

# **Berkeley Township Robo-can**

## **Automated Trash & Recycling Program**

This message is specifically for residents in the Holiday City & Silver Ridge homeowners associations. There have been several rumors and many questions regarding the upcoming Robo-can program being initiated by the Township. This message is being distributed to explain the program, its necessity, its benefits and provide insight to residents regarding the program.

The following information was prepared by the Department of Public Works for dissemination to the residents of our senior communities scheduled to participate in Robo-can usage starting sometime near the end of the first quarter of 2025.

Respectfully,

Mike Signorile (Ward 3) & Sophia Gingrich (Ward 4)  
Berkeley Township Council

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MOVING TO AUTOMATED TRASH COLLECTION?**

*Automation is a faster and a more efficient way to collect residential solid waste. Additionally, other towns that have moved to automated collection have reported an increase in recycling rates and an overall reduction in the amount of trash collected. The hinged lids help to keep rainwater out of the cans, reduce trash weight, and are animal-proof as well. In addition to anticipated time and cost savings, the program will help keep our neighborhoods neat and clean, improve safety on residential streets, and provide safer working conditions for trash collectors. Cans are durable and easy to maneuver.*

#### **WILL CURRENT EMPLOYEES LOSE THEIR JOBS?**

*NO! This plan is not in place to lay off any public works employees.*

#### **IS THERE A COST FOR THE NEW CANS?**

*Your first trash and recycling cans are free. There will be a cost to purchase any additional cans.*

#### **WHAT ARE THE SIZES OF THE NEW CANS?**

*Berkeley Township is offering one (1) sixty-five (65) gallon trash and one (1) sixty-five (65)-gallon recycling can. Residents may request a ninety-five (95) gallon can in advance. Please note a sixty-five (65) gallon can holds 4-5 tall kitchen trash bags and a ninety-five (95) gallon can hold 7-8 tall kitchen trash bags.*

#### **CAN I ORDER ADDITIONAL CANS?**

*For an additional cost you may purchase up to one (1) more trash and or recycling can*

#### **WHEN WILL WE RECEIVE OUR NEW CANS?**

*Cans will be delivered to every home within Holiday City sometime after the new year. Appointments are not necessary, and you do not need to be home to receive your new trash can. If you travel during the winter, you may call the public works office at 732-349-4616 and put your trash can delivery on hold.*

### **WHEN WILL THE AUTOMATED COLLECTION BEGIN?**

*You may start using your new can once it's delivered to you.*

### **WHAT DO THE NEW CANS LOOK LIKE?**

*Berkeley Township has selected Burgundy, 65-gallon trash cans and Blue 65-gallon recycling cans. These cans will help to keep our residential streets neat and clean. All trash cans will have the Township logo on the side and will be linked to your address via a serial number embedded in the plastic.*

### **CAN I USE THE CAN I ALREADY HAVE?**

*No. Only those cans provided by the Township will be collected. Cans other than those provided by the township will not be collected.*

### **WHAT DO I DO WITH MY CAN IF I MOVE?**

*Trash/Recycling Cans are issued and owned by the Township and must remain at the property address to which they are assigned.*

### **THE NEW CANS LOOK BIG. ARE THEY EASY TO WHEEL TO AND FROM THE CURB?**

*New Trash & Recycling cans are designed for weight distribution and safety. They are easy to maneuver empty and full. Most importantly they are senior friendly and roll easily on all types of terrain.*

### **WHAT DO I DO WITH MY OLD TRASH CAN?**

*You may leave your old can at the curb, and it will be disposed of for you by the Department of Public Works.*

### **ARE THE NEW CANS ANIMAL PROOF?**

*The new cans are the most animal proof available. If you store your can outside and encounter a problem with animals, you can use a bungee cord to secure the lid to the lift bar, but please remember to remove the bungee cord on your collection day or your can will not be emptied.*

### **WILL MY COLLECTION DAY REMAIN THE SAME?**

*Yes. Your trash will continue to be collected weekly, and on the same collection day. Trash & Recycling cans are to be placed at the curb no earlier than the evening prior and no later than 6 am of your collection day.*

### **WHAT IF MY CAN GETS DAMAGED?**

*Contact the Department of Public Works at (732) 349-4616 to report a damaged can.*

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH OVERFLOW TRASH THAT DOES NOT FIT INTO MY CAN?**

*Your new trash can accommodate as much volume as 2 to 3 standard-sized trash cans. We expect these cans to be sufficient for your household needs. If you have a one-time overflow of trash, please hold it until your next regular collection day or drop it off at the Ocean County Landfill. If you continue to have an overflow of trash or recycling, a second can should be purchased.*

### **WILL I STILL RECEIVE BULK COLLECTION**

*Bulk Collection will be scheduled on an as needed basis. If you have items to put out for bulk, you may call the public works office at 732-349-4616 and schedule your bulk pick up.*

### **HOW DO I PREPARE MY TRASH CAN FOR WEEKLY SET-OUT?**

*All trash must be bagged before being placed in the can. The lid to the can must close tightly. Your cans should be free of any obstacle such as mailboxes, telephone poles, vehicles, and any overhead obstructions. The can's handle and wheels are to face the house. The lids opening is to face the street. No material is to be sticking out of the can. Trash and recycling cans are to be placed at the curb approximately three (3) feet apart from each other, and at least four (4) feet from any other obstacle.*

### **WHAT IF I AM DISABLED?**

*Our disabled residents must provide a prescription provided by your doctor stating you are disabled and cannot walk your trash and recycling cans to the curb. Once we receive this prescription a team member from public works will bring your can to the curb to be emptied. Prescriptions must be renewed yearly and received by January 31. Extensions may be granted by calling the public works office.*

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF MY COLLECTION DAY FALLS ON A HOLIDAY?**

*If your trash/recycling collection falls on a Holiday it will be delayed one (1) day. If your trash is not picked up, please leave it at the curb for the next day until the department catches up. The departments' goal is to be back on track within 24-48 hours of the holiday.*

### **ARE THERE ANY ITEMS NOT PERMITTED FOR TRASH COLLECTION?**

*Recyclables*

*Yard Waste such as leaves, grass clippings, and brush.*

*Hot ash from fireplace or fire pits*

*Any other hazardous, flammable, combustible materials: such as oil-based paints, solvents, asbestos, or commercial medical waste.*

### **WHAT GOES IN MY RECYCLING CAN?**

*Loose Recyclable Plastics #1,2,5 (Lids and caps can be left on)*

*Glass Bottles, Jars and Containers*

*Aluminum, Steel, Tin, and Bi-Metal Cans*

*Paper, Cardboard, Newspapers, Magazines*

*ALL BOTTLES AND CANS SHOULD BE RINSED*

### **WHAT IS **NOT** ALLOWED IN MY RECYCLING CAN?**

*PLASTIC BAGS*

*Egg cartons*

*Pizza Boxes*

*Window glass*

*Aluminum Foil*

*PLASTIC BAGS*

*Styrofoam*

*Household Garbage/Waste*

*Yard Debris/Waste*

*AND PLASTIC BAGS...*

*See website for additional details.*

**Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we implement this new system. For additional questions, please contact the Department of Public Works at (732)-349-4616.**