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Our vendor for garbage service, Red Oak Sanitation, has implemented a temporary protocol in response to the COVID-19 outbreak for the protection of its employees and customers. These policies are in sync with the sanitation industry as recommended by the CDC and other health experts that have provided guidance on social distancing and surface contact to the sanitation industry.

RED OAK WILL REMOVE ALL WASTE, <u>INCLUDING YARD WASTE</u>, THAT IS BAGGED AND INSIDE THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE GARBAGE CAN.

AS PER OUR USUAL GUIDELINES, NO TRASH OF ANY KIND OUTSIDE OF A CAN WILL BE PICKED UP

Extra City of Dawsonville garbage cans are available for an additional \$15.50 per month.

See attached information as provided by Red Oak Sanitation.

Red Oak Statement

In response to the recommendation for businesses and individuals to help eliminate the potential spread and help flatten the curve by reducing social contact with COVID-19, Red Oak Sanitation implemented precautionary procedures to protect its employees, and the community as a whole. Red Oak services over 30,000 residential customer per day. This scale of daily contact carries a lot of risk and responsibility for the customers, community, and every employee at Red Oak.

The sanitation industry is on the front line as it handles, transports and disposes of the waste from every individual. As you may understand, each individual has their own standards of hygiene and at times like this, it exposes the sanitation employee to the high risk of contracting and spreading any virus if the proper procedures are not followed.

Our Protocol is in place to control the contact and exposure to COVID-19. It is designed to limit common surface contact with the virus, and eliminate spreading it from customer to employee, employee to customer. Just as some of our favorite restaurants and other pastimes have been forced to close to stop the spread, Red Oak has had to look at the long game, with the idea that keeping our employees healthy is keeping our community healthy with a sustainable sanitation service. No one wants to be staring into a reality where there are no longer any sanitation workers healthy enough to provide waste removal. Sanitation is one of the few necessary services that must remain operational to help avoid further public health concerns, particularly with summer's fast approach.

Red Oak is so incredibly grateful for the outpouring of overwhelming support by our many, many customers. We truly appreciate their understanding, and cooperation as we all join together as a community to protect one another, and put others ahead of ourselves. No one knows how long this global pandemic will last, however, it is our hope that this is only temporary, and this too will pass enabling us to return to business as usual.

One last point that we are understanding to be very important: we are recommending further precautions, <u>asking that each resident spray to disinfect their trash containers before</u> <u>handling them once emptied</u>. They can find all the information they need to do so at: cdc.gov

RED OAK SANITATION VIRUS PROTOCOL MARCH 16, 2020



CAUTION: COVID-19 STUDY WAS **NOT** COMPLETE AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION BY MEDSCAPE