About the Program
Metro Waste Authority initiated the Curb It! residential recycling program in 1994. We are proud to bring you curbside recycling, but we aren’t doing it alone. We partner with Waste Management of Iowa for collection and Mid America Recycling, which sorts and sells the material for reuse.

Cart Placement Guidelines
The Curb It! program makes it easy to recycle, but we need your help to make it easy to collect. Here’s how you can help:

» Yard waste bags, garbage carts and other objects should be at least THREE FEET AWAY from your recycling cart.
» Your cart should be within 18 INCHES OF THE CURB.
» The short METAL BAR must face the street.
» Do not place cart near low-hanging branches.
» LID MUST BE CLOSED to prevent litter.

Correct placement ensures your recycling is picked up in a timely, safe and tidy manner. Failure to do so may mean your recycling will not be collected.

Collection or Cart Issues
Call Waste Management at 515.244.GREEN (244.7336) if your recyclables did not get collected or your cart is damaged.

What happens beyond your curb?
Your recyclable materials are hauled to Mid America Recycling, where mechanical processes, technology and people sort and bundle them for resale. To learn more about the process, visit www.WhereItShouldGo.com/curbit.

Want to Recycle Even More?
Metro Waste Authority provides two additional recycling programs.

Curb It! Extra – For $30 year, residents can request an extra cart.

Curb It! for Business – For $40 a year, plus the purchase of up to five carts. Eligible businesses can recycle the same way residents recycle.

Ensuring Collection
Scheduled Pick-up Day
Collection occurs every other week on garbage day. Reference the calendar sticker on the lid of the Curb It! cart. Simply match the color of your recycling cart lid (green or black) to the key on the sticker.

Pick-Up Time
Recycling carts must be placed at the curb no later than 7 a.m.
Why wasn’t my recycling picked up?
Call Waste Management at 515.244.GREEN (244.7336).
NOTE: Des Moines residents need to call Public Works at 515.283.4950.

Where do I take plastic bags to be recycled?
Plastic bags are accepted at local grocery stores. They are not accepted in Curb It! because they get tangled up and damage the sorting equipment at the recycling center.
TIP: Ask for paper bags, which are accepted in Curb It! or bring reusable bags.

Does the three chasing arrows symbol mean something is recyclable?
Unfortunately, this symbol is not regulated, so it can go on any product regardless of whether it truly can be recycled in your local program.

If I can recycle a No. 1 or 2 bottle, why can’t everything with a No. 1 or 2 be recycled?
Plastic bottles, tubs and other containers can vary in consistency after they are melted - even if they are labeled with the same number. Curb It! accepts plastic bottles with twist-off lids, because there is a strong, identified market.

When too many unaccepted plastics are placed in the carts, it contaminates the desired material for reuse and disrupts the sorting process.
TIP: Simply recycle plastics with twist-off lids.

Visit www.WhereItShouldGo.com/curbit or call 515.244.0021.