

The Gainesville Zero Waste News

Managing Your Excess Garbage

Whether you're spring cleaning or possibly moving, it doesn't take long for garbage to start piling up. Even after composting all your food waste, donating all that cool stuff you hate to part with, and recycling all your boxes and other recyclables, you might still end up with more waste than what will fit in your garbage cart. Below are local pathways available for residents to manage excess waste.

- **FREE DROP-OFF:** Often, the least expensive and fastest disposal option for residents is to haul their garbage directly to one of the five [Alachua County Rural Collection Centers](https://alachuacounty.us/depts/solidwaste/residential/pages/rcc.aspx). These centers are free to use for Alachua County residents (which includes Gainesville residents), and each center accepts residential garbage, recyclables, yard waste, bulk items, and household hazardous waste. **To find the RCC closest to you and check the hours, visit <https://alachuacounty.us/depts/solidwaste/residential/pages/rcc.aspx>.**
- **YELLOW BAGS:** If visiting a drop-off location is not feasible, residents can **place their excess garbage in Official Yellow Bags for curbside collection**. These bags come in packs of 5 and are available for purchase locally at Publix and the two Gainesville Ace Hardware stores. Each Official Yellow Bag holds approximately 30 gallons of garbage and has a weight limit of 40 pounds per bag. Yellow Bags should be placed curbside by 7 AM on scheduled collection days and at least 2 feet from garbage carts.
- **PAID COLLECTION SERVICES:** Residents can also contract for **paid removal services** directly with private hauling companies. Local companies providing this service include GFL Environmental, 352 Hauling Crew, 1-800-GOT-JUNK, and others.



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