

Spring Clean Up Week Proposal

A photograph of a cluttered outdoor area, likely a residential yard or driveway. In the foreground, there is a large pile of debris on a dirt surface. The debris includes several cardboard boxes, some flattened, a wooden crate, and a large, tilted yellow and white object that appears to be a piece of furniture or a large container. To the left, there are three green and black trash bins. In the background, there is a light-colored shed with a white garage door, and further back, a house with a grey roof and bare trees under a clear blue sky.

Brian Stineman
Public Works Director
Council In-depth Meeting
January, 9, 2020

History

- Typically held during last week of April
- Muscatine & Fruitland Residents only
- Used to be able to finish in one week
- Rampant abuse causes delays
- Requires assistance from multiple divisions and temporary workers
- P.W.: 13 F.T. labor, 9 Temp, 14 equipment
- S.W.: 8 F.T. labor, 17 Temp, 8 equipment

Current Clean Up Week Rules

- Muscatine & Fruitland residents can set out bulky waste items like:
 - furniture, carpet, small amounts of building materials
 - Up to two appliances
 - Pile must be 10ft. x 4ft. x 2 ft. (Pickup truck load)
- Tires and electronics must be taken to the Transfer Station

The Issues

- People set out EVERYTHING
- Piles do not conform to size limit
- Piles are set out early and are picked through
- Picked through items are strewn about
- Takes Roadway Maintenance staff away from maintaining roads
- Slows down regular collection of trash
- Added costs for temporary workers
- Items are “hoarded” all year to be set out during clean up week

We Can Do Better

- Discontinue Clean Up Week
- Offer unlimited bulky waste curbside collection at no additional charge
- Bulky waste pickups would need to be called in and scheduled
- Size of pick up would still be 10x4x2 ft.
- Estimated that 20 per day can be picked up with 1 truck and 2 staff

We Can Do Better

- This reduces staff needs from 46 to 2
- This reduces equipment needs from 22 to 1
- This reduces ugly piles sitting around town for weeks
- This reduces stockpiling of waste waiting for cleanup week
- We would still offer drop-off weeks for e-waste and tires

Everybody Wins

- Bulky waste and extra items are picked up year-round, no need to wait until spring
- Roadway Maintenance staff can work on roads rather than picking up trash
- Costs for temporary employees are eliminated
- Ugly messes around town are avoided
- We can start publicizing immediately and begin scheduling in February, 2020