Requirements for “Junk” (i.e., Solid Waste) Removal Companies

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Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting
October 23, 2018
Relevant Solid Waste Definitions

CGS Sec. 22a-207

• (3) “Solid waste” means unwanted or discarded solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material, including, but not limited to, demolition debris, material burned or otherwise processed at a resources recovery facility or incinerator, material processed at a recycling facility and sludges or other residue from a water pollution abatement facility, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility;

• (4) “Solid waste facility” means any solid waste disposal area, volume reduction plant, transfer station, wood-burning facility or biomedical waste treatment facility;

• (10) “Transfer station” means any location or structure, whether located on land or water, where more than ten cubic yards of solid waste, generated elsewhere, may be stored for transfer or transferred from transportation units and placed in other transportation units for movement to another location, whether or not such waste is stored at the location prior to transfer.
CGS Sec. 22a-220a

• (g) "Collector" means any person who holds himself out for hire regularly to collect solid waste from residential, business, commercial or other establishments. "Collector" does not include:
  ▪ (1) Any person who transports solid waste that is incidentally generated during professional or commercial activities unrelated to the collection of solid waste, such as residential property repairs, provided such solid waste is self-generated by such person's professional or commercial activities and such solid waste is transported to an authorized recycling facility, a permitted recycling facility, or a permitted solid waste facility, and
  ▪ (2) any person who transports used materials for the purpose of delivering such materials to a charitable organization that distributes reused household items or to a retail facility that sells reused household items.
CGS Sec. 22a-208a

• (b) No person or municipality shall establish, construct or operate a solid waste facility without a permit issued by the commissioner under this section.
“Junk” Removal Universe in CT

• Junk Removal Companies/Collectors Include:
  ▪ Companies that offer “junk” (i.e., solid waste) removal services (with staff who do the removing); and
  ▪ Companies that provide containers other than dumpsters (e.g., plastic “foldable” dumpster bags) for collection of materials for disposal
“Junk” Removal Universe in CT

• Does NOT Include (for the purposes of this presentation)
  – Traditional dumpster rental companies (since already in the regulated Solid Waste industry)
  – Companies that only collect materials for re-sale or reuse (e.g., Goodwill, building materials reuse companies)
Why Are We Discussing Today?

Concerns:

• Complaints that junk removal companies are commingling designated recyclables & trash

• Industry confusion regarding whether junk removal companies are regulated as collectors (CGS 22a-220a(g))

• Collectors’ registrations with the towns in which they operate when applicable (i.e., when required by the town)
Requirements for “Junk” Removal Companies

• These companies must register annually in the towns in which they operate pursuant to CGS 22a-220a(d)(1)

• When providing clean out services for their customers, companies must make provisions for separating designated recyclables and other recyclable items from items intended for disposal

• Collected materials must be taken to recycling markets, or authorized facilities for processing and/or disposal
  – If materials are taken to a location for sorting, processing or consolidating, that location will need a solid waste permit.
Requirements for Dumpster Bag Companies

• These companies **must** register annually in the towns in which they operate pursuant to [CGS 22a-220a(d)(1)](https://www.cga.ct.gov/1999/2000/ca22a-220a-d-1.htm)

• Dumpster bag companies must provide clear instructions to their customers regarding what can and cannot be placed in a dumpster bag (e.g., no designated recyclables, including cardboard, yard wastes, etc. per [CGS Sec. 22a-241](https://www.cga.ct.gov/1999/2000/ca22a-241.htm))

• Collected materials must be taken to recycling markets or authorized facilities for processing and/or disposal
  – If materials are taken to a location for sorting, processing or consolidating, that location will need a solid waste permit.
Recyclable items (1 of 3)

Items Mandated for Recycling and usually collected as mixed recyclables (i.e., single stream):

• Glass & Metal Food & Beverage Containers
• Plastic Containers (PET or PETE #1)
• Plastic Containers (HDPE #2)
• Corrugated Cardboard
• Boxboard
• Newspaper
• Magazines
• White & Colored Office Paper (residences and businesses)

Refer to What’s IN, What’s OUT educational materials for further guidance on what items can be collected with mixed recyclables in CT.
Designated Recyclables that are NOT accepted in Single Stream programs, but must be collected separately for recycling:

- Scrap Metal, including appliances
- Ni-Cd Rechargeable Batteries (from consumer products)
- Waste Oil (crankcase oil from internal combustion engines)
- Lead acid battery or a motor vehicle battery
- Residential Covered Electronic Devices (televisions, monitors, printers and computers)
- Grass Clippings
- Leaves (must be composted)
- Commercially Generated Source Separated Organic Materials (Only applies to those businesses compelled to do so per CGS Section 22a-226e. Please view the Commercial Organics Recycling Law webpage for more information.)
Items Covered Under a Product Stewardship Program:

- **Household Covered Electronic Devices** (televisions, monitors, printers and computers)
- **Paint**
- **Mattresses**
- **Mercury Thermostats**
For more information...

For permitting applicability questions, please contact:

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Additional information can be found on DEEP’s Solid Waste & Recycling Hauler Resources webpage
Or call COMPASS (Compliance Assistance) program at 888-424-4193