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26.70.010 Purpose of solid waste regulations.

It is hereby declared to be the purpose of chapters [26.70](#) and [26.80](#) to regulate the storage, collection, processing, recovery and disposal of solid waste in order to protect the public safety, health and welfare, and to enhance the environment of the people of the municipality.

26.70.020 Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in chapters [26.70](#) and [26.80](#), shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Additional, occasional, and/or unscheduled pickup means refuse service provided to a customer as is regularly provided, at a time other than the normal scheduled pickup or when a customer of the utility requests and receives a non-scheduled pickup, including any overtime or holiday period for an additional charge.

Director means the director of the department of solid waste services or his designee.

Hazardous or toxic waste means waste that requires special handling to avoid illness or injury to persons or damage to property and meets the definitions of 40 CFR 261 and 18 AAC 50.

Putrescible solid waste means organic solid waste matter capable of being decomposed by microorganisms.

Secured load means a load of solid waste which has been tied or covered in the vehicle in a manner that will prevent any part of the solid waste from leaving the vehicle while the vehicle is moving and so that the load shall not be in violation of Section 15.20.020.B.6.

Solid waste means useless, unwanted or discarded material with insufficient liquid content to be free-flowing.

Solid waste collection means the act of removing solid waste from the central storage point of a primary generating source to a place of solid waste disposal.

Solid waste disposal means the orderly process of finally disposing of solid waste.

Solid waste storage means the interim containment of solid waste, in an approved manner, after generation and prior to collection and disposal.

(AO No. 82-49; AO No. 83-196; AO No. 85-9; AO No. 2004-80, § 1, 7-1-04)

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Cross reference— Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1.05.020.

26.70.030 Use of municipal collection service required.

Every person residing in or occupying a building within that service area which comprises the area of the former City of Anchorage shall use the system of solid waste collection and disposal provided by the municipality. The director may exempt a person from this requirement if the director determines that the person requires solid waste collection and disposal service which cannot be provided by the municipal system.

- A. When the director determines for any reason including safety that the department of solid waste services cannot or will not provide one-operator container service, established by rate schedule in AMC 26.70.040C2, Schedule 1, as requested for a service location within the service area, and the customer presents written verification that a certified solid waste collection provider is willing and able to provide the service, the director shall conditionally exempt the property from municipal collection service under this section upon these qualifications:
1. The customer's service location was in receipt of single-operator service as of January 1, 2010.
 2. The property continuously maintains one-operator solid waste container collection and disposal service from a certified provider. Upon failure to continuously maintain one-operator solid waste container collection and disposal service from a certified provider, the exemption shall expire as of the date continuous service lapses. If the lapse is without timely notice from the certified provider and the customer, failure to continuously maintain required service shall result in permanent loss of exemption for the service location.
 3. The service level at the location is offered within the service area, but remains unavailable from SWS. If the service level is discontinued by the certified provider, or the director reinstates the availability of municipal single-operator service to the service location, the exemption shall expire. The director shall establish the effective date of reinstatement of municipal service and fees, and provide the customer with advance written notice. Notice shall be sufficiently in advance to allow the customer to cancel service from the certified provider without incurring a cancellation fee, and the reinstatement date for municipal service shall be set to avoid an overlap in service and fees.
 4. The director shall receive annual verification the property has continuously maintained service, and the level of service maintained.
 5. The customer and the qualified solid waste provider agree that the director shall be notified within 30 days by the qualified solid waste provider if the service is changed or discontinued.
 6. The director may re-evaluate the director's determination for exemption when service from a certified provider is changed or discontinued. If the conditions of exemption are no longer met, the exemption shall expire and the director shall establish the effective date for reinstatement of municipal service and fees. If the provider and the customer have provided timely notification to the director, notice shall be sufficiently in advance to allow the customer to cancel service from the certified provider without incurring a cancellation fee, and the reinstatement date for municipal shall be set to avoid an overlap in service and fees.
 7. If the terms of the qualified exemption are not met, the exemption shall expire without the requirement of action by the director.

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8. Unless otherwise specified in this section, the customer shall be responsible for payment of municipal solid waste collection fees effective immediately upon expiration of the exemption.
- B. Prior to granting the exemption, the director may require documentation directly from the certified solid waste collection provider, and verification that the terms of the qualified exemption will be met.
- C. For purposes of this section, the term certified solid waste collection provider shall mean a person or entity holding a valid certificate from the former Alaska Public Utilities Commission or from the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, authorizing the services.

(CAC 11.12.020; AO No. 2010-61(S), § 1, 9-28-10)

Editor's note—

Section 2 of AO No. 2010-61(S), adopted September 28, 2010, states unless renewed or extended by ordinance prior to May 31, 2012, the provisions of subsections A.—C. of AMC [26.70.030](#) shall expire on May 31, 2012 without further action of the Assembly.

26.70.040 Service requests, rates and billing.

- A. *Service requests.* It shall be the responsibility of the customer to apply for solid waste collection service by contacting the solid waste customer service office. All service shall remain in effect until the customer requests the utility to discontinue the service. Service will terminate when the property is vacated. It shall be the responsibility of the customer to notify the municipality of any changes that may affect the monthly or quarterly charges.
- B. *Billing.*
 1. Billing for solid waste collection service will commence with the date of occupancy. A request to cancel service will commence on the date or future date of notification by the customer. Retroactive disconnects cannot be offered. The municipality shall have the right to determine how and to whom solid waste collection charges are to be billed. Failure to receive a bill or failure to apply for service does not relieve the customer of responsibility for the charges.
 2. All solid waste collection charges shall be the obligation of the owner of the property served by the municipality. Credit for vacant residential units may be extended if the period of vacancy exceeds one month and the customer notifies the utility in advance of the scheduled vacancy.
 3. In the event of accidental overcharges or undercharges for solid waste collection services, credit and debit adjustments will be limited to the most recent six-month period prior to discovery and notification of the error.
 4. Any customer who has services decreased due to non-payment must pay all past due billings (including collection costs if applicable) and make an advance payment equal to one billing period prior to reinstatement of service.
 5. All solid waste collection charges for single-family residential units shall be billed quarterly, in advance.
 6. All solid waste collection charges for multiple units or businesses shall be billed monthly in arrears.
- C. *Rates, fees and charges.* Notwithstanding [Section 26.10.035](#), the following rates, fees and charges shall be assessed for municipal solid waste collection:
 1. *Conventional can or bag service.*

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- a. *Basic monthly charge.* This rate covers the weekly collection of a maximum of four collection units, each unit consisting of one conventional 32-gallon garbage can or approved bag. The customer shall place all refuse for collection at the curbside or alley within three feet of the drivable roadway or alley.

Type of Service	Monthly Rate
Single-family residential	\$18.25
Multiple-family residential unit or mobile home or trailer court with more than one trailer or mobile home	\$18.25/unit
Business establishments, each unit consisting of four cans or bags. For each additional unit add \$18.25. For more than once weekly service, multiply units times number of days serviced	\$18.25/unit

- b. *Additional services.*

- (1) Cans or bags in excess of the weekly limit will be collected and billed to the customer at a charge of \$1.50 per can or bag. Larger items will be charged at the current disposal charge based on cubic yardage with a minimum of one cubic yard.
- (2) The municipal refuse collection utility will collect refuse at other than the scheduled collection time at the rate stated in this subsection. Estimates for special services will be quoted at the customer's request. The charge for special pickup service with a one person crew shall be \$95.30 straight time and \$106.15 overtime for each one-half hour of vehicle time required for the pickup, plus disposal charges based on the estimated volume of refuse picked up. The charge for special pickup service with a two man crew shall be \$107.80 straight time and \$124.90 overtime for each one-half hour required for the pickup, plus disposal charges based on the estimated volume of refuse picked up.
- (3) Customers may request a reload of their dumpster on a scheduled service day. If the reload can be accomplished within five minutes, the customer will only be charged the additional yardage. If the driver is required to stand-by longer, the customer will be charged the minimum of one-half hour stated in subsection b. (2) above.
- (4) Dumpster service may be requested for temporary projects lasting one month or less. Service will be offered with groups of four pickups, with each group equal to once weekly service in schedule C-2, plus a delivery and return charges of \$95.30 for each dumpster each way. Customers must notify customer service one day in advance to schedule a pick-up.
- (5) Dumpster customers who load a container above lid level, exceeding the capacity of the container, will be charged and billed an excess rate by the cubic yard, with a minimum of one cubic yard.

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- (6) Damage repair beyond normal wear and tear to dumpsters, dumpster lids and locking devices caused by the customer will be charged to the customer. Repair and replacement charges will be based on current parts and labor costs.
- (7) The municipal refuse collection utility will provide on property services subject to the following terms and conditions. In addition to the applicable collection charge under subsection C.1 or C.2 of this section, the charge for collecting containers for each 50 feet from the drivable roadway or alley shall be \$3.00 per month. On property service is available only for containers which need not be returned to the customer and which are placed outdoors in plain view of the collection crew. The collection crew will not enter a building to collect a container.

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2. *Container service.* The following rates apply to the collection of solid waste from containers having a capacity of from one to eight cubic yards, that may be emptied mechanically by a refuse collection vehicle:

CONTAINER SCHEDULE

Schedule 1—Containers with Loose Refuse With One Operator

Size	1 Time per Week	2 Times per Week	3 Times per Week	4 Times per Week	5 Times per Week	6 Times per Week	Twice Daily
1½ cubic yards	\$71.90	\$143.60	\$215.45	\$287.35	\$359.20	\$431.10	\$862.05
2 cubic yards	79.70	158.55	239.25	319.00	398.75	478.55	957.05
3 cubic yards	85.70	171.50	257.25	343.05	428.80	514.60	1,029.30
4 cubic yards	108.95	218.05	327.05	436.15	545.05	654.20	1,308.45
6 cubic yards	140.20	279.05	418.60	558.05	697.60	837.15	1,674.30
8 cubic yards	169.90	339.95	509.80	679.65	849.65	1,019.60	2,039.15

Note: Containers 4, 6, and 8 cubic yards limited to household and light commercial wastes.

Schedule 2—Containers with Compacted Refuse With One Operator

Size	1 Time	2 Times	3 Times	4 Times	5 Times	6 Times	Twice
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	per Week	per Week	per Week	per Week	per Week	per Week	Daily
2 cubic yards	\$81.50	\$163.05	\$244.55	\$326.10	\$407.50	\$489.15	\$978.30
3 cubic yards	108.30	216.65	325.05	433.40	541.80	650.15	1,300.15
4 cubic yards	138.65	277.40	416.05	554.70	693.40	832.10	1,664.20

Schedule 3—Containers with Loose Refuse and Two Person Crew

Size	1 Time per Week	2 Times per Week	3 Times per Week	4 Times per Week	5 Times per Week	6 Times per Week	Twice Daily
2 cubic yards	\$162.55	\$325.05	\$487.65	\$650.15	\$812.65	\$975.20	\$1,950.50
3 cubicyards	211.90	423.90	6351.80	847.75	1,059.65	1,271.65	2,543.25
4 cubic yards	262.50	525.15	787.75	1,050.30	1,312.90	1,575.35	3,151.00
6 cubic yards	417.85	835.65	1,253.50	1,671.30	2,089.15	2,506.95	5,013.90

Schedule 4—Container with Compacted Refuse and Two Person Crew

Size	1 Time per Week	2 Times per Week	3 Times per Week	4 Times per Week	5 Times per Week	6 Times per Week	Twice Daily
2 cubic yards	\$175.90	\$351.90	\$527.85	\$703.80	\$879.80	\$1,055.70	\$2,111.45
4 cubic yards	290.75	581.55	872.30	\$1,163.10	1,453.90	1,744.65	3,489.30
6 cubic yards	459.90	919.80	1,379.85	1,839.75	2,299.70	2,759.70	5,519.35

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Schedule 5—Rental rates

Rental rates for one to eight cubic yard containers provided by the municipal refuse collection utility shall be \$18.75 per month. Containers with locking mechanisms that do not require the collector to exit the vehicle shall rent for \$25.00 per month.

3. *Roll-on/roll-off refuse containers.* The charge for all roll-on/roll-off refuse containers of from ten to 50 cubic yards in capacity which are not serviced by the municipal refuse collection utility shall be the current contract rate paid by the municipality for this service plus a five percent billing and overhead charge for each lift. In addition, the customer will be billed the current municipal disposal facility charge determined by the weight or volume of solid waste contained in the roll-on/roll-off container.
4. *Roll-cart service.* The director is authorized to initiate roll-cart service on a pilot basis. This will provide for pay-as-you-throw service for Solid Waste Services residential customers.
5. *Automated refuse collection service.*
 - a. *Basic monthly charge.* This rate covers the weekly and bi-weekly collection of refuse collections units, and bi-weekly collection of recyclable collection units on collection routes designated by the director to be automated collection routes. Each customer receiving refuse collection service on a designated automated collection route shall subscribe to a service level based on standard refuse volumes as designated in this section. Multiple-family residential units; mobile home or trailer courts with more than one trailer or mobile home; or business establishments shall pay the elected subscription rate per occupancy unit. Subscription rates shall be:

Subscription Volume for Refuse Collection	Monthly Service Charge
48 gallon bi-weekly	\$14.10
48 gallon	\$19.10
64 gallon	\$26.56
96 gallon	\$36.50
Additional Volume	\$9.95/32-gallon increment

- b. Customers who do not select a subscription volume shall be assigned a default subscription volume of 64 gallons per week, and shall be billed accordingly.
- c. *Terms of service.*
 1. The refuse collection utility shall provide each customer receiving service on a designated automated collection route with roll cart refuse container(s) of volume equal to the subscription volume elected by the customer. The utility shall also provide

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one roll cart container for collection of recyclable materials. Roll carts shall be unique in color or labeling such that refuse collection and recyclable collection are readily distinguishable. The customer is responsible for cleaning roll carts.

- i. Each container will be designated by a unique serial number which shall be assigned to the customer's account. Upon initiation of service, one set of containers shall be provided at no charge to the customer.
 - ii. Customers shall be allowed to change the volume of his/her refuse collection subscription at no charge within 180 days of initiation of service. If the customer elects to change the volume of service more than 180 days after initiation of service, the utility shall charge a \$30.00 change in service fee per occurrence to cover the cost of cart delivery and account upgrades.
2. The customer shall place roll carts for refuse and recyclables collection at the curbside or alley within three feet of the drivable roadway or alley with a minimum of three feet of clearance from any pole, mailbox, vehicle, roll cart, snow berm or other obstruction on any side. Customers shall be responsible for clearing snow or other obstructions limiting access to the collection containers.
3. All refuse and recyclables shall be collected from roll carts provided by the collection utility only. Any waste material not contained within the designated refuse roll cart provided by the refuse collection utility with the lid tightly closed shall be considered excess refuse.
 - i. Wastes in addition to the volume of the provided roll cart shall be contained in a closed bag, and shall be collected by separate pickup.
 - ii. Customers with excess or oversized refuse shall be charged \$10.00 per pickup plus the greater of either \$2.00 per bag or can of 32-gallon equivalent size or the current disposal rate by volume basis for a minimum of one cubic yard of uncompacted refuse.
 - iii. Roll carts with refuse exceeding the designed container volume by either protruding above the rim of the container so as to prohibit tightly closing the lid, or stacked on top of the lid shall be charged for excess pickup as prescribed in subsection c.3.ii. above. The collections operator may elect to refuse service to any overfilled container which cannot, in the operator's sole opinion, be emptied without potentially spilling refuse to the ground.
 - iv. Reloading of carts while being serviced is not permitted.
4. Each customer shall be provided with a list of materials acceptable for recycle. The collection utility may inspect the contents of any recycle collection container. Containers found to contain materials not specifically identified on the list of acceptable materials or containing materials considered detrimental to the value of the recycled materials shall be tagged, notifying the owner that unacceptable materials were found. Contents of the container shall be collected as refuse, and the owner shall be billed for excess waste as specified in subsection c.3.ii. above.
5. The collection utility shall provide on-property services for a fee in addition to the applicable collection charges under subsection C.5. above, and subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - i. The charge for collection containers shall be \$8.00 for each 50 feet from the drivable roadway or alley per month.
 - ii. On-property service is available only for containers issued by the collection utility and placed outdoors, in plain view of the collection crew.

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- iii. The collection crew shall not enter any building to collect a container.
- 6. Roll cart containers shall remain the property of the refuse collection utility.
 - i. Customers vacating premises or otherwise terminating service shall be responsible to arrange for return of all roll carts to the collections utility. Upon request, the collection utility will pick up carts for a fee of \$10.00. A charge of \$75.00 per roll cart shall be assessed to the final billing for any non-returned carts.
 - ii. The collections utility shall replace lost, stolen or damaged roll carts where damage is considered in excess of normal wear and tear. The customer shall be billed \$75.00 per cart for each replacement cart.

(CAC 11.12.030; AO No. 77-349; AO No. 78-119; AO No. 81-80; AO No. 82-225; AO No. 83-221; AO No. 85-202, 1-1-86; AO No. 86-203, 1-9-87; AO No. 88-170, 1-1-89; AO No. 89-51(S-3); AO No. 90-72; AO No. 2000-79, § 1, 5-16-00; AO No. 2004-80, § 1, 7-1-04; AO No. 2005-13, § 1, 2-15-05; AO No. 2007-146(S), § 1, 4-1-08; AO No. 2008-52(S)am, § 1, 7-1-08; AO No. 2008-62(S), § 2, 8-1-08; AO No. 2008-83, §§ 4, 5, 7-1-08/4-1-09)

26.70.050 Solid waste storage.

- A. No person shall keep on or about his property any solid waste unless it is kept in a container of a type approved by the director. Metal and plastic containers shall be equipped with tightly fitting covers and suitable handles, shall be no larger than 32 gallons in capacity and shall not exceed 20 pounds in weight when empty or 70 pounds when full. They shall be so loaded that they can be conveniently handled without spilling the contents. Bags shall be leak proof and durable in quality and, when offered for collection, shall be securely fastened at the top, shall not contain any rips, tears or holes and not weigh over 35 pounds. The weight of any one bundle shall not exceed 35 pounds. The bundles shall not be of a size greater than one-half cubic yard and shall not exceed four feet in any dimension. Bulky items, such as tree trimmings, that will not fit inside a container, must be bundled and securely tied or boxed. All containers shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition by the owner or customer. Containers without handles or lids or with sharp edges or holes shall be considered solid waste and, after written notice to the customer has been left on the container on the previous collection date, may, without liability, be collected and discarded by the utility.
- B. Solid waste shall not be stored longer than the period between scheduled collections.
- C. All putrescible solid waste shall be drained of surplus liquids and shall be securely wrapped in paper or placed in watertight bags before being placed in the container.
- D. Where solid waste is collected from alleys, solid waste containers shall be kept in racks unless the customer places containers in the alley only on the day of collection and, on the same day of collection, removes them. Racks shall be furnished and maintained by the customer and shall be of a type and specification prescribed by the director by regulation. Racks shall be so placed as not to be visible from the street, where practicable.
- E. In those areas without alleys, solid wastes shall not, except on the scheduled collection day, be stored on or in view from any public street. The customer shall place the containers at the street for collection. Emptied containers shall be removed from view on the same day that collection is made.
- F. Customers using one- to 50-cubic-yard container units shall provide and maintain a hard-surfaced pad on the property for locating the unit and shall maintain the pad so that the container is accessible and movable for collection. The pad design and location shall be approved by the director prior to construction.

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- G. It is the customer's responsibility to assure that dumpsters are accessible for service. If a dumpster is blocked by vehicles, snow-berms, refuse piled too high and/or around a container or any other obstacle that restricts access to or dumping of a container and the customer requests an unscheduled additional pick up, the applicable charge for the service will be quoted under subsection C (b-2).
- H. Plans for dumpster enclosures shall be submitted by the customer for approval by the utility in advance of construction and be built to provide a three-foot clearance on all sides. If the enclosure is gated the customer shall assure that the gates are open to allow access on the scheduled service day(s).
- I. No person shall deposit solid wastes upon any street, alley or municipal property, or upon any property or in any container owned by another unless it is done with the consent of the property owner.
- J. No person having the care, as owner, lessee, agent or occupant, of any premises shall store solid wastes for collection purposes except in a clean and sanitary manner and in accordance with all other applicable federal, state and municipal statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations. The municipality reserves the right to clean such premises, if not properly kept, and to add the cost thereof to the utility bill of such person, and to prosecute such person for noncompliance with this Code.

(CAC 11.12.040, 11.12.050; AO No. 113-76; AO No. 2004-80, § 1, 7-1-04)

26.70.060 Collection schedule; collection contracts.

- A. Solid wastes shall be collected pursuant to schedules established by the director.
- B. All solid wastes shall be collected and disposed of at intervals sufficient to protect the public health and well-being.
- C. The municipality may contract for the collection of solid wastes.

(CAC 11.12.040.A)

26.70.070 Authority to prescribe additional regulations.

Pursuant to [chapter 3.40](#), the director may promulgate municipal regulations governing the storage and collection of solid wastes which are not inconsistent with this Code.

(CAC 11.12.060)

FOOTNOTE(S):

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Cross reference— Hazardous materials commission, § 4.50.080; solid waste commission, § 4.70.040; fines, § 14.60.030; public nuisances, ch. 15.20. [\(Back\)](#)

State Law reference— Solid waste collection authorized, AS 29.35.050. [\(Back\)](#)