Hi Ann,

Thank you for contacting me.  At the direction of our Board, we investigated reduced frequency pick-ups some time ago.  While the idea seemed promising at first, we did ultimately run into challenging obstacles.

First, for solid waste (garbage), state law requires that garbage be picked up no less than weekly.  This is required because maggots and other vermin will begin to infest solid waste after a 7 day period (faster if there weather is warm). Thus this is a Public Health law we must follow.

For recycling, we could theoretically go to a reduced service. However, in order to do so and make it cost effective, we would have to do this reduced service for all customers on a route.  This is because the cost of the driver, fuel, truck, etc. are all basically the same, even if a few people chose to not have their recyclables picked up. When we explored this previously, even though some number of people wanted every other week pickup of their recycling, many more objected. So this idea too was rejected.

The good news, as I’m sure you know, is that over the last 5 years garbage rates have only gone up once, and that increase was about 1%.  No increase is expected for this coming year either. I encourage your cost saving ideas, such as sharing cans with neighbors, and also encourage you to maximize your recycling, and therefore to use the smallest garbage can possible (since rates are set based on the size of your garbage can). These are two good ways of keeping your costs down.

I will also share your letter with UVA Board for their information and consideration. Please feel free to call me if you would like to discuss further. My direct line is 259-8228.

Steve

Steve Lederer

Director, Napa County Department of Public Works

Manager, Upper Valley Waste Management Agency

707-253-4351

*“When you’re finished changing, you’re finished”—*Benjamin Franklin

**From:** publicworks
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2014 12:10 PM
**To:** Lederer, Steven
**Subject:** FW: A request to consider for Lake Berryessa Estate Trash pick up

**From:** Ann West - Tickle [mailto:drannwest@me.com]
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2014 12:06 PM
**To:** publicworks
**Subject:** A request to consider for Lake Berryessa Estate Trash pick up

Dear Steven

I am a resident at LBE and find amongst several other residents here at the estate a finical hardship since our water rates have doubled and the cost of trash pickup.

Several homes are doubling up with neighbours to split the cost of the trash pick up to help reduce the bills.

I am seeing that I only need to have my bins emptied  every 3 weeks as I do not consume very much trash.

My request is to see if you would consider those of us who do not use the service weekly to have a reduced fee and reduced pick up schedule.

This would help us here considerably and we could continue to use your service. Other wise it is a great burden to cancel the pick up for a number of months due to the cost and having to take our trash out with us to dispose of it.

I hope you can see where I am coming for and that you can help us here with a plan to overcome this issue.

I look forward to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Best Wishes

Ann West

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Live without pretending -

Love without depending -

Listen without defending -

Speak without offending.

Namaste

Ann