

Regional Service Standard: Code Update Overview

Regional Waste Advisory Committee, June 18, 2020

Introduction

The current Metro Code Chapter 5.10 implements the requirements of the former Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, not the new Regional Waste Plan adopted in March 2019. At the May RWAC meeting, we introduced the overall process of amending the Code, developing new Administrative Rules and updating Rules already in place. This document is designed to provide more context as the Committee reviews the draft Code.

The revised Code chapters include:

- Local government requirements under the Regional Waste Plan
- Residential service
- Business service and recycling requirement
- General Education
- Business food waste requirement

As noted in the May meeting, the most substantive changes are to the residential and general education sections. Updates to the business sections are primarily to remove obsolete references, adjust dates, and to renumber sections to match the new Code.

Below is an overview of the most significant changes that will be made to Code and Rule—these are high-priority Regional Waste Plan actions. More detail about each element noted below is in the Administrative Rules, which the Committee will review at the July meeting.

Single-Family Residential (up to four housing units)

- Adds minimum service capacity:
 - At least 60 gallons for the collection of mixed recycling (except glass and motor oil).
 - At least five gallons for source-separated glass collection.
 - At least 60 gallons for yard debris collection.
- Weekly collection of mixed recycling, glass, motor oil, and yard debris on the same day as garbage. Every-other week programs in place since 2019 meet this standard.
- Monthly glass collection will need to move to every-other-week minimum.
- Adds in food waste collection as an option.
- Requires that property owners and managers provide adequate on-site recycling collection service to renters.

Multifamily Residential (five or more housing units)

- Adds minimum service capacity:
 - At least 20 gallons per unit, per week for garbage collection service.
 - At least 20 gallons per unit, per week for acceptable recyclable materials.
 - At least one gallon per unit, per week for source-separated glass.
 - Weekly collection (with some exceptions).

- Requires regularly-occurring bulky waste collection service by July 1, 2025.
- Establishes container color standards.
 - Garbage = gray
 - Mixed recycling = blue
 - Yard debris = green
 - Glass = orange
- Requires use of regional standard container decals, signs and informational material.

General Education

- Creates base level of outreach and education to all customers that is culturally-responsive, accurate and reflects local conditions.
- Requires that customers receive information about the primary components of garbage and recycling collection rates including collection costs, recycling costs, disposal costs, general administrative and franchise fees.
- Requires collection service providers to give direct feedback to individual customers regarding any contamination of recyclables.