

**Excerpted Code of Ordinances of the City of Southfield  
Sections 2.1, 2.12, & 2.13, Chapter 17 Rubbish & Garbage  
(aka the Dumpster Ordinance)**

Sec. 2.1. - Definitions.

Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this chapter shall be as follows:

- (1) *Family unit* shall mean any one (1) of the following groupings, if maintaining a household with common use of the facilities for preparation and serving of food:
  - (a) Man and/or wife, their children and dependent relatives;
  - (b) Brothers and/or sisters and dependent relatives;
  - (c) Not more than four (4) unrelated persons maintaining a household in cooperation without the benefit of paid housekeeper or servants.

Any number of bona fide guests may be included in a family unit.

- (2) *Residential unit* shall mean a structure or any part thereof together with any land area in connection therewith set aside or retained for the use of a single family unit.
- (3) *Garbage* includes all animal or vegetable wastes which accumulate in the course of marketing, processing, preparing and serving of goods.
- (4) *Rubbish* includes all forms of dry waste material which may accumulate in the home, in places of business, in industrial establishments or in public buildings and institutions.
- (5) *Yard wastes* include grass clippings, leaves, trimmings from shrubs, and any other wastes that accumulate from the normal maintenance of lawns and landscaping, excluding earth.
- (6) *Refuse or wastes and waste materials* shall mean refuse and waste materials including garbage, rubbish and yard wastes, but do not include materials which may be retained and processed for their salvage value.
- (7) *Mandatory provisions.* The enforcement of this chapter with respect to certain acts or methods that are specifically prohibited is mandatory. In other provisions, "shall" or "must" is mandatory and "may" is permissive.
- (8) *Private premises* shall mean any lot or parcel of land owned or occupied by any person whether or not improved with any dwelling, house, building or other structure, whether inhabited or temporarily or continuously uninhabited or vacant, and shall include any yard, grounds, walk, driveway, porch, steps, vestibule or mailbox belonging or appurtenant to any dwelling, house, building or other structure erected thereon.

- (9) *Public place* shall mean any and all streets, sidewalks, boulevards, alleys or other public ways and any and all public parks, squares, spaces, grounds and buildings.
- (10) *Litter* shall mean garbage, refuse and rubbish as defined in this section and all other waste material which, if thrown or deposited as prohibited in this chapter, tends to create a danger to public health, safety and welfare.
- (11) *Dumpster* shall mean any container of more than one (1) cubic yard capacity, whether covered or not, used for the depositing and/or temporary storage of rubbish ordinarily with the collection, transportation and disposal of such rubbish by motor vehicle.
- (12) *Director* shall mean the director of public services of the city. (Ord. No. 1039, § 1, 6-30-80) Cross reference— Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1.7.

Sec. 2.12. - Location of dumpsters.

- (1) No dumpster shall be located in any single-family residential zone unless in connection with the approval of a special use of such premises granted by either the city council or the zoning board of appeals under the provisions of section 5.62, article 5, of chapter 45, of this Code.
- (2) No dumpster shall be placed on any property in the city until the location of such dumpster has been approved by the city planner or the city traffic engineer. In approving such location, the city planner or city traffic engineer shall take into consideration a location which will provide adequate access for service vehicles and which will not be detrimental or injurious to adjoining properties.

(Ord. No. 1039, § 2, 6-30-80)

Cross reference— Placement of rubbish receptacles in public alleys and public places, § 4.7.

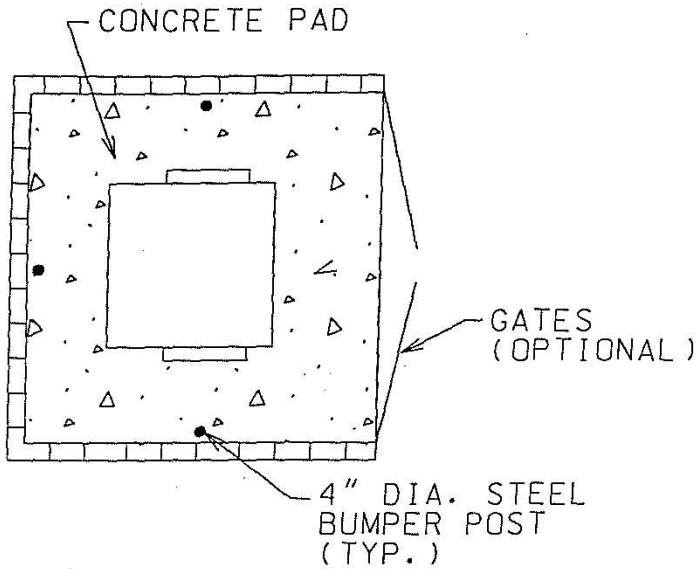
Sec. 2.13. - Screening of dumpsters.

- 1. All dumpsters located in the city must be enclosed or screened from public view. Such screening shall consist of a completely obscuring wall or fence not less than six (6) feet (1.8288 meters) in height on three (3) sides. Posts or bumpers shall be provided within the enclosure to protect it from damage from the dumpster. The inside clearance of the enclosure shall be not less than ten (10) feet (3.0480 meters) in depth and ten (10) feet (3.0480 meters) in width.
- 2. Screening materials shall consist of any of the following:
  - (a) Masonry, either brick, concrete block or reinforced concrete;

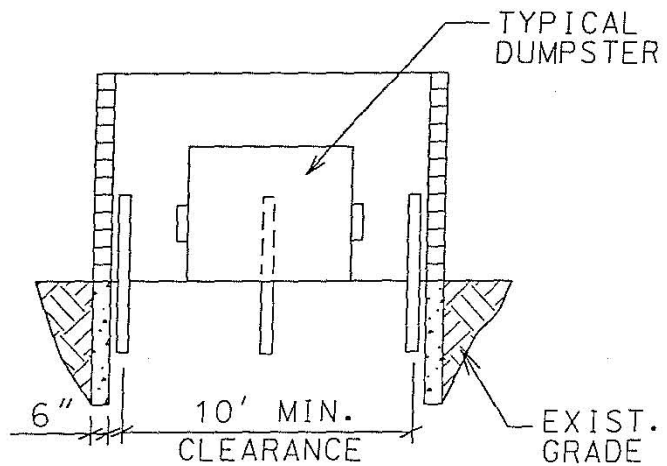
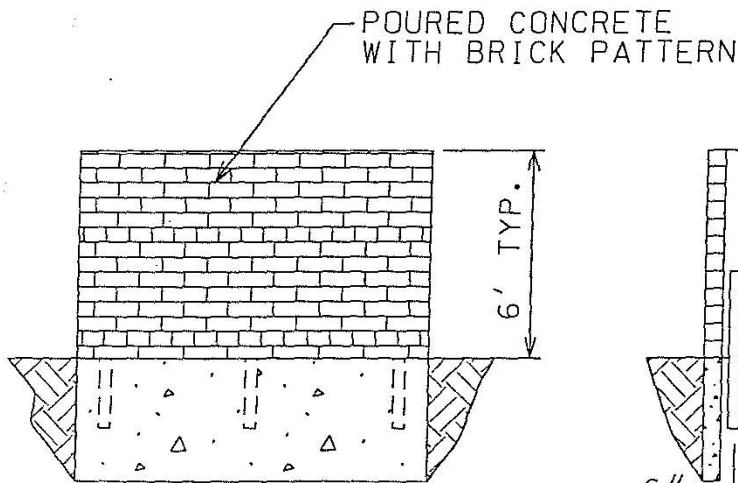
- (b) Wood, provided the wood is heartwood cedar, redwood, marine grade exterior plywood or equivalent of at least five-eighths-inch thickness (1.5875 centimeters) or other types of wood which have been pressure treated with preservatives. If cedar, redwood or plywood are used in the screening, it shall be protected from possible rot or decay by the application of an oil-base exterior stain of a neutral color. Wood that has been pressure treated need not be further protected from possible rot or decay.
3. All of the existing dumpsters located within the city shall comply with the provisions of this section within six (6) months from the effective date of this section (June 30, 1980). The director of the department of building and safety engineering may grant a waiver of all or part of the provisions of this section upon a finding that by reason of the shape or area of the specific property on which the existing dumpster has been installed, the strict application of this section would result in practical difficulties or undue hardship to the owner. In granting a waiver, the director of building and safety engineering may impose reasonable conditions in fulfillment of the purpose of this section.
4. This section is not intended to require the screening of any dumpster used on a temporary basis during the construction of any building, provided that such dumpster is removed from the premises or is moved to an approved, screened location on the site prior to the issuance of a final certificate of occupancy for the building under construction.
5. The director of the department of building and safety engineering is hereby charged with the enforcement of this section.

(Ord. No. 1039, § 2, 6-30-80)


Cross reference— Placement of rubbish receptacles in public alleys and public places, § 4.7



NOTE: HIEGHT AND SIZE OF ENCLOSURE TO BE DETERMINED BY SIZE AND NUMBER OF DUMPSTERS.



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CITY OF SOUTHFIELD DESIGN ENGINEERING		
TYPICAL MASONRY DUMPSTER ENCLOSURE		
ISSUE: 1997	SD#: MISC.	
SHEET: 1 OF 1	SCALE: N.T.S.	

