City/Ohio State Collaborate on New Move-In Sustainability Service for off-campus students

Collection of recyclables, electronics recycling and non-perishable food will be added

Student Life’s Willie J. Young Sr. Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement is collaborating with the City of Columbus Division of Refuse Collection and the University District Organization to make it easier for students to go green when moving out of and into off-campus housing before the start of fall semester.

For the first time, the city is adding services that encourage students to reduce, reuse and recycle items and divert them from the landfill. Collection of recyclables, electronics, non-perishable food and clothing will be offered to support sustainability.

“We know that Ohio State students are very interested in sustainability,” said Dilnavaz Cama, Director of Student Life’s Department of Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement. “This project will make it far easier for them to participate in diverting a substantial amount of material from the landfill while improving the livability of the University District.”

Along with the temporary dumpsters that Refuse Collection will provide at 16 locations for bulk trash disposal from July 30 through August 15, dumpsters to collect acceptable recyclables will be available at four of the sites.

“This partnership is an opportunity for students to contribute to a healthier environment and help us achieve Climate Action Plan strategies to reduce the amount of waste generated and increase the rate of diversion from the landfill,” said Tim Swauger, Administrator of the Division of Refuse Collection. “We can also help educate them about how to recycle right.”

In addition, services will be provided on August 2 and August 4 at 28 E. Woodruff Ave., behind the Ohio Stater Student Housing building, to collect electronics recycling, non-perishable food items and unopened toiletries to donate to the Mid-Ohio Food Collective, and clothing to donate to local charities.

“The more we are able to divert waste from the landfill helps our sustainable and clean efforts in the off-campus neighborhoods,” said Nora Gerber, Executive Director for the University District Organization. “Additionally, we are excited to add clothes donations as an option for collection this year because these gently used clothing items will go directly to our University District on-street outreach programming. This operation will create immediate positive impacts for our community.”

This list identifies the Refuse Collection dumpster locations for bulk trash disposal of larger items such as furniture, mattresses and rugs, and the sites where recyclables dumpsters will also be available from July 30 through August 15:

- 454 E. Northwood Ave, rear parking lot at Iuka Park Commons – plus recyclables collection
- 176-178 E. Norwich Ave., rear parking lot
- 117 W. Norwich Ave., side parking area
- 1975 Summit St., rear parking area
- 174 E. 12th Ave., rear parking lot
The on-street dumpster locations may require temporary on-street parking restrictions. Students and others should pay attention to the temporary No Stopping signage that will be in place and enforced around these locations.

Students are encouraged to donate gently used furniture and to reuse and recycle items rather than dispose of them. Visit https://www.universitydistrict.org/move for a map of the bulk disposal and recycling dumpster locations listed above; tips on where to donate furniture and non-perishable food; and how to properly dispose of items when using the bulk item dumpsters.

Visit https://recycleright.org/ for information on items that are acceptable for the recycling dumpsters.

-###-