



Trash Collector

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Job Description:

Trash collectors collect garbage and transport it to dumps or landfills.

Wages:

Average median yearly pay is about \$37,000 a year in Utah.

Schedule: Generally have a set schedule each week. Usually work more than 40 hours, and usually start work at 5 or 6 a.m.

Education & Experience:

- ◆ Complete short term on-the-job training

High

School Courses:

- ◆ Diesel Mechanics and Repair
- ◆ Driver Education
- ◆ Introduction to Mechanics
- ◆ Physical Education



Gross Monthly Income:

\$3,100

Advancement:

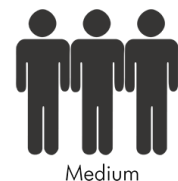
Experienced trash collectors can advance from trash loaders to truck drivers. Once they are truck drivers, advancement often is in the form of pay raises. Some trash collectors develop special knowledge. This knowledge allows them to supervise activities such as recyclable material collection.

Work Conditions:

- ◆ Always work outdoors, even in extreme weather
- ◆ Always wear protective attire, such as gloves
- ◆ Are exposed to contaminants on a daily basis. Also exposed to distracting and uncomfortable noise levels..
- ◆ Use hands to handle, control, or feel objects, tools or controls.

Travel: Drive all day at work within a set geographical area

Job Outlook:



Medium

Hours a Week:

45

Leisure Time:

Medium

Knowledge:

- ◆ Customer & Personal Service
- ◆ Transportation
- ◆ Public Safety & Security
- ◆ Mechanical

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Overview

Each year, Americans throw away over 400 million tons of waste. Researchers estimate that each person in the U.S. throws away about 4.5 pounds of garbage each day. At the same time, Americans are getting better and better at recycling. This means less waste in landfills, which reduces harmful gases released into the air. Regardless of the size (and contents) of your trash can and recycle bins, nobody wants to hold on to their garbage and old cereal boxes for long. That's where trash collectors come in.

Trash collectors drive a regularly scheduled route for picking up materials. They gather trash and recyclables from homes, schools, and businesses. Trash collectors lift and empty small garbage cans by hand. They operate lifts to pick up and empty dumpsters and heavy cans. They unload these materials at dumps. Some trash collectors work alone and drive the truck as well as pick up garbage.

Some collectors pick up recyclable materials, such as glass bottles and newspapers. They sort these items and put them in the proper bins on the trucks. They transport these materials to processing centers. They make special pickups of certain recyclable items. These include computers, containers of used oil, and old paint.

Pathway:

Agriculture