



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 www.austintexas.gov/hauler
- A list of vehicles and containers
- 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 and container 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 \$100 per vehicle / per year. The fee is due on or before the last business day in January of each year. The fee for solid waste containers is \$3 per container / per month. The container fee is paid every quarter (three months).

How much is the recycling licensing fee?

Recycling vehicles and containers are exempt from fees as long as they are used exclusively to collect recyclables and have blue recycling licenses. The license decals must be permanently affixed to the exterior vehicle doors or the service side of the container.

Who enforces this ordinance?

Code Compliance 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 Compliance 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 Code Compliance Fiscal Office (512) 974-3014 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—Code Compliance Department, Attn: Finance-Waste Haulers, PO Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767 or submit your completed application and documents online to ccdhaulerlicense@austintexas.gov

Where is the program located?

The Private Solid Waste and Recycling Hauler Program is located at: 1520 Rutherford Lane, Building One, Austin, Texas 78754. 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 www.austintexas.gov/hauler or call 3-1-1.