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June 30, 2017

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## **City of Laramie Enters into Public-Private Partnership with McBride's Yard Waste for Curbside Pickup Service**

**Laramie, WY** – The Laramie City Council approved a public-private partnership with McBride's Yard Waste at a regular council meeting on June 20. This partnership comes as part of a plan to end the green waste collection sites, known as the Neighborhood Convenience Program, beginning in August.

The cost to operate the Neighborhood Convenience Program had grown significantly since its inception in 2010, reaching an operational loss no longer feasible to sustain the program in the budget. With direction from the City Council, the City staff analyzed six operational alternatives. The resulting recommendation from the City staff was that the City Council establish a public-private partnership with McBride's Yard Waste to increase the level-of-service to the community, eliminate neighborhood blight caused by the current collection method, lower the City's overall cost, and eliminate risk to the City Solid Waste Fund.

"We are excited to partner with the City of Laramie to provide an upgraded green waste service to residents, and a solution to a problem the city was facing," said Jonathan McBride, co-owner of McBride's Yard Waste. "We also understand going from a free service to a paid can be hard, and that's why we are letting residents to try it out free for the rest of the season."

McBride's Yard Waste is owned and operated by Jonathan McBride and Gene Russel, both University of Wyoming graduates. The new voluntary service will allow Laramie residents to sign up for a weekly curbside pickup service for all yard waste, set to begin on Aug. 15. The seasonal service from McBride's will typically run from mid-April to mid-November and cost residents \$69 per season with service for one 95-gallon cart.

Since the partnership was formed midway through the current growing season, McBride's Yard Waste is offering their service for free for the remainder of the 2017 season (through Nov. 17) for residents who sign up by Aug. 1. To sign up for the service and receive a cart, residents should visit [www.McBridesYardWaste.com](http://www.McBridesYardWaste.com) or call 307-399-2028.

This service is for yard waste collection only and includes items like grass clippings, leaves, weeds, garden waste, small sticks, and other organic matter commonly found in yards. Those items should not be bagged. Items not accepted in the carts include garbage, large branches, stumps, and food waste. The cart will hold enough material to service approximately a 10,000 square foot yard that is mowed weekly and includes other miscellaneous yard waste from regular maintenance. Residents also have the option to request additional carts for a fee if needed.

All yard waste that is collected by McBride's Yard Waste will be taken to the City of Laramie compost site at the landfill. This service is a competitively priced, convenient alternative for residents who do not wish to transport yard waste to the compost site themselves.

For more information about McBride's Yard Waste, visit [www.McBridesYardWaste.com](http://www.McBridesYardWaste.com), email [info@mcbridesyardwaste.com](mailto:info@mcbridesyardwaste.com) or call 307-399-2028. For more details about the City of Laramie's Green Waste policies, visit [www.CityofLaramie.org](http://www.CityofLaramie.org).