



United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development • Columbia City Area I Office

January 14, 2010

Dear Borrower and Managers:

There have been questions and concerns regarding the requirement regarding trash collection areas or dumpsters, dumpster areas, and particularly the "screening" of these areas.

Reference for this requirement is found:

- *7 CFR 3560.103 (A) (3) (iii)* or page 71 of Appendix 1; "...trash collection areas must be adequately sized, screened, and maintained." Also,
- *FmHA Instruction 1924-A, Guide 2, 310-4*; "Service areas and facilities should be screened."

Further clarification has been obtained from the State Architect. "RD does not take on the responsibility or liability of design. It is up to the borrower to determine how to construct an enclosure which meets our standards. The dumpster is to be screened from view and accessible. The dumpster should not be visible to tenants or the public and should be on an accessible route, within reach ranges and hardware should be easily operated (UFAS spells out the accessibility requirements.) As for doors, the design should call for them to open easily enough and wide enough for access, and to be sturdy enough to hold up to regular use. If there is an issue with a collection company that will not service a dumpster with a door, then we will have to address it on a case by case basis. **This should be an exception and not the rule.**"

On a personal level, it is not desirable to have dumpsters or trash bins exposed for extended periods of time in our front yards nor would it be acceptable to have dumpsters be the first thing a visitor might see when driving into the community. **Curb appeal is important.**

If you have any questions regarding this issue, feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,


ENZLEY MITCHELL III
Area Director

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