



# Town of Pittsford Refuse District Information

[www.townofpittsford.org/refuse-districts](http://www.townofpittsford.org/refuse-districts)

## PROCESS FOR CREATING A REFUSE DISTRICT

1. The Town will consider new districts each year, with petitions to be filed between January 1 and April 30.
2. Talk to your neighbors to define the district. Decide what streets you wish to include.
3. Contact Melanie Davison of the Town Department of Public Works at 248-6253 or [mdavison@townofpittsford.org](mailto:mdavison@townofpittsford.org). The Town will provide petition forms, as required by State law, each with a map showing the district boundaries proposed by the neighborhood.
4. Obtain petition signatures from homeowners in the proposed district representing at least fifty percent of the aggregate assessed value of all properties in the district. The Town can assist with notarizing signatures and helping you complete the process.
5. Petitions should be submitted to the Town Department of Public Works by April 30. Once determined, the Town will advise each household of the annual cost.
6. For all proposed districts whose residents wish to proceed, the proposed districts will be presented to the Town Board for a public hearing and a vote on adopting the districts.
7. Services would begin January 1 following adoption of a district.
8. The Town will bill district residents annually on their Town tax bill. District residents no longer would receive a bill directly from the waste hauler.

Thank you for your interest in setting up a Refuse District in your neighborhood. We've provided some key details below. Complete information about Town of Pittsford Refuse Districts can be found at [\*\*www.townofpittsford.org/refuse-districts\*\*](http://www.townofpittsford.org/refuse-districts).

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is a Refuse District?

A Refuse District is a designated area in which the Town provides refuse collection to residents through a contracted service provider. The cost of the service is added to the property tax bill of each resident in the Refuse District as a special district charge. *A single refuse hauler provides service, reducing garbage truck traffic in the neighborhood to one day, once a week.*

### What is the timeline for setting up a Refuse District?

January 1 - April 30 is the enrollment period for setting up a Refuse District that will begin service January 1 of the following year.

### Who can form a Refuse District?

Typically, a refuse district consists of a group of adjoining streets; a formal neighborhood association or group is not required. The Town can guide interested residents through the process and can assist with notarizing participant petitions. Petitions from homeowners of at least 50% of the aggregate assessed value of homes in the proposed district are required to form a Refuse District.

### What is the cost to be in a Refuse District?

The charge for refuse collection can vary year to year. Since the refuse collection service is competitively bid and awarded to the lowest responsible bidder meeting the bid specifications, cost per resident is expected to be lower than the price individual homeowners could obtain on their own. For example, our 2021 refuse districts pay \$217.87 per residence for the year. The rate is the same for each home in the district; it is based on the annual Town contract (not based on the number of homes in the district).

**FAQs continued -**

# Town of Pittsford Refuse District Info

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - CONTINUED

### **Can a household opt out of a Refuse District?**

Once a Refuse District is created, everyone in the District will use the same trash hauler and will be assessed a District charge on the tax roll; individual households cannot opt out of the district.

### **What type of service is provided in a Refuse District?**

Service for all Refuse Districts includes weekly pickup of trash and recycling and includes a 96-gallon wheeled trash toter with two 20-gallon recycling bins.

### **Are there options for special services?**

The Town will seek arrangements with the selected hauler to provide special services, such as collection of trash from close to the house rather than curbside or optional recycle toter, at the same or substantially similar price as residents in the district currently pay. Suspending service seasonally is not available as an option. Any fees for additional services would be payable by the resident directly to the refuse hauler.

### **Can a Refuse District be dissolved?**

Homeowners are notified of pricing for the upcoming year and have the option to withdraw their petition or dissolve the district. Dissolving a Refuse District would follow the same process as creating it (gathering petitions, public hearing).

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### **THE TOWN:**

- Competitively bids for the service
- Administers the contract
- Bills residents for services as part of the annual tax bill
- Addresses complaints that the hauler doesn't resolve

### **THE REFUSE HAULER:**

- Picks up refuse and recyclables on a weekly basis
- Bills the Town for services
- Notifies the homeowner of necessary information such as hauler's phone number and collection day

### **THE HOMEOWNER:**

- Separates recyclables from trash
- Secures the lids of trash receptacles
- Calls ahead for bulky pickups
- Calls the collector first with any problems
- Calls the Town if problems aren't appropriately resolved by the collector

***For complete information on Town of Pittsford Refuse Districts, visit  
[www.townofpittsford.org/refuse-districts](http://www.townofpittsford.org/refuse-districts).***