

Frequently Asked Questions related to: What are these charges on my trash collection bill?

- 1) Why are there so many charges on my bill?
 - a. The itemized charges on your bill vary from trash collector to trash collector, but they fall in to a few basic categories: Service Charges, Taxes, Fuel Surcharges, Environmental Charges and/or Administrative Fees.
- 2) What is the Residential Service charge on my bill?
 - a. This charge is referred to by different names depending on the service provider (hauler); some refer to it by cart size, and others call it removal service. This is the basic fee for trash removal. It is based on the frequency of trash collection and container size in most cases.
- 3) What is the Minnesota Solid Waste Management Tax on my bill?
 - a. The Minnesota Solid Waste Management Tax is a mandatory charge that haulers must, by law, put on your bill. It is equal to 9.75% of the "Sale Price" for residential trash service; including any admin or hauler specific fuel/environmental fees.
- 4) What is the Ramsey County Environmental Charge (RCEC) on my bill?
 - a. The County Environmental Charge (CEC) is a hauler-collected service charge assessed on costs to manage waste generated in Ramsey County that is disposed as Mixed Municipal Solid Waste ("MSW;" also referred to as trash, garbage, refuse, etc.). The "County Environmental Charge" must appear as a separate line item on customer bills for trash collection service. The Ramsey County residential CEC rate is 28%, but can change from year to year.
- 5) What is the Fuel Surcharge and/or Environmental Recovery Fee on my bill?
 - a. This is a vendor specific charge, and not all haulers charge it as a separate line item. Some include it within the base Residential Service Charge. The charge is variable depending on the hauler, as is what it covers. Please contact your specific hauler if you see this charge and want further information.
- 6) What is the Administrative Fee on my bill?
 - a. Some vendors charge fees for administrative items. Some include it within the base Residential Service Charge. Please contact your specific hauler if you see this charge and want further information.
- 7) How does my bill compare to others in Saint Paul?
 - a. We are currently conducting a study to analyze the costs across the city by comparing hauler bills that are being submitted by Saint Paul residents. Once the study is complete, the data analysis will be presented to the Mayor and City Council prior to a formal decision whether or not to move to an organized collection model within the city. The Final Report will be available at www.stpaul.gov/organized-trash-collection.
- 8) How many Trash collectors are currently in the city?
 - a. There are currently 14 licensed residential trash haulers operating in the city of Saint Paul. A listing of the haulers can be found using this link: <https://www.stpaul.gov/garbage-collection>