



TOWN OF WHITSETT
NORTH CAROLINA

September 24, 2009

Dear Whitsett Resident:

You may have seen on television or read in the newspaper about the additional items the General Assembly has banned from landfills in North Carolina effective October 1. Enclosed is a letter from the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) listing items in GS 130A-309.10 (f) and (h). Republic Waste, contract service for the Town of Whitsett, has also been in contact with the Town to work on a solution for our residents.

You may recall that last year the Town Council voted, based on public reaction, to not institute a curbside recycling program in Town. Based on the new legislation, however, the Town Council has had to adjust its position, and consider the following options for recycling:

- 1) Advise residents of recycling sites in Guilford County with each household responsible for proper disposal of items. The only two sites available are located in Greensboro on Bishop Road and Patterson Street; and both have limited hours of Monday through Friday only.
- 2) Provide local drop-off site for recyclables.
- 3) Implement curbside recycling pickup.

The Council elected to try option 2---provide a local drop-off site. On or about October 1, bins will be stationed at the Town Hall next to the Concession Building. Republic Waste has offered to provide bins for a three-month trial period with weekly collection at no cost. If this works, there would then be a small charge based on the number of bins required. The Council chose a **“trial basis”** due to several concerns: 1) since the site is unmanned, it could become cluttered and very messy if users do not maintain the site in a clean manner, 2) other items being mixed with recyclables (enclosed is a list provided by Republic Waste of accepted items), and 3) nonresidents leaving personal trash in containers. Should any of these or other unforeseen negative impacts occur, the Council would need to rethink another course.

We know our landfills are filling up; and finding places for new ones is difficult. Anything, therefore, that we can do to prolong existing landfills is good for everyone. State inspectors from DENR will be enforcing compliance with this law at landfill operations and transfer stations used by our garbage collection provider. If Republic Waste would be cited for a violation, Republic Waste then has the right to spot-check residential containers during Monday pickup. If abuse is founded, Republic would be allowed to refuse trash removal. This would be expensive for all our residents as that cost for checking would then reflect in future contracts.

The Town Council feels this method is the most convenient for Whitsett residents and the least costly, while meeting the requirements of the law. So, we hope you agree and will support this effort. In addition, we ask that you please respect the reasonable hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday for disposing of your recyclables using the Town Hall bins.

Any suggestions would be appreciated during the regular monthly Town Council meetings held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Mayor of Whitsett
On Behalf of Town Council

Enclosures:

- Letter from DENR
- List of Accepted Items

INFORMATION AND REMINDER ABOUT WEEKLY GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICE

The regular weekly household trash pickup for Town residents will remain on Mondays, but may occur later than in the past due to necessary scheduling adjustments by Republic Waste.

REMINDER: Normal household waste should not exceed the equivalent of a 96-gallon trash container. We appreciate your cooperation in adhering to this weekly limit.

If you have items that are oversized and require a bulk-trash pickup, please call Republic Waste directly at 584-8036 to schedule a pickup. There is a nominal fee for this service, and you will be billed directly by Republic Waste.