

General Assembly- Solid Waste Management Districts

KRS 109.011 Findings and
**DECLARATION OF
PURPOSE**
of 109 Board's enabling statute

KRS 109.011(10): It is the intent of the General Assembly that waste requiring disposal in municipal solid waste disposal facilities be reduced and that solid waste be managed in an environmentally protective manner

KRS 109.011(7): That the General Assembly recognizes the generation of solid waste is inevitable, but much of it is unnecessary and should be discouraged. However, where solid waste does exist, it should be considered to the extent possible as a valuable resource, and be made use of wherever and whenever desirable and economically justifiable.

General Assembly- Solid Waste Management Districts

LMCO Chapter 51 mirrors the language of the statutes and includes the language of **KRS 109.120** verbatim.

KRS 109.120 Rules and regulations of the board: "The board may adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the purposes for which the waste management district was created and necessary for the adequate management of solid waste in a manner adequate to protect the public health and consistent with such rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the department"

Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government Waste Management District

The Waste Management District was created December 11, 1990 by Jefferson Fiscal Court pursuant to KRS 109.41 (13), KRS 109.115 and KRS 67.083(3) and includes in its jurisdiction all territory within the borders of the county.

The District was granted those powers and duties assigned to solid waste management districts under KRS 68.178 and KRS Chapters 109 and 224.

Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government Waste Management District

The duties of the District are to:

- prepare and submit to the Cabinet, the Louisville/Jefferson County Solid Waste Management Plan;
- provide a universal collection program; and
- adopt such rules as necessary for the adequate management of solid waste in a manner adequate to protect the public health and consistent with rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the Cabinet.

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Yard Waste Container Regulation 51.507R

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History

1997 Yard Waste Landfill Ban was implemented

Garbage and yard waste separated at the curb

Plastics began to be a problem in early 2000's as many of the reusable containers used for collection of trash before the larger carts slowly went away.

Result

Yard waste increasingly became contaminated with plastic

Tipping Point

2006 The compost from the curbside yard waste became unusable.

Alternative Daily Cover-Covering the waste at the end of the day

Previous attempts to fix the issue failed

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Curbside Yard Waste Collection Numbers

24% (80,000) of households in Jefferson County use curbside collection for yard waste

32,000 tons of yard waste was collected.

Much of that yard waste is contaminated with plastic that prevents it from being composted

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Why is Plastic a Problem?

Plastic Does Not Decompose

Reduces Quality of Compost

No one wants to buy mulch with plastic shreds in it

Increases Processing Cost

If each household set out 15 bags per year, it would generate over 1,200,000 plastic bags (too many to remove manually)



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Removing bags while they are collected

- Significantly increases time and cost to complete route
- Increased risk to workers and motorist along roadways
- Plastic bags that are removed have a tendency blow away...creating litter.



Removing plastic contamination at compost facility

- Facilities quickly become overwhelmed
- Hand removal is inefficient
- Technology still unable to remove plastic



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Resolution Recommended Best Practices

Handling yard waste, in order of preference:

- Mulch and/or compost yard clippings to eliminate cost and need for yard waste collection. **It's Free!**
- Utilize seasonal drop-off centers for yard waste materials. **It's Free!**
- Place yard waste in reusable containers to reduce the need for continual purchase of single-use bags. **Cheapest Method for Curbside Collection!**
- Place yard waste in paper bags designed for yard waste collection.
- Place yard waste in compostable bags that meet ASTM D6400 standards.



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Michigan State University Turf Grass Sciences

Handling Yard Waste At Home

A common misconception is that clippings left on the lawn will promote thatch buildup. This is not true. Clippings do not make significant contributions to thatch and should be returned to the lawn whenever possible.

Experts agree mulching is the best way to manage grass and leaf clippings

If clippings are removed, they can be used in compost piles or as mulch. Backyard compost stations are becoming increasingly popular, and grass clippings are a welcome addition.

- Lawn Care Companies
- Golf Courses
- Parks

Mowing tree leaves in the autumn and returning them to the turf system is an outstanding alternative to raking and bagging. MSU studies have evaluated the effects of mowing tree leaves into lawns. In these studies, up to 6 inches of various types of tree leaves were mowed into lawns. No adverse effects were detected on the lawns.

Do Not Pick Up Grass Or Leaves

Reports from professional turf managers who have been practicing this technique on golf courses and commercial turf have been positive.

Why pay for yard waste collection?

<http://www.turf.msu.edu/mowing-lawn-turf>

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Cost of Reusable Containers vs. Plastic Bags Over Time					
Reusable Container	Cost per Use*				
Cost per Unit	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
\$20.00	\$0.63	\$0.31	\$0.21	\$0.16	\$0.13
\$15.00	\$0.47	\$0.23	\$0.16	\$0.12	\$0.09
\$10.00	\$0.31	\$0.16	\$0.10	\$0.08	\$0.06
Single-use Plastic Bag (Cost per Use)	Overall Cost*				
\$0.30	\$9.60	\$19.20	\$28.80	\$38.40	\$48.00
\$0.20	\$6.40	\$12.80	\$19.20	\$25.60	\$32.00

*Based on 32 uses per year, yellow indicates when the price of using plastic bags exceeds a \$10 reusable container, orange when the price exceeds use of a \$15 reusable container, and red when the price exceeds use of a \$20 container(s).

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**What is an appropriate reusable
container for yard waste collection?**

**Durable grade of galvanized metal
or plastic from 20 to 35 gallons
capacity.**

**The container shall be provided
with two lifting handles on
opposite sides**

**Containers that are emptied
manually shall not exceed 60
pounds when filled...**



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Paper Yard Waste Bags

Tougher than conventional
plastic bags

Stands up so you don't
bend over

Easy to fill openings



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Durability of Paper

This bag was filled with grass and sticks then soaked with garden hose, left out through four different rain events, and after each rain event it was tossed in the air.

The key is to fold the top to prevent water from pooling inside



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Proposed Yard Waste Regulation Outreach Plan

High Level Outline

This draft is intended to be a guide for the Outreach Campaign. Some items may be changed or adapted as needed.

The goal is to reach all households using plastic bags three times through either public information messaging, mailings, and hand delivered notices during collection.

To assist in the effort the District is in the process of hiring a public education coordinator who will work with various community groups, elected officials, and media outlets.

In addition the District will reach out to other organizations to help promote the regulation.

- Press Release announcing measure has passed
- Multiple message placements in Metro Council News newsletters/emails during the outreach period
- Multiple message placements in Louisville.ky.gov website(s)
- Establishment of a web based communications and education site
- Radio interviews with appropriate personalities and formats
- Mayor's social media and newsletters
- Television interviews with appropriate personalities and formats
- Metro Text Alerts
- Promotional Bag Give-A-Ways with information on regulation
- Point of Purchase Signage at retailers
- Informational Flyers at Staffed Recycling Centers
- Compost Bin Sale and Education Event (May 31)
- Hand Notices or door hangers for waste haulers to place at homes setting out yard waste in plastic bags during the outreach period. Yard waste will still be collected during that time.
- Notices in billing information for private haulers

Louisville/Jefferson County
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109 Board of Directors

Joyce StClair: Chair, At-Large
Representative

Darrel Rhodes: Represents Urban
Service District Residents

Venu Vanaparth: Represents A
District Residents

Lee Lewis: Represents B District
Residents

Vacant: C District

Executive Director: Keith Hackett,
Department of Public Works-Solid
Waste Management Division

The Waste Management District Technical Advisory Committee

Robert Lee: Small Hauler Representative-President/Owner of Eco-Tech Inc. and Clark Floyd
Landfill, Chair of the National Waste and Recycling Association)

Bruce Burrow: Large Hauler Representative-Rumpke-long-time member of the committee, held
positions in all aspects of solid waste management including landfills and composting.

Bob Schindler: Citizen Representative-Past Director of Public Works-Past Solid Waste
Coordinator for Jefferson County-Many years of service in solid waste management)

Marie Burnett: Representative for Landfills, currently with Waste Management of Kentucky as
manager of the landfill operations and compost facility operations

Darrell Shelton: Citizen Representative-long standing member of the committee, currently a
teacher for Jefferson County Public Schools

Pat Stallard: Attorney with Stites and Harbison (Environmental Law)

Bruce Blue: Processors of Ferrous/Non Ferrous Metals Representative, CEO/Owner Freedom
Metals Inc. for 30 plus years

Mike Keeney: Industry Representative

Greg Zahradnik CFEI: Citizen/Environmental, Current Owner Z Engineering, 20 Years General
Electricas Senior Engineer and Management, Adjunct Faculty of Technology and Design
Sullivan College, Just Solutions-Board of Directors

Sarah-Lynn-Cunningham: Licensed environmental engineer and certified environmental
educator. Currently self-employed and teaching green design at the University of Louisville, 23
years in the public sector, most recently for Louisville and Jefferson County (KY) Metropolitan
Sewer District where she was involved in the planning, design, construction and O&M

Tim Darst: Citizen/Environmental Representative, Executive Director of Kentucky Interfaith
Power and Light Inc., past Financial Manager

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**Programs and
Accomplishments**

Established a "Host" agreement with the Outer Loop Landfill
to ensure adequate landfill space for our county by
preventing unauthorized waste shipments from other states

Established a Universal Collection System of licensed haulers

Operates recycling centers for citizens wanting to recycle

Operates the Household Hazardous Materials Drop off center

Conducts special events related to landfill reduction

Partner with the Mayor's Innovation Delivery Team on
recycling which has established innovative collection call
"Wet/Dry" in the Central Business District

Partner with Brightside to provide litter abatement funding
and personnel during community clean up events

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Funding

Funding of the District is generated by fees on licensing of waste management facilities with the emphasis on disposal activities.

Therefore the more effective the District programs are in diverting waste from disposal the less income from license fees.