

# Technical direction

For road safety practitioners  
POLICY



New South Wales Government



NSW Centre for  
Road Safety

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# SR01

## Placement of Bulk and Skip Waste Containers

### Purpose

This Technical Direction has been developed to ensure that when used on roads and road related areas, bulk and skip waste containers are safely placed. It should be used as a basis for Local Governments in the development of their own policies.

### Coverage

This policy applies to the placement of bulk and skip waste containers on:

- State Roads
- Any section of a Road that may impact traffic flow onto a State Road

### Overview

The placement of bulk and skip waste containers on roads and road related areas can cause major road safety issues. This policy sets out the RTA's requirements for the placement of bulk and skip waste containers where the RTA is the road authority for that road as well as on roads where the concurrence of the RTA is required.

#### For further enquiries

NSW Centre for Road Safety, Level 18, 101 Miller St, North Sydney NSW 2059

T 02 8588 4483 | F 02 8588 4183 | E [RoadSafety@rta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:RoadSafety@rta.nsw.gov.au)

[www.rta.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au)



## Contact details

Queries regarding the placement of a bulk or skip waste container should be directed to the relevant local Traffic Operations Manager (TOM).

There are six RTA regions within NSW, each with its own TOM. Contact details for each TOM are below.

### RTA Transport Management Centre (TMC)

25 Garden Street

Eveleigh NSW 1430

Ph: (02) 8396 1513 (8am to 4pm) or 131 700 (after hours)

Fax: (02) 8396 1530

<http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/trafficinformation>



FIGURE I: RTA REGIONAL BOUNDARIES

#### RTA Southern Region

90 Crown Street, Wollongong NSW 2560

PO Box 477, Wollongong East NSW 2560

Ph: (02) 4221 2448

Fax: (02) 4221 2777

#### RTA South Western Region

1 Simmons Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

PO Box 484, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

Ph: (02) 6938 1171

Fax: (02) 6938 1183

#### RTA Western Region

51-55 Currajong Street, Parkes NSW 2870

PO Box 334, Parkes NSW 2870

Ph: (02) 6861 1686

Fax: (02) 6861 1414

#### RTA Hunter Region

56 Darby Street, Newcastle NSW 2300

Locked Bag 30, Newcastle NSW 2300

Ph: (02) 4924 0617

Fax: (02) 4924 0347

#### Central Coast Office

### **RTA Northern Region**

31 Victoria Street, Grafton NSW 2460

PO Box 576, Grafton NSW 2460

Ph: (02) 6640 1042

Fax: (02) 6640 1304

Section 66 of the Roads Act states that RTA may exercise the functions of a road authority with respect to all roads (whether public or private) that are outside a local government area, as if those roads were state public roads, these areas being known as “Unincorporated Areas”. Any application for the placement of bulk and skip waste containers on roads and road related areas in any Unincorporated Area should be directed to the Western Region TOM.

General enquiries about this policy can be sent to:

#### **Roads and Traffic Authority**

Safer Roads Branch

101 Miller St

North Sydney

Locked Bag 928

North Sydney NSW 2060

Ph: (02) 8588 4483

Fax: (02) 8588 4183

## **Location criteria**

Where possible, bulk and skip waste container suppliers should place the bulk and skip waste containers on private property. Bulk and skip waste containers may only be placed on roads and road related areas under the following circumstances:

- When there is insufficient space on the property from which waste is to be disposed or access to and from the property would be adversely affected by the placement of the waste container bin on the property

Placement of the bulk and skip waste container should not cause any damage to a road or road related area, or property located on or nearby a road or road related area and should not unreasonably jeopardise the safety of any person or property. Placement of a bulk and skip waste container in poorly lit areas should be avoided.

Environmental factors must also be considered. All bin locations must be approved by the RTA’s environmental section unless they are:

- Placed for under 24 hours
- Waste placed in the bin will be rubble only
- Not placed along drainage lines.

### **Prohibited locations on roads**

The placement of bulk and skip waste containers is prohibited on sections of roads and road related areas where signposted kerbside restrictions apply. In particular, the following rules from the Australian Road Rules must be adhered to:

- Rule 167: No stopping signs
- Rule 168: No parking signs

- Rule 176: Stopping in a clearway
- Rule 177: Stopping on a freeway
- Rule 179: Stopping in a loading zone
- Rule 180: Stopping in a truck zone
- Rule 181: Stopping in a works zone
- Rule 182: Stopping in a taxi zone
- Rule 183: Stopping in a bus zone
- Rule 184: Stopping in a mini-bus zone
- Rule 185: Stopping in a permit zone
- Rule 186: Stopping in a mail zone

Bulk and skip waste containers cannot be placed where motor vehicles are prohibited from parking or stopping as set out in the *Australian Road Rules 1999 the Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management (Road Rules)) Regulations 1999*. In particular, the following rules from the Australian Road Rules are relevant:

- Rule 169: No stopping on a road with an unbroken yellow line at the Kerb
- Rule 170: Stopping at or near an intersection
- Rule 171: Stopping on or near a children's crossing
- Rule 172: Stopping on or near a pedestrian crossing (except at an intersection)
- Rule 173: Stopping on or near a marked foot crossing (except at an intersection)
- Rule 174: Stopping at or near bicycle crossing lights (except at an intersection)
- Rule 175: Stopping on or near a level crossing
- Rule 193: Stopping in a crest or curve outside a built-up area
- Rule 194: Stopping near a fire hydrant
- Rule 195: Stopping at or near a bus stop
- Rule 199: Stopping near a post box

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of the relevant Road Rules. For further details on these and other relevant rules, refer to Part 12 of the Australian Road Rules: Restrictions on Stopping and Parking.

### **Prohibited locations on footpaths and driveways**

The placement of bulk and skip waste containers is prohibited in any of the following situations:

- On driveways or in areas where the container may obstruct vehicular traffic entering or leaving premises
- On locations that interfere with the sight lines of, or visibility to, drivers/vehicles, cyclists or pedestrians entering or leaving premises
- On locations which obstruct pedestrians from entering or leaving premises, or which obstruct cyclists and pedestrians travelling along footpaths or shared paths
- On locations that obstruct access to utility services or other devices that may require 24 hour servicing e.g. traffic signal boxes, fire hydrants and telecommunications poles.

They must also comply with minimum guidelines from respective local governments.

## **Potentially unsafe locations or places that may cause public inconvenience**

The placement of bulk and skip waste containers in any of the following locations is prohibited due to the potential risk of property damage or personal injuries, or the potential inconvenience to the public:

- In narrow streets and shared paths where the placement of bulk and skip waste containers may restrict traffic and other road user movements
- At locations where there is a high volume of pedestrian and or cyclist traffic
- At locations where access by delivery or waste collection service vehicles may be hindered
- At locations that will interfere with the operations of driveways
- At locations that will interfere or block the movement of vehicles in travelling lanes,
- At locations where there is insufficient sight distance to the container by approaching or turning drivers and cyclists
- At locations which may block or restrict the drainage capacity of the road/gutter.

The placement of a bulk or skip waste container must not restrict access to any service that may be contained in the road reserve. A person should contact the relevant authority if they are unsure whether the placement of a bulk and skip waste container will cause any risk of injury to person or property or inconvenience to the public.

## **Policy**

Minimum safety requirements for bulk and skip waste containers and their placement have now been set out. The requirements for the placement of waste containers are outlined in the body of the technical direction whilst Appendix A outlines the requirements for the bins.

## **Action**

**This Policy is to take effect immediately**

Approved for use by:

Soames Job  
Director  
NSW Centre for Road Safety

Peter Collins  
A/Director  
Network Management

# Appendix A: Skip Bin Design Criteria

## I. DIMENSIONAL CRITERIA

**Table 1:** Acceptable dimensions for bulk and skip waste containers placed on carriageway or footpaths/verges:

Dimension Range for bulk and skip waste container		
Length	Width	Height
<7.0m	<2.5m	<2.0m

## 2. VISIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### 2.1 Colour of the bulk and skip waste containers

The bulk and skip waste containers must only be painted from the colours listed below. These are the only RTA approved colours for bulk and skip waste containers which are listed in Australian Standard AS 2700S-1996, Colour Standards for General Purposes.

**Y** – 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 45, 53

**X** – 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 33

**R** – 21, 22, 25, 32, 33, 41, 51

**P** – 12, 21, 23, 31, 41

**B** – 32, 33, 34, 35, 41, 45

**G** – 26, 36, 37, 42, 45, 46, 47

**N** – 14

**TABLE 2:** RTA Approved Bin Colours from AS2700S-1996

Company contact details, including a 24hour phone number, must be displayed on all bins and skips, however a total of no more than 20% of each side of the bulk and skip waste container may be used to display this information and/or company logos.

### 2.2 Retro-reflective markings

Irrespective of the colour of the container, retro-reflective tape must be used. This tape is to be applied around the entirety of the rim on all bins and is to have a minimum width of 50mm. In locations considered to be dangerous, retro-reflective tape should also be applied to the faces of the bins.

### 2.3 Flashing yellow lights

Flashing yellow lights should be mounted on bulk and skip waste containers when placed within the road reserve at locations that are poorly lit i.e. where there is no street lighting. These lights should be mounted on the front and rear panels, so that they are visible to oncoming traffic in both directions and operate during hours of darkness.

### **3. DELIVERY AND PICK UP REQUIREMENTS**

All vehicles used to deliver or retrieve bulk and skip waste containers must be fitted with an external flashing yellow light. This light must be used whilst the vehicle is in the process of delivering or retrieving a bin.

During the placement and retrieval of bins, operators must comply with the RTA's Traffic Control at Worksites manual.