

RECYCLABLE MATERIALS POLICY

GENERAL POLICY

To extend the life of our landfill, and to help preserve natural resources, the Benton County Solid Waste Commission is adopting a recycling policy for our Landfill. The policy is designed to ease the financial burden on the taxpayers of Benton County by restricting the amount of solid waste entering the landfill.

Section 1-Definitions

1. **City.** The City Councils of each incorporated area within Benton County.
2. **Commercial Collector.** A person, partnership, or corporation hired by a City, commercial/industrial establishment, or resident to collect, transport, and properly dispose of garbage, refuse, and/or recyclable materials.
3. **County.** All incorporated and unincorporated areas within Benton County.
4. **Drop-off locations.** County owned, privately held parcels used by the commission, and Commission owned locations within Benton County.
5. **Garbage and Refuse.** Every waste accumulation of animal, fruit or vegetable matter resulting from handling, preparation, cooking, consumption, and storage of food. Dead animals are not included in the term garbage. Refuse shall mean all other waste materials not specifically defined as garbage or specifically defined as recyclable materials.
6. **HDPE.** High Density Polyethylene plastic resin encoded with a #2 recycling symbol. Examples include: milk jugs & juice jugs, cosmetic & shampoo bottles, dish & laundry detergent bottles, and yogurt and margarine tubs. This is not an all-inclusive listing.
7. **Non-recyclable materials.** Material not having a present reusable value.
8. **PET.** Polyethylene Terephthalate plastic resin encoded with a #1 recycling symbol. Examples include soft drink, water, sports drink, mouthwash, and most food containing plastic jars. This list is not all inclusive.
9. **Recyclable Materials.** Those materials determined by the Commission that can be recycled, reused, or processed in a manner other than landfilling. Examples include but not limited to:
 - a. Paper items not limited to newspaper, white and colored paper, some magazines and catalogs, and junk mail
 - b. Un-waxed corrugated cardboard
 - c. Tin, aluminum cans, bi-metal cans, and limited other metal items
 - d. PET (#1) and HDPE (#2) plastic containers
10. **Self-Hauler.** A person that collects and transports solid waste and/or recyclable materials from their residence or commercial/industrial establishment to be properly disposed and/or recycled.
11. **Solid Waste.** All garbage, refuse, and similar discarded solid or semisolid materials including, but not limited to such materials resulting from industrial, commercial, agricultural, and domestic activities.

Section 2-Separation of Recyclable Materials Required

Commencing on August 22nd, 2019 the person or entity disposing of solid waste or recyclable materials in Benton County shall separate recyclable material from garbage, refuse, and other solid waste. This shall apply to the owner or occupant of each residential unit and the owner of each non-residential agricultural and commercial/industrial establishment authorized to place waste in the landfill. Accepted materials may differ as conditions warrant.

Section-3 Collection of Recyclable Material

Persons or entities shall place recyclable material in City or commercial collector approved containers for collection, or in the alternative, shall deliver materials to a drop off location. Recyclable material shall be prepared according to the guidelines provided by the City, commercial collector, or the Commission.

Section-4 Disposition of Recyclable Material

Recyclable materials shall not be placed in the landfill on or after August 22nd, 2019. Recyclable materials shall not be disposed of except by delivery to an individual or entity engaging in recycling of the material. No more than 5% recyclable material shall be disposed of by depositing with the garbage or refuse and no permitted commercial collector shall pick up any more than 5% recyclable materials commingled with garbage or refuse. The 5% determination will be measured by volume.

Section-5 Collection Permit Required

All commercial collectors of garbage and refuse who desire to haul garbage or other waste materials to the Benton County Landfill shall first obtain an annual hauler’s permit.

Section-6 Refusal of Service

The commercial collector shall refuse to collect items not complying with this policy for the collection of garbage, refuse, and/or other solid waste and the separation of recyclable materials.

Section-7 Violation and Inspection

Any person or entity violating any provision of this policy shall be held responsible for correcting this violation. The Commission or Landfill Manager shall investigate violations relative to the collection and disposal of solid waste in Benton County.

Section-8 Enforcement and Penalty

It shall be the duty of the Commission and/or its designee, the Landfill Manager, to enforce the provisions of this policy. A violation of any of the provisions of this policy is subject to the following penalties plus court costs:

Collector Type	First-Second Offense	Third Offense	Four or More Offenses
Self-Hauler	\$50.00	\$100.00	Maximum County Infraction penalty as defined in Iowa Code Chapter 331 Section 302
Commercial Collector	\$250.00	\$500.00	Maximum County Infraction penalty as defined in Iowa Code Chapter 331 Section 302

Section-9 Jurisdiction

The provisions of this policy shall apply throughout Benton County, Iowa, including the cities therein.

Section-10 Validity

If any section, paragraph or clause of this policy shall be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this policy.

Section-11 Effective Date

This Policy shall be in effect after its final review date and approval by the Benton County Solid Waste Commission.

ENFORCEMENT

The Landfill Manager has the responsibility to enforce this policy.

Policy was reviewed and approved on August 22nd, 2019

Policy: Recyclable Materials Policy

Effective Date: 08/22/2019

Revised: 09/19/2019