# **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[2])

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. (Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.361[1])

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 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])

10. "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)

11. "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)

12. "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)

13. "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 fourteen (14) 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, tree trimmings, and landscape waste 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. Flare Stacks. The open burning or flaring of waste gases, provided such open burning or flaring is conducted in compliance with applicable rules of the State Department of Natural Resources.

### (*IAC*, 567-23.2[3c])

4. Landscape Waste. The disposal by open burning of landscape waste originating on the premises between the dates of April 15 through May 15 and October 1 through November 15 only. However, the burning of landscape waste produced in clearing, grubbing, and construction operations shall be limited to areas located at least one-fourth  $(\frac{1}{4})$  mile from any building inhabited by other than the landowner or tenant conducting the open burning. Rubber tires shall not be used to ignite landscape waste. At no time shall the burning of grass clippings be allowed. No accelerant of any type shall be used to start or maintain burning leaves.

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

5. 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])

6. Training Fires. Fires set for the purpose of bona fide training of public or industrial employees in firefighting methods, provided that such fires are conducted in compliance with rules established by the State Department of Natural Resources. (*IAC*, 567-23.2/3g])

7. 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])

8. 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])

9. 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])

**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 on the premises or taken to the City-operated compost and burn site; in addition, during the period extending from the third week of April to the third week of November, yard waste may be placed in degradable bags sold or otherwise dispensed by the City and which are specifically marked with a yard waste sticker and set out for collection. Persons choosing to set yard waste out for collection shall place all said yard waste bags at the curb or alley line by 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled pickup day. No single bag shall weigh more than thirty (30) pounds. 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 OPEN DUMPING PROHIBITED.** No person shall dump or deposit or permit the dumping or depositing of any solid waste on the surface of the ground or into a body or stream of water at any place other than a sanitary disposal project approved by the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources, unless a special permit to dump or deposit solid waste on land owned or leased by such person has been obtained from the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources. However, this section does not prohibit the use of rubble at places other than a sanitary disposal project. "Rubble" means dirt, stone, brick, or similar inorganic materials used for beneficial fill, landscaping, excavation, or grading at places other than a sanitary disposal project. Rubble includes asphalt waste only as long as it is not used in contact with water or in a flood plain. For purposes of this section, rubble does not mean gypsum or gypsum wallboard, coal combustion residue, foundry sand, or industrial process wastes unless those wastes are approved by the State Department of Natural Resources.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.301, Sec. 455B.307 and IAC, 567-100.2)

**105.09 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])* 

**105.10 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. Residential waste containers, whether they be reusable, portable containers or heavy-duty disposable garbage bags, shall be of sufficient capacity, and leakproof and waterproof. Disposable containers shall be securely fastened, and reusable containers shall be fitted with a fly-tight lid which shall be kept in place except when depositing or removing the contents of the container. Reusable containers shall also be lightweight and of sturdy construction and have suitable lifting devices. Each filled container shall not exceed thirty (30) pounds in weight.

B. Commercial. Every person owning, managing, operating, leasing or renting any commercial premise 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.

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; 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. Nonconforming Containers. Solid waste placed in containers that are not in compliance with the provisions of this section will not be collected.

#### **105.11 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 which has been placed out for collection on any premises, unless such person is an authorized solid waste collector.

**105.12 SANITARY DISPOSAL PROJECT DESIGNATED.** The sanitary landfill facilities operated by Tama County Landfill Association are hereby designated as the official "Public Sanitary Disposal Project" for the disposal of solid waste produced or originating within the City.

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## **CHAPTER 106**

# **COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE**

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106.06 Bulky Rubbish106.07 Right of Entry106.08 Violations106.09 Collection Fee106.10 Lien for Nonpayment

**106.01 DEFINITIONS.** For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. "Collector" means any person who collects, picks up, hauls, transports, or gathers any type of solid waste from public or private places.

2. "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.

3. "Multiple-family dwelling" means a structure containing more than one dwelling unit. Multiple-family dwellings that are not residential premises, as defined in subsection 5 of this section, are considered commercial establishments.

4. "Property served" means any property that is being used or occupied and is eligible to receive solid waste collection and disposal service as provided herein.

5. "Residential premises" means a single-family dwelling and any multiplefamily dwelling up to and including four (4) separate dwelling units. Garden type apartments and row type housing units are considered residential premises regardless of the total number of such apartments or units included in a given housing development.

6. "Single-family dwelling" means a structure containing one dwelling unit only.

**106.02 COLLECTION METHOD.** The collection of solid waste within the City shall comply with the following requirements:

1. The Council shall, by resolution, determine the method of collecting and disposing of solid waste within the City. The Council may:

A. Use City employees and equipment to collect and dispose of solid waste;

B. Contract with a person or persons to collect and dispose of solid waste;

C. License persons to collect and dispose of solid waste; or

D. Use a combination of these methods.

2. The Council shall adopt by resolution rules to regulate the collection and disposal of solid waste within the City. These rules may authorize the following or any other action or requirement of persons or owners of property within the City necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare in the collection and disposal of solid waste.

A. Fees to be charged to cover the costs of collection and disposal of solid waste and the method of collecting the fees. Fees may be different for differing types of dwellings, commercial establishments, churches, schools, and other property. Fees may be different for differing amounts and types of solid waste collected.

B. Requirements for contractors to collect and dispose of solid waste, including (but not limited to) payment to the contractors, duration of the contract, and methods to revoke the contract for failing to comply with the requirements established by the Council.

C. Requirements for licensees to collect and dispose of solid waste, including (but not limited to) fees for the license, duration of the license, and methods to revoke the license for failing to comply with the requirements established by the Council.

D. Requirements for residential premises and commercial establishments, churches, schools, and property owners to comply with the method or methods selected by the Council to collect and dispose of solid waste within the City. These requirements may be different for different types of premises.

E. Establishment of either a voluntary or mandatory recyclable materials recovery program, including (but not limited to) the persons and premises required to participate, the recyclable materials to be collected and recycled, the method of collection, and the fees to cover the cost of a program.

**106.03 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])

**106.04 LOADING.** Vehicles or containers used for the collection and transportation of any solid waste shall be loaded and moved in such a manner that the contents will not fall, leak, or spill therefrom, and shall be covered to prevent blowing or loss of material. Where spillage does occur, the material shall be picked up immediately by the collector or transporter and returned to the vehicle or container and the area properly cleaned.

**106.05 LOCATION OF CONTAINERS.** Containers for the storage of solid waste awaiting collection shall be placed at the curb or in the alley, as determined by the collector and the City.

**106.06 BULKY RUBBISH.** Bulky rubbish which 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 collector.

**106.07 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 without the express consent of the owner or occupant.

**106.08 VIOLATIONS.** The Council may, by resolution, establish additional rules regulating the collection of solid waste within the City. Any person failing to comply with the provisions of this chapter and the rules adopted pursuant hereto is in violation of this Code of Ordinances.

**106.09 COLLECTION FEE.** Every residential and business premises in the City which has a water meter and is provided water by the City shall be subject to a garbage collection fee. Businesses requiring large service (dumpsters, etc.) will be billed according to their service level on a case by case basis. This fee shall be billed monthly and shall be due and payable as part of a combined service account under the same terms and conditions as payment for water and electric service, as established by the Utility Board of Trustees.

**106.10 LIEN FOR NONPAYMENT.** Except as provided for in Section 99.06 of this Code of Ordinances, the owner of the premises served and any lessee or tenant thereof are jointly and severally liable for the residential garbage collection fee. Fees remaining unpaid and delinquent shall constitute a lien upon the premises served and shall be certified by the Clerk to the County Treasurer for collection in the same manner as property taxes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)