

CHAPTER 105

SOLID WASTE CONTROL

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105.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of the chapters in this Code of Ordinances pertaining to Solid Waste Control and Collection is to provide for the sanitary storage, collection, and disposal of solid waste and, thereby, to protect the citizens of the City from such hazards to their health, safety and welfare as may result from the uncontrolled disposal of solid waste.

105.02 DEFINITIONS. For use in these chapters the following terms are defined:

1. “Collector” means any person authorized to gather solid waste from public and private places.
2. “Discard” means to place, cause to be placed, throw, deposit, or drop.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.361[1])
3. “Dwelling unit” means any room or group of rooms located within a structure and forming a single habitable unit with facilities that are used or are intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking, and eating.
4. “Garbage” means all solid and semisolid, putrescible animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparing, cooking, storing, serving and consuming of food or of material intended for use as food, and all offal, excluding useful industrial by-products, and includes all such substances from all public and private establishments and from all residences.
(IAC, 567-100.2)
5. “Landscape waste” means any vegetable or plant waste except garbage. The term includes trees, tree trimmings, branches, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery, and yard trimmings.
(IAC, 567-20.2[455B])
6. “Litter” means any garbage, rubbish, trash, refuse, waste materials, or debris not exceeding 10 pounds in weight or 15 cubic feet in volume. Litter includes but is not limited to empty beverage containers, cigarette butts, food waste packaging, other food or candy wrappers, handbills, empty cartons, or boxes.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.361[2])
7. “Owner” means, in addition to the record titleholder, any person residing in, renting, leasing, occupying, operating or transacting business in any premises, and as between such parties the duties, responsibilities, liabilities and obligations hereinafter imposed shall be joint and several.

8. “Refuse” means putrescible and non-putrescible waste, including but not limited to garbage, rubbish, ashes, incinerator residues, street cleanings, market and industrial solid waste and sewage treatment waste in dry or semisolid form.

(IAC, 567-100.2)

9. “Residential premises” means a single-family dwelling and any multiple-family dwelling up to and including two separate dwelling units.

10. “Residential waste” means any refuse generated on the premises as a result of residential activities. The term includes landscape waste grown on the premises or deposited thereon by the elements, but excludes garbage, tires, and trade wastes.

(IAC, 567-20.2[455B])

11. “Rubbish” means non-putrescible solid waste consisting of combustible and non-combustible waste, such as ashes, paper, cardboard, tin cans, yard clippings, wood, glass, bedding, crockery, or litter of any kind.

(IAC, 567-100.2)

12. “Sanitary disposal” means a method of treating solid waste so that it does not produce a hazard to the public health or safety or create a nuisance.

(IAC, 567-100.2)

13. “Sanitary disposal project” means all facilities and appurtenances (including all real and personal property connected with such facilities) that are acquired, purchased, constructed, reconstructed, equipped, improved, extended, maintained, or operated to facilitate the final disposition of solid waste without creating a significant hazard to the public health or safety, and which are approved by the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.301)

14. “Solid waste” means garbage, refuse, rubbish, and other similar discarded solid or semisolid materials, including but not limited to such materials resulting from industrial, commercial, agricultural, and domestic activities. Solid waste may include vehicles, as defined by Section 321.1 of the *Code of Iowa*. Solid waste does not include any of the following:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.301)

A. Hazardous waste regulated under the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6921-6934.

B. Hazardous waste as defined in Section 455B.411 of the *Code of Iowa*, except to the extent that rules allowing for the disposal of specific wastes have been adopted by the State Environmental Protection Commission.

C. Source, special nuclear, or by-product material as defined in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended to January 1, 1979.

D. Petroleum contaminated soil that has been remediated to acceptable State or federal standards.

E. Steel slag which is a product resulting from the steel manufacturing process and is managed as an item of value in a controlled manner and not as a discarded material.

105.03 SANITARY DISPOSAL REQUIRED. It is the duty of each owner to provide for the sanitary disposal of all refuse accumulating on the owner’s premises before it becomes a nuisance. Any such accumulation remaining on any premises for a period of more than 30

days shall be deemed a nuisance and the City may proceed to abate such nuisances in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 50 or by initiating proper action in district court.

(Code of Iowa, Ch. 657)

105.04 HEALTH AND FIRE HAZARD. It is unlawful for any person to permit to accumulate on any premises, improved or vacant, or on any public place, such quantities of solid waste that constitute a health, sanitation or fire hazard.

105.05 OPEN BURNING RESTRICTED. No person shall allow, cause or permit open burning of combustible materials where the products of combustion are emitted into the open air without passing through a chimney or stack, except that open burning is permitted in the following circumstances:

(IAC, 567-23.2[455B] and 567-100.2)

1. Disaster Rubbish. The open burning of rubbish, including landscape waste, for the duration of the community disaster period in cases where an officially declared emergency condition exists, provided that the burning of any structures or demolished structures is conducted in accordance with 40 CFR Section 61.145.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3a])

2. Trees and Tree Trimmings. The open burning of trees and tree trimmings at a City-operated burning site, provided such burning is conducted in compliance with the rules established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3b])

3. Flare Stacks. The open burning or flaring of waste gases, provided such open burning or flaring is conducted in compliance with applicable rules of the State Department of Natural Resources.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3c])

4. Landscape Waste. The disposal by open burning of landscape waste originating on the premises. For purposes of this section, "originating" means grown upon the premises where the burning occurs. However, the burning of landscape waste produced in clearing, grubbing, and construction operations shall be limited to areas located at least one-fourth mile from any building inhabited by other than the landlord or tenant conducting the open burning. Rubber tires shall not be used to ignite landscape waste. Burning shall only be permitted after sunrise and one-half hour after sunset. Moreover, a person 18 years or older must attend the fire at such time; provided, however, an attendant under age 18 years may be permitted so long as said attendant is supervised by an individual 18 years or older. Provided further, any adequate fire suppression material, whether water or otherwise, shall be on site during any open burning.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3d])

A. In addition to issuance of citation for violation of the above section, a law enforcement officer may order immediate extinguishment of open burning which occurs in violation of the above section, and may immediately extinguish any open burning which continues after such order.

B. Any fire department called and required to extinguish open burning which occurs in violation of the above may assess the owner of the property where the open burning occurs for the reasonable cost of extinguishing the fire, the same not be less than \$250.00.

C. Any violation of the provisions of this section may be enforced in accordance with Chapter 3 of this Code of Ordinances.

5. **Recreational Fires.** Open fires for cooking, heating, recreation, and ceremonies, provided they comply with the limits for emission of visible air contaminants established by the State Department of Natural Resources. Rubber tires shall not be burned in a recreational fire.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3e])

6. **Training Fires.** Fires set for the purpose of conducting bona fide training of public or industrial employees in firefighting methods, provided that the training fires are conducted in compliance with rules established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3g])

7. **Pesticide Containers and Seed Corn Bags.** The disposal by open burning of paper or plastic pesticide containers (except those formerly containing organic forms of beryllium, selenium, mercury, lead, cadmium or arsenic) and seed corn bags resulting from farming activities occurring on the premises if burned in accordance with rules established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3h])

8. **Agricultural Structures.** The open burning of agricultural structures if in accordance with rules and limitations established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3i])

9. **Controlled Burning of a Demolished Building.** The controlled burning of a demolished building by the City, subject to approval of the Council, provided that the controlled burning is conducted in accordance with rules and limitations established by the State Department of Natural Resources.

(IAC, 567-23.2[3j])

10. **Variance.** Any person wishing to conduct open burning of materials not permitted herein may make application for a variance to the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources.

(IAC, 567-23.2[2])

105.06 SEPARATION OF YARD WASTE REQUIRED. All yard waste shall be separated by the owner or occupant from all other solid waste accumulated on the premises and shall be composted or burned on the premises, placed in acceptable containers and set out for collection at the property owner's curb or transported by the owner to the City compost site. For collection at the property owner's curb all branches up to four inches in diameter must be bundled and tied with biodegradable twine in lengths less than four feet. Each bundle shall not exceed 18 inches in diameter and cannot exceed 40 pounds in weight. Leaves and grass clippings shall be placed in 30-gallon brown kraft paper bags and cannot exceed 40 pounds in weight. Green waste pickup is for residential property only. If a commercial business is hired by the property owner to take care of green waste it is not permissible to dispose at the City compost site or place out for City collection. As used in this section, "green waste" means any debris such as grass clippings, leaves, garden waste, brush, and trees. Green waste does not include tree stumps or branches that exceed four inches in diameter.

105.07 LITTERING PROHIBITED. No person shall discard any litter onto or in any water or land, except that nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the authorized collection and discarding of such litter in or on areas or receptacles provided for such purpose. When litter is discarded from a motor vehicle, the driver of the motor vehicle shall be responsible for the act in any case where doubt exists as to which occupant of the motor vehicle actually discarded the litter.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 455B.363)

105.08 TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS WASTE. No person shall deposit in a solid waste container or otherwise offer for collection any toxic or hazardous waste. Such materials shall be transported and disposed of as prescribed by the Director of the State Department of Natural Resources. As used in this section, "toxic and hazardous waste" means waste materials, including (but not limited to) poisons, pesticides, herbicides, acids, caustics, pathological waste, flammable or explosive materials, and similar harmful waste that requires special handling and that must be disposed of in such a manner as to conserve the environment and protect the public health and safety.

(IAC, 567-100.2)

(IAC, 567-102.13[2] and 400-27.14[2])

105.09 WASTE STORAGE CONTAINERS. Every person owning, managing, operating, leasing, or renting any premises, dwelling unit or any place where refuse accumulates shall provide and at all times maintain in good order and repair portable containers for refuse in accordance with the following:

1. Container Specifications. Waste storage containers shall comply with the following specifications:

A. Residential. Only officially authorized City solid waste bags or miscellaneous objects with authorized tags attached will be picked up. Each residential premises, dwelling unit of a multifamily dwelling, or mobile home involved in residential collection by the City and business, commercial, and industrial, establishments without a dumpster (bulk storage container) shall do so by using solid waste collection bags provided or purchased from the City. If an amount of solid waste accumulates or will accumulate and its storage in disposal solid waste collection bags is impractical, only metal bulk storage containers approved and supplied by the City shall be used for solid waste disposal. In an event an approved bulk waste storage container is used for solid waste collection at multi-family dwellings, residents of those dwellings are not required to use the City-approved solid waste collection bags.

B. Commercial. Every person owning, managing, operating, leasing or renting any commercial premises where an excessive amount of solid waste accumulates and where its storage in disposable containers as required above is impractical, shall maintain metal bulk storage containers approved and supplied by the City. No other metal bulk storage containers shall be used.

2. Storage of Containers. Residential solid waste containers shall be stored upon the residential premises. Commercial solid waste containers shall be stored upon private property, unless the owner has been granted written permission from the City to use public property for such purposes. The storage site shall be well drained and fully accessible to collection equipment, public health personnel, and fire inspection personnel. All owners of residential and commercial premises shall be responsible for

proper storage of all garbage and yard waste to prevent materials from being blown or scattered around neighboring yards and streets.

3. Location of Containers for Collection. Containers for the storage of solid waste awaiting collection shall be placed outdoors at some easily accessible place by the owner or occupant of the premises served.

4. Nonconforming Containers. Solid waste placed in containers that are not in compliance with the provisions of this section will not be collected.

105.10 PROHIBITED PRACTICES. It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Unlawful Use of Containers. Deposit refuse in any solid waste containers not owned by such person without the written consent of the owner of such containers.

2. Interfere with Collectors. Interfere in any manner with solid waste collection equipment or with solid waste collectors in the lawful performance of their duties as such, whether such equipment or collectors be those of the City, or those of any other authorized waste collection service.

3. Incinerators. Burn rubbish or garbage except in incinerators designed for high temperature operation, in which solid, semisolid, liquid, or gaseous combustible refuse is ignited and burned efficiently, and from which the solid residues contain little or no combustible material, as acceptable to the Environmental Protection Commission.

4. Scavenging. Take or collect any solid waste that has been placed out for collection on any premises, unless such person is an authorized solid waste collector.

105.11 SANITARY DISPOSAL PROJECT DESIGNATED. The Dickinson County Landfill is hereby designated as the official "Public Sanitary Disposal Project" for the disposal of solid waste produced or originating within the City.