

Q & A's - County Decal Solid Waste Program

1. What is the County Decal Program?

- There is no additional cost to the taxpayer for the County Decal.
- Washington County residents and real property owners may obtain County Decals through the Washington County's Office of the County Administrator, mail-in application, online application form, or in person.
- The County Administrator's Office personnel will verify each request in order to issue the County Decal(s) to a resident or real property owner of Washington County. Residents must show their current driver's license and vehicle registration for which they are requesting an additional or new vehicle decal.
- The decal is not transferable and may be revoked if used in violation of the Solid Waste Department rules/regulations.
- The decal may not be given to, or shared with non-County residents.
- One (1) County Decal will be issued every three (3) years with a maximum total of two (2) for personal vehicles that the resident can request to be used at all County-owned Solid Waste facilities. One decal will be mailed with the resident's tax billing (every three (3) years) with additional decals available at the County Administrator's Office.
- County Decals are not available for commercial business users.
- County Decals do not relieve the customer of any disposal fees that may be applicable.
- County staff reserves the right to ask for other identification/proof of residency.
- The County Decal must be affixed to the right side of the official inspection sticker (on the driver's side) when viewed through the windshield from inside the vehicle. The side edge adjacent to the disposal decal shall not be more than ¼ inch from the edge of the official inspection sticker (per the Code of Virginia: 19VAC30-40-30 Placement) .
- For more information, go to www.washcova.com/solid-waste/ .
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2. Why is the County Decal Program being initiated?

The Board of Supervisors requested the County Residential Decal Program, at their meeting on _____, to reduce the use of the County-owned Solid Waste facilities by commercial business users and persons that are not resident or real property owners of Washington County in order to reduce the operation cost to the County.

Decals are only issued to residents of Washington County. The County Administrator's Office will confirm residency through a real estate account or vehicle registration plus a driver's license with a Washington County address.

3. How do residents obtain the County Decal?

County Decals may be obtained through the Washington County's County Administrator Office by online application form, mail-in application, or in person. The County Administrator's Office will verify each request in order to issue decals to a resident or real property owner of Washington County. Decals will not be issued to commercial and business vehicles.

To submit the application online, use this online application form. (attach link to application)

To use the mail-in application, please print, complete, and mail to:

County Administrator Office

Attn: County Decal Program

1 Government Center Place, Suite A

Abingdon, VA 24210

If you submit the application by mail or online, your decals will be mailed to you after the County Administrator's Office has verified and processed the information.

To obtain decals in-person, please visit the County Administrator's Office. You will be asked to fill out the application at the counter or you can print, complete, and bring it with you to the above address.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

For more information about obtaining a County Decal, contact the County Administrator's Office at 276-525-1300.

For information about the Solid Waste Department hours and services, contact Solid Waste at 276-623-1044.

4. Can I get a County Decal if I do not have real estate in Washington County?

If you do not have a real estate account in your name, the County Administrator's Office will require your driver's license and vehicle registration with a Washington County address to obtain a County Decal.

5. What if I just moved to the County and my driver's license and vehicle registration are not yet updated?

If you have just moved to the County and your driver's license and vehicle registration are not yet updated, the County Administrator's Office will verify your County residency if you submit your closing documents or completed lease agreement showing your name and Washington County address. The County Administrator's Office will also accept viewing a utility bill (electric, gas, etc.) that is established in the resident's name. The County Administrator's Office may also ask to see a valid form of identification.

6. What if I am a renter and do not own property in Washington County?

The County is verifying residency by personal property accounts, real estate accounts and vehicle registrations. If you own a vehicle and rent residential property in the County, you should have a personal property account that will verify your residency. However, if you do not have a personal property account or real estate account, the County Administrator's Office will accept your driver's license or state-issued identification with a Washington County address as proof of residency.

Short-term rentals will need to make arrangements for solid waste disposal via a commercial service or cleaning company.

7. **What if I own a vacation rental in Washington County?**

Short-term rentals will not be eligible for a County Decal. Short-term rental agencies and owners will need to contract waste disposal or arrange for other disposal methods for their business.

8. **Where should the County Decal be placed on the vehicle?**

The County Decal must be permanently affixed to the right side of the official state inspection sticker (on the driver's side) when viewed through the windshield from inside the vehicle. The side edge adjacent to the disposal decal sticker shall not be more than ¼ inch from the edge of the official state inspection sticker (per the Code of Virginia: 19VAC30-40-30 Placement).

9. **Do I have to obtain a County Decal for each one of my vehicles?**

County Decals are not required for every vehicle the resident owns. The resident will only need decals for the vehicles that will be used at the solid waste facilities. A maximum of two (2) decals per household will be issued. *Household* will be determined by physical address.

10. **What if I purchase a new vehicle?**

If you purchase a new vehicle and plan to use the new vehicle to enter the County-owned Solid Waste facilities, you will need to obtain a County Decal for that vehicle.

11. **Is the County Decal transferable if I sell my car?**

County Decals are not transferable. Please remove the decal from the vehicle you are selling and send it to the County Administrator's Office so that the decal number can be voided. You will need to apply for a new decal if you plan to purchase and use a new vehicle to dispose of solid waste at the County-owned solid waste facilities.

12. **What if my vehicle is wrecked or totaled and I need a new County Decal?**

If your vehicle is wrecked or totaled, please send the County Decal from the wrecked/totaled vehicle to the County Administrator's Office so that the decal number can be voided. Please keep in mind, decals are issued as permanent decals for up to a maximum of two (2) vehicles that the resident will use at the County-owned solid waste facilities. If you will be replacing the wrecked vehicle, you will need to apply for an additional decal for the replacement vehicle.

13. **What if I do not have the old decal to return to the County Administrator's Office?**

Please contact the County Administrator's Office. The representative will need to know the decal number and date the decal was destroyed. The County Administrator's Office will log the decal number that was destroyed in the electronic tracking system.

14. **What if I regularly drive a vehicle with dealer tags?**

County Decals must be permanently affixed to the vehicle in order to access the County-owned solid waste facilities.

15. **What if I have a personal vehicle with business lettering?**

The decal applications include an affidavit that you are obtaining the decal for residential purposes. If you have a personal vehicle with business lettering, you may still obtain a decal and utilize the convenience stations as long as you are using the sites to dispose of your own residential solid waste. If you are utilizing the vehicle to dispose of business/commercial waste, generated or collected by you, then you must utilize the Transfer Station. It is at the discretion of the facility attendant to determine if the waste being delivered to the convenience station is residentially or commercially generated. Vehicles registered as business vehicles are not issued decals.

16. **Can I place a County Decal on my business registered vehicle?**

No, County Decals are for residential users only. Any business vehicle must go the Transfer Station. If you are using your business vehicle for intermittent disposal of self-generated residential waste, you may use the Transfer Station for residential refuse disposal; proof of residency is required. It is at the discretion of the Transfer Station designee to determine if the load being delivered is residential or commercial. If the load is deemed commercial, then appropriate disposal fees will apply.

17. **Can I use a rental trailer to take solid waste to the County-owned facilities?**

A trailer pulled by a vehicle with a County Decal will be allowed disposal as long as the load does not appear to be commercial. If the load is commercial, then the resident will be asked to go to the Transfer Station. The Solid Waste Director may require an account to be established for tracking purposes and charges may be incurred.

18. **What if my vehicle does not have a windshield?**

If your vehicle does not have a windshield, the County Decal must be displayed on the vehicle in an area that is clearly visible from the front of the vehicle. The attendant must be able to clearly see the permanently affixed decal when the vehicle enters any of the County-owned solid waste facilities.

19. **What if I use my farm tractor or farm vehicle to haul my trash to the landfill?**

Farm tractors and farm vehicles are eligible for County Decals provided that the operator of the farm vehicle is not operating a business/commercial operation and personal property/real estate ownership in Washington County is confirmed. Business/commercial farm waste shall be taken to the Transfer Station.

Location:

Hours:

20. **Can I use a County Decal on a Rental Box, Dump, Stake Bed, U-Haul, Lowes/Home Depot, Penske, Bussget, United, etc., Trucks?**

These types of vehicles are considered commercial/business and must go the transfer station to dispose of solid waste. Commercial disposal fees will be incurred.

Location:

Hours:

21. Can I get a County Decal for my caregiver, who is not a Washington County resident, because the caregiver uses his/her vehicle to take my refuse to the solid waste facilities?

Procedure to be determined..

22. Why do I have to permanently display the County Decal every time I use the Solid Waste facilities? They know me.

The County Decal is the only way the attendants working at the Solid Waste Convenience Stations and Landfill know you are authorized to use the facilities to dispose of residential trash. Decals are dwelling specific, which means they should not be given to other people to use. Therefore, the decal should be permanently placed upon up to two (2) personal vehicles that are used at the County-owned solid waste facilities.

23. Can Nonpublic Schools (private, non-school independent, or parochial) obtain County Decal?

Nonpublic schools (public, non-state independent, and parochial) are considered business/commercial entities and are not eligible for the County Decal.