



Ideas for Handling Bulk Waste

Multifamily properties often struggle with how to manage bulky wastes such as furniture, appliances, tires, televisions, and bicycles. Much of the issue lies in the fact that many complexes lack the space to manage these materials effectively. Other barriers can include lack of communication with tenants about how to dispose of these items, the cost of collection, and often the inability to predict when large bulky items might accumulate.

Property and facility managers should consider the following management strategies

- Establish refuse and recycling ground rules early by providing tenants with detailed information prior to move-in so they are aware of all bulk disposal options. It is not uncommon for new tenants to dispose of large items upon move-in.
- Create opportunities for residents to sell, or give away, reusable items to other tenants through a community billboard, online exchange system, or start a “share table” or area where usable items can be left for others to use. Be sure to monitor these areas closely and provide feedback to residents when items left behind should have been thrown away.
- Provide tenants with a list of local charitable organizations that accept household items or building materials and work with them whenever necessary to stage the items for pick-up.
- Inform residents they can also drop off bulky materials, for a per ton fee, at the county’s two disposal facilities (addresses on back of sheet).

