



Dear Resident,

The City of Mount Vernon continues to provide weekly garbage pick-up service for your address. This is service for your **gray garbage cart**, or your large commercial bin/dumpster (for businesses). Recently, the City hired a consultant to analyze the City's garbage service and rates. The last change to garbage collection rates in Mount Vernon was in 2012.

The results of this recent study showed that Mount Vernon residents *have been paying less than the actual cost of service over the past few years*. The complete results of the survey study are available upon request, but here are the highlights of **how customers will be impacted by the upcoming (June 1, 2022) changes to garbage collection rates:**

- **20-Gallon carts are going away:** Right now, the smallest size garbage cart is the 20-gallon size. A 20-gallon cart is actually a 35-gallon cart with a 20-gallon insert in it. Unless you qualify as a low-income senior customer, your 20-gallon cart will be converted to its original 35-gallon size.
  - **Q: How will my cart be converted from 20-gallon to 35-gallon?**
  - **A:** Our garbage collections crew will remove the 20-gallon insert from your can. Following removal of the insert, our crews will leave your same cart, but now you will have access to the full 35-gallon capacity of your existing cart. Crews will do this on your pick-up day, between 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., over the next four weeks.
  - **Q: What will my rate be after my cart is converted from a 20-gallon to a 35-gallon?**
  - **A:** Beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, the 20-gallon option is going away (for non-senior customers). Customers who are required to upgrade to a 35-gallon cart will notice a substantial discount from the new 35-gallon cart rate of \$21.20/mo. In fact, your rate will graduate slowly over the next four years until you are finally paying the same rate as other 35-gallon customers in the city.
    - 2022: \$14.10/mo
    - 2023: \$18.30/mo
    - 2024: \$22.50/mo\*
  - **Q: What if I am a qualifying low-income senior citizen who currently receives a discounted rate for my 20-gallon cart?**
  - **A:** Your cart will remain a 20-gallon size, and you will pay the new discounted rate of \$6.70/month for your garbage service. Want to know if you qualify for the low-income senior discount? Please contact the City's utilities staff at 360.336.6218

\*All 35-gallon customers will pay \$22.50/mo in 2024



- **Q: How will the new rate increase impact *customers with carts larger than 20-gallons?***

	<b>NEW RATE</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
▪ <b><u>RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS</u></b>		
▪ 35-Gallon Monthly Service Rate:	\$21.20	(\$1.52 increase)
▪ 65-Gallon Monthly Service Rate:	\$35.35	(\$0.02 increase)
▪ 95-Gallon Monthly Service Rate:	\$47.55	(\$0 no increase)
▪ <b><u>LOW-INCOME SENIOR CUSTOMERS</u></b>		
▪ 20-Gallon Monthly Service Rate:	\$6.70	(\$1.75 increase)
▪ 35-Gallon Monthly Service Rate:	\$16.60	(\$1.34 increase)
▪ <b><u>COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS</u></b>		
▪ 1-Yard Bin Monthly Service Rate:	\$81.84	(\$0 no increase)
▪ 1.5-Yard Bin Monthly Service Rate:	\$105.48	(\$4.02 increase)
▪ 2-Yard Bin Monthly Service Rate:	\$132.09	(\$0 no increase)
▪ 4-Yard Bin Monthly Service Rate:	\$234.90	(\$4.37 increase)
▪ 6-Yard Bin Monthly Service Rate:	\$367.09	(\$0 no increase)
▪ 8-Yard Bin Monthly Service Rate:	\$461.06	(\$0 no increase)

Again, the new rate schedule reflects the increased costs of service over the past decade.

**Changes take effect on June 1, 2022;** and will be shown on your July invoice (for June service).

If you have questions regarding the rate schedule, the data found in the rate study, or any other City utility questions, please contact the City of Mount Vernon utilities staff at: **360.336.6218, or email at [mvutilities@mountvernonwa.gov](mailto:mvutilities@mountvernonwa.gov)**