



Solid Waste Container Guidance and Safety Information

For all customers that acquire a 90-gallon waste container from the POLUA Transfer Station, the following criteria shall be acknowledged and followed.

1. The waste container issued to you is the property of the Pueblo of Laguna Utility Authority (POLUA). For pick-up service purposes, the waste bin shall be placed at the designated assignment as noted on your account (refer to Section 9 for marking designation). If you are moving to a new residential location within the Pueblo of Laguna (PoL) you must contact the POLUA Billing Office at (505) 552-9631 to update your account information to avoid fees and penalties. Customers shall notify the POLUA if they are no longer going to reside within the POLUA service area, to avoid continued service charges as outlined in the POLUA Tariffs.
2. Each waste container has a number painted on it. Please remember the number as it will be required if you need to report loss, theft or damage. A customer may request an additional container; however, the POLUA reserves the right to impose additional fees. For more information regarding fee adjustments, contact the POLUA Billing Office at (505) 552-9631.
3. A waste container has a projected life span of ten years if cared for correctly. As part of the issuance of a waste container, it is the customer's responsibility to prevent unnecessary loss or damage. Customers may be required to replace lost or damaged containers where negligence has occurred. If your container is lost, stolen or damaged you will be responsible for the replacement cost in the amount up to \$250.00.
4. All household trash should be placed in the waste container. Any excess household trash not fitting into the waste container and left alongside the bin will not be the responsibility of the POLUA. If any trash or waste is left outside the container it shall be the customers responsibility to ensure that the trash outside of the bins is secure from animals, rodents, snakes, etc. The POLUA will not be responsible if loose trash begins to scatter due to torn or damaged bags.

5. All E-Waste¹ and White Goods ² items too large to fit into the waste container, must be disposed of by customer by taking it to an approved land fill facility. *For a complete listing of E-Waste items, refer to one of the following:*
 - Appendix A
 - Contact the POLUA Customer Service Representative
 - Website at www.lagunaua.org

6. Hours of Operations
 - a. Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. *Please note that regular operating hours may change from time to time to accommodate, seasonal, special events, meetings or other POLUA related matters.*
 - b. For weekend, holiday or seasonal hours, please contact the UA offices at (505) 552-9631 Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or visit our website at www.lagunaua.org for schedules of operation.
 - c. Transfer Station will be closed on Sundays, holidays and other posted UA events.
 - d. Due to high wind situations, the Transfer Station Supervisor maybe required to shut-down operations for safety purposes. To learn more about “*High Wind Advisory’s*”, please contact the POLUA Customer Service Representative or visit our website at www.lagunaua.org.

7. Containers must be in place no later than 8:00 am on the day of collection. If waste containers are placed the day/night before the regularly scheduled pick-up, the POLUA will not be responsible for any loose or scattered trash due to high winds, animal disturbances, etc. If your container is not in its designated location at the scheduled pick-up time, the POLUA reserves the right to consider this as a “*No Pick-Up*” status.

8. Special Assistance Pickup can be made available to customers requiring special accommodations. Qualified residents must have a doctor’s certification and must be on account file. To request a Special Assistance Pick-up application, please contact the POLUA Customer Service Representative or visit our website at www.lagunaua.org.

9. The Solid Waste Driver(s) will designate a location marked with an “*X*” to place your waste container for weekly scheduled pick-ups. Please ensure you’re waste container is within 5 – 10 feet of the designation. Anything further may result in a “*No Pick-Up*” status. A customer who has experienced a “*No Pick-Up*” will have to transport their own trash to the POL Transfer Station or an approved

¹ Electronic waste or e-waste describes discarded electrical or electronic devices.

² Typically, large electrical household appliances used domestically such as refrigerators, washing machines, etc.

landfill facility. Containers must be accessible and placed away from obstructions such as vehicles, mailboxes, plants, walls, etc. and shall not be tied down. Drivers will not untie or move restrictive containers.

10. The following items are **not allowed** to be performed or placed within your POLUA issued waste container. ***Failure to comply, may result in warning, suspension, or termination of services.***
 - a. No burning.
 - b. All bio-hazardous and hazardous waste generated, such as sharps/needles, lancets, and single razor blades, household cleaners, automotive products, paints, pesticides, fertilizers, or batteries, etc. For a complete listing of bio-hazardous and hazardous that are accepted at the Transfer Station refer to one of the following:
 1. Appendix B
 2. Contact the POLUA Customer Service Representative
 3. Website at www.lagunaua.org
 - c. No hot ashes or ashes of any kind.
 - d. No live ammunition of any kind.
 - e. No dirt, mortar, concrete, plaster or other construction materials, weeds/yard waste, cooking oil, grease.
 - f. No dead animals or animal waste, this includes litter and feces. Please contact the Transfer Station at (505) 350-2940 for more information on how and where to dispose of a deceased domestic animal.
11. Care of Container
 - a. Customer shall maintain their assigned container as necessary to prevent germs, disease, rodents, insects and unpleasant odors.
 - b. If a container requires maintenance beyond normal wear, please contact the Transfer Station at (505) 350-2940 during normal working hours.
12. Safety Tips
 - a. **Please do not allow children to play near refuse equipment or waste containers.**
 - b. To move, steady the container by placing your foot behind the container wheels before tipping and rolling it.
 - c. It is better to pull the container up an incline, rather than pushing it.
 - d. It is better to push the container down a decline, rather than pulling it.
 - e. Container lids should be opened carefully in windy conditions and not in the same direction that the wind is blowing. ***Do not place any heavy objects such as rocks, bricks on top of lids.***

To provide you the best service possible, the Pueblo of Laguna Utility Authority appreciates your cooperation in ensuring the responsibility, care and safety of your container. Failure to comply with the guidelines outlined herein, may result in warning, suspension or termination of services.

For questions or concerns, please call the POLUA main office at 552-9631 or Transfer Station at (505) 350-2940. You can also visit our website at www.lagunaua.org to learn more about the Solid Waste Department.

Thank you.

Appendix - A

Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Information Sheet

What is E -Waste? E-waste are common electronic products that can be reused, refurbished, or recycled. E-waste that is not recycled often ends up in the landfills. As a result, toxic substances commonly found in electronics such as lead, cadmium, and mercury have the capability of contaminating land, air, and water.

Examples of E-Waste Products

- Computers and Peripherals
- Fax Machines
- CPUs
- CRT Monitors
- Printed Circuit Boards
- Mice
- Typewriters
- DVD and VHS Players
- Stereo Equipment
- iPods
- Thumb Drives
- Hard Drives
- LCD Monitors
- Scanners
- Cables and Cords
- Memory Devices
- Telephones and Cell Phones
- Printers
- Laptops
- Servers
- Plotters
- Modems
- Keyboards
- Copiers
- Cameras

Appendix – B

Bio-Hazardous and Hazardous Wastes Information Sheet

What is Hazardous Household Wastes? Household wastes which can burn easily (flammable), corrode or irritate skin (corrosive), generate heat or explode (reactive), or poison humans and animals (toxic) are examples of hazardous household wastes.

Examples of un-acceptable items:

- Explosives or ammunition
- Compressed gases
- Radioactive waste
- Biomedical waste
- Business generated waste
- Prescription medicine
- Paints
- Fertilizers
- Household cleaners and chemicals
- Insecticides
- Pool chemicals

What Is Bio-Hazardous Waste? Is infectious agents or hazardous biologic materials that present a risk or potential risk to the health of humans, animals, or the environment. The risk can be direct through infection or indirect through damage to the environment. Biohazardous materials include certain types of recombinant DNA, organisms and viruses infectious to humans, animals, or plants (e.g., parasites, viruses, bacteria, fungi, prions, and rickettsia), and biologically active agents (e.g., toxins, allergens, and venoms) that can cause disease in other living organisms or cause significant impact to the environment or community.

Biologic waste: any biohazardous or non-biohazardous waste containing biologic material, including but not limited to blood and blood products, clinical specimens, pathological waste, animal carcasses and soiled bedding, cultures and stocks of microbial materials, sharps and other items that have been in contact with biohazardous materials, biotechnology byproduct effluents designated for disposal, and laboratory supplies, plastics, or glassware that have been in contact with biologic materials.

A Few Things You Should Know about Proper Disposal of Household Needles, Lancets and Other Sharps

- Put all household generated sharps: needles, lancets, and single razor blades into a rigid plastic container such as an empty laundry detergent or bleach bottle.
- Do NOT use glass or coffee cans.
- Clearly label the container "Contains Sharps" with a waterproof marker.
- Immediately put used syringes or lancets into the container.

- Screw on the top after each use.
- Don't clip, bend or recap the needles because you could injure yourself.
- Keep the container away from children!
- Add a few tablespoons of household bleach for added safety (optional).
- Seal it with heavy-duty tape when the container is full.
- Take to a drop-off collection site or see trash disposal steps below.

Trash Disposal

- Put your homemade sharps container in a box.
- Clearly label the box as “Danger Sharps Inside.”
- Put with regular household trash.