

Texarkana Gazette

Waste Management to landfill Texas-side recyclables

TEXARKANA, Texas -- Waste Management will temporarily dispose of recyclable materials collected curbside in its New Boston, Texas, landfill, the company announced Friday.

by Karl Richter Sep. 14 2020 @ 4:25pm



This March 2018 file photo shows material collected by Waste Management's curbside, single-stream recycling service awaiting transport to a Shreveport, Louisiana, sorting facility at a Caraustar Industries plant in Texarkana, Texas. Photo by Karl Richter

TEXARKANA, Texas — Waste Management will temporarily dispose of locally curbside-collected recyclable materials in its New Boston, Texas, landfill, the company announced Friday.

Pratt Industries Inc. — the company that has been accepting unsorted, or single-stream, recyclables collected by WM in Texarkana — will no longer process them at its Shreveport, Louisiana, facility, and WM has no other place to sell them.

"Unfortunately, there is no other available market for the materials at the current time. Please continue to use your recycling cart and place it out for collection as you normally do as we research options," a news release stated.

The company's commercial cardboard recycling program is not affected.

During a City Council meeting Monday, a WM spokesman apologized for the short notice and said the company is working with Texas-side officials to find a solution that allows the company to continue curbside recycling services.

"We were not given verbal notification until Thursday and written notification Friday," WM Public Sector Manager Doug Sims said. "Hopefully this is very temporary."

WM pays \$95 dollars per ton for transport and processing of the approximately 120 tons of recyclables it collects in Texarkana per month, Sims said.

Possible options include transporting recyclables to WM facilities in Little Rock or Arlington, Texas; changing to curbside service that collects cardboard and paper only; or discontinuing curbside recycling altogether, Sims said, adding that he should be able to provide the city with pricing estimates within two weeks.