

“Less Trash”

Dear Adam and Eve:

I just read an interesting article about a garbage collection fee system called PAYT, “Pay as You Throw”, where one is charged by the amount of garbage one puts out to be collected. I think that would be a fairer way to charge since I put out about half my can each week while my neighbor puts out a heaping can plus more stuff stacked next to it.

Signed, Less Trash but Same Cost!

Dear Less Trash,

PAYT is evidently a doable idea since it is quoted that about 25% of US now pays for trash collected based on how much they use it, similar to how we pay for our utilities. This approach can be a savings for older citizen households, who typically buy less and who have fewer household members, and also a savings for those who are poorer, who also typically buy less and therefore have less packaging, etc. for disposal.

Another idea that deserves thought is coupling a PAYT system with SAYR, “Save as You Recycle.” Savings credited per container of recyclables generated could reduce our charges for garbage pickup by rewarding us who invest consideration, time and energy to recycle.

Not only PAY as You Throw but also SAVE as You Recycle! What do you think about that twist to a good idea?

Remember: **RETHINK! REDUCE! REUSE! RECYCLE!**

For questions, comments, please write DearAdamandEve@tmemphis.org or Dear Adam and Eve, c/o Temple Israel, 1376 E. Massey Rd., Memphis, TN 38120

