

Lewiston Public Works Informational

Selecting A Good Quality Trash/Recyclable Waste Collection Container

The Lewiston Public Works Department is taking this opportunity to provide suggestions for the purchase of new or replacement containers for your household trash & recyclable waste.

- 1) Select a container **NO LARGER** than **36** gallons. Larger containers tend to be overloaded and weigh more than 30 pounds. This makes trash removal from the container difficult/awkward. In addition, the larger containers typically have wheels, which aren't meant to be used as handles for emptying waste into the truck hopper. As such, **please avoid trash containers with wheels**. Correct weight and no wheels help prevent residual waste remaining in the base of a container and wheel damage.



Select a container which is made of a heavy gauge plastic (**see above photo**). The size (36 gallon) & style of the container pictured can be purchased at various retail outlets.

Given the heavy gauge of this container's plastic, it is less likely to:

- Blow away due to windy conditions or truck traffic on busy roads (i.e., Lisbon, Sabattus and/or Main Streets) when the container is returned to curbside in an upside down position.
- Be damaged during trash collection, particularly during the winter season when lighter plastic tends to become brittle and is susceptible to breaking.
- Have handles that break away from the container during trash collection operations.

A **fitted lid** is recommended for the container. This reduces the chance of litter issues from birds and other animals. It also reduces the chances of trash/recyclable waste freezing in the base of the container during the winter season.

- 2) **PLEASE REMEMBER:** The City does not provide containers for recyclable waste material.
- 3) The above-pictured container is suitable for collection of recyclables as well as trash.
- 4) We recommend placing 3 – 4 **“ZERO SORT RECYCLING”** labels on the container when used for collecting recyclable waste.
- 5) These labels are free of charge and can be obtained at:

- Lewiston City Hall, 27 Pine Street, 2nd Floor
- Lewiston Public Works, 103 Adams Avenue
- Solid Waste Facility, 424 River Road, Lewiston
- Lewiston Public Library, 200 Lisbon Street (**When It Re-opens**)

To connect with staff about trash/recyclable containers, residents may reach out to either Deputy Public Works Director Megan Bates mbates@lewistonmaine.gov or Solid Waste Superintendent Rob Stalford rstalford@lewistonmaine.gov