



April 14, 2026

Yard Waste Changes: Timeline & Communication Strategies





AGENDA

- Recap February 2026 Council Retreat Motions
- Proposed Timeline
- Proposed Key Ordinance Revisions
- Proposed Communications Strategy

Motions from the February 13, 2026 Council Retreat:

1. A motion was made by Councilmember Zegerman to **direct staff to initiate the phased elimination of grass-only collection**, effective July 1, 2026, and to **implement containerization** beginning July 1, 2028. During the transition period, Town staff will continue to collect grass on an as-needed basis as a courtesy prior to full discontinuation.
2. A motion was made by Councilmember Zegerman, seconded by Councilmember Gray, to **direct staff to begin immediate communication with the public regarding the Town Council's intent to eliminate grass collection effective July 1, 2026**, with enforcement to be carried out at the discretion of the Town Manager or their designee.
3. A motion was made by Councilmember Zegerman, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tempore Mahaffey, to **direct staff to evaluate the feasibility of transitioning all other yard waste to a containerized collection system**, with an effective date of July 1, 2028.
4. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tempore Mahaffey, seconded by Councilmember Reese, to **transition to biweekly yard-waste collection** and to direct staff to begin immediate public communication of this change. The proposed effective date is July 1, 2026, with the Town Manager authorized to adjust the start date as necessary to accommodate operational feasibility and ensure appropriate communication to residents.

VOTE: Motion died, failing to receive a second. (Combined motion separated for clarity)

VOTE: 3-2, with Mayor Pro-Tempore Mahaffey and Councilmember Reese dissenting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)

Timeline: Yard Waste Service Changes

April 2026

Town Council Update & Receive Public Input on Yard Waste Ordinance Changes

May 12, 2026

Yard Waste Ordinance Changes Presented for Adoption

July 1, 2026

Fiscal Year that Yard Waste Ordinance Changes Take Effect

October 18, 2026

Bi-Weekly Zone Collection Begins (No Assigned Day)

January 1, 2027

Grass Clippings No Longer Accepted As Yard Waste

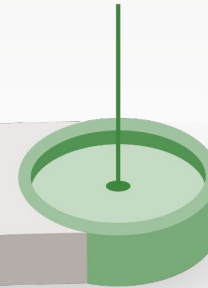
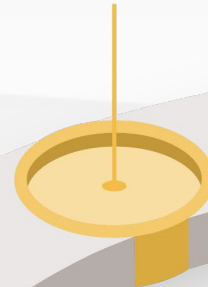
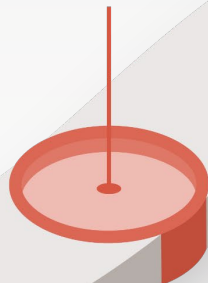
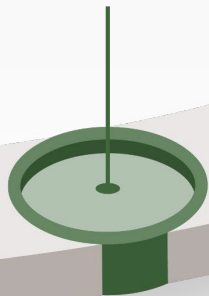
Timeline: Yard Waste Service Changes

February 8, 2027
Regular Bi-Weekly
Zone Collection
Begins (Assigned Day)

October 17, 2027
Bi-Weekly Zone
Collection Begins
(No Assigned Day)

May – June 2028
Yard Waste Carts
Delivered to Residents

July 10, 2028
Bi-Weekly Yard Waste
Cart Collection Begins



Proposed Ordinance Changes: Definitions

Current	Proposed (7/1/26)	AFTER Containerization (Spring 2028)
along curb / edge of pavement	< 3' behind curb / edge of pavement	collection point for carts
small limbs = < 8' long and < 8' diameter	small limbs = < 6' long and < 6' diameter and < 50 lbs	
yard waste includes grass clippings	yard waste excludes grass clippings	

Proposed Ordinance Changes: Pre-Collection Practices

Current	Proposed (7/1/26)	AFTER Containerization (Spring 2028)
no yard waste < 10' of storm drain	no yard waste < 10' upstream of storm drain	Placement restrictions only apply for leaf piles (seasonal collection) and excess yard waste (scheduled collection).
	no yard waste from separate property	
	no yard waste < 6' from obstacles	
	no yard waste in parking / ramp / sidewalk	
	yard waste placed in direction of travel	
unlimited yard waste	< 2 cubic yards of yard waste without a fee	one cart included in fee

Proposed Ordinance Changes: Service Limitations

Current	Proposed (7/1/26)
once per week collection	collection schedule set by Council (bi-weekly)
no land clearing debris (LCD)	no LCD, grass, dirt, root, soil, sod, mulch, concrete, rocks, debris, pallets, trash, plastic, pet waste, lumber, or mailbox posts

Proposed Ordinance Changes: Enforcement

Current	Proposed (7/1/26)	AFTER Containerization (Spring 2028)
refusing collection	Refusing collection and education are still the primary method of compliance. However, new provisions are added so that the Town has additional tools, specifically to abate nuisance yard waste at owner's cost, plus a fee.	Enforcement is simplified since volume is naturally limited by cart size.

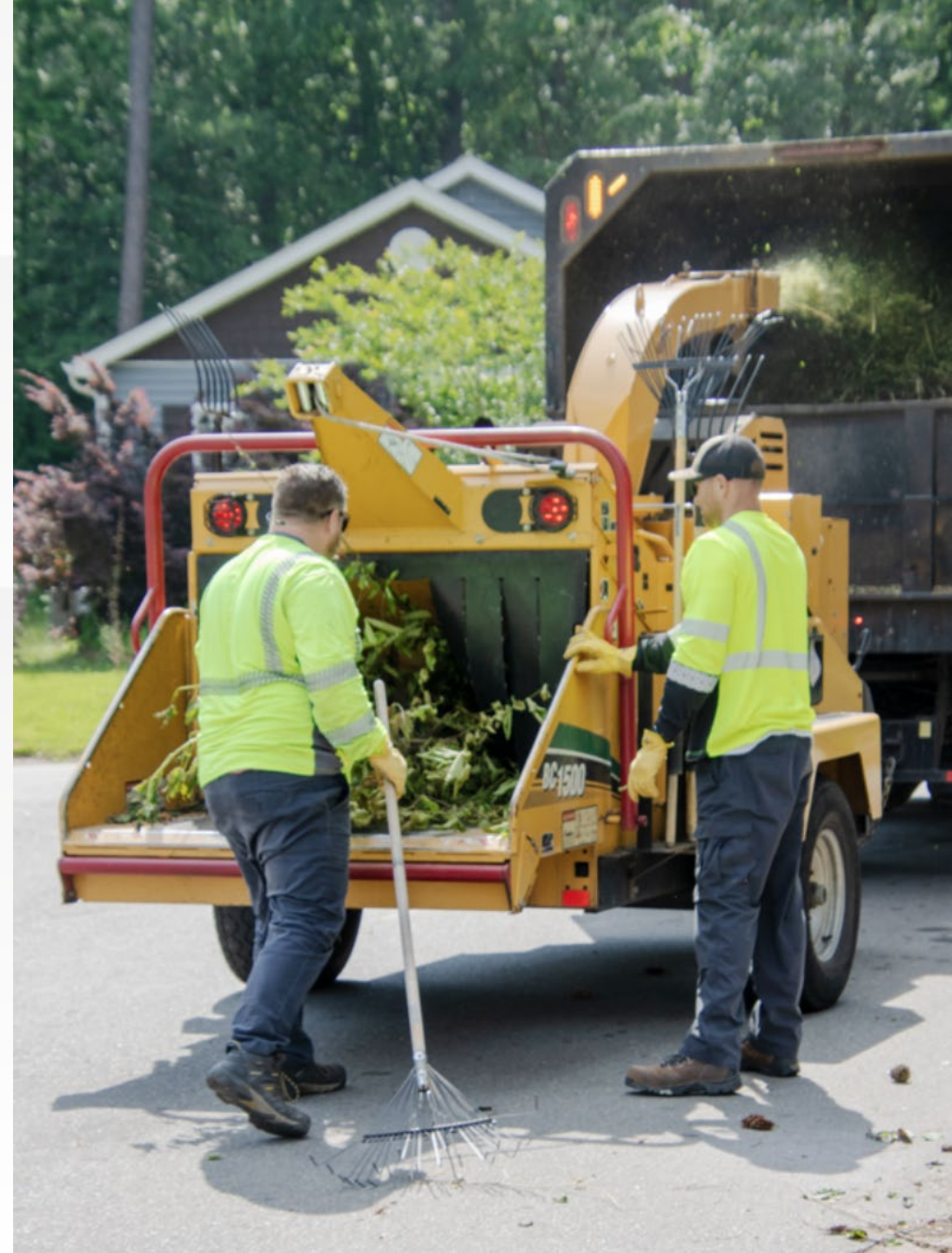


Questions?

Communications Plan

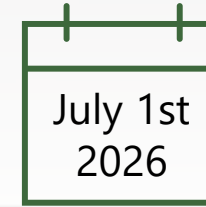
- Multi-phase, Multi-year
- Yard Waste Ordinance Updates
- Educational Resources for Yard Waste Alternatives

a **GREENER TOGETHER** initiative



Ordinance Changes

Focus on explaining the phased implementation of yard waste ordinance changes in the upcoming fiscal year



Upon council approval

In-Person

- Educational Booths at Special Events
- **Presentation at CommUniversity (CDNC's Community Engagement Program)**
- Outreach to HOAs
- FAQs Delivered to Ask Apex to answer resident calls



Print

- **Mailer**
- Updated Brochures
- Articles and Advertisements in Suburban Living Magazine
- Utility Bill Inserts
- Materials in Town Facilities (Senior Center, Town Hall, etc)
- **Door hanger**



Digital

- **Community Survey Questions**
- Website Updates
- Social Media Posts
- All In Apex eNewsletter
- Apex Collects Mobile App Campaign
- Lobby Displays
- Council Pre-meeting slides



Biweekly Collection

Special emphasis on understanding the updated collection schedule



In-Person

- Educational Booths at Special Events
- Outreach to HOAs
- **FAQs Delivered to Ask Apex to answer resident calls**



Print

- **Postcard Mailer with Zones & Leaf Schedule**
- Updated Brochures
- Articles and Advertisements in Suburban Living Magazine
- Utility Bill Inserts
- Materials in Town Facilities (Senior Center, Town Hall, etc)



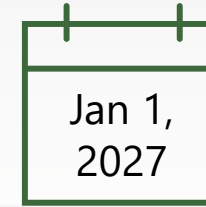
Digital

- Website Updates
- Social Media Posts
- All In Apex eNewsletter
- **Apex Collects Mobile App Campaign & Schedule Update**
- Lobby Displays
- Council Pre-meeting slides
- Meet the Team Video



Elimination of Grass Collection

Attention on educational materials for grasscycling and other grass disposal options



In-Person

- Educational Booths at Special Events
- Outreach to HOAs
- **Q&A Video with Soil / Turf Experts and Public Works Staff**
- FAQs Delivered to Ask Apex to answer resident calls



Print

- Mailer
- **Updated Brochures**
- Articles and Advertisements in Suburban Living Magazine
- Utility Bill Inserts
- Materials in Town Facilities (Senior Center, Town Hall, etc)
- Door hangers placed for notification



Digital

- Website Updates
- Social Media Posts
- All In Apex eNewsletter
- **Apex Collects Mobile App Campaign & Schedule Update**
- Lobby Displays
- Council Pre-meeting slides
- Meet the Team Video



Spring 2027 Reminder Campaign

Reminders of all changes as we approach the heavier yard waste season

Early
March
2027

In-Person

- Educational Booths at Special Events
- Outreach to HOAs



Print

- Updated Brochures
- Articles and Advertisements in Suburban Living Magazine
- Utility Bill Inserts
- Materials in Town Facilities (Senior Center, Town Hall, etc)



Digital

- Website Updates
- Social Media Posts
- All In Apex eNewsletter
- Apex Collects Mobile App Campaign
- Lobby Displays
- Council Pre-meeting slides





Questions?