

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN, IN**  
**Ordinance No. G-04- 17**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING POLICIES  
AND RATES FOR GARBAGE COLLECTION  
IN THE TOWN OF GEORGETOWN, IN.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council for the Town of Georgetown, Indiana, in the interest of public health and safety, has deemed it necessary that the Town develop, update and maintain laws which regulate the accumulation and disposal of trash, rubbish and other waste materials; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council for the Town of Georgetown, Indiana, in the interest of the proper and prudent use of the citizens' tax dollars, has determined that the Garbage Collection process should be a self-supporting utility/enterprise fund, no longer underwritten by property tax dollars; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Town's garbage rate structure has not been reviewed nor changed since February 20, 1995 (G95-03); and,

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has learned that the Garbage Collection process has been losing more than \$3,500 per month for the last couple of years, thus further depleting tax revenues that could be directed to other sources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GEORGETOWN TOWN COUNCIL**

**Section 1. Sanitation Utility Fund Created.**

There is hereby established the Sanitation Utility Fund. Said Fund shall be the repository for all revenues generated by the Garbage Collection process. Said Fund shall also be the source from which all expenditures relating to the Garbage Collection process shall be paid.

**Section 2.** The Town of Georgetown shall be the sole provider for refuse and garbage collection for any and all single-family dwellings of the Town. Any business, commercial or industrial establishment, or apartment complex may elect to have garbage removed by a private contractor, and if such election is made, then no service charge shall apply from the Town. By the same token, no occupied residential dwelling is exempt from garbage collection service by the Town, regardless of how small of volume of garbage is generated.

**Section 3.** Only normal household garbage (*see Section 5*) will be collected by the Town's garbage collection service. Any items which are prohibited by the Clark-Floyd counties Landfill Regulation, shall also be prohibited items to be picked up by the Georgetown garbage collection service. **Prohibited items** include, but are not limited to: air conditioners, any cooling compressor (with refrigerant chemical), ammunition, flammable liquids (grease, oil, gas, fuel, solvents, etc.), freezers, paint (empty cans or dried paint are acceptable), refrigerators, tires, and hazardous materials. Automotive batteries will be accepted, if they are set out separately from the other garbage.

Bags or cans with broken glass and/or other sharp objects, especially hypodermic syringes, shall be properly labeled for the safety of our garbage collection employees.

#### **Section 4. Collection process and Volume Limitations**

Garbage is collected at curbside once weekly, with exact collection days dependent upon where an individual house is located in the Town and the established collection routes.

Any single family dwelling (house, duplex, mobile home, etc.) or church shall be allowed up to three (3) cans/bags per week. Containers garbage shall not exceed 44 gallons in size, if they are plastic, or 30 gallons in size if they are metal. Loose garbage bags shall be tied at the top and shall not exceed 30 gallons in size. If, when a container becomes broken/damaged to the point that it can no longer be safely handled by a Town's garbage collection employee, it shall be left at curbside, unemptied.

The Town's garbage collection employees shall not throw or kick garbage cans after emptying them. Each container will be placed back on the ground at or near the location from which the container was picked up. By the same token, the Town employee is not responsible for wind or other forces which may subsequently blow the container over, or where the container may roll after it falls over.

If/when a customer has more than the three (3) can/bag limit on a particular collection day, the garbage truck driver shall note the address, and the number of excess containers, and report same to the Town's Utility Billing Clerk. This customer will be billed an additional \$2.00 for each additional container in excess of the three (3) authorized.

#### **Section 5. Monthly Brush Collection**

Brush and yard waste will be collected on the first Thursday of each month during the months of April through November. Brush must be canned, bagged or bundled into no more than four foot long sections. Any clippings must be canned, bagged or boxed; loose clippings will not be collected.

#### **Section 6. Recycling**

Recycling services are contracted to a commercial vendor by the Town of Georgetown. Every resident pays for recycling in their monthly garbage fee, but participation in the recycling program is voluntary. Those residents who wish to participate will be issued a recycling container with a lid by requesting one from the Town's Utility Billing office. Participants are to place their recycling bin at curbside on the weekly scheduled pick-up day (currently Mondays). The following materials are picked up for recycling: aluminum cans, tin cans (clean of foodstuffs), cardboard, plastics, newspaper, and white office paper. It is important that the recycling materials be kept dry by the resident; please use the lid provided.

#### **Section 7. Large Item Collection, AKA Junk Day**

Twice annually, in mid-April and mid-October, there will be a date set and advertised on which the Town will collect all manner of large items from its citizenry. The list of Prohibited Items (Section 3 above) is still in force, but any items not prohibited, and not routinely picked-up by the Town will be picked up on these two days. *Examples* of collectable items include, but are not limited to: overstuffed furniture, tables, chairs, ovens, washers, dryers, televisions, etc.

#### **Section 8. Fees**

For the once weekly, curbside garbage collection, once weekly recycling collection, once monthly (in season) yard waste/brush collection, and twice annual Junk Day, the single family residential garbage collection fee is: \$11.00 per month. [Internal Accounting Directive: Two dollars (\$2) of this fee shall be used to offset Recycling expenses. The remaining nine dollars (\$9) shall be used to offset all other garbage collection expenses within the Sanitation Utility Fund.]

For once weekly, curbside garbage collection, once monthly (in season) yard waste/brush collection, and twice annual Junk Day, the commercial garbage collection fee is: \$20.00 per month.

**Section 9.** Service charges for refuse and garbage collection as specified herein shall be billed and collected by the Utility Billing Office of the Town of Georgetown, IN.

In the event the customer does not pay their monthly Town utility bill in full, the garbage portion of that bill may be subject to a ten percent (10%) late charge, per month of non-payment. In the event the Town is required to bring suit for any non-payment of the garbage bill, each owner, tenant, or occupant who fails to pay said garbage bill shall be responsible for court costs and attorney fees incurred by the Town for collection purposes. In addition, there shall be a fifteen dollar (\$15.00) service charge for each account certified by the Clerk as delinquent and sent to the Town's attorney for collection.

**Section 10.** Fifty-five gallon containers are no longer allowed to be used for the disposal of garbage. The Town's garbage collection process is performed by manual labor and the fifty-five gallon containers filled with garbage are too heavy to be safely lifted by a man.

The Town's garbage customers shall have until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 to replace their existing 55 gallon drums with a smaller container. After July 1<sup>st</sup>, any 55 gallon drum with garbage in it for collection will be left uncollected.

**Section 11. Punishment**

Violations of this ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of up to \$100.00 for each violation. Each day the violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

Fines are payable to the Town Clerk/Treasurer and may be billed on the customer's utility bills, with normal monthly fees for utility usage.

**Section 12.** Any portion(s) of previously enacted ordinances that conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**Section 13. Severability** - Should any portion of this ordinance be found to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts of this ordinance shall be severable and shall continue in full force and effect.

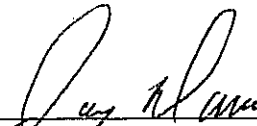
This ordinance shall be in full force and effect as of the first utility billing cycle after August 1, 2004.

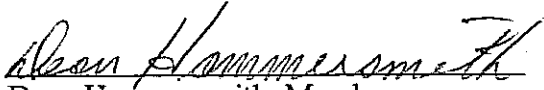
Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Georgetown, Indiana  
this 24 day of June, 2004.

Town Council, Town of Georgetown

  
Jeff McCaffrey, President

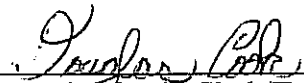
  
Gary Smith, Vice President

  
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Jay Davis, Member

  
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Dean Hammersmith, Member

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Jay Renfrow, Member

ATTEST:

  
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Douglas Cook, Clerk/Treasurer