City of Houston
Department of Neighborhoods
Inspection and Public Service
“The Peoples Department”

“ROLE OF CODE ENFORCEMENT”
Enforcement Powers

Texas Health & Safety 341.013

City of Houston Chapter 39-67 & 39-77

- Waste on properties
- Heavy Trash
Specific Violations for Waste
THSC 341.013

➢ (a) Premises occupied or used as a residence or for business or pleasure shall be kept in a sanitary condition.

➢ (b) Kitchen waste, laundry waste, or sewage may not be allowed to accumulate in, discharge into, or flow into a public place, gutter, street, or highway.

➢ (c) Waste products, offal, polluting material, spent chemicals, liquors, brines, garbage, rubbish, refuse, used tires, or other waste of any kind may not be stored, deposited, or disposed of in a manner that may cause the pollution of the surrounding land, contamination of groundwater or surface water, or the breeding of insects or rodents.

➢ (e) A person may not permit vacant or abandoned property owned or controlled by the person to be in condition that will create a public health nuisance or other condition prejudicial to public health.
Clean Premises
Nuisance on vacant lot/private property
IPS Role

Notify property owners when there are heavy trash and nuisance violation(s) on private property

➢ Removing improperly discarded items only after the notification period has expired

➢ Private contractor, abatement team, community service volunteers

➢ Issuance of citations when necessary & lien properties where there is non-compliance

➢ Public/Community Awareness-email blasts, blogs, brochures, HOA meetings, etc.…

➢ Offering suggestions to property owners for deterrence
Notification
It’s not my fault!

Accountability
Heavy Trash
Heavy Trash & Trash Containers

- 39-65 (c) Trash is placed before scheduled time/not properly bundled.

- 39-77 (d) Unlawful to place or to allow remaining any materials at the curb line for heavy trash prior to 6:00 p.m. of the Friday before.
Citation

PENALTY-REQUEST TO COME TO COURT/SUMMONS
The role of property owners, citizens, businesses

- Review if location is eligible for fence construction, barriers, or structure to secure property from unauthorized entrance
- Use the 311 and/or online system to verify if this is your communities' week for bulk collection
- Property owners should conduct regular inspections of their property
- Post “No trespassing signs” or “Smile you are on camera”
- Report locations where heavy trash is observed
Deter the Violators
“Report It”

- Contact Department of Neighborhoods via 311 line
  Please provide description, date, time and location where it was observed. A license plate number, type of vehicle and/or description of person observed.

- Contact email www.houstontx.gov/ips

- www.houstontx.gov/neighborhoods

*Take photos (only when safe and if it’s possible) Jot down the information for referral.
Community Service
Volunteers & Outreach Projects
Community Awareness-Block Walk
Department of Neighborhoods getting the job done!

Team work!

Together Everyone Achieves More
What are we doing to deter this act?

➢ Word of Mouth

➢ Workshops

➢ Community walk-thru (flyers)

➢ Community clean ups
Department of Neighborhoods Inspection and Public Service Division

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