

# **GARBAGE AND SOLID WASTE**

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## CHAPTER 105

# SOLID WASTE CONTROL

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**105.01 PURPOSE.** The purpose of the chapters in this Code of Ordinances pertaining to Solid Waste Control and Collection is to provide for the sanitary storage, collection, and disposal of solid waste and, thereby, to protect the citizens of the City from such hazards to their health, safety and welfare as may result from the uncontrolled disposal of solid waste.

**105.02 DEFINITIONS.** For use in these chapters the following terms are defined:

1. “Collector” means any person authorized to gather solid waste from public and private places.
2. “Discard” means to place, cause to be placed, throw, deposit, or drop.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.361[1])*
3. “Dwelling unit” means any room or group of rooms located within a structure and forming a single habitable unit with facilities that are used or are intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking, and eating.
4. “Garbage” means all solid and semisolid, putrescible animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparing, cooking, storing, serving and consuming of food or of material intended for use as food, and all offal, excluding useful industrial by-products, and includes all such substances from all public and private establishments and from all residences.  
*(IAC, 567-100.2)*
5. “Landscape waste” means any vegetable or plant waste except garbage. The term includes trees, tree trimmings, branches, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery, and yard trimmings.  
*(IAC, 567-20.2[455B])*
6. “Litter” means any garbage, rubbish, trash, refuse, waste materials, or debris not exceeding 10 pounds in weight or 15 cubic feet in volume. Litter includes but is not limited to empty beverage containers, cigarette butts, food waste packaging, other food or candy wrappers, handbills, empty cartons, or boxes.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.361[2])*
7. “Owner” means, in addition to the record titleholder, any person residing in, renting, leasing, occupying, operating or transacting business in any premises, and as between such parties the duties, responsibilities, liabilities and obligations hereinafter imposed shall be joint and several.

8. “Refuse” means putrescible and non-putrescible waste, including but not limited to garbage, rubbish, ashes, incinerator residues, street cleanings, market and industrial solid waste and sewage treatment waste in dry or semisolid form.

(IAC, 567-100.2)

9. “Residential premises” means a single-family dwelling and any multiple-family dwelling.

10. “Residential waste” means any refuse generated on the premises as a result of residential activities. The term includes landscape waste grown on the premises or deposited thereon by the elements, but excludes garbage, tires, trade wastes and any locally recyclable goods or plastics.

(IAC, 567-20.2[455B])

11. “Rubbish” means non-putrescible solid waste consisting of combustible and non-combustible waste, such as ashes, paper, cardboard, tin cans, yard clippings, wood, glass, bedding, crockery, or litter of any kind.

(IAC, 567-100.2)

12. “Sanitary disposal” means a method of treating solid waste so that it does not produce a hazard to the public health or safety or create a nuisance.

(IAC, 567-100.2)

13. “Sanitary disposal project” means all facilities and appurtenances (including all real and personal property connected with such facilities) that are acquired, purchased, constructed, reconstructed, equipped, improved, extended, maintained, or operated to facilitate the final disposition of solid waste without creating a significant hazard to the public health or safety, and which are approved by the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.301)

14. “Solid waste” means garbage, refuse, rubbish, and other similar discarded solid or semisolid materials, including but not limited to such materials resulting from industrial, commercial, agricultural, and domestic activities. Solid waste may include vehicles, as defined by Section 321.1 of the *Code of Iowa*. Solid waste does not include any of the following:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.301)

A. Hazardous waste regulated under the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6921-6934.

B. Hazardous waste as defined in Section 455B.411 of the *Code of Iowa*, except to the extent that rules allowing for the disposal of specific wastes have been adopted by the State Environmental Protection Commission.

C. Source, special nuclear, or by-product material as defined in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended to January 1, 1979.

D. Petroleum contaminated soil that has been remediated to acceptable State or federal standards.

E. Steel slag which is a product resulting from the steel manufacturing process and is managed as an item of value in a controlled manner and not as a discarded material.

**105.03 SANITARY DISPOSAL REQUIRED.** It is the duty of each owner to provide for the sanitary disposal of all refuse accumulating on the owner’s premises before it becomes a

nuisance. Any such accumulation remaining on any premises for a period of more than 30 days shall be deemed a nuisance and the City may proceed to abate such nuisances in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 50 or by initiating proper action in district court.

*(Code of Iowa, Ch. 657)*

**105.04 HEALTH AND FIRE HAZARD.** It is unlawful for any person to permit to accumulate on any premises, improved or vacant, or on any public place, such quantities of solid waste that constitute a health, sanitation or fire hazard.

**105.05 OPEN BURNING RESTRICTED.** No person shall allow, cause or permit open burning of combustible materials where the products of combustion are emitted into the open air without passing through a chimney or stack, except that open burning is permitted in the following circumstances:

*(IAC, 567-23.2[455B] and 567-100.2)*

1. Disaster Rubbish. The open burning of rubbish, including landscape waste, for the duration of the community disaster period in cases where an officially declared emergency condition exists, provided that the burning of any structures or demolished structures is conducted in accordance with 40 CFR Section 61.145.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3a])*

2. Trees and Tree Trimmings. The open burning of trees and tree trimmings at a City-operated burning site, provided such burning is conducted in compliance with the rules established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3b])*

3. Landscape Waste. The disposal by open burning of landscape waste originating on the premises. However, the burning of landscape waste produced in clearing, grubbing and construction operations shall be limited to areas located at least one-fourth mile from any inhabited building. Rubber tires shall not be used to ignite landscape waste. However, burning shall only be allowed on the north side of Railroad Avenue on even numbered days and on the south side of Railroad Avenue on odd numbered days.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3d])*

4. Recreational Fires. Open fires for cooking, heating, recreation, and ceremonies, provided they comply with the limits for emission of visible air contaminants established by the State Department of Natural Resources. Rubber tires shall not be burned in a recreational fire.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3e])*

5. Residential Waste. Backyard burning of residential waste at dwellings of four-family units or less, provided such burning is carried out between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and is contained in a burn barrel with screen or cover. However, burning shall only be allowed on the north side of Railroad Avenue on even numbered days and on the south side of Railroad Avenue on odd numbered days..

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3f])*

6. Training Fires. Fires set for the purpose of conducting bona fide training of public or industrial employees in firefighting methods, provided that the training fires are conducted in compliance with rules established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3g])*

7. Pesticide Containers and Seed Corn Bags. The disposal by open burning of paper or plastic pesticide containers (except those formerly containing organic forms of beryllium, selenium, mercury, lead, cadmium or arsenic) and seed corn bags resulting from farming activities occurring on the premises if burned in accordance with rules established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3h])*

8. Agricultural Structures. The open burning of agricultural structures if in accordance with rules and limitations established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3i])*

9. Controlled Burning of a Demolished Building. The controlled burning of a demolished building by the City, subject to approval of the Council, provided that the controlled burning is conducted in accordance with rules and limitations established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[3j])*

10. Variance. Any person wishing to conduct open burning of materials not permitted herein may make application for a variance to the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources.

*(IAC, 567-23.2[2])*

No person shall allow, cause or permit open burning of combustible materials during any period of high fire hazard as determined by the Fire Chief or an authorized representative. The Fire Chief shall publicize through the newspaper or radio or post as a public notice the existence of such a high fire hazard period and of a temporary ban on open burning.

**105.06 SEPARATION OF YARD WASTE REQUIRED.** All yard waste shall be separated by the owner or occupant from all other solid waste accumulated on the premises and shall be composted or burned on the premises in accordance with the requirements of Section 105.05. All yard waste composted or stored on a premises shall be stored in containers so constructed and maintained as to prevent the dispersal of wastes placed therein upon the premises served, upon adjacent premises, or upon adjacent public rights-of-way. Yard waste will not be collected by the City with other solid waste accumulated on the premises. As used in this section, “yard waste” means any debris such as grass clippings, leaves, garden waste, brush, and trees. Yard waste does not include tree stumps.

**105.07 LITTERING PROHIBITED.** No person shall discard any litter onto or in any water or land, except that nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the authorized collection and discarding of such litter in or on areas or receptacles provided for such purpose. When litter is discarded from a motor vehicle, the driver of the motor vehicle shall be responsible for the act in any case where doubt exists as to which occupant of the motor vehicle actually discarded the litter.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.363)*

**105.08 TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS WASTE.** No person shall deposit in a solid waste container or otherwise offer for collection any toxic or hazardous waste. Such materials shall be transported and disposed of as prescribed by the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources. As used in this section, “toxic and hazardous waste” means waste materials, including (but not limited to) poisons, pesticides, herbicides, acids, caustics, pathological waste, flammable or explosive materials, and similar harmful waste that requires special handling and

that must be disposed of in such a manner as to conserve the environment and protect the public health and safety.

*(IAC, 567-100.2)*

*(IAC, 567-102.13[2] and 400-27.14[2])*

**105.09 WASTE STORAGE CONTAINERS.** Every person owning, managing, operating, leasing, or renting any premises, dwelling unit or any place where refuse accumulates shall provide and at all times maintain in good order and repair portable containers for refuse in accordance with the following:

1. Container Specifications. Waste storage containers shall comply with the following specifications:
  - A. Residential. The type and nature of residential waste storage container allowed for use within the City shall be as specified and approved by the City Council. Containers and contents placed therein for collection shall not exceed a total weight of 75 pounds.
  - B. Commercial. Every person owning, managing, operating, leasing or renting any commercial premises where an excessive amount of refuse accumulates and where its storage in portable containers as required above is impractical, shall maintain metal bulk storage containers approved by the City. Only such other containers as approved by the City may be used.
2. Storage of Containers. Residential solid waste containers shall be stored upon the residential premises. Commercial solid waste containers shall be stored upon private property, unless the owner has been granted written permission from the City to use public property for such purposes. The storage site shall be well drained and fully accessible to collection equipment, public health personnel, and fire inspection personnel. All owners of residential and commercial premises shall be responsible for proper storage of all garbage and yard waste to prevent materials from being blown or scattered around neighboring yards and streets.
3. Location of Containers for Collection. The collection of solid waste placed in approved waste storage containers and awaiting collection shall be placed outdoors at some place easily accessible to the collector by the owner or occupant of the premises served. Solid waste storage containers for residential premises placed at the curb line shall not be so placed more than 24 hours in advance of the regularly scheduled collection day.
4. Nonconforming Containers. Solid waste placed in containers that are not in compliance with the provisions of this section will not be collected.

**105.10 PROHIBITED PRACTICES.** It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Unlawful Use of Containers. Deposit refuse in any solid waste containers not owned by such person without the written consent of the owner of such containers.
2. Interfere with Collectors. Interfere in any manner with solid waste collection equipment or with solid waste collectors in the lawful performance of their duties as such, whether such equipment or collectors be those of the City, or those of any other authorized waste collection service.
3. Incinerators. Burn rubbish or garbage except in incinerators designed for high temperature operation, in which solid, semisolid, liquid, or gaseous combustible refuse

is ignited and burned efficiently, and from which the solid residues contain little or no combustible material, as acceptable to the Environmental Protection Commission.

4. Scavenging. Take or collect any solid waste that has been placed out for collection on any premises, unless such person is an authorized solid waste collector.

**105.11 SANITARY DISPOSAL PROJECT DESIGNATED.** The sanitary landfill facilities operated by Waste Management are hereby designated as the official “Public Sanitary Disposal Project” for the disposal of solid waste produced or originating within the City.

## CHAPTER 106

# COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE

**106.01** Collection Service  
**106.02** Collection Vehicles  
**106.03** Frequency of Collection  
**106.04** Bulky Rubbish

**106.05** Right of Entry  
**106.06** Collection Fees  
**106.07** Lien for Nonpayment

**106.01 COLLECTION SERVICE.** The City shall provide for the collection of all solid waste except bulky rubbish as provided in Section 106.04 within the City.

**106.02 COLLECTION VEHICLES.** Vehicles or containers used for the collection and transportation of garbage and similar putrescible waste or solid waste containing such materials shall be leak-proof, durable and of easily cleanable construction. They shall be cleaned to prevent nuisances, pollution, or insect breeding and shall be maintained in good repair.

*(IAC, 567-104.9[455B])*

**106.03 FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION.** All solid waste shall be collected from residential premises at least once each week and from commercial, industrial and institutional premises as frequently as may be necessary, but not less than twice each week.

**106.04 BULKY RUBBISH.** Bulky rubbish that is too large or heavy to be collected in the normal manner of other solid waste may be collected by the collector upon request in accordance with procedures established by the Council.

**106.05 RIGHT OF ENTRY.** Solid waste collectors are hereby authorized to enter upon private property for the purpose of collecting solid waste, as required by this chapter; however, solid waste collectors shall not enter dwelling units or other residential buildings.

**106.06 COLLECTION FEES.** The collection and disposal of solid waste as provided by this chapter are declared to be beneficial to the property served or eligible to be served and there shall be levied and collected fees for the same, in accordance with the following:

*(Goreham vs. Des Moines, 1970, 179 NW 2nd, 449)*

1. Schedule of Fees. The fees for solid waste collection and disposal service, used or available, are:

A. For each residential premises and for each dwelling unit of a multiple-family dwelling or mobile home: \$14.00 per month, which includes a recycling fee, for each approved 48-gallon container and \$20.00 per month, which includes a recycling fee, for each approved 65-gallon container. Customers shall first use the smaller container and if this size is or becomes inadequate, the customer may request use of the larger size, provided this size is available. Only one size change request shall be allowed within a one-year period.

B. For business and commercial homes, motels, hotels, cafes, grocery stores and all business, commercial and industrial establishments:

(1) Customers without dumpster: \$16.00 per month, which includes a recycling fee, for each approved 48-gallon container and



\$22.00 per month, which includes a recycling fee, for each approved 65-gallon container. Customers shall first use the smaller container and if this size is or becomes inadequate, the customer may request use of the larger size, provided this size is available. Only one size change request shall be allowed within a one-year period.

(2) Customers with dumpster: monthly fee of \$16.00, which does not include a recycling fee, plus \$8.00 per yard, with the authorized collector calculating the yardage for the month for each establishment.

2. Payment of Bills. All fees are due and payable under the same terms and conditions as payment for other utility services, as established by the Utility Board of Trustees. To the extent that the fees are billed as part of a combined service account, utility services may be discontinued in accordance with the laws of the State and procedures established by the Utility Board if the account becomes delinquent.

**106.07 LIEN FOR NONPAYMENT.** Except as provided for in Section 99.07 of this Code of Ordinances, the owner of the premises served and any lessee or tenant thereof are jointly and severally liable for fees for solid waste collection and disposal. Fees remaining unpaid and delinquent shall constitute a lien upon the property or premises served and shall be certified by the Clerk to the County Treasurer for collection in the same manner as property taxes and the provisions contained in Section 99.08 relating to lien notices shall also apply in the event of a delinquent account.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)*

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