

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

**AGENDA TITLE:** Adoption of Ordinance No. 519 to Amend, Update and Add Definitions and Procedures to the Solid Waste Municipal Code Chapter 13.14  
**DEPARTMENT:** Public Works & City Attorney's Office  
**PRESENTED BY:** Rika Cecil, Environmental Programs Coordinator and Flannary Collins, Assistant City Attorney

**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

Adoption of Ordinance No. 519 was originally scheduled for City Council consideration on September 22, 2008. Consideration of the ordinance was postponed until the October 13, 2008 meeting so that the ordinance would be consistent with Department of Public Health regulations.

King County has requested a variance from the Department of Public Health that would allow meat and dairy to be disposed of in yard debris and collected every other week. Currently, meat and dairy may only be disposed of in yard debris if the yard debris is collected every week. The variance is expected to be approved the week of October 6, 2008.

Ordinance No. 519 states that food scraps may be disposed of as yard debris, and does not exclude meat and dairy from such disposal. Yard debris is collected every other week in the Shoreline. Since the ordinance does not exclude meat and dairy from its definition of "food scraps" or "yard debris" and since yard debris collection is every other week in Shoreline, in order to be consistent with the Department of Public Health's regulations, the City needs to wait until the variance is approved in order to adopt the ordinance.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council adopt Ordinance No. 519 amending the Garbage Code, SMC Chapter 13.14.

Approved By: City Manager *JM* City Attorney *NA*

**ATTACHMENT**

September 22, 2008 staff report

Council Meeting Date: September 22, 2008

Agenda Item: 7(e)

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**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

In the process of reviewing the Garbage Code for updates and clarification, staff found gaps in the code, as well as inconsistencies with the current King County Solid Waste Code. Staff proposes the following revisions:

1. Change the name of the code from "Garbage Code" to "Solid Waste Code".
2. Update the definitions for types of solid waste and recycling containers, garbage, waste, yard debris, and recyclables.
3. Add procedures for disposal and collection of recyclables.
4. Add a new section to encourage, define and describe the City's recycling program for collection of paper, plastic, glass and metal products.
5. Amend the prohibition for accumulation of garbage to include waste and recyclables
6. Adopt miscellaneous amendments, including language/wording changes

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council adopt Ordinance No. 519 amending the Garbage Code, SMC Chapter 13.14.

Approved By:

City Manager 

City Attorney 

## INTRODUCTION

Since Shoreline's last update of the Garbage Code in 2006, King County has amended its Solid Waste Code and the City has entered into a new contract with a new solid waste collection provider. As a result of these two developments, the Garbage Code has some minor inaccuracies in the definition section and gaps in other parts of the Code. The proposed amendments tighten up the definitions, update the Code to reflect current procedures for yard debris collection, encourage participation in the City's recycling program, and clarify unlawful accumulation to aid enforcement. In addition, the name of the chapter is proposed to be changed from "Garbage Code" to "Solid Waste Code" to more accurately reflect the type of waste governed by the code.

## DISCUSSION

The first proposed change is to rename Chapter 13.14 from "Garbage Code" to "Solid Waste Code." "Solid Waste Code" more accurately captures all of the types of waste disposed of through solid waste collection, including garbage, recyclables and yard debris.

Second, several changes to the definition section are proposed. The City disposes of its waste in the King County solid waste disposal system; thus, code definitions should be consistent with King County's. Many of the following definition changes update the code to be consistent with the County's. Other definition changes are updated to more accurately reflect the service provided by the new collection provider.

**Section 13.14.010, Definitions**, is updated to reflect the changed, deleted or added definitions.

1. Replace "Garbage can", "Recycling container" and "Mobile Toter" with "Cart"; amend "Detachable Container"; replace "Dumpster" with "Drop-box Container"; and replace "Mini-can" with "Micro-can"

Outdated terms have been replaced by broader, current terms and definitions.

2. Amend "Garbage"

The garbage definition has been amended to exclude hazardous, infectious and other dangerous wastes, which have special disposal requirements. "Junk vehicles or parts thereof" was removed as an example of garbage; although parts of junk vehicles can be disposed of, identifying a "junk vehicle" as garbage is misleading as the service collector cannot haul away a vehicle as part of its normal garbage collection.

3. Add "Mixed paper"

By adding "Mixed paper", paper that can be recycled is clarified, and contamination of recycled materials by non-recyclable materials will be reduced.

4. Expand "Recyclable materials"

To encourage recycling, the new definition clarifies the items that can be recycled and expands it to include motor oil and fluorescent bulbs, when appropriately packaged.

5. Add "Waste"

For clarity, "Waste" is defined in the various forms in which it appears in SMC 13.14.

6. Replace "Yard waste" with "Yard debris" and expand "Yard debris"

Since plant material and debris from yard maintenance can now be routinely recycled, the term "debris" replaces the term "waste" to reflect the recyclable nature of the material. In addition, the King County Code allows food scraps and compostable paper to be deposited with yard debris for recycling.

Third, the following sections have been changed for consistency with the definition changes as well as to fill other miscellaneous gaps in the code, as detailed after each section.

**Section 13.14.080, Placement of garbage receptacles,** is updated to reflect the definition changes in Section 13.14.010 above.

**Section 13.14.175, Recycling program,** is a new section that encourages, defines and differentiates a co-mingled recycling program from the yard debris recycling program, identifies the carts which can be used, and where to place the cart(s) for collection.

**Section 13.14.180, Yard debris programs,** specifies the type of items that can be included, the cart that is appropriate for use, and where to place the cart for collection.

**Section 13.14.210, Littering,** is updated to reflect the definition changes in Section 13.14.010 above.

**Section 13.14.230, Accumulation of garbage,** is amended to prohibit accumulation of garbage, waste and recyclables to aid enforcement by specifying the categories of materials involved in solid waste management.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council adopt Ordinance No. 519 amending the solid waste regulations in the Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 13.14.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Ordinance No. 519

ORDINANCE NO. 519

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, AMENDING GARBAGE REGULATIONS TO UPDATE DEFINITIONS FOR TYPES OF GARBAGE AND RECYCLING CONTAINERS AND FOR GARBAGE, WASTE, YARD DEBRIS AND RECYCLABLES; ADD PROCEDURES FOR DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLES; AND AMEND PROHIBITION FOR ACCUMULATION OF GARBAGE, WASTE AND RECYCLABLES; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 13.14

WHEREAS, the City's garbage code was adopted by Ordinance No. 251 on December 11, 2000 and amended by Ordinance No. 415 on June 12, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the chapter title of "solid waste code" is more comprehensive than "garbage code" in that it reflects the types of waste, including garbage, recyclables and yard debris, set out for collection;

WHEREAS, the types of garbage receptacles available for garbage disposal have changed since the garbage code adoption and 2006 amendments;

WHEREAS, the size of yard debris accepted for disposal under the yard waste program has slightly increased; and

WHEREAS, the code does not identify procedures for disposal and collection of recyclable materials;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Amendment.** The name of the chapter for Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 13.14 is hereby changed from "Garbage Code" to "Solid Waste Code."

**Section 2. Amendment.** Shoreline Municipal Code Section 13.14.010 is hereby amended by adding definitions for "cart", "drop box container", "mixed paper", and "waste"; amending the definitions of "detachable container", "garbage", "garbage receptacle", "household hazardous wastes", "mini-can", "recyclable materials", and "yard waste"; and removing the definitions for "dumpster", "garbage can", "mobile toter", and "recycling container", to read as follows with subsections renumbered:

*13.14.010 Definitions.*

"Cart" means a City contractor-provided 20, 32, 45, 64 or 96 gallon wheeled cart suitable for household collection, storage and curbside placement of garbage, recyclable materials or yard debris.

"Detachable container" means a watertight, metal or plastic container, not less than one-half one cubic yard in capacity nor greater than eight cubic yards in capacity, and

equipped with a tight-fitting metal, plastic, or other city-approved cover, and capable of being mechanically unloaded into a collection vehicle. The term shall also apply to containers of other material of similar size when approved by the city manager.

“Drop-box Container” means an all-metal container with ten cubic yards or more capacity that is loaded onto a specialized collection vehicle, transported to a disposal or recycling site, emptied and transported back to customer’s site.

~~“Dumpster” means any garbage receptacle with a capacity over one cubic yard.~~

“Garbage” means all biodegradable and nonbiodegradable solid and semisolid wastes, including but not limited to refuse, yard debris waste, cold and bagged ashes, industrial wastes, ~~infectious wastes,~~ swill, CDL wastes, ~~junk vehicles or parts thereof,~~ and recyclable materials. The term “garbage” shall not include hazardous wastes, infectious wastes, special category wastes, and special wastes.

~~“Garbage can” means a container that is watertight galvanized sheet metal, or plastic container not exceeding four cubic feet or 32 gallons in capacity, weighing not over 15 pounds when empty, fitted with two sturdy handles, one on each side, and a tight cover equipped with a handle.~~

“Garbage receptacle” includes detachable container, mini micro-can, and garbage cart, can, and/or mobile toters, which are rodent and insect proof. This may also include other forms of storage appropriate to the material in question that prevent seepage, contamination of soil, or surface or ground water, spreading due to animal or insect activity or weather conditions, odor, or any risk to public health or safety.

“Household hazardous wastes” means any discarded liquid, solid, contained gas, or sludge, including any material, substance, product, commodity or waste used or generated in the household, regardless of quantity, that exhibits any of the characteristics or criteria of hazardous waste set forth in Chapter 173-303 WAC, but is exempt according to federal, state, and county regulations. Specific household hazardous wastes which are prohibited from disposal as city waste include infectious waste, sharps/ syringes; nonedible oils; flammable liquids and solids including fuels, solvents, paint thinners, and degreasers; pesticides, including herbicides, insecticides and wood preservatives; fluorescent light bulbs; televisions; computers, monitors and laptops; cellular phones; appliances with CFCs; corrosive materials; PCB capacitors and ballasts; mercury (such as thermometers and mercury switches); vehicle batteries; hobby chemicals and artists’ paints; liquid paints; and any other material restricted by federal, state, and county regulations; provided, however, empty containers for household hazardous products may be disposed of as garbage.

“Mini-Micro-can” means a 15-gallon to 20-10-gallon container made of galvanized metal or plastic and supplied by the City’s solid waste provider, which meets the approval of the city manager.

~~“Mobile toter” means a moveable receptacle that holds 32 to 96 gallons of garbage with a tight fitting, hinged lid, thick skinned, one piece balanced weight body which sits on tires, which will be picked up at curbside.~~

“Mixed paper” means magazines, junk mail, phone books, bond or ledger grade paper, cardboard, paperboard packaging and other fiber-based materials meeting industry standards. Paper packaging combined with plastic wax or foil, tissue paper, paper towels and food-contaminated paper are excluded from the definition of mixed paper.

“Recycling container” means a designated garbage receptacle in which recyclable materials can be stored and later placed at curbside, or other location designated by the city manager. This term also includes but is not limited to the designated commercial front load boxes, drop boxes and compactors at locations as may be specified by the city manager.

“Recyclable materials” means aluminum and tin cans, corrugated cardboard, glass containers, mixed paper, newspaper, recyclable plastic containers that have contained non-hazardous products, plastic films, polycoated cartons, and scrap metals. garbage that is separated for recycling or reuse, such as papers, metals, and glass, that are identified as recyclable materials through administrative action of the city manager. The term “recyclable materials” shall include motor oil and fluorescent bulbs that are properly packaged, set out for collection separately and not commingled with other recyclable materials.

“Waste” means hazardous waste, household hazardous waste, small quantity generator hazardous waste, special category waste, special waste and unacceptable waste.

“Yard debris waste” means plant material (such as leaves, grass clippings, branches, brush, flowers, roots, wood waste, unflocked holiday trees etc.) and debris commonly removed thrown away in the course of maintaining yards and gardens that do not exceed four inches in diameter and four feet in length, and, including sod and rocks not over two inches in diameter; and biodegradable waste approved for the yard waste programs by the city manager. Bundles of debris shall not exceed two feet by two feet by four feet in dimension and shall be secured by degradable string or twine, not nylon or synthetic materials. It Food scraps and compostable paper may be disposed of as yard debris. This term excludes rocks, loose soils, food waste, plastics and synthetic fibers; lumber; human or animal excrement; and soil contaminated with hazardous waste.

**Section 3. Amendment.** Shoreline Municipal Code section 13.14.080 is hereby amended to read as follows:

*13.14.080 Placement of garbage receptacles.*

**A. Garbage Receptacles.**

1. Garbage receptacles other than approved dumpsters drop-box containers shall be placed for collection by the occupants in a convenient, accessible location off the sidewalk as near as practicable to the curbside in a manner that does not interfere with



transportation use or use of the sidewalk. Receptacles shall be placed in the following manner:

- a. For properties with level planting strips, in the planting strip or driveway within five feet of the curb; or
- b. For properties with sidewalks but no planting strips, on the owner's property within five feet of the curb-sidewalk, if level; or
- c. When the foregoing locations slope at a grade making placement of a container difficult, a level area that is nearest to either of the previous locations; or
- d. If the foregoing locations are not available due to dense shrubbery or extraordinary circumstances, then placement shall be at a location suitable to the customer and approved by convenient to the authorized collection company that does not interfere with transportation or the use of the sidewalk.

2. Receptacles shall not be placed for collection until a reasonable time prior to collection. Containers shall be removed within a reasonable time thereafter.

3. Detachable containers may be stored within a building but shall be readily accessible for servicing without unnecessary delay or special collection equipment and minimal delay.

**B. ~~Dumpsters~~ Drop-box Containers.**

1. ~~Dumpsters~~ Drop-box Containers shall be placed at a location that is agreed to by the customer and the authorized collection company that does not interfere with transportation or the use of the sidewalk.

**Section 4. Amendment.** A new section 13.14.175 is added to the Shoreline Municipal Code to read as follows:

*13.14.175 Recycling program.*

A. The City encourages customers to participate in the recycling program. Recyclable materials may be set out for separate curbside collection in a 32, 64 or 96 gallon recycling carts supplied by the authorized collection company. Recyclable materials shall be defined as set forth in SMC 13.14.010.

B. Only recyclable materials shall be placed in a recycling cart and set out for collection.

**Section 5. Amendment.** Shoreline Municipal Code section 13.14.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:

*13.14.180 Yard debris waste-programs.*

~~A. The City encourages customers to participate in the yard debris program. Yard debris waste for collection may be set out for separate curbside collection at the curbside shall be set apart from other garbage for pickup in a 32, 64 or 96 gallon yard debris cart supplied by the authorized collection company garbage receptacle that is readily identifiable by the collectors. Extra yard debris and food scraps may be placed in biodegradable paper bags specifically marketed for such use. Plastic bags are not to be used for yard debris collection. Extra limbs and brush may be set out in bundles not exceeding two feet by two feet by four feet in length and secured with biodegradable string or twine. Limbs cannot exceed four inches in diameter and four feet in length. Yard debris waste shall be defined as set forth in SMC 13.14.010. Food scraps and compostable paper may be placed in a yard debris cart. (37), except that yard debris waste for curbside collection shall not include wood or tree limbs over three feet long, nor three inches in diameter. Only yard debris waste generated at the dwelling unit shall be collected at curbside. Yard waste may be set out for separate curbside collection in a garbage receptacle clearly marked for that purpose or in biodegradable paper bags specifically marketed for such use. Plastic bags are not to be used for this purpose.~~

~~B. Only yard debris, food scraps and compostable paper waste shall be placed in a garbage receptacle marked for yard debris cart waste and set out for collection.~~

**Section 6. Amendment.** Shoreline Municipal Code section 13.14.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:

*13.14.210 Littering.*

A. No person shall throw, discard, or deposit litter on any street, sidewalk, or other public property within the city, on any private property within the city and not owned by the person, or in or upon any body of water within the jurisdiction of the city, whether from a vehicle or otherwise; except:

1. When the property is designated by the state of Washington or any of its agencies or political subdivisions or by the city for the disposal of litter or other garbage and such person is authorized to use the property in such manner; or
2. Into a public garbage receptacle or garbage receptacle or dumpster drop-box container owned by or authorized for the person's use, in a manner in which the litter will be prevented from being carried or deposited by the elements or otherwise on any street, sidewalk, or other public or private property.

B. No owner, tenant, or other person responsible for the condition of a construction site shall cause or allow any litter from the site to be deposited by the elements or otherwise on any other public or private property in the city. During such time as the site is not being used, all litter shall be stored or deposited in garbage receptacles or other containers in such a manner as to prevent the litter from being deposited on any other public or private property.

C. No person shall place or tack notices, handbills, literature, etc., on vehicles, utility or sign poles, or other features or improvements on public property. This provision does not prohibit the handing of notices, handbills, literature, etc., from one person into the hands of another or the posting of informational materials upon public kiosks designated for that purpose

**Section 7. Amendment.** Shoreline Municipal Code section 13.14.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

*13.14.230 Accumulation of garbage, waste and recyclables.*

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep garbage or allow garbage or recyclables to accumulate on any property, or in any public place, except in a garbage receptacle or recycling cart, or as otherwise authorized by ordinance or by the city manager. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or allow waste to accumulate on any property, or in any public place, except as provided in this chapter. This subsection applies to any accumulation of garbage, waste and recyclables accumulation with the exclusion of litter.

B. It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of abutting private property, residential or nonresidential, to allow the accumulation of any garbage, waste or recyclables on sidewalks or planting strips, whether the garbage, waste or recyclables ~~are~~ is deposited by such owner or occupant or not. Garbage, waste and recyclables that is prohibited to accumulate includes but is not limited to cigarette butts and burning or smoldering materials. This provision shall not apply to:

1. The sheriff when removing the contents of a building to a public place pursuant to an eviction order; provided, however, any contents remaining in a public place for greater than 24 hours shall be considered abandoned property by the tenant and a violation of this section by the landlord if not removed and disposed of pursuant to RCW 59.18.312;
2. Firefighters placing debris on the sidewalk or planting strip in the course of extinguishing a fire or explosion;
3. The use of receptacles placed or authorized by the city for the collection of garbage or recyclables on sidewalks or planting strips; or
4. Accumulations temporarily authorized under a street use permit.

**Section 8. Effective date.** A summary of this ordinance consisting of its title shall be published in the official newspaper of the City and the ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after the publication date.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2008.**

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Mayor Cindy Ryu

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Scott Passey, CMC  
City Clerk

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Ian Sievers  
City Attorney

Date of Publication:  
Effective Date: