



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

Waste Collection Companies Meeting Notes May 5, 2016

Companies with Attendees: VHI, Inc., Bates Trucking Company, Inc., KMG Hauling, Inc., and Con-Serv Industries

Online Participants: American Disposal Services, Republic Services, Potomac Disposal Services of VA, and Thompson Hauling

County Staff: Pamela Gratton, Charlie Forbes, Dynita Glenn, Courtney Willis-Banks, Alex Castillo, and Lainie Cooke

The meeting began at 5:00 p.m.

Introductions/Welcome

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting, and collector representatives and County employees present in-person were asked to introduce themselves.

Outreach Support to Commercial Clients

In response to guidance from the Board of Supervisors and its Environmental Quality Advisory Council, the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP) is ready to expand the scope and focus of current recycling education, outreach, and enforcement efforts. The focus for the coming year will be the commercial sector, with the intent of boosting the overall recycling rate observed in this sector.

The SWMP has a small team of recycling outreach and education specialists who would be happy to work with collectors or their customers, to help design efficient, effective recycling systems, or to get the word out to employees, tenants, and customers on how best to recycle.

Broker Registrations

Collectors were reminded brokers with whom they work must be registered with the County, in the same way that residents and businesses are only allowed to contract w/ licensed collectors. If the SWMP becomes aware of an unregistered broker, we will attempt to have them register, and will notify the affected collector if this becomes a problem. It is a violation of Chapter 109.1 to use an unregistered broker. The County website provides a listing of registered brokers.



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LIS Team Update

The County no longer travels to company locations for truck inspections – all vehicle inspections must take place at the I-66 Transfer Station or I-95 Landfill Complex. Collectors are encouraged to schedule inspections with the I-66 Permit Office to ensure that staff is prepared to accommodate vehicles for inspections.

The distribution of updated Waste Delivery/Disposal Agreements is being delayed as staff has not been advised what the new rates that will be, effective on July 1, 2016. New rates will be sent via E-mail.

A “Slow Down to Get Around” publicity/awareness event will be taking place at the Government Center on Monday, May 9th at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the event is to bring attention a new Virginia law that requires drivers to take precautions when approaching stationary refuse collection vehicles. Drivers must change lanes, if possible, or decrease their speed by 10 miles per hour below the speed limit and pass at least two feet to the left of the collection truck. This law seeks to serve collection workers by promoting safety for workers on the roads.

The SWMP has scheduled a series of notable guest speakers, will show the new safety lights and uniforms to be used by County collection crews, and will provide refreshments. Collectors are welcome to bring their employees.

Guidance for the Disposal of Sharps

SWANA issued guidance for collectors regarding the proper disposal of sharps. SWANA’s guidance differentiates between regulated medical waste sharps and household sharps, providing details about the proper disposal of each. Proper disposal is essential for the safety of trash collectors and communities, since improper disposal is hazardous to those collecting and processing waste as well as others who could be harmed by a spill or other accident.

Please visit the following link for more detailed information:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/Land/Guidance/interiumsharps2016final.pdf>.

Chapter 209.1 Review Series

As the first in a series of detailed, classroom-style reviews of Chapter 109.1, Charlie Forbes reviewed Articles 1 and 2. Article 1 covers the general requirements of the Code and explaining intent and purpose. Article 2 is the core of the County’s recycling ordinance.

Collector Issues and Discussion

An attendee asked for additional guidance on what collectors should do when a resident sets out recycling improperly or on the wrong day. Succinctly put, the collector should NOT collect recyclables as refuse, and instead should educate the customer on proper set out and schedule. Many collectors use tags, which they leave on uncollected items to explain why to their customers. This type of tag is also useful when an item is too big or heavy.

An attendee asked for more information about Drive Cam.

A Fairfax City resident (who has attended this meeting several times before) repeated his request for the County and other collectors to research measures to reduce the sound of collecting dumpsters, and was directed to contact Pamela Gratton. The resident also asked about noise ordinance enforcement more broadly, and was directed to contact the Department of Planning and Zoning.

Plastic Bags and Yard Waste

The SWMP is recommending that the collection of yard waste in plastic bags be prohibited. This proposed change will be reviewed and discussed with the public, and in a series of targeted meetings with industry stakeholders over the next year. Three meetings will take place at the Government Center on May 25, June 22, and July 20.

The goal is to implement a ban in July 2017. Collectors were encouraged to make their affected customers, such as landscapers, aware of the impending change. During the discussion of the proposed change, collectors were reminded that they are not required to collect any item that weighs more than 50 pounds.

There was also some general discussion of relevant requirements under the County's MS-4 permit.

Meeting ended at 6:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 4, 2016 at 5:00 p.m., Room 232

Chapter 109.1 of the Fairfax County Code

Articles 1 & 2

Department of Public Works and Environmental Services
Working for You!



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Article 1: General Requirements

109.1-1-1: Statement of Policy

- Purpose of Chapter 109.1
 - Promote effective solid waste management practices through administration and enforcement regulations that:
 - Minimize negative environmental and economic impacts
 - Protect life, public health and welfare, property, and the environment
 - Promote source reduction and recycling to reduce the amount of municipal solid waste (MSW)

109.1-1-2: Definitions

- Key words and phrases
 - Construction/Demolition Debris (CDD)
 - Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)
 - Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)
 - Principal Recyclable Material (PRM)
 - Solid waste broker

Article 1: General Requirements (continued)

109.1-1-3: Statement of Policy and Administration

- Establishes the Director (of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services or his/her designee) as the responsible agent for the administration and enforcement of Chapter 109.1
 - Lists other agencies that will assist in enforcement actions
 - Grants authority to create regulations that will uphold the statutes of Chapter 109.1
 - Includes permit application forms, as the specific forms and application guidelines were removed from Chapter 109.1
 - Grants authority to set permit and disposal fees
 - Includes the right to change these fees at any time



Article 2: Recycling

109.1-2-1: Administration

- Introduces Article 2 as the section that defines the recycling system
 - Includes language for residential (single and multi-family units) and non-residential properties
 - Implementation and enforcement are detailed in subsequent articles
 - Establishes the Director's authority
 - Includes schools in the definition of non-residential properties



Article 2: Recycling (continued)

109.1-2-2: Recycling at Residential Properties

- Materials to be source-separated at residential properties, to include single-family homes, townhomes, and multi-family dwelling units:
 - Container glass
 - Metal food and beverage containers
 - Plastic bottles and jugs
 - Yard waste
 - Scrap metal
 - Cardboard and mixed paper

Article 2: Recycling (continued)

109.1-2-2: Recycling at Residential Properties (continued)

- Requirements for owners of multi-family dwelling units:
 - Provide recycling containers of sufficient capacity so that materials do not need to be placed on the ground or in refuse containers
 - Establish collection at least once a week
 - Accompany each refuse container of 2 cubic yards or greater with a recycling container that is equal to or greater than 25% of the refuse container
 - Label recycling collection containers with acceptable materials
 - Notify each dwelling unit with information about the recycling system
 - Maintain the cleanliness of the collection container location



Article 2: Recycling (continued)

109.1-2-2: Recycling at Residential Properties (continued)

- Owners of multi-family dwelling units and MSW collectors are not liable for residents' failure to comply with requirements for separating recyclables
- Multi-family dwelling unit owners must provide a compliant recycling system for residents
 - Notification and information about recycling systems must be provided

Article 2: Recycling (continued)

109.1-2-3: Recycling at Non-Residential Properties

- The only required recyclable materials for non-residential properties is cardboard and mixed paper
- Requirements for a recycling system are the same as for owners of multi-family dwelling units
 - One additional requirement: containers must be specifically designed for collecting MSW in compliance with Article 5
- Recycling systems must be set for tenants'/occupants' Principal Recyclable Material (PRM)
- As with multi-family dwelling unit owners, non-residential property owners/managers and MSW collectors are not liable for occupants' failure to comply with requirements for separating recyclables



Article 2: Recycling (continued)

109.1-2-4: Recycling Report Required

- Recycling reports are due March 1 for the previous calendar year
- Data should be based on volume or weight of the recycled material
- If accurate measurements are not available, careful estimations can be used
 - Justification and detail regarding how the estimate is determined must be provided
- The Director will provide a standardized form

109.1-2-5: Removal of Recyclable Materials

- Salvaging recyclable materials is prohibited from:
 - Collection routes
 - Private containers
 - County recycling drop-off centers
 - County disposal facilities

Article 2: Recycling (continued)

109.1-2-6: Maintenance of recycling System

- Collectors must establish a compliant recycling system before receiving a CTO permit
- Mixing refuse and recyclables is prohibited
- Recyclables that are placed for collection on a refuse-only collection day must be left behind; collection companies must notify customers as to why the materials were not collected
- CDD must not be mixed with refuse or recyclables
- Only the following recyclables may be collected in open-top containers:
 - White goods
 - Christmas trees
 - Scrap Metal
 - Cardboard (ONLY at construction/demolition sites)

Additional Information

For additional information, please contact

Charlie Forbes

703-324-5230

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/recycling/>

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes

