

RULES AND REGULATIONS COMBINED RUBBISH, GARBAGE AND RECYCLABLE COLLECTIONS

The following amended Rules and Regulations governing the collection of combined Rubbish and Garbage, as well as collection of recyclable and compostable materials, were adopted on December 6, 2010 at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Abington Board of Health.

A. The Town of Abington Board of Health will collect rubbish and garbage, as well as, recyclable materials once each week from each inhabited residence and municipal buildings, provided that there is compliance with the Rules and Regulations defined herein. Collection from commercial property is excluded.

B. DEFINITIONS:

1. **Rubbish:** Standard household waste, not including recyclable materials as defined below.
2. **Garbage:** Food waste, vegetables, fruit, peelings, animal matter, etc. Garbage must be wrapped securely before being added to the rubbish. No garbage may be exposed.
3. **Recyclable Materials:** Newspaper, corrugated cardboard, magazines, phone books, mixed papers, chipboard, junk mail, glass, #1 through #7 plastics, tin and metal cans. (**no plastic bags**)
4. **Residence:** A building used for the habitation of up to and including three (3) families. All condominium complexes established in the Town of Abington as of September 1, 1991 will be considered single-family units. Inclusion of any additional complexes established after said date is subject to the approval of the Board of Selectman.
5. **Commercial Property:** Industrial, trade or business property, any building used for the habitation of four (4) or more families, as well as any property that contains both business and residential units.
6. **Rubbish and Garbage Containers:**
 1. A 64 gallon cart for rubbish will be provided by the Town of Abington.
 2. Excess trash – Will be determined on a case by case basis from the Board of Health.
 3. All trash must fit within the covered container (lids on carts, bags tied). Long objects must be cut down to fit the container.

7. Recyclable Containers:

Abington will be providing recycling carts to residents. Recyclables can be commingled and put into the town-provided container. Larger containers may be used for recyclables but must be approved on a case by case basis by the Board of Health. **The container must have recyclable material in it in order for your trash to be picked up.** The container should be placed separate, but next to the trash container.

- C. Containers for rubbish and garbage, must be placed at the curb or at a point no further than three (3) feet from the back of the curb by **seven (7:00) A.M.** on the assigned day and must be maintained in a sanitary condition. Handle must be facing away from street.

D. MANDATORY RECYCLABLE MATERIALS:

In an effort to meet the recycling quotas established by the State, effective August 1, 1998, all residents receiving rubbish service under the municipal contract are required to recycle. Rubbish will not be collected from those properties which do not have a recycling container curbside. **In the event that the recyclables are collected before the rubbish, residents should leave the recycling container curbside until trash has been collected.**

A separate truck will collect recyclable materials on the same assigned day as the rubbish.

In Multi-family dwellings it is the owner's responsibility that there is one recycling container for each residential unit.

Abington's recycling is single-stream meaning there is no need to separate or sort the following recyclable items.

1. **Paper** including newspaper, magazines, phonebooks, glossy paper and junk mail.
2. **Glass and Plastic** rinsed #1 through #7 plastics only. Labels do not have to be removed. Plastic bags not accepted (currently recycled at your local stores).
3. **Tin and Metal cans** Labels do not have to be removed.
4. **Cardboard** cut down to fit into cart with lid closed.

F. PROHIBITED ITEMS: The following items will **not** be collected under any circumstances and must be disposed of by the owner:

1. Gasoline, solvents, toxic materials, chemical waste, sewage, ammunition and liquid oil based paints.
2. Automobiles, auto body parts, trucks, truck body parts, tires and batteries.
3. Stones, bricks, cement blocks, demolition materials, construction debris, and waste from home renovation projects; including, but not limited to bathroom fixtures, wallboard, plasterboard, cabinets, countertops, windows and doors.
4. Dead Animals.
5. Lead, TV's, computer monitors and carbon cell batteries.
6. Brush, tree limbs, grass clippings and leaves.
7. Medical waste and needles.
8. Propane Tanks
9. WASTE BANS Any items listed on *Waste Ban List* mandated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) that are not collected as recyclable material. The following materials and items are currently prohibited from disposal and/or transfer for disposal in Massachusetts:

- Asphalt pavement, brick & concrete
- Cathode ray tubes
- Ferrous & non-ferrous metals
- Lead acid batteries
- Leaves & yard waste
- Treated & untreated wood & wood waste
- White goods (large appliances)
- Whole tires

No items considered to be "Hazardous Waste" by the Federal Government or the State of Massachusetts are acceptable.

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/reduce/househol.htm>

G. BULK ITEMS: Bulk items refer to large items that do not fit in a 64-gallon trash container and/or exceed 40 pounds. Examples of bulk items include chairs, tables, cribs, furniture (except sofa beds), bicycles, grills, mattress, box spring, large toys, carpeting (must be cut into 3' X 3" sections and bundled).

Bulk Items shall be collected for a fee by making a telephone appointment with the Town's waste hauler Waste Solutions at 800- 659-1501

- H. HOLIDAYS:** If a holiday falls on a regular collection day, the collection will be held for all sections of the Town on the day following the normal collection days. Holiday's for one day delay are: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Holiday's for regular collection pick up are Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, and Patriots Day.
- I. EMERGENCIES:** If, for some emergency reason, (storms, etc.), collection is not made on the assigned day, it will be made one day later than usual for each succeeding day during the week. Please check the town web site or the BOH office outgoing phone message.
- J. ROUTE SCHEDULE:** A route schedule is available at the Board of Health office upon request.
- K. All of the above Rules and Regulations are to be complied with fully and completely. Failure to do so will result in the following actions:**
- a. First Attempt: Verbal warning by phone call or talking in-person to educate residents regarding the local trash and recycling regulations.
 - b. Second Attempt: Written warning to the property owner regarding the violation along with a copy of the Board of Health local trash and recycling regulations.
 - c. Noncriminal fine of \$50 for non-compliance
 - d. Noncriminal fine of \$100 for each additional offense without compliance
 - e. Failure to comply will result in no collection at the offending residence until compliance is met and fines are paid

Updated: 9/10/97 – 6/19/98 – 6/30/08 – 12/06/10 – 12/3/12 – 5/20/13