

## **SANITATION RETURNS TO PUBLIC WORKS** *City to resume trash pickup Aug. 30 with new trash trucks*

Starting the morning of Aug. 30, the Simpsonville Public Works Department will begin picking up trash from residential and core business district properties Monday-Friday. The contract with ACE Environmental, which Meridian Waste recently acquired, expires by Sept. 1. Public Works Director Andy West said the City is excited about the change and up to the task. “We’ve done a lot of preparation for August, so the staff and equipment are ready to get out on the road to get the job done,” West said. “With a fully funded Public Works Department and a great group of guys who are hard working and dedicated, the City will provide high quality customer service. There may be some speed bumps along the way, but we are committed to our motto: Simply Dependable.” Simpsonville City Council opted to allow the ACE agreement to expire and adopted in April a sanitation plan submitted by West. City Community Relations Specialist Justin Campbell said the will of Council was to move forward with in-house sanitation to ensure the highest accountability. “Returning sanitation services back to the Public Works Department is a positive change for the City of Simpsonville,” Campbell said. “With in-house trash pickup, the sanitation team will be directly accountable to City leadership. The goal is quality service, and that goal will be achieved.”



### *What's Inside*

- Letter from Public Works Director **2**
- FAQ: Sanitation Transition **3**
- What to Know **4**
- Meet the Leadership **5**
- Trash Collection Routes **7**
- Info on Recycling **8**
- Donate Cans, Help Kids **9**

*“With a fully funded Public Works Department and a great group of guys who are hard working and dedicated, the City will provide high quality customer service.”*

*— Andy West, Public Works Director*



July 30, 2021

Dear Simpsonville Residents,

It is the mission of the Simpsonville Public Works Department to provide efficient services for those that live, work, and visit Simpsonville, without sacrificing quality and fiscal responsibility. We are excited to bring sanitation services back internally. With this change, we bring a level of accountability and control back to the citizens that depend on us for this essential service.

Please be on the lookout for information to be released regarding can delivery, can collection days, and holiday schedules. As we begin the sanitation roll out of 2021, we request a little patience and understanding as we transition from Meridian to your very own Public Works department. If you have any concerns with other services such as streets and beautification, sewer, or building maintenance, please contact Simpsonville Public Works at (864) 967-9531.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy West".

Andy West  
Public Works Director

# FAQ: Sanitation Transition

## Answers to questions about new sanitation services

**Q: When will Meridian Waste pick up my can?**

A: Meridian Waste will pick up cans on your last day of service of Aug. 26 or Aug. 27. Leave all ACE/Meridian cans on the curb for Meridian to pick up.

**Q: When will the Public Works Department deliver my new can?**

A: The Public Works Department will deliver 1 new black Simpsonville can to each resident and business in the core district the week of Aug. 23. Leave your can on the curb for 24 hours or until an informational flyer has been ziptied to the can.

**Q: What is the first day of trash pickup by Public Works?**

A: The first day of trash pickup by Public Works will be Aug. 30.

**Q: Will Public Works pick up trash from both of my garbage cans if I have 2 cans?**

A: Public Works will pick up trash from only the 1 new black trash can.

**Q: Why is Public Works servicing only 1 trash can?**

A: The collection route for Public Works sanitation division is based on servicing only 1 can; servicing more than 1 can would reduce the efficiency of service and put trash collection behind schedule.

**Q: What if I have more trash than can fit in my 1 can?**

A: Recyclables can be dropped off at several local centers; reduce and reuse habits lessen waste even more so than recycling. (see Page 8)

**Q: What about bulk item and yard waste pickup and recyclables?**

A: All bulk items and yard waste will continued to be picked up under past and continuing guidelines; curbside recycling ends Sept. 1.

# WHAT TO KNOW

about guidelines, cans, holidays & more...



## Guidelines for Trash Pickup

- ◆ 1) No bags permitted outside of can except on holidays
- ◆ 2) Maintain 3 feet of clearance on all sides of can from other objects
- ◆ 3) Do not park in front of the can
- ◆ 4) Can must be on curb by 7 a.m. on your pickup day
- ◆ 5) Front of can must face roadside
- ◆ 6) Brush and limbs must be less than 6 feet long and 6 inches in diameter
- ◆ 7) Grass clippings must be bagged year round not to exceed 25 pounds per bag
- ◆ 8) Loose leaves will be picked up Oct. 1 - April 1
- ◆ 9) Leaves must be bagged during April 1 - Oct. 1 to be picked up
- ◆ 10) Loose leaves mixed with grass clippings will not be picked up

## Prohibited Items

- ◆ 1) Paints & solvents
- ◆ 2) Tires
- ◆ 3) Propane tanks
- ◆ 4) Electronics
- ◆ 5) Liquids
- ◆ 6) Medical waste
- ◆ 7) Batteries

## Holidays

Trash pickup will be delayed 1 day for the below holidays:

- ◆ 1) New Year's Day
- ◆ 2) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- ◆ 3) Memorial Day
- ◆ 4) Independence Day
- ◆ 5) Labor Day
- ◆ 6) Thanksgiving Day
- ◆ 7) Christmas Day

## MEET THE LEADERSHIP

Andy West is the director of the Public Works Department for the City of Simpsonville. West, who lives in Laurens, oversees sanitation services, streets and beautification, sewer operations and building and fleet maintenance. After serving as the City grounds superintendant from 2008 to 2018, West became the assistant director of Public Works before assuming his current position in 2019. West, who also serves as the City arborist, enjoys spending time with his three daughters and wife, shooting (or attempting to shoot) sporting clays and working on his farm with his Labrador Retriever Buddy. As a Clemson University alum (2004), West loves to watch the Tigers as well as enjoy the small-town Friday night lights when he watches the Laurens Raiders play high school football.

West is excited about the resumption of sanitation services by the Public Works Department. As his department transitions to taking on garbage collection, West is asking residents and businesses to be patient while drivers and leadership adjust to having a new division and information and updates on garbage collection are provided to the media and on [simpsonville.com](http://simpsonville.com). On top of a brand new trash can, according to West, residents and businesses should expect accountability and efficient service from the Simpsonville Public Works Department. "We are managing the resources we have to operate a sustainable operation that allows for future growth with fiscal responsibility," West said, who added that the guys at Public Works strive to be more than the typical government worker:



**ANDY WEST**

**Public Works  
Director**

**Sanitation Division:** responsible for collecting trash from residential and core business district properties

**Sewer Division:** maintains 120 miles of sewer with a CCTV camera with about 30,000 feet a month of maintenance

**Streets & Beautification Division:** maintains all city-owned streets and rights of way inside city limits, including landscaping downtown and mowing Interstate-385 interchanges

**Building Maintenance Division:** maintains all city facilities; Supervisor Mike Lyda is also very skilled in tree pruning and removals, which helps save the city money when tree work is required

**Fleet Services Division:** maintains and repairs everything from landscaping equipment to fire trucks and police cruisers; "Without these guys, we are dead in the water," West said. "They truly keep the City of Simpsonville moving."

*"One of the most fulfilling aspects of the Simpsonville Public Works Department is when all the divisions come together to accomplish a task when a need arises. Whether crews are working all night with the fire and police departments during a storm or cleaning up tornado damage days on end, multiple divisions become indispensable on a moment's notice to face a challenge with many changing variables. We lean on the motto 'Simply Service.' I expect my staff to approach every day with the mentality of entering the shop to work and hitting the streets to serve."*

**Andy West, Public Works Director**

## MEET THE LEADERSHIP

Brian Thompson is the sanitation supervisor of the Public Works Department for the City of Simpsonville. Thompson's main responsibility in the City is to ensure that the trash of everyone resident and business in Simpsonville is collected on time. Thompson, who began working for the City in 2021, joined Simpsonville Public Works in the middle of the transition from sanitation by a third-party contractor to in-house sanitation by the department. As the sanitation supervisor, Thompson is committed to providing Simpsonville residents and businesses with high-quality customer service, accountability and a problem-solving attitude.



**BRIAN THOMPSON**

**Sanitation  
Supervisor**

When Thompson is not overseeing sanitation for the City of Simpsonville, he enjoys watching football, playing golf and spending time with his family. Thompson's sport teams are the Florida State Seminoles and Green Bay Packers.

As the Public Works Department resumes sanitation services, Thompson, like West, is asking residents and businesses for "a lot" of patience. "With any startup, there are going to be bumps in the road," Thompson said. "Once the transition is made, trash will be picked up in a timely manner. The main thing the public needs to know about the Simpsonville Public Works Department is that we work arduously for all residents in the City of Simpsonville."

*"The main thing that the public needs to know about the Simpsonville Public Works Department is that we work arduously for all residents in the City of Simpsonville."*

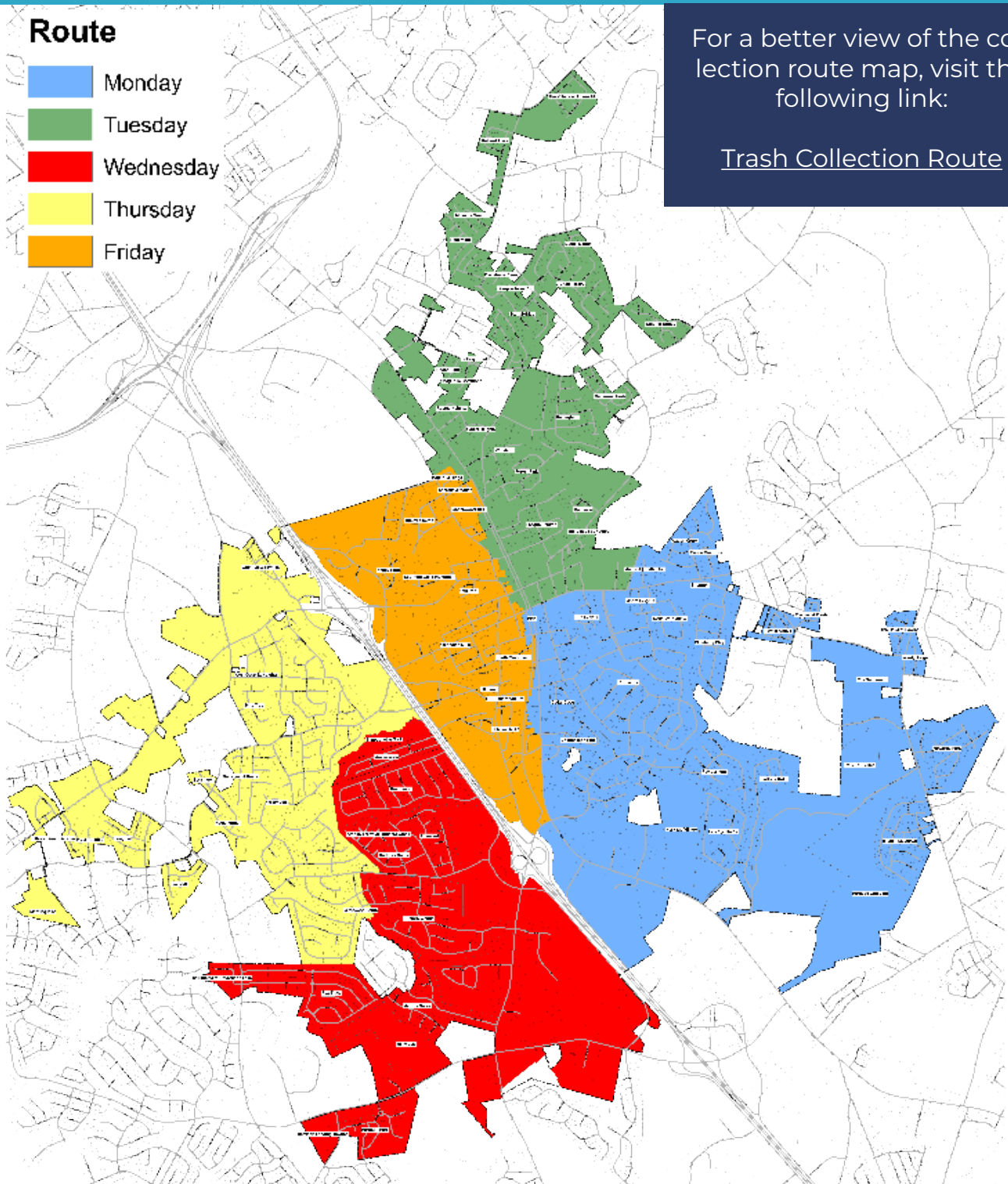
**Brian Thompson, Sanitation Supervisor**

**The bottom line is that Andy West, Brian Thompson and the guys at Public Works see the residents of Simpsonville not just as customers but more importantly as neighbors, families and friends.**

## Trash Collection Route Map for the City of Simpsonville

### Route

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday



For a better view of the collection route map, visit the following link:

[Trash Collection Route](#)

Because single-stream recycling continues to prove ineffective and increasingly costly, **curbside recycling will be discontinued in the City of Simpsonville starting Sept. 1.** The Simpsonville Public Works Department will resume sanitation services Aug. 30 and collect only garbage from the new black Simpsonville cans. To ensure enduring sustainability for our community and environment, the City of Simpsonville is taking a more comprehensive approach to waste reduction, an approach that includes continuance of recycling by the community plus practicing good habits of reducing and reusing.

## Local Recycling Drop-off Centers

**Just because curbside recycling service is ending does not mean recycling has to end! To continue recycling, drop off your recyclables at the following local recycling centers:**

**City Park:** 405 E. Curtis St., Simpsonville

**Residential Waste & Recycling Center:** 517 Hipps Road, Simpsonville

**Brookwood Church:** 580 Brookwood Pointe Place, Simpsonville

**Fountain Inn Elementary School:** 608 Fairview St., Fountain Inn

**Conestee Park:** 840 Mauldin Road, Mauldin

**Public Works (operational in September):** 110 Woodside Park Drive, Simpsonville

### *Tips for Simply Sustainable Recycling*

Ensure recyclables are empty, clean and dry

No plastics that can tear like paper can be recycled - recycle only rigid plastics labeled by resin codes 1-7

Make the effort to ensure you're not mixing in non-recyclables and trash

Do not recycle any items smaller than a credit card

Avoid "wishcycling," hoping the items that you drop off are recyclable; stay knowledgeable and informed!



Still want curbside recycling? Waste reduction company Recyclops can provide curbside pickup of recyclables for a monthly subscription. Pickup is done by smaller motor vehicles instead of larger industry trucks, and Recyclops ensures that all recyclables actually get recycled and stay out of the landfills. Subscription rates start as low as \$12/month with bi-weekly pickup and bags. Pay a little more and Recyclops will pick up glass, too! To sign up for curbside recycling with Recyclops, visit [recyclops.com](https://recyclops.com).



**Donate cans, help pediatric burn patients**  
**Cash from aluminum cans donated to fire stations sends children**  
**with severe burns to camp**



Simpsonville Deputy Fire Marshal Jamal Mack oversees the Fire Department's Burned Children's Fund initiative.

The Simpsonville Fire Department accepts aluminum cans from the public at all six fire stations to benefit the Medical University of South Carolina Burned Children's Fund. The Burned Children's Fund provides non-medical items and services critical to the recovery of pediatric burn patients. Items and services include wound care, rehabilitative equipment, access to hydrotherapy rooms, medications, dressing supplies and funding for the patients' and their families' basic needs during treatment, such as food, lodging, clothing and transportation. Simpsonville Deputy Fire Marshal Jamal Mack said the Fund also helps send pediatric burn patients to Camp "Can Do." "The camp is designed specially for burned children," Mack said. "It's a week of fun activities and to be amongst peers with the same experience. Camp 'Can Do' matches firefighter counselors with burned children to help them return to school as well as educate their classmates about their experience." Each fire station has a red trailer in its parking lot with side doors into which cans can be dumped. The public, including the elderly and people with disabilities, can set bagged cans next to the trailer for firefighters to retrieve. Mack said the recycling facility to which the firefighters take the cans knows about the Fund and is "generous enough to give us a little extra" for the patients. "Each year donations increase," Mack said. "We will take whatever we 'can.'"

**To help pediatric burn patients, drop off your aluminum cans at one of the six Simpsonville fire stations listed below:**

**Fire HQ: 403 E. Curtis St.**

**Station 4: 1375 Neely Ferry Road**

**Fire Station 2: 9 Capewood Road**

**Station 5: 400 E. Standing Springs Road**

**Fire Station 3: 839 Highway 14**

**Station 6: 1401 Jonesville Road**