



Beat the Heat, Wenatchee Valley: WM collections to start early this summer for driver safety

WENATCHEE VALLEY, Wash. (June 21, 2022) – Local governments in the Wenatchee Valley 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 residents to help keep drivers safe by placing carts at the curb one hour earlier or the night before their service day. Beginning Monday, June 27, 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.

Reminder: In bear-prone areas, residents are advised to keep carts secured until the morning of their service day.

"This is about safety and continuity of service," said WM's Wenatchee Valley contract manager Tyler Mackay. "We are committed to safety as a WM core value. In addition, starting early will support resiliency and continuity of service. When drivers are healthy and rested, we can service customers on regular collection days. When drivers are dealing with heat-related illnesses, absences can impact services."

Collections times will return to the normal 6 am schedule on October 1. For more information about WM services, the #1 resource is the WM website: wmnorthwest.com.

About WM in the Wenatchee Valley - 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 the Wenatchee Valley, WM has provided services for more than 30 years. Today, the company provides solid waste collection services for Cashmere, East Wenatchee, Leavenworth, Rock Island, Wenatchee and throughout the rest of Chelan and Douglas counties. WM also owns and operates the Wenatchee transfer station and the [Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill](#), which has earned prestigious certification from the Wildlife Habitat Council for enhancing biodiversity. For more information, go to wmnorthwest.com

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