

## Environmental Service Division

### Free Load Policy

I. Purpose

To provide the County's Solid Waste Facility ("Eco Station") staff with policy, set guidelines and restrictions related to Free Loads as provided in Section 32-18(c) (3) of the County Code of Ordinances which states "disposal by the customer at the solid waste facility without tip fee of 12 loads or part thereof per calendar year of residential, non-hazardous, solid waste."

II. Policy

- A. Twelve (12) Free Loads are given to each customer at the beginning of each calendar year on New Year's Day, Jan 1. The Free Loads do not roll over from year to year.
- B. Customers must show proof of identity and ownership, control or occupancy of real property or other premises within the County to dispose of solid waste at the Eco Station without a tip fee ("a Free Load"). Customers are defined as any person owning, controlling or occupying real property of other premises within the County who receives refuse collection, removal, recycling and disposal services by the County in accordance with Chapter 32 of the County Code of Ordinances ("Code"). Eco Station staff shall verify individuals are customers by checking personal identification cards to ensure the information matches the utility account information. If it is determined that individuals other than customers dispose of solid waste at the Eco Station, they shall be in violation of the Code and subject to an unauthorized used disposal fee in accordance with Chapter 32 of the Code.
- C. Customers may accompany people doing work on their behalf to have the load charged as a Free Load in accordance with this policy.
- D. Customers may authorize friends, family members or neighbors transport materials on their behalf to have the load charged as a Free Load in accordance with this policy. To authorize this service, the customer must notify the scale house in advance by calling (505)662-8163. The customer must specify the name of the individual(s) authorized to use the Free Load, authorize number of Free Load(s) to be used, the date(s) of when the Free Load(s) will be brought to the Eco Station, the vehicle make and model, and material contents. Commercial vehicles are not allowed and are subject to disposal fees in accordance with Chapter 32 of the Code.
- E. Items that do not count against Free Loads include: oil, anti-freeze, mixed recycling, metal, cardboard, glass, compact fluorescent lightbulbs and batteries from personal vehicles for noncommercial purposes. All other materials including solid waste, household hazardous waste, asphalt, brush, concrete, electronics, refrigerant containing units and tires are acceptable items to be disposed of as a Free Load.

- F. Family members residing at the customer's residence may charge Free Loads for the resident. Customer approval and familial relationship status must be verified for the Free Load. If approval and verification cannot be provided, the individual will be assessed accordingly for the load.
- G. One pickup truck load or the equivalent of a 5' x 6' load constitute one Free Load. Loads exceeding one pickup truck load or the equivalent of a 5' x 6' load will count as two Free Loads. Dump trucks count as two free loads.
- H. When a property is a rental, the owner and the customer are allowed to charge Free Loads to the property, up to twelve (12) Free Loads a year per property. The utility account may be in either person's name. The additional authorized person must be put into PC Scale so Eco Station staff know they are authorized to dump on that account. To verify that the people are authorized to dump on the account, the individual needs to show a proof of identity, if the address is listed, they must also show a current property tax bill to demonstrate they own or live at that address. Eco Station staff can also look into the Utilities account or call Utilities to see if the individual is listed on the account.
- I. After using the twelve (12) Free Loads, residential loads will be charged accordingly at the current tip fee.
- J. Loads brought to Overlook Convenience Center that would qualify as a residential load are subject to this policy.
- K. Customers may donate one of their twelve (12) Free Loads each year to a thrift store that operates in Los Alamos County and accepts, recycles and reuses materials from residents.

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June 14, 2022  
Date