

## **Chapter 20**

### **Solid Waste**

#### **Part 1**

#### **Solid Waste Regulations**

§20-101.	Short Title
§20-102.	Definitions
§20-103.	Prohibited Activities
§20-104.	Standards for Storage of Solid Waste
§20-105.	Standards and Regulations for Collection
§20-106.	Collection and Disposal Charges
§20-107.	Administrative Appeals
§20-108.	Injunction Powers
§20-109.	Penalties



**Part 1****Solid Waste Regulations****§20-101. Short Title.**

This Part shall be known and referred to as the "Solid Waste Ordinance."  
(*Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §I*)

**§20-102. Definitions.**

The following words and phrases as used in this Part shall have the meaning ascribed herein, unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Act or Act 97* - the Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act of 1980 (P.L. 380, No. 97, July 7, 1980).

*Agricultural waste* - poultry and livestock manure, or residual materials in liquid or solid form, generated in the production, and marketing of poultry, livestock, fur-bearing animals and their products, provided such waste is not a hazardous waste. The term includes the residual materials generated in producing, harvesting, and marketing of all agronomic, horticultural, silvicultural and agricultural crops or commodities grown on what are usually recognized and excepted as farms, forests, or other agricultural lands.

*Bulky waste* - large items of solid waste including but not limited to appliances, furniture, large auto parts, trees, branches or stumps which may require special handling due to their size, shape, or weight.

*Commercial establishment* - any establishment engaged in non-manufacturing or nonprocessing business including, but not limited to, stores, markets, office buildings, restaurants, shopping centers and theaters.

*Construction demolition waste* - all municipal and residual waste building materials, grubbing waste, and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair and demolition operations on houses, commercial buildings and other structures and pavements.

*Department* - the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. [*Ord. 623*]

*Disposal* - the incineration, deposition, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking, or placing of solid waste into or on the land or water in a manner that the solid waste or a constituent of the solid waste enters the environment, is emitted into the air or is discharged to the waters of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

*Domestic waste or household waste* - solid waste, comprised of garbage and rubbish, which normally originates in the residential private household or apartment house.

*Garbage* - any solid waste derived from animal, grain, fruit, or vegetable matter that is capable of being decomposed by microorganisms with sufficient rapidity to cause such nuisances as odors, gases or vectors.

*Hauler or private collector* - any person, firm, copartnership, association or corporation who has been licensed by the Borough or its designated representative

to collect, transport, and dispose of refuse for a fee as herein prescribed.

*Hazardous waste* - any solid waste or combination of solid wastes, as defined in the Act, which because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics may: (1) cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in morbidity in either an individual or the total population; or (2) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

*Industrial establishment* - any establishment engaged in manufacturing or processing, including but not limited to factories, foundries, mills, processing plants, refineries, mines and slaughterhouses.

*Institutional establishment* - any establishment engaged in service including but not limited to hospitals, nursing homes, orphanages, schools and universities.

*Municipal waste* - garbage, refuse, industrial lunchroom or office waste and other material including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material resulting from operation of residential, municipal, commercial or institutional establishments and from community activities; and any sludge not meeting the definition of residual or hazardous waste under Act 97 from a municipal, commercial or institutional water supply treatment plant, wastewater treatment plant, or air pollution control facility. The term does not include source separated recyclable materials.

*Municipality* - the Borough of West Homestead, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

*Person* - any individual, partnership, corporation, association, institution, cooperative enterprise, State institution and agency, or any other legal entity which is recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties. In any provision of this Part prescribing a fine, imprisonment or penalty, or any combination of the foregoing, the term "person" shall include the officers and directors of any corporation or other legal entity having officers and directors.

*Processing* - any technology used for the purpose of reducing the volume or bulk of municipal or residual waste or any technology used to convert part of all of such waste materials for off-site reuse. Processing facilities include, but are not limited to, transfer facilities, composting facilities, and resource recovery facilities.

*Refuse* - all solid waste materials which are discarded as useless.

*Residual waste* - any garbage, refuse, other discarded material or other waste including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous materials resulting from industrial mining and agricultural operations and any sludge from an industrial, mining or agricultural water supply treatment facility, wastewater treatment facility or air pollution control facility, provided that it is not hazardous. The term "residual waste" shall not include coal refuse as defined in the Coal Refuse Disposal Control Act. Residual waste shall not include treatment sludges from coal mine drainage treatment plants, disposal of which is being carried on pursuant to and in compliance with a valid permit issued pursuant to the Clean Streams Law.

*Rubbish* - all non-putrescible municipal waste except garbage and other decomposable matter. This category includes, but is not limited to, ashes, bedding,

cardboard, cans, crockery, glass, paper, wood and yard cleanings.

*Scavenging* - the unauthorized and uncontrolled removal of material placed for collection or from a solid waste processing or disposal facility.

*Sewage treatment residues* - any coarse screenings, grit and dewatered or air-dried sludges from sewage treatment plants and pumpings from septic tanks or septage which are a municipal solid waste and require proper disposal under Act 97.

*Solid waste* - any waste including, but not limited to, municipal, residual or hazardous wastes, including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material.

*Source, separated recyclable materials* - those materials separated at the point of origin for the purpose of being recycled.

*Storage* - the containment of any waste on a temporary basis in such a manner as not to constitute disposal of such waste. It shall be presumed that the containment of any waste in excess of one year constitutes disposal. This presumption can be overcome by clear and convincing evidence to the contrary.

*Transportation* - the off-site removal of any solid waste at any time after generation.

*Transfer station* - any supplemental transportation facility used as an adjunct to solid waste route collection vehicles.

In this Part, the singular shall include the plural and the masculine shall include the feminine and the neuter.

(Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §II; as amended by Ord. 623, 2/14/2006)

### **§20-103. Prohibited Activities.**

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to accumulate or permit to accumulate upon any public or private property within the Borough, any garbage, rubbish, bulky waste, or any other municipal or residual solid waste except in accordance with the provisions of this Part, any Department rules and regulations adopted pursuant to Act 97 and the Health Department Rules and Regulations, Article VIII.

2. It shall be unlawful for any person to burn any solid waste within the Borough except in accordance with the provisions of this Part, and Department rules and regulations adopted pursuant to Act 97 and the Health Department Rules and Regulations, Article VIII.

3. It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of any solid waste in the Borough except in accordance with the provisions of this Part, any Department rules and regulations adopted pursuant to Act 97 and the Health Department Rules and Regulations, Article VIII.

4. It shall be unlawful for any person to haul, transport, collect, or remove any solid waste from public or private property within the Borough without first securing a license to do so in accordance with the provisions of this Part.

5. It shall be unlawful for any person to scavenge any materials from any solid waste that is stored or deposited for collection within the Borough without prior approval by the Borough.

6. It shall be unlawful for any person to salvage or reclaim any solid wastes

within the Borough except at an approved and permitted resource recovery facility under Act 97 and any Department rules and regulations adopted pursuant to Act 97.

7. It shall be unlawful for any person to throw, place or deposit, or cause or permit to be thrown, placed or deposited any solid waste in or upon any street, alley, sidewalk, body of water, public or private property within the Borough except as provided in this Part.

(Ord. 527, 5/27/1991, §III)

**§20-104. Standards for Storage of Solid Waste.**

1. The storage of all solid waste shall be practiced so as to prevent the attraction, harborage or breeding of insects or rodents, and to eliminate conditions harmful to public health or which create safety hazards, odors, unsightliness or public nuisances.

2. Any person producing municipal waste shall provide a sufficient number of approved containers to store all waste materials generated during periods between regularly scheduled collections, and shall place and store all waste materials therein.

3. Any person storing municipal waste for collection shall comply with the following preparation standards:

A. All municipal waste shall be drained of free liquids before being placed in storage containers.

B. All garbage or other putrescible waste shall be securely wrapped in paper, plastic or similar material or placed in properly tied plastic bags.

C. All cans, bottles or other food containers should be rinsed free of food particles and drained before being placed in storage containers.

D. Garden clippings and tree trimmings shall be placed in approved containers or shall be cut and tied securely into bundles. Bundles shall be not more than 4 feet in length, not more than 2 feet in diameter and not more than 40 pounds in weight.

E. Newspapers and magazines shall be placed in approved containers or shall be tied securely into bundles of not more than 40 pounds in weight.

F. When specified by the Borough or its designated representative, special preparation and storage procedures may be required to facilitate the collection and resource recovery of certain waste materials.

4. All municipal waste shall be stored in containers approved by the Borough or its designated representative. Individual containers and bulk containers utilized for storage of municipal waste shall comply with the following standards:

A. Reusable containers shall be constructed of durable, watertight, rust and corrosion resistant material, such as plastic, metal or fiberglass, in such a manner as to be leak-proof, weather-proof, insect-proof, and rodent-proof.

B. Reusable containers for individual residencies shall have a tight-fitting cover and suitable lifting handles to facilitate collection.

C. Reusable containers for individual residences shall have a capacity of not less than 10 gallons nor more than 40 gallons, and a loaded weight of not more than 40 pounds.

D. Disposable plastic bags or sacks are acceptable containers provided the

bags are designated for waste disposal. Plastic bags shall have sufficient wall strength to maintain physical integrity when lifted by the top, shall be securely tied at the top for collection, and shall have a capacity of not more than 30 gallons and a loaded weight of not more than 35 pounds.

E. All containers, either reusable or disposable, shall also comply with the minimum standards established by the National Sanitation Foundation.

5. Any person storing municipal waste for collection shall comply with the following storage standards.

A. Containers shall be kept tightly sealed or covered at all times. Solid waste shall not protrude or extend above the top of the container.

B. Reusable containers shall be kept in a sanitary condition at all times. The interior of the containers shall be thoroughly cleaned, rinsed, drained and disinfected, as often as necessary, to prevent the accumulation of liquid residues or solids on the bottom or sides of the containers.

C. Containers shall be used and maintained so as to prevent public nuisance.

D. Containers that do not conform to the standard of this Part or which have sharp edges, ragged edges or any other defect that may hamper or injure collection personnel shall be promptly replaced by the owner upon notice from the Borough or its designated representative.

E. Containers shall be placed by the owner or customer at a collection point specified by the Borough or its designated representative.

F. With the exception of pick-up days when the containers are placed out for collection, the containers shall be properly stored on the owner or customer premises at all times.

G. Bulk waste items such as furniture, automobile parts, machinery, appliances, and tires shall be stored in a manner that will prevent the accumulation of collection of water, the harborage of rodents, safety hazards and fire hazards.

6. The storage of all municipal waste from multi-family residential units, commercial establishments, institutions and industrial lunchroom or office waste sources is subject to the regulations and standards set forth in this Part. The type, size and placement requirements for bulk containers shall be determined by the waste generator and the waste hauler, and are subject to approval by the Borough.

(Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §IV)

### **§20-105. Standards and Regulations for Collection.**

1. The Borough shall provide for the collection of all garbage, rubbish, and bulky wastes from individual residences and multi-family residential sources with less than 12 units, or it may contract with a private collector or collectors to provide this essential residential collection service.

2. All households and homeowners shall utilize the residential collection service provided by the Borough unless they can demonstrate that they have made alternate arrangements that are consistent with this Part and approved by the Borough.

3. All multi-family residential sources (with more than 12 units), commercial,

institutional, and industrial establishments shall negotiate and individually contract collection services with either the Borough, its hauler or any other properly licensed waste hauler of their choice.

4. All residential garbage and rubbish shall be collected at least once a week. Bulky wastes shall be collected following prior arrangement with the Borough's collector and payment of any required special fees.

5. All commercial institutional, public and industrial lunchroom and office waste containing garbage shall be collected at least once a week. Rubbish collection from these sources shall be made as often as necessary to control health hazards, odors, flies, and unsightly conditions. The Borough reserves the right to require more frequent collection when deemed necessary.

6. Residential collection schedules shall be published regularly by the Borough or its contracted hauler.

7. All solid waste collection activity shall be conducted from Monday through Friday between the hours of 6 a.m. and 4 p.m., unless prior approval or any exception has been granted by the Borough. No collection, hauling, or transporting of solid waste shall be permitted on Sunday.

8. All licensed haulers and haulers under contract with the Borough shall comply with the following standards and regulations:

A. All municipal waste collected within the Borough shall ultimately be disposed only at a landfill cited in the Allegheny County Solid Waste Plan - 1990 or on subsequent revisions thereto.

B. Any trucks or other vehicles used for the collection and transportation of municipal waste must comply with the requirements of Act 97, and any Department regulations adopted pursuant to Act 97 and must be licensed by the Allegheny County Health Department.

C. All collection vehicles conveying domestic waste and garbage shall be watertight and suitably enclosed to prevent leakage, roadside littering, attraction of vectors, the creation of odors and other nuisances.

D. Collection vehicles for rubbish and other nonputrescible solid waste shall be capable of being enclosed or covered to prevent roadside litter and other nuisances.

E. All solid waste shall be collected and transported so as to prevent public health hazards, safety hazards and nuisances.

F. All solid waste collection vehicles shall be operated and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.

(Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §V)

#### **§20-106. Collection and Disposal Charges.**

1. The Borough Council shall be authorized to make funds available, in accordance with the laws and procedures of the Borough, for the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a municipal solid waste collection and disposal system; or for the contracting of such service to a private collector.

2. Annual fee schedules (if appropriate) shall be published by the Borough on any

competitively bid residential collection service contract that may be awarded by the Borough.

3. (Option A) The Borough shall be responsible for the collection of any fees for solid waste collection and disposal from residential customers. Licensed haulers shall be responsible for the collection of any collection and disposal fees from commercial institutional and industrial customers.

(*Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §VI*)

**§20-107. Administrative Appeals.**

1. All appeals shall be made in writing to the Borough Council.

2. Pending a reversal or modification, all decisions of the Borough shall remain effective and enforceable.

3. Appeals may be made by the following persons:

A. Any person who is aggrieved by a new standard or regulation issued by the Borough may appeal within 10 days after the Borough gives notice of its intention to issue the new standard or regulation.

4. The notice of appeal shall be served in writing and sent by certified mail with return receipt requested. Within 20 days after receipt of the notice of appeal, the Borough shall hold a public hearing. Notice of the hearing shall be sent to both parties in time to adequately prepare for the hearing. Notice shall be sent to the parties by certified mail with return receipt requested at the last known address in addition to publication in the local newspaper.

(*Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §VII*)

**§20-108. Injunction Powers.**

The Borough may petition the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny county for an injunction, either mandatory or prohibitive, to enforce any of the provisions of this Part.

(*Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §VIII*)

**§20-109. Penalties.**

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provisions of this Part, upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(*Ord. 527, 12/27/1991, §IX; as amended by Ord. 590, 11/12/2002; and by Ord. 623, 2/14/2006*)

