

Can I put electronic items like TVs, computer monitors or appliances in my trash? No. Customers must take these items to the landfill themselves. The City is prohibited from placing these items in their truck and co-mingling them with regular household trash.

Will the City have large construction dumpsters available to rent? No. The City will not have large construction dumpsters, but residents will be able to get them from other area trash companies.

Will the City continue to offer trash recycling? Yes. The City is currently working on a plan that will allow residents to continue to recycle. The City encourages recycling which reduces the number of tons of garbage hauled to the landfill, thus saving the City landfill fees.

Can the City make money on providing a trash service? Looking at the numbers presented, we believe that once the original equipment is paid off in approximately 5 years, the City can make a profit and in return, provide a new revenue source. Three local banks looked at the proposed budget and all three banks were willing to loan the money to fund the project. If the banks were not comfortable with the figures presented, they would not have loaned the money.

A FEW SIMPLE GUIDELINES TO ENSURE THE PROPER COLLECTION OF YOUR GARBAGE:

- ⇒ Please bag and tie trash bags shut to help prevent blowing litter.
- ⇒ Place your trash toter with the lid opening facing the street (the proper direction is illustrated on the container). DO NOT place your toter in the street.
- ⇒ Make sure your container's lid closes shut but DO NOT use a bungee cord to secure it. Do not anchor your toter to any fixture or structure.
- ⇒ Place your toter in a location at least three feet away from any obstructions that would interfere with the automated arm's ability to properly grasp your toter such as a mailbox, light pole, fence, tree, or a vehicle. Be aware of overhead obstacles such as tree limbs and power lines. Placing your trash container in your driveway is preferred.
- ⇒ All trash needs to be placed inside of the trash container. Trash may not be sticking out above the container.
- ⇒ Customers having two toters should place their containers approximately three feet apart.

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Alma!
is for
YOU!

City of Alma

Information Regarding the City of Alma's Sanitation Service Beginning January 1, 2013



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Starting in January, 2013, the City of Alma will begin its own Sanitation Service. The creation of the service has required the purchase of a truck, trash containers, and a building to house the equipment for a cost of around \$375,000.00. The idea behind the City starting its own trash business is to eventually increase City revenue which will help to keep property taxes low.

We hope this brochure will help educate you about the new service. We want to assure you that you will experience **no major change to the service you currently receive**. Please see the back of this brochure for a Few Simple Guidelines to Ensure the Proper Collection of Your Garbage. It is the goal of the City to provide a service of equal quality, if not better, compared to other sanitation services in the area.

There are **no plans to increase trash rates**. One of the reasons the City Council decided to establish the Sanitation Service is to be able to exercise control over the rates. Current rates for a residential or commercial 96-gallon container will remain at \$15.63/month. The commercial dumpsters will come in 1-yd, 1½-yd, and 2¼-yd sizes. As is the current policy, larger commercial dumpster fees will be based on the size and quantity of containers the customer requires. The **containers will be black** in color.

The **trash pick up schedule** will continue to be: **Monday-Commercial**, **Tuesday-Residential** west of John Street, **Friday-Residential** east of John Street and Commercial. The City will continue to provide the walk-up service to its handicapped or disabled customers.

The truck uses an **automated arm** to grasp and lift the container overhead for dumping. This design should allow the driver to operate the route in a timely manner by making minimal exits from the truck. We feel it is important for customers to be familiar with how the automated arm operates so they understand the need to follow the Guidelines on the back of this brochure. Photographs of the truck in operation are pictured on the front of this brochure for illustrative purposes.

Because the truck is a top-load style, it is **equipped with a video camera** that will aide the driver in **viewing the materials being dumped** from the container into the truck. If the driver identifies any unacceptable materials which the landfill could reject or which could damage the truck such as construction debris, lumber, metal, concrete, or hazardous materials, he will cease emptying your container until said items are removed.

The concept of increasing efficiency and minimizing worker injury through the use of the automated system will be compromised if the driver is required to exit and re-enter the truck multiple times each day. Therefore, **extra trash left beside the container will not be accepted**. Customers will need to adjust to fitting their trash within their container or they can order a second container if they do not feel one is sufficient. Customers should call the City to arrange a special pick up for large items which will not fit within their container. The minimum charge for the special pick up will be \$15.63.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

How will the City pick up my trash if the truck breaks down? The company from whom the truck was purchased will deliver a temporary replacement truck within one day in the event of mechanical failure.

Will the City continue to do the annual Community Clean-Up Day? Yes. This annual, spring project is sponsored by Alma Public Schools. The City of Alma assists with the project and budgets the funds necessary to pay for it. The project will continue as long as the School and other volunteer groups continue to support it.

What if my regular pick up day falls on a holiday? In order for City workers to spend time with their families on holidays, the schedule may need to be adjusted during the week of a holiday.

<i>If Holiday Falls On</i>	<i>And Your Regular Pick Up Day Is</i>	<i>Your Alternate Pick Up Day Will Be</i>
Monday	Monday	Tuesday
	Tuesday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Friday	Friday	Thursday*

**During the week of Thanksgiving, if you are a Friday schedule will be picked up on Wednesday.*

What do I do with larger items that need disposed of like an old chair or mattress? You should call the City Office to make special arrangements for the item to be picked up. There will be a minimum charge of \$15.63 applied to your utility account for this service. If you have proper means of transportation, you may haul the item directly to the landfill south of Hol-drege. Another option is to store the item until the annual Community Clean-Up Day next April.