



## New Solid Waste Management Requirements for Municipalities

In November 2019, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners adopted a revised [Ordinance 110, Solid Waste Management](#) to implement strategies in the 2018-2030 Solid Waste Master Plan to reduce waste going to landfills, improve the quality of materials recycled, and make progress toward the state's goal to recycle 75 percent of waste by 2030.

Below is a summary of the new requirements that impact municipalities:

### 1. Recycling Requirements for All Commercial Entities, Including Municipalities

Municipalities must recycle a [designated list of recyclables](#) at all city/township buildings and grounds (e.g., municipal parks, golf courses and youth sporting tournaments, festivals, and events on municipal grounds) and follow best waste management practices, including:

- All recycling and trash containers are properly labeled. Labels must be consistent with County waste abatement messaging guidelines and:
  - Indicate the material type collected, and use the term “Trash”, “Recycle” or “Recycling”, “Organics” (if collected). Other waste types must be labeled with the materials accepted.
  - Show images of materials accepted in recycling and organics (if collected) containers.
  - Be color-coded (blue for recycling, gray or black for trash, green for organics).
  - Be visible and legible to users.
  - Include preparation requirements, where applicable.
- The collection schedule and container capacities are sufficient to collect all the recyclables from the building spaces and to prevent overflowing containers.
- Co-locate recycling containers within 10 feet of trash containers.
- Ensure recyclables and organics are separated and delivered to a recycling or organics facility.
- Provide standardized waste abatement messages in print or electronic form to each employee and housekeeping and custodial contractor within 30 days of hire, and annually thereafter<sup>1</sup>.
- Annually report to the County to demonstrate program effectiveness on County forms<sup>2</sup>.
- Do not put any of the items on the [designated list of contaminants](#) in the recycling container.

**When do municipalities need to comply?** By July 1, 2020

<sup>1</sup> The County is developing a repository of waste abatement messages that includes recycling educational information and images that can be downloaded for use at no cost. Messages will be available in Q1 2020.

<sup>2</sup> County staff is currently working with stakeholders on all components of implementation, including to develop County forms for annual reporting. Businesses/organizations/municipalities will not have to report until forms are provided by County staff.

See [Ordinance 110](#), Sections: 3.01 Generator Requirements, 16.02 Commercial Generators; 16.05 Trash, Recycling and Organics Requirements; and 16.06 Labeling (pages 12, 111-113) for the full list of requirements.

## 2. Requirements for a Solid Waste Abatement Program

The ordinance already included requirements for municipalities to implement a solid waste abatement program that is consistent with the County’s Master Plan and to annually report results to the County.

Additional requirements include:

- a. Deliver County-developed standardized solid waste abatement messaging<sup>1</sup>.
- b. Ensure all residents, including multifamily residents, and commercial generators have the opportunity to recycle.
- c. Support implementation of the County’s Master Plan.

***When do municipalities need to comply?*** By January 1, 2020<sup>1</sup>

See [Ordinance 110](#), Section 16.01 Municipal Solid Waste Abatement Program, A and C - E. (page 111) for a full list of the requirements.

## 3. Additional Requirements for Municipalities With Populations Over 10,000:

- a. Update, as necessary, and enact a municipal code that is consistent with and no less restrictive than the amended Ordinance 110. City code cannot contradict Ordinance 110 and must allow the County to enforce requirements (i.e., weekly residential recycling, generator recycling, large commercial generator organics collection, hauler messaging/container labeling).
- b. Incorporate requirements in city code for property owners and managers of multi-unit residential buildings who manage municipal solid waste through a common contract to provide recycling and apply best waste management practices, including:
  - Provide recycling service to all residents/tenants.
  - Collect the [designated list of recyclables](#).
  - Provide properly-labeled containers that are consistent with County waste abatement messaging and:
    - Indicate the material type collected, and use the term “Trash”, “Recycle” or “Recycling”, and “Organics” (if collected). Other waste types must be labeled with the materials accepted.
    - Show images of materials accepted in recycling and organics (if collected) containers.
    - Be color-coded (blue for recycling, green for organics, gray or black for trash).
    - Be visible and legible to users.
    - Include preparation requirements, where applicable.
  - The collection schedule and container capacities are sufficient to collect all the recyclables and organics (if collected) from the building spaces and to prevent overflowing containers.
  - Co-locate recycling containers within 10 feet of trash containers.

- Provide recycling containers with a weekly service capacity of at least 0.1 cubic yards per dwelling unit.
  - Ensure recyclables collected are delivered to a recycling facility and organics (if collected) are delivered to an organics facility.
  - Provide standardized waste abatement messages to tenants, employees, housekeeping, and custodial contractors within 30 days of hire or a new tenant, and annually thereafter<sup>1</sup>.
- c. Incorporate requirements in city code for event sponsors, owners and operators of events and event venues to recycle the [designated list of recyclables](#) and follow best waste management practices, and require large event venues with organics<sup>3</sup> to follow best practices for organics collection, including:
- Provide properly labeled containers that are consistent with County waste abatement messaging guidelines and:
    - Indicate the material type collected, and use the term “Trash”, “Recycle” or “Recycling”, and “Organics” (if required to collect). Other waste types must be labeled with the materials accepted.
    - Show images of materials accepted in recycling containers.
    - Be color-coded (blue for recycling, green for organics, gray or black for trash).
    - Be visible and legible to users.
    - Include preparation requirement, where applicable.
  - The collection schedule and container capacity are sufficient to collect all the recyclables and organics (if required to collect) from the building spaces and to prevent overflowing containers.
  - Co-locate recycling containers within 10 feet of trash containers.
  - Ensure recyclables collected are delivered to a recycling facility and organics (if required to collect) are delivered to an appropriate food recovery/organics facility.
  - Provide standardized waste abatement messages to event volunteers and employees, housekeeping, and custodial contractors within 30 days of hire, and annually thereafter<sup>1</sup>.

***When do municipalities need to comply?*** City code updates required by January 1, 2021. City enforcement of code requirements must be consistent with or no less restrictive than effective dates in Ordinance 110.

*See [Ordinance 110](#), Sections: 3.01 Generator Requirements, 16.01 Municipality Solid Waste Abatement Program, 16.03 Multi-Unit Residential Buildings, 16.05 Trash, Recycling and Organics Requirements and 16.06 Labeling (pages 12, 111 - 113) for the full list of requirements.*

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<sup>3</sup> Large event venues with organics are defined as a gathering of at least 300 people (e.g., concerts, fairs, festivals, community events, athletic tournaments) that generates at least one ton (eight cubic yards) of trash per location and that generates back-of-house-organics. It is the County’s responsibility to enforce the requirement for event venues to collect organics and cities must incorporate and enforce best practices (as identified in Ordinance 110, Section 16.05) subject to the County requirement.

**4. Additional Requirements That May Impact Municipalities (e.g., policies, operations):**

**A. Events (including on city property):** Property owners, managers, and event sponsors:

- By July 1, 2020: Collect/recycle a [designated list of recyclables](#) using best waste management practices (properly label containers, co-locate containers, educate vendors/volunteers, report) and keep the [list of contaminants](#) out of the recycling.
- By January 1, 2024: Collect a [designated list of organics](#) using best waste management practices in back-of-house areas at large events with organics. Large events with organics are defined as generating at least 1 ton or 8 cubic yards of waste.

*See [Ordinance 110](#), Sections: 3.01 Generator Requirements, 16.02 Commercial Generator; 16.04 Organics; 16.05 Trash, Recycling and Organics Requirements; and 16.06 Labeling (pages 12, 111 - 113) for the full list of requirements.*

**B. Haulers:**

- By January 1, 2020:
  - Properly label (color-coded, clear terminology, images) new carts and dumpsters with labels that are consistent with County waste abatement messaging (color-coded, standardized terminology, images)<sup>1</sup>.
  - Clearly label the capacity of each cart or dumpster.
  - Standardize invoices.
  - Collect the [designated list of recyclables](#) from customers.
  - Deliver County-developed standardized solid waste abatement messaging<sup>1</sup>.
- By January 1, 2022:
  - Properly label carts and dumpsters purchased before 2020 with labels that are consistent with County waste abatement messaging (color-coded, standardized terminology, images)<sup>1</sup>.
  - Achieve a 40% residential recycling rate or offer weekly recycling service to all residential customers.

*See [Ordinance 110](#), Sections: 15.02 Equipment and Operations Requirements, C. Labeling; 15.08 Additional Requirements for Hauler Licensed Under the Regional Hauler Licensing Program, K. Hauler Shall Offer Recycling Services, M. Invoices, and N. Customer Education; and 16.06 Labeling (pages 103, 106-108, 113) for the full list of requirements.*

**C. Transfer Stations:**

- By January 1, 2020: Reduced regulation for collection and transfer of small amounts of recyclable materials (e.g., organics, yard waste, mattresses, etc.) and other wastes.

*See [Ordinance 110](#), Section: 11.03, Reduced Regulation Collection and Transfer Stations (pages 88-89) for the full list of requirements.*

D. Residents:

- By January 1, 2021: Recycle the [designated list of recyclables](#) and keep the [list of contaminants](#) out of the recycling.

*See [Ordinance 110](#), Section 3.01 Generator Requirements, A.6 and B.4 (page 12) for the requirement.*

E. Large Commercial Organics Generators: Owners and managers collect a [designated list of organics](#) (food waste) from back-of-house areas using best waste management practices (label containers, co-locate containers, educate employees):

- By January 1, 2022: Food wholesalers, distributors, and manufacturers; grocery stores.
- By January 1, 2023: Hospitals; schools, colleges and universities with dining services.
- By January 1, 2024: Other large commercial organics generators, including (on city property) golf clubs and country clubs, food shelves and food banks, public/rentable commissaries and at large event venues with organics.

*See [Ordinance 110](#), Sections: 3.01 Generator Requirements; 16.04 Organics; 16.05 Trash, Recycling and Organics Requirements; and 16.06 Labeling (pages 12, 112-113) for the full list of requirements.*

### **Become Engaged**

The new requirements may have just passed in November 2019, but County staff are actively engaging representatives on implementation approaches. If you would like more information about the new requirements or wish to provide feedback on implementation, contact:

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