

***Town of Denton  
4 North Second Street  
Denton, Maryland 21629***

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Mayor  
*Abigail McNinch*

Council  
*Lester L. Branson  
Dallas Lister  
Keith Johnson  
Doncella Wilson*

Town of Denton Residents,  
First and foremost, as the Town Council of Denton, we want to apologize for trash pickup issues humbly! We have felt compelled to provide you with a brief explanation and a recently implemented trash removal plan.

For historical context and understanding, the Town Council has set a goal of reducing the tax rate in Denton by \$.10 in 5 years. We have lowered the rate by \$.03 in the last two years. It may not seem like a lot, but it is pretty sizable on a small budget. Part of the process has been to analyze each service provided and find less expensive or more efficient ways to provide it. One of the critical services is trash pickup. We received the bid from Eastern Shore Environmental, which was only a third of the cost of the next closest bidder. We interviewed them, established a contract, as a Council felt protected citizens and Town through contract law, and began service.

Through the first 18 months, minor issues developed, like the truck breaking down, staffing shortages, etc. Throughout these episodes, communication remained open, and we felt that these were acceptable growing pains of a startup company, and we were willing to compromise some service aspects for cost. Then over the last three weeks, service and communication both collapsed. We took action to find a temporary replacement service and began the process of terminating the contract with Eastern Shore Environmental.

Where are we now? As of last night (September 1, 2022), we voted officially to terminate the contract with Eastern Shore Environmental. Unfortunately, we believe this situation is where "you get what you pay for."

We look forward to having reliable trash service in the future, and we thank all of you for your patience and understanding in this transition. We have awarded Bigg Tyme Trash Services a stop-gap contract to fulfill the remaining budget year. This stop-gap contract will allow you and us as the residents to evaluate Bigg Tyme's services. Bigg Tyme was the lowest bidder and most interactive contractor we received in the past three weeks to help us get through the failed service of ESE. The stop-gap contract still service increases the cost of the service by 2.63 times per stop. For the Town, the contract will result in an increased expense of \$12,003.55 a month.

Bigg Tyme Trash will be doing curbside pickup on Wednesdays each week. The change in service date is directly related to the service provider's availability. Curbside pickup will start with cans being placed outside Tuesday Evening; however, no later than 6:00 am on Wednesdays. Please review the Town of Denton, Garbage and Trash Rules. The rules provide information on curbside pickup and the Town's Special Collection Program. The Special Collection Program protects the personnel and equipment used to dispose of garbage, trash, or materials.

Despite the setback and additional cost of a new service provider, we, as the Town Council, remain committed to moving forward to obtain the \$.10 reduction in the tax rate. The Council will continue to work through budgetary priorities, steady, smart- growth, and fostering an environment where your property values grow. We recognize that our resident's property is often their most significant asset, and we want you to be able to get as much as you can out of it.

Please let me know if you require any additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Town of Denton Council*

Abigail McNinch, Mayor  
Lester L. Branson, Councilmember  
Dallas Lister, Councilmember  
Keith Johnson, Councilmember  
Doncella Wilson, Councilmember

Town Code:  
Chapter 64, Garbage and Trash  
<https://ecode360.com/10849235>  
or Scan the Code



**Town of Denton Garbage Collection**  
**Beginning Sept. 7, 2022**  
**Residential Household Collection will now occur on Wednesday's.**

**Per Chapter #64 of the Denton Town Code, the following collection rules and regulations apply:**

1. All refuse containers shall be watertight cans made of metal or heavy-duty rubberized or plastic material, with handles and tight-fitting lids. We do realize lids get lost. Try connecting loose lids with a rope, to ensure they don't disappear. All cans should be clean and be in good repair.
2. Regular weekly refuse collection shall not exceed the capacity of a maximum of 128 gallons of trash per week or (2) 64-gallon cans or (4) 32-gallon cans for each qualifying residential and or business unit. Each container must not weigh more than 60 pounds when collected.
3. No Fifty-five-gallon drums will be permitted for use as a trash container.
4. All containers must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. All trash must be bagged, with each bag securely closed; No loose bags or unbagged trash will be collected. Bagged trash must be in an approved trash can. No bags on the ground. Bagged trash must fit in the can with the lid closed.
5. Refuse containers shall be free of liquids, rainwater, dead animals, vermin, etc. And free of unreasonably offensive odors resulting from the lack of cleanliness, animal feces or items which may be infectious or disease bearing.
6. All trash cans must be placed out at the curb, roadside or alley abutting a residential property for pickup no earlier than 5pm on Tuesday and before 6am on Wednesday mornings. Please remove cans by 11pm the night after trash has been collected. Do not block sidewalks with trash cans.
7. Receptacles/containers shall not be kept at the curb or roadside between scheduled collections, and they shall be stored on the premises at such locations to be unseen from the public streets or front yards.
8. Please separate all delivery boxes, beer and soda boxes/flats, newspapers, etc. and do not place them in with regular household trash collection. The Town offers a free special collections pickup for all clean/recyclable cardboard on Wednesday morning. Please call 410-479-2050 by noon on Tuesday to schedule this service. Cardboard should be placed out by 6am on Wednesday mornings. If it is going to rain, please bag the cardboard. Exception: any pizza box or contaminated cardboard/paper should be placed in a garbage bag for trash. Remember, all trash must be bagged.
9. Only household waste is allowed in the trash. The following items are excluded, but may not be limited to: cardboard, newspaper, construction debris, grass, leaves, appliances, explosives, any caustic substance, carpets and furniture. However, collection of many of these items may be available under the Special Collection Program. Please see the enclosed Special Collection Program brochure for additional information on these services.

Please visit [www.dentonpublicworks.com](http://www.dentonpublicworks.com) for additional information on the Garbage and Trash Collection Program.

## Chapter 64. Garbage and Trash

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Commissioners of the Town of Denton 1-6-1997 by Ord. No. 357.  
Amendments noted where applicable.]

### **GENERAL REFERENCES**

Property maintenance — See Ch. 94.

### § 64-1. Title.

[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Garbage and Trash Collection Ordinance."

### § 64-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

#### **GARBAGE**

The animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.

#### **REFUSE**

A combination of garbage and rubbish to form a composite residential-type solid waste material which are not excluded in § 64-3F.

#### **RUBBISH**

Combustible and noncombustible waste materials, except garbage; the term shall include paper, rags, cartons, boxes, wood, rubber, leather, tin cans, metals, plastic, glass, crockery and dust and other similar materials.

[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

### § 64-3. Service standards for residential properties.

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Public Works or its agent to provide collection of residential refuse, except when official legal holidays or inclement weather may occur.
- B. Collection shall be rendered at the curb, roadside or alley abutting the residential property. Under no circumstances shall Public Works employees or agents enter private property to collect refuse. Refuse left for collection shall not inhibit passage on public thoroughfares, including sidewalks, in any manner.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- C. The Town may, at its option, provide bulk collection service in high-density residential areas, such as apartment complexes. In the event the Town elects to provide this level of service, the following restrictions shall apply:  
[Amended 4-5-2004 by Ord. No. 444; 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

- (1) Bulk collection service shall be established at a rate not to exceed 1/4 cubic yard per residential unit for units with two or less bedrooms and 1/2 cubic yard per residential unit for units with three or more bedrooms.
  - (2) Collection will be made once a week. Facilities requiring additional collection service must contract for these services independent of the Town's service.
  - (3) Coordination of the bulk collection service shall be handled by the Department of Public Works, and only upon the written request of the multifamily complex owner, manager and/or owner's association.
  - (4) Rental of the individual containers, if applicable, will be at the expense of the owner and/or owners' association.
- D. Nothing in this chapter shall preclude the provision of contractual collection services as opposed to collection by municipal employees and equipment.
- E. All rubbish or waste material resulting from building, renovation or repair work requiring a building permit on buildings in Town shall be removed by the contractor, builder or property owner and shall not be placed on the sidewalks or streets for collection by the Town. Collection and/or removal of these items must be done at least once a week and shall not create a property maintenance violation.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- F. Items excluded from weekly refuse collection include lawn cuttings, hedge and garden trimmings, tree limbs, leaves, appliances, separately bundled newspaper and cardboard, demolition materials such as shingles, bricks, cement blocks and plaster, hot or cold ashes, explosives, poisons, acids, any caustic substance, automobiles/vehicles, tree stumps, tires and Christmas trees. The Town may provide for a special collection program to dispose of such materials.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

## § 64-4. Service standards for nonresidential properties.

- A. The Town shall extend refuse collection to nonresidential properties, provided that said refuse collection meets the requirements set forth in § 64-6 herein. Any business which cannot meet the requirements shall make arrangements for private refuse removal and shall provide appropriate containers for collection.
- B. All nonresidential establishments shall have all refuse, rubbish, and construction waste material removed from the premises no fewer than one time per week.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- C. All nonresidential establishments shall have containers properly screened in accordance with Chapter 128, Zoning.
- D. No private dumpster may be placed on public property and/or parking lots, without written permission from the Denton Town Council.

## § 64-5. Applicable regulations for private collection.

[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

Private individuals or firms engaged in the business of refuse collection in the Town of Denton or who may use the streets of Denton for the transport of these materials shall be subject to all federal, state or local laws, ordinances, codes or regulations applicable to the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles, including air and noise pollution. All refuse collection vehicles shall be maintained watertight and litter-free.

## § 64-6. Collection rules and regulations.

All refuse must be stored and offered for collection in an approved container unless exempted herein. The regulations are as follows:

- A. Approved refuse containers shall be watertight cans made of metal or heavy-duty rubberized or plastic material, with handles and tight-fitting covers. Regular weekly refuse collection shall not exceed the capacity of four thirty-two-gallon or two sixty-four-gallon refuse containers for each residential or business unit. Refuse containers may not weigh in excess of 60 pounds when collected.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- B. Residents requiring an additional refuse container(s) must lease the refuse container(s) and/or "waste wheeler(s)" from the Department of Public Works' designated agent and pay the contractor directly for additional refuse container and services.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- C. No fifty-gallon drums will be permitted for use.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- D. All receptacles and lids shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. All trash shall be securely bagged, then placed in approved refuse containers per the requirements in § 64-6A. No loose bags or unbagged refuse will be collected. Refuse containers shall not be set out for collection containing free liquids or rainwater. They shall be kept free of dead animals, vermin, lice, maggots or the like and unreasonably offensive odors resulting from the lack of cleanliness, animal feces or items which may be infectious or disease-bearing. Receptacles which have become excessively worn or corroded shall be promptly replaced.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- E. Refuse receptacles and/or containers shall be placed at the curb or roadside or alley by 6:00 a.m. on the scheduled day of collection but shall not be so placed prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day before collection, and empty receptacles/containers shall be removed from the curb, roadside or alley by 11:00 p.m. of the day of collection. Receptacles/containers shall not be kept at the curb or roadside between scheduled collections, and they shall be stored on the premises at such locations to be unseen from the public streets or roads or from the front yards of immediate neighboring property.
- F. Where collection service is provided in high-density residential areas, the individual residents or the management, community or condominium organization shall be responsible for the transporting of refuse to the containers and for the maintenance and cleanliness of the areas adjacent to the containers. The property owner or legally responsible management organization shall further be responsible for provision of containers and accessible space of bulk containers, placed on pavement and screened from public view. Such provisions shall be approved by the Town. Material acceptable for containerized collection service shall, in all respects, be compatible with the definitions for refuse as defined in this chapter.  
[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]
- G. Items too bulky for placement in an approved container may be offered for special collection on a schedule as set from time to time by the Department of Public Works.

## § 64-7. Special collection program.

[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

As scheduled by the Department of Public Works, the Town may offer special collection for the following items: leaves, grass, brush, Christmas trees, appliances and furniture. Rules and regulations for the collection of such items shall be prescribed by the Department of Public Works.

## § 64-8. Eviction refuse.

[Added 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

Furniture and household items placed out of a rental property as a result of an eviction will be collected by the Department of Public Works 48 hours after the items are set out, per Denton Town Code Ch. 94. Such items shall be set out in such a manner as to not block the sidewalk. All garbage shall be placed in an approved receptacle for collection by the Town during the course of ordinary trash collection. A per-truck collection fee of \$200 plus tipping fees shall be collected by the Department of Public Works and will be assessed to the property owner. Eviction refuse is not eligible for Town special collections.

[1] *Editor's Note: Former § 64-8, Eviction refuse, was repealed 3-7-2011 by Ord. No. 622. See now Ch. 94, Property Maintenance.*

## § 64-9. Special sanitary provisions.

[Amended 8-1-2019 by Ord. No. 702]

The removal of apparel, bedding, furniture or other refuse from any premises where infectious or contagious disease prevails or has prevailed shall be specially arranged and performed under the direction of the responsible local health authority. All items that fall in this category must be wrapped and sealed in plastic bags prior to the scheduled pick up per the Town special collections agreement.

## § 64-10. Unlawful activities.

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to disturb any refuse containers or to remove their covers or any contents thereof, except the occupants of the premises on which the containers are placed or their duly authorized agents or the duly authorized employees or agents of the Town of Denton.
- B. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to place refuse, garbage, trash or rubbish on the property of another.
- C. It shall be unlawful for a person who is neither a Town resident or a Town business owner to place their trash for collection in the Town incorporated limits.

## § 64-11. Violations and penalties.

- A. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this chapter, shall be guilty of a municipal infraction punishable by a fine of \$200.  
[Amended 6-16-2003 by Ord. No. 424]
- B. In the event of a violation of this chapter, notice of the violation shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the property.