

CITY OF MIDLAND  
RULES and REGULATIONS  
For DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

Issued Under Authority of Section 10-5 of the Code of Ordinances

**I. COLLECTION SERVICE ELIGIBILITY:**

A. Curbside refuse collection along Public Streets will be provided by the City:

1. To residential dwellings defined as single family dwellings and single family dwellings used as rooming houses, two family dwellings and attached single family dwellings.
2. To small businesses generating less than four cubic yards of refuse per week.

B. Curbside refuse collection along Private Streets and Drives:

Upon written request by the property owner, or the ownership organization in the case of attached single family dwellings, curbside refuse collection will be provided to residential dwellings as defined above located on private streets if the following criteria are met as determined by the Director of Public Services:

1. Streets should be paved to a minimum 20 feet in width, be built to current City Engineering strength standards and have at least 10 feet of vertical clearance over the full width of the roadway.
2. Street geometric design should allow the collection vehicles to maneuver easily with no dead ends without circular or "T" type turnarounds.
3. Each dwelling unit should have a private, ground floor entrance and driveway leading to the unit. Additionally, each dwelling unit should have adequate storage place for refuse.
4. A satisfactory snow removal plan.
5. A satisfactory hold harmless or indemnification agreement as approved by the City Attorney.

**II. REFUSE COLLECTION**

A. General information:

1. Announcements will be made on the city website, social media, and through press releases for collection schedule changes due to holidays. Collection will be made on the next work day when a holiday interferes with the normal schedule, except for Thanksgiving Thursday's collection will be the Wednesday before the holiday. Holidays observed are: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, the Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas.
2. Do not place household refuse, yard waste, recyclables, bulky or heavy items, or tree trimmings and brush into the traveled portions of streets or sidewalks

(EXCEPTION: leaves may be raked into the street only during the special Fall collection program).

B. Definitions:

1. Household refuse is all putrescible and non-putrescible solid wastes (except body waste, yard wastes, and bulky or heavy items), including garbage; paper; wrappings; cardboards; tin, glass, and plastic containers; bedding; clothing; crockery and similar materials generated by a private premise that can be placed in a container suitable for loading into collection vehicle by hand.
2. Yard wastes are grass clippings, garden wastes, leaves, twigs and trimmed branches 2 inches and under in diameter that can be placed into a container suitable for loading into the collection vehicle by hand.
3. Recyclables are those items of household refuse that can be collected separately for reuse or re-manufacture. These items include newspapers; magazines; cardboard; aluminum; tin and aluminum food cans; No. 1, 2, 4, 5 & 7 plastic containers and clear glass containers.
4. Bulky or heavy items are individual wastes or filled containers weighing more than fifty (50) pounds or having any one dimension greater than three (1) foot and cannot be loaded into the collection vehicle by hand. These wastes include, but are not limited to, appliances; furniture; mattresses; carpeting; moving boxes; lumber, drywall, windows, and other building products; bathroom and kitchen fixtures; tires and wheels; scrap metal; tree stumps, logs; cut tree branches; and brush. If items are placed on a tarp or in a refuse container, the tarp or refuse container will also be taken during bulk collection.

### **III. HOUSEHOLD REFUSE**

A. Service:

1. Once a week collection for household refuse.
2. Materials must be placed at the curb no later than 7:30 a.m. on the scheduled collection day, nor sooner than 6:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled collection day. Refuse bins must be brought in by 6:00 p.m. the evening of collection.

B. Items Collected:

1. Household refuse as previously described.
2. Dried paint in cans.
3. Used motor oil and antifreeze.
4. Animal Wastes.

C. Items Not Collected:

1. Paint in its liquid state.
2. Automotive batteries.
3. Hazardous chemicals.
4. Flammables and explosives.
5. Hot ashes.

6. Dead animals.
7. Any refuse not in a tied/closed garbage bag. Refuse cannot be placed loosely in a refuse bin.

D. Preparation of Household Refuse for Collection:

1. Household Refuse must be placed in closed bags. Refuse not in a tied bag will not be collected. Refuse cannot be placed loosely in a refuse bin.
2. Containers must have sufficient strength to support the weight of the material they contain.
3. Fifty pound (50 lb.) weight limit on all filled bags or personal containers.
4. Bins purchased by the city have a two hundred pound (200 lb.) weight limit.
5. Broken glass must be wrapped so that it cannot penetrate its container.
6. Needles, syringes, lancets and other sharp medical wastes must be placed in a hard plastic or metal container with a screw-on or tightly secured lid, labeled and placed separately next to regular refuse.
7. Ashes, dust, and other loose debris must be placed in closed, disposable containers, labeled and placed separately next to regular refuse.
8. Allow paint to dry in its can, bend the top in half, and punch holes in the side of the can just above the solidified paint for drainage of any water. If paint has not been dried out, the home owner will receive a cleaning fee to clean out the vehicle and/or the street (depending on what the paint spilled on).
9. Used motor oil and antifreeze must be put separately in clearly labeled, tightly closed, non-leaking containers and placed separately for collection.
10. Animal wastes must be put in clearly labeled plastic lined kraft paper bags or double wrapped in a sealed plastic bag inside a clearly labeled paper bag and placed separately for collection.
11. Businesses must use bag liners for refuse collection.
12. Any refuse out of compliance will not be collected.

E. Restrictions:

1. Materials placed in unacceptable containers will not be collected, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. Barrels or drums without handles
  - b. Unlined paper grocery sacks
  - c. Wheelbarrows
  - d. A disposable container with any one dimension greater than 3 feet.
2. Collectors will not reach into containers to remove materials that may be stuck.
3. Household refuse must be separated from yard waste.

## **IV. YARD WASTE**

A. Service:

1. Once a week collection for yard wastes.
2. Annual Fall Collection program for leaves.
3. Materials must be placed at the curb no later than 7:30 a.m. on the scheduled collection day, nor sooner than 6:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled collection day. Yard waste bins must be brought in by 6:00 p.m. the evening of collection.

B. Materials Collected:

1. Grass Clippings
2. Leaves
3. Garden wastes
4. Small twigs and branches that can be placed in containers.

C. Materials Not Accepted:

1. Loose soil
2. Sod
3. Stones (landscaping or otherwise)
4. Wet, decomposing yard waste bags

C. Preparation of Yard Wastes for Collection:

1. Yard Wastes must be placed in kraft paper bags or City-approved bins for automated collection.
2. Containers must have sufficient strength to support the weight of the material they contain.
3. Leaves may be raked into the street only during the fall collection program.

D. Restrictions:

1. Fifty pound (50 lb.) weight limit on all filled kraft paper bags.
2. Yard Waste must be separated from household refuse.

## **V. CURBSIDE RECYCLABLES**

A. Service:

1. Once a month collection for recyclables, on the same day of the week as household refuse. Materials must be put in City of Midland recycling containers and placed at the curb by 7:30 a.m., on the scheduled collection day. Recycling bins must be brought in by 6:00 p.m. the evening of collection.

B. Items Collected:

1. Newspapers, magazines, phone books, office paper and mixed paper
2. Cardboard and boxboard
3. Pizza boxes (remove all food residue first)
4. Aluminum and metal containers
5. Every type of plastic
6. Empty aerosol cans
7. Glass containers of any color
8. Polystyrene and egg cartons (no packing peanuts)

C. Items Not Collected:

1. Plastic bags and wrappers
2. Soiled paper
3. Clothing and shoes
4. Tools
5. Food
6. Toys
7. Electronics and batteries

8. Hangers
9. Packing peanuts
10. Medical waste
11. Scrap metal
12. Tanglers
13. Diapers
14. Oil or antifreeze containers
15. Plate glass, light bulbs or mirrors
16. Ceramics, and frosted glass

D. Preparation of Recyclables for Collection:

1. Flatten boxes to reduce size; Cardboard must fit loosely inside the bin.
2. Rinse all food, beverage, and other containers until clean.
3. Remove and discard lids from plastic containers and milk jugs.
4. Crush plastic containers and milk jugs to reduce volume.

**VI. BULKY OR HEAVY ITEMS AND TREE TRIMMINGS**

A. Service:

1. Once a month collection for bulky or heavy items and logs, cut branches, tree trimmings, and brush.
2. Appliances and moving boxes collected on a call-in basis.
3. Borrow-A-Container program available on a call-in, reservation basis for overnight loading by residential customers.
4. Materials must be placed at the curb for collection no later than 7:30 a.m. on the scheduled collection day, nor sooner than the Saturday preceding the scheduled collection day.
5. Each household is allowed one dump truck load during their monthly heavy item pick up (< 10 cubic yards or two piles in your outlawn measuring 8 feet long by 4 feet wide by 4 feet tall). Homeowners will be billed for each additional truck load.

B. Materials Collected:

1. Appliances.
2. Furniture, mattresses and carpeting.
3. Lumber, drywall, windows, bathroom and kitchen fixtures and other building waste products from remodeling or improving single family, two family, or attached single family residential dwellings.
4. Scrap metal.
5. Logs, cut branches, tree trimmings and brush.

C. Materials Not Collected:

1. Stumps, logs, cut branches, tree trimmings and brush from building lot clearing and other land clearing operations.
2. Loose soil or sod
3. Asphalt and concrete
4. Waste building materials from new residential/commercial structure construction.
5. Old cars or trucks, car or truck bodies, major car or truck parts, trailers, campers, or boats.

**D. Preparation of Bulky or Heavy Items and Tree Trimmings for Collection:**

1. Felled trees, logs, cut branches, tree trimmings and brush must be cut in lengths no shorter than 1 foot (1') and not to exceed eight feet (8') and placed on the outlawn parallel to the street separate from other refuse. Items shorter than 1 foot (1') and less than 1 inch (1") in diameter should be placed in a kraft paper bag or yard waste bin and set out for weekly yard waste collection.
2. Brush that is long and tangled will result in a bill to the home owner at the cost of staff time and equipment costs.
3. Doors must be removed from refrigerators, freezers, and other large appliances to prevent accidental entrapment.
4. Keep materials set out for collection away from poles, hydrants, trees, etc. so that it can be easily removed by front end loaders or other mechanical means.
5. Heavy Items and Brush are put out at home owner's risk. Any damage to the outlawn by items or by City machinery used to collect the items is not guaranteed to be repaired by the City.

**E. Restrictions:**

1. Tree trimmings or brush placed in non-disposable containers will not be collected.
2. Trees, logs, branches or brush which shorter than 1 foot (1') or exceeds eight feet (8') in length, and cannot be safely loaded and transported, will not be collected during heavy item collection. Items shorter than 1 foot (1') and less than 1 inch (1") in diameter should be placed in a kraft paper bag or yard waste bin and set out for weekly yard waste collection.
3. Tree trimmings that exceed one full truck load (< 10 cubic yards). Additional loads will be billed to the homeowner. Each household is allowed one dump truck load of brush during their monthly heavy item pick up (< 10 cubic yards or two piles in your outlawn measuring 8 feet long by 4 feet wide by 4 feet tall). Homeowners will be billed for each additional truck load.

**VII. BORROW-A-CONTAINER PROGRAM**

**A. Service:**

1. A 4 X 6 X 4 foot (4 cubic yards) dumpster is available to residents for overnight loading.
2. Residents can reserve a container online or over the phone four times a year.
3. The bin can either be filled with household refuse or yard waste, not both.
4. Items must be placed loosely in the container and must be under 4 feet (4') in length

**B. Materials Collected:**

1. Household refuse as previously described.
2. Small appliances.
3. Small pieces of furniture and carpeting.
5. Cardboard boxes.
6. Small pieces of scrap metal.
7. Small logs, cut branches, tree trimmings and brush.

**C. Materials Not Collected:**

1. Hazardous household materials
2. Chemicals
3. Liquid paint
4. Dead animals
5. Car parts, car bodies, car batteries or car tires
6. Mattresses or box springs
7. Entry or closet doors
8. Asphalt, concrete, brick or stone & other masonry rubble
9. Building Material
10. Windows
11. Soil or sod

**D. Using a Borrow-A-Container**

1. Only one Borrow-A-Container per day per address is allowed.
2. Do not move or relocate the Borrow-A-Container from the location it was placed by the driver.
3. Due to disposal regulations, containers can be filled with either brush **or** refuse, but brush and refuse cannot be mixed together.
4. Due to weight restrictions, the Borrow-A-Container can only be filled up to **half full** with shingles, dry wall or ceramic tile. Overfilled containers must be unloaded by the resident to meet specifications.
5. Everything must fit loosely inside the Borrow-A-Container so that the lid completely closes.
6. Do not pile any items outside or next to the Borrow-A-Container.
7. Everything placed in the Borrow-A-Container must be generated from the address where it is placed.

**VIII. FEES AND CHARGES:**

- A. Fees and charges for the collection of garbage and waste materials shall be as established in Section 21-3 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Midland.

**IX. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES:**

The following shall be considered as violations of the Rules and Regulations for Disposal of Garbage and Refuse:

- A. Placing household refuse or yard wastes within the Public right-of-way earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding the scheduled collection day.
- B. Placing brush, heavy or bulky items within the Public right-of-way earlier than the Saturday preceding the scheduled collection day.
- C. City refuse or yard waste bins weighing over two hundred pounds (200 lbs) or personal bins and tied garbage bags weighing over fifty pounds (50 lbs.).
- D. Placing any items intended for collection within the traveled portion of streets or sidewalks.
- E. Placing yard waste in containers other than kraft paper compost bags or bins for automated collection as approved by the Director of Public Services.

- F. Placing loose leaves, grass, sod or other yard wastes onto the street. Leaves may only be placed onto the street during the special fall leaf collection program.
- G. Relocating Borrow-A-Containers from the original location could result in a loss of service.

If a violation of these rules occurs, the Director of Public Services shall cause a Notice of Violation to be posted and the owner or owners of the violating premises may be subject to penalties as described in Chapter 10, Sections 10-40 through 10-45 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Midland.