# CHAPTER 105

# SOLID WASTE CONTROL


105.01 Purpose
105.02 Definitions
105.03 Sanitary Disposal Required
105.04 Health and Fire Hazard
105.05 Open Burning Restricted
105.06 Separation of Yard Waste Required
105.07 Littering Prohibited
105.08 Toxic and Hazardous Waste
105.09 Waste Storage Containers
105.10 Prohibited Practices


**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.

*(567 IAC 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.

*(567 IAC 20.2)*

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.

*(567 IAC 100.2)*

9. "Residential premises" means a single-family dwelling and any multiple-family dwelling.

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, trade wastes, and any locally recyclable goods or plastics.

*(567 IAC 20.2)*

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.

*(567 IAC 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.

*(567 IAC 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. "Sanitary disposal project" does not include a pyrolysis or gasification facility as defined in Section 455B.301 of the *Code of Iowa*.

*(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.

F. Material that is legitimately recycled pursuant to Section 455D.4A of the *Code of Iowa.*

G. Post-use polymers or recoverable feedstocks that are any of the following:

(1) Processed at a pyrolysis or gasification facility.

(2) Held at a pyrolysis or gasification facility prior to processing to ensure production is not interrupted.

15. "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.

*(567 IAC 100.2)*

16. "Yard waste" means any debris such as grass clippings, leaves, garden waste, brush, and trees. Yard waste does not include tree stumps.

**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:

*(567 IAC 23.2 and 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.

*(567 IAC 23.2[3]"a")*

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.

*(567 IAC 23.2[3]"b")*

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.

*(567 IAC 23.2[3]"c")*

4. Landscape Waste. The disposal by open burning of landscape waste originating on the premises. 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 landowner or tenant conducting the open burning. Rubber tires shall not be used to ignite landscape waste.

*(567 IAC 23.2[3]"d")*

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.

*(567 IAC 23.2[3]"e")*

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.

*(567 IAC 23.2[3]"g")*

7. 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.

*(567 IAC 23.2[3]"j")*

8. 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.

*(567 IAC 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 or hauled to the yard waste disposal site.

**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.

*(567 IAC 100.2)*
*(567 IAC 102.13[2] and 400 IAC 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. Residential waste containers, whether they are reusable, portable containers or heavy-duty disposable garbage bags, shall be of sufficient capacity, and leak-proof and waterproof. Disposable containers shall be securely fastened, and reusable containers shall be fitted with a fly-tight lid that shall be kept in place except when depositing or removing the contents of the container. Reusable containers shall also be lightweight and of sturdy construction and have suitable lifting devices.

B. Commercial. Every person owning, managing, operating, leasing, or renting any commercial premises where an excessive amount of refuse accumulates and where its storage in portable containers as required above is impractical, shall maintain metal bulk storage containers approved by the City.

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.