



# Solid Waste & Recycling Compliance Frequently Asked Questions

# Why do haulers need a license?

Per Ordinance No. 20120628-012, which amended Chapter 15-6 of the City Code, a person must obtain a license to operate a private collection service. The license expires at midnight on December 31 of the year in which it was issued. The license is not transferable.

# What does the ordinance [Chapter 15-6, Article 3] require the City to do?

- To educate the community about the ordinance
- To support prevention of illegal dumping by encouraging citizens to call 3-1-1 or 9-1-1
- To provide resources to clean illegal dumpsites
- To support the Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO). Learn more at http://austintexas.gov/department/universal-recycling-ordinance-uro

#### Is illegal dumping a problem in Austin?

Yes, the City of Austin spends \$250,000 per year cleaning property where furniture, tires and junk have been illegally dumped.

#### What is solid waste?

Solid waste is rubbish, refuse and other discarded materials, such as tires and construction scraps (e.g. landfill trash or debris).

#### What is recycling?

Recycling is a process by which materials are collected, sorted, processed or prepared into marketable commodities for manufacturing into new products.

#### How do I get or renew a license?

An applicant must provide the following to receive a license:

- A completed City of Austin Application for Licensing and Exemption available online at <u>www.austintexas.gov/hauler</u>
- A list of vehicles
- Proof of insurance— a certificate of general and commercial auto liability insurance
- The annual State of Texas vehicle inspection certification for each licensed vehicle
- The semi-annual tonnage report
- Required vehicle licensing fees

# What happens if I haul without a license?

Offenses are punishable by a fine up to \$2,000 and, upon a first conviction, not less than \$100. The minimum fine shall be doubled for the second conviction of the same offense within any 24-month period and tripled for the third and subsequent convictions of the same offense within any 24-month period.

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#### How much is the solid waste licensing fee?

The licensing fee for solid waste vehicles is \$691 per vehicle / per year. The fee is due on or before the last business day in January of each year.

### How much is the recycling licensing fee?

Recycling vehicles are exempt from fees as long as they are used exclusively to collect recyclables. Vehicles must have blue recycling licenses. The license decals must be permanently affixed to the exterior vehicle doors.

#### Who enforces this ordinance?

Code and law enforcement will ensure private solid waste collection services operating in the city comply with this ordinance and other applicable laws.

#### Can a license be revoked?

Yes, Code may revoke a license if a licensee does not comply with the law, pay required fees or file required reports.

#### Who may I contact about licensing and reporting requirements?

Please contact our Permit Review Analyst at (512) 974-9035 for information regarding licensing and reporting requirements.

# Where do I turn in my application and documents?

Mail your completed application and documents to City of Austin Development Services Department, Attn: Finance - Waste Haulers, PO Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767 or submit your completed application and documents via e-mail: ccdhaulerlicense@austintexas.gov.

#### Where is the program located?

The Private Solid Waste and Recycling Hauler Program is located at: 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Austin, TX 78752. This is not a mailing address. Applications mailed to this address will be returned. See mailing address under: "Where do I turn in my application and documents?"

# I collect landfill trash and/or recyclables outside the city limits (Austin) but I drive through Austin. Do I need a license?

Per Ordinance No. 20120628-012, you do not need a license. The licensing requirement is for businesses which collect landfill trash and/or recyclables in Austin.

# How do I find a licensed hauler in Austin?

Find a listing of licensed haulers at <u>www.austintexas.gov/hauler</u>.