

Home, Neighborhood, and Yard Maintenance: A Resource Guide

There are many ways to improve your home, neighborhood, and yard appearance and bolster your sense of community, identity, and pride.

This information will help you and your neighbors maintain the kind of homes and neighborhoods you can be proud of!

Developed by the City of Bellevue
Neighborhood Outreach Team

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For questions or comments contact Patricia Knight, 425-452-7917 or pknight@bellevuewa.gov



City of Bellevue
Neighborhood Outreach

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Some information is available online only. If you do not have home access to a computer, you can use computers free at many public libraries and community centers.



I. KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ATTRACTIVE WITH CITY ASSISTANCE

A. IMPROVE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WITH COMMUNITY
COOPERATION AND CITY DOLLARS

B. DO YOUR PART

C. OTHER WAYS TO MAKE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MORE LIVABLE

1. Protect Your Neighborhood from Code Violations
2. Get Help Resolving a Dispute with a Neighbor
3. Protect Your Property from Trespassing Animals

D. CONTACT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON

How does your neighborhood measure up?



ELEMENTS OF CLEAN, QUALITY HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS:

- Well-kept homes in good repair
- Neat yards
- Clutter-free environments
- Fences in good repair
- Orderly carports
- Sturdy mailbox structures
- Well-maintained sidewalks
- Clean Streets
- Nicely maintained street landscaping
- Attractive neighborhood entry signs



The City of Bellevue has many services and programs to keep your neighborhood looking good. Check out how you can keep your neighborhood attractive with city assistance.

A. IMPROVE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WITH COMMUNITY COOPERATION AND CITY DOLLARS

NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Get funding for small capital projects such as sidewalks, crosswalk enhancements, school playground and sports court enhancements, landscaping in medians, roadway improvements, flashing crosswalks, and traffic calming projects through the Neighborhood Enhancement Program, call 425-452-4075.

NEIGHBORHOOD MATCH PROGRAM

Funding is available for small aesthetic projects in your neighborhood such as entry-way signage, mailbox structures, and public right-of-way landscaping – available through the Neighborhood Match Program, call 425-452-7917.

IMPROVE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WITH COMMUNITY COOPERATION AND CITY DOLLARS

Federal (CDBG) funds are used to fund the acquisition, rehabilitation, or development of public facilities or programs to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. Contact the Bellevue Human Services Division at 425-452-6165 for additional information.

B. DO YOUR PART

To report potholes, down or damaged stop or yield signs, fallen trees in the right-of-way, sidewalk issues or graffiti on city-owned right-of-way, contact Utilities Street Maintenance at 425-452-7840.

To get litter on public streets removed and street maintenance concerns addressed, contact Utilities Street Maintenance at 425-452-7840.

To get burned-out street lights repaired, call 425-452-6950.

To report abandoned vehicles on the street or right-of-way, call Bellevue Police/Traffic Division, 425-452-6940.



C. HOW TO MAKE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MORE LIVABLE

1. PROTECT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FROM CODE VIOLATIONS

Code Compliance (425-452-4570) can help protect the neighborhood from junk vehicles on private property, building violations, illegal storage of garbage, appliances or debris on private property, and other nuisances.

Remember that tent-pole carports and storage structures may not be visible from the street. Recreational vehicles (boats, campers, trailers, RVs) must be stored in the side or rear yard or in an off-premise storage facility. Vehicles must not be parked on lawns or on sidewalks. Vehicles parked on the street must be moved every 24 hours.

2. GET HELP RESOLVING A DISPUTE WITH A NEIGHBOR

"My neighbors are nice people, but their yard needs work and they have a fence on their property that is falling down. . ." Get help keeping the peace by resolving neighborhood conflicts through the Bellevue Mediation Program, call 425-452-4091.

3. PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY FROM TRESPASSING ANIMALS

Are stray animals leaving "calling cards" in your yard? Contact King County Animal Services, call 206-296-PETS.

D. CONTACT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON

FIND THE INFORMATION YOU NEED FROM THE CITY OF BELLEVUE

Your Neighborhood Liaison is your personal contact in City Hall. Liaisons can help get your questions answered or connect you to information and resources you need to get things done, call 425-452-6836.



Tip for improving neighborhood appearance:

Clean up and remove from public view items which may constitute a nuisance, such as garbage, trash, tires, car parts, automotive additives, appliances, furniture, cardboard boxes, plastic buckets, scrap lumber, toilets, sinks, and miscellaneous items.

II. FIND FUNDING AND ASSISTANCE WITH MINOR & MAJOR HOME REPAIRS

A. MINOR HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE

1. City of Bellevue Minor Home Repair Program
2. Catholic Community Services Volunteer Chore Services
3. Rebuilding Together with Christmas in April
4. Help from Local Radio and Television Stations

B. MAJOR HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE

1. City of Bellevue Home Repair Program

C. AARP REVERSE MORTGAGES FOR SENIORS

D. LANDLORD-TENANT LAW

A. MINOR HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE

1. THE CITY OF BELLEVUE MINOR HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Call 425-452-6884. This program provides low-income homeowners with minor home repairs, like fixing leaking faucets, installing smoke detectors, or installing locks and deadbolts.

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/home_repair_assistance.htm



2. CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES VOLUNTEER CHORE SERVICES

Call 206-328-6336. This organization helps low-income elders and adults with disabilities get volunteer assistance for yard work, minor home repairs, and chore services.

http://www.ccsww.org/site/PageServer?pagename=volunteerchores_services

3. REBUILDING TOGETHER

On the Eastside call 425-455-0179. This organization rehabilitates homes of:

- Families with children;
- Less advantaged homeowners; and
- Individuals with disabilities.

<http://www.rebuildingtogethereastside.org/>

4. HELP FROM LOCAL RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS

Many local stations will provide help by telling the story of people who face problems (accidents, illness, disaster, home repair emergencies, etc.) and need community help. Contact your local station to inquire.

B. MAJOR HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE

1. CITY OF BELLEVUE PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/home_repair_assistance.htm

The Home Repair Program (HRP) provides zero-interest home loans and grants for health and safety-related repairs. To be eligible, you must be a low to moderate income Bellevue homeowner. By helping people keep their homes safe and well cared for, the city helps to preserve our aging housing stock, maintaining the quality of our neighborhoods. This program also helps people remain in their homes when otherwise they may have to move if they cannot afford needed repairs.

WHAT TYPES OF LOANS AND GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE?

DEFERRED PAYMENT LOANS

Eligible repairs include health- and safety-related improvements for homeowners who meet low income guidelines. The city provides a no-interest loan that does not have to be paid back until the homeowner sells the home or transfers it to a new owner. Maximum loan amount is \$20,000.

LEVERAGED LOANS

Homeowners must meet moderate income guidelines. The same type of health- and safety-related repairs qualify as for the deferred payment loans. With leveraged loans, the city provides one-half of the cost of the repairs, and the homeowner provides the other half. This loan is also paid back only when the home is sold or transferred. Maximum loan match with city funds is \$10,000.

EMERGENCY GRANT

Eligible repairs are restricted to health- and safety-hazards requiring more immediate attention. Homeowners must meet low income eligibility guidelines. Because this is a grant, not a loan, it does not have to be repaid. Maximum grant award is \$1,500.

WEATHERIZATION GRANT

This grant is offered in conjunction with Washington State's Energy Match Program. Eligible repairs are restricted to insulation and heating systems. The homeowner is not required to repay the grant amount. Maximum grant award is \$3,000.

SINGLE-FAMILY RENTAL PROPERTY

In addition, the city also offers owners of single-family rental property no-interest, deferred payment loans to make health- and safety-related improvements. The city provides one half of the cost of repairs, and the property owner provides the other half. The maximum loan match with the city fund is \$8,500. The renter must qualify as low or moderate income for the landlord to qualify for this loan. The loan is paid back when the home is sold or transferred.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR HOME REPAIR PROGRAM LOANS?

YOU MUST MEET ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

- You must have owned and lived in the house for which you are requesting assistance for at least one year.
- This house must be within the Bellevue city limits.
- You must meet the program's income requirements.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Call the Loan Specialist in the Home Repair office at 425-452-6884 (TDD: 425-452-5262) about the repairs that you need for your home. If it sounds as if you qualify, you will be sent an application packet. Complete the application and return it.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS AND FEES

No interest is charged on the loans. You do not have monthly payments. The only fees you pay are recording and title fees, which are added to the amount of the repairs that you pay back to the city when you sell your home or transfer the title.



Examples of health- and safety-related repairs include:

- Faulty plumbing
- Unsafe electrical wiring
- Poor heating
- Leaky roofs
- Rotting gutters, porches or decks
- Earthquake retrofitting

C. AARP REVERSE MORTGAGES FOR SENIORS

AARP REVERSE MORTGAGES FOR SENIORS

<http://www.aarp.org/money/revmort/>

AARP, a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to addressing the needs and interests of persons 50 and older, has information about Federal Housing Administration insured reverse mortgages and basic loan features. Order a free consumer guide booklet. Call 1-800-209-8085 or check on-line, <http://www.aarp.org/money/revmort/>

D. LANDLORD-TENANT LAW

LANDLORD-TENANT LAW

Call 206-464-6684 or visit <http://www.atg.wa.gov/LandlordTenant/default.aspx> if your rental home needs repair and your landlord is not responding to your requests for help. Find out about landlord and tenant responsibilities.



Do you live outside of Bellevue's city limits but within King County?

King County also has a home repair program.

<http://www.metrokc.gov/dchs/csd/Housing/Repair.htm>



III. REMODEL YOUR HOME

A. ADVANTAGES OF REMODELING YOUR HOME

B. PLANNING A REMODEL PROJECT

C. HIRING A CONTRACTOR OR REMODELER

D. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

E. CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION AND SEMINARS

F. SUSTAINABLE (GREEN) BUILDING

A. ADVANTAGES OF REMODELING YOUR HOME

Information provided by Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties

Call: 425-451-7920



THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES TO CHOOSING TO REMODEL INSTEAD OF MOVING TO A DIFFERENT HOME:

- You can stay in your comfortable neighborhood near friends, church, and familiar shopping centers.
- Moving often means relocating farther from work. By remodeling your home, you can keep your convenient commute to work.
- Children can stay in familiar schools with good friends.
- You can update a home with new amenities while maintaining the charm of an older home.
- Many times there are only a few areas of your home you want to change. You can choose what you want to upgrade and what you want to keep.
- You can creatively design your home to meet your particular lifestyle.
- You can work with your remodeler to design unique, one-of-a-kind plans.
- You will increase the value of your home.

Now more than ever, homeowners are tearing down walls to make their homes brighter, more open, and more compatible to their lifestyles. Homeowners remodel to update outdated homes, to add a kitchen or family room, to add a bonus room for teenagers, to bring in views of the outdoors and natural light, and to add a bath.

In addition to updating interiors, some remodeling projects are important to the structure of the home. One of the most common remodeling jobs is roof replacement. Other projects include replacement of siding, storm doors and windows, and insulation. All of these enhancements add to the comfort and energy-efficiency of your home.

Talk to a professional remodeler about the possibilities for your home. A convenient Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties Remodeler Referral Service is available through Puget Sound Energy. Through the service, you will receive the names of MBA member remodelers. For more information, call the MBA at 425-451-7920, or call the referral service at Puget Sound Energy directly at 800-562-1482.

Nine remodeling projects that provide the best return on investment (listed from biggest return to smallest return). This list assumes the project is professionally constructed:

1. Minor kitchen remodel
2. Bathroom addition
3. Major kitchen remodel
4. Master suite conversion
5. Family room addition
6. Exterior remodel
7. Deck addition
8. Sun space addition
9. Home office addition

PROFESSIONAL HOUSE REMODELS BRING BIG RETURN ON INVESTMENT

One of the first questions people ask about any remodeling project is whether the project will substantially increase the value of their home if and when they choose to sell it. A general rule is that any remodeling project that will bring a home up to the level of the others in the neighborhood is a worthy investment.

Not coincidentally, many of the popular trends and good remodeling investments mirror the trends in new housing, such as a master bedroom suite, exercise room, and media room. Potential buyers compare remodeled homes with those that are newly built. So, it makes sense the most sought-after amenities follow similar patterns with new housing and remodeling. Minor kitchen remodels where the homeowner adds a few amenities and resurfaces worn tiling, counter tops and cabinets not only raise a home's value, but they may mean the difference between selling or not selling the home.

Remodeling master suites has been one of the most popular projects in recent years. These suites can include everything from skylights to exercise facilities, a hot tub and state-of-the-art video and sound systems. Another popular remodel addition is a second full bath to a house with only one. The average home has two-and-one-half baths. So, adding a second full bathroom to a home with only one is a good investment.

B. PLANNING A REMODEL PROJECT

SEARCH THE WEB

Search the web for “library of home plans” or “examples of home plans” to look at ideas for your remodel.

C. HIRING A CONTRACTOR OR REMODELER

Publication by the Department of Labor and Industries

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/IPUB/625-084-000.pdf>

Toll-free: 1-800-647-0982

Find out . . .

What you should know before you hire a contractor

What you should know once you have chosen a contractor or remodeler



Verify a potential contractor's registration and view bond and insurance information:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/lni/bbip/>

D. QUESTIONS ABOUT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS ANSWERED

Information provided by Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties

<http://www.mba-ks.com/mbaks3c.cfm?SectionGroupsID=83&SectionListsID=155&PageID=227>

Before proceeding with construction of your new home or remodeling project, you will need to prepare and sign a contract with your contractor. The purpose of the contract is to identify the scope of work and the terms and conditions of construction. You also need to anticipate the variety of problems that can arise during the course of construction and address their resolution. Just ask yourself, "What could go wrong in terms of the contractor's performance or financial stability?" Then, make appropriate provisions in your agreement with the contractor.

Remember to find out when and what permits are needed before starting your project.



E. CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION AND SEMINARS

Check MyBuildingPermit.com, <http://www.mybuildingpermit.com/Pages/education-seminars.aspx> for current training opportunities. There is a wide range of seminars for the professional and novices.

F. SUSTAINABLE (GREEN) BUILDING

What is a green home remodel? It's an approach to home improvement with the goal of not only making your home look better, but also making it work better for both you and the environment. Want a healthier home? Lower utility bills? Reduced maintenance? A cleaner planet? With careful planning, you can create a home that combines beauty, efficiency, comfort, and convenience with health and conservation.

Look at helpful hints on materials and strategies to create a home that's healthy, saves money, and is easy on the environment. Find more information online at:
<http://seattle.gov/dpd/GreenBuilding/SingleFamilyResidential/Resources/RemodelingGuides/default.asp>.

TOP 20 NO OR LOW-COST GREEN BUILDING STRATEGIES

Provided by Global Green USA)

http://jetsongreen.typepad.com/jetson_green/2006/12/global_green_us.html

ENERGY

1. Orient building to maximize natural daylighting
2. Place windows to provide good natural ventilation
3. Select a light-colored "cool roof"
4. Provide overhangs on south-facing windows
5. Install whole-house fans or ceiling fans
6. Eliminate air conditioning
7. Provide combined-hydronic heating
8. Install fluorescent lights with electronic ballasts
9. Install high R-value insulation
10. Select Energy Star appliances

WATER

11. Design water-efficient landscapes
12. Install water-efficient toilets and fixtures
13. Use permeable paving materials

MATERIALS

14. Use 30% - 50% flyash in concrete
15. Use engineered wood for headers, joists, and sheathing
16. Use recycled-content insulation, drywall, and carpet

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

17. Use low- or no-VOC paint
18. Use formaldehyde-free or fully sealed materials for cabinets and counters
19. Vent rangehood to the outside
20. Install carbon monoxide detector



IV. RESEARCH PERMITS FOR BUILDING, REMODELING, AND REPAIRING

A. CONTACT CITY OF BELLEVUE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
FOR PERMITS

B. WHY GET PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS?

C. CONSTRUCTION TIP SHEETS

D. FIND OUT WHAT PERMITS YOU NEED AND WHEN YOU
NEED THEM

Find out what permits are needed and how to get them.

A. CONTACT THE CITY OF BELLEVUE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR PERMITS

Development Services is “one-stop shopping” for general information and the permits needed for development activity within the city limits or utility service area. Development Services technical staff are on hand to assist you. No appointment necessary.

Development Services is located in City Hall at 450 110th Avenue NE on the first floor, open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays (Wednesday, 10-4). The main phone number is 425-452-6800. Assistance is available for the hearing impaired: dial 711.

Call to find out what permits you can get online, which you can get in person, and what you need to know.



B. WHY GET PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS?

There are many important reasons to obtain the required building permit(s) and to obtain the required inspections for your construction project.

HELPS PROTECT PROPERTY VALUE

Your home or business is an investment. If your construction project does not comply with the codes adopted by your community, the value of your investment could be reduced.

SAVES MONEY

Property insurers may not cover work or damages caused by work done without permits and inspections.

MAKES SELLING PROPERTY EASIER

When property is sold through a multiple listing association, the owner is required to disclose any improvements or repairs made and if permits and inspections were obtained. Many financial institutions will not finance a purchase without proof of a final inspection. If you decide to sell a home or building that has had modifications without a permit, you may be required to tear down the addition, leave it unoccupied, or do costly repairs.

IMPROVES SAFETY

Your permit allows the code official to reduce potential hazards of unsafe construction to provide for public health, safety, and welfare. By following code guidelines, your completed project will meet minimum standards of safety and will be less likely to cause injury to you, your family, and your friends or future owners. Mandatory inspections complement the contractor’s experience and act as a system of checks and balances resulting in a safer project.

IT’S THE LAW

Work requiring permits is established by City Ordinance. Work without a permit may be subject to removal or other costly remedies.

C. CONSTRUCTION TIP SHEETS

The intent of the tip sheets is to address construction basics only and does not address the subject in great detail. Contact Development Services for additional information

The tip sheets reflect the Washington State Building Codes.
<http://www.mybuildingpermit.com/Pages/construction-tip-sheets.aspx>

The following is a list of available tip sheets:

- Basic stairs
- Handrails
- Guards
- Smoke alarms
- Basic decks
- Garage separation
- Water heaters
- Restrooms
- Accessible parking spaces
- Residential emergency escape and rescue openings
- Notching and boring of rafters, joists, or studs
- Fire protection of horizontal venting
- Accessibility and door clearance
- Bathrooms - Type A unit
- Bathrooms - Type B unit
- Kitchens - Type A unit
- Kitchens - Type B unit
- Safety glazing

For more information, contact:

City of Bellevue Development Services
425-452-6800
450 110th Avenue, Bellevue, WA 98004
www.bellevuewa.gov

D. FIND OUT WHAT PERMITS YOU NEED AND WHEN YOU NEED THEM

Development Services, 425-452-6800

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/requires_a_permit.htm

Appliances: A permit is required to move an appliance if it will require installing or modifying gas lines, water lines, drains, vents, or electrical circuits. Permits are not required when replacing an appliance with a similar appliance in the same location. Examples are dishwashers, range tops, ovens, gas logs, washers, or dryers.

Bathroom and Kitchen Fixtures: A permit is required to install a new fixture or move an existing fixture that requires installing or modifying existing water lines, drains, or vents. A permit is not required for replacing a fixture with a similar fixture in the same location. Examples are wash basins, toilets, bidets, and laundry tubs. However, a permit is required for installing showers and bathtubs, even if they are going in the same location.



Carport Structures: A permit is required for a new carport; this requires review. A permit is required for converting an existing carport or garage into a living area.

Decks: A permit is not required for installing or repairing a deck that is less than 30 inches above the ground. A permit is required for decks where the highest walking surface is more than 30 inches above the ground. A permit is required for replacing or repairing existing structural members. A permit is required for repairs to existing deck or porch handrails, stairs, or deck boards.

Dock Repair and Additions: A permit is required for repairing, replacing, enlarging, or adding to an existing dock or installing a new dock. These are more complicated permits that require review and/or include outside agency approval.

Doors, Skylights, and Windows: A permit is required for installing or moving an exterior door, skylight, or window, including making an existing window wider. This permit requires review.

Driveways: A permit is required for installing a new driveway or removing and replacing an existing driveway, subject to the amount of excavation or earth disturbance and requires review. A new driveway also requires a right-of-way permit.

Electrical Circuits and Service: A permit is required for adding or moving electrical circuits and for changes to the service panel.

Emergency Work: An emergency, such as a broken water heater or furnace, affects a basic human need such as shelter, heat, or sanitation. A permit is not required before getting an emergency repair. However, a permit for that work must be obtained on the first work day after the work started.

Fences: A permit is not required for a side or back fence unless it is over eight feet tall.

Fire Suppression Systems: A permit is required for installing or modifying a fire suppression system.

Fireplaces, Wood Burning Stoves, and Inserts: A permit is required for installing a zero-clearance fireplace, fireplace insert, pellet stove, or similar devices.



Furnaces: A permit is required for installing, moving, or replacing a furnace and/or heat pump. A permit is required for extending or replacing ductwork.

Garages: A permit is required for a new attached or detached garage. A permit is required for converting a garage into living space.

Garden Fountains and Decorative Pools: A permit is not required for installing or moving garden fountains or decorative pools (less than 24 inches deep). A permit is required for installing or moving a garden hose bib or drinking fountain.

Gas Piping: A permit is required for installing a new gas line or modifying an existing line for such items as barbecues, cook tops, and gas hot water tanks.

Home Businesses: A permit is required for certain types of businesses conducted from a residence and requires review. Other types of business-related work in a residence do not require a permit but may require Tax Office registration.

Home Security Systems: A permit is required for installing a home intrusion alarm. A permit is not required for installing a wireless home security system with a plug-in transformer.

Interior-Only Remodels: A permit is required for a remodel that changes the interior of the house, such as creating new walls or converting basements to living areas.

Landscaping Work: A permit is not required for landscaping unless the total of amount of excavation or fill dirt exceeds 50 cubic yards or the total amount of earth disturbance exceeds 1,000 square feet or the subject property contains critical areas (steep slopes, wetlands, streams, etc).

Lawn Irrigation Systems: A permit is required for a backflow prevention device on a lawn or garden irrigation system. The installer must be on the state list of approved installers.

Low Voltage Systems: A permit is not required for low voltage telephone or data lines. In addition, a permit is not required for low voltage systems with plug-in transformers.

Mother-in-law Apartments: Approval of an accessory dwelling unit is required. For modifications to a residence to create an accessory unit, a building permit is required.

Patios: A permit is not required for on-grade patio installation or repair unless the earthwork is above certain thresholds.



Pavers: A permit is not required for installing driveway or garden pavers unless the earthwork is above certain thresholds.

Retaining Walls: A permit is required for retaining walls over four feet high, measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall. A building permit is not required for most walls made from precast blocks (depending on the manufacturer), although the work may require a clearing and grading permit.

Rockerries: A clearing and grading permit is required.

Roofing: A permit is required for roofing projects that include installing new roofing material or modifying or replacing the sheathing.

Satellite Dishes: A permit is not required for installing a satellite dish 18 inches or less in diameter. Larger dishes do require permits.

Siding: A permit is not required for the replacement of siding (except stucco).

Solar Panel Collectors: A permit is required for installing or modifying solar panel collectors.

Spas and Saunas: Most spas require only a mechanical and/or plumbing permit. A permit is required for installing a sauna and is issued in five minutes.

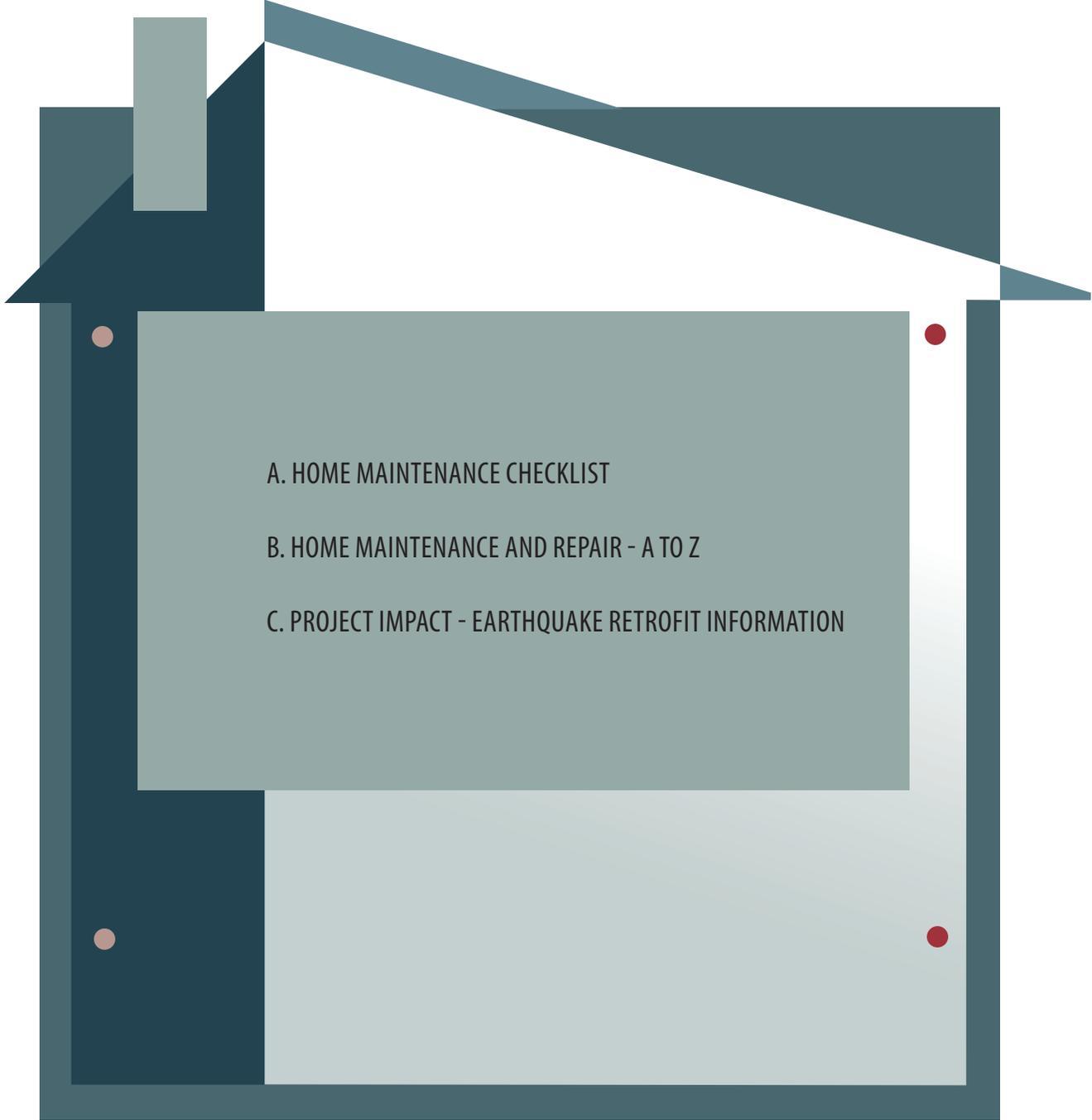
Storage Sheds, Play Houses, and Gazebos: A permit is required for a detached storage shed, playhouse, or private gazebo with a floor area greater than 200 square feet and requires review.

Swimming Pools and Swim Spas: A permit is required for installing a swimming pool over 24 inches deep and requires review.

Tree and Vegetation Removal: A permit is required for removing certain trees and vegetation, subject to certain thresholds.

Water Heaters and Furnaces: A permit is required for replacing or moving an existing hot water heater or furnace.

V. MAINTAIN YOUR HOME

A stylized graphic of a house with a dark teal roof and walls. A light teal rectangular area is positioned in the center of the house, containing a table of contents. The house is decorated with four small circles: two light orange on the left and two dark red on the right.

A. HOME MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

B. HOME MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR - A TO Z

C. PROJECT IMPACT - EARTHQUAKE RETROFIT INFORMATION

A. HOME MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

Home Maintenance Checklist

Courtesy of Mississippi State University Extension Service

By Dr. Frances C. Graham, Extension Housing Specialist

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1505.pdf>

Inspect your home for proper maintenance with seasonal checklists.

MONTHLY

- Drain two gallons of water from water heater to remove sediment from the bottom of tank.
- Replace carbon cartridge of water filter (point-of-service, activated carbon unit).
- Test smoke alarms with a smoke source (lit cigarette or cotton cord) held three inches from unit. To reduce alarm time during test, blow into the unit to clear the smoke.
- Inspect fire extinguisher:
 - Check indicator on pressure gauge to make certain extinguisher is charged.
 - Be sure lock pin is intact and firmly in place.
 - Check discharge nozzle to be sure it is not clogged.
 - Clean extinguisher and check for dents, scratches, and corrosion.
- During heating season, inspect the chimney for creosote buildup. Clean with chimney brushes or scrapers to remove the creosote.
- Clean stovepipe between the stove and the chimney, check stovepipe for corrosion and holes, and replace if necessary.
- Vacuum electric elements on baseboards.
- Inspect plates or pads in humidifier, and clean with a strong laundry detergent. Rinse, and then scrape mineral deposits with a wire brush or steel wool.
- Clean forced hot-air heating and/or cooling system's air filter to prevent airborne dirt from circulating throughout house. (If metal, remove and wash. If disposable, vacuum once, then replace).
- During summer use, clean room air conditioner filters:
 - Wash in mild detergent and water, rinse, and dry thoroughly (if permanent).
 - Replace the filter if it is disposable.
- Check the circuit breakers and fuses. Call an electrician if fuses blow or circuit breakers trip frequently.

SPRING

- If you have an attic fan:
 - Remove leaves and clean debris from louvers and louver pivots.
 - Clean fan blades.
 - Lubricate motor and pulley bearings with a drop of oil on each pivot and oil port.
 - Check drive belt and replace if sides are glazed smooth and slippery.
 - Check belt tension (should deflect 1/2 of an inch when pressed in middle). Replace belt if necessary.
- Gas Heater
 - Shut off, then check exhaust vent and air-shutter openings for dirt and dust. Clean the burner of lint and dirt and vacuum air passages to burner.
 - Inspect the heating system's fan belt for frayed or worn spots, and check tension (should give about 3/4 of an inch). Keep a spare belt on hand.
- Remove debris from gutters and downspouts. (Use wire snake for elbows.)
- Check gutter and downspout alignment to be sure rainwater is collected properly and drains away from house. Be sure mountings are secure.
- Spot paint worn areas on gutters and downspouts. Repair or caulk holes. Replace any sections that have holes or excessive rust.
- Check latches and pivots on storm windows for loose connections or signs of wear. Replace loose or worn parts.
- Make sure "weep hole" at bottom of metal windows is clear.
- Refill water softener (ionization type) with salts.
- Inspect grading around house to be sure water drains away from the house on all sides.
- Check inside and outside foundation walls and piers for termite tubes, carpenter ants, and damaged wood.
- Examine inside of foundation walls for dampness or water stain, which indicates seepage or a leak.
- Check bricks or blocks for cracked mortar or loose joints.
- Clean out any debris or leaves that have filled or blocked doorways, window wells, and storm drains.
- Check painted surfaces for paint failure, water damage, or mildew.
- Examine all trim for tightness of fit, damage, and decay.
- Inspect condition of caulking where two different materials meet, where wood siding joins the foundation's wall, at inside corners, and where window trim and door trim join the siding.
- Check for broken or cracked glass and damaged screens or storm windows.
- Examine all hardware on windows and doors. Lubricate moving parts.
- Check weather stripping on windows and doors for damage and tightness of fit.
- Inspect roof for damaged or loose shingles or blisters.
- Examine flashing around chimneys, vent stalks, and roof edges.
- Check vents and louvers for free air movement. Clean screen.
- Check antenna guy wires and support straps. Look for cracks where ceilings and walls join.
- Inspect the condition of wiring in exposed areas such as the attic.
- Check faucets, hoses, bibs, commodes, and shutoff valves for leaks.

FALL

- Cover room air-conditioning unit with insulated dust- and moisture-proofed cover, inside and out, or remove unit from wall and seal opening.
- Seal the attic fan opening with an airtight cover, and insulate.
- If you have a humidifier connected to your heating system:
 - Drain and clean water pan.
 - Work float arm back and forth to dislodge obstructions.
 - Ream with a piece of wire or bent clothes hanger to clean water inlet of mineral buildup.
 - Lubricate motor with a drop or two of 20-weight oil.
 - Be sure there is water in the reserve tank.
- Check flame color on gas furnace (should be blue with little or no yellow).
- Remove cover on thermostat, and dust components carefully with a soft brush. To clean oil film from metal contacts, slide a piece of white paper several times between two closed switch contacts.
- Check fireplace damper to be sure it operates properly. Clean iron grates.
- To clean a wood-burning heater:
 - Scrape interior (especially nooks and crannies) with wire brush.
 - Check for cracks, and repair with stove cement if necessary.
 - Clean exterior completely.
 - If heater has a blower, vacuum the blower or replace any filters, and oil the motor.
- Inspect the outside of chimney for loose bricks or stones and deteriorating joints. Repair if necessary.
- Check chimney for worn flue liner or joints and for birds' nests or other obstructions.
- Close shutoff valves to outside faucets and waterlines; drain.
- Remove debris from gutters and downspouts.
- Check gutter and downspout alignment to be sure rainwater collects properly and drains away from the house.
- Refill water softener (ionization type) with salts.
- Manually open safety valve at top of hot water tank to test operation; wear gloves and use a bucket to catch water as it comes out. Be sure the valve returns to its original position.
- Make sure waterlines and hose bibs are protected from freezing.
- Clean leaves and debris from around the outside condenser on heating and cooling systems.
- Check weather stripping on windows and doors for damage and tightness of fit.
- Check vents and louvers for free air movement.
- Clean screens.
- Inspect faucets, hose bibs, commodes, and shutoff valves for leaks.

YEARLY

- Clean smoke alarms by pulling cover steadily downward. Remove the power cell. Vacuum any accumulated dust from the sensing-chamber openings. Wash cover with soap and water, dry, and replace. Press test switch.
- Electric water heater: Drain tank completely to flush out scale, rust, and sediment. (Attach garden hose from open drain cock to yard or open drain.) Remove heating elements. Soak them in vinegar solution (one cup vinegar to each gallon of water) and scrape off mineral deposits. Be sure to cut off power to the heater at the fuse box or circuit breaker before you begin.
- Check sludge level in septic tank. When sludge reaches 1/3 of the tank's depth, have a professional pump out the tank to clean it. (Frequency of service depends on the size of the tank and household use. Tanks for houses in which there is a garbage disposal need more frequent service.)
- Lubricate heater blower motor and fan with one or two drops of 20-weight oil. Do not use too much oil.
- Clean gas space heaters. Be sure lines are clear.
- Clean electric space heater. Be sure dust and dirt are not on heating coils.
- Clean entire unit of room air conditioner:
 - Vacuum dust and lint from condenser and evaporator.
 - Use soap and water to wipe dirt and grime from compressor, tubing, motor, and blade.
 - Clean leaves and debris from outside.
 - Straighten any bent metal fins.
 - Scrape off any rust, then re-prime and paint.
- Check driveways and walks for cracks, breaks, or erosion that may cause damage.
- Check fences, gates, and retaining walls for condition of structure and material.
- Inspect flashing around chimneys, vent stalks, and roof edges.
- Check all joints, ceramic tiles, and laminated plastics.
- Check caulking around sinks, bathtubs, and showers.

EVERY THREE YEARS

- Inspect floors for wear and damage. Check particularly where one type of flooring material meets another, such as carpet joining wood or tile.
- Gas Furnace:
 - Call for professional service.
 - Check burners and heat-exchange areas for soot, debris, and corrosion. Clean where needed.
 - Check air intakes to be sure they are unobstructed.

EVERY SIX YEARS

- Discard contents of fire extinguishers and have a professional refill the unit.

B. HOME MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR – A TO Z

Home Maintenance and Repair, A to Z – A “Do it Yourself Guide”

Courtesy of Michigan State University Extension

<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/imp/mod02/master02.html>



Visit this “online only” website for hundreds of full text articles on topics of home maintenance and repair. The guide includes information on stain removal and cleaning. It lists many minor household fixes such as caulking, repairing window screens, wall switches and leaking pipes, inspecting your fireplace, repairing plaster walls, preventing mildew, and weather-stripping. The guide also give hints on hanging window shades, dishwasher, freezer and refrigerator care, water heater care, and much, much more.

C. PROJECT IMPACT - EARTHQUAKE RETROFIT INFORMATION

Was your home built before the mid-1970s? Do you want better protection for your family and your investment?



The nationally sponsored Project Impact program is designed to create a more disaster-resistant community.

Significant changes in home earthquake design requirements over time have improved the performance of newer homes in earthquakes. However, a wood-framed home built before the mid-1970s may not be connected to its foundation well enough to ride out an earthquake without sliding off the foundation. Installing proper straps, anchors, and bolts provides more stability and reduces the need for expensive repairs or replacement after an earthquake.

Make sure you familiarize yourself with Project Impact and how to retrofit your older wood frame home to survive earthquake-induced damage.

For retrofit information please contact 425-452-6033, or <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/6004.htm> .

VI. MAINTAIN YOUR YARD AND GARDEN

A. NATURAL LAWN CARE

B. HOME GARDENING RESOURCES

1. Web Tips and Resources
2. Master Gardener Clinics: Get Answers to Your Gardening Questions
3. Other Yard and Garden Resources

A. NATURAL LAWN CARE

Learn how to reduce maintenance and have the lawn and garden that fits your needs. Plan the layout of a new landscape in your yard or bring beauty to your existing landscape. Look at information about yard design, soil building, plant selection, lawn care, rain barrels, pest, weed, and disease control.

BENEFITS OF NATURAL LAWN AND GARDEN CARE:

- Saves money on water, waste disposal, and chemicals
- Saves time, working with nature is easier in the long run
- Protects the health of our families, pets, wildlife, and our great Northwest environment

Want to learn more? Please call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-6932 or visit http://www.bellevuewa.gov/natural_lawn_intro.htm



FIND INFORMATION ABOUT THE FIVE BASIC STEPS OF NATURAL CARE...

1. Healthy soil
2. Plant right for your site
3. Practice smart watering
4. Gardening tips to prevent water pollution
5. Practice natural lawn care

B. HOME GARDENING RESOURCES

1. "WEB TIPS" AND RESOURCES

- Tips for lawn and garden, <http://www.metrokc.gov/exec/esa/garden.htm>
- WSU Plant identification database, <http://gardening.wsu.edu/nwnative/>



2. MASTER GARDENER CLINICS: GET ANSWERS TO YOUR GARDENING QUESTIONS

DO YOU HAVE GARDENING QUESTIONS?

Bring your plant and insect problems to the Master Gardener Plant Problem Clinics for free advice. Master Gardeners are volunteers, trained by Washington State University, to provide research-based information on home gardening and pest control.

They are prepared to help with advice on plant selection, insect identification and managing disease problems.

PHONE CLINICS

Call 206-296-3440 for open days and times.



3. OTHER YARD AND GARDEN RESOURCES



ANIMAL PESTS AND BIRD QUESTIONS

Animal Shelter, Seattle, 206-386-4254

King County Animal Services, 206-296-7387

COMPOST SOURCES AND INFORMATION

KC Master Recycler Composter, 206-296-4353

Seattle Master Composter Program, 206-633-0097

Zoo-Doo information line, 206-625-7667

HORTICULTURE RESOURCES

Washington Park Arboretum, 206-543-8800

Center for Urban Horticulture, 206-543-8616 or 206-685-8033

Plant Answer Line, 206-897-5268, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Seattle Tilth, 206-633-0451

LANDSCAPE REFERRAL SERVICES

Washington Association of Landscape Professionals, 1-800-833-2186

NATIVE PLANTS

Native Plant Society (external), 206-527-3210



PESTICIDE QUESTIONS

National Pesticide Telecommunications Network (external), 1-800-858-7378

PLANT SALVAGE

King County Plant Salvage Program, 206-296-8065

POISON QUESTIONS

Washington Poison Center, 1-800-222-1222

PRUNING INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

Tree Care Industry Association, 1-603-314-5380, 1-800-733-2622

TREES IDENTIFICATION

WA Park Arboretum, 206-543-8800

UNDERGROUND UTILITIES LOCATION

Utilities Underground Location Center free service, 1-800-424-5555. Call two business days prior to digging to a depth of 12" or more, even on your own property.

WEEDS

King County Noxious Weed Control Program, 206-296-0290

VII. CLEAN OUT THE CLUTTER AND SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE: "SIX EASY STEPS"

STEP 1: CLEAN OUT OR RECYCLE USEFUL ITEMS

STEP 2: GIVE IT AWAY

STEP 3: EXCHANGE IT

STEP 4: SELL IT

STEP 5: RECYCLE IT

STEP 6: TOSS IT OUT

Get rid of the clutter in your home, garage, carport, and yard. Achieve control over your environment while you beautify your home and your neighborhood.

Pare down. Care about what you are getting rid of. For instance, if it is still good and works but you do not need it, give it away or donate it. You can also exchange it, sell it or recycle it; just don't toss it automatically in the garbage so it takes up room in a landfill.

STEP 1

CLEAN OUT OR RECYCLE UNWANTED BUT STILL USEFUL ITEMS

Collect everything you don't love or need. (If you haven't used or thought about it in 1-2 years, get rid of it.) Have a box or sturdy trash bags on hand for those items in search of a new home. Create a bag or box for:

- Items to give to specific family members or friends
- Items destined for charity
- Items to sell or exchange
- Items to recycle

Finally, let's get tough and admit that some things will indeed go in the trash. These items are tired and want a rest: Don't feel guilty. Toss them out!



STEP 2

GIVE IT AWAY (AND BENEFIT YOUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED)

American Lung Association (1-800-577-LUNG) benefits cancer research; picks up vehicles.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of King and Pierce Counties (206-763-9060) benefits boys and girls; picks up clothing and small items.

Community Services for the Blind (206-767-2177 or 1-800-472-2244) benefits the visually impaired; picks up clothing, toys, and household items.

Salvation Army (1-800-728-7825) benefits adults in rehabilitation; picks up clothing, large and small appliances, mattresses, furniture, and cars.

Union Gospel Mission (206-723-5700) benefits the homeless with donated food, clothing, household items, office supplies, etc.

JACO Environmental (1-800-414-5072) benefits the environment; old or broken appliances such as dryers, refrigerators, etc. are picked up and recycled for a \$12-\$25 fee.

Goodwill (206-329-1000) provides education and workplace training; drop-off clothes, furniture, household items, toys, and books.

Tree House (206-767-7000, extension 5185) benefits foster kids; drop-off clothes, books, and “gently” used toys.

Computer Bank (206-214-7779) benefits low-income individuals; has a drop-off in Lake City.

Working Wardrobe (Redmond, 425-556-1354) accepts donations of workplace appropriate clothing for men and woman seeking employment; has a drop-off site at YMCA Family Village.

Dress for Success (Seattle, 206-325-3453) benefits women in transition seeking jobs; has a drop-off site for women’s interview outfits and accessories.

CELL PHONES

Cell phone donations benefiting seniors may be dropped off at:

North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Ave. N.E., 425-452-7681

Cell phone donations for battered women may be dropped off at:

Verizon Wireless, 175 Bellevue Square, 425-637-8369

STEP 3

EXCHANGE IT

Exchange it at King County's Solid Waste Division's Reusable Items Exchange - This "online-only" resource is a great way to save money and time, while keeping valuable resources from going to the landfill. Use it if you have used household or building materials others may want, or if you are looking for something yourself. You can also list your garage/yard sales, complete with an online map to your house! <http://www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/exchange/index.asp> .

(Public access computers are available at local libraries and selected community facilities)

Exchange household materials such as:

Antiques	Appliances	Arts & crafts supplies
Automotive	Books	Camera & photo
Children's items	Clothing	Computer hardware
Computer software	Furniture	Garden & landscaping
Holiday items (seasonal)	Home decor	Home electronics
Jewelry	Kitchen items	Miscellaneous (household)
Movies	Music (CDs, tapes)	Musical instruments
Pet supplies	Sewing items	Sporting goods
Televisions	Tools	

Exchange reusable building materials such as:

Adhesives & sealants	Cabinets	Dirt, soil & rock
Doors	Drainage & erosion control	Electrical
Fasteners	Fencing	Floor coverings
Glass	Hardware & fixtures	Heating, cooling & ventilation
Insulation	Landscaping	Masonry
Metal	Millwork & trim	Miscellaneous (building)
Paint	Plumbing & pipe	Roofing & gutters
Siding	Tile	Windows



STEP 4

SELL IT

Garage Sale Tips

A garage sale is a great way to break the “pack-rat” syndrome by recycling still useful but unwanted or unused junk while you make some money. Here are a few helpful tips:

- Collect items. Remember, if you haven’t used or thought about it in 1-2 years, get rid of it.
- Advertise the time and date of your sale and your address. You may mention specific items that are in demand like children’s items, furniture, collectibles, or tools. Make sure you have signs placed in your community. Do not place them on stop signs or utility poles. Also, check with your homeowner’s association to see if there are restrictions on yard sale signs.
- Make signs with sturdy cardboard and BIG lettering. (Crayons do not run in the rain.)
- Price your items. Mark every item (with prices on the top) or put items on a table with the same price for all items. When pricing, use quarter-dollar increments; making change will be easier.
- Have money to make change.
- Selling clothing? People will spend money for kids’ and baby clothing, but maybe not adult clothing. You may want to consider a consignment store for them or price them extremely low.
- Display your stuff. Arrange to have plenty of racks and tables. Make your stuff as attractive as possible. Do not put dirty items out. Hang up clothes. Make it easy for people to see items.
- Put away or clearly mark items that are NOT for sale. (Those are the items that someone will want to buy.)
- Put high-interest items near the driveway, clearly visible from the street. Consider putting tools there to draw in male shoppers.
- Put out a box marked “Free Stuff” for items that are broken or missing something or that you just want to get rid of but don’t want to put in the garbage.
- Have old grocery bags available to put sold items in.
- Have a friend sit with you (or join you by selling his/her stuff.)
- Create an experience. Have pleasant music playing in the background. On a hot summer day, consider selling cold soda.
- Start your sale at the time posted. You may also want to discourage early-birds; it is unfair to the people who read your ads and come when you said you were going to start.
- Remember to remove your signs from the neighborhood!
- Donate unsold items to charity. You may get tax benefits.
- Count your money!

Internet Sales

Look into the many internet opportunities to sell your junk, other’s treasures.



STEP 5

RECYCLE IT

Recycle through the City of Bellevue (in partnership with Allied Waste) residential recycling services. You can contact Allied by phone at 425-452-4762 for help with garbage, recycling, yard debris and food scraps collection, and missed pickups. Extensive information is available on pages 44 and 45.

Additional Recycling, Large And Bulky Items

Allied Waste collects some large bulky items, such as mattresses, appliances, and furniture by special arrangement for a fee, 425-452-4762.

What Should I Do With...

The city provides help with how to dispose of unusual items not collected in your weekly garbage service.:

Special Collection Events

The City of Bellevue holds two Special Collection Events each year, one in the spring and one in the fall, where many hard-to-recycle items are accepted. Fliers are mailed to Bellevue residents with a list of what's accepted. Call Utilities at 425-452-6932 for details.

Household Hazardous Waste (paint, pesticides, and more)

Take Household Hazardous Waste to the site at Factoria Transfer Station:
13800 SE 32nd Ave, (off Richards Road)
Thursday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except major holidays

Unusual Items (large TV's, styrofoam, bulky yard debris, and more)

Some local businesses accept large appliances, electronics, scrap metal, motor oil, styrofoam peanuts, and other materials not accepted in the curbside program. Call Bellevue Utilities for informa-



STEP 6

tion at 425-452-6932.

TOSS IT OUT

Garbage and Yard Waste pickup is provided curbside by the City of Bellevue (In partnership with Allied Waste). You can contact Allied by phone at 425-452-4762 for help with garbage, recycling, yard debris and food scraps collection, and missed pickups.

What Goes Into The Garbage Container?

Extensive information is available on pages 44 and 45.

What Goes In The Yard Debris Cart?

<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Utilities/BellevueFoodScrapPoster.pdf>

Take Your Items To The Dump (King County Transfer Station)

For information about the King County Solid Waste Division's programs and services: Call 206-296-4466, 8:30–4:30 Monday through Friday, or visit the Website at <http://www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/facilities/transfer.asp>

What To Do With An Item That You Still Don't Know What To Do With...

Check out King County Solid Waste Division's "online-only" resources for disposal of old appliances, junk vehicles, old business periodicals, old electronic equipment, used carpet, batteries, furniture, and almost everything else you can think of. <http://www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/wdidw/index.asp>





Take Another Look...At What You Can Recycle

Many items that can be recycled are ending up in the landfill. So, take another look...and keep recycling. You're doing a great job! Preserve resources, save landfill space and give products a new life!

YES - Put These Items in the Blue Recycling Cart



Mail, envelopes (windows, staples ok), catalogs. If you can tear it, it is recyclable. **NO plastic wrap or plastic-coated cards.**



Paper, newspaper and inserts, brochures, sticky notes, folders, receipts, gift wrap. **NO foil gift wrap, tissue or ribbon.**



Magazines, paperback books, phone books. **NO plastic wrappers.**



Paper egg cartons, drink boxes (rinse), ice cream cartons, paper containers. **NO lids or straws.**



Paper food boxes. Remove liners and flatten. **NO soap residue, plastic handles or metal spouts.**



Juice and milk cartons. Empty and rinse.



Cardboard. Flatten. Size limit: 3' x 3' or smaller when flattened.



Shredded paper. Put in a clear or see-thru plastic bag, like a produce bag or clear plastic bag sold at hardware stores and Costco. Tie a knot to secure. **NO loose shredded paper.**



Plastics. Ignore numbers on containers. Instead, look at the shape. Recycle all plastic bottles, jars, tubs and jugs. Rinse container and let dry, especially if it held soap or bleach. Discard containers that held toxic products, like pesticides or motor oil. **NO lids! NO clear polystyrene takeout containers or plastic listed in garbage section of this poster.**



Plastic grocery bags, newspaper bags, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap. Stuff into one plastic bag and tie securely. **NO receipts, food residue or food wrap.**



Plastic 5-gallon buckets. **NO lids or metal handles.**



Aluminum cans, clean foil, tin cans. Rinse. Labels and tin tops ok.



Scrap metals. Size limit: 2' in any direction, less than 35lbs. **NO greasy metal, wood, rubber or plastic.**



Clear and colored glass bottles and jars. Rinse. Labels ok. **NO lids or drinking glasses.**

YES - Put These Items in the Green Yard Debris Cart

Yard Debris



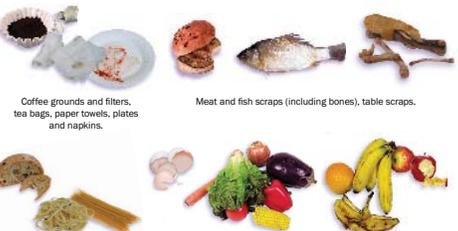
Leaves, grass clippings, weeds, plant trimmings, house plants, flower bouquets, branches (less than 4' in diameter and 4' in length). Bundles of branches that don't fit in Yard Debris Cart can be set next to cart. Bundles must be less than 2' in diameter, 4' in length and tied with biodegradable string.

Food-Contaminated Paper



Food-soiled cardboard (plastic or aluminum coating removed), paper food wrap, pizza boxes (grease on box ok), paper grocery bags containing food scraps.

Food Scraps - All solid food leftovers



Coffee grounds and filters, tea bags, paper towels, plates and napkins.

Meat and fish scraps (including bones), table scraps.

Bread, pasta and grains, cheese and dairy scraps.

Eggshells, nutshells, fruit and vegetable scraps.

Household Recycling - Put these Items Near (not in) the Blue Recycling Cart

Clean out your garage and storage areas and make a clean sweep of unwanted household items. Place these items NEAR (not in) your Blue Recycling Cart—they'll either go to a charitable organization or be recycled. For large, bulky items and household hazardous waste, see back of poster.

Small Electronics Recycling

Small electronics must be less than 2' in any direction and less than 60 lbs. per item. Small electronics do not need to be bagged; however, if bagged, clearly mark the bag "Electronics." Place these small electronics NEAR (not in) the Blue Recycling Cart:



Computers, computer monitors and accessories, stereos and other audio equipment, printers, faxes, TVs (screens 21" or less), radios, cell phones.

Small Appliances Recycling

Small appliances must be less than 2' in any direction and less than 35 lbs. per item. Place these small appliances in a securely closed plastic bag clearly marked "Appliances" NEAR (not in) the Blue Recycling Cart:



Coffee makers, toasters, toaster ovens, microwaves, blenders, food processors, hair dryers, curling irons, toasters.

Clothing and Linens Recycling

Items must be clean, dry, non-moldy and useable. No shoes with sharp heels, skates, slippers or mattresses. Place items in a securely closed plastic bag marked "Clothing" NEAR (not in) the Blue Recycling Cart:



Clothing, scarves, hats, belts, blankets and bedspreads, draperies and curtains, paired leather or canvas shoes (rubber band or tie together), purses, backpacks, totes, wallets, stuffed animals.

YES - Put These Items in the Grey Garbage Cart - Please Bag Loose Items



Lids, caps, spray nozzles.



Clear polystyrene takeout containers, clam shells, cake domes, cups, meat trays, and other shapes.*



Tapes, CDs, plastic packaging.



Styrofoam peanuts. Put in bag, reuse or take to a mailing store.



Styrofoam packaging, cups, clam shells, meat trays, egg cartons and other shapes.*



Plastic packaging, magazine wrappers, food bags, foil pouches and bags, waxed paper.



Plastic garbage bags, zip-type bags.



Toiletary tubes and pumps, makeup, mirrors.



Ribbon, tissue, foil, clear wrap, bags with rope handles.



Empty containers that held toxic products, like pesticides and motor oil, empty aerosol cans.



Prescription vials, household batteries,* plant pots,* hangers,* (many dry cleaners will take hangers back), light bulbs (put in bag), **NO fluorescent bulbs or tubes.**



Cat litter or animal waste. Put in bag and tie shut.



Cigarette butts and ashes. Put in bag and tie shut.



Diapers. Put in bag.



Glassware, ceramic plates and cups, plastic plates, cups and utensils.

Not sure about an item? Need help with service? Please give us a call. Allied Waste Services 425-452-4762 website: www.Rabanco.com/collection/Bellevue City of Bellevue Utilities 425-452-6932

Do Not Put These Items in the Blue Recycling Cart

NO lids or caps. NO containers that held toxics, such as pesticides. NO items listed in the Garbage section of this poster.

Make Recycling Count!

Please prepare items properly for the Blue Recycling Cart. If a load has too much contamination (food coating or items that can't be recycled), the whole batch may have to be disposed of as garbage. Take a few minutes to rinse and prepare items. Make your recycling count!

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.

Did you know that all of these actions help slow Global Climate Change? Reusing or recycling products takes less energy and produces less pollution than making new products from virgin materials. Preventing or reducing waste is even better. Also, remember to buy products with recycled content to complete the recycling loop.

Extra Recycling.

Put any excess recyclables in paper bags or boxes marked "Recycling" and place near the Blue Recycling Cart. There is no charge for extra recyclables.

Do Not Put These Items in the Green Yard Debris Cart

NO plastic bags, ashes, animal waste or pet litter, glass, foil, garbage, liquids, metals, plastics, rocks or styrofoam.

Recycle Food Scraps and Food-Soiled Paper With Yard Debris

Give food scraps a new life and save space in the landfill. Materials in the Green Yard Debris Cart get taken to Cedar Grove Compost and made into compost sold at garden stores. To ensure a safe product, Cedar Grove heats materials to over 130 degrees to destroy food bacteria, weed seeds and plant pathogens. For more information, visit www.cedar-grove.com

Close the Lid

Make sure the Yard Debris Cart lid can close so long limbs don't get caught on truck machinery.

Did You Get a Food Scraps Bucket?

If not, call Allied Waste at 425-452-4762. Limited to one free bucket per household.



Line food waste bucket or other plastic container with paper bag, paper towels or special compostable approved food waste bags, such as BioBag. These bags are sold at Whole Foods or can be ordered from Cedar Grove Compost at www.cedar-grove.com. Do not use plastic bags or paper yard debris bags. You can also put newspaper in the bottom of a brown paper bag, fill with food scraps and then put the bag in the garbage.

Do Not Put These Items in the Grey Garbage Cart

NO TVs, computer equipment, cell phones (see Household Recycling). NO button batteries, fluorescent lights, thermometers or thermostats with mercury, wet paint or hazardous waste (see Household Hazardous Waste on back of poster). NO yard debris or liquids. Garbage with any of these items will not be collected.

Medical Needles or "Sharps"

Put medical needles or "sharps" in a rigid, puncture-proof container less than 1-gallon in size. Empty 2-liter pop bottles or 1-gallon milk jugs are acceptable when capped, taped and labeled "Do Not Recycle." Call Allied Waste at 425-452-4762 for more information.

Special Collection Events

*Some of these items may be accepted at Special Collection Events, held by the City of Bellevue twice a year. Fliers with details are mailed to every household prior to the event. Call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-6932 for more information.

Also check "What Do I Do With" at King County Solid Waste's website: www.metrokc.gov/dnrr/swd/wldw/index.asp

A Few More Words About...

Garbage

There is an extra charge for garbage that doesn't fit into the garbage can with the lid closed or for a 32-gallon garbage can weighing over 55 lbs.

Yard Debris

Up to 192 gallons of Yard Debris + Food can be set out weekly – equivalent to one 96-gallon Green Yard Debris Cart (200 lb. weight limit) + three 32-gallon containers or paper yard debris bags (55 lb. weight limit each). Materials in excess of the 192-gallon weekly limit will cost extra.

Excess Yard Debris

Bundle excess yard debris or put in paper yard debris bags, your own 32-gallon containers marked "Yard Debris" or approved reusable yard debris bags (regular plastic garbage bags will not be collected). Check the website or call Allied Waste for a list of stores that carry paper yard debris bags and approved reusable yard debris bags.

Composting Credit

If you compost instead of having yard debris collected, you may be eligible for a monthly compost credit. Call Allied Waste for more information.

Yard Debris Only Collection

If you are not a garbage customer, Yard Debris + Food Waste Collection is available for a monthly fee. Call Allied Waste for details.

Christmas Trees

Yard debris customers can set Christmas trees out on their scheduled collection day. Trees should be free of flocking, tinsel, ornaments and hangers; cut into 4' lengths and tied into bundles less than 2' wide. Use biodegradable string – no nylon, plastic or other synthetic materials. Flocked trees are not recyclable. Put flocked trees in the garbage.

Wind Storm Debris

Storm debris from wind storms should be put in your Green Yard Debris Cart or prepared the same as Christmas trees (see above) and set out on your regular collection day. No branches over 4" in diameter or over 4' in length.

Allied Waste Services 425-452-4762

www.Rabanco.com/collection/Bellevue

Getting Rid of Stuff

Stop the Junk Mail Grind

Tired of dealing with junk mail? The Direct Marketing Association (DMA) charges \$1 to remove your name from mailing lists. Call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-6932 for a form to send to DMA or register online with DMA at www.dmaconsumers.org



Large, Bulky Items

Allied Waste collects large, bulky items, such as mattresses, appliances and furniture by special arrangement for a fee. Call 425-452-4762 for details.

The City of Bellevue holds two Special Collection Events (one in summer; one in fall) that take large appliances and other items. Watch for fliers in the mail.

Some local businesses accept large appliances, electronics, scrap metal and other materials. For more information, call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-6932 or send an e-mail to recycle@bellevuewa.gov

Household Hazardous Waste

Take household hazardous waste (oil-based paint, pesticides, motor oil, etc.) to the Factoria Transfer Station. Call King County's Hazards Line at 206-296-4692 for days and hours that household hazardous waste is accepted. Also visit the Local Hazardous Waste Management's website at www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house/index.cfm

Dump Locations

Two transfer stations are conveniently located for Bellevue residents. Call King County at 206-296-4466 or visit King County Solid Waste's website: www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/facilities/transfer.asp for hours and driving directions.

Factoria Transfer Station
13800 SE 32nd St., Bellevue
Hazardous Waste accepted on certain days.
No recycling accepted.

Houghton Transfer Station
11724 NE 60th St., Kirkland
Some recycling accepted.
No hazardous waste accepted.



Recycle milk cartons. Put caps in garbage.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE HOME ACCESS TO A COMPUTER, YOU CAN USE COMPUTERS FREE AT MANY PUBLIC LIBRARIES OR COMMUNITY CENTERS.

As a convenience, information is provided from various organizations that provide services. The City does not endorse those agencies, nor does the City represent or warrant that the information and/or services those agencies provide will be suitable for the purposes of the user(s) or that any result will be achieved by the user(s) of the information and/or services, nor does omission from the list imply discrimination against any organization or its products or services.