

# Design requirements for solid waste and recycling collection containers in Fairfax County

Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program  
Department of Public Works and Environmental Services

# Building permit process

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- ▶ Application
- ▶ Review
- ▶ Approval
- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Inspection
- ▶ Field review
- ▶ Project completion
  
- ▶ All designs comply with common industry practices and building codes including the Fairfax County Public Facilities Manual
- ▶ <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/publications/pfm/>



# PFM modification process

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- ▶ DPWES Land Development Services
- ▶ DPWES Division of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling
- ▶ Department of Planning and Zoning
- ▶ Office of the County Attorney
- ▶ Engineering Standards Review Committee (ESRC).



# What does the PFM do?

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- ▶ Aids in determining the size of trash and recycling storage containers for the size of the building and property (e.g. dumpsters, bins, interior storage rooms, etc.).
- ▶ Assures that a location for containers is designed that avoids possible conflicts with open space areas, tree save areas, floodplains and resource protection areas (RPA).
- ▶ Incorporates standards related to providing adequate access to collection and storage areas for collection vehicles, public health inspectors, and building tenants.



# Design elements

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- ▶ The PFM includes Plate #33-10 which depicts a typical dumpster pad for the collection and storage of trash and recyclable materials.
- ▶ Side by side dumpsters, one dumpster for trash and the other dumpster for recycling
- ▶ Sufficient clearances for vehicular access and clearance around the dumpsters



# Design standards and guidelines

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- ▶ Location for containers designated on design drawing
- ▶ Pad must be constructed of a material that is able to withstand the proposed load (concrete is recommended).
- ▶ Areas 30 feet in front of the pads should also be reinforced to withstand the weight of the collection vehicle.
- ▶ In instances when site constraints prohibit total concrete surfacing, a concrete service pad extending 13 feet in front of the enclosure shall be provided to withstand the pressure of the front wheels of the vehicle while dumping.



# Design standards and guidelines

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- ▶ Access to collection and storage areas must be by internal travelways and parking areas within a site.
- ▶ No collection device may be accessed directly from a public street, and no backing movement from an internal collection device may encroach into any street.
- ▶ Parking areas should allow for a circular through movement wherever possible to avoid back-up movements.
- ▶ Where a circular through movement is not possible, maneuvering space in front of any dumpster must be provided. Back-up and turnaround space must have a minimum width of 15 feet and a depth of 30 feet.



# Design standards and guidelines

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- ▶ Collection areas designed with positive drainage, be accessible to collection equipment, public health inspectors, and county fire and solid waste inspection personnel.
- ▶ Exterior storage containers and equipment shall comply with fire, health, solid waste, and zoning requirements.
- ▶ Containers shall not be placed in required transitional screening yards, tree save areas, designated open space area, floodplain or RPA or in area where they will block sidewalks, trails, required parking spaces, loading spaces or be located within any street.
- ▶ Screening shall be provided in accordance with the Zoning Ordinance





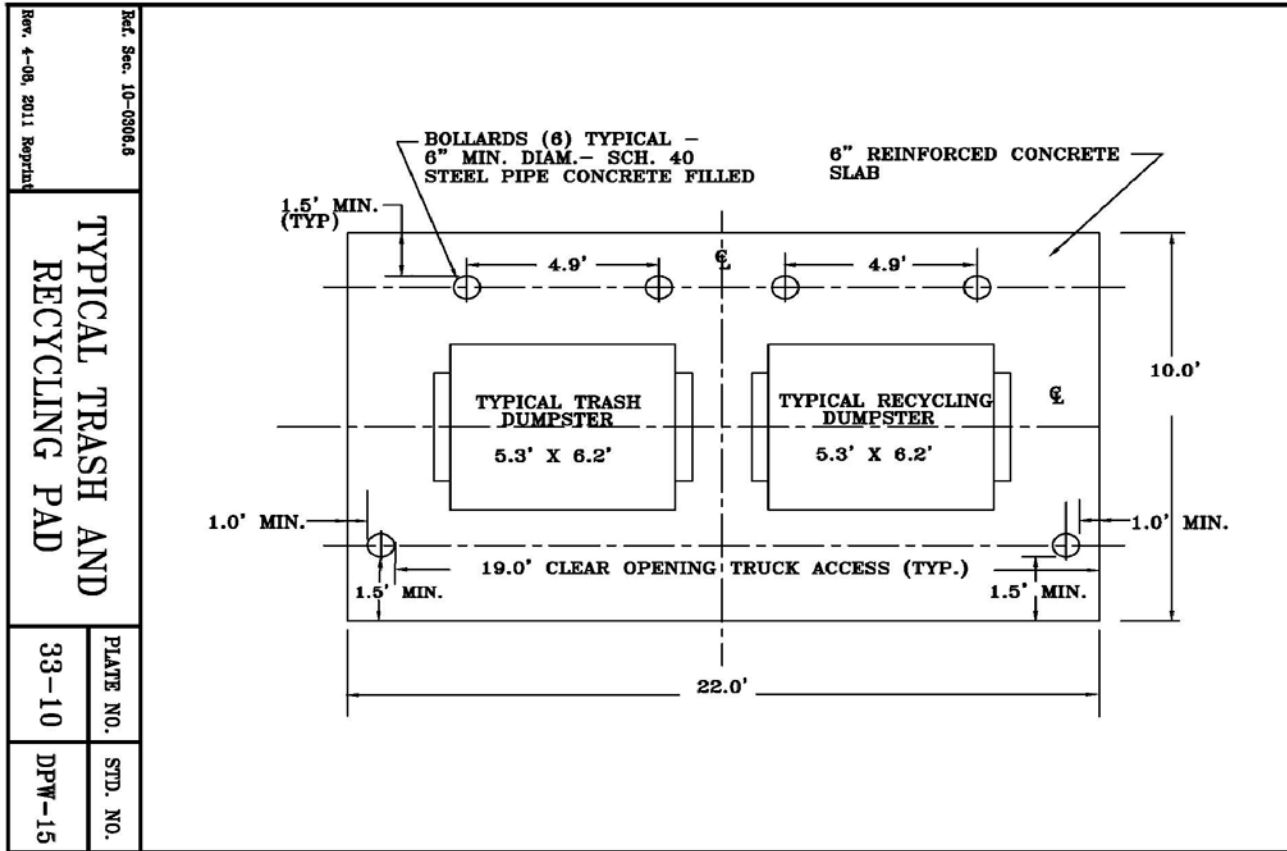
# Design standards and guidelines

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- ▶ The designated pad for side by side dumpsters for collection and storage of trash and recyclable materials should be 22 feet wide x 10 feet long in accordance with Plate 33-10.
- ▶ Additional space to accommodate additional containers, compactor equipment and/or storage areas for cardboard bales and pallets shall be provided as needed.
- ▶ Alternative pad configurations may be approved by the Director in keeping with the purpose and intent of § 10-0300.



# Generic pad design



# Design standards and guidelines

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- ▶ Trash and recycling containers must be adjacent to each other in the enclosure or in the same central storage area.
- ▶ Trash and recycling containers and their storage areas must be adequate to accommodate the volume of materials as projected on the Waste Stream Calculation Worksheet with a frequency of collection not less than once per week.
- ▶ Areas designated for trash and recycling containers for multi-family properties should generally be located within 200 feet walking distance of the building to be served.



# WCWS

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- ▶ <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/forms/waste-calc-nonres.htm>
- ▶ Uses estimating techniques developed by USEPA based on business type and size of building occupied



# Design standards and guidelines

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- **Minimum vertical clearances for front-end loading vehicles**  
24 feet overhead and 10-foot width of clear opening
- **Minimum required vertical clearances for roll-off trucks**  
18 feet overhead for entry of the truck only  
24 feet when the truck hoist is raised with a rectangular box container  
11-foot-wide clear opening  
65 feet shall be provided for the safe unloading/loading of container
- **Vertical clearance for rear-loading refuse vehicles**  
14 feet overhead with 10-foot width of clear opening

