

**MARICOPA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CODE
CHAPTER II**

SEWAGE AND WASTES

**SECTION 4
REFUSE DISPOSAL**

REGULATION 1. General Considerations

- a. No garbage, rubbish, refuse or wastes, including oil and petroleum-based materials, may be placed or deposited on any alley, street, road, roadside, in any ditch, river, stream, lake, pond, canal, or on the banks thereof; or in any gulch, ravine, excavation or other place where it may be or may become a nuisance. This regulation shall not be construed to interfere with the approved placement of garbage, rubbish or refuse for collection purposes.
 - (1) The owner of real property on which solid wastes are located is responsible for complying with the provisions of this chapter even if the solid waste was placed on the property without the owner's knowledge or consent.
- b. The disposal of large dead animals shall be by burial, cremation or rendering in an approved manner, or by other approved method.
- c. The disposal of garbage by hog feeding is prohibited unless all refuse, rubbish and garbage associated with this method of disposal is stored, collected, transported and disposed of in compliance with the regulations in this Environmental Health Code. All remaining refuse, Rubbish and Garbage, including non-edible garbage, shall be collected and disposed of separately by methods approved by the Department.
- d. Garbage Grinding: This method, involving the separate collection and disposal of garbage into a community sewerage system through commercial-type grinders, or mandatory community-wide installation of individual household grinders, will be acceptable to the Department provided that suitable means shall be provided for the disposal of all remaining refuse.
- e. "Construction and Demolition Landfill" means a solid waste landfill that only accepts construction debris or demolition debris.
- f. All refuse shall be disposed of by method or methods included in this Code, and shall include rodent, insect and nuisance control at the place or places of disposal. Approval must be obtained from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality for all new disposal sites and changes in method of disposal prior to use.
- g. "Construction Debris" means solid wastes derived from the construction, repair or remodeling of buildings or other structures.

- h. “Demolition Debris” means solid wastes derived from the demolition of buildings or other structures.

REGULATION 2. Incineration

- a. No person may dispose of refuse by incineration excepting in compliance with the regulations of this Environmental Health Code, applicable state law, and Maricopa County Air Pollution Control Regulations.
- b. Incineration: Where incineration is to be employed, the plans and specifications, along with any other information necessary to evaluate the project, shall be submitted to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and approval received prior to construction. In addition, an approved method for the disposal of non-combustible refuse is required. Where incineration is proposed, the following items shall be provided:
 - (1) The capacity of the incinerator shall be sufficient for the maximum production of refuse expected.
 - (2) Non-combustible refuse shall be disposed by methods approved by the Department.
 - (3) Skilled personnel to assure the proper operation and maintenance of the facilities in a nuisance-free manner.

REGULATION 3. Reclamation

- a. No person shall operate an establishment for the purpose of composting, processing or reclaiming refuse without a valid permit therefor.
- b. Plans, specifications, and other information pertinent to the project shall be submitted to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality for review and approval prior to the start of the project and no construction work shall commence until such approval has been obtained
- c. c. That provisions are made for the proper disposal of all refuse not considered usable for composting.
- d. d. Skilled personnel shall be provided to assure the proper disposal of all refuse not considered usable for composting.

REGULATION 4. Sanitary Landfill

- a. Disposal of refuse on the ground shall be by the sanitary landfill method.
- b. No person shall conduct, operate or maintain a sanitary landfill without a permit therefore or otherwise than in compliance with the regulations of this Code and of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.
- c. Permit applications shall be made on forms supplied by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and shall be accompanied by plans showing the location, proposed extent and the type of landfill planned, local topography and land use, proposed final elevations and contours, access roads, depth to groundwater, proximity to surface water and drainage courses, and any additional information required by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to make clear the nature and scope of the work contemplated. The permittee shall:
 - (1) Provide for a sure and adequate access road to the site.
 - (2) Provide a semi-permanent, all-weather road on the site marked with appropriate directional signs, and where required, a vehicle turnaround to facilitate the orderly movement of vehicles and disposal of refuse.
 - (3) Take all necessary measures, including the erection of physical barriers, to prevent refuse from being windblown.
 - (4) As needed, clear trees, prevent intrusion by surface waters, and provide an adequate supply of cover material.
 - (5) Take all reasonable measures necessary to:
 - (a) prevent or eliminate the breeding or harborage of flies, mosquitoes, other insects, rodents or vermin, of public health importance;
 - (b) prevent and control fires or pollution of the air by dust, smoke, fumes, odor or from other causes;
 - (c) prevent the pollution of surface or groundwaters;
 - (d) prevent or eliminate any public health nuisance on the premises;
 - (e) provide and maintain effective supervision of the landfill and its operation. Such supervision shall extend over the physical limits of the project, including access roads.
- d. The working face of the fill shall be kept as narrow as is consistent with proper containment of refuse, the operation of vehicles and equipment and to minimize the area of unprocessed, exposed waste material.
- e. Waste materials may be ground and shall be mechanically compacted after depositing and before covering.

- f. The exposed working surface shall be covered with clean earth as promptly as necessary for nuisance and fire control. At the close of each day's operations, both the surface and side slopes of the fill shall be completely covered to a depth of at least 6 inches.
- g. Bulky materials, such as building rubble and tree stumps shall not be used for final surfaces or side slopes.
- h. The final cover for surface and side slopes shall be maintained at a minimum depth of 24 inches.
- i. Sufficient standby equipment shall be provided to prevent delay in compacting and covering due to emergencies, peak loads, or for other reasons.
- j. Where a finished fill has a boundary side slope, the toe of the slope shall terminate in a filled ditch or other structure, designed to prevent raveling of the toe and slope.
- k. Except for cases in which permission of the Bureau of Air Pollution Control is granted, all burning is prohibited.
- l. After the active period of filling operations is completed, a maintenance program shall be continued so as to insure prompt repair of cracks, depressions, surface and side slope erosion until the fill has become stabilized.
- m. The operator of the landfill shall be responsible for compliance with these regulations by scavengers and for their supervision.
- n. The disposal of human excreta from septic tanks, cesspools, job toilets, and similar sources, and of dangerous or objectionable wastes, such as solvents, pesticides or other poisons and their container shall be conducted only with the special approval of the Department and only in an approved manner.
- o. A variance from the daily compaction and covering requirements may be granted for sites serving less than 2,000 people by the Department of Environmental Quality upon submission of an acceptable plan approved by the Maricopa County Health Department demonstrating that no public health hazards or nuisance will exist. The variance will allow for compaction and cover every two weeks at sites serving less than 500 people, weekly compaction and cover for sites serving from 500 to 1,000 people; and twice weekly compaction and cover for sites serving from 1,000 to 2,000 people. The variance may be revoked whenever the Department of Environmental Quality determines that the circumstances warranting the variance no longer exists.