



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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NOTICE OF PROPOSAL FOR TRANSITION TO MANDATORY RESIDENTIAL WASTE SERVICE

«OWNER_NAME»
«MAIL_ADDR1»
«MAIL_ADDR2»
«MAIL_ADDR3» «MAIL_ADDR4»

The proposal for mandatory residential waste service will be heard by the Board of Supervisors on May 12, 2026, at 11:00 am at the South Lake Tahoe City Hall Chambers, 1501 Lisa Maloff Way, South Lake Tahoe, 96150 (Legistar File 26-0575).

For decades, Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD) has provided reliable waste collection for the many residential parcels located on the western shore of El Dorado County. Historically, this service has been non-mandatory, leading to significant operational and scheduling inefficiencies as properties frequently move on and off service.

To resolve these challenges and ensure long-term service viability, the County is considering transitioning to a mandatory service model effective July 1, 2026.

Rate Reduction and Stability

The transition to mandatory participation enables greater rate stability by spreading fixed operational costs across the entire customer base. By ensuring universal participation, the County and TTSD can offer a lower base rate for all residents. In preparation for this transition, TTSD forwent (skipped) two consecutive contractually scheduled CPI increases to keep costs manageable for the community.

Residential Service Type	Monthly Rate
Current Non-Mandatory Rate	\$38.44
New Mandatory Rate	\$36.10

Note: The new mandatory rate is 6.09% lower than current rates. Furthermore, it is approximately 13.44% lower than the projected rate of \$41.71, which would have been implemented had TTSD not voluntarily skipped two scheduled CPI adjustments in anticipation of this mandatory program.

Community and Environmental Benefits

Implementing universal residential waste service provides vital protection for our local environment and public safety:

- **Reduced Illegal Dumping:** Universal access removes the financial incentive for individuals to dump waste on public lands or roadsides to save money. This results in cleaner waterways, pristine public lands, and reduced County costs for enforcement and cleanup.
- **Wildfire Preparedness:** Enhanced green waste disposal options directly support the Defensible Space Program, a cornerstone of community wildfire safety.
- **Wildlife Protection:** Consistent, professional waste collection reduces wildlife attractants, leading to fewer bear conflicts and a safer environment for local fauna.
- **Cleaner Neighborhoods:** Mandatory service reduces the accumulation of roadside litter and prevents the overflow of local business trash containers, which are often used illegally when residential service is lacking.

New and Enhanced Residential Services

The mandatory program includes several service enhancements designed for resident convenience and effective property maintenance:

1. **Curbside Bulky Item Pickups:** Residents may now schedule two free curbside pickups per year for large items (up to 200 lbs per item). This includes "white goods" (appliances) and tires. Please note that while the pickup is free, a standard fee still applies for freon removal.
2. **Expanded Green Waste Disposal:** To improve convenience, the previous system of two partial 3-yard cards is being replaced with a single **6-yard Green Waste drop-off punch card**, allowing for more efficient, high-volume trips to the disposal site.
3. **Green Waste Dumpsters:** During a three-month seasonal window, residents can rent 6-yard green-waste-only dumpsters at a **15% discount** compared to the rate of a regular Mixed Solid Waste (MSW) dumpster.

Summary of Standard and Free Services

Existing residential services remain available at the Eastern Regional Landfill (900 Cabin Creek Road) or through curbside programs:

- **Recycling Options:** Includes the Curbside Blue Bag program and drop-off options at Community recycling containers or the Material Recovery Facility (MRF).
- **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):** Safe disposal is available by appointment.
- **E-Waste & Universal Waste:** Drop-off collection for electronics, batteries, and cell phones.
- **Buy-back/Redemption:** Services are available that pay the customer for eligible recyclable materials.
- **Assisted Service:** A senior/assisted door-side service is currently under consideration, subject to final eligibility and qualification requirements.

Implementation Timeline

- **May 12, 2026:** 1st reading of the revised ordinance at South Lake Tahoe City Hall.
- **May 19, 2026:** 2nd reading of the revised ordinance.
- **June 23, 2026:** Rate hearing scheduled (Notice mailed separately).
- **July 1, 2026:** Official commencement of Mandatory Residential Service and implementation of the new \$36.10 monthly rate, upon passage of the ordinance.