

# HIDALGO COUNTY

## SOLID WASTE CITIZEN COLLECTION STATION RULES & GUIDELINES

The Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo County has ordered a Solid Waste Disposal program and has adopted these Solid Waste Citizen Collection Station Rules and Guidelines in order to safeguard the public health; to ensure the safety of county employees; to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the citizen collection station; to ensure that only residential waste from rural and unincorporated area county residents is disposed of at the Citizen Collection Station and to control and monitor proper access to the Citizen Collection Station.

### **GENERAL CITIZEN COLLECTION STATION RULES**

- The Citizen Collection Station will accept authorized solid waste generated by the rural and unincorporated resident living within Hidalgo County as described under these rules
- Rural boundaries are areas not within city limits
- The operator of any vehicle transporting authorized solid waste to the citizen collection station shall, as condition of use, present evidence and/or answer any reasonable questions concerning the nature and place of origin of that material as the sanitation attendant in charge may request
- The Attendant in Charge shall be obeyed at all times and all authorized solid wastes must be deposited in appropriate designated areas and in accordance with the collection station operator's instructions
- The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any solid wastes, which it considers to be detrimental to the operation of the collection station, or contrary to these Rules
- The Citizen Collection Station will only admit vehicles with a valid collection station permit displayed on the vehicle.
- At the time of making application to obtain a permit, the applicant shall present and provide any requisite materials as described herein to determine eligibility
- Permits will be issued only to those applicants who comply with these Rules. The ownership of real property is not the determining factor as to who may receive a permit
- Use of the collection station shall be limited to the hours determined by each Precinct

### **PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

Disposal of solid waste at any of the Hidalgo County Solid Waste Citizen Collection Station without a valid solid waste permit properly displayed a violation of established rules and guidelines may result in civil penalties. Complaints may be reported to the Hidalgo County Constable's Office(s); Violations shall be referred to the Office of the Criminal District Attorney.

### **PERMITS**

A permit is required for use of all Hidalgo County Solid Waste Citizen Collection Stations. Permits must prominently be displayed on the user's vehicle and must be visible when within the Citizen Collection Station. All vehicles entering the Citizen Collection Station must display a valid permit issued to that specific vehicle and vehicle owner. All permits **MUST** have a permit application filled out in full before a permit is issued. Citizen Collection Station Permit permits are not valid until affixed to the permitted vehicle.

- ONLY Hidalgo County rural and unincorporated area residents will qualify for the permit
- All users are required to obtain a permit prior to use of the collection station
- Citizen Collection Station permit are not transferable
- Each permit will cost \$25 and will be good for ninety (90) days from the date of purchase
- Permits for each additional vehicle may be obtained at a cost of \$25 for ninety (90) days
- Proof of Hidalgo County rural residency, name, address, personal identification and vehicle information is required at the time of application
- Limit one (1) vehicle per permit
- Permit applications and renewals may be obtained at the designated Precinct Offices

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### **PAYMENT METHODS**

- Cash
- Credit or Debit Cards

### **SCREENING**

- Rural residents will be screened to ensure they possess a valid permit for the vehicle present
- Incoming trash will be visually inspected to deter un-authorized waste
- No vehicle will be allowed entry to the Citizen Collection Station without a valid permit displayed on the authorized vehicle
- Inspection on all white goods must be done in order to confirm if Freon has been removed
- Frequency of the person's use of the Citizen Collection Stations will be closely monitored to ensure compliance of set Rules

### **AUTHORIZED SOLID WASTE**

#### **Residential Waste**

- Residential waste includes normal household refuse/garbage (paper, plastics, cans, food and vegetable scraps)
- All household trash must be bagged

#### **Tires**

- Limit four (4) passenger and light truck tires per month from residential customers
- Tire disposal will require prior precinct authorization

#### **Brush & Yard Waste**

- Leaves, grass clippings, tree trimmings and brush
- Each precinct will have a designated collection station that will allow brush or yard waste
- Brush should be cut in 3 to 4 foot lengths and securely tied

#### **Bulky Items**

- Any item measuring in excess of either forty eight (48) inches in length or fifty (50) pounds in weight
- Refrigerator, stoves, washing machines, dryers, water tanks, mattresses, chairs, furniture, electronics and couches

#### **White Goods**

- Any item measuring in excess of either three (3) cubic feet in size or fifty (50) pounds in weight
- Any item that is manufactured primarily from metal, including, but not limited to, a bath tub, heater, hot water heater, refrigerator, sink or washer and dryer
- Freon must be removed from all white goods in order to accept the items

#### **Scrap Metal**

- Metal that can be sold as scrap

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### **NON-AUTHORIZED SOLID WASTE**

#### **Commercial waste**

- Contractor or commercial waste/building materials
- Demolition waste such as brick, concrete, shingles, wood, gypsum, and sheet rock

#### **Automotive Parts**

- Car batteries, fenders, vehicle doors, body and frame parts, engines, transmissions; as these items should be disposed of in a salvage yard.
- Commercial truck/tractor tires

#### **Hazardous waste**

- Pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, chemicals and cleaners
- Paint thinners, toxins, poisons, asbestos, and petroleum products such as gas, oil and kerosene
- Drums, Paint Cans, liquids or solvents of any kinds
- Items with Freon (Refrigerators, freezers, A/C Units)
- Dead animals

### **ALLOWABLE VEHICLES**

- Passenger cars including station wagons and sport utility vehicles, residential vans, pick-up trucks and small single axle utility trailers (overall size not to exceed 5' x 8')

### **VEHICLES NOT ALLOWED**

- Dump trucks, Box Trucks, Rack Body Trucks, Large Trailers (exceeding 5' x 8') and large trucks (those with a cargo area exceeding manufacturer's full size pick-up truck body)
- Double axel trailers will not be accepted

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**NOTICE: DISPOSING OR ALLOWING OR PERMITTING THE DISPOSAL OF LITTER OR OTHER SOLID WASTE AT A PLACE THAT IS NOT AN APPROVED DISPOSAL FACILITY OR ; RECEIVING LITTER OR OTHER SOLID WASTE FOR DISPOSAL AT A PLACE THAT IS NOT AN APPROVED DISPOSAL FACILITY OR; TRANSPORTING LITTER OR OTHER SOLID WASTE TO A PLACE THAT IS NOT AN APPROVED FACILITY FOR DISPOSAL OR; DISPOSING SOLID WASTE OR LITTER IN A DUMPSTER THAT IS CONTROLLED BY SOMEONE ELSE WITHOUT PERMISSION, IS A VIOLATION OF LAW AND OFFENDERS SHALL BE PROSECUTED(Sub. Ch. B, Ch. 365 Health & SafetyCode).**