

Chapter 16 – Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling

2.1 Necessity. Regulations governing the storage, collection, transportation, and disposal of refuse, recyclables, yard recyclables, and other rejected, unwanted or discarded waste materials within the limits of the City of Troy are necessary to protect the public health and safety.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.2 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply:

(1) Refuse - “Refuse” shall be understood to refer to municipal solid waste excluding recyclables and yard recyclables.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

(2) Construction Refuse - “Construction refuse” shall mean all unwanted, rejected, discarded or abandoned material(s) resulting from the alteration, repair, construction, and/or demolition of buildings.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

(3) Commercial/Industrial Refuse - “Commercial/Industrial refuse” shall mean the rejected, unwanted, discarded or abandoned materials resulting from operations that are generally identified with manufacturing, assembling, processing and distributing plants, large office buildings, hospitals, and clinics, and other producers of quantities of refuse in excess amounts.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

(4) Hazardous Waste - “Hazardous Waste” shall mean a waste, or combination of wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety, welfare or to the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, used or disposed of, or otherwise managed, however, not to include solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or industrial discharges which are point sources subject to permits under section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1967 as amended, or source, special nuclear, or by product material as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

(5) Nuisance - Whatever annoys, injures, or endangers the safety, health, comfort or repose of the public; interferes with or destroys or renders dangerous any street, highway, allows accumulation of junk or obnoxious matters on private property; or in any way renders the public insecure in life or property is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Public nuisances shall include, but not be limited to, whatever is forbidden by any provision of Chapter 88 and the common and

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statute law of this state.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (6) Yard Recyclables - “Yard Recyclables” shall mean grass clippings, leaves, wood chips, chipped Christmas trees, small pencil-thin twigs, garden vegetables and fruit, old potting soil, Halloween pumpkins, shredded bark, sod, weeds, old flowers, prunings, straw, straw bales, play sand, top soil, old mulch, corn husks, and any other similar items.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (7) Recyclables - “Recyclables” shall be defined on an annual basis by the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority, but is expected to at least include newspapers, inserts, catalogs, magazines, brown paper grocery bags, paperboard, corrugated cardboard, telephone books, clear and brown glass, #1 and #2 plastics, metal cans, metal lids, pie tins, small metal objects, empty metal paint cans and metal aerosol cans, and household batteries.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.3 Duties of Owners, Occupants.

- (1) Every owner, tenant or occupant of any building, or any person responsible for organizing a gathering place for people for any purpose, shall provide adequate and sufficient size clean containers to hold the accumulated refuse between weekly scheduled refuse collections.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to burn refuse within the corporate limits of the City.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (3) It shall be unlawful for any person to bury refuse within the corporate limits of the City.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.4 Containers - General.

- (1) Every owner, tenant or occupant of any building, and the owner of any property or use which generates refuse shall provide sufficient size containers to hold the accumulated refuse between weekly scheduled refuse collections.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

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- (2) Cardboard boxes, buckets, bushel baskets, paper bags, paint pails, and other similar containers are considered unapproved containers and the City may not collect refuse when placed in these unapproved containers.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (3) The City may also refuse to collect refuse placed in containers that exceed the size and weight limitation or otherwise do not conform to the provisions of this article.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.5 Approved Container Size and Weight.

- (1) Containers for refuse must be portable, watertight, vermin-proof, of substantial construction, and have handles and a tight-fitting cover. The container must have a capacity of at least ten (10) gallons, but not more than thirty-five (35) gallons. Mechanically lifted carts which exceed 35-gallons may be used with prior permission of the City Public Works Department.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (2) Strong securely closed plastic bags holding up to 32 gallons of refuse are also acceptable.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (3) For regular, scheduled pick-up, item(s) of refuse, including containers filled with refuse, shall weigh less than sixty (60) pounds. In addition, items of refuse shall not exceed three (3) feet in length or three (3) feet in girth.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.6 Rejection of refuse, tagging of containers.

- (1) If any refuse is rejected by the city waste collector because it does not conform to the requirements of this chapter, the city waste collector shall give notice to the owner or occupant of the premises by placing a tag on the rejected refuse. The tag shall advise the owner or occupant of the non-conformity and shall include a telephone number to call for additional information and possible alternatives.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (2) If the City of Troy Department of Public Works determines the owner or occupant has failed to correct the tagged violation, the Department of Public Works may make a special collection of the rejected refuse. The property owner shall be liable for any expense(s) the city incurs to make the special collection.

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(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- 2.7 Disturbing Containers. No person other than the owner of refuse containers or his agents, or employees of licensees of the City shall disturb, remove, or attempt to remove refuse containers or their covers or disturb or remove or attempt to remove the contents of such containers or

disturb, remove or attempt to remove any refuse not in containers whether same is on public or private property.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- 2.8 Container Maintenance. The refuse containers and contents shall be stored in suitable places between collection periods. The containers shall be inaccessible to vermin, domestic animals, and insects, so as to prevent a nuisance.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- 2.9 Quantity of Refuse Collected.

- (1) In every case where the owner, occupant, or user of any residential premises accumulates more than two (2) cubic yards of refuse within any one-week period, it shall be the responsibility of such owner, occupant, or user to arrange for private collection and disposal.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (2) Commercial/industrial buildings may place at the curb up to 4 bags or cans per week for collection. These cans shall not exceed a thirty-five (35) gallon limit nor weigh more than 60 pounds. If the owner or occupant accumulates more than 4 bags or cans per week, it shall be the responsibility of the owner or occupant to arrange for private collection and disposal.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- 2.10 Preparation of Refuse.

- (1) Hazardous waste shall be the responsibility of the producer, or owner thereof and shall not be disposed of within the City. In addition, hazardous waste shall not be stored or transported within the City without the written approval of the City Manager or Public Works Director. Written approval will not be granted unless the City Manager designates a supervisor who has knowledge of the safety measures required to protect the public health and safety during the storage, transport, or disposal of hazardous waste.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

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- (2) Large residential refuse items shall be broken down or disassembled and placed in approved containers or securely tied in bundles which do not exceed sixty (60) pounds in weight, three (3) feet in length, and three (3) feet in girth. No item shall exceed 60 pounds.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (3) Bulky residential refuse items, such as large appliances or furniture, which cannot be broken down or disassembled, shall be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on the normally scheduled collection day. For safety reasons refrigerator doors shall be removed before placing item(s) at the curb. No item shall exceed 250 pounds.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (4) No person shall leave any materials that could ignite waste in a container or waste collection vehicle.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.11 Preparation of Yard Recyclables.

- (1) Yard recyclable collection typically runs for 35 weeks, from mid-April through the first week in December. The Public Works Director or his designated representative will announce the yard recyclable collection dates each year.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (2) Yard recyclables shall be placed in container(s) not exceeding thirty-five (35) gallons that have yard waste sticker(s) affixed to the can. The yard recyclable container(s) shall be placed so that the yard waste sticker faces the street. The container shall be placed at the curb on the opposite side of the driveway from the regular refuse by 7:00 a.m. on the normally scheduled collection day. Thirty (30) gallon yard waste paper bags may also be used.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (3) At no time will the City collect yard waste packaged in any other manner, including yard waste that is placed in plastic bags.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (4) Container(s) marked as yard recyclables shall not be used to collect regular refuse.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

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- (5) No yard recyclables container shall exceed 60 pounds in weight.
(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.12 Preparation of recyclables.

- (1) Recyclables shall be placed in a City of Troy approved recycling bin. The bin shall be placed on the opposite side of the driveway as the refuse. The bin shall be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on the normally scheduled collection day.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (2) Recyclables may also be placed in an approved container with a recyclables sticker placed on it. The container must conform to all provisions of section 2.4 and 2.5. The container shall be placed so that the sticker faces the street and the container is clearly distinguished from regular refuse. The container shall be placed on the opposite side of the driveway as the refuse.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.13.1 Disposal of Construction Refuse - It shall be the duty of the owner, contractor, occupant or other person responsible for construction work to arrange, at their own expense, the removal of such construction refuse from the premises within a reasonable time after the completion of such construction work.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.14 Placing at Curb.

- (1) Refuse, recyclables, and recyclable yard waste will be collected Monday through Friday, beginning at 7:00 a.m., with the exception of the following legal holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. When a holiday occurs on a weekday, refuse collection shall be made on the day following the regularly scheduled collection day. If the normally scheduled collection day is Friday, collection shall be made on Saturday.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (2) No refuse shall be placed at the curb or street for collection prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day preceding the day scheduled for collection.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

- (3) After the collection of container contents has been made, the empty containers shall be removed from the curb or street as soon as possible, but in no case later than twenty-four (24) hours after collection of refuse has been made.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

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2.15 Collection of Refuse.

- (1) Nothing in this Chapter shall be interpreted to prohibit or deny the owner or producer of refuse the right to dispose of their refuse, so long as no provisions of the Code are violated.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.16 Collection Vehicles. Vehicles used for collection, transportation of refuse within or through the City shall be water tight, covered, and conform to all laws regulating axle and road limitations.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.17 Disposal of Refuse. The contractor for the City of Troy shall dispose of all refuse collected from within the corporate limits of the City at the facilities of the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.18 Routes to be Designated. The City shall designate the route to be taken by trucks of haulers of refuse through the City and to the facilities of the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

2.19 Composting.

(Rev. 10/15/2001)

The restrictions of Chapter 39, Section 39.90.03; Chapter 88, Section 9.13; Chapter 48, Section 6.101(5), and Section 6.107 shall not be deemed to prohibit composting on private property.

The construction and maintenance of yard waste composting bins/piles shall be permitted subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The contents of compost bins/piles may consist of a combination of biodegradable material including those items listed as acceptable by composting authorities such as the Department of Natural Resources or Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority.
- (2) The contents of compost bins/piles shall not include meats, bones, fish, dairy products, vegetable or animal fats, cooked foods, carnivorous animal manure, plastics, synthetics, or other non-biodegradable material.
- (3) Compost bins/piles are not permitted in drainage or utility easements.

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- (4) Compost bins/piles are permitted in rear yards, a minimum of three (3) feet from any lot line and fifteen (15) feet from any dwelling located on adjacent property.
- (5) Composting bins/piles are limited in size to a maximum of 3 feet x 3 feet in area and 3 feet in height. Each parcel is limited to a maximum of three (3) bins/piles.

(Rev. 12/17/2001)

- (6) Composting must be maintained in a manner to prevent the escape of offensive, unwholesome, or nauseous odor to adjacent property and not be an active attraction /refuge for rodents. In addition, there must be adequate screening to shield any compost bins/piles from the view of adjoining residential properties.

(Rev. 12/17/2001)