



Multi-family

Waste Bylaw Requirements and Best Practices

This checklist will help you set up and maintain a waste program that is compliant with Waste Bylaw 4M2020 and follows best practices for waste storage and collection.

Bylaw Requirements

Your multi-family complex must meet all criteria to be compliant with the Waste Bylaw.

Your complex provides separate containers for the collection of:

- Mixed recycling
- Food scraps and yard waste
- Garbage

Adequate waste containers are available for collection.

Use the following questions to determine if container size and number are adequate:

- Between collection days, does all waste fit inside containers without overflowing?
- Are containers located in convenient locations for residents to access?

Make note of where you may need to change container size, number, or frequency of collection.

Clear signage is posted on each of the following containers, showing which materials are accepted.

- Mixed recycling sign
- Food scraps and yard waste sign
- Garbage sign

Waste information is provided to all residents on an annual basis and new residents upon move-in

Information should include:

- A list of accepted materials for recycling and for compost bins
- Location of the waste room and/or collection areas
- How to prepare and sort materials

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Best Practices for Waste Storage

The following best practices are not mandatory under the bylaw but will support the success of your waste programs.

- Compost, recycling, and garbage containers are located together.** If not possible, add signage near your garbage dumpster or chutes indicating the location of your recycling and compost programs and which materials are accepted.
- Waste containers are colour-coded** to help residents easily tell the difference between compost, recycling, and garbage. We recommend using blue for recycling, green for compost, and black for garbage.
- Signage uses pictures of acceptable/unacceptable items for compost, recycling, and garbage.** For free sign templates, go to calgary.ca/multifamily.
- Waste area is well-lit.** This increases safety, promotes proper use of programs and reduces dumping.
- Waste areas are kept neat and tidy.** Visit the waste area in your complex at least once per month to identify issues that need to be addressed.
- Residents with limited mobility can access your waste room/area.** Where options are limited, can waste be collected from a resident's floor or unit?
- Waste container openings are at a height where it's easy to lift materials into them.**
- Noises or smells from your waste area will not impact nearby units.** Consider the noise from when waste containers are collected. To reduce smells, increase the frequency of collection during the warmer months.

Looking for help?

Visit our website to find signage templates, waste guides for residents, and a waste hauler directory: Calgary.ca/multifamily

Have a question?

Contact us by calling 311