



## Communications Department

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### **City offering discounted recycling carts ahead of summer change**

The City of Jonesboro is going to a new and improved system of recycling next summer, replacing the old blue bags with blue carts similar to but smaller than the garbage carts now picked up curbside each week.

The recycling upgrades will take effect next summer as the City of Jonesboro takes over the program from Abilities Unlimited starting July 1. The City Sanitation Department has purchased two trucks to be used exclusively for recycling at a cost of \$217,000 each. The department has ordered 10,000, blue 65-gallon recycling bins that are similar to the green, 95-gallon bins used for garbage.

Residents can purchase one recycling bin per household for \$20 plus tax starting Jan. 1. They will be available at that price until they go into use July 1. Multiple bins and those purchased after July 1 are \$50 plus tax.

“We’ve had to invest in our recycling program because the strain on Abilities Unlimited, which has handled our recycling for years, was simply too much,” Jonesboro Mayor Harold Perrin said. “The best option was for us to take it over, and the best way to do it is with bins similar to our garbage bins.

“We will continue to be one of the few cities that provides this service for free, but we are asking residents to invest with us because of the startup cost,” Perrin said. “Most cities charge a recycling fee, but all we ask is that people buy the bins, and \$20 is a bargain-basement price.”

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