

BIRKDALE COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION

TRASH COMMITTEE REPORT

August 3, 2023

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1. Committee Members

Betsy Martello, BCA Board Member
Connie McGuinness
Melinda Ruffing
Bayard Taylor
Christopher Updike

2. Mission Statement

The ad hoc Trash Committee will research, gather, and compile data from trash companies serving Chesterfield County and present to the Birkdale Community Association Board for their informed decision.

3. Scope of the Committee

3.1 Why was the Birkdale trash committee formed?

On November 8, 2022, Chesterfield County, Virginia officials announced the cessation of the County sponsored and funded recycling program effective June 30, 2023. The biweekly curbside recycling program serviced more than 94,000 homes via an agreement with the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority and their contracted hauler Tidewater Fibre Corporation (TFC). Chesterfield County suggested that homeowners could contract **individually** for recycling.

In conjunction with the change for Chesterfield County's recycling program, residents noticed that the cost for contracted backyard/sideyard trash pickup was increasing substantially. Sometimes rate increases simply appeared on homeowners' invoices with little or no explanation; some trash companies' rates changed monthly.

On May 1, 2023, the Birkdale Board offered an information survey asking residents "Are you in favor of allowing curbside trash pickup, in addition to backyard trash pickup, altering Birkdale's current policy of backyard pickup only."

At the Board meeting on May 4, 2023, the "option to permit curbside pickup" was presented, discussed, and tabled.

On June 8, 2023, the Board held a virtual special meeting. The Board voted to maintain current trash policies.

During the meeting the Board and homeowners discussed the issue; considered homeowners' comments submitted with the Survey and additional comments submitted to the Board. They determined that the "trash issue" was not a simple decision. Thus, the

Board created a special ad-hoc Trash Committee to research, gather, compile information, and present an update at the August 3, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

3.2 Why is the Birkdale HOA involved with recycling and trash collection?

3.2.1 Single Family Protection Declaration of Covenants

When the Birkdale subdivision was being developed, Single Family Protection Declaration of Covenants, approved November 17, 1988, stated:

Section 3.15. Trash Receptacles and Collection.

All trash cans and other trash receptacles shall be kept within an enclosed or screened area so as not to be visible from any street or adjacent Single Family Lots. The Association may, at its option, require that all trash collection companies serving the Single Family Lots be approved by the Board of Directors of the Association. In addition, the Association may, at its option, contract with one or more trash collection companies to exclusively serve the Single Family Lots" and the costs thereof may be defrayed through assessments on such Lots.

3.2.2 Birkdale's ARC Standards and Guidelines (Architectural Review Committee) require backyard/sideyard pickup for trash. Approved February 6, 2020. Effective April 1, 2020.

6.31 SERVICE YARDS

NOTE: The Birkdale ARC Guidelines & Standards document states in Section 7.02 B that "Trash containers must be properly screened and stored in such a manner so that they cannot be seen from the street and adjacent residences"

A. Additionally, Section 3.15 of the Single Family Protections, a Declaration of Covenants, Easements and Restrictions states that "All trash cans and other trash receptacles shall be kept within the enclosed or screened area so as not to be visible from any street or adjacent Single Family Lot." It is preferred that service yards be provided for every lot which incorporates HVAC equipment, generators, and trash receptacles.

B. The service yard(s) should be located on the side of the house with direct access to the driveway.

C. All service yards must be screened on the side fronting the street and adjacent residence. For corner lots, both sides fronting the street must be screened. Acceptable screening materials include wood (finished or unfinished and salt treated) vertical boards with a maximum of 1" spacing, wood posts

and lattice, and vinyl posts and lattice. The screening must be properly supported, level, and plumb. The height must be at least as high as the equipment/item to be screened. The overall dimensions shall not exceed 5' in height, 5' in width and 8' in length.

D. Alternatively, homes that do not have service yards may store their trash cans in the garage or in the back of the house, hidden and not visible from the street. On the day of pick-up, trash cans may be moved to the front of the house, not the curb, and must be returned to the storage area by 7:00 p.m. on that day.

7.02 TRASH (Refer to Section 6.31 Service Yards)

A. No curbside pickup of trash is permitted. Trash and other refuse are to be disposed of on a weekly basis and no refuse, trash or bulk materials may be accumulated or stored on any lot.

B. Containers must be properly screened and stored in such a manner so that they cannot be seen from the street and adjacent residences.

C. Curbside pickup of recycling materials only is allowed. No recycling bins may remain in the front of the home past 7:00 p.m. that day.

D. Builders/contractors are prohibited from fencing waste and construction debris and are required on each building lot or site to provide a roll off waste container of suitable size to accommodate waste from the construction of the building on the lot.

E. Builders/contractors are required to pick up all debris and waste daily and place in waste container (see d above).

3.2.3 How was the committee selected?

At the June 8, 2023, Birkdale Board meeting, five homeowners volunteered to serve on the Trash Committee. Betsy Martello, Board Member, will serve as the Board representative to the committee.

3.2.4 What did the committee research?

The Trash Committee has met several times, researched, gathered, and compiled data, and considered the following questions:

1. What trash and recycling companies currently serve Birkdale?
2. If curbside trash pickup is permitted, will additional companies service Birkdale?
3. What questions should be asked of each trash and recycling company?

4. If curbside trash pickup is permitted, will homeowner costs change?
5. If only sideyard/backyard pickup of trash is allowed, are costs anticipated to increase?
6. Can the BCA add recycling and trash collection charges to assessments?
7. If trash and recycling were included in assessments, would ACS West, INC. increase its management fees?
8. How do neighboring subdivisions deal with trash and recycling? What are their costs for trash and recycling? Are these costs included in HOA assessments?
9. How do Birkdale's Covenants and ARC Standards and Guidelines address trash and recycling?
10. Do Chesterfield County and the State of Virginia have regulations regarding trash and recycling?
11. Are companies properly licensed by the State of Virginia and Chesterfield County?
12. What are the vendors ratings per the Better Business Bureau?
13. What are Birkdale homeowners' comments including those from the Board, Survey, social media sites, and individual submissions to the Board?
14. Will Birkdale's governing documents need to be changed?
15. How will Birkdale homeowners be notified of the Board's decisions?
16. Should the Board develop a plan to "educate" owners regarding any changes to current policies?
17. Can some companies receive a "preferred provider" status? How might those companies benefit? How might such a "preferred provider" status positively affect Birkdale owners?

4. Curbside and Backyard/Sideyard Pickup Pros and Cons

(Compiled from social media, Comments Submitted to Birkdaleonline, Trash Survey, and Birkdale Bulletin Eblast)

4.1 Curbside Pickup

PROS

1. Curbside is substantially less expensive than backyard/side yard pickup.
2. BCA might be able to contract with a preferred provider(s)—better cost and fewer companies picking up trash.
3. Birkdale has 657 homes and may be able to negotiate a better cost because of the large number of potential customers.
4. The possibility to contract with a company (or more) to provide both recycling and trash pickup.
5. The possibility to contract pickup for a single day of the week

CONS

1. Trash cans will line Birkdale's streets.
2. No one wants to look at trash and recycle cans. They are not attractive and are big, bulky, and usually an unattractive color, like bright green or mud brown."
3. "Many communities are trying to achieve a very specific, clean attractive look and get away from the look of a downtown city street."
4. May increase litter.
5. Trash cans may be on Birkdale streets each day. This is going to be a problem and an eyesore.
6. Birkdale has narrow streets. On-street parking, no sidewalks in some areas creates safety issues for pedestrians as well as emergency vehicles.
7. Recycling already occurs curbside and adding curbside trash pickup will impact the entire Birkdale community.
8. Residents complain about picking up recycling waste when items blow into nearby yards and streets. Adding trash and nasty garbage will be very bad and unsanitary.
9. Keeping trash bins out can be an invitation for pets and wild animals when rummaging for food in the trash.
10. HOA Trash Can Identify theft is a reality. Thieves can rummage through trash searching for anything they can use to their advantage.

4.2 Backyard/Sideyard Pickup

PROS

1. Owners purchased homes and understood the requirement for backyard/side yard pickup.
2. Curbside pickup has never been allowed.
3. "Classy" clean, orderly appearance of Birkdale's streets
4. Maintains neat, clean streets free from trash receptacles.
5. Older owners appreciate not having to take cans to the street.
6. Convenient
7. BCA might be able to contract with a preferred provider—better cost and fewer companies picking up trash.
8. Birkdale has 657 homes and may be able to negotiate a better cost because of volume.
9. The possibility to contract with a single company to provide both recycling and trash pickup.
10. The possibility to contract pickup for a single day of the week
11. Love it the way it is! Prefer the nice look that backyard pickup allows.

CONS

1. Cost is increasing substantially.
2. There are a limited number of companies providing backyard/side-yard service.
3. Trash companies are having more difficulty hiring workers because of a shrinking labor force.

4.3 Additional Comments Received from Homeowners

1. Birkdale owners sometimes confuse Covenants and ARC Standards and Guidelines.
2. If the BCA included trash and recycling fees in assessments, the BCA would be responsible for contracting/paying trash/recycling companies for “delinquent” homeowners’ assessments.
3. BCA collection activities might increase; thus, management fees could increase.
4. Could homeowners opt out?
5. Some respondents to the BCA “Survey” believe that they “voted” for/against curbside trash pickup. Some believed that they had already decided the issue. “The majority of residents who responded to the survey voted for curbside trash pickup. So, instead of agreeing with the majority, you decide to study it, leaving those of us with a trash service that doesn’t offer recycling in the lurch. Make a decision. It’s not rocket science, it’s just trash.
6. Over 57% said yes to curbside trash. Why is there still debate on the issue?
7. There are too many trash carriers serving Birkdale.
8. Larger trash companies keep buying out the smaller ones.
9. Can the BCA require a trash/recycling company, or companies, to pick up one a single day?
10. The survey is too simplistic and narrow with its single question.
11. Every household should either do backyard trash pickup or curbside.
12. Having one contracted company will enable us to pay less and reduce daily truck traffic, noise and negative road impact.
13. The Board should implement a series of guidelines, for vendor(s) and residents’ compliance to ensure the current Birkdale standards—streets, common areas and residents’ structure and landscape is maintained. Strictly enforce the compliance of our standards.
14. Unless the board is preparing to address both the trash and recycling options, this discussion is incomplete. Vendors who can provide both services should be considered.
15. HOA restrictions on trash can and recycle receptacles are in place to help protect the community and its homeowners. Cooperation in following the restrictive covenants helps your HOA manager accomplish their goal of having a well-rounded, safe, clean community that maintains its property values.
16. The Board may need to determine trash can/receptacle specifications.

5. Trash & Recycle Vendor Summary Chart

			Trash, Weekly					Recycle, Bi-Weekly Curbside			
Both trash & recycle	Vendor	# of Current Birkdale Customers	Day of Week	BSY Mo Cost	Notes	Curbside Mo Cost	Notes	Day of Week	Mo Cost	Notes	BBB Rating
	Choice Waste Services	none, since Birkdale is BSY	Friday	n/a		\$ 22.00	a,b	Friday	\$ 8.95	a,b	B-
	804-234-4444										
	https://choicewasteservices.com										
	GFL (County Waste)	~ 300	Friday	\$ 50.79	a,b	\$ 22.00	a,b	Thursday	\$ 8.00	a,b	A+
	804-843-9288										
https://gflenv.com											
Waste Management	HOA Rep to provide	Friday	\$ 51.85	a,c	To be provided		Friday	\$15.50	a,c	No Rating	
888-827-9234											
https://www.wm.com											
Trash only	All Terrain Waste Services, LLC	~ 200	Tuesday	\$ 35.00	a	n/a	a				No Rating
	804-667-6223										
	https://allterrainwasteservices.com										
	Zan's Refuse	cannot disclose this info	Friday	\$ 60.00	a,d	\$ 22.00	a,b				B-
	804-897-1338										
https://zansrefuse.com											
Recycle only	TFC Recycling (same as thru Jun 30)										
	757-543-5766										
	https://tfcrecycling.com/chesterfield										
Notes											
a	Cost is paid quarterly										
b	Provides container at no cost										
c	Provides containers, cost is included in the set-up & end fee										
d	BSY trash, provide your own container or pay additional \$10 a month for their container										
Comments											
Choice	As an individual resident, in order to have their recycle, must also use them for trash. Gave quote for HOA of 657 homes: trash \$14 per home, recycle, \$6.50 per home; quote valid for 60 days (08/27/23)										
GFL	If HOA, then can likely get cost for both curbside trash & recycle to be close to \$25 a month, but services could be on different days. Lynn is working on pricing for both backdoor and curbside for trash or trash/recycling through HOA										
Waste Mgt	Set-up fee of \$110, End fee of \$94, no contract; set-up and end fee covers both services, and same if you choose only one service (trash or recycle). HOA representative to call; costs provided are for individuals										
All Terrain	Provide your own container. Local family in business 7 years; 4 trucks and one on order; did not provide HOA pricing										
Zan's	BSY increased from \$40 to \$60 in May, insurance rates for BSY is significantly higher than curbside due to liability of entering onto residents property; multiple workers on each truck; no increase in curbside since 2021; Brandermill just chose Zan's as a preferred										
TFC	HOA cost is same as individual. No contract for individuals, but if TFC provides a new container and you discontinue service within one year, you owe the cost of the container, \$96.										

			Trash, Weekly					Recycle, Bi-Weekly Curbside			
	Vendor	# of	Day of	BSY Mo	Notes	Curbside	Notes	Day of	Mo Cost	Notes	BBB
Other Vendors	Boyd's Disposal Service		Friday	\$ 35.00							F
	804-625-0320										
	email: boydsdisposal@gmail.com										
	Mr Riley's		irregular	\$ 25.00							
	Republic Services (OldDominion)										
	Premier Trash LLC										
Comments											
Boyd's	Do not recommend.										
Mr Riley's	Do not recommend.										
Republic	Per sales representative, Birkdale is outside of their service area.										
Premier	Have called twice and texted once. Could not leave voice mail due to mailbox full. Their Facebook page reflects "Residential Curbside Trash Pickup. Serving Orange, Spotsylvania, Louisa, Lake Anna", although Magnolia Green is one of their clients.										

6. Trash Committee Conclusions

- Several companies are willing to provide trash and recycling services to Birkdale.
- One vendor is still determining costs for curbside trash services since they currently service only backyard/sideyard pickup in Birkdale.
- Trash and recycling carriers will continue to increase their customers charges because of:
 - Increasing labor costs
 - Shrinking labor force
 - Insurance liability costs
 - Distance travelled to new landfills due to current landfills reaching capacity
- Currently ACS West, Inc. does not manage any communities that include trash/recycling in their assessments.
- Community-wide support for curbside service is divided; many "like it the way it is."
- A segment of homeowners (DIY) do not use commercial trash/recycling services. Although we do not know the actual number of DIY, a guesstimate is ~ 50, or 7.6% of residences.
- Without requiring a single provider, trash and recycle trucks may be in Birkdale three or more days per week.
- Some homeowners have already selected recycling vendors.
- Chesterfield County Code (Chapter 11, Article I, Sections 1-17) requires licenses to conduct business as a trash hauler.
- Chesterfield County Code (Chapter 11, Article I, Section 18) states:

- All vehicles licensed under this article shall be equipped with suitable tight-fitting covers to prevent scattering of the loads on the roads and streets of the county.

7. Trash Committee Recommendations

1. The Board should consider “permitting” curbside trash pickup but **not** make it mandatory at this time. This will allow those owners who “like it the way it is” to maintain their sideyard/backyard service with the company of their choice while other owners could select curbside service. Owners would maintain their option to choose their type of service and vendor.
2. The Board should consider requiring residents to use vendor-provided containers if choosing curbside trash or curbside recycling to maintain the clean aesthetics of the community.
3. The Board should consider not allowing vendors who transport trash that is not covered to operate in Birkdale.
4. The Board should consider establishing a “preferred provider” status for one or more vendors. Contracting with “preferred” vendors could be encouraged through listing vendor contact information on Birkdale’s website, the monthly Birkdale Bulletin, and the New Owner packet.
5. “Preferred” vendor status might result in a lower cost for services, fewer trucks on Birkdale streets, and fewer days that trash receptacles would be placed curbside.
6. The Board should develop a plan to “educate” owners regarding anticipated changes to trash and recycling collection policies.

Appendix

1. Chesterfield County Recycling Policy, July 1, 2023

Waste Advantage Magazine, May 3, 2023

“Chesterfield County is transitioning to a privatized recycling model, giving citizens several collection options at lower prices. The county’s 10-year curbside recycling contract with the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority ends July 1, leaving residents and businesses to choose from several private haulers for new services. “This is a team process that’s really evolved itself over the last 10 years,” county administrator Joe Casey said. “We’re trying to position our people, including the businesses, for the best ways in which they can make choices for themselves to recycle.”

The county’s renewed emphasis on recycling includes resuming seven-day-a-week operations at the Northern Area Convenience Center in Midlothian and the Southern Area Convenience Center in Chester. Additionally, new recycling drop-off bins will be placed at Daniel, Dodd, Goyne, Horner, Huguenot and Rockwood Parks. People will not be required to separate glass, metal, paper and plastic materials to use the bins.

“We feel that that’s going to be a tremendous help in providing alternate resources and alternate options for our citizens to continue to recycle,” said John Neal, Chesterfield’s general services director.

1.1 Curbside Recycling

Residents and businesses may contract with the following companies for curbside recycling services:

- Choice Waste Services or call 804-234-4444
- GFL Environmental or call 804-843-9288
- Tidewater Fibre Corporation (TFC) Recycling or call 757-543-5766
- Waste Management or call 800-834-2805
- Zan's Refuse Service, Inc customers should contact Tidewater Fibre Corporation (TFC) Recycling for curbside recycling service

1.2 Drop-Off Recycling Convenience Centers

Recycling can be dropped off at either of the county's convenience centers at no charge. The county's convenience centers will be open seven days a week in late summer 2023.

1.3 Community Recycling Centers

The county is also establishing community recycling centers at Harry G. Daniel Park at Iron Bridge, R. Garland Dodd Park at Point of Rocks, Goyne Park, Irvin G. Horner Park, Huguenot Park and Rockwood Park. These facilities are expected to open in fall 2023.

2. Chesterfield County Code, Part II, Chap. 11, Garbage, Refuse and Weeds

§ 11-1. Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

Garbage: Readily putrescible discarded materials composed of animal, vegetable or other organic matter.

Refuse: All solid waste products having the character of solids rather than liquids and which are composed wholly or partially of materials such as garbage, trash, rubbish, litter, residues from clean up of spills or contamination, or other discarded materials.

Trash: Combustible or slowly putrescible discarded materials which include but are not limited to trees, wood, leaves, trimmings from shrubs or trees, printed matter, plastic and paper products, rubbish, grass, rags and other combustible or slowly putrescible materials not included under the term "garbage."

§ 11-18. Vehicle covers.

All vehicles licensed under this article shall be equipped with suitable tight-fitting covers to prevent scattering of the loads on the roads and streets of the county. Any person operating a vehicle licensed under this article from which any waste has fallen or escaped which could constitute an obstruction or damage a vehicle or otherwise endanger travel upon the roads and streets of the county shall immediately cause the road or street to be cleaned of the waste. Violation of this section shall constitute a class 1 misdemeanor. (Code 1978, § 10-15)

§ 11-19. Cleanliness generally and inspection of vehicles.

Vehicles used for collection of waste shall be subject to inspection by the county health department and director of general services and shall be presented for such inspection at the times and places designated by either department. All licensed vehicles must be kept clean and free from odors that may constitute a nuisance. (Code 1978, § 10-16)

3. Code of Virginia, Chap 9, Article 2, Waste and Recycling

§ 15.2-927. Garbage and refuse disposal.

Any locality may collect and dispose of garbage and other refuse; may regulate and inspect incinerators, dumps and other places and facilities for the disposal of garbage and other refuse and the manner in which such incinerators, dumps, places and facilities are operated or maintained; and without liability to the owner thereof may prevent the use thereof for such purposes when they contribute or are likely to contribute to the contraction or spread of infectious, contagious or dangerous diseases.

§ 15.2-928. Local recycling and waste disposal; powers; penalties.

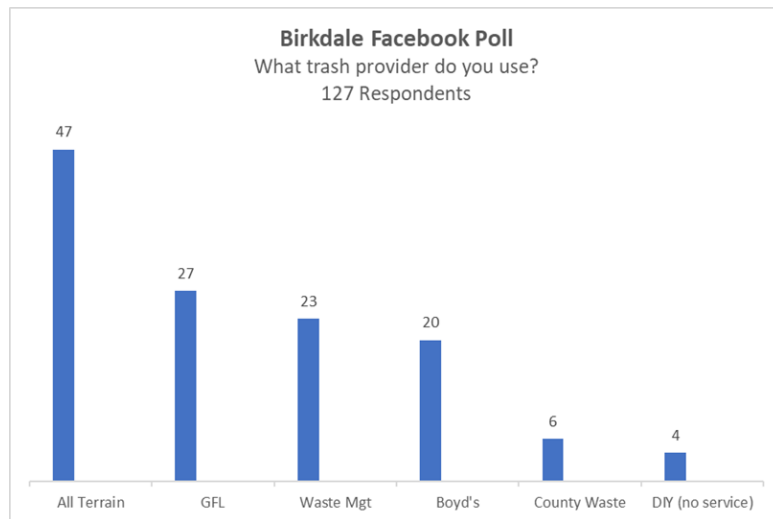
A. Any locality may (i) provide and operate, within or outside its boundaries, solid waste management facilities and appurtenances for the collection, management, recycling and disposal of solid waste, recyclable materials, and other refuse of the residents and businesses of the locality; (ii) contract with other localities to provide such services jointly; (iii) contract with others for supplying such services; (iv) contract with any locality or agency of the Commonwealth to provide such services for either entity; (v) prohibit the disposal of garbage or recyclable materials in or at any place other than that provided by the public or private sector for the purpose; (vi) charge and collect compensation for such services; (vii) regulate the times and placement of waste and waste containers set out for collection, such regulation to require notice so as to allow removal by the owner of the waste or waste containers prior to imposition of a civil penalty, provided that, in the City of Roanoke, provided the third notice required herein included an opportunity for the owner to be heard, the civil penalty may be imposed without further notice after the third notice for violation; (viii) provide penalties, including either criminal or civil penalties, for the unauthorized use of or failure to use such facilities. Prosecution of either a civil or criminal offense shall preclude prosecution of the other for the same offense; and (ix) grant incentives to encourage recycling.

B. Any locality may by ordinance limit the use of solid waste depositories or receptacles, owned or maintained by the locality, to the disposal of garbage and other solid waste originating from within the boundaries of such locality. Any locality adopting such an ordinance may provide penalties for its violation pursuant to subsection A.

C. For the purposes of this section, recyclable materials shall be those materials identified in a plan adopted pursuant to § 10.1-1411 and regulations promulgated thereunder. Nothing in this section shall invalidate the actions of any locality taken prior to enactment of this section. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting any generator of recyclable materials from selling, conveying or arranging for transportation of such materials to a recycler for reuse or reclamation, nor preventing a recycling company or nonprofit entity from collecting and transporting recyclable materials from a buy-back center, drop box or any generator of recyclable materials.

4. Birkdale Facebook Poll Results

Unofficial Birkdale Facebook poll requesting residents to report what trash vendor they use, results follow:



Only two trash vendors reported their number of customers (see vendor questionnaires). GFL (County Waste) reported approximately 300 residences in Birkdale use their service and All Terrain reported approximately 200 residences in Birkdale use their service. Those two vendors represent 76% of Birkdale residences.

5. Local Communities Current Trash Policies

As of 6/26/23

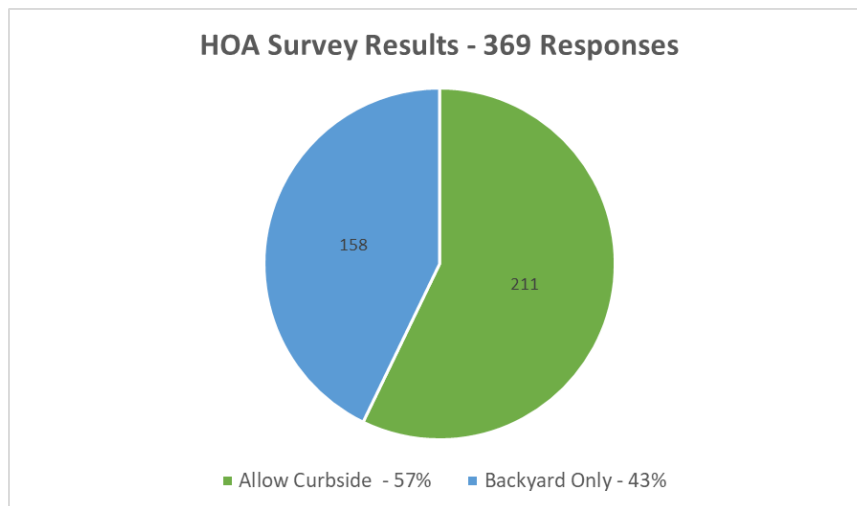
	Backyard/ sideyard only	Curbside	Contracted by	Notes
Birkdale	X		Homeowner	
Woodlake	X		Homeowner	Approved Recycling Policy 4/19/23
Brandermill	X		Homeowner	Zan's Refuse selected as preferred provider (7/2023)
Hampton Park	X		Homeowner	
Bayhill Pointe		X	Homeowner	
Summerford		X	Homeowner	
Collington		X	Homeowner	
Charter Colony		X	Association/cost included in assessments	One company contracted for trash
Woodland Pond		X	Homeowner	
Magnolia Green		X	HOA	Two companies for recycling & trash; GFL collects trash and Premier collects recycling. Both pick up on same day. Cost is included in assessments.
Salisbury		X	Homeowner	
Hallsley		X	HOA	
Ashbrook		X	Homeowner	
Cobblestone		X	Homeowner	
Harper's Mill		X	Homeowner	
Brandy Oaks		X	Homeowner	

6. Birkdale HOA Trash Survey

Birkdale Community Association Board
Letter to Birkdale Homeowners
April 12, 2023

The Birkdale Board is aware of the recent price increases with various trash companies. As such, the Birkdale HOA is taking an opinion poll of its Membership to assist in determining how to proceed with the current trash collection guidelines, as states in Birkdale's Architectural Standards and Guidelines, Section 7.02, p. 34.

"Are you in favor of allowing curbside trash pickup, in addition to backyard trash pickup, altering the Birkdale current policy of backyard pickup only?"



7. Vendor Questionnaires

Vendor: Choice			
Contact Name: Tori Gregory			
Phone: 804-414-0566		Date: 06/28/23	
		Trash	Recycle
1	Do you provide both trash and recycle service?	yes	yes
2	Is trash service back/side or curbside?	curbside only	
3	If offer both trash and recycle service, can customers opt for recycle only?		no, must also do trash
4	Are containers provided for both trash and recycle? Size and cost for both?	yes, 96 gal, no cost	yes, 96 gal, no cost
5	Do you accept yard waste? How many bags?	3 bags	
6	Day of week and frequency of service	Friday, same day service for both	
7	What are the monthly costs for each service and payment frequency?	\$22 mo pd qtrly \$66; if HOA, \$14 per home per mo based on 657 homes	\$8.95 mo, pd qtrly \$26.85; if HOA, \$6.50 per home per mo based on 657 homes
8	What are your terms to start and end service?	No contracts for individuals	
9	What are your payment methods?	Auto pay set up on line by customer via bank account or credit card; bill pay thru customers bank; check mailed to the office	
10	When was your last price increase and how do you provide notification to your customers?	individual given 2 week to 30 day notice via their communication choice (letter or email); HOA given 30 day written notice; increases typically given on anniversary date of their service/contract	
11	Birkdale has 657 homes. How many accounts do you currently have in Birkdale?	none currently, since we are curbside only	
12	Do you have tiered pricing? Would you consider tiered pricing depending on the number of accounts in a community?	no	
Notes			
Locally owned & operated for 6 years			
Operates a total of 60 trucks for different types of services			

Vendor: GFL (County Waste)				
Contact Name: Lynn Jackson				
Phone: 804-624-8860		Date: 06/23/23		
		Trash	Recycle	Note
1	Do you provide both trash and recycle service?	yes	yes	
2	Is trash service back/side or curbside?	both	curbside	
3	If offer both trash and recycle service, can customers opt for recycle only?		individual residents can, but not HOA's	
4	Are containers provided for both trash and recycle? Size and cost for both?	yes, 96 gal trash, no cost	yes, 65 gallon, 96 gallon on request, no cost	
5	Do you accept yard waste? How many bags?	yes, 5 bags		
6	Day of week and frequency of service	currently Friday; would need to re-route if HOA or preferred vendor	currently Thursday; would need to re-route if HOA or preferred vendor	
7	What are the monthly costs for each service and payment frequency?	BSY: \$50.79 (\$152.37) Curbside: \$22 (\$66) Both paid quarterly	Curbside: \$8 mo, qtrly: \$24	1
8	What are your terms to start and end service?	no terms for individual residents; if HOA then 36 month contract		
9	What are your payment methods?	Auto pay set up on line by customer via bank account or credit card; bill pay thru customers bank; check mailed to the office; can email or mail invoice		
10	When was your last price increase and how do you provide notification to your customers?	Increases are typically at the beginning of the calendar year; individual customers notified via email; if HOA, 30 day notice		
11	Birkdale has 657 homes. How many accounts do you currently have in Birkdale?	About 300 homes	Handful prior to July 1st	
12	Do you have tiered pricing? Would you consider tiered pricing depending on the number of accounts in a community?	No	No	4
Notes				
1	If HOA, then can likely get cost for both curbside trash & recycle to be close to \$25 a month, but services could be on different days.			
2	If HOA, there will be only one invoice sent to the HOA, terms 30 days paid via check or ACH.			
3	Price increases for disposal can happen with a 30 day notice if the disposal facility passes on an			
4	No tiered pricing. HOA pricing is based on the whole community participating. This addresses their concerns of too much waste traffic in their community.			

Vendor: Waste Management			
Contact Name: Hannah M. & Sierra			
Phone: 800-796-9696		Date: 06/28/23	
		Trash	Recycle
1	Do you provide both trash and recycle service?	yes	yes
2	Is trash service back/side or curbside?	Provide both, but currently only BSY in Birkdale	
3	If offer both trash and recycle service, can customers opt for recycle only?		yes, can opt for recycle only (individual only)
4	Are containers provided for both trash and recycle? Size and cost for both?	Provide 96 gal container for both; cost is in Set-up fee and end fee	Provides 96 gal container (in set up fee)
5	Do you accept yard waste? How many bags?	inside container only	
6	Day of week and frequency of service	Friday, weekly	Friday, bi-weekly
7	What are the monthly costs for each service and payment frequency?	BSY \$51.85 pd qtrly; HOA Rep will provide cost for curbside (currently don't provide in Birkdale)	If provide own container: \$13.75 mo, pd qtrly \$41.25; if they provide container: \$15.50 mo, \$46.50 qtrly
8	What are your terms to start and end service?	Set-up fee of \$110, End fee of \$94, no contract; set-up and end fee covers both services, and same if you choose only one service (trash or recycle)	
9	What are your payment methods?	Auto pay set up on line by customer via bank account or credit card; bill pay thru customers bank; check mailed to the office	
10	When was your last price increase and how do you provide notification to your customers?	Last price increase was effective 7/1/23, and could not provide cost prior to 7/1/23; communicates price increase in prior quarterly billing and on web site	
11	Birkdale has 657 homes. How many accounts do you currently have in Birkdale?	HOA Rep may be able to provide	
12	Do you have tiered pricing? Would you consider tiered pricing depending on the number of accounts in a community?	HOA Rep may be able to provide	

Vendor: TFC Recycling				
Contact Name:				
Phone: 757-543-5766		Date: 06/28/23		
		Trash	Recycle	Note
1	Do you provide both trash and recycle service?	n/a	only recycle	
2	Is trash service back/side or curbside?	n/a	curbside	
3	If offer both trash and recycle service, can customers opt for recycle only?		n/a	
4	Are containers provided for both trash and recycle? Size and cost for both?	n/a	Provide 96 gallon container at no cost; if customer currently has either a TFC or CVWMA branded container, they may continue to use it, but let TFC know and their account will be noted as a "customer owned container"	1
5	Do you accept yard waste? How many bags?	n/a	n/a	
6	Day of week and frequency of service	n/a	Tuesday every other week (same as was prior to July 1st)	
7	What are the monthly costs for each service and payment frequency?	n/a	\$9 a month, paid quarterly, upfront via credit card; sign up on line	
8	What are your terms to start and end service?	n/a	previously had 12 month contract listed on web site; have now changed to "no contract", service is provided quarter to quarter, paid up front; web site has not yet been updated	
9	What are your payment methods?	n/a	Quarterly by credit card on file	
10	When was your last price increase and how do you provide notification to your customers?	n/a		
11	Birkdale has 657 homes. How many accounts do you currently have in Birkdale?	n/a		
12	Do you have tiered pricing? Would you consider tiered pricing depending on the number of accounts in a community?	n/a	no	
Notes				
1	New customers: if have not yet received new container, may continue to use "open bin" or clear plastic bags until they receive new container. At that point, can only use new container - no more open bins, due to hydraulic lift being used on recycle truck and only one EE (the driver) Emails will be sent to customers regarding their order for new containers, which are currently on backorder due to high demand.			

8. Homeowner Comments from social media & Other Responses

Backyard/Sideyard Trash Service

1. Love the way it is.
2. Don't want trash cans on the street for days.
3. Having several trash carriers means our neighborhood looks "trashy." Driving through other neighborhoods that do not permit curbside trash pickup, the streets look horrible.
4. We purchased here in Birkdale because of back yard trash pickup. It looks upscale and classy.
5. Prefer the nice look that backyard pickup allows. That's the opinion of a 27 year resident. (Presented as written)

DIY

Taking my trash to the dump. \$7 per load. Big savings.

Recycling

1. Waste Management \$11/month. Will just go with them since had a good experience for trash.
2. Might have multiple companies on different days to pickup along with various garbage trucks
3. Would love one common recycling and trash collection to reduce fees and the number of large trucks on the neighborhood roads

Covenants

"The covenants require a super majority to change the policies."

- **added by committee:** Covenants require a super majority which is two thirds of the home owners; but the ARC documents permit the Board to make changes. Covenants give the Board the ability to use assessments and to contract with a single company for trash/recycling.

Single Solution

Would prefer a single solution for recycling and trash for entire subdivision financed through HOA fees. Probably am in the minority. Would like to know the results of the Birkdale survey.

Additional Comments

1. Would like a formal request for services (RFS) submitted to various companies under Birkdale's name.
2. Concerned that smaller companies will be acquired by larger ones that do not honor agreements.
3. One truck in Birkdale used for trash is small with homemade wooden rails to keep the bags from falling out.
4. Another company has a really small trash truck that could not handle our community unless it had another larger/full-size truck.
5. Anticipate labor market shortage for trash vendors

Comments Submitted to The Board and Online

1. Over 57% said yes to curbside trash. Why is there still debate on this issue? Get one hauler to do the whole neighborhood for trash and recycling and save everyone money and have one day a week where the cans are on the street. This issue has been beaten to death and taken too long to come to resolution. No plan is in place for the July 1 date so now instead of one change we are looking at multiple.
2. Thank you for the opportunity to share information regarding curbside trash pickup in Birkdale. My wife and I have been residents of Birkdale since February 1996. Curbside trash pickup has never been allowed. I have never seen anything explicitly stating why this was the guideline. I have always inferred that the reason was to prevent the display of trash cans throughout the neighborhood on trash day.

With multiple service providers, the presence of trash cans could be a daily occurrence. The committee that drafted the guidelines felt it was important enough to avoid this problem so it was appropriately documented and followed. When the survey was introduced, my wife and I discussed the pros and cons. My wife was a hard no and I was a yes with qualifications. Since only one vote was allowed per household, I used the "happy wife, happy life" decision model which resulted in a NO vote from our address. The event that precipitated the discussion of curbside pickup was a recent increase in prices. My experience with that issue follows.

We have used several trash service providers as residents of Birkdale. The companies have ranged in size from small local independents to larger regional entities. Our primary reason for changing providers occurred as a result of the bigger companies buying the smaller ones. County Waste started servicing the area as a large local company after acquiring independents. This is the company we used for the longest period and so we are most familiar with their operation. We were very satisfied with County Waste and had a good rapport with the collector who serviced our

area. County Waste charged a monthly fee of \$24.50 for backyard service throughout 2018. For reasons never explained to us, the monthly fee was increased by 38.8% to \$34.00 in January 2019. We were satisfied with the service so we didn't challenge the increase or switch providers. GFL purchased County Waste on January 1, 2020. My understanding was that GFL headquarters was located in Pennsylvania. GFL had a few minor increases following the purchase. In August 2021, an administrative fee of \$1.95 was added to the monthly fee if you chose to use USPS to receive your monthly invoice. In 2022, we were notified that GFL headquarters was moving to Detroit. There appeared to be some minor transition issues related to billing, but they were resolved before the end of last year. The invoice for January 2023 showed an increase from \$34.80 to \$34.96. The invoice for April 2023 showed an increase of 43% from \$34.96 to \$50.00. True to form, GFL offered no explanation for the increase. In my case, for no value added for the service provided, my curbside rate has increased from \$24.50 monthly to \$50.00 monthly were I to remain with GFL. This is an increase of 104% in a 52-month period. After I verified that the April invoice was not in error, I changed service providers.

It is easy to see why trash collection providers would want to provide curbside pickup in lieu of backyard service because the latter requires more personnel and is certainly less efficient. The jobs of trash and recycling collectors are rated in the top 5 of most hazardous jobs. Given today's technology where large cans can be picked up and emptied in literally seconds with remote controls, curbside pickup requires fewer people and is safer. It would seem that providers who offer backyard trash pickup would want to eliminate the service with the strategy of a higher premium for that service.

When Chesterfield County contracted CVWMA to provide a recycling service, the guidelines stated that all recycle bins had to be removed from the curb by 7 pm on the recycling day. This always seemed somewhat at odds with the principle that no curbside trash pickup was allowed. I realize that the HOA could not impose a backyard pickup for recycling, but for one day every 2 weeks, recycling containers often dotted the neighborhood throughout the day. Since the Chesterfield County recycling contract will expire at the end of June, residents who wish to continue recycling will have a number of providers to choose from. This could create a situation where recycle bins at the curbside could be repeated on multiple days depending on the provider's pickup schedule. Item D of section 6.3 of the guidelines has an interesting exception relating to both trash and recycling.

I realize that comparing curbside pickup rates with backyard pickup rates is obviously not a comparison of like things, but it is interesting from a cost standpoint. In my search for an alternative provider, I found that one company had a rate of \$66 per quarter for curbside pickup.

In my opinion, curbside pickup by a single provider on the same day every week would be acceptable. I believe that this concept may have been explored years ago, but I don't recall all of the details.

Consider my comments as food for thought. If you need additional information let me know. (See response provided via Birkdale Facebook in 2.1 below)

2.1 Response from Birkdale Secretary, Christopher Brooks, via Birkdale Facebook

The reason a decision was not made regarding trash was the board felt representation from the community was important for this decision and thereby formed a resident ran committee on the issue. It's an incredibly decisive matter and there have been heated arguments related to this topic.

There are residents who do not want trash to be seen all throughout the week on the side of the road as a result of allowing private companies to service the neighborhood with curb side pickup.

There are residents who want one trash service and wish to raise the HOA quarterly fees to pay for it.

There are residents who feel as though the HOA shouldn't dictate: they have to use one company and that they should be allowed to hire whichever vendor they wish as long as it adheres to the policy.

There is a committee being run by Betsy Martello (betsy@martellofamily.org) if you would like to hear more from other residents who all have different opinions on what should be done.

3. I have no interest in backyard service. Why pay HOA fees then?
4. NO, we are not in favor of curbside pickup. We want to keep the ordinance the way it has been for the 20 years that we have lived here.
5. This survey is too simplistic and narrow with its single question. The question solicits a single response with a single option, but if "yes" is prevalent, the board will need to alter several policies, including one permitting recycling, and one for permissible times, or, possibly for a common contract and dues alteration.

I would like to propose that we have 1 trash service provider for the entire neighborhood and negotiate a price based on the volume. This will enable us to all pay less and reduce daily truck traffic, noise and negative road impact.

6. As given the opportunity and instructed, I have expressed my vote. . ."in favor of allow curbside trash pickup." However, I am now writing this email response to better clarify my answer and option:
- Birkdale has been picking up recycling at the curb for the entire time I have been a Birkdale resident (+19 years) and while I am sure there have been issues, I believe that has been going well for most of the time.
 - I would hope and request that prior to actual implementation of such a significant/routine altering action, the Board will (1) seriously investigate (with management, vendors, & other associations) and (2) implement a series of guidelines, for vendor(s) and residents' compliance to ensure the current Birkdale standards-streets, common areas and residents' structure and landscape be maintained.
 - Strictly enforce the compliance of our standards.
7. Yes. . .we are in favor of changing to allow curbside garbage pickup. . .even though we do not do so. We feel that getting reliable and cheaper should be an option.
8. Unless the board is preparing to address both the trash and recycling options, this discussion is incomplete. Vendors who can provide both services should be considered.
9. I just did the survey concerning trash pickup. I wasn't given this option: I think every household should either do backyard trash pickup or curbside. I think there may be problems with the either/or choice. Thank you for working on this matter.
10. Ok. We haven't really given a lot of thought to this dilemma, we are able to dictate that all mail boxes are the same. The only way that curb sided will work is that we have one company the same day of the week to pick up. If you have curbside with no restrictions then you will have cans every day of the week with trucks running up and down our streets all week long and cans all over the place. Without restrictions curb side will ruin our tranquil environment. Cost is the factor, so just as the mailbox requirement why does the Birkdale Community Association not negotiate with one company for backyard or even curbside, cost would be cheaper show us an estimate for each, then have a survey and ask for a vote we may get a more relevant position, I don't like the red mail box but I live with it because it's the rules that apparently the majority has agreed to. I due to no real choice elect to remain back yard. And really concerned like many others about cans lining our streets every day and a constant convey of trucks running up and down our streets. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

11. Good afternoon! I just completed the online survey, but I wanted to share our thoughts on why we voted to not allow curbside pickup at this time. Thank you for your time and help!

12. NOT in favor. See reasons below. Responded no also due to not wanting to see garbage cans lined up every day due to several different garbage companies picking up on different days of the week. Also, we've had to pick up recycling out of our yard and gardens already when a neighbor's items blow into our spaces. Can't imagine how disgusting it would be if we had to pick up nasty garbage as well. Very unsanitary.

13. THE TRUTH ABOUT HOA TRASH CAN VIOLATIONS

The most common language we see in our documents usually states that the receptacles "Cannot be in public view." This usually means that trash bins must be completely hidden from the view from the street. Some communities of course have different rules or regulations, but most have some form or variation of this rule. In order to comply with this type of regulation, many homeowners place their trash cans in their garage area or behind their back yard fence gate. This way they are completely hidden and out of the way. Believe it or not, there are several good reasons for having these kinds of restrictions. Below are the reasons that developers and lawyers involved in the initial community setup include trash and recycle bin restrictions.

AESTHETICS –NO ONE REALLY LIKES LOOKING AT TRASH CANS UP AND DOWN A STREET

Let's face it. Trash and recycle cans are not the most attractive things in the world. They are big, bulky, and usually an unattractive color, like bright green or mud brown. Many HOA's are located in suburban areas of major cities. Most are trying to achieve a very specific, clean, attractive look and get away from the look of a downtown city street.

ANIMAL CONTROL –KEEPING YOUR TRASH BINS OUT CAN BE AN INVITATION FOR SOME UNWANTED GUESTS

Every family loves their family cats and dogs. However, no one enjoys when the neighbor's pets and other wild animals make a mess when rummaging for food in the trash. This can make for some unpleasant encounters with possibly a mother raccoon trying to get her food for babies, or a skunk trying to finish off their chicken wings from last week. Not to mention, that the homeowner will ultimately have to clean up the overturned trash that has blown all over their yard.

IDENTITY THEFT ---YOUR TRASH CAN BE A TARGET FOR NEW AGE THIEVES

How trash can Identity theft have been a reality for millions of Americans and the number of reported cases continues to be one the rise. Thieves have been known to rummage through the trash of homeowners searching for anything they can use to their advantage. They are typically looking for credit card offers, bank statements, social security information, and anything they can use to gain access to your personal credit. Many people would like to think they don't just throw this kind of information away, but you'd be surprised how careless people can be at times. If a thief cannot spot your trash, they have nothing to rummage through. Although homeowners may get frustrated at times with their HOW community's rules and regulations, they must understand that they are in place for the greater good. Restrictions concerning HOA trash can and recycle receptacles are no different. They are in place to help protect the community and its homeowners. Cooperation in following the restrictive covenants helps your HOA manager accomplish their goal of having a well rounded, safe, clean community that maintains its property values.

14. A majority of residents who responded to the survey voted for curbside trash pickup. So, instead of agreeing with the majority, you decide to study it, leaving those of us with a trash service that doesn't offer recycling in the lurch. Make a decision. It's not rocket science, it's just trash.
15. PLEASE do not allow this to happen. When residents purchased their homes, they agreed to this trash collection policy of backdoor service. When I travel through other neighborhoods that allow curbside trash pickup the entire neighborhood looks trashy. People can, and will be lazy leaving cans litter our streets. I do not know why this is even an issue other than the cost but everything is going up in price. Are they changing cell phone companies. . . are they changing their eating out habits because their rates have increased, are they changing insurance companies to save a few bucks? Why is the cost of trash their issue...they have options other than making Birkdale look like a second class neighborhood. The other thing is I can't understand why anyone would want to haul their trash down the driveway. We are getting older and appreciate the back yard service. I spend a boatload of money trying to keep our home neat and tidy which affects the total outlook on our community. The last thing I want to see are ugly trash cans littering our streets. Then you have another issue to rescue and fire trucks getting through the narrow streets where cars are parked that shouldn't be there. Again. . .they agreed to the trash policy when they purchased their home...please keep it intact and keep our neighborhood a classy one.
16. Why are we still debating this? The majority of the people who voted said yes to curbside pickup. The recycling is also curbside so I don't see a difference. I force the

same stipulation to trash. Our fees for trash went up to \$50 a month! I am sure you know why GFL raises their rates so I won't get into it. Time for changes to be made.

17. Why would you go with the minority opinion when the majority want to okay curbside?
18. Why waste our time with a survey when the choice that a majority of respondents responded with is ignored?
19. I'm really trying hard to understand why our trash can be brought to the curb the night before or on trash pickup day? With the prices of everything rising something has to give and paying over \$45 a month for trash adds up through the year. I can't believe this is becoming such an issue when we have people whose yards look terrible/like trash and all are worried about trash in a can being put on the curb for pick up.
20. I'm confused...if the majority wants curbside pickup why are we having a special committee?
21. The time wasted is causing people money.
22. We voted to keep the current policy and firmly believe that is the best path forward. We purchased our home knowing the HOA and the incredibly positive appearance of the neighborhood. We want to keep the attractive curb appeal to ensure excellent value for the property.
23. A change in policy, as you know, would have trash bins in front of homes all through the week. Then, Birkdale looks just like all the other nearby neighborhoods. So, "how" would you police the homeowners that leave the bin in the front for extended periods of time?
24. We changed to All Terrain Waste Services (804-667-6223) that has backyard collection for \$35 per month billed quarterly. They require the homeowner to purchase a trash bin. Home Depot has reasonably priced bins delivered to the garage door. Given the price of recent home purchases, we suspect that new homeowners would not want to see their property devalued.
25. It seems that if we have been putting recycling bins on the street for over 20 years and picking them back up after the recycling is done and putting them back, there should be no problem doing the same thing with trash. Getting the trash can back is the exact same thing. It seems like a lot of worry over nothing. When we vote, just like in elections, if you don't vote, you can't complain. Over half of the homeowners voted, and over half of those voted for the curbside pickup. Votes should count for

something, if not why do it? Other neighborhoods have it. It saves the provider time, it saves the homeowners some cost, so why not? Not sure what all the fuss is over but it must be something....

26. I have been thinking about this for a while and will offer you a few comments. None of them is particularly significant but they may add to your conversation.

I am not in favor of the plan but I think it is better than the wild west plan. It would give us a lot of control over trash blowing from trucks. If someone insisted that they loved their guy they could use them but would still have to pay unless something creative was developed.

Regarding the ARC S&G, I think the members should be advised by some sort of letter and I have mentioned it to Christopher.

I would rather review other proposals before rewriting the whole document but it needs to be done before the end of the year.

Allow Open Curbside Pickup - Proliferation of Trash Cans

It is generally accepted that residents do not want the spectacle of trash cans on the street all the time.

With this in mind, starting from a population of 657 residents we can deduct 57 for no service needed and leave 600 to be served. If these were split between 5 or more companies, there would be about 120 trash cans on the streets every day. If they are split 1/3 to Waste Management, 1/3 to GFL, and 1/3 to all others, (200 + 200+ ?), the impact may be less but would still likely be 4 days per week with trash out plus whenever the recycling, of an unknown volume, is collected. This would not be desirable but would allow lower rates and allow flexibility to choose the service provider or service, including back door if offered.

BCA Contract Service - Reduces Traffic and Cans

BCA could contract with one or two service providers for specific areas, perhaps split at the lake, they would be responsible for trash and recycling pickup on a specific day. This could be done on a bid basis. Perhaps back door pickup could be offered at a reduced fee or minimal above bases. HOA would certify who qualifies. If individuals who do not wish to participate could be excluded, it would be good but it seems to violate Section 3.15 of Single Family Declarations. (How are such lots defined?)

At the rate of \$20 per month, this would increase quarterly assessments 60%. Recycling could be done by individuals or an extra fee each month spread

across all residents. Some clear lines would have to be defined. A lower rate may be achieved.

Re: County Regs and Licensing

I checked on this a few years ago and was surprised that trash collection is not controlled even to the point of requiring a license to dump at the landfill. It is worth checking as it may have changed.

9. Communications From Birkdale Community Association Board

9.1 BCA Board Eblast

June 15, 2023 Dear Homeowner/Resident of Birkdale,

Subject: Birkdale's Recycling and Trash Collection

RECYCLING

On November 8, 2022, Chesterfield County announced the cessation of the county sponsored and funded recycling program effective July 1, 2023. County officials stated that "CITIZENS COULD MOST ECONOMICALLY ACCESS CURBSIDE RECYCLING THROUGH A DIRECT RELATIONSHIP WITH PRIVATE HAULERS."

www.chesterfield.gov/563/Curbside-Recycling

Chesterfield's contract with CVWMA for **curbside recycling services ends on Saturday, July 1, 2023**. Residents and businesses may begin transitioning to private haulers at any time by contacting their preferred hauler. The following companies have indicated that they will provide curbside recycling, to include provision of containers for their service:

- [Choice Waste Services](#) or call [804-234-4444](tel:804-234-4444) (Currently Available)
- [GFL Environmental](#) or call [804-843-9288](tel:804-843-9288) (Currently Available)
- [Tidewater Fibre Corporation \(TFC\) Recycling](#) or call [757-543-5766](tel:757-543-5766) (Beginning July 1, 2023)
- [Waste Management](#) or call [800-834-2805](tel:800-834-2805) (Beginning Spring 2023)
- [Zan's Refuse Service, Inc](#) customers should contact [Tidewater Fibre Corporation \(TFC\) Recycling](#) for curbside recycling service.

Each hauler will provide instructions regarding existing containers. Containers no longer needed can be brought to a [Chesterfield Convenience Center](#) at no cost for recycling.

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At the Board meeting on June 8, 2023, your Birkdale Board of Directors voted to comply with Chesterfield County's recycling policy. Thus, each Birkdale homeowner may contract with a private contractor for curbside recycling service.

TRASH

To address some residents' concerns about trash collection, the Board offered an information survey asking residents "Are you in favor of allowing curbside trash pickup, in addition to backyard trash pickup, altering Birkdale's current policy of backyard pickup only?" Of the 657 Birkdale homeowners, 369 responded to the survey. 211 voted "YES" (to permit curbside pickup) and 158 voted "NO" (not to permit curbside pickup). Many homeowners' comments reinforced their votes while others felt it was too simple in concept. Nevertheless, the survey is a piece of useful information.

At the Board meeting on May 4, 2023, the "option to permit curbside pickup" was presented, discussed, and tabled. On June 8, 2023, the Board held a virtual special meeting. The Board voted to maintain current the trash policies; however, the issue will be revisited. The Board created a special ad-hoc Trash Committee to research, compile information, and present an update at the August 3rd Regular Board Meeting.

Comments and questions can be sent to the committee and Board at contact@birkdaleonline.com.

9.2 Birkdale Bulletin July 2023

At the June 8, 2023, Birkdale Board of Directors Meeting, the Board established a "Trash Committee" comprised of Birkdale homeowners and Board Member, Betsy Martello.

"The ad hoc Trash Committee will research, gather, and compile data from trash companies serving Chesterfield and present a report to the Birkdale Community Association Board for their informed decision."

Since forming the member committee, the Trash Committee has met several times. They have researched and reviewed several documents including:

- Birkdale's Covenants and ARC Standards and Guidelines
- State of Virginia and Chesterfield County codes and regulations
- Birkdale Trash Survey results and homeowner comments submitted with the surveys
- Pertinent comments on social media sites
- Comments submitted on Birkdale's website

- Comments referred from Board members
- Trash and recycling policies of neighboring Chesterfield communities and HOA's
- Information for current trash and recycling companies serving Birkdale

The Trash Committee appreciates everyone's interests and concerns for all Birkdale homeowners regarding the trash and recycling issue. Your voices have been heard. The Trash Committee anticipates presenting a report to the Birkdale Board at the August 3, 2023, Board Meeting.