

Bulky Waste Collection Options:

Annual Curbside Collection (example: the old Heavy Item Pick-Up program)

This is the program employed in Portland prior to E-Cards. Residents in each City Council District were assigned a collection week. Eligible residents in each area placed acceptable items out prior to their assigned week. City crews went through each neighborhood to collect the materials and deliver them to Riverside Recycling. (*See attached rules for the program.*)

Weekly Curbside Collection – Bulky Item Tags (example: Dover, NH)

Residents purchase special bulky item tags at participating retailers. Acceptable items placed at the curb for collection must have a bulky item tag affixed. Collection crews only collect items with an appropriate tag.

Collection by Appointment (example: Worcester, MA)

Residents contact the service provider to request a bulky item collection. The resident describes the items to be collected and pays the appropriate fee. A collection crew arrives and collects the items that the resident arranged to have collected. Additional items that were not described (or paid for) are not collected.

Bulky Item Drop Off Program (example: current program in Portland)

Residents deliver bulky items to a designated facility. Many communities do not provide curbside collection and rely solely on a drop off program. Other communities augment a curbside program with a drop off program to accommodate difficult to collect items, to provide service for businesses (or others not eligible for curbside collection) or to provide convenience.

“Swap Shop”

Some communities maintain a facility to store unwanted but still useful items such as wooden or metal furniture, bicycles, toys, appliances or power equipment (for example). Some communities include items such as paint for exchange. The facility is open periodically for residents to look for items they have a need for. In some cases, the facility requests a donation to help defray operating costs.