

TITLE 22
SOLID WASTE AND
RECYCLING

CHAPTER 22.04
GENERAL PROVISIONS

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22.04 General Provisions

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22.04.010 Purpose

This chapter is created to:

- (1) Encourage the management of solid wastes according to the priorities defined in RCW 70.95.010;
- (2) Set minimum solid waste and recycling collection service levels for WUTC-certified solid waste haulers;
- (3) Define solid waste collection rate objectives that provide incentives for waste reduction and recycling;
- (4) Set standards for the provision of recycling opportunities to multi-family residences; and
- (5) Require the source separation of yard waste materials.

(Ord. 1595 §3, 1991)

22.04.020 Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter:

- (1) *“City”* means the City of Tukwila.
- (2) *“Haulers”* means all Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission certified solid waste haulers.
- (3) *“Multi-family residence”* means any structure that contains four or more single-family units.
- (4) *“Recyclable plastic containers”* means all plastic containers that can be collected and recycled without undue economic impacts, as determined by City staff. These plastics may include, but are not limited to, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and high-density polyethylene (HDPE) containers.
- (5) *“Single-family residence”* means any structure that contains one, two, or three single-family units. A duplex is equal to two single-family units. A triplex is equal to three single-family units.

(6) "Solid waste" means all putrescible and non-putrescible solid and semisolid wastes including, but not limited to, garbage, rubbish, ashes, industrial wastes, swill, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles or parts thereof, and recyclable materials.

(7) "Yard waste" means the biodegradable wastes produced as a result of the maintenance of vegetation on residential property including, but not limited to, grass clippings, leaf matter, and brush.

(Ord. 1595 §4, 1991)

22.04.030 Commercial garbage and recycling collection monitoring

Although the City is not now exerting service level control over nonresidential garbage and recycling collection, certain information will be required of both franchised and nonfranchised haulers by the City to assist in its waste reduction and recycling development and monitoring activities. This information will include, but is not limited to, a monthly accounting of all commercial garbage and recycling accounts within the limits of the City. This accounting shall include the number of subscribers for each container size, and the total volume of commercial waste collected for each month within the quarter. Haulers who are not franchised shall provide this information as part of their business license requirements. The City Clerk is authorized to require this information on the business license application and renewal forms provided to such haulers.

(Ord. 1635 §1, 1992; Ord. 1595 §5, 1991)

22.04.040 Collection service levels

(a) No person, partnership or corporation shall engage in the primary business of hauling or transporting residential garbage refuse, yard waste, or recyclables for compensation within the City without complying with the requirements of this chapter and possessing proper operating authority as determined by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

(b) Haulers will provide adequate office facilities and phone operators to conveniently handle customer sign-ups, service changes, billings, and complaints. Customer service will be the sole responsibility of each hauler. Haulers will also assist the City with the development of program promotion and public education activities.

(c) Haulers shall request the WUTC to adopt a rate structure which includes the costs to implement the source separation residential collection program contained in these minimum levels of service and consistent with the priorities of RCW 70.95.010 to encourage maximum recycling. The collection rates should include:

(1) A combined garbage and recycling incentive rate that encourages "mini-can" and one 32-gallon can weekly service. It is the City's objective to have rates whereby the new "mini-can plus" recycling rate should be less than, or equal to, the previous one-can garbage only rate. The new "one can plus" recycling rate should be less than, or equal to, the previous two-can or 60-gallon-wheeled-container garbage-only rate.

(2) Customers who self-haul their recyclable materials and do not place any materials accepted by the recycling collection program in their garbage container shall be eligible for a \$1.00 discount, which will be deducted from their monthly garbage collection rate. Residents will be responsible for notifying their hauler that they wish to participate in the rebate program, and haulers will be responsible for periodically monitoring eligibility.

(3) A yard waste collection rate shall be developed on a cost-of-service model, and will be offered as an additional service with a separate tariff.

(4) The haulers are required to order equipment to carry out the recycling and yard waste collection programs as soon as practicably possible and to begin these services on August 1, 1991.

(5) Whenever certificated haulers file tariffs with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, an incentive solid waste collection rate structure shall be used. An incentive solid waste collection rate structure is one that rewards customers who recycle and includes substantial cost differentials between solid waste collection service levels. The tariffs filed shall include the following percentages of increases between levels of service: a minimum of 60% between mini and one can; a minimum of 40% between one and two cans or equivalent; and a minimum of 25% between two and three cans or equivalent. These percentages should apply to the combined charge to the customer for both solid waste and recyclable materials collection. The WUTC is strongly encouraged to approve tariffs that are consistent with the policies set forth in this chapter, and that meet the minimum percentages specified in this section.

(d) To assist in evaluating the financial and service impacts of City service level policies, the City requires access to all cost and service level data provided to the WUTC at the time of any rate modifications. Therefore, when new rates or rate modifications are proposed to the WUTC by a hauler, the hauler will provide a duplicate copy of all rate documentation which shall be immediately delivered to the City. The City will exercise its best effort to assure the confidentiality of any such documentation that is specifically marked with the word "proprietary" on the top of each page deemed to be sensitive by the hauler.

(e) All single-family residential collection services shall be offered to each account on a consistent day, in a coordinated manner whenever possible, on an economic basis.

(f) Materials will be collected between 6:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

(g) Materials may be collected on legal holidays or at the hauler's discretion; alternative arrangements may be made as long as materials are collected within two days of each account's regular collection day.

(h) Missed materials from single-family residences must be collected within 24 hours of initial notification except in the case of hazardous weather conditions. If collections are missed due to hazardous weather conditions, missed materials shall be collected during the following regular collection cycle. Extra materials shall be collected at no extra charge under these circumstances.

(i) Special arrangements, on an individual account basis, shall be made to allow disabled single-family residential customers full access to all collection services.

(j) A quarterly report shall be delivered to the City by April 15, July 15, October 15, and January 15 of each year, containing the following data for each of the previous three months for the following sectors. During the first six months of the new collection programs, reports shall be delivered monthly by the 15th day of the following month on the following subjects:

(1) Single-family:

(A) Total garbage and recycling collection accounts;

(B) Total sign-ups for recycling and yard waste collection;

(C) Total customers actually participating in recycling collection, based on the collection of at least one set-out per month;

(D) Total customers actually participating in yard waste collection, based on the collection of at least one set-out per month;

(E) Number of pickups offered for each service (number of sign-ups multiplied by the number of drive-bys each month);

(F) Number of pickups actually made for each service;

(G) Separate totals for monthly tonnage collected for garbage, recycling and yard waste;

(H) A log of customer compliments and complaints, including date, time, subject, and resolution.

(2) Multi-family:

(A) Monthly total weights for garbage and recycling collection within the City limits;

(B) A monthly summary of the number of multi-family sites serviced, and a profile of garbage and recycling subscription rates including container size and frequency of collection;

(C) A log of customer compliments and complaints, including date, time, subject, and resolution.

(k) Single-family recycling and/or yard waste collection shall be offered independently, at a cost-of-service rate, for those who do not wish to subscribe to garbage collection.

(Ord. 1635 §2, 1992; Ord. 1595 §6, 1991)

22.04.050 Garbage collection

Garbage collection shall be offered weekly, and shall include the following container options: hauler or customer-provided 20-gallon “mini-cans”, customer-provided 32-gallon cans, and hauler-provided 60 or 90-gallon wheeled containers.

(Ord. 1595 §7, 1991)

22.04.060 Recycling collection - Single-family

Single-family recycling collection service levels are as follows:

(1) The following materials shall be collected: newspaper, mixed waste paper, cardboard, glass containers, tin and aluminum cans, and recyclable plastic containers.

(2) Collection shall be offered at least biweekly (or semimonthly at the hauler's option).

(3) Materials may be commingled to the extent that the marketability of the collected materials is not compromised.

(4) Collected materials must be recycled unless prior approval is obtained from the City.

(5) Haulers shall deliver recycling containers to households that subscribe to the recycling collection service. These containers shall be capable of holding all materials to be collected with the exception of cardboard.

(6) Containers will be owned by the hauler. The cost of the first set of household recycling containers(s) shall be included in the collection tariff. Subsequent container(s) required due to negligence on the part of the hauler shall be provided at no cost to the customer; all other containers shall be offered at a price equal to the hauler's cost. Haulers shall incorporate information on the prevention of container theft into their promotional materials.

(7) Set-outs that contain obvious contamination shall be tagged by the hauler with instructions for proper separation and not collected. If the uncollected materials are not properly prepared on the following collection cycle, they shall be collected as garbage and the customer shall be billed accordingly.

(8) If the City determines that sign-up and diversion rates are too low, haulers shall be directed to deliver containers to all garbage customers, including those who have not yet subscribed to recycling.

(Ord. 1635 §3, 1992; Ord. 1595 §8, 1991)

22.04.070 Recycling collection - Multi-family

Multi-family recycling collection service levels are as follows:

(1) The following materials shall be collected: newspaper, mixed waste paper, cardboard, glass containers, tin and aluminum cans, and recyclable plastic containers.

(2) Materials may be commingled to the extent that the marketability of the collected materials is not compromised.

(3) Collected materials must be recycled unless prior approval is obtained from the City.

(4) Collection companies shall provide durable outdoor containers appropriate to the size of the multi-family account, and assist customers with adjusting garbage and recycling collection service levels to assure adequate and cost-effective service.

(5) Haulers shall work with the City to determine and implement a system of multi-family collection that meets the needs of the City, multi-family owners, managers, occupants, and haulers.

(Ord. 1595 §9, 1991)

22.04.080 Yard waste collection - Single-family

Single-family yard waste collection service levels are as follows:

(a) Yard waste collection shall include grass clippings, leaves, brush and woody debris up to three inches in diameter and three feet in length. No food waste shall be included.

(b) Yard waste collection shall be offered on a biweekly (or semimonthly at the hauler's option) basis except during the months of December, January, and February, during which collection shall be monthly.

(c) Yard waste material shall be source-separated and bagged, bundled or canned with the exception that plastic bags may not be used. If containers are used, they may be customer or hauler-provided.

(d) Set-outs that contain obvious contamination shall be tagged by the hauler with instructions for proper separation and not collected. If the uncollected materials are not properly prepared on the following collection cycle, they shall be collected as garbage and the customer shall be billed accordingly.

(Ord. 1595 §10, 1991)

22.04.090 Non-exclusive franchises established

Haulers operating under the authority of RCW 81.77 and other applicable statutes shall sign a franchise agreement and pay a franchise fee as provided by ordinance.

(Ord. 1635 §4, 1992)

