

| Agenda Item | cover sheet

for consideration by the Apex Town Council

Item Type: REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA
Meeting Date: September 22, 2026

Item Details

Presenter(s): John Mullis, Director
Department(s): Public Works

Requested Motion

Possible motion to adopt the Ordinance amending Chapter 12 - Municipal Utilities and Services, Article V - Yard Waste Collection of the Town of Apex Code of Ordinances, effective January 1, 2027, as recommended by Town staff.

Approval Recommended?

Yes

Item Details

Town Council has previously discussed changes to the Town's Yard Waste Program, including collection frequency, service limitations, grass clipping collection, and the future transition to containerized service. On July 1, 2026, ordinance amendments became effective establishing updated yard waste collection requirements, including a two-cubic-yard collection limit.

At the 2026 Town Council Retreat, Councilmember Zegerman moved to direct staff to initiate the phased elimination of grass-only collection effective July 1, 2026, and implement containerization beginning July 1, 2028. The motion died for lack of a second. Councilmember Zegerman subsequently moved, seconded by Councilmember Gray, to direct staff to begin immediate public communication regarding Council's intent to eliminate grass collection effective July 1, 2026, with enforcement at the discretion of the Town Manager or their designee. The motion passed 3-2, with Mayor Pro-Tempore Mahaffey and Councilmember Reese dissenting.

On August 11, 2026, Town Council approved a five-year yard waste disposal agreement with Liberty Waste Solutions for currently accepted yard waste materials, excluding grass clippings. During the September 15, 2026 Work Session, staff provided additional information regarding disposal capacity and advised Council that the Town's contracted disposal facility cannot accept grass clippings.

The proposed ordinance amendment removes grass clippings from materials eligible for Town curbside collection and continues bi-weekly, year-round yard waste collection, with seasonal collection during peak leaf season. The ordinance also maintains the two-cubic-yard collection limit and provisions for excess yard waste collection for a fee.

If approved, the ordinance amendments will become effective January 1, 2027.

Attachments

- RA2-A1: Ordinance: Yard Waste Ordinance BEFORE Containerization January 1, 2027

