

## PRESS RELEASE

### VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF, IL

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NORTH SHORE LIFE  
LAKE BLUFF STYLE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 09/17/15**

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#### *Village Approves Commercial Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Program Ordinance*

On Monday, September 14, 2015 the Lake Bluff Village Board approved an Ordinance that will authorize the Village to initiate a commercial franchise program which (if ultimately enacted) may help control costs for local businesses, increase recycling, and reduce greenhouse gases associated with collection from non-residential locations.

In 2014 the Illinois State Legislature passed Public Act 98-1079 (“Public Act”) which amends the authority of municipalities to enter into exclusive franchise contracts for waste and recycling services for local businesses and institutions. Under the Public Act, municipalities can no longer enter into a commercial waste and recycling contract with one service provider without first conducting a three year study of recycling participation rates. On September 14, 2015 the Village of Lake Bluff (“Village”) Board of Trustees amended the Village’s Municipal Code establishing a Commercial Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Program (“Program”). Through this Program, the Village moves toward attaining one of its 2016 Strategic Visions, *Environmental stewardship enhances the national beauty of the community*, by commencing with a three year study period to: (i) increase recycling, (ii) reduce costs to recycle, and (iii) to better control the negative impacts associated with waste hauling (e.g. number of days for collection, number of collections, fuel-type used in collection vehicles, etc.).

During the study period, commercial waste haulers serving businesses in the Village must report (every six months) the number of commercial accounts that are recycling. If after the end of the three year study less than 50% of the commercial account are recycling, the municipality may issue a request for proposals for an exclusive commercial franchise. However, if 50 % or more of businesses in the Village are participating, Lake Bluff cannot establish a commercial franchise with a single waste hauler unless the participation rate falls below the 50% threshold for two consecutive reporting periods (or 12 consecutive months). According to the Solid

Waste Agency of Lake County (“SWALCO”), a typical Lake County municipality without a commercial franchise has a business recycling participation rate of approximately 25%. Additionally, as a single commercial franchise would impact competition between commercial waste haulers, it is anticipated that businesses will start a recycling program.

As a requirement of the Public Act, municipalities that adopt the Program must report the recycling rate supplied by the licensed commercial waste haulers. By partnering with SWALCO, SWALCO will publish the recycling participation rate of Lake Bluff businesses on its website ([swalco.org](http://swalco.org)).

For additional information visit [lakebluff.org](http://lakebluff.org), or please contact Brandon Stanick, Assistant to the Village Administrator, at 847-283-6889.

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