

# **Adverse Weather Plan for Town of Matthews Solid Waste & Recycling Collection Services**

## **1. Residential Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection Plan**

The Town of Matthews goal is to provide reliable and cost-effective solid waste and recycling collection for Town residents throughout the year. At the same time, the safety of the public and collection crews is of high importance. When adverse weather occurs that may impact or interrupt these services, every reasonable effort will be made to minimize the interruption of these services and to resume collection service as soon as road conditions will allow.

## **2. Safety of Residents and/or Collection Crews**

The three major factors in our decision of whether to operate or not are:

- The safety of the traveling public and pedestrians, such as children playing on the side of the road, and the collection operator.
- The weight of the garbage truck is 40,000 to 50,000 pounds, which is 10 to 15 times more than a personal vehicle. These heavy trucks are extremely difficult to move freely around obstacles and to operate in stop and go situations while operating on snowy and/or icy road conditions. In some cases, it may not even be safe to walk and put trash out, or to get in and out of vehicles.
- Clearing roads can still be treacherous due to adverse weather conditions.

## **3. Program Implementation Plan**

The decision to delay or cancel operations will be made jointly by the Town of Matthews and Republic Officials by no later than 9:00 am on the morning following adverse weather. If operations are cancelled for one day, collection crews will operate on a delayed schedule, resuming collection the next day and completing the weekly schedule on Saturday. If the weather does not permit collection crews to operate for more than two days, Republic shall attempt to collect from all residents but service may be delayed until the following week if approved by the Town. The normal collection schedule will resume the following Monday.

## **4. Communication Plan**

Daily schedule changes will be posted immediately on the Town web site, Facebook site and on the local news broadcasts where possible. News releases to local media will be issued daily, by the towns PIO.

## **5. Billing for Services Rendered**

Even though collection days will be missed, BFI will still collect the waste, on a one-day delayed schedule and/or will collect double waste on their scheduled service day the following week. No adjustments are anticipated.