business address](#) is located within unincorporated Washington County and confirm which franchised garbage and recycling collection company serves your address.

Contact us by phone at [503-846-3605](tel:503-846-3605) or email recycle@washingtoncountyor.gov for more information.

Commercial service rates for customers in unincorporated Washington County

The Board of County Commissioners approves rates charged by all garbage and recycling collection companies in unincorporated Washington County. Each collection company must charge the board-approved rates in its service area.

Commercial service rates for customers within city limits

If your business address is located within limits of a city, [contact your city's office](#) for its solid waste collection rates and rules.

Translations

- [Tarifas del servicio de recolección comercial](#)

Commercial Service Rates

Compost at Work

Green Business Leaders Directory

Green Business Leaders Newsletter

Multifamily Property Managers

Recycle at Work

Small Business Spotlight



County Authority to Set Collection Rates

- **Authority of the Code:**
- **Section 8.04.330** provides that increases or decreases in the rates shall not be made by the board unless the board finds that the increase or decrease is based upon an increase or decrease in the cost of doing business or an increased cost of additional, better or more comprehensive service.



→ Rate Review Stakeholders

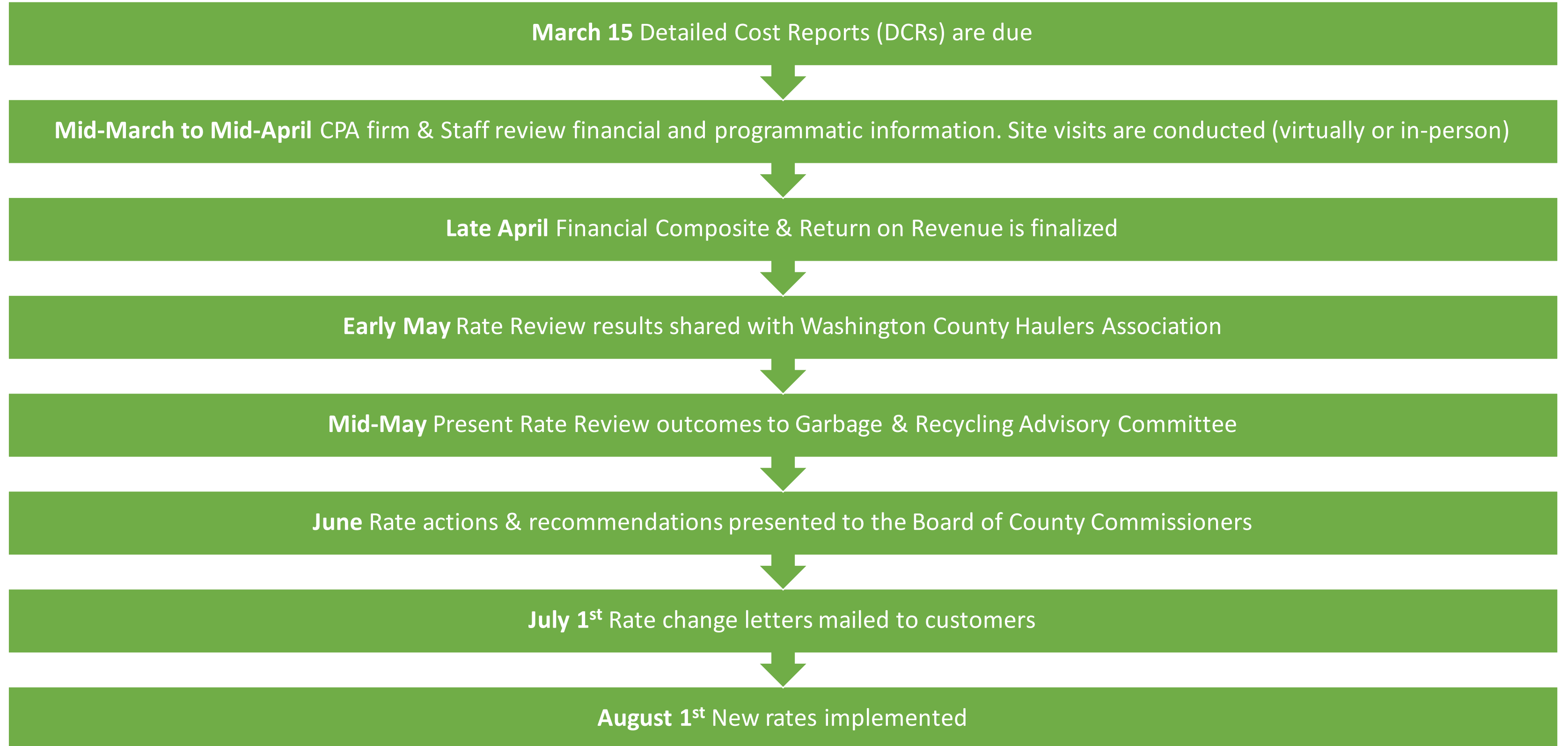


- **Washington County**
- **Community Members**
- **Certificated Haulers**





Annual Rate Review Timeline





Rates are Set from Analysis

- Existing collection services rates were established from historical studies.
- Detailed Cost Reports (DCRs) are required annually from all certificate holders.
- Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approves the target Return on Revenue (ROR), 10% has been the recent target.
- Rate adjustments are made across the three service lines. The aggregate revenue reaches the desired % change needed to achieve the target ROR.



→ Cost of Service Model

**Return on Revenue (ROR)
methodology is utilized**

Revenues – Expenses = Profit

Profit/Revenues = Return on Revenue

Current target 10% ROR





Data included in the DCR



- Annual review of detailed programmatic and financial information along with assessment of the haulers allocations is required.
- Haulers must share data related to wages, labor, finances, equipment, customer accounts, and operational expenses.
 - Direct cost –are expenses the company can easily connect or trace to a specific product or service.
 - Indirect cost – “shared” costs such as office space, or operational cost and equipment used for multiple lines of service and in multiple jurisdictions.



Key considerations



- **In determining whether to grant a rate change the items below are considered by the BCC:**
 - investment in facilities and equipment
 - services of management
 - local wage scales
 - concentration of customers in the area served
 - methods of collection and transportation
 - length of haul to disposal facilities and the cost of disposal
 - reasonable return on revenue for the haulers
 - system impacts (foreseen and not)

→ Rates Provide Revenue

- Collection rates provide gross receipts fees to Washington County.
 - Certificate holders remit 3% of quarterly gross receipt revenue to Washington County.
- Funding for fiscal year 23-24 is directly allocated to the Washington County general fund
 - Solid Waste & Recycling budget is appropriated from the general fund.



Outcomes for the Stakeholders

- Washington County confirms that garbage and recycling rates are fair, just and reasonable for all rate payers.
 - In addition, revenues collected help fund the Solid Waste & Recycling Division and system oversight.
- Community members can be confident that the garbage and recycling collection service rates are fair, reasonable and access is equal.
- Private haulers earn a profit that is adequate for the essential services provided.

→ Collection Service Rates - Types

- Residential collection rates
- Commercial container, cart and food scrap collection rates
- Occasional container, drop box and compactor collection rates
- Medical waste collection rates





Residential Rates



- **Community members between select standard service or will call**
 - Standard collection service includes weekly garbage, and every-other-week recycling and food scraps & yard debris.*
 - Will call service is available a la carte for garbage and it includes recycling and yard debris* collection service.
 - Regular, recurring collection service rates are set on a monthly basis but typically billed bi-monthly.

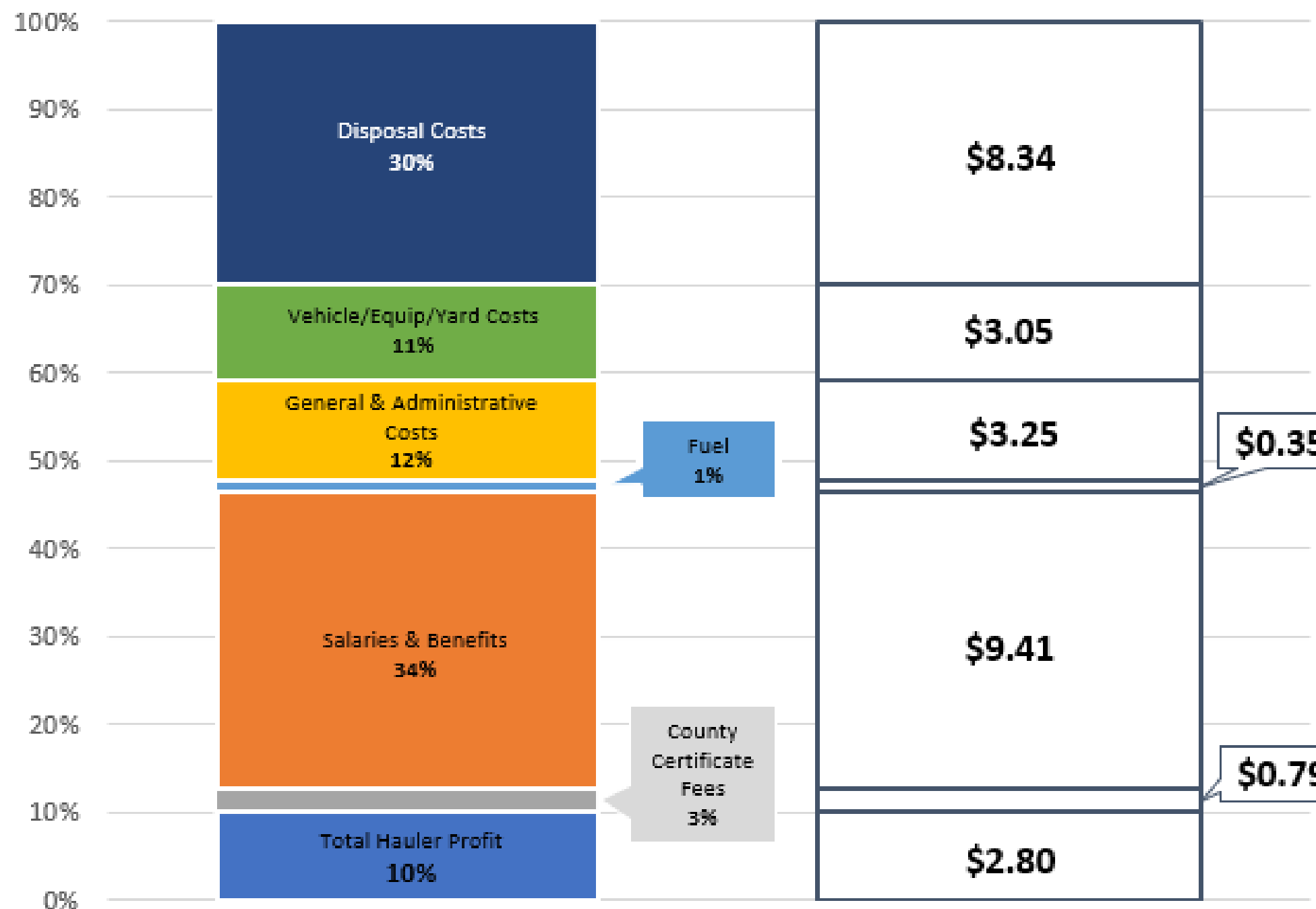
* *Rural customers do not receive food scrap & yard debris collection*

→ Example Cost Breakdown

32-Gallon Urban Residential Collection



System Level 2020 Profit/Cost Breakdown





Commercial Rates



Commercial container and can/cart garbage collection service includes recycling collection

- Fees for container service are based on the number of stops per container/per week and are charged monthly.
- Fees for can/cart service are charged monthly.
- Commercial food scraps collection service is only available to urban customers.



Drop Box & Compactor Rates



Drop box, occasional container or compactor service

- Transportation and disposal have separate fees that apply – drop box/compactor customers pay *actual* cost of disposal.
- Additional fees include mileage, profit margin, rental, and set up fees.
- A la carte glass & mixed recycling is available for an additional fee.



Medical Waste Rates



Medical waste collection rates

- Price is determined by the number and size of containers picked up.
- Medical waste must be placed in approved medical and sharps containers.
- Service is typically subcontracted out to specialty collection service providers.



Thank you

Any Questions?
Thank you!

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