



126 West Main Street  
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[www.fbgtx.org](http://www.fbgtx.org)

## Information about the City's Brush Chipping Service

After a wet and windy summer, the City of Fredericksburg would like to remind residents of the free brush chipping service that is offered to customers. Brush chipping is a function of the Solid Waste department, and is provided as a service to help the City's customers maintain their properties. While city crews don't have a schedule of specific days that they chip brush at a certain location, they do continuously follow the same route. When there is an increased demand for the chipping service, as there has been after the recent stormy weather, the crew is not able to make its way through the entire city as quickly as usual. However, crews will continue to process their routes as efficiently as possible to serve our residents. Following is some additional information to help customers prepare for the chipper to stop at their home or business.

**Residential Customers.** Those who are currently receiving City of Fredericksburg garbage pick-up service are entitled to this free brush-chipping service. This includes customers in duplexes, four-plexes, apartments, B&Bs, and manufactured home parks, and is intended to be used for disposal of tree limbs removed from that customer's residential property only. The first 15 minutes of chipping is free. If the crew cannot finish a chipping job within 15 minutes, they must move on to the next job, and will contact the customer to explain that they were not able to complete the customer's chipping within the 15-minute maximum. If that occurs, crews will return to the property on the next route cycle and complete the job, still free of charge. If a customer wants all of the brush chipped, and the job extends beyond the initial 15 minutes, there will be a fee of \$15 for every 15-minute increment thereafter, with a minimum charge of \$15 to be billed to the customer. Customers are encouraged to contact the city office at 997-7521 prior to starting a major trimming job, or if they are expecting an abnormally large volume of limbs.

**Commercial Customers.** The brush chipping service is also provided to the city's commercial customers inside the city limits. Chipping is not free for commercial customers; their fee is \$15 for every 15 minutes, with a minimum charge of \$30. Due to demand for chipping services, the chipper crew is not able to remain longer than one hour at any commercial site.

**What can customers do to help the crews be as efficient as possible and keep the brush chipper in safe and operating condition?** City crews request that customers observe the following guidelines to help them be as prompt as possible in making their way to all customers, while ensuring the safety of the chipping crew:

- ◆ Place all limbs on the curb next to the street (not in the street). Crews will not go on private property or in alleys to get limbs.
- ◆ Limbs should be 6 feet long or longer (as long as can easily be handled).
- ◆ Place the cut section toward the street.
- ◆ Brush piles should be no larger than 4' high by 8' wide, and no more than 2 piles per residence.
- ◆ No limbs larger than 8" in diameter.
- ◆ No stumps or roots (stumps and roots will be picked up with a loader and dump truck at a minimum rate of \$50 per load plus landfill fees).
- ◆ No vines, grass, leaves, bushes, or garden plants. Also, no wire or construction materials. All of these items can actually cause mechanical problems for the brush chipper, as well as creating safety hazards for the crew.
- ◆ Limbs larger than 1" in diameter must be trimmed from the main stem.
- ◆ Limbs trimmed by commercial contract tree trimmers will not be chipped. The contractor is responsible for disposing of debris.

Wood chips that are produced as a result of the brush chipping may be picked up free of charge at the landfill. The city crews are not able to put the chips back onto the property owner's lot. For more information on the city's brush chipping policy, customers are encouraged to call 830-997-7521.