

Garbage Disposal District Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a Garbage Disposal District (GDD)?

A: A Garbage Disposal District is a special assessment district, through which garbage collection and disposal services are provided to both residents as well as businesses, through the County's contract with a private waste hauler. The service fees for these services are collected annually on the property tax bills.

Using other service providers for trash collection services **may result in additional, unnecessary fees for trash collection services.**

Q: How are the fees for trash collection services paid in a GDD?

A: The service fees for trash collection services are collected annually on the property tax bills. Additional services may be available for an additional cost.

Q: What is the State Waste Reduction Mandate?

A: State law requires cities and counties to reduce the amount of solid waste by 50%. This means half of the waste generated must be recycled or otherwise diverted from landfill disposal. This reduces the need for more landfills and conserves our natural resources.

Q: How does a GDD Waste Collection System work?

A: A GDD allows the County to sign agreements with waste haulers to provide waste collection services to residents in an unincorporated County area. Under these agreements, waste haulers would abide by specific service standards, rate control measures, and reporting requirements. The GDD also provides the County with tools for enforcement.

Q: What are the benefits of a GDD?

A: A GDD system will provide residents with quality waste collection services, consistent rates, improved customer service, and special features, such as annual clean-up events and bulky item pick-up included with the standard service.

Q: How will a waste hauler be selected for my community?

A: The GDD waste hauler is selected through competitive process. All permitted waste haulers operating in the County are requested to submit bids for consideration. Criteria for selecting the best qualified waste hauler include price, work plan, financial resources, references, experience, environmental record, and procurement and/or contract/agreement disputes. A committee will review the proposals and assign a score for each criterion. The waste hauler who receives the highest overall score may be awarded the GDD.

Q: Can waste haulers raise rates during the term of the contract?

A: In most cases yes, subject to County review and approval. The GDD waste hauler may request annual rate adjustments, but must justify the need for the rate adjustment based on changes to the consumer price index, producer price index, changes in environmental laws or increased landfill disposal costs. The rate adjustments will be subject to the limits specified in the GDD agreement.

Q: How many containers am I entitled to?

A: Single-Family Residences will receive three containers, one for trash, one for recyclable materials, and one for green waste.

Q: If I need additional containers, how much will I have to pay for each extra container?

A: Prices may vary. Please contact your waste hauler for more information.

Q: Can I have smaller containers if I find the 96-gallon containers too difficult to handle?

A: Yes, residents can request smaller containers equivalent in capacity to the 96-gallon container at no additional cost.

Q: Who is responsible for replacing damaged containers under the GDD system?

A: Your GDD waste hauler will be responsible for replacing damaged containers within seven days after notification..

Q: In my community some of the residents share a bin, will this be allowed under the GDD system?

A: Yes. However, each parcel will continue to be billed on their property taxes. The County does not reimburse property owners who choose to use a different waste hauler. **This may result in additional, unnecessary fees for trash collection services.**

Q: I don't have trash service. I haul my own trash. Will I be able to continue this under the GDD?

A: Yes, you may continue to self-haul under the GDD. Please note that the County does not reimburse property owners who choose to self-haul. **Self-hauling may result in additional, unnecessary fees for trash collection services.** Please recycle.

Q: What happens if my waste hauler mixes my recyclable materials with the trash?

A: GDD waste haulers are required to collect the trash, recyclable materials, and green waste separately . If you observe your waste hauler mixing recyclables or green waste with trash, we request that you please contact Public Works at (800) 404 - 4487. Haulers found in violation may be fined for each occurrence. To ensure contract compliance, Public Works will have inspectors assigned to monitor trash collection in the GDD areas.

Q: Who can I call if I have a complaint about the trash collection services I receive?

A: Residents are encouraged to contact the waste hauler first to resolve issues concerning the delivery of service. If the waste hauler fails to resolve the issue please contact Public Works.

Q: How will the County ensure the GDD residents and businesses receive quality service from the hauler?

A: The County will monitor compliance with the service standards prescribed by the GDD agreement and ensure residents and businesses receive quality service. Waste haulers who fail to meet these standards may be assessed fines or have their agreement terminated by the County for poor performance.

Q: Do I have to pay extra to have furniture or appliances picked up? How many items are allowed for each pick-up?

A: There is no additional fee for the removal of bulky items (e.g., furniture, appliances, and electronic devices). Residents may be allowed to set out unlimited quantities of certain items. Please contact your waste hauler directly for details and/or to schedule an appointment.

Q: I am not sure what can be recycled.

A: Public Works and the GDD waste hauler will provide residents with a list of the materials that can be placed in the recycling containers. You can also visit CleanLA.com for additional information.

Q: Can I still hire the hauler of my choice for construction, home repair and roll-off services?

A: Yes, residents have the option of either using the GDD hauler or contacting the hauler of their choice for these services for an additional fee

Q: Can I stay with my current hauler even if they are not chosen to provide services to my community?

A: Using other service providers for trash collection services **may result in additional, unnecessary fees for trash collection services.** . .

Q: If I already recycle my own materials at a recycling center, will I be able to receive an extra bin for refuse free of charge?

A: No. A primary objective of the proposed collection system is to divert as much waste as possible from landfills. For this reason, we are providing residents with ample capacity for recyclable materials and green waste (up to two large-capacity containers each). If you are taking your high-value recyclable materials to a recycling center you may continue to do so.

Q: Who is responsible for cleaning up oil leaks, spills or debris left on my street by the trash truck drivers?

A: The GDD waste hauler is responsible for ensuring their trucks operate in a manner that is safe. The hauler is required to clean up all spills, leaks and any debris left by their drivers immediately or be subject to penalties as outlined in the agreement.

Q: What is the term of the GDD agreement?

A: The term of GDD agreements vary between five and seven years.

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