

Wytheville Observer



A Publication of the Town of Wytheville

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Decorative Arts Documentation Day



This spinning wheel was made by William Felty, a wheelwright in Wythe County, and descended through the Umberger family. Felty was working in Wythe County from 1810-1868. The distaff's are also original to this wheel, which dates to ca. 1820. The spinning wheel is now in the collection of Michael Gillman, an Umberger descendent.



Table dates to ca. 1840s and attributed to Wythe County craftsman James Seagle.

On June 20, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., the Wythe County Historical Society and the Town of Wytheville Department of Museums co-sponsored a Decorative Arts Documentation Day to examine and catalogue items produced by craftspeople in Wythe County before 1900.

The event took place in the Heritage Preservation Center meeting room, 115 West Spiller Street.

WCHS representatives were available to measure and photograph approximately 40 items of interest, and they recorded distinctive characteristics of the item, including signatures and unique or interesting structural features. Members of the WCHS also scheduled a couple of in-home visits for items too large or too heavy to bring to Documentation Day.

This project represents an effort on the part of the Wythe County Historical Society to compile an archive of craftspeople in our area. Items of interest included, but are not limited to, furniture, textiles (with the exception of quilts), rifles, baskets, ironwork, and musical instruments.

Wythe County was one of the most important artisan centers on the Great Wagon Road during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Unfortunately, the contributions of Wythe County to the development of Southern material culture is under-researched.

For questions, please visit www.facebook.com/wythecountyfurniture or call (276) 223-3330.

Civic Monuments Awards Presented



Vice Mayor Jackie King is shown in these photos presenting the Wall of Honor Civic Monument awards to Ruth Anne Chitwood and the family of the late Dickie Boyles. Both persons were honored by inclusion in the Civic Monument at Withers Park. Chosen earlier in the year, the awards were presented during the Chautauqua Festival on Sunday, June 21, 2015.



MAYOR'S MEMO

by Mayor Trenton G. Crewe, Jr.

The measure of any community sometimes comes down to how it handles change. Positive or negative, change is a constant in life. Do you meet the change head on and work positively toward a new and better future? Or do you accept a negative change as inevitable and allow it to fester and grow?

Wytheville has long been a town that is in itself a contradiction of sorts. By our geographical location, we are rural and small. By that same geography, we also are urban in part because of the traffic volume and amenities that two major north-south interstates bring us. You can experience the hustle-bustle of traffic at our exits, yet find the quiet charm just a couple of miles away in the middle of our town.

This community has worked hard to overcome the stereotypical negativity associated with Appalachia, while honoring that same heritage and culture as an intricate part of who we are. Our institutions of learning have worked to grow and improve the educational opportunities available to our young people and our adult population needing to make a career change. There are certainly not many communities in this country that can say every high school graduate has the opportunity to attend community college free of charge for two years. It is equally amazing that some of those same students graduate high school a few credits short of an associate degree by taking dual credit courses offered as a partnership between secondary and higher education. Our community is special to offer such an opportunity.

Years ago, our local governments banded together and made an incredible investment in the area's future by purchasing the land and developing the infrastructure for what we now know as



Progress Park. We have already seen the results of this investment by the new industries that have located here with significant potential for growth in the years to come.

A decade ago, the Town of Wytheville took a leap of faith and began constructing the Wytheville Community & Meeting Center Complex. After eight years of operation, the facility continues to see growth in its use and the revenue it generates. Every year, thousands of local citizens of all ages enjoy the recreation facilities and over 400 meetings and events are held annually in the Meeting Center bringing significant revenue to our hotels, restaurants and other tourism-related businesses. The "big picture" of this complex is the strong contribution to the quality of life that it brings making it an attractive part of what our community showcases to visitors & potential businesses and industries.

Like any community across this great nation, we have our share of problems. The biggest room in the world is the one for improvement. But in my three decades of being a resident, business owner, and elected official of this town, I have encountered very few times when we haven't banded together as a citizenry to work toward improvement. It's in our blood.

A recent example that comes to mind is the work currently being done to revitalize our Downtown. This is not merely some "Town of Wytheville project" instituted by

the local government. There are countless business owners, private citizens, community groups, and others working every day toward this effort. It's more than redoing sidewalks and cutting down trees. It's more than a fresh coat of paint or a new sign. It's an entrepreneur making a dream come true by opening the doors of a business. It's jobs created within our own community by our own citizens. It's a hot dog eating contest on a warm July day where all ages can come together and dance in the street.

It is very disheartening when we find that we have those among us who would rather shine light on the negative rather than work toward the positive. Bending facts for sensationalism accomplishes very little except the black eye that remains on the face of the community. With the global reach of the Internet, there is no "undoing" of a piece of negative publicity. It's out there and remains searchable for months and years to come. It tarnishes the perception that others have of our part of the world in ways we will never fully realize.

It is my hope that in the future we can continue to work toward the positive and work on the problems that challenge our way of life. We must band together to help each other and strive to help those within our area who have challenges in their lives.

Wytheville and Wythe County are wonderful places to live, to work, to invest in the future. Ultimately, the reason comes down to the people, the pride, and the dedication we have to constantly work toward improvement. You can be part of a problem or part of a solution. Wytheville Town Council's commitment is to be part of the solution. Please join us in making that a positive one.

I welcome the opportunity to talk with you regarding your ideas and concerns. My office, at the Wytheville Municipal Building, is open prior to Council meetings on the second and fourth Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m., and other times by appointment. I can also be reached by phone at 223-3356 or via email at tcrewe@wytheville.org.



Calendar

July

- 13 – Town Council Meeting
- 27 – Town Council Meeting

August

- 10 – Town Council Meeting
- 13 – Planning Commission Meeting
- 24 – Town Council Meeting
- 24-28 – Curbside Brush Pick Up

September

- 07 – Labor Day Holiday (Offices Closed)
- 10 – Planning Commission Meeting
- 14 – Town Council Meeting
- 28 – Town Council Meeting

**TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE
REGULATIONS FOR BRUSH DISPOSAL
EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2012, AND
AMENDED MARCH 24, 2014.**

On the first and third Saturday of each month, from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., Town residents may take one pickup load of brush to the disposal site without a fee. Disposal of brush in excess of a pickup load will be charged the \$3.00 per cubic yard fee, and the Treasurer's receipt must be presented to the attendant on duty. The Town of Wytheville brush disposal site will be open on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. for disposals pursuant to a permit. There will be a disposal fee of \$3.00 per cubic yard that must be paid to the Treasurer's Office prior to disposal. The receipt must be presented to the attendant on duty at the brush disposal site. (Unless brush permits are sold, there will be no attendant on duty.) On the reverse side is an illustration which indicates the approximate size of a load that may be hauled on an average pickup truck, trailer, dump truck, container, and the associated fees for disposal. The Town will conduct bi-monthly curbside brush collection for the residents of the Town, which will be at no cost to the residents. These collections will be made the last weeks of February, April, June, August, October, and December 2014. All curbside brush regulations will still be applicable.

Wytheville Police Warn of Scams and Identity Theft

On July 10, 2015 the Wytheville Police Department received a report from a town citizen in regards to a phone call that was received soliciting computer repair. The citizen had in fact been having some computer issues such as programs missing from his computers desktop, and felt that the services could be helpful. The caller asked permission to take over the citizens computer remotely to run a scan on the device. Claiming that the scan would show if the computer had ever been hacked into, and what type of security was needed to prevent the computer from being hacked.

The citizen agreed to the scan and after approximately 2 hours of conversation and computer scanning the caller informed the citizen that the computer had been hacked into 8 times. The caller advised the citizen that his computer was unsafe, however for \$199.00 he could provide the proper security service to his device to insure that it could not be hacked into again. The citizen was convinced that this was a legitimate company and provided the caller with credit card information to purchase the security system. However the citizen never received any type of security system for the device. There have been several attempts to contact the company and the salesman of the security system with no success, receiving either a busy signal or line disconnected notices. There is also concern that the suspect now has access to his computer and his credit card number, which he was advised to cancel to prevent further fraud. The case is still under investigation by Officer Zac Taylor.

Chief of Police Rick Arnold encourages anyone who conducts business online to ensure that it is a reputable company before conducting business with them. A good place to check on this is through the Better Business Bureau (BBB) at www.bbb.org. This site will acknowledge if the business that you are dealing with is legitimate, what their rating is and explain how to file a complaint of the deeds to warn others so they will not make the same mistake. Unfortunately, it is hard to investigate and enforce these kinds of transactions because of the easy way conduct then break off the contact with a potential victim. The Wytheville Police Department has received several calls for service regarding this type of internet crime and victims are encouraged to continue to contact the police anytime it occurs. There is always the chance that the suspect will make a mistake and we will be able to trace them down, stated Chief Arnold.

Cemetery Plots Available in East End

Over 700 plots are now available in East End Cemetery. Beginning at \$450, spaces are available in allotments of two-ten, depending on location. For more information, contact the Treasurer's Office at 223-3333 or visit the office at 150 East Monroe Street.

What's New in the Museum Shop



Local Honey
Country Roots Farm
Wytheville



Salsa & Jelly
Thirty Three Acre Farms
Rural Retreat



Flower Pot Candles
Sniffalicious Candles LLC.
Rural Retreat



Beard Oil & Shaving Cream
Mule Hell Trading Co.
Wytheville

The Museum Shop

975 Tazewell Street, Wytheville
(Inside E. Lee Trinkle Regional Visitors Center)

Open M-Sat, 10-4:30

Travel US HWY. 21

2nd ANNUAL

3-Day Road Market Sale

100 MILES OF TREASURES EXTENDING FROM

WYTHEVILLE, VA TO HARMONY, NC

JULY 24, 25, & 26th

Visit Our Website:
www.us21roadmarket.org
OR
www.takeabreakfromtheinterstate.com



Call (276) 223-3330 for more information or come by the Heritage Preservation Center, 115 W. Spiller St., Wytheville for a sign!



Miles J.O.B. Fund

Everyone is Welcome to Participate and Enjoy Traveling US Hwy. 21.

"Take a Break from the Interstate" does not have the authority to regulate or establish rules for the U.S. 21 Road Market and is in no way responsible for the safety of participants or have any hand in the private sales which will take place along the route."

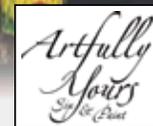


Sip and Paint Event

Saturday, August 15, 2015 • 4-6 p.m.

Heritage Preservation Center, 115 West Spiller St., Wytheville
Bring Your Own Beer or Wine

Fundraiser For The Town of Wytheville Department of Museums
The fun event will feature Colleen Kutish of Artfully Yours Sip & Paint who will guide participants step-by-step through an original painting! All Art Supplies Provided! No experience needed!
www.artfullyyours.com





Live!

Live long! Live well! Live WYTHE!

August 15 • 9am-Noon

FREE
to the
Public

Healthy Cooking Demo

9AM at Bolling Wilson Hotel
Presented by Jarrett Seiple, WCCH Chef

Win Prizes!
Details
Below

Awesome Vendors
Exercise Demos

Drug Safety in the Home

10:30 AM at Counts Drug

LIVE MUSIC

Farm to Table Samples
11 AM at Wytheville Farmer's Market

Downtown Wytheville

DISCOVER WHAT'S WYTHE IN

SPONSORED BY
Wythe-Bland Foundation
Providing pathways for a healthier tomorrow

WIN PRIZES!
Fit Bit, Gym Membership and Personal Training Sessions
Get your passport stamped at downtown participating businesses to get entered!



WPD Statistics for the Town of Wytheville

Reporting Period April/May/June 2015

ACCIDENT STATISTICS	APR	MAY	JUN
Major Accidents	6	9	4
19 Major Accidents Reported	(43 Accidents YTD)		
Minor Accidents	23	23	22
68 Minor Accidents Reported	(148 Accidents YTD)		
87 Total Accidents Reported	(191 Accidents YTD)		
Injuries	0	0	3
3 Accidents Related Injuries Reported (7 Injuries YTD)			
Fatalities	0	0	0
0 Fatalities Reported			
Charges	6	6	2
14 Accidents Related Charges Issued	(25 YTD)		

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	
Speeding Violations	320
Seat Belt Violations	79
Child Safety Seat Violations	2
Defective Equipment	37
No/Susp/Revok O/L	62
Stop Light/Stop Sign Violations	81
Liability Insurance Violation	10
No/Expir State Registration	22
Expired Inspection	56
Reckless Driving	15
Impeding Flow of Traffic	6
DUI/DUID	38
Texting & Driving	2
Front Tag Missing	10
Habitual Offenders	2
Following too Close	1
Fail to Yield Right of Way	4
Town Decal Violations	27
Misc. Traffic Offenses	147
TOTAL Traffic Violations	921

CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT

Kidnapping	1
Forcible Rape/Fondling	2
Robbery	1
Aggrav/Simple Assault	15
Arson	1
Burglary/B & E	4
Shoplifting	29
All Other Larceny	27
Thefts Building/Motor Vehicle/etc	9
Motor Vehicle Thefts	2
Counterfeit/Forgery	3
False Pretenses/Confidence Games	1
Destruction/Damage/Vandal Prop	41
Drug/Narcotic/Equipment Violations	53
Weapon Law Violations	3
Drunkeness	49
All Other Offenses	57
TOTAL Criminal Violations	298

Apply for a Raffle Permit

If an organization wishes to apply to hold a raffle, they need to write a letter of request to Wytheville Town Council. The organization must have been a 501(c)(3) entity for at least two years. Raffle permits are good until December 31 of the year in which they are granted. Then, another permit must be requested for the following year. Raffle tickets cannot be sold until the permit is issued. When applying for a permit, please keep in mind that Wytheville Town Council meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month. Please send your letter of request at least two weeks in advance of the Council meeting in which you wish for it to be considered. For more information, please contact the Town Clerk's office at 276-223-3349.



Wytheville Police Department Offers Tips for an (Almost) Worry Free Vacation

More than half of the population in the United States will take a vacation away from home this summer. According to FBI statistics, most communities will experience a 10 to 18 percent increase in home burglaries during the months of July and August. The Insurance Information Institute suggests that 9 out of 10 home break-ins could be prevented if homeowners would take simple steps to burglarproof their homes.

Rushing out the door to begin enjoying a vacation can cause people to overlook several easy ways to ensure their homes will be protected. Taking the necessary precautions to protect your home while away will allow you to relax, so you can thoroughly enjoy your trip!

Here are a few simple “Do’s & Don’ts” to help keep your home safe while you travel:

- DO** make sure all doors and windows are locked and fastened. Doors should have deadbolt locks with a one-inch throw and reinforced strike plate.
- DO** examine your house from the street and make sure no valuables, like expensive electronics or artwork, are visible from the street. If a passerby can see your belongings, so can criminals.
- DO** secure sliding glass doors by placing a metal rod or piece of plywood in the track to prevent an intruder from forcing the door open.
- DO** secure doors with glass panels with deadbolts on the inside that can only be opened with a key.
- DO** unplug the power to your automatic garage door to keep thieves from opening it with a universal remote.
- DO** lock the door to your attached garage. If the garage door lifts on a track, a C-clamp tightened on the track next to the roller can prevent the door from being opened.
- DO** make it appear that you’re home – use timers on lights, radios, and televisions.
- DO** keep the perimeter of your home well-lit. Easily do this by installing low-voltage outdoor lighting.
- DON’T** leave a message on your answering machine or on a social media account saying you are on vacation.
- DO** leave the air conditioner on. A silent compressor on a hot day is a good indication you aren’t home.
- DON’T** leave clues that you are away. Ask a trusted neighbor to pick up your newspaper and your mail instead of stopping service, which lets people know that you are gone.
- DO** ask that person to put your trash containers out for pick-up and put them back again when they’re empty and park their car in your driveway occasionally to give your home a more lived-in look.
- DO** have your lawn maintained if you will be gone for more than a few days.
- DON’T** close your blinds when you leave on vacation if you usually keep them open. The more normal your home looks, the better.

Continued Next Page.



Wytheville Police Department Offers Tips for an (Almost) Worry Free Vacation

DON'T post the details of your vacation online. Refrain from discussing your trip on social networking sites. It's like setting up a sign letting criminals know your house is ripe for the picking!

DON'T leave a portable GPS in your car when you use long-term parking at the airport. It'll alert thieves that you're not home and give them a convenient map to your house.

DO keep track of all the keys to your home and make sure they're in safe hands. Locking your doors is important, but up to 50 percent of burglaries involve the use of a key.

DON'T hide a key outdoors in a protected spot, either. Burglars know the best hiding places better than you do.

DO frost or cover your garage windows, burglars won't be able to tell if your car is gone.

DO consider installing a home security system, and make sure it is activated when you leave. Recent studies have shown that homes without a working home security system are 300% more likely to experience a theft.

FINALLY – **DO** contact the Wytheville Police Department before you leave for vacation and have your residence placed on their home and business special checks. This will notify the Department that you will away for an extended period of time and they will conduct a check of your residence while you are gone. Contact the Wytheville Police Department at 276-223-3300 and request to be placed on this list before you leave. Remember to contact the Department upon your return, so that you may be removed.

Wytheville Police Department Begins Parking Boot Program

In order to address the number of unpaid parking violations, effective July 1, 2015, the Wytheville Police Department will be utilizing parking "boots" on vehicles that are found to have three or more unpaid parking tickets. Once the boot has been attached to the vehicle, it will be immobilized until a trained law enforcement officer removes it. Attempting to move the vehicle while the boot is still attached will cause damage to the vehicle and the parking boot. Repair of both will be the responsibility of the vehicle's owner.

Stickers will be applied to the driver's side window and the front windshield warning the driver not to move the vehicle due to the attachment of the parking boot and will provide instructions to have it removed.

Prior to boot removal, all unpaid tickets must be paid in full and an additional \$50 removal fee will be charged. The boot will be removed within one hour of all fines and costs being paid in full. If the fines and costs are not paid within 48 hours of the vehicle receiving the boot, the vehicle will be towed, at the owner's expense, and additional costs will be applied (i.e. towing fee and vehicle storage).

Contact the Wytheville Police Department at 276-223-3300 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday to make arrangements to have the boot removed. Please note, if the parking boot is applied to the vehicle on Friday, it will stay attached to the vehicle until the following Monday.





BRUSH COLLECTION GUIDELINES

TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE, VIRGINIA

DATES TO REMEMBER

BRUSH PICKUP DATES FOR 2015

- February 23—27
- April 27—May 1
- June 22—26
- August 24—28
- October 26—30
- December 28—January 4

BRUSH COLLECTION GUIDELINES

- In order to avoid getting a citation, please do not have brush out earlier than 6:00 PM on the Friday before collection week.
- ♦ Do not place brush on water meters or sewer cleanouts.
- ♦ Do not place branches, grass clippings or leaves in the travel lane or block sidewalks.
- ♦ Any brush placed out after the scheduled collection time may not get picked up in a timely manner or may result in a fine/charge.
- ♦ Tree removals by a contractor for a homeowner are to be disposed of by the contractor.
- ♦ Vehicles should not be parked near the brush as this blocks accessing the piles.
- ♦ The Town will not pick up old furniture, lumber, tires, or similar items. Disposal of these items are the responsibility of the owner or tenant.
- ♦ **The brush disposal site is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 AM to 3 PM. A fee of \$3 per cubic yard must be paid at the Treasurer's Office prior to disposal or the \$5 minimum fee. The receipt must be presented to the attendant on duty. Unless brush permits are sold, there will be no attendant on duty. The site will be open on the first and third Saturday of each month from 8 AM to 1 PM for Town residents to take one pickup load of brush without a fee. Disposal of brush in excess of one pickup load will be charged the \$3 per cubic yard fee and the receipt must be presented to the attendant. During the week of the bi-monthly pickups, the site will be open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 3 PM.**

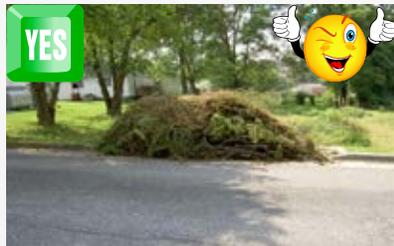
Few localities offer this type of free service. Your assistance in following the guidelines will ensure the service continues. Please contact the Director of Public Works at 223-3357 with additional questions.



SORT LEAVES AND GRASS CLIPPINGS INTO SEPARATE PILES; GRASS CLIPPINGS MUST BE BAGGED OR IN CONTAINERS



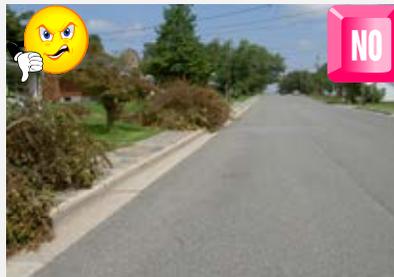
IN A **VERY SMALL** PILE, BRANCHES MAY BE IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS



ARRANGE ALL BRANCHES IN THE SAME DIRECTION PARALLEL TO STREET



MORE THAN ONE DUMP TRUCK LOAD (10 FT. X 7 FT. X 4 FT.) PER HOUSEHOLD



DO NOT PLACE BRUSH, GRASS CLIPPINGS, OR LEAVES IN THE TRAVEL LANE OR BLOCK SIDEWALKS



DO NOT PUT ANY OTHER ITEMS IN THE BRUSH PILE



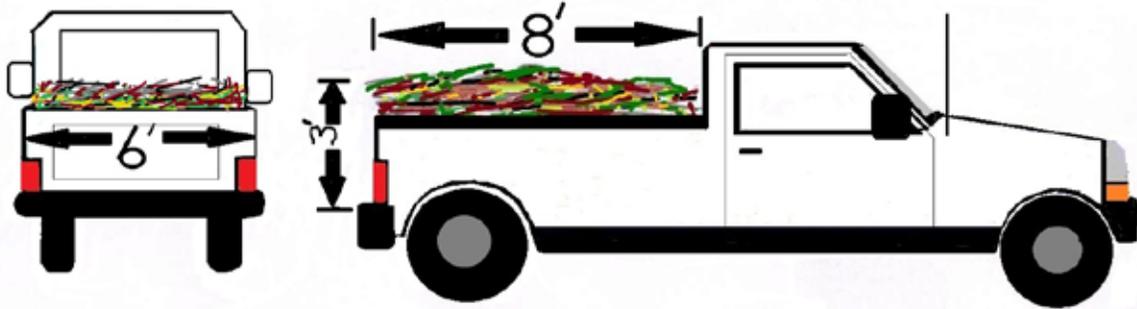
BRUSH SHOULD NOT BE ON WATER METERS OR SEWER CLEANOUTS OR AT FIRE HYDRANTS OR GUIDEWIRES



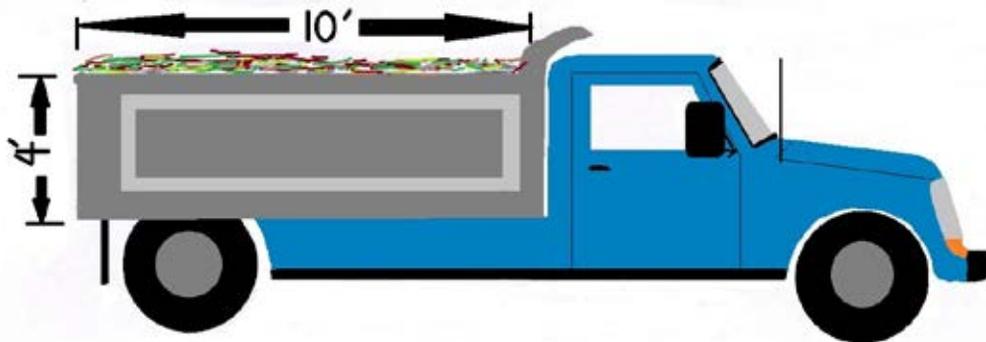
BRANCHES MUST FACE SAME DIRECTION; STACK LOGS SEPARATELY NO LARGER THAN 4 INCHES IN DIAMETER

TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE BRUSH AND YARD WASTE DISPOSAL FEES @ \$3.00 PER CUBIC YARD

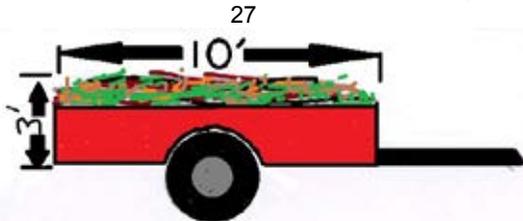
Average Pickup $\frac{6' \times 8' \times 3'}{27} = 5 \text{ c.y.} \times \$3.00 = \$15.00$



Dump Truck $\frac{7' \times 10' \times 4'}{27} = 10 \text{ c.y.} \times \$3.00 = \$30.00$



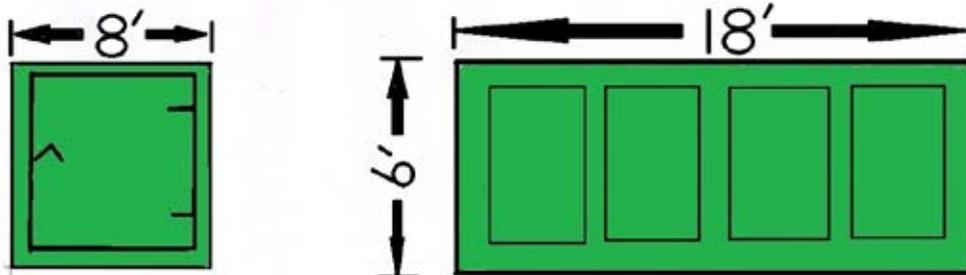
Average Trailer $\frac{6' \times 8' \times 3'}{27} = 5 \text{ c.y.} \times \$3.00 = \$15.00$



Trailer lengths:

- 10' = \$17.00
- 12' = \$19.00
- 14' = \$21.00
- 16' = \$23.00
- 18' = \$25.00

Box Containers $\frac{18' \times 8' \times 6'}{27} = 32 \text{ c.y.} \times \$3.00 = \$96.00$



NOTE: There will be a minimum charge of \$5.00 for small loads (i.e., trunk of a car).