

EMERALD COAST UTILITIES AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW CHARGES FOR THE RECEIPT AND PROCESSING OF VEGETATIVE DEBRIS.

A public hearing will be held by the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, December 17, 2015, at the Board meeting room of the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority, 9255 Sturdevant Street, Pensacola, Florida, for the purpose of hearing objections and comments to the proposed amendment of Chapter 14 of the ECUA Code to state the following, and therefore establish the policy and charges set forth therein:

Sec. 14-75. Charges for Receiving and Processing Organic Vegetative Debris.

ECUA will receive vegetative debris, as that term is defined herein, at its Central Water Reclamation Facility (CWRF) for incorporation into its wastewater treatment operations according to the terms, charges, and conditions set forth herein:

(1) Definition. As used herein, the term "vegetative debris" shall refer to organic vegetative matter such as tree and shrub trimmings, grass clippings, palm fronds, pine straw, and other similar organic materials generated from landscaping and/or land clearing operations which may serve as a bulking agent in composting operations at the CWRF for the more efficient treatment of wastewater.

(2) Rates. Vegetative debris which does not require grinding or additional processing prior to being incorporated into ECUA's composting operations may be deposited in the designated area at the CWRF at the rate of \$10 per ton (if weighed) or \$3 per cubic yard (if not weighed). Vegetative debris which must be ground before being incorporated into ECUA's composting operations may be deposited in the designated area at the CWRF at the rate of \$22.84 per ton (if weighed) or \$4 per cubic yard (if not weighed).

(3) Right to Reject. ECUA reserves the right to reject any deliveries of vegetative debris which are contaminated with materials which fall outside the definition of that term. ECUA may also reject any deliveries for any other reason, in its sole discretion, including but not limited to the debris' size and/or diameter being such that it cannot be efficiently ground and/or incorporated into ECUA's composting operations. ECUA shall endeavor to make the determination whether to reject a delivery prior to its being unloaded.

(4) Reloading Fee. In the event the need to reject a delivery becomes apparent after it has been unloaded, ECUA shall charge a \$100 reloading fee for each rejected load.

Any person who desires to appeal any decision made by ECUA with respect to any matter considered at this hearing will need a record of the proceedings thereof. Since ECUA does not make verbatim records of its proceedings, such person may need to independently secure such a record which should include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Pursuant to the U.S. Americans with Disabilities Act, ECUA will make reasonable modifications for access to ECUA services, programs, and activities by any qualified individual with a disability. Please call (850) 476-5110 (voice callers) or (850) 494-7353 (TDD) for further information. Requests must be made at least 48 hours in advance of the event in order to allow ECUA sufficient time to provide the requested accessibility.

Emerald Coast Utilities Authority
Stephen E. Sorrell, P.E., M.P.A.
Executive Director