



March 31, 2025

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# Garbage Disposal

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Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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# Garbage Disposal

## Private Acts of 1988 Chapter 133

**SECTION 1.** All garbage, refuse or rubbish not transported to an appropriate landfill shall be placed in garbage collection containers as designated by Washington County. It shall be unlawful for any garbage, refuse or rubbish to be placed around or in the general vicinity of such garbage collection containers. Any garbage, refuse or rubbish which will not fit into such garbage collection containers shall be transported by the owner of such garbage, refuse or rubbish to the appropriate garbage landfill area. For purposes of this chapter, there shall be a presumption of ownership, under Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-3-1005, when the garbage, refuse or rubbish bears a person's name.

**SECTION 2.** It shall be unlawful for any nonresident of Washington County to dispose of any garbage, refuse or rubbish in such garbage collection containers as designated by Washington County. Such disposal shall be deemed a trespass under Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 3, Part 12. Provided, however, that the penalty for a violation of this section shall be a fine as provided for in this act.

**SECTION .3** Any person or business in violation of this chapter shall be fined twentyfive dollars (\$25.00) for each violation. Each garbage bag, refuse or rubbish placed around or in the general vicinity of the collection container shall constitute a separate violation.

**SECTION 4.** This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the county legislative body of Washington County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

**SECTION 5.** For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective upon being approved as provided in Section 4.

PASSED: February 18, 1988

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