

# 2009 State of Ohio Municipal Solid Waste Fee Increase

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Increase effective Aug. 1, 2009

## **1. How does Ohio's new 2009 budget impact Ohio solid waste disposal fees?**

Ohio's new budget requires solid waste facilities to collect additional fees for each ton of trash disposed in their landfills or solid waste transfer facilities. Beginning August 1, 2009, Rumpke, like all other Ohio waste facility operators, will act as trustee for the State of Ohio and will collect an additional \$1.25 for each ton of municipal solid waste deposited in its solid waste facilities by residential and commercial customers, raising Ohio's total fee to \$4.75 per ton.

## **2. Different customers (residential, commercial or industrial) produce different amounts of garbage. How was the increase calculated fairly?**

Rumpke strives to offer each customer a fair price for waste services. To ensure the increased expenses associated with the new state regulations are administered appropriately, we have calculated the increase that best accommodates each type of customer.

### **The Residential Increase**

The residential increase is based on the national average of household waste production which is approximately 50 pounds of trash a week. The amount is calculated annually to find the total tonnage and then the divided by the number of months in a year to arrive at the per month charge.

### **The Residential Increase for Customers Receiving Service via Municipal Contracts**

The increase is based on tonnage, the number of households and national weekly household waste production rates. Municipalities may select their own method of passing these fees on to customers

## **Commercial Increase Schedule**

Commercial customers will incur a per yard of disposed waste increase.

### **3. When did this increase go into effect?**

This increase became effective Aug.1, 2009.

### **4. Why is Ohio's government requesting an increase?**

The fee is outlined the state budget. Ohio's Environmental Protection Fund will receive \$1 of the fee. This fund is used to support Ohio EPA programs. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Soil and Water Conservation District will receive the remaining \$.25 per ton. The Soil and Water Conservation District provides resources to assist Ohioans with conservation and protection projects designed to enhance soil, water and land resources.

### **5. Who does the increase impact?**

The increase impacts consumers and businesses that dispose of waste at Ohio waste facilities. Ohio waste facility operators are required to act as trustees for the State of Ohio. Therefore, by law Ohio, waste facility operators must collect the required fees and deliver them to the State of Ohio.

### **6. Why doesn't Rumpke just absorb the excess cost?**

The terms outlined by Ohio's budget require solid waste customers to pay for the fees. Therefore, Rumpke or any other waste disposal firm must collect these fees as a trustee for the state, and the customer is required by law to pay the fees.

Despite this particular fee, we want you to know that whenever possible, Rumpke will continually strive to offer competitive prices. Our goal is to provide you with quality dependable service at a fair price.

### **7. My home/business is in Kentucky/Indiana/West Virginia, if this is an Ohio fee why am I receiving the increase?**

Although, your home/business is located outside of Ohio, your waste is collected and transported to the closest waste facility which minimizes the overall cost of the service by securing a reduction in hauling expenses. With this in mind, your waste is transported to an Ohio facility, therefore the fee is required.

### **8. Is there an additional administrative fee?**

No, the fee structure implemented by Ohio government includes all necessary expenses.

### **9. Will these charges ever be removed?**

This increase is a permanent state mandated increase.

### **10. Did the public get to vote for this state fee?**

No, it is included in the state budget. It was approved by the both the Ohio Senate, Ohio House of Representatives and the Governor. This portion of the

budget assists with funding environmental programs associated with Ohio EPA and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

**11. Where can I find more information about the Ohio EPA solid waste disposal increase and the state sales tax increase?**

More information about the municipal solid waste fee increase is available at [www.epa.state.oh.us/dsiwm/](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsiwm/).