

FAQs

City of Shoreline Solid Waste Policy Implementation

Why is the City of Shoreline requiring single-family residences to obtain solid waste service?

In order to promote public health and safety in our community, keep service rates low for everyone, and increase citywide recycling, the City adopted code amendments in July 2016 which will require single-family residences to have garbage collection services in 2017.

Who does this policy apply to?

Mandatory solid waste collection applies to single-family and up to four-unit residences in the City of Shoreline. Multi-family and business properties are not included in this policy change because they are already required to have garbage collection services.

I already have garbage service, does this policy apply to me?

If you are already signed up for garbage service, you are already complying with the policy change and your current service will not change. In early 2017, Recology CleanScapes will deliver a food scrap/yard debris cart to your home free of charge if you do not already have one. This will be an additional service that will be picked up weekly. If you would like to make changes to your garbage service, please contact Recology CleanScapes at **(206) 763-4444**.

How was the decision made to change from voluntary to mandatory garbage service?

The City of Shoreline is working with King County to achieve a 70 percent recycling rate by 2020 in order to keep the landfill open and customer garbage rates low for as long as possible. Mandatory collection supports these goals.

When did the City of Shoreline decide to change the policy?

In May 2016, the City Council approved the 2017 – 2027 Comprehensive Solid Waste Collection Services Contract with Recology CleanScapes, which includes mandatory solid waste collection services for single-family residences in Shoreline. The City Council reviewed code amendments requiring mandatory waste collection on June 13, 2016, and adopted this code on July 11, 2016. The collection ordinance is available on our website at shorelinewa.gov/trashtalk.

What authority does the City have to change to mandatory solid waste service?

The City has broad authority under the State Constitution and statutes to enact regulations or policies that the City Council determines will promote public health and general welfare. In keeping with this, the City Council agreed that all single-family residential solid waste materials should be properly collected and disposed of to avoid issues, such as increased pests, creation of odors, spread of litter, and detrimental impacts to the neighborhood or property values.

Did the City receive input from the public during this process?

The Shoreline City Council received feedback from the community on the need to reduce waste accumulation for public health, safety, and aesthetics.

Why are our rates changing in January, and then again in March?

Starting in January 2017, existing customers will notice an increase in collection rates as a result of disposal rate increases at transfer stations approved by King County Solid Waste Division. For example, a household with a 32-gallon weekly garbage

and 96-gallon yard debris/food scraps collection service package (the most popular service package currently in the City of Shoreline) will see their monthly rate will go up from \$28.07 per month to \$28.75 per month. These changes will also increase the minimum entry fee per car at transfer stations from \$22 to \$24.25 for 2017 and 2018.

Starting in March 2017, Recology CleanScapes' new rates will go into effect and your rates may increase or decrease depending on which service(s) level(s) you select. A service package with weekly collection of one 32-gallon garbage cart will be available for \$24.12 plus taxes per month. All garbage services, regardless of pick-up frequency or size, include collection of one 96-gallon recycling cart every-other-week and one 96-gallon yard debris/food scraps cart every week at no extra cost. Visit shorelinewa.gov/trashtalk or call Recology CleanScapes at **(206) 763-4444** to find out more about the service packages available.

Will exemptions be granted from the mandatory service? If so, how do I receive an exemption?

There are generally no exemptions available from the mandatory service. Customers are able to temporarily suspend collection services in one week increments for vacations or other situations, such as a death in the family. If the suspension is longer than two weeks, a nominal fee may be charged.

What if I cannot afford to sign up for waste service? Do you have any discounts available for seniors?

There are a range of affordable service packages available. Visit shorelinewa.gov/trashtalk or call Recology CleanScapes at **(206) 763-4444** to find out more about the service packages available. For eligible seniors or individuals with disabilities and families who meet the income criteria, the utility tax can be waived. Please contact Shoreline Administrative Services for more information at **(206) 801-2302**.

How many single-family households currently do not have garbage service?

Within the City of Shoreline, there are about 1,500 homes that do not have garbage service. Overall, that is approximately eight percent of single-family residences in Shoreline.

What is the minimum service level Recology CleanScapes offers, and what does it include?

A basic service package will be available for \$9.70 plus taxes per month, which includes monthly collection of one 32-gallon garbage cart. All garbage services include collection of one 96-gallon cart of recycling every-other-week and one 96-gallon car of yard debris/food scraps every week at no extra cost. To learn more about available service packages, visit shorelinewa.gov/trashtalk.

How do I sign up for service if I do not already receive garbage service at my residence? What if I have more questions about solid waste service?

Recology CleanScapes' customer service can explain the available services and assist you with signing up. They can be contacted by calling **(206) 763-4444**. Additional information is available at recologycleanscapes.com/shoreline.

When will I get more information?

A welcome packet will be sent to all Shoreline residences and businesses in early 2017 that includes information about service packages and rates. If you are not currently a customer, you can review this information at recologycleanscapes.com/shoreline.

If you have more questions about the new solid waste policy, visit our website at shorelinewa.gov/trashtalk, or contact us.

Information Line: **(206) 801-2350**

Email: trashtalk@shorelinewa.gov