





Public Works Department
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POLICY REGARDING USE OF REFUSE AND STORAGE CONTAINERS

Where will it go? City Right-of-way or Private Property?

Right-of-way (ROW) means property owned by the City for use by the public as a means of passage; and shall include the street, alley, sidewalks, parking area, and landscape strip. It is intended primarily for pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic movement with an emphasis on public safety. ROW generally extends 25 to 33 feet from the centerline of the road to the back of sidewalk and sometimes into the lawn area. Private property begins on the home side of the ROW boundary.

City ROW vs. Private Property: A Big Difference

	City-provided Refuse/Recycling Box		Portable Storage Container	
				
Placement:	City ROW	Private Property	City ROW	Private Property
Permit required?	Yes, Temporary Encroachment ²	No	Yes, Temporary Encroachment ²	No
Insurance required?	Yes, \$1,000,000 General Liability ³	No	Yes, \$1,000,000 General Liability ³	No
Permit fee?	No	No	Yes, \$357	No
Time Limit?	Yes, usually 1 month	No ⁴	Yes, usually 1 month	No ⁴

¹Within the Santa Cruz city limits, roll-off debris boxes must be provided by the City Resource Recovery Collections division. Private companies are not allowed to operate roll-off box services. For information on City roll-off debris boxes, call 420-5220.

²All temporary encroachment permits must be approved by the City Engineer. Final approval will consider individual site conditions relating to traffic and safety impacts.

³The City of Santa Cruz must be added as additionally insured on home owner's insurance. More information is available upon request. NOTE: The PODS company is currently providing the required insurance for their customers.

⁴The Planning Department regulates placement on private property. Placement longer than one month requires an active building permit. Refer to section 24.12.130 of the municipal code.