

## Recommended Yard Waste and Bulk Trash Pick-up Policy

Recently, the Public Works Department has encountered large volumes of household items and trees/yard waste during cycles of Town-wide bulk trash and yard waste pick-ups. These volumes are so large that trash truck capacity is consumed very quickly, resulting in extra trips to the landfill, and staff is overwhelmed by the weight and quantities of items at multiple households. There is concern that residents are confused by the current yard waste ordinance and bulk trash pick-up policy.

The intent of the services is to assist with spring property clean up that often consists of old bulky items and yard waste. The intent is not to provide dumpster and tree removal services.

In order to more clearly convey the intent of these services and to create and maintain a balanced, significant service for both residents and Town staff, the following changes are proposed to our ordinance and policy:

<b>Yard Waste Ordinance</b>		
	Ordinance	Proposed Change
<b>Brush</b>	Brush piles should be no longer than five feet in length and bundled. Separate brush into piles that are small enough and light enough for one individual to handle.	No Changes proposed
<b>Grass Clippings</b>	Grass clippings must be placed in recyclable paper yard waste bags or in containers 32 gallons or less that are clearly marked as yard waste on the outside of the container. Filled containers and recyclable bags shall not weigh more than 50 pounds.	No Changes proposed
<b>Leaves</b>	Leaves must be placed in recyclable paper yard waste bags or in containers 32 gallons or less that are clearly marked as yard waste on the outside of the container. Filled containers and recyclable bags shall not weigh more than 50 pounds.	No Changes proposed
<b>Limbs and Tree Trimmings</b>	Limbs must not be any longer than five feet in length and no larger than <del>four</del> <b>three</b> inches in diameter. Limbs should be tied together and separated into piles small enough and light enough for one individual to handle.	The diameter of limbs will change from <del>four</del> inches to <b>three</b> inches
<b>Logs</b>	<del>Logs must be less than four inches in diameter and cut in length light enough for one person to handle. Stumps will not be collected.</del>	Logs are no longer permitted in yardwaste.

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*We happily accept:*

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- *Grass clippings and leaves,*
  - *Limbs and tree trimmings,*
  - *Plants, weeds, and shrubbery.*
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*We cannot accept:*

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- *Dirt and rocks,*
  - *Treated lumber and wood,*
  - *Tree stumps and tree trucks,*
  - *Logs*
  - *Any yard waste placed in plastic bags*
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## **YARD WASTE COLLECTIONS**

Town Code §486-21 *YARD WASTE* defines yard waste, what is accepted in pick-up, gives dimensions, but also includes the term *logs* (as shown below).

### **(4)**

*Limbs. Limbs must not be any longer than five feet in length and no larger than four inches in diameter. Limbs should be tied together and separated into piles small enough and light enough for one individual to handle.*

### **(5)**

*Logs. Logs must be less than four inches in diameter and cut in length light enough for one person to handle. Stumps will not be collected.*

It is proposed to remove the term *logs* from acceptable yard waste pick-up by the Town and to lower the allowable diameter of limbs to 3". *Logs* would then be added to the list of items not allowable for Town yard waste pick-ups.

- If approved, the revised yard waste ordinance would then be condensed in an easily accessible guideline sheet for residents found on the Town's website and attached to the trash and yard waste calendar.
- The current ordinance is attached to this memo.

## **BULK TRASH COLLECTIONS**

Free Bulk Trash Cleanup is the last two weeks of April and October.

For each residence, the Town will make one free pick-up during this period. The one-time free pick-up can only include **up to 6 individual items**. This does not include construction/demolition material, hazardous materials, paints, or explosives.

Items intended for free pick-up can be left out along the edge of the roadway where regular garbage collection takes place. Items cannot be placed along the road for pick-up any earlier than **two days prior to the scheduled pick up time**.

If property owners do not follow the guidelines listed above, the bulk items will not be collected, and owners will receive a notification from the Town to properly remove the items at their expense. If you need more than 6 items removed, or to

schedule a bulk trash pick-up not within the scheduled time, please contact Town Hall at 302-539-8011. A base fee of \$50 will apply for extra bulk trash pick-up. At the discretion of the Public Works Director, a larger fee may apply depending on the size and quantity of items.

- If approved, the revised bulk trash policy would be made easily accessible for residents found on the Town's website and attached to the trash and yard waste calendar.
- The current policy is attached to this memo.