Waste Storage for Rental Properties

There are many effective ways to provide adequate storage for your tenants. This can be in the form of a storage room, a shed, outdoor containers or a bin. Should you choose to construct a bin, the following guide can assist you in estimating what size you may need

Note: Please consider these as suggested sizes since volume will vary depending on the number of units, number of occupants in each unit and life-style of the occupants

Volume

The storage must be weather tight, animal proof and capable of accommodating two weeks worth of waste from each apartment unit

The maximum amount of waste allowable per unit (i.e. 8 bags in total) takes up approximately 31.5 cubic feet bi-weekly

The amount of storage space needed will largely depend on the number of occupants per unit and life-style. A studio apartment will generate less waste than a young family of five. Please anticipate the volume of waste depending on the family structure of each unit

Safety

For safety reasons:

- If the curbside driver collects directly from the storage, it should be accessible within 5 metres from the side of his truck
- The lid should be easily secured so that the wind cannot catch the lid and hit the driver or the tenant
- If accessed from the top, the bin front should not be higher than 3 feet
- The front of the bin must be shoveled and sanded/salted in winter months
- The driver will not collect if there are animals present in the bin

Design Considerations

A bin should have partitions to allow the separation of garbage and recycling bags. A 50/50 split seems suitable at the present time

Compartments should be labeled with signs. We find that a separate compartment for corrugated cardboard might be important for transient dwellers





Examples of Multi-unit Storage









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