

CAUTION: THINK BEFORE YOU CONSIDER SWITCHING!

At the April Board of Directors meeting, Board member Chuck Johnson submitted a letter he wrote regarding a new refuse pickup service.

Chuck writes: *Arizona Sanitation Services is advertising an "Introductory Offer" for residential garbage pickup service for the price of \$14.50 per month with a one-time set-up fee of \$20.00 and a price guarantee for one year.*

This company offers twice-a-week pick up, but they do not include a recycling pick up nor do they do offer landscape pick up.

Waste Management provides a recycling pick up, twice-a-week pick up for miscellaneous trash, and for disabled people they will pick up at the door.

Chuck adds: *Some residents really over do it with landscape and other debris; however, Waste Management never refuses anything that will fit in the tray of their trucks.*

Chuck also makes a comparison of fees based on his own recent bill from Waste Management and the advertised fees from Arizona Sanitation Services.

Waste Management Monthly Fee: \$15.75
Arizona Sanitation Monthly Fee: \$14.50

His conclusion: *With Arizona Sanitation's \$20.00 'set-up fee,' it would take 16 months to gain any financial advantage from switching to Arizona Sanitation.*

With a guarantee of only one year, it is possible that any financial gain would be lost if Arizona Sanitation raised its rates at the end of that first year.

The consensus of the Board: Be very cautious before you decide to switch companies. This doesn't look like such a great deal.

Some of our homeowners may not realize that our three subdivisions have a contract with Waste Management. They provide us with twice-a-week pick-up of trash and garbage, and once-a-week pick-up of recyclable materials. They also pick up yard cuttings.

This contract was entered into on behalf of the homeowners in 2002 between the then-president of the Board and Waste Management. Prices have been kept low because of the large number of homes covered by the contract.

However, if individual homeowners choose to go with other companies that perform the same services, our contract would be in jeopardy.