



## Beat the Heat, Spokane area: WM collections to start early this summer for driver safety

SPOKANE VALLEY, Wash. (July 5, 2022) – Local governments in the Spokane area and WM are launching a Beat the Heat schedule this summer to get WM drivers off the streets early and reduce the potential for heat-related illnesses and service delays.

After last summer’s record-breaking temperatures, Washington state regulators issued an emergency rule to provide increased protections for employees exposed to extreme heat. They advise adjusting work schedules as an effective way to protect employees.

WM is asking customers in Spokane Valley, Airway Heights, Liberty Lake, Deer Park, and unincorporated Spokane County to help keep drivers safe by placing carts at the curb one hour earlier or the night before their service day. Beginning Monday, July 11, carts must be at the curb by 5 am on residents’ regular collection day, or the night before. This will allow drivers to finish their routes before the hottest hours of the day.

“We are committed to protecting our drivers and providing reliable service during the hot summer months,” said WM Senior Associate of Education and Outreach Tami Haggerty. “Starting collections an hour earlier protects drivers and supports continuity of services. Heat-related illnesses can lead to driver absences, which can delay services.”

Collections times will return to the normal 6 am schedule on Oct. 1. For more information about WM services, the #1 resource is the WM website: [wmnorthwest.com](http://wmnorthwest.com).

### **About WM in Eastern Washington - Always working for a sustainable tomorrow**

WM is the leading provider of comprehensive recycling and environmental services across the Pacific Northwest and North America. In Eastern Washington, WM has provided recycling and integrated environmental services for more than 30 years. Since 2012, WM has advanced recycling for tens of thousands of businesses and residences at its state-of-the-art, single stream recycling facility – [the Spokane Materials and Recycling Technology Center \(SMaRT Center\)](#). WM employs more than 80 people to provide environmental services for Airway Heights, Deer Park, Liberty Lake, Millwood and Spokane Valley, as well as unincorporated areas of Spokane County and certain annexed portions of the City of Spokane. For information about local WM services, go to [wmnorthwest.com](http://wmnorthwest.com).

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