



BOROUGH OF PERKASIO

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Borough Institutes Annual Trash Fee

Perkasie, PA- One month after seeing the results of a comprehensive review and analysis of the current Borough trash and recycling program, Borough Council voted unanimously in favor of three changes to the program to encourage compliance and plug the \$119,000 budget gap.

At the April 5th Borough Council meeting, elected officials and staff hosted an informational meeting for the public to review the history of the program, the current issues, and to review various options for future funding. Dozens of residents were in attendance at the meeting where many comments and suggestions were received. The staff took the overall sentiment of that meeting to develop a resolution to amend the trash and recycling program. That resolution was passed at the March 15th Council meeting, with new policies going into effect on June 1, 2010.

An annual flat fee of \$35.00 will be established to offset the costs of trash collection, bulky waste collection, and recycling. The fee will be levied on all residential properties, based on the number of electric meters on the property. With an estimated 10% of households currently not participating in the "Pay-As-You-Throw" program but taking advantage of the free collection of bulky waste and recycling, the institution of an annual fee will help spread the cost of collecting all material to every household. All residents will now be investing in the system.

The method of collecting the annual fee and the billing date has not been finalized.

After June 1st, the Borough will continue to pick up bulky waste at no extra charge in accordance with the current rules and regulations, except that bulky waste will not be picked up from any household unless at least one bag of trash, contained in a Borough trash bag, accompanies the bulky waste.

The rules for the collection of yard waste were also changed with the vote. Beginning June 1st, all yard waste must be placed in a Borough trash bag and will no longer be collected for free in a non-Borough bag. **Yard waste is defined as leaves, garden residues, shrubbery and tree trimmings, and similar material but not including grass clippings.** The policy on the collection of grass clippings will remain the same- they must be bagged in Borough trash bags and placed out with household refuse. As an alternative, beginning in June the Borough will provide free disposal of all yard waste at the Borough's recycling center on the first Saturday of each month. Residents may take yard waste generated at their house to the recycling center at that time. All yard waste deposited at the Center must be loose or in

biodegradable paper bags. All yard waste delivered to the sit in plastic bags must be emptied from the bag.

Yearly curbside leaf collection held in the fall and spring will continue as usual. The Borough will continue to collect bundled branches curbside once a month. This policy change only affects the off-season collection of leaves and yard waste as defined above.

All material dropped off at the Borough's Recycling Center will be taken to a Department of Environmental Protection authorized composting facility to be composted and reused.

For more information, please contact the Borough at (215)257-5065 or visit www.perkasieborough.org.

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