



COLORADO


Hazardous Materials
& Waste Management Division

Department of Public Health & Environment

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

MEMORANDUM

To: All Operating Solid Waste Disposal Sites and Facilities and Solid Waste Haulers, Operating Composting and Recycling Facilities, Registered Waste Tire Haulers, Processors and Monofills, Registered Waste Grease Haulers and Processors

From: David Snapp, Solid Waste and Materials Management Program (303-692-3425) 

Date: March 26, 2020

Subject: Solid Waste Services are Critical Services per Public Health Order 20-24

On March 25, 2020 Governor Polis issued “Executive Order D 2020 17: Ordering Coloradans to Stay at Home Due to the Presence of COVID-19 in the State.” The executive order directs all residents of Colorado to stay at home through April 11, 2020, unless a resident is conducting critical business or performing necessary activities as defined in Public Health Order 20-24.

Public Health Order 20-24 defines “Trash, compost, and recycling collection, processing and disposal” as critical services that may continue to operate as normal under Executive Order D 2020 17.

Public Health Order 20-24 defines “necessary activities” as “Obtaining necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver those services or supplies to others, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, food, pet supply, other household consumer products, and products or equipment necessary to maintain the safety, *sanitation*, and essential operation of a Residence.”

The Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division finds:

- The commercial hauling, collection, processing, composting, recycling and disposal of solid waste is a critical service as defined in Public Health Order 20-24.
- Non-commercial, or residential hauling of solid waste is a necessary activity as defined in Public Health Order 20-24.
- Solid waste operations must “comply with the guidance and directives for maintaining a clean and safe work environment issued by the CDPHE and any applicable local health department.”
- Residents and businesses providing critical services, or conducting necessary activities, must comply with social distancing requirements which the public health order defines as “To reduce the risk of disease transmission, individuals shall maintain at least a six-foot distance from other individuals, wash hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer, cover coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands), regularly clean high-touch surfaces, and not shake hands.”

While the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division views solid waste management as “necessary activities” and “critical services” allowed to operate during the stay at home



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executive order, the Department encourages residents to remain at home as much as possible until the executive order sunsets. Residents and businesses should make every effort to avoid close interactions between facility operators and members of the public while conducting solid waste management activities.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact David Snapp at 303-692-3425, or david.snapp@state.co.us.