



## City of Albion

William L. Rieger Municipal Building  
112 West Cass Street • Albion, Michigan 49224  
(517) 629-5535 • Fax (517) 629-4168

March 13, 2017

Dear City Resident:

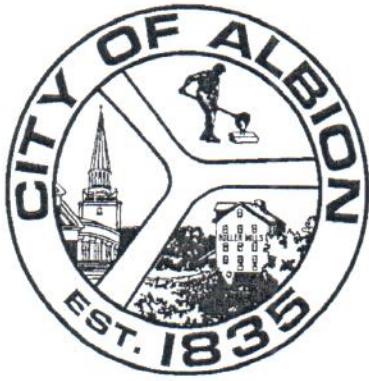
The City is mandated by state law to assure that solid waste is removed from where it is generated frequently enough to protect public health. That same law authorizes the City to contract with a waste removal company to collect and bill for waste removal from residents within the jurisdiction of the City.

Mayor and Council have made the decision to go with the most affordable trash service option for City residents. A detailed explanation can be found in the attached frequently asked questions document. All hauling companies (Republic and Waste Management included) were invited to bid on providing trash service to residents. Mayor and Council selected Granger because it had the lowest price and greatest benefit for most residents. For information on costs, please refer to the attached trash service summary.

Should you have specific questions regarding the service, please feel free to contact Granger directly at 517.372.2800.

Sincerely,

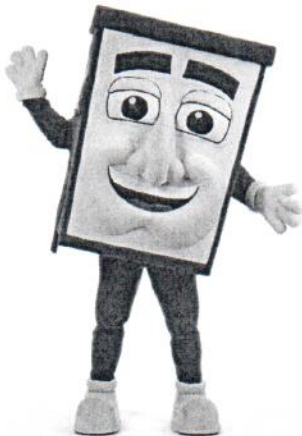
Sheryl L. Mitchell  
City Manager



# GRANGER.

Customer Service: 517-372-2800  
Toll Free: 1-888-9GRANGER  
Website: [www.grangernet.com](http://www.grangernet.com)  
Email: [info@grangernet.com](mailto:info@grangernet.com)

Granger collects tomorrow's energy. They provide waste hauling, disposal, and recycling services and produce renewable energy from landfill gas. A family-owned business, Granger has been servicing the mid-Michigan region since 1966.

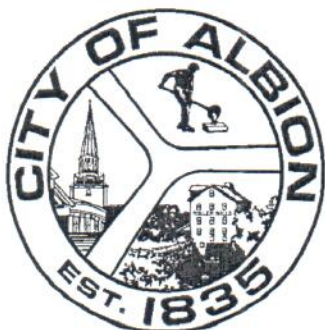


## CITY OF ALBION RESIDENTIAL TRASH SERVICE SUMMARY

- Granger Trash service will begin the week of April 3, 2017.
- Welcome packets were mailed during the week of March 6, 2017.
- Specific trash days and routes will be indicated in the welcome packet.
- Granger will be providing weekly trash collection year round. The monthly cost for trash service is \$8.85. You will be billed quarterly. Granger will provide a rolling trash cart. There is no additional fee for this cart. It comes with your service.
- Delivery of carts started the week of March 6, 2017 and will continue for the next several weeks prior to the April 3, 2017 start of trash service.
- There will be weekly **regular trash** service pick-up using an automated side-load truck. Your trash collection day is either on **Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday**.
- If your trash cart is full, you can put out as many as *three* (3) additional trash bags, free of charge.
- There will be weekly **yard waste** pick up (up to 6 bags or bundles per week) on **Wednesdays** using a special rear-load truck. Yard waste pick up will be 8 months (April – Nov) of the year at a cost of \$6.25 for those months. Yard waste will be billed quarterly along with trash service. For yard waste, you will need to use your own paper yard waste bags, which are available at many local retailers.
- If the house is unoccupied and there is not any water service to the property or the home is listed for sale, please alert the City to place trash service on hold.
- The quarterly bills will automatically go to the property owner. For rental property, property owners or the tenants can complete a Waste Service Change Request form located at City Hall to make arrangements for the invoices to go to the tenant.
- Please note that as per City ordinance, any unpaid or outstanding trash service bills are ultimately the property owner's responsibility, which may be subject to fines.

City of Albion  
112 West Cass Street  
517-629-5535  
[www.cityofalbionmi.gov](http://www.cityofalbionmi.gov)





## **SINGLE HAULER – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Why is the City pursuing a single hauler contract?**

- Improve service and reduce costs for the majority of residents.
- Residents will receive pickup of both trash and leaves for an amount that is lower than what most are paying currently for just trash pickup.
- Bring all residents into compliance with code and requirement to have a contract for trash hauling.
- Reduce the amount of illegal dumping.
- Reduce impact of heavy trucks on local roads. Wear and tear on the roads is a major expense to all taxpayers. One trip by a double-axle hauling truck is equivalent to the wear and tear of 1,000 cars on the road.
- Improve quality of life in our neighborhoods and throughout the city by reducing truck noise and pollution, and increase safety on streets by reducing truck traffic.
- Because trash would only be visible on individual streets one day per week – rather than 3 or 4 days per week, as it is now. The entire city could look more appealing to potential businesses and residents.

### **What company has the City Council selected?**

- Granger Waste Services

### **What are the rates for pick up?**

<b>ALBION GRANGER - RESIDENTIAL SERVICE</b>			
	<b>Monthly Rate</b>	<b># of Months</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>RESIDENTIAL REFUSE</b>	\$8.85	12	\$106.20
<b>YARD WASTE</b>	\$6.25	8	\$50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$156.20</b>

<b>AVERAGE QUARTERLY RATE</b>			
	Monthly Residential Refuse	Monthly Yard Waste	QUARTERLY RATE
Quarter 1 (April – June)	\$26.55	\$18.75	\$ 45.30
Quarter 2 (July – Sept)	\$26.55	\$18.75	\$45.30
Quarter 3 (October – December) (1 month without yard waste service)	\$26.55	\$12.50	\$39.05
Quarter 4 (Jan – March) (no yard waste service)	\$26.55		\$26.55
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 156.20</b>

**Will this program actually save residents money?**

- Yes. The reason the City has chosen to investigate and evaluate a single-source trash hauler system in Albion is because we believe prices would decrease for the vast majority of residents who are independently contracting with the three different trash haulers presently located in Albion.

**What will happen to the other trash haulers? Doesn't this create a monopoly?**

- No. All trash haulers have been invited to bid on the service contract for residential clients and the most affordable bid has been selected. After the expiration date of the contract, other trash haulers are welcome to place a competitive bid again for the following contracted years of residential service. Of note: This contract is for residential clients only. Therefore, all trash haulers may seek a license to provide commercial service as well.

**What happens if I already have a trash service with another company?**

- If the service provider is awarded a Single Hauler Contract through the competitive bid process, then everyone will have the same collector – which may be different than your current trash collector.

**Will I be refunded any money that I have paid in advance to my current provider?**

- Residents may seek a refund from their current provider.



**Is there an added expense of leaves/yard waste pick-up? Can I opt out of leaves/yard waste pick-up?**

- The charge for weekly yard waste pick-up is \$6.26 per month or \$18.75 per quarter. There is not currently any opt-out provision.

**If I have more than 6 bags of leaves per week, is there a charge for additional bags?**

- Yes. There is an additional charge of \$2.00 per bag/bundle of yard waste – up to a maximum of 10 bags/bundles. Must be pre-arranged with contractor for pickup.

**How soon will the program be implemented?**

- The program will be put into operation effective April 1, 2017.

**Who do I contact to set up service?**

- General information:  
Granger Waste Services  
517.372.2800 or 1.8889GRANGER  
info@grangernet.com  
www.grangernet.com

**What is the scheduled pick up day for my area?**

- Please refer to the route map or call TBD.

**Do I have to rent a container?**

- 96 gallon container for residential refuse is provided by the Granger.

**Who will residents make their payment to?**

- Residents and/or homeowners would make their payments directly to the service provider. The City will not be involved with billing or collection.

**Who do I contact if I am unhappy with my service?**

- Just as residents do now, trash hauling customers would continue to direct service complaints to the trash hauler. The Contractor will supply a person from the company to respond to complaints and act as a liaison to the City. In addition, a clause would be included in the contract that all service

complaints be addressed within 48 hours. If the complaints are not resolved within that time, the resident may contact the City.

**Are there other communities that operate this way?**

- Yes, in many communities across the country and in the State of Michigan, trash pick-up is considered a public utility. In our area, many have been doing this successfully for over 20 years or more. We are aware that most recently, Jackson, Kalamazoo Charter Township, and Battle Creek have awarded single hauler contracts and have been enjoying the benefits.

**Does the City have the authority to implement a single hauler program?**

- The City is mandated by state law to assure that solid waste is removed from where it's generated frequently enough to protect public health. That same law authorizes the City to contract with a waste removal company to collect and bill for waste removal from residents within the jurisdiction of the City.
- City Council adopted an Ordinance 2016-02 on August 15, 2016, after determining that it to be in the best interests of the City to switch to a single hauler for residential collection. The ordinance amended Chapter 66, Division 2 and clarified that if the city elects to use a single hauler for residential purposes, the city may limit the issuance of residential licenses to that single hauler. Multiple licenses could still be issued for commercial or industrial refuse collection.

**What happens with recycling services?**

- The City Council has elected to utilize Granger for residential waste and yard waste services only. The current recycling program with Calhoun County remains in effect.

**How will residents be notified of the change?**

- The contractor and City of Albion will work together to ensure that each resident is provided with advance notice of the change.