Public Notice

The City of Northampton has adopted new Ordinances governing the transport of solid waste materials.

Commencing on February 1, 1999, any vehicle transporting garbage, refuse, brush & yard waste, recyclable materials, construction & demolition waste, scrap metal, or any other solid waste, which is improperly secured and not held in place, shall be subject to refuse security fees, (ranging from $10.00 to $25.00 for a first offense), in addition to any applicable disposal charges. Two categories of solid waste are included: “Loose Solid Waste” and “Bulky Solid Waste”. (Refer to the ordinance definitions on the reverse side of this notice.)

An example of properly securing a load of **loose solid waste** is illustrated below:

The load of loose solid waste is completely covered with a tarp or other durable material.

- Nothing sticks out from around the tarp or top of pickup bed.
- Tailgate in place.
- Tarp held in place with tie downs or other approved means (rope, i.e.)

An example of properly securing a load of **bulky solid waste** is illustrated below:

- The load of bulky solid waste items are securely tied down with ropes or cords.
- Nothing is capable of falling off the truck bed and on to the roadway.
- Tailgate in place.

Entire load must be held securely in place so that nothing can fall out or blow out on to the roadway.
City Ordinances 12-1 & 12-8 Governing the Securing of Loads of Refuse

Excerpts

12-1 Definitions

- **"Bulky Waste Material"**: The term "bulky waste material" shall include but not be limited to refrigerators, stoves, and other large appliances, furniture, mattresses, rolls of carpeting, refuse in sealed bags and other large waste items which must be securely held in place in the vehicle by sturdy ropes, cords or materials so that the solid waste materials cannot fall, bounce or blow out of the vehicle onto the roadway.

- **"Loose Solid Waste"**: The term "loose solid waste" shall refer to quantities of waste material including but not limited to brush, leaves, paper, roof shingles, recyclable materials and other items thrown into the rear of a vehicle and which must be completely enclosed by the sides of the vehicle and a tarp or other covering which securely holds the waste material in place and prevents it from falling, bouncing, or blowing from the vehicle onto the roadway.

- **"Properly Secured Load"**: The term "properly secured load" shall refer to all solid waste materials either bulky or loose, being transported to the Landfill or DPW Transfer Station which is in closed vehicles, closed containers, or sealed plastic bags; and is either completely covered with a tarp or other covering, which encloses it entirely or is tied with sturdy ropes or other materials so that it is securely held in place. All material must be securely tied down or covered so that neither it nor any of its parts can fall out of or blow out of the vehicle onto the roadway or adjacent properties.

- **"Solid Waste"**: The term "Solid Waste" shall refer to all materials being transported to the Landfill or DPW Transfer Station for disposal and/or recycling including, but not limited to the following: brush, construction & demolition material, garbage, household refuse, recyclable material, rubbish, scrap metal, tires, used appliances, used furniture, and yard waste.

12-8 Requirements for Transporting Solid Waste: Fees for Non-compliance

- **Collection of Solid Waste**: Solid Waste shall only be collected and transported in vehicles in good repair, with water tight and/or tightly covered receptacles. All such receptacles shall be kept covered except at such times as the solid waste is being placed therein or removed therefrom.

- **Transportation of Solid Waste for Disposal**: All solid waste being transported to the Landfill or the DPW Transfer Station shall be in properly secured loads.

- **Residential Permit Holder Fees**: Operators of Vehicles transporting improperly secured loads of solid waste shall be subject to a $10.00 Improperly Secured Load Fee for each of the first five offenses, in addition to other applicable refuse disposal charges. For each subsequent offense the improperly secured load fee shall be $25.00.

- **Commercial Permit Holder Fees**: Operators of commercial vehicles transporting improperly secured solid waste shall be subject to the following improperly secured load fees, which shall be in addition to other applicable disposal charges:
  - **First offense**: $25.00 improperly secured load fee
  - **Second offense**: $50.00 improperly secured load fee
  - **Third offense**: $75.00 improperly secured load fee
  - **Fourth offense**: The Board of Health shall have the right (after providing an opportunity for a hearing) to suspend the commercial entity’s refuse disposal permit for up to one month and to charge a fee of up to $1,000.00 in costs to reimburse the City for costs of the hearing including staff time and also to cover any and all staff time necessary to clean up the refuse which may have fallen or blown onto the roadway or property adjacent to the roadway.

- **The Board of Health shall have the authority to withhold Refuse Permits from any Residential or Commercial user who has outstanding improperly covered load fees due the City.**

- **All Permit Holders**: The operator of any vehicle transporting improperly secured solid waste who refuses to pay the improperly secured load fee and/or who exits the disposal facility with improperly secured solid waste shall be subject to an additional fine equal to the original fee imposed.

Date of Implementation: February 1, 1999