

Approved: 10/19/2022

Effective: 11/10/2022

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 22-041

RELATING TO THE RESIDENTIAL COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND
RECYCLABLES IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF THE COUNTY;
AMENDING CHAPTER 7.42 SCC

BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Snohomish County Code section 7.42.020, last amended by Ordinance No. 98-002 on February 11, 1998, is amended to read:

7.42.020 Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter:

(1) "Single-family dwelling" means any residential unit receiving solid waste collection service as an individual unit and the dwelling is billed for solid waste collection service as an individual unit;

(2) "Multi-family structure" means any residential structure designed for occupancy by two or more families living independently of each other receiving solid waste collection service as an entire structure or complex and the structure of complex is billed for solid waste collection service as a whole and not by individual dwelling units;

(3) "Urban/suburban service zone" means those areas of the unincorporated county that have been designated as such in figure 2-1 of the Recycling Element of the Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, December 1989;

(4) "Recycling service zone" means those areas of the unincorporated county that have been determined to be suitable to receive certain collection services for recyclables and other materials, in accordance with section 7.42.040, and have been officially so designated by motion of the county or by directive of the director of the solid waste management division, in accordance with SCC 7.42.030.

The criteria used to determine the boundary of the recycling service zone shall be population density and distribution, and in particular, serviceability factor, with attention being paid to the following:

1 (a) whether the area is contained within a U.S. Census Bureau designated
2 urbanized area for the most recent census;

3
4 (b) whether the area is adjacent to an area meeting criterion (a) above and
5 has a population density of at least 200 persons per square mile;

6
7 (c) whether, if the area is not adjacent to (a) above, or has a population
8 greater than 4,000 persons within a contiguous area and a population
9 density of at least 200 persons per square mile;

10
11 (d) whether other factors pertaining to serviceability make it possible to
12 provide services to additional residences at similar costs as for residences
13 in other areas of unincorporated county which already have established
14 collection services;

15
16 (5) "Yard debris service zone" means those areas of the unincorporated
17 county that have been determined to be suitable to receive certain collection
18 services for yard debris, in accordance with section 7.20.040, and have been
19 officially so designated by motion of the county council or by directive of the
20 director of the solid waste management division, in accordance with SCC
21 7.42.030;

22 The criteria used to determine the boundary of the yard debris service zone
23 shall be similar to those used to determine the recycling service zone and, in
24 particular, serviceability factors;

25 (6) "Yard debris" means plant material including, but not limited to , grass
26 clippings, leaves, branches, brush, flowers, roots, windfall fruit, vegetable
27 garden debris, and weeds commonly created in the course of maintaining
28 yards and gardens, and through horticulture, gardening, landscaping, or other
29 similar activities as well as other biodegradable materials approved for yard
30 debris pickup by the director of the solid waste management division, after
31 consultation with composting facilities and the Snohomish health district. Yard
32 debris collection shall also include clean holiday trees and jack-o-lanterns. It
33 excludes rocks, sod, soil, plastics, and synthetic fibers, treated dimensional
34 lumber, any woody materials over four inches in diameter or three feet in
35 length, pet wastes, as well as other materials prohibited by the director of the
36 solid waste management division pursuant to the authority of SCC 7.42.030;

37 (7) "Collection company" and "solid waste collection company" means a solid
38 waste collection company which services unincorporated areas of Snohomish
39 county, is regulated by the Washington utilities and transportation commission,
40 and operates under a G permit;

41
42 (8) "Bulky materials" means large items generated by residences, such as
43 appliances, furniture, and other oversize materials, which would typically not fit
44 into collection containers used for recyclable, yard debris or garbage;

1 (9) "Collection container" means a container typically used for recycling, yard
2 debris or garbage, with the term used interchangeably with solid waste bin,
3 garbage container, recycling container, recycling carts, mini-can, one-can, two-
4 can, three-can, yard debris container, or yard waste collection cart;
5
6

7 Section 2. Snohomish County Code section 7.42.040, last amended by
8 Ordinance No. 98-002 on February 11, 1998, is amended to read:
9

10 **7.42.040 Services to be provided.**
11

12 Each solid waste collection company shall be responsible for providing the
13 following services in unincorporated Snohomish county, with the described
14 features, for their service area within the areas designated:
15

16 (1) Within the urban/suburban service zone, all services provided in the recycling
17 service zone and the yard debris service zone shall be provided.
18

19 (2) Within the recycling service zone, the following service will be provided:
20

21 (a) All single-family and multifamily garbage collection services will be offered
22 only in combination with recycling collection service. Rates will be
23 established for these combined services by the Washington utilities and
24 transportation commission.
25

26 (b) Recycling collection for single-family dwellings shall be provided weekly from
27 each dwelling, preferably on the same day as garbage collection, unless the
28 collection company can demonstrate to the county that an alternative
29 collection schedule can result in the same or higher levels of participation and
30 recovery. Recycling collection for multi-family residences shall be at least
31 once every two weeks, unless the collection company can demonstrate to the
32 county that an alternative collection schedule can result in the same or higher
33 levels of participation and recovery.
34

35 (c) Solid waste collection companies shall offer and provide single-family
36 dwellings, at a minimum, the collection services listed below. All single-family
37 residential garbage collection services offered within the recycling service
38 zone shall include recycling collection.
39

40 (i) Weekly mini-can, on-can, two-can and three-can or comparable
41 garbage collection service.
42

43 (ii) Monthly mini-can and one-can collection, or comparable service.
44

45 (iii) Recycling only service.
46

1 (d) The following materials from single-family dwellings and multi-family
2 structures shall be collected when properly prepared and meeting the material
3 description as specified by the solid waste management division and the solid
4 waste collection company:

5
6 (i) Newspaper;

7
8 (ii) Mixed paper;

9
10 (iii) Corrugated cardboard;

11
12 (iv) Metal food and beverage cans and clean aluminum foil;

13
14 (v) Glass food and beverage containers;

15
16 (vi) PETE #1 plastic bottles;

17
18 (vii) HDPE #2 plastic bottles;

19
20 Other recyclable materials, such as scrap metals, other plastics or used motor
21 oil, may be collected if mutually agreed to by the director of the solid waste
22 management division and the solid waste collection company. Fees
23 determined to be reasonable by the Washington utilities and transportation
24 commission may be changed for this service.

25
26 (e) Prior to February 1, 1998, a recycling container or containers to hold the
27 materials designated for collection shall be provided to each single-family
28 residential dwelling upon request. After February 1, 1998, a recycling
29 container or containers shall be provided automatically to all new single-family
30 dwelling customers, within the recycling service zone, unless the resident
31 requests to not receive the container.

32
33 (f) Recycling containers to hold the materials designated for collection shall be
34 provided to each multi-family structure or complex, unless the complex owner
35 or manager chooses not to utilize the recycling component of the combined
36 recycling and garbage service.

37
38 (g) Recycling containers shall be sufficient in number and type to hold all
39 recyclables accumulated between collections.

40
41 (3) Within the yard debris service zone, the following services will be provided:

42
43 (a) Yard debris collection services shall be provided to all single-family and multi-
44 family structures that request such services. Services to be offered include:
45

1 (i)Yard debris collection service, as a separate and optional service, for
2 garbage collection service customers.

3
4 (ii)Yard debris only collection service.

5
6 (b) Solid waste collection companies are not required to provide a container for
7 yard debris collection but may do so at their option. Yard debris shall be
8 collected either bundled or containerized. Residents shall have the option of
9 providing their own reusable containers so long as such containers meet
10 specifications set by the solid waste collection company.

11
12 (c) Collection companies shall collect yard debris when properly prepared as
13 specified by the solid waste management division and collection company.
14 The collection service shall be provided at least twice monthly, from March
15 through October, and monthly from November through February.

16
17 (d) Fees determined to be reasonable by the Washington utilities and
18 transportation commission may be charged for this service.

19
20 (4) *Other services*

21
22 (a) Solid waste collection companies shall offer bulky materials collection service,
23 for reuse, recycling, or disposal, both inside and outside the recycling service
24 zone. Solid waste collection companies are encouraged to develop
25 innovative and cost-effective routing and services which periodically provide
26 for bulky materials collection throughout their service area.

27
28 (b) Solid waste collection companies may, at their option and in select areas,
29 provide optional recycling and yard debris collection services outside the
30 recycling and yard debris collection zones. Rate for these services shall be
31 established by the Washington utilities and transportation commission.

32
33 (5) *Additional Service Features*

34
35 (a) Processing and marketing of all source-separated recyclable and
36 compostable materials collected shall be provided such that no more than 5
37 percent by weight of the collected material may be landfilled. In case of an
38 emergency or absolute inability to recycle the collected materials, a larger
39 percentage may be landfilled with the formal consent of the county council.

40
41 (b) Recycling and yard debris collection containers made of plastic shall be
42 manufactured using a percentage of post-consumer recycled materials, if
43 available and competitively priced.

44
45 (c) Promotional strategies shall be employed by collection companies to
46 reasonably and regularly inform and notify each single-family and multi-family

1 customer of the inclusion of recycling collection service and charges in
2 combination with garbage collection service. Promotional strategies shall
3 also be employed to regularly inform each customer and residence of proper
4 material preparation, collection schedules, and the availability of mini-can,
5 yard debris collection and other services.
6

7 (d) Solid waste collection companies are asked to provide the division with
8 promotional and educational materials for review and comment prior to
9 production and distribution to customers. This does not include short
10 messages on billings. The division will review materials for content and
11 accuracy of information, and consistency with materials prepared by the
12 county.
13


14 Section 3. A new section is added to chapter 7.42 of the Snohomish County
15 Code to read:

16
17 **7.42.045 Set out of containers.**
18

19 No collection container shall be kept or stored within the confines of any public
20 right-of-way in a residential area (urban/suburban or rural). Collection containers
21 shall be kept on private property in a convenient and accessible location
22 preferably near the residence without interfering with the reasonable enjoyment
23 of such private property or adjoining property. No sooner than the day prior that
24 solid waste is normally collected, collection containers should be placed in a
25 readily accessible location not farther than 10 feet from the traveled roadway, but
26 not interfering with pedestrian or bicycle traffic. Collection containers should be
27 removed promptly (within 24 hours from collection) from all traveled ways
28 (including but not limited to vehicular pathways, driveways, parking, pedestrian
29 walkways, trails, and bicycle lanes) and rights-of-way after service collection.
30

31
32 PASSED this 19th day of October, 2022.
33
34

35 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
36 Snohomish County, Washington
37

38 
39 _____
40 Chairperson
41

42 ATTEST:

43 
44 _____
45 Asst. Clerk of the Council
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1 (X) APPROVED

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3 () EMERGENCY

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5 () VETOED

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DATE: 10/31/2022

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County Executive

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11

12 ATTEST:

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14 Melissa Geraghty

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16 Approved as to form only:

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19 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

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