

FACT SHEET FOR RESIDENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE EVENT OF A DELAY IN REFUSE COLLECTION

Citizens cooperation and common sense in finding and using alternatives will minimize problems which may result from a delay of waste collection services in the event of a natural or man-made disaster or a strike.

The actions listed below were prepared by environmental and health personnel to assist you in easing the effects of a disruption of waste collection at your homes and in your communities.

1.	Limit the amount of waste produced:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid the use of disposable products such as paper or plastic plates, cups or disposable diapers. • Reuse products such as plastic containers, jars and aluminum foil. • Compost vegetative and yard wastes if space permits. • Delay any major household cleanups such as backyard cleanup, tree pruning or disposal of old furniture.
2.	Separate and store food wastes and other wet garbage:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drain excess garbage moisture. Pour fats, drippings and grease into glass jars and seal with a screw on lid. • Put food waste, disposable diapers and other wet waste into double plastic bags. • Add a capful of ammonia to reduce odor which will attract animals and other vermin. • Secure trash bag tightly and store in a cool place.
3.	Separate and store recyclable materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rinse bottles and plastic containers. • Rinse and crush aluminum and tin cans, trays and containers. • Bundle cardboard, paper, and magazines. • Store recyclable materials indoors, out of reach of children, and away from combustible materials.
4.	Separate dry, non-recyclable waste:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store non-recyclable paper, containers, packaging and other dry waste indoors and away from combustible materials.
5.	Separate hazardous household waste:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate fluorescent lights, paints and thinners, insecticides and herbicides and store out of reach of children. Hold until county household hazardous waste collection day.