

# 2025 Borough of Crafton - Waste Hauling Bid Comparison

On August 22, 2024 Crafton Borough Council will be considering the following three lowest bid options for waste collection services in the Borough for 2025 and beyond. Crafton's ten year contract with WM ends in December. The Borough received bids from WM, Valley Waste, and County Hauling. County Hauling did not have the lowest bid and cannot be considered for these options. Please review the attached options and if you would like to provide comment please click the link below or come to the August 22nd Council Meeting for the discussion. Regardless of which option is chosen there will be changes in our trash collection services.

To Comment Click Here	Current Service	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
	WM - Manual Collection	WM - Semi Automated Collection	Valley Waste w/ Single Axel Alley Pickup	Valley Waste w/ Dual Axel Alley Pickup
What day will be pick up day for the Borough?	Tuesday	Tuesday	Multiple Days	Multiple Days
How will trash be collected?	Manually	Semi-Automated	Manually	Manually
Alley Pickup	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Will a Single Axel Truck be used for alley pickup?	No	No	Yes	No
Will Bins, Carts, or Trash Cans be provided?	No	Yes	No	No
Is there a limit to the amount of trash each week?	No	Yes - One Bin (96 gallon) Rated Capacity 300+lbs	Yes - 5 Bags (40lbs each) Total 200 lbs	Yes - 5 bags (40lbs) Total 200 lbs
What if you have more?	n/a	Pay for 2nd Bin (\$117.70 Annually)	Pay \$10 for 5 bag tags	Pay \$10 for 5 bag tags
Glass collection	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Glass Recycled	Yes	Yes	No - repurposed	No-repurposed
Recycling	Sticker on trash can	64 gallon bin (provided in contract price)	Sticker on trash can	Sticker on trash can
Hard to recycle items (electronics, chemicals, etc)	Yes - on demand	Yes - on demand	Yes - quarterly - on demand	Yes - quarterly - on demand
Cardboard	Broken down	Broken down and placed in 64 gallon bin	Broken down	Broken down
Bulk Items	no limit	one item per month (same week each month)	one item per week	one item per week
Annual Cost Increase per Residence	n/a	6.8%	3.8%	3.8%
First year increase from current contract	n/a	20.9%	19.9%	15.6%
Annual Cost per residence year 1*	n/a (2024 rate is \$285)	\$344.68	\$341.60	\$329.60
Annual Cost by year 5	n/a	\$448.72	\$394.52	\$382.52
Annual Cost by year 10	n/a	\$625.36	\$492.80	\$480.08

\* costs include \$10 admin charge

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Option Yr 1	Option Yr 2	Option Yr 3	Option Yr 4	Option Yr 5
WM - Semi Automated Collection	\$ 344.68	\$ 368.08	\$ 393.16	\$ 420.04	\$ 448.72	\$ 479.44	\$ 512.32	\$ 547.48	\$ 585.04	\$ 625.36
Valley Waste - Dual Axel Alley	\$ 329.60	\$ 342.08	\$ 355.04	\$ 368.48	\$ 382.52	\$ 413.96	\$ 429.56	\$ 445.76	\$ 462.56	\$ 480.08
Valley Waste - Single Axel Alley	\$ 341.60	\$ 354.08	\$ 367.04	\$ 380.48	\$ 394.52	\$ 425.96	\$ 441.56	\$ 457.76	\$ 474.56	\$ 492.08

# 2025 Crafton Borough Waste Collection Bids

## Frequently Asked Questions

---

### Semi-Automated vs Manual Collection

1. **What is meant by Manual vs Semi-Automatic collection?** There are three types of municipal waste collection offered in this region:

**Manual collection**, what we currently have and Valley Waste is offering, where two or three sanitation workers throw bags or dump trash cans into the back of a garbage truck.

**Semi-Automated collection**, what WM is proposing for 2025, and it requires two workers in the truck, but the workers do not have to lift the waste into the truck. Instead, they wheel it over to an automated lift mechanism on the truck that dumps the trash. This means they can clear a street more quickly with less fatigue and a lower risk of injury.

**Automated Collection**, a service NOT proposed for Crafton, fully Automated collection only requires one driver in the truck and they control an automated arm that collects the trash. This method does not work in areas like Crafton where there are alleys and cars parked on the street.

2. **Can I use my own trash can and/or trash bags with any/all providers?** No. If the Borough decides to go with WM and their new contract, residents will be required to use the 96-gallon cart that WM provides. If Valley Waste is selected you will be able to use your own trash can and bags, but you will need to buy tags for any additional garbage bags if you need to throw out more than 5 bags (approx. 200 lbs) in any given week.

### Manual Collection with Valley Waste Service

1. **Are the Valley Waste Service options "manual collection"?** Yes, both bids being considered by Valley Waste Service, are for traditional manual collection.
2. **For Valley Waste, regarding amount of trash, does 1 bag = 1 trash can? What size trash can? Or is the amount to be based only on weight (40lb.)?** The amount is based on bags first, and each bag must be under 40lbs. So, if you have a trash can

that has three full bags in it, you will have two bags left that week. **Reminder:** The best way to reduce your weekly trash volume is to recycle effectively. There is no limit on recycling cans.

## Semi-Automated Collection with WM

1. **For WM, can you confirm that the first trash can and first recycle can are provided as part of the annual cost?** Yes. The trash can and recycling can will be provided.
2. **For WM, do the provided cans require a deposit from the customer?** No.
3. **For WM, if a provided can is stolen, does the customer pay for a new one?** A police report must be filed, and then the resident is responsible for replacing it.

4. **What is a "cart"?** A cart is what replaces a standard garbage can in semi-automated collection. The image to the right is an example of a 96-gallon cart. The cart allows the mechanical arm on the truck to pick up the cart and dump it.



5. **Would semi-automated collection require a change in street parking on trash days?**

No. As mentioned above, there would still be a second sanitation worker moving the carts into place. Please note in some alleys we do require people to park elsewhere on collection days, even with manual collection.

## Alley Pick-up and Single vs. Dual Axel Trucks

1. **What is an "alley"?** Many people in the Borough have their trash collected from the road or alley behind their house. This will not change – all three contracts will provide this service.
2. **What is the difference or advantage either way 1 vs 2-axel alley pickup?**  
Single axel alley pickup is that is less likely to cause damage to the alley infrastructure. Dual axel trucks have caused some pavement and concrete damage to alleys in the past. The damage caused since 2023, has been minimal – less than \$3,000 and has been fixed in-house.

## General Items

3. **Are the 2025 contracts 5-year contracts?** The Borough can select a 3, 4, or 5-year contract and the contract selected will have an equal number of option years. For example, if the Borough chooses to stick with WM for a 3-year contract, the Borough will have ability to continue the contract for 3 additional “option” years if WM agrees as well.
4. **What is the track record of each company’s customer service - at the borough level and resident level?** Each company provided evidence of the other municipalities and residents they serve. Valley Waste is servicing dozens of communities in Allegheny, Beaver, and Butler Counties. And WM services hundreds of communities across the Commonwealth and the Country.

## Recycling

1. **What other materials will be recycled?** The contract includes - aluminum, steel, ferrous, and bi-metal containers, plastic PETE (Type #1) and high-density polyethylene HDPE (type 2) plastic containers, including milk, water, juice, and soda bottles; cardboard, mixed paper, and newspaper.
2. **What does "no-repurposed" glass recycling mean? Does it mean that the consumer does the re-purposing?** Valley Waste takes the glass they collect via recycling, that is not clean enough to be valuable for resale, and they use it for ground cover on their landfill. The consumer does not repurpose it.
3. **If the Borough goes with Valley Waste Services will the Borough consider getting a glass recycling container like some other South Hills communities share?** Yes, the Borough will look for grants from DEP to have a glass recycling container available for residents.
4. **Can glass be placed in the regular trash?** For all three options it is preferable to place it in the single stream recycling.
5. **For both providers, is the recycling and cardboard actually recycled?** Yes. commingled or single stream recycling is recycled. As with any collection method, there will be contaminated recycling that cannot be sold in the materials market, but everything collected (aside from glass with Valley Waste) will be separated,

cleaned and sold on the materials market. Residents are encouraged to follow the annual guidance on what to dispose of and how – this can lower our contamination rates.

6. **For the Valley Waste proposal, what does “quarterly on demand” mean regarding Hard-to-Recycle items?** Valley Waste Services has a website and/or phone number you can call to pick up hard to recycle items, and each resident can do that once each quarter.