

Public Notice

Suburban kerbside recycling – new conditions

At its meeting on 20 April 2011, Wellington City Council resolved to adopt new terms and conditions for suburban kerbside collection of recycling under clause 4.2.1, Part 9 (Waste Management) of the Wellington City Consolidated Bylaw 2008.

These conditions are detailed in Terms and Conditions of the bylaw and will come into force on 16 May 2011.

Because Waste Management (Part 9) of the Consolidated Bylaw covers all elements of recycling and waste collection, the terms and conditions adopted by the Council should be read in this context. Clause 2.1 specifies the approved containers for recycling, while Clause 2.9 details the other key conditions that will apply to the new recycling collection method in suburban areas.

The conditions adopted relate to approved containers, permitted recyclable material, placement of containers, timing for putting material out for collection, maximum allowable weight, the ability of the Council to vary some conditions and remedies for non-compliance with the conditions.

The need for these changes came about primarily to improve safety for Council staff and contractors. Secondary benefits include the ability for Wellingtonians to recycle more material.

These terms and conditions do not include the process for determining which households receive wheelie bins and which will receive bags for recycling, or how collection from private streets is assessed. Such matters are operational.

The key changes for the new method of suburban recycling collection are summarised as follows:

1. Official containers being:
 - a) for glass only - the 45 litre green crates previously used for domestic recyclables
 - b) for other recyclable material – either the Wellington City Council branded black and yellow 140 litre wheelie bin or branded 70 litre clear plastic bags.
2. The weight maximum for the contents in a recycling bag or green crate is 15 kilograms. This weight limit does not apply to the wheelie bins that are mechanically lifted into collection trucks.
3. Clarification of what glass is permitted for recycling and what other recyclable materials are permitted.
4. Glass and other recyclables will be collected on alternate weeks as specified for each area.

5. The placement of approved containers must be within specific times, in a manner that does not obstruct a carriageway in front of the associated property if practical and on a public street, or at a specific location as determined by the Council. The specified location can include a private road assessed as safe for the new method of collection and which does not risk liability to the Council.
6. The Council has the ability to declare some streets or locations unsafe for recycling collection.
7. The Council may withdraw services to residents who do not comply with the conditions.

Other general information on suburban recycling collection will be provided with the distribution of the wheelie bins and recycling bags, as well as updates via the media and the Council website.

For further information, visit the Council website – Wellington.govt.nz – or call 499 4444.