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CITY ADDRESSES COMMERCIAL TRASH BINS ON RESIDENTIAL LOTS

The City of Twentynine Palms has been addressing various issues that are contributing to unsightliness in the community. One of those issues involves commercial trash bins, commonly known as dumpsters, that have been inadvertently placed on certain single-family residential lots. Since residential properties consisting of less than an acre do not have suitable area for placement of a dumpster, they have frequently been placed in front yards or in the public right of way, where they create an unsightly condition, restrict parking, or sometimes present a dangerous obstacle to vehicles.

According to the City's contract with Burrtec Waste and Recycling Services, Commercial Trash Bins may only be allowed on single-family residential properties in excess of one (1) acre in size, or on properties that are zoned Rural Living (RL). To rectify the situation of nonconforming bins and clean-up the neighborhoods, the City of Twentynine Palms has issued a letter this week to inform those residents with inappropriately located bins that Burrtec will begin removing the bins on January 15, 2010.

While some residential customers may lose their dumpsters, they will also no longer have to pay for commercial trash service, which can equate to \$687.60 per year for a two-yard dumpster. Instead they will be issued a standard 96-gallon Refuse Cart and a 96-gallon Recycling Cart, as per Burrtec's agreement with the City, for the lower cost of \$198.96 per year. Residents will also have the option to request additional refuse and recycling carts, or carts of various sizes.

Additionally, Bulky Item Service is available to residents at single-family dwellings for no charge up to four times a year, for removal of oversized items such as furniture, appliances, or residential clean-up wastes. Temporary Commercial Trash Bins will still be available from Burrtec for larger clean-up projects.

A public meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, **Dec. 12**, at 10 a.m. at the Community Center, 74325 Joe Davis Drive, for City and Burrtec staff to answer questions and concerns from residents about the removal of commercial bins from residential properties that do not meet the lot size or zoning requirements. For more information, contact Gary Blackman at City Hall, (760)367-6799.

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