

July 7, 2009

Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-447-5400 ext. 286
F: 817-447-6885
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

The residential rate for solid waste collection is going down.

The \$16.42 per month rate that went into effect June 1, will be reduced to \$16.05 (plus tax) on the City's August bills.

Burleson City Council members approved a contract with SMS Woodstone, Inc., for brush and yard waste processing at the July 6 council meeting. The total residential rate, plus tax, is now \$17.37. Prior to June 1, the \$16.42 rate plus tax was \$19.50.

When the City chose IESI as the private vendor for solid waste collection, the rate to process yard waste was calculated at \$.55 per household per month. IESI would grind the brush at the City's compost site and dispose of the excess.

The City opted to seek proposals from other vendors for the brush processing. SMS Woodstone's proposal dropped the brush processing rate to \$.18 per month for residents. SMS Woodstone will process the brush twice, which will result in finer (two-inch by two-inch) higher quality mulch. That mulch will be available free of charge to City of Burleson residents, only, at the City's compost/mulch site at 620 Memorial Plaza. All mulch not used by the residents or by City operations (parks and recreation, facility services and drainage maintenance) will be disposed of as a fuel product by SMS Woodstone as per the contract agreement on brush and limb processing approved by council.

Commercial & non-residential customers do not pay a solid waste fee.

City residents are asked not to put regular trash in yard bags and to separate their construction and debris wood waste from the brush and limb wood waste. The more residents do before the yard waste turns into mulch, the higher grade the end product.

The City's Compost/Mulch Center is open Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The center is located behind Fire Station #2, next to Burleson Memorial Park. During operating hours, Burleson residents may drop off limbs, brush, lumber and wood. Cans, boxes and plastic bags may be used to transport yard waste to the compost center, but containers must be emptied and disposed of by the resident.

Crews will only collect yard waste enclosed in paper lawn bags. These bags are available at most grocery stores and home and garden centers.