



TOWN OF NATICK MASSACHUSETTS

POLICY REGULATING CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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MELISSA MALONE

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

JEREMY MARSETTE, P.E.

ADOPTED

February 7, 2000

SUPERSEDED

June XXXX, 2018

Policy Regulating Curbside Collection of Solid Waste and Recycling Town of Natick, Massachusetts

This policy is promulgated by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to the authority granted under Article 3 Section 3-2 of the Town Charter and Article 10 of the General By-laws of the Town of Natick.

The purpose of this policy is to establish reasonable standards for the curbside collection of residential solid waste, recycling, and yard waste. The policy aims to safeguard the public health and welfare by providing efficient and predictable curbside collection services.

DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise required by the context, the following words shall be afforded the following definitions:

Bulk item – Any item which weighs more than thirty pounds or measures more than thirty-six inches in any one direction, and shall include, by example, the following items: mattresses, furniture, lumber, trees, tree limbs, stoves, refrigerators, and tires.

Director – The Director of Public Works for the Town of Natick

Department – The Department of Public Works for the Town of Natick

Hazardous Waste - Any waste, solid or liquid, which poses a significant environmental or human health risk. This can include such items as pesticides, used motor oil and other products associated with automobiles, disinfectants, and miscellaneous art and hobby chemicals (Refer to 105 CMR 650.000 and DEP Guidelines).

Leaf and Yard Waste - Leaves, grass clippings, shrub trimmings, plant cuttings, tree branches and vines not exceeding three (3) inches in diameter or three (3) feet in length, and other similar materials.

Recyclable - All materials banned from either burial at a landfill or incineration, as defined by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Waste Bans and Recycling Rules and which may be reclaimed and returned to the economy in the form of raw materials or products, including but not limited to paper (newspaper, magazines, phone books, mixed paper, beverage containers, drink boxes, paperboard), cardboard, plastics, glass, and aluminum containers.

Solid Waste – Any waste which is not designated by the Director as a “recyclable” item or as a “bulk” item and shall include, by example, the following items: diapers, pet waste, food waste, used or soiled paper products (paper towels, cardboard, napkins, etc.) and plastics other than those classified as recyclable, such as plastic bags and plastic film.

Textiles and Household Goods – The Town contracts with a private hauler to collect textiles, such as clothing, shoes, purses and belts, kitchenware, countertop appliances, toys and small

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households goods at the curb from residents who qualify for municipal solid waste and recycling services. A full list of materials that qualify for this collection is available on the Department's website.

Waste Bans - The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has promulgated Waste Bans which restrict the disposal of certain recyclable items at solid waste landfills, transfer stations and incinerators in Massachusetts (310 CMR 19.017).

RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION

The Department shall collect solid waste from single family dwellings and multiple family residential buildings containing up to four (4) dwelling units. Solid waste collection shall occur on a weekly basis in areas designated by day, unless collection is waived by the Director.

- a. Solid waste shall be collected only if placed in closed/tied-off Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) bags approved by the Director. These bags may be purchased at local retail outlets and are blue with a Town of Natick seal.
- b. No bag shall be collected if its weight exceeds the weight limit for that bag. No solid waste shall be collected by the Department from inside dwelling units or garages or any place other than the curbside area specified in this policy.
- c. The Department shall not collect bulk items placed on the curb for collection with the solid waste pick-up. Collection of bulk items must be scheduled separately and on a case-by-case basis with the Department.
- d. The Department shall not collect residential solid waste collection bags or recycling bins if any of the following conditions exist:
 - solid waste is not contained in an approved collection bag;
 - Waste Ban items are contained in solid waste collection bag;
 - dangerous dog, or other animal, is on premises;
 - improper location of collection bag or recycling bin;
 - collection bag exceeds weight limit;
 - sharp object not properly wrapped, packaged, or labeled;

RESIDENTIAL RECYCLABLE COLLECTION

The Department shall collect recyclables from single family dwellings and multiple family residential buildings containing up to four (4) dwelling units. The Director shall collect, or cause to be collected, at least once every two weeks, recyclable items placed in approved recycling bins provided by the Department. The Department shall provide one recycling bin per residential dwelling unit. Up to one additional bin per dwelling unit may be purchased by the resident.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Environmental Protection, has promulgated Waste Bans which restrict the disposal of certain recyclable items at solid waste landfills, transfer stations and incinerators in Massachusetts (310 CMR 19.017). Compliance

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with the Waste Bans may be accomplished through reducing the amount of solid waste to the fullest; and promoting public support for recycling.

- a. It shall be mandatory for all residents who participate in the Town's collection service to separate all designated recyclables materials from other trash in accordance with the provisions in this section.
- b. Removal of Recyclables. For all residential participants in the Town's collection service, all recyclables, which are required to be separated from municipal waste, shall either be delivered to a recycling center or shall be collected by the Town or its agent in approved recycling bins.

PLACEMENT OF ITEMS FOR CURBSIDE COLLECTION

- a. Any person desiring collection of solid waste or recycling items shall place approved solid waste bags or recycling bins at the curbside, or as near as possible, without interfering with pedestrian traffic. No person shall place solid waste bags or recycling bins on the roadway for collection.
- b. No solid waste bag or recycling bin shall be placed at curbside no later than 7:00 a.m. of the day of collection. Solid waste bags and recycling bins must be in place prior to arrival of the collection trucks.
- c. Nothing of value shall be placed at or near the collection point for solid waste or recycling items.
- d. Owners, including tenants or designated agents, shall maintain safe and sanitary conditions at the collection point.
- e. Recycling bins shall be placed to ensure 3 feet of clearance from all obstacles (including additional bins and PAYT bags) and 5 feet distant from vehicles. Proper spacing of bins allows for efficient and safe automated collection.

PROHIBITED ACTIONS

- a. No person shall place any building debris, explosives or hazardous materials in any solid waste collection bag for collection by the Town.
- b. No person shall dispose of dead animals, other than those slaughtered for human consumption, in a solid waste collection bag for collection by the Town.
- c. No person shall dispose of leaves or yard waste in the solid waste collection bag for collection by the Town.
- d. No person shall place any sharp objects such as broken glass, syringes or needles in any collection bag such that they will puncture the collection bag or otherwise endanger the person collecting the bag.
- e. No person shall place recyclable items in any solid waste bag placed out for collection.
- f. No person shall place solid waste in any recycling bin placed out for collection.
- g. No person, unless authorized by the Director, shall sort, open, remove items from, place items in, or in any way disturb the solid waste bag or recycling bin placed at curbside by another.

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TEXTILES & HOUSEHOLD GOODS COLLECTION

Residents may place acceptable textiles and household goods in tied-off bags provided by the Town's private hauler at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on their designated recycling day. Bags shall be placed a minimum of three feet away from recycling bins. Bags that are not collected should be reported by the resident to the private hauler.

BULKY ITEM COLLECTION

If a resident has bulky items to be picked up, the resident shall pay the Bulky Waste Collection Fee at the Department of Public Works and then the pick-up shall be scheduled. The bulky items shall be placed at the curbside no later than 7:00 a.m. of the scheduled day for collection.

RESIDENTIAL YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The Department shall collect Leaf and Yard Waste from single family dwellings and multiple family residential buildings containing up to four dwelling units. The Director shall collect, or cause to be collected, at least once in the spring and once in the fall of each year, residential yard waste items placed in approved paper bags or labeled barrels.

Yard waste shall be tied in standard bundles not to exceed 75 pounds and/or three (3) feet in length. Leaves and grass clippings shall be stored in paper sacs or proper rubbish containers labeled "**YARD WASTE**". All leaves and yard waste shall be placed for collection by 7:00 am on the semi-annually scheduled collection day as set by the Director of Public Works.

Residential Leaf and Yard Waste may also be dropped off at the Town's Recycling Center on West Street throughout the year during regular hours of operation. Paper bags of Leaf and Yard Waste are not accepted at the Town's Recycling Center; all Leaf and Yard Waste must be dropped off without a bag.

DISPOSAL OF OTHER WASTE

DEAD ANIMALS All dead domestic animals will not be collected by the Town of Natick. Owners must call a veterinary service for proper disposal. All roadkill should be reported to the Police Department for proper disposal.

HAZARDOUS WASTE All products which are deemed as hazardous waste, either by state guidelines or by the Director of Public Health, cannot be disposed of via curbside collection and must be removed either by a private certified removal company, or be disposed of during a designated Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. Residents should contact the Health Department for information on designated Household Hazardous Waste Collection days.

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HOLIDAY COLLECTION

Solid waste and recycling will be collected once per week and recyclables will be collected once every two weeks on regularly scheduled collection days except when collection is interrupted by a legal holiday. When this occurs, all residents shall place solid waste and recycling out for collection one (1) day later than their usual collection day for the entire week. Residents whose collection day is on Friday will place their refuse out for collection after 3:30 PM Friday, to be collected Saturday. The Department shall publish an annual schedule of collections.

LEGAL HOLIDAYS

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Washington's Birthday
- Patriot's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Veterans' Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

REFUSAL TO COLLECT

The Director may refuse to collect any wastes placed for collection in violation of this policy. The Director may refuse to collect bulky objects when the Sanitation Division is not properly notified one week prior to collection or when the objects are of such size and weight that they cannot be conveniently handled. The Director may also refuse to collect Leaf and Yard waste not properly stored and placed. So far as practicable, the Highway/Sanitation Division shall attach a notice to the waste or recyclables refused for collection and note the reason for refusal.

TERMINATION OF COLLECTION

Multiple violations of the policies as established herein may be cause for the Director to terminate the provision of the municipal collection service to any dwelling or entity.

COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM NON-PROFIT ENTITIES

The Department may collect solid waste and recycling from non-profit charitable entities upon specific request. Entities requesting collections must make application to the Department including proof of non-profit status, approximate weekly collection volumes, and the location of collection. Solid waste collection may be made on a weekly basis in areas designated by day,

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unless collection is waived by the Director. The Director may collect, or cause to be collected, at least once every two weeks, recyclable items placed in approved recycling bins provided by the Department.

The curbside collection of solid waste and recycling from non-profit entities shall follow the same requirements set forth in this policy for the curbside collection of residential solid waste and recycling. These requirements include the use of closed/tied-off Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) bags and recycling carts approved by the Director. PAYT bags may be purchased at local retail outlets and are blue with a black Town of Natick seal.

The volume of solid waste and recycling collected from approved non-profit charitable entities may not exceed the equivalent volume generated by multiple family residential buildings containing up to four dwelling units (i.e. four recycling carts and eight PAYT rubbish bags per collection cycle). If the volume of solid waste or recycling set out by the non-profit entity averages more than the maximum allowed, the Director may upon due notice suspend curbside collections.

Example non-profit charitable entities would include the Natick Service Council, Family Promise Metrowest, and Advocates residential support properties.

APPLICABILITY

Notwithstanding the above, the Town will continue to collect solid waste and recycling from properties at which it collected solid waste and recycling as of January 1, 2000, but which do not conform to the residential building limitation of four (4) or fewer residential units. This 'grandfathering' provision shall not apply subsequent to any increase in the size or intensity of the structure or use at such property.

The Town will not collect solid waste or recycling at any non-residential property except as specifically allowed by the provision for collection of non-profit entities.

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ADOPTED
February 7, 2000

AMENDED
June XXXX, 2018

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EFFECTIVE DATE: June XXXX, 2018