

Automation Benefits

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
Municipal Technical Advisory Service
1610 University Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37921-6741
865-974-0411 phone
865-974-0423 fax
www.mtas.tennessee.edu

Table of Contents

Automation Benefits.....	3
--------------------------	---

Automation Benefits

Reference Number:
MTAS-586

One city in Tennessee converted to a system using a front-loading compactor truck and four Cushman dump bed satellite vehicles. Using the compactor truck and the Cushman satellite vehicles, weekly residential collection is completed in three days, using 112 employee hours. In contrast, the former conventional method took five days and 120 employee hours. The compactor truck is used 24 hours versus 40 hours previously; thus freeing additional truck time for commercial collection. This maximizes the efficient use of equipment resources and avoids the possible necessity of purchasing an additional truck and the expense of additional employee hours. There is a collateral benefit of not having a large collection truck using the edge of a light-duty pavement system in residential neighborhoods.

Automatation Also Works for Recycling

Recyclables often are collected in trucks specially designed to handle lighter weight, bulky materials. Where recyclables are mixed together, bagged, and set out at the curb, all the recyclables are hauled together in one chamber of the vehicle. Where residents separate their recyclables into different categories such as glass, plastic, and metal, the pick-up vehicle has multiple compartments into which the different materials are directed.

DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.

Source URL (retrieved on 01/26/2021 - 11:04am): <https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/reference/automation-benefits>

MTAS