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COUNTY COUNCIL  
Snohomish County, Washington  
AMENDED  
ORDINANCE NO. 89-114

Relating to solid waste; adding chapter 7.42  
to the Snohomish County Code; and  
providing effective dates

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Council is in basic agreement with the Draft Recycling Element of the County's Draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update, and desire to speed up the timetable for implementation of the Recycling Plan, as moved in Council motion 89-138; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Council wishes to establish a county wide recycling program by which all residents in urbanized and suburbanized portions of the county receive cost-effective and efficient curbside collection recycling services; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington has adopted statewide solid waste management legislation which requires that curbside collection recycling services be provided to all urbanized and suburbanized portions of the county and that counties establish levels and types of services (Sec. 3, Ch. 431, Laws of 1989, amending RCW 70.95.090); and

WHEREAS, incorporated communities within the county are charged separately with establishing required recycling collection services through municipal collection, contract collection, or WUTC regulated collection; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County will be undertaking a cost assessment, as required by recent state legislation to determine the impact of plan requirements on the costs of solid waste collection; and

WHEREAS, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) certificated solid waste haulers have provided the required, necessary, efficient and convenient waste collection service to the cities, towns and unincorporated portions of the county in the past and thereby have sufficient and reasonable experience, knowledge and standing with county residents to be provided the opportunity of performing the minimum level and type of recyclables collection service specified in the draft recycling element; and

WHEREAS, the WUTC is directed by recent solid waste management legislation to carry out and implement provision of county waste reduction and recycling elements through the review, approval and structuring of rates for certificated solid waste collectors in order to assure the provision of specified services (Sec. 20, Ch. 432, Laws of 1989, amending RCW 81.77.030); and

WHEREAS, there is a need to act now to begin development of recycling services, even before the final adoption of the Recycling Element of the Draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. A new section of the Snohomish County Code is adopted as follows:

Chapter 7.42

Solid Waste Recycling

Sub Section A  
Collection of Residential Recyclables in  
Unincorporated Areas of the County

7.42.010 Purpose. The purpose of this subsection is to define levels of single-family residential recycling services which shall be provided to all households in areas serviced by WUTC certificated waste haulers operating in unincorporated portions of Snohomish County.

7.42.020 Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter,

(1) "Single family residences" means those residential dwellings containing four or less dwelling units.

(2) "Urban/suburban service zone" means those areas of the unincorporated county designated as 200, or more, population per square mile or 76 households per square mile, as defined by the 1989 population estimates by section as determined by the Snohomish County Planning Division. The Planning Division will revise its determination as population changes but not more than annually.

(3) "Yard waste" means grass clippings, shrubbery and tree or trimmings therefrom no larger than 6" in diameter or longer than 5 foot sections, and other organic solid waste resulting from horticulture, gardening, landscaping, or other similar uses.

7.42.030 Services to be provided. Each waste collector that services unincorporated areas of Snohomish County shall be responsible for providing the following recycling services for their operations areas within designated Urban/Suburban Service Zones as defined in the Recycling Element of the Draft Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan:

- (1) Collection of the following materials from the curb when properly set out as specified by the hauler on the designated collection day for collection by the designated waste collector:
  - (a) Old newspaper;
  - (b) Mixed waste paper;
  - (c) Aluminum food and beverage cans;
  - (d) Tin-plated steel food and beverage cans;
  - (e) Glass food and beverage containers;

Other recyclable materials, such as plastics or waste oil, may be collected on a continuing basis, at the option of the hauler(s) servicing unincorporated areas of the county when reasonable costs for including specified additional materials are allocated to residents receiving the added service.

- (2) Collection service for these materials shall be provided within 9 months of the date of adoption of this ordinance.
- (3) Collection shall be weekly from each residence, preferably on the same day as trash collection, unless the collector can demonstrate to the county that an alternative collection schedule can result in the same or higher levels of participation and recovery.
- (4) Processing and marketing of all materials collected shall be provided, such that no more than 10 percent by weight of the collected material may be landfilled.
- (5) A recycling container to hold the materials designated for collection shall be provided to each residential dwelling. A container is not required for yard debris disposal but may be provided at the option of the hauler.
- (6) Collection of yard waste from single family and multi-family dwellings shall be provided within 18 months of the date of adoption of this ordinance. The collection service shall be provided at least twice monthly from the months of March through November.

- (7) Promotional strategies shall be employed to reasonably and regularly inform and notify each eligible residence of the availability of the recyclables collection service and of appropriate actions and schedules for preparing material for set out.

7.42.040 Recipients of the services. (1) The recycling services shall be provided to all single-family residences, and including multi-family residences for yard waste collection, within the Urban-Suburban Service Zone in Snohomish County that receive and are billed for residential or commercial trash collection services.

(2) In addition, the services shall be offered to all other residents of single family dwellings through direct notification and an invitation to subscribe for the service. Those residents that subscribe for the service shall receive it at no charge. Within six months of program start-up the collector shall report to the county the number of households receiving recycling collection service that are not billed for trash collection service. The county shall pay to the collector a monthly recycling collection fee for those households that is equivalent to the rate approved by the WUTC for the same service.

7.42.050 County surcharge on self-haul waste disposal. The county shall collect a fee from all private individuals who dispose of material at county facilities to cover the costs of curbside recycling collection services provided by the collector for residences not holding an account for waste and recyclables collection. This fee shall be determined by the director of public works.

7.42.060 - Report to Council on Effectiveness of Program. Within 18 months after the effective date of this ordinance the Executive will prepare a report for Council review on the effectiveness of the curbside recycling programs and, if necessary, make recommendations for mandatory participation including recommendations for participation by cities and towns served by class "G" haulers as provided for in ESHB 1671.

7.42.070 - Use of existing recycling collectors, processors and markets. Trash collectors are encouraged to contract with existing recycling operators for curbside collection services in those areas where such service is currently being provided. In arranging for processing and marketing of materials collected, collectors are encouraged to coordinate with existing processors and markets and with other collection programs in order to obtain consistent and high value for materials delivered.

7.42.080 - Effective date. The major new services required in this ordinance are to be effective by and after:

- (a) Curbside Collection of Recyclables (7.42.030) -  
March 1, 1990.
- (b) Collection of Yard Waste (7.42.060) - January 1, 1991.

PASSED this 27th day of September, 1989.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Snohomish County, Washington

William H. Swisher  
Chairperson

Approved as to Form:

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Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

ATTEST:

Asst. Julie VanCleve  
Clerk of Council

- APPROVED
- VETOED
- EMERGENCY

DATE: 10/4/89

John Martinis  
JOHN MARTINIS  
Deputy Executive  
County Executive

PUBLISHED \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.