What is garbage?
Garbage includes:
- trash,
- ashes,
- industrial wastes,
- sewage sludge,
- demolition/construction waste,
- abandoned vehicles, and
- source separated recyclable material collected from residences.

What is considered recyclable material?
Waste separated for reuse that is identified as recyclable by local city or county authorities.

What is the ‘two box rule?’
Any construction or demolition site where recyclable materials are generated and transported for recycling must have a separate container for non-recyclable material.

What are the penalties for hauling solid waste without proper authority?
Providing or advertising for the hauling of solid waste without proper authority may be subject to a penalty up to $1,000 per violation.

Report Suspected Non-Permitted Carriers
reportillegalhauler@utc.wa.gov

For More Information
www.utc.wa.gov/garbage

Contact the UTC
1-888-333-WUTC (9882)

Applicable Rules and Laws
RCW 81.77, RCW 70.95, WAC 173-345, WAC 480-14, and WAC 480-70
Residential Services

Services for residential garbage and recycling collection require a permit from the Utilities and Transportation Commission or a contract with a city or county.

Providing garbage and recycling services to a residential customer’s location for the customer to fill, requires a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, or G-Certificate, from the UTC.

These G-Certificated services include:
- containers,
- drop-boxes, and
- trucks and/or trailers.

Contact the local G-Certificated or city-contracted garbage company for service.

Check a garbage or recycling company’s permit status at: www.utc.wa.gov/garbagelookup

Licensed Contractors

Licensed contractors may transport their generated debris from residential or commercial projects if their employees load and transport the waste using company-owned equipment.

Hauling containers, drop-boxes, trucks or trailers filled by the project’s licensed contractor and transported in their equipment as an incidental part of a residential or commercial project is considered private carriage and does not require a G-Certificated company. Materials must be recycled, reused, sold, or otherwise properly disposed of according to state law.

To be considered incidental, the customer must not load materials into the licensed contractor’s equipment or set the materials out at the curb for collection.

Commercial Services

Companies providing commercial garbage and recycling services must carry the proper permit from the Utilities and Transportation Commission.

Garbage services to a commercial customer’s location, for the customer to fill, requires a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, or G-Certificate from the UTC.

These services include:
- containers,
- drop-boxes, and
- trucks and/or trailers.

Providing services for recyclable materials and hauling to an authorized recycling facility requires both Common Carrier Authority from the UTC and registration with the Department of Ecology as a Transporter of Recyclable Materials.

Check a garbage or recycling company’s permit status at: www.utc.wa.gov/garbagelookup