

**CHAPTER 1**  
**REFUSE AND RECYCLING CONTROL**

**Section**

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**§7-1-1: DEFINITIONS:**

As used in this Chapter, the following words and terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this Section:

*ADMINISTRATOR:* The Village President or his or her designee authorized to administer this Chapter and the related exclusive contract for the Village.

*APPROVED CONTAINERS:* Containers to be used for the pick-up of compostable materials shall be biodegradable landscape waste bags (“kraft” type) with a prepaid sticker affixed to each such bag. Recycling containers shall be used for the pick-up of recyclable materials. Approved containers for garbage shall be thirty two (32) gallon capacity bags, metal or plastic cans or similar containers.

*COMPOSTABLE MATERIAL OR COMPOSTABLES:* Grass, garden clippings and leaves, branches and sticks, provided that all such materials are placed in biodegradable paper landscape waste bags (“kraft” type) with a prepaid sticker attached thereto as hereinafter described and not commingled with “garbage” or recyclable materials as herein defined, and further provided, that branches and sticks shall be tied in bundles not exceeding three feet (3’) in any dimension and a prepaid sticker shall be affixed to each such bundle.

*CURBSIDE:* The approved point of collection which shall be within five feet (5’) of the edge of the paved street.

*CURBSIDE RECYCLING:* An organized program sponsored by the Village resulting in residents within the corporate limits separating recyclable and compostable materials and placing them curbside or at the designated trash collection point to be collected by the Village or the Village’s exclusive private contractor.

*GARBAGE:* All household and kitchen wastes, such as discarded food or food residues and paper necessarily used for wrapping same, books, boxes and cartons, providing all such materials are placed in suitable containers and not left in piles on the ground and small amounts of sod, earth, and rocks, provided the last three (3) items listed are put in suitable containers or reasonable movable weight. It shall also include “do it yourself” home remodeling and repair construction materials,

and not commercial remodeling and construction materials, provided such items are put in suitable containers or bundles or reasonably movable weight.

*RECYCLABLE MATERIAL:* Aluminum cans, tin and/or steel cans, plastic milk jugs (HDPE), colored plastic laundry detergent bottles (HDPE #2), two (2) liter pop bottles (PET), newspaper, glass bottles/containers and/or other materials specified by the administrator.

*RECYCLING CONTAINERS:* The container provided by the Village to residents for the specific purpose of storing recyclable materials on site and for placing those materials curbside for collection. Exact size, shape and color of said container may vary from time to time, however, recycling containers will be clearly marked for use as a recycling container only.

(Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998; amd. 2001 Code)

**§7-1-2: EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT REQUIRED:**

No person shall engage in the enterprise of collection, transporting, processing, storing or disposing of garbage, rubbish, trash, refuse, recyclables, compostables and/or solid waste of any kind from any residence or dwelling, or multi-family residential development within the corporate limits of the Village of Tower Lakes, as said limits exist from time to time, without first having secured an exclusive contract with the Village for such purposes, consistent with the provisions of this Chapter, provided however, landscape contractors employed by any property owner within the Village shall be obligated to dispose of the landscape waste generated or collected by their own activities in such development at an Illinois EPA approved site outside of the corporate limits of the Village. (Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998)

**§7-1-3: COMPLIANCE WITH EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT REQUIRED:**

All residents within the Village shall comply with all applicable provisions of the then existing contract between the Village and its contractor, entitled “Exclusive Contract for the Collection and Disposal of Residential Garbage, and Compostable and Recyclable Materials Between the Village of Tower Lakes and Contractor”, and any extensions or amendments thereto. Said contract, as well as any extensions and amendments thereto, are on file with the Village Clerk and are hereby made part of this Chapter. (Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998)

**§7-1-4: RECYCLING PROGRAM ESTABLISHED:**

(A) Program Established:

There is hereby established a village wide residential recycling program to be operated by the Village and the Village’s exclusive private contractor to provide for the separation of certain designated recyclable and compostable material from normal household refuse for placement in specially designated containers. The respective approved containers for recyclables and compostables shall be used only for the purpose of storing such materials on site and for the placement of those materials curbside or in the designated trash collection pick up point on the designated collection day.

(B) Recycling Containers Ownership; Use; Theft:

The Village will provide specially labeled recycling containers to each household participating in the recycling program and the Village shall maintain ownership of such containers. However, each household will be responsible for the normal and reasonable care of the container in their possession. The Village will provide replacement containers to households when it is determined by the Village that replacement due to normal wear and tear is warranted. Abuse, theft, and misuse of the containers are prohibited and shall constitute a violation of this Chapter subjecting the violator to the penalties as hereinafter provided.

(C) Placement and Storage of Recycling Containers:

Recycling containers shall be stored on the residential premises in conformance with the provisions of this Chapter and may be placed at the designated location for collection only during the times specified in this Chapter.

(D) Separation of Recyclables and Compostables and Placement for Removal:

Recyclables and compostables shall be prepared and separated from garbage and such garbage, recyclables and compostables shall be placed in "approved containers" as defined by this Chapter, and shall be collected by the Village's exclusive private contractor, provided, however, branches and sticks shall be tied in bundles not exceeding three feet (3') in any dimension and a prepaid tag shall be affixed to each such bundle. Recyclables and compostables shall be placed at the curbside to be collected at times designated by the Village.

(E) Other Recycling Methods:

Notwithstanding any other provisions hereof:

1. Any person may donate recyclables and compostable materials to any other person whether operating for profit or not for profit; and
2. Any person may maintain his own compost pile or site so long as such site or pile neither constitutes a nuisance to surrounding property owners nor endangers the public health and/or safety.

(Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998)

**§7-1-5: PLACING REFUSE, COMPOSTABLES AND RECYCLABLES FOR PICK UP; TIME LIMITATION:**

No garbage, recyclables, and/or compostables, or any refuse, whether or not in the proper container, shall be placed on any portion of any public or private road, street, or alley, or within twenty five feet (25') thereof, earlier than twenty four (24) hours prior to the scheduled time and date for the pick-up of such garbage, recyclables, and/or compostables for said premises; and any garbage, recyclables, and/or compostables placed earlier than as aforesaid is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Such a nuisance may be abated at direction of the Village President and the removal of such nuisance shall be at the expense of the owners and residents of the premises in question who shall be jointly liable. (Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998)

**§7-1-6: UNAUTHORIZED REMOVAL OF REFUSE, RECYCLABLES, COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS, PREPAID STICKERS, PAYMENTS, AND/OR GRATUITIES PROHIBITED:**

The initial curbside recycling program will provide for the separation of recyclables and compostables from normal household refuse for placement in the respective approved containers and collection from the normal collection point on the regular designated pick up day. The Village may from time to time alter the definition of recyclables and compostables to be separated from the household waste stream and include those materials in the recycling program. Once refuse, recyclables and compostables have been placed in or alongside the container and set at the curb or other designated collection location, such materials become the property of the Village's exclusive refuse contractor, and it shall be unlawful for any other persons, firm, or corporation to move, remove, exert unauthorized control over, or tamper with refuse, recyclables, compostables, any prepaid sticker for any such compostables, or any payment or gratuity left with such refuse, recyclables, or compostables for the Village's exclusive refuse contractor or its employee(s), and each such act in violation hereof shall constitute a separate and distinct offense punishable hereinafter provided. (Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998)

**§7-1-7: DUMPING PROHIBITED:**

It shall be unlawful for any person to dump or deposit anywhere within the Village, on either public or private property, any garbage, ashes, paper, miscellaneous waste, manure or other substance that may contain disease germs, or be scattered by the wind, or decompose or become filthy, noxious or unhealthful. Such dumping is hereby declared to be a nuisance. (Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998)

**§7-1-8: OPEN BURNING PROHIBITED:**

See Chapter 7 of this Title for open burning regulations. (2001 Code)

(Ord. 98-418C, 2-16-1998; amd. 2014 Code)