

ORDINANCE 628
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SCHEDULES AND REGULATIONS FOR BRUSH DISPOSAL AND CURBSIDE BRUSH CHIPPING SERVICE, BILLING AND CHIPPING FEES, AND AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES ACCORDINGLY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSAL CITY, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1.0 - Definitions

For the purpose of this ordinance; the following definition shall apply.

Brush – Tree and shrub trimmings. Brush shall not include trash, garbage, yard trimmings, leaves or any other debris not specifically addressed in this ordinance.

The City will not brush chip the following items:

- Branches larger than 8” in diameter
- Bamboo
- Banana Plants
- Cactus
- Lumber
- Palm tree leaves or bark
- Vines or thorny bushes
- Stumps/Roots
- Or any material deemed inappropriate for processing through the chipper machine

SECTION 2.0 Brush Disposal and Curbside Brush Chipping - Generally

It shall be the purpose of this ordinance to establish guidelines for the collection, disposal and administration of brush disposal; *free* and *fee-based* curbside brush chipping service by the City of Universal City. For the purpose of this ordinance, the chipping and disposal of debris shall refer exclusively to “brush”.

SECTION 3.0 Administration of Ordinance

This ordinance and all matters related to brush disposal and curbside brush chipping provided by the City of Universal City shall be administered by the City Manager or his designated representative.

This policy shall not supersede any requirement or ordinances on garbage and trash services, nor shall it supersede any action or directive of the City Council of Universal City, Texas.

SECTION 4.0 Frequency of Collection

4.1 Frequency of Collection

Effective November 1, 2014, the City of Universal City will no longer provide free weekly curbside brush chipping service except as described in this ordinance. Brush chipping will be provided to all residential and commercial businesses *within* the city limits of Universal City on an on-call basis as outlined. The Department of Public Works will make every effort to pickup brush in a timely manner.

No collection of brush shall be made on Saturday, Sunday or Holidays observed by the City.

4.2 Emergency Brush Chipping

The Department of Public Works may deviate from its normal brush chipping schedule and working hours in the event of excessive accumulation of brush debris resulting from a severe weather event or other natural cause. The need for terms of such a schedule deviation shall be determined by the City Manager or his designee.

4.3 Location of Collection

In order to ensure all brush is chipped in a timely manner, brush shall be picked up by City crews at each applicable residential and commercial premises along the public right-of-way between the curb and sidewalk or at the edge of the paved street surface if no curbs or sidewalks are present, do not place brush on top of water meter boxes, in

the street or in the alley. Brush shall not be chipped at any other location, and in no case shall city crews enter private property to cut or remove brush debris.

4.4 Brush Collection and Curbside Chipping Options

1. Curbside Brush Chipping

- Curbside brush chipping service is available on Fridays during normal business hours.
- A fee of \$30.00 per half-hour will be assessed. (Fee may be paid by check at time of service or added to your monthly utility bill)
- Call Public Works to be placed on the weekly brush chipping list.
- Chip jobs not completed on Friday will be done on the following Monday.
- **NO** chipping in alleys.

2. Solid Waste Provider Brush Pickup

- Residents and Commercial business owners may call the City's contracted Solid Waste provider for brush pick up.
- Brush must meet the requirements of the City's contracted Solid Waste provider.
- Residents and Commercial Business owners must contact the City's contracted Solid Waste provider for guidelines and/or requirements pertaining to brush collection.

3. Free Brush Disposal/Curbside Brush Chipping (Provided Twice Per Year)

- *Free* brush disposal during the City's Annual Spring and Fall Cleanup event held in April and October of each year (approximately every 6 months).
- Residents and Commercial business owners may haul brush to the cleanup event and dispose of brush in a dumpster. (No landscape contractors or tree trimmer contractors permitted)
- Call Public Works to be placed on the brush chipping list. Curbside chipping will be done during the duration of the cleanup event between Monday and Friday only. City crews will brush chip one (1) time free at your curbside for 30 minutes at no charge during each cleanup event. (See brush pile guidelines).
- **Notification of upcoming Cleanup Event dates will be listed on the City webpage; bi-monthly City newsletter; utility bills; and the local newspaper.**
- Proof of residency or current utility bill is required.

SECTION 5.0 Brush Pile Guidelines

- Brush pile must be stacked neatly at the curb to allow for easy access by City crew
- No limbs larger than eight (8) inches in diameter
- Do not place brush in front of parked cars, mailboxes, or on top of meter boxes.
- City crews shall NOT chip any item in lengths that are too short or which may cause injury to an employee.

5.1 Origin of Brush

The City Public Works Department crews will only chip brush which originated at the premises on which the brush debris is accumulated for pickup. The City will not chip brush from vacant lots.

5.2 Brush Trimmed by Private Contractors

The brush chipping service provided by the City of Universal City is intended as a service to individual residents and property owners who trim or prune their own trees and shrubs. Brush cut by commercial tree contractors will NOT be collected. If you hire someone to trim your brush, be sure that the cost of hauling the brush away is included in the price and that it is actually hauled away by the company. The City will not remove such brush from the property owner's premises

SECTION 6.0 Billing for Brush Chipping Service

All residential Customers and Commercial customers receiving Utility Billing and Brush Chipping Service from the City of Universal City shall receive a charge for Brush Chipping Service added to their monthly utility bill for services rendered.

SECTION 7.0 Brush Chipping Fee

Charges will be billed in 30 minute increments only.

- (a) Charges for every 30 minutes - \$30.00
- (b) Charges for each additional 30 minutes thereafter - \$30.00

Rates become effective with all billing after November 1, 2014.

8.0 Availability of Mulching Material

Mulching material may be picked up at the Universal City Public Works Center located at 256 Kitty Hawk Road. Universal City residents may pick up mulching material for their own use Monday through Friday. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. No mulching material can be picked up on Saturdays and Sundays or holidays observed by the City.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 16th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2014.

John Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

Alene Patton, City Clerk

Jameene Y. Banks
Legal Counsel from the Law Offices
of Denton, Navarro, Rocha, Bernal,
Hyde & Zech, P.C.