

**COUNCIL OF UNIT OWNERS
Rock Creek Gardens Condominium
Silver Spring, Maryland
COMMUNITY RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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10	Trash Disposal, Composting, and Recycling	09/10/2020	1	3
Bylaw Reference(s) Article XI Section 3(f) and Section 5(d)		Maryland Condominium Act Reference(s) Section 11-111(d)	Montgomery County Code Ref: Chap 48 Sec 48-24(b)(2)	

1. PURPOSE

This rule implements provisions Chapter 48 of the Montgomery County Code, governing solid waste disposal and recycling, within Rock Creek Gardens. Detailed requirements are further explained on the county solid waste website:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/>

2. POLICIES

- a. Collection and disposal of trash, compostibles, and recyclables within Rock Creek Gardens shall be implemented in accordance with the procedures specified in [Paragraph 10-3](#). Recycling is mandated by county code and applies to all residents.
- b. Except for designated trash, compost, and recycling collection areas, the [general common elements](#) shall be kept free of trash to avoid attracting vermin and other animals, and to enhance the appearance and sanitary condition of the community. Curbside pickup of trash and recyclables is specifically prohibited by county code.
- c. Collection and disposal of household trash, compost, and recyclables is carried out by private contractors selected by the [Board of Directors](#). Payment for trash removal services is a [common expense](#) provided for in each annual budget.
- d. Unless otherwise notified by the on-site office, household trash and recyclables will be collected daily, Monday through Saturday, including holidays. Recyclables will be collected on Mondays and Thursdays. Compost will be collected weekly. For those weeks where a holiday is observed on a Monday, recyclables will be collected on Tuesday.
- e. To the extent possible, soft garbage and food waste (meats and non-fibrous fruits and vegetables) must be disposed of either by depositing in the compost container located in each trash collection area or by using the food disposer installed within each [unit](#). Hard garbage (bones, carcasses, egg shells, fibrous fruits and vegetables (including skins), coffee grounds, and tea bags) should be deposited in the compost container. Bacon grease and similar fats, and used cooking oils should be tightly bagged and deposited with household trash.



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- f. Garbage and other compostable material may be deposited directly (unbagged) in the compost bins. Bagging is not required but if bags are used, they must be compostable. Ordinary plastic trash bags are not compostable and must not be placed in compost bins. Compostable bags and countertop compost containers for home use are available from a variety of online and other retail sources.
- g. Unit owners are responsible for maintaining in-unit food disposers in good working order and replacing them when necessary.
- h. Pet waste must be disposed of only in the marked receptacles provided for that purpose. The depositing of pet waste in household trash, compost, or recycling containers is prohibited.
- i. The containers located in the pool enclosure and picnic green are reserved for refuse generated by activities at those locations and may not be used to dispose of general household trash or recyclables.
- j. Violations of any trash or recycling procedures included in this regulation are subject to sanctions as follows:
- k. Violations of any part of this rule, except violations involving prohibited items listed in Paragraph 10-4: \$50 per identifiable violation.

3. COLLECTION PROCEDURES

- a. Trash, compost, and recyclables must be deposited only in the marked containers within the fenced collection centers located throughout the community. Curbside pickup of trash and recyclables is specifically prohibited by county code.
- b. Containers are clearly marked for the following separate types of refuse:
 - (1) Non-recyclable garbage and household trash
 - (2) Compost (Smaller 14-gallon container)
 - (3) Recyclable mixed paper, to include newspapers, magazines, writing and printer paper, and cardboard.
 - (4) Recyclable co-mingled materials, to include clean (rinsed) plastic, glassware, cans, aluminum, and other metals.
- c. All non-recyclable household trash in must be placed in plastic bags and securely sealed before being deposited in a marked trash container.
- d. Paper and cardboard refuse must be placed only in the containers marked "Mixed Paper" while glassware, plastic, and metal refuse must be placed only in the containers marked "Commingled Materials.
- e. Cardboard boxes must be completely flattened before being placed inside of a mixed paper container in order to conserve space. Flattened boxes that are too large to fit inside a mixed paper container must be placed immediately behind the mixed paper containers.
- f. The placing household trash in compost or recycling containers and recyclable materials in compost or trash containers is expressly prohibited.
- g. In order to minimize noise to nearby units associated with disposal, trash and recycling materials may be brought to the collection centers only during the following hours.

Monday through Friday - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
 Saturday and Sunday - 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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4. PROHIBITED ITEMS

- a. As defined by county code, the following items are not considered household trash or recyclables, and must either be taken personally to the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station or hauled to that facility at personal expense:
- (1) Demolition or construction debris produced by renovations or alterations, such as drywall, lumber, flooring, carpeting, cabinetry, countertops, vanities, sinks, tubs, and plumbing fixtures.
 - (2) Appliances, furniture, and electronic equipment.
 - (3) Any large or oversized items that will not fit in the containers located in the collection areas.
 - (4) Scrap metal.
 - (5) Any flammable or explosive substances.
 - (6) Any items or substances designated by the state or county as hazardous materials. These include--

- (a) Oil-based paints. (Note: Water-based paints, (e.g. latex) may be disposed of in household trash containers provided that leftover paint is allowed to dry and become solid.)
- (b) Paint thinners or solvents.
- (c) Used or unused motor oil and other lubricants.
- (d) Used or unused anti-freeze, brake fluid, or hydraulic fluid.
- (e) Vehicular and rechargeable household batteries.
- (f) Acids and other corrosive liquids.
- (g) Fireplace ashes.
- (h) Thermostats, thermometers, and compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) containing mercury.
- (i) Fluorescent tubes.



- b. In some cases, the community trash disposal contractor may be able to provide hauling services for a fee. Residents anticipating such a need should coordinate in advance with the on-site office or make arrangements with a private hauler. (Note: Contact information for a private hauler is included in the [Community Directory](#) portion of the *Rock Creek Gardens Resident's Handbook*.)

RECYCLING BASICS

RECYCLE MORE NOW!



GLASS JARS & BOTTLES

Unbroken glass jars and bottles only.
No other kinds of glass. Lids can be recycled, but remove these from the bottle or jar first. Rinse and leave labels on.



PLASTICS BOTTLES & CONTAINERS

Jars, tubs, lids/caps, pails/buckets, flower pots, and #1 PET thermoform plastics including: clamshell containers, bakery trays and cake domes, deli containers and trays, fruit and vegetable containers and baskets, cups, tubs and lids

Empty and rinse containers; labels are OK. Lids and caps can be recycled, but remove these from bottles or containers first. No plastic wrap/bags or Styrofoam®/polystyrene.

NO PLASTIC BAGS!

Plastic bags can be recycled at most local grocery stores.



YARD TRIMMINGS

When you can't grasscycle, compost and/or mulch, bag or can yard trimmings. Brush can be bundled. Always label containers of yard trimmings. No plastic bags for yard trimmings!



CANS & FOIL PRODUCTS

Aluminum and bi-metal (steel/tin) food and beverage cans, aluminum foil products and empty non-hazardous aerosol cans.

Rinse cans and wipe foil. Attached lids are okay. No aerosol cans that contained automotive or hazardous products.



MIXED PAPER AND CARDBOARD

Cardboard boxes, newspapers, magazines, cereal, snack food and pasta boxes, office paper, unwanted mail, shredded paper, milk/juice cartons, juice/drink boxes, frozen food boxes, fruit and produce boxes, and all other clean, dry paper, etc.

Place paper in blue wheeled cart, in a small cardboard box, or in paper grocery bags or bundle with twine and place next to or on top of recycling bin. Please do not place paper in plastic bags. Keep mixed paper items separate from glass, plastic, metal and aluminum items when placing them out for recycling collection.



DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES (SUMMER 2012)

Visit our website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling or call 3-1-1 for more information about:

RECYCLING AT YOUR HOME, APARTMENT OR CONDO, AND FOR SPECIAL COLLECTION PICK-UPS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S RECYCLING GOAL: RECYCLE 70% BY 2020!
This information is available in an alternate format by calling Alan Pultyniewicz at 240-777-6480.

