

April 10, 2018

The City of St. Louis Park recently updated Chapter 22 (Solid Waste Management) of the city code. As the responsible party for a multi-family building in the city, we want to make you aware of the changes that were made. Below is a summary of the major changes; relevant ordinance language is also included on the following pages.

**Sec. 22-37. Recyclable materials collection point**

For some time the city has required that recycling containers be kept in the same location as garbage containers at multi-family properties. This requirement has remained in the updated ordinance. Please ensure that the collection point for recycling is located in close proximity to the collection point for garbage. If you have trash rooms on the floors of your building and recycling is only outside or in the garage, this is not in compliance with city ordinance.

In addition, any collection containers or chutes you provide need to be labeled with the material type it is intended for (recycling, organics or garbage). Free signage is available from Hennepin County. Containers provided by your hauler must be labeled by the hauler.

**Sec. 22-38. Service capacity and frequency of collection**

Multi-family buildings are now required to have a minimum weekly service capacity for recycling. In order to ensure multi-family properties have sufficient recycling capacity to serve their residents, a minimum of 20 gallons of recycling per week per dwelling unit is required. The new requirement is effective July 1, 2018.

$$\frac{20 \text{ gallons}}{\text{dwelling unit}} = \frac{\text{One 96 gallon cart}}{5 \text{ dwelling units}} = \frac{\text{One cubic yard dumpster}}{10 \text{ dwelling units}}$$

If you do not know your weekly service capacity for recycling, we encourage you to reference your recycling service bill or contact your hauler. This information will be requested by city staff when scheduling your site inspection and verified during the visit.

**Sec. 22-40. Education**

To ensure that multi-family residents have the information they need to recycle correctly, the responsible party for a building shall provide educational materials and instructions to all new tenants within 30 days of occupancy and to all tenants on an annual basis (by March 31). These materials may be provided in print or electronically. You are invited to utilize existing resources that are available from Hennepin County ([www16.co.hennepin.mn.us/forms/multi-family-recycle](http://www16.co.hennepin.mn.us/forms/multi-family-recycle)) or the city.

If you have questions about these requirements or would like more information on resources available for multi-family recycling, please contact me at 952.924.2187 or [ebarker@stlouispark.org](mailto:ebarker@stlouispark.org).

Thank you,

Emily Barker  
Recycling Specialist  
City of St. Louis Park

## CHAPTER 22

### SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

#### ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

##### **Sec. 22-3. Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*City* means the City of St. Louis Park.

*Collection* means the aggregation of material from the place at which it is generated and includes all activities up to the time the material is delivered to a licensed facility.

*Collection point* means a location designated for the collection of solid waste.

*Dwelling unit* means one or more rooms physically arranged so as to create an independent housekeeping establishment for occupancy by one family with separate toilets and facilities for cooking and sleeping.

*Garbage* means the portion of solid waste that is not separated at the source by the generator for the purpose of reuse, recycling, or organics recycling.

*Licensed solid waste collector* means any person holding a valid license from the city who shall offer to, or engage in, the collection of solid waste in the city.

*Multi-family residential building* means any residential building consisting of five or more dwelling units.

*Organic materials* means the portion of solid waste that is separated at the source by the generator for the purpose of food to animals, composting, or anaerobic digestion, and may include food scraps, plant materials, compostable paper, and compostable products that have been tested and verified to meet the standards in ASTM D6400 or ASTM D6868.

*Recyclable materials* means the portion of solid waste that is separated at the source by the generator for the purpose of recycling, and is comprised of materials deemed recyclable by a local materials recovery facility or Hennepin County and city solid waste staff in collaboration with local materials recovery facilities.

*Responsible party* means the owner, or their designee, of a commercial or multi-family building or complex.

*Service capacity* is the total volume of service contracted for on a weekly basis from a licensed solid waste collector(s) for the collection of garbage, recyclable materials, or organic materials.

*Solid waste* means garbage, recyclable materials, organic materials, yard waste, appliances, bulk waste, and other solid waste from residential or commercial buildings, and activities thereof, that the generator of the material aggregates for collection, but does not include construction demolition debris, hazardous waste, dirt, rocks, sod, or sewage sludge.

## **ARTICLE III. MULTI-FAMILY RECYCLING**

### **Sec. 22-35. Purpose.**

The purpose of this Article is to require the collection of recyclable materials in all multi-family residential buildings such as apartments, townhomes, or condominiums within the city.

### **Sec. 22-36. Recyclable materials collected.**

The responsible party for each multi-family building shall ensure that collection is available for all recyclable materials generated within the building.

### **Sec. 22-37. Recyclable materials collection point.**

- (a) The responsible party for each multi-family building shall ensure that the collection point for recyclable materials is available and accessible to all tenants at all times.
- (b) The collection point for recyclable materials shall be located in close proximity to the collection point for garbage.
- (c) The collection point shall consist of designated and labeled containers or chutes for each material type.
- (d) The responsible party shall ensure that, in accordance with state law, available space for the collection of recyclable materials is sufficient to contain all the recyclable materials generated from the building.

### **Sec. 22-38. Service capacity and frequency of collection.**

- (a) By July 1, 2018, the responsible party for each multi-family building shall ensure that the weekly service capacity for recyclable materials be a minimum of 20 gallons per dwelling unit.
- (b) Solid waste from a multi-family building shall be collected no less than once each week and as often as once each business day if necessary to protect public health.

### **Sec. 22-39. City-contracted collection.**

The provisions of this Article notwithstanding, the city, at any time, and from time to time, may contract with a licensed solid waste collector for collection of recyclable materials and/or organic materials from some or all multi-family buildings. If the city so contracts, recyclable materials and/or organic materials shall be collected from the premises by the licensed solid waste collector under contract with the city and on terms and conditions set out in such contract.

### **Sec. 22-40. Education and reporting.**

- (a) The responsible party for a multi-family building shall provide educational material and instructions related to the collection of solid waste within the building to:
  - (1) Each residential tenant located at the premises annually by March 31;
  - (2) A new residential tenant no later than the 30th day after the tenant occupies the premises;and

- (3) Each residential tenant located at the premises no later than the 30th day after a change in solid waste services offered.
- (b) Educational material and instructions may be provided in print or electronic form, and shall include information on the location of available collection points and accepted recyclable materials and, if provided, organic materials.
- (c) The responsible party shall report to the city upon written request such information relative to the program for separation, storage, and collection of recyclable materials and organic materials then in effect for their complex.

**Sec. 22-41. Disposal.**

Recyclable materials and organic materials collected from multi-family buildings for the purpose of recycling and/or organics recycling shall not, in any event, be:

- (a) Deposited in any landfill;
- (b) Burned in any waste-to-energy facility; or
- (c) Deposited or distributed in any way or manner contrary to applicable law, statute, ordinance, rule, or regulation.