



March 5, 2021

Ascot Woods HOA
Keith Roberts
15613 Neath Dr.
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear Keith Roberts or Prince County Homeowner Association or Condominium Manager,

On December 15, 2020, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors unanimously approved changes to Chapter 22 (Refuse) of the County Code. There are several changes that may impact the management of trash and recycling disposal by HOAs and condominium properties.

Below are excerpts from the Chapter 22 Refuse Code with synopsis of the changes for your review and planning, as appropriate.

- Yard waste containers shall be made of durable, watertight, rust-resistant material and shall have close-fitting lids and handles to facilitate collection. Yard waste containers for residences and commercial establishments shall be of not less than ten gallons nor more than 45 gallons in capacity with a load weight not to exceed 50 pounds. Brush, shrub and tree trimmings not exceeding 6 inches in diameter, 4 feet in length may also be bundled and tied so long as they do not exceed 50 pounds in weight. Yard waste may be placed in a paper biodegradable bag designed for yard waste with sufficient strength to maintain physical integrity with a load weight not to exceed 50 pounds. An exception can be made for size and capacity if containers are designed to be mechanically lifted by the collection vehicle. All containers must be kept covered until removed from the premises by refuse removers or otherwise disposed of as permitted by law. Yard waste shall not be placed in plastic bags. Personal yard waste containers shall also be labeled "yard waste." (Sec. 22-20c)
MATERIAL CHANGE -YARD WASTE PLACED IN CONTAINER OR PAPER BAGS, NO PLASTIC BAGS. Established standards for yard waste containers and added preparation requirements placing curbside.
- Collection and removal of refuse and recyclable materials from all residential areas by refuse removers shall not be less than once weekly. In addition, all refuse removers serving residential units shall provide a recycling system for such units for the materials separated for collection and recycling by such units in accordance with subsection 22-170(a). ~~Collection and removal of yard waste and brush from all residential areas by refuse removers for the purpose of composting shall not be less than once weekly from March through the end of December. Christmas trees shall be collected from all residential areas (including condominiums and apartments) during the first two weeks of January. (Sec. 22-43a)~~
MATERIAL CHANGE -ADDING YARD WASTE AND CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION FOR COMPOSTING; CLARIFIES FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION FOR REFUSE, RECYCLING AND YARD WASTE SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK
- The owners of apartments and condominiums shall be required to establish a system for the source-separation of yard waste and Christmas trees. Yard waste shall be source-separated from March 1st thru December 31st of each year and Christmas trees shall be source-separated the first two weeks in January. Source separation of yard waste shall take place 270-days (9-months) from the date of approval to allow private waste haulers adequate time to obtain any necessary equipment and supplies. (Sec. 22-170b)
MATERIAL CHANGE -APARTMENTS WILL NOW BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING SYSTEM AND CHRISTMAS TREES FOR TENANTS. RECYCLING THE SAME MATERIALS AS OTHER HOUSEHOLDS.



- Secs. 22-172. - Notification.

It shall be the responsibility of the property owner, business owner, or managing agent of any business or apartment or condominium to notify, in writing, its tenants and employees regarding the source-separation requirements described in Sec. 22-170 (Residential and nonresidential source separation of solid waste). Written notification shall be provided within ten (10) days to all new tenants and employees and no less frequently than annually thereafter to all existing tenants and employees. The written notification shall set forth the requirements of this chapter and include, at a minimum:

- (a) Source separation of recyclable material from the waste stream is mandatory for all tenants and employees;
- (b) What materials will be recycled;
- (c) How the recyclable material will be prepared;
- (d) Any set-out requirements;
- (e) Location of recycling containers;
- (f) Prohibitions against contamination of source separated recyclable material;
- (g) The collection schedule for recyclable material;
- (h) Name and telephone number of a representative of the non-residential property, business, apartment or condominium whom the tenant or employee should contact with any questions. (Sec. 22-172 a-h)

MATERIAL CHANGE -REQUIRES SPECIFIC COMMUNICATION TO TENANTS AND EMPLOYEES ON RECYCLING SYSTEM

In summary, HOAs and condominium management that contract waste disposal are required to facilitate the collection of yard waste separately from trash and recycling and dispose of yard waste in paper bags from March 1 through December 31 and facilitate Christmas tree recycling pick up the first two weeks of January. The collected yard waste will be converted into a soil amendment product at the recently expanded Balls Ford Road Compost Facility versus landfilled. Diverted yard waste has the potential to expand the landfill's life by 10-15 years. Yard waste changes begin October 2021.

These changes will have a positive effect on trash and recycling goals, the environment, residents, and the County's overall waste reduction efforts. Apartment residents will have the same recycling opportunity as other residents in the County. Education requirements for both apartments and businesses will lessen confusion about recycling among tenants and employees.

The new refuse code and a synopsis of the changes will be available on www.pwcgov.org/Chapter22. A webinar to review the code changes will be held on Webex on April 21, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Both sessions are the same. Please visit www.pwcgov.org/Chapter22 to register.

Sincerely,

Jason M. Pauley
Deputy Director of Public Works
Acting, Solid Waste Division Chief