Waste-Management in Bremen and the legal Base

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Connective Cities – Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development

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European Laws

- Waste disposal is governed by a number of European regulations and directives
- These have a direct influence on national legislation and local waste management
- Regulations automatically apply to each of the member states. Directives must be separately transposed into national law by each member state
- Important Directives with local influence are:
  - Waste Framework Directive
  - Directive on packaging and packaging waste
  - WEEE-Directive
  - Directive on the landfill of waste
German Federal Laws

• Two types of regulations:
  – Gesetz (law, act) on the first level
  – Verordnung (ordinance, directive) on the second level. An ordinance always needs an authorization by a law

• Generally, the execution of acts and ordinances is referred to the competent authorities of the federal states

• some to the public bodies or the German Environment Agency (Umweltbundesamt, UBA)

• Laws
  – Circular Economy Act
  – Electrical and Electronic Equipment Act
  – Battery Act

• Ordinances
  – Packaging Ordinance
  – Landfill Ordinance
Laws of the Federal States

• The 16 federal states in Germany may decree laws about those things not regulated by federal laws. E.g. in case of waste management
  – who is the competent authority
  – who is **public body responsible for waste management**
  – details of fees and waste managing planning, etc.
• Organization of authorities is different in the states
• Regular conferences (LAGA) twice a year and 3 working groups to discuss execution problems
• “Merkblätter” (codes of practice) which are the basic for the execution in the competent authorities, e.g. for the packaging ordinance, the WEEE-act and the landfill ordinance
Federal State of Bremen

- Bremen is the smallest of the 16 federal states and consists of the two cities Bremen and Bremerhaven
- Competent authority is the Senator for Environment, Construction and Traffic (SUBV)
- He has the function of the representative of the state as well as the local function for supervising the local waste management companies

- The Waste law of the state specifies the cities of Bremen and Bremerhaven as the **public body responsible for waste management**
Municipality of Bremen

• Bremen is an old city with modern industry (cars, food, space), universities and 560,000 inhabitants

• the local law about the disposal of waste
  – declares the municipality of Bremen as the competent authority for the waste disposal as public institution
  – declares the Umweltbetrieb (owner-operated municipal enterprise) as the competent authority for local waste fees and the management of the landfill
  – obligates the municipality to dispose all waste obligated (by federal law) to deliver to her

• the schedule of fees for the waste disposal
  – divides the fee into a basic fee and a service fee
  – declares that the debtor of the fee is the owner of the property resp. of the flat
Organisation of Waste Management

- Waste management in Bremen is organised and supervised by the owner-operated municipal enterprise “Umweltbetrieb”
- Collection of waste is operated by a private company (Fa. Nehlsen) ordered by Umweltbetrieb in 1998
- Collection of packaging waste is organised by Dual Systems, they have contracted Fa. Nehlsen for their duties
- Treatment of waste is operated by private companies
- Street-cleaning is partially operated by Umweltbetrieb and private company
- All institutions are working together with the logo
Collection of Waste

Waste is collected separately:

- glass
- paper
- electronic equipment
- Textiles
- Metals
- Light-weight packaging

- residual waste
- bulky waste
- bio-waste
- garden waste
- Christmas trees

- hazardous waste
- Construction waste
- broken bicycles in public streets
Waste collection systems

- Residual waste, bio-waste, paper, packaging: bins
- Glass, textiles, small electronic equipment: 278 places with container in the city
- Bulky waste, big electronic equipment: pick-up service on demand
- Garden-, construction- and hazardous waste, recyclables: 16 recycling stations
Waste fees

• the owner of a property or flat is debtor of the fee, is the flat rent the owner takes the money back from the rentals

• Basic fee: for a flat, level depending on the number of persons living in the flat

• Service fee: depending on the number of emptying of containers, a minimum of service fee have to be paid

• Special service fee: e.g. for the Bremer waste bag or additional collection of bulky waste

• The basic fee includes the collection of recyclable waste, bio-waste and one collection of bulky waste a year

• Use of Recycling-Stations is free

• Collecting bins are coded
## Waste Fees

### Die neuen Abfallgebühren ab dem 1. Januar 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grundgebühr pro Nutzungseinheit (= Haushalt oder Gewerbe)</th>
<th>43,26 Euro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leistungsgebühr</th>
<th>60 Liter</th>
<th>60 Liter</th>
<th>90 Liter</th>
<th>120 Liter</th>
<th>60 + 120 Liter</th>
<th>240 Liter</th>
<th>770 Liter</th>
<th>1.100 Liter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tonnengröße</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>max. 1</td>
<td>max. 2</td>
<td>max. 3</td>
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<td>Anzahl der ange-</td>
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<tr>
<td>schlossenen Personen</td>
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<tr>
<td>(bei privaten Haushalten)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behältervolumen pro Woche</td>
<td>15 Liter</td>
<td>30 Liter</td>
<td>45 Liter</td>
<td>60 Liter</td>
<td>75 Liter</td>
<td>120 Liter</td>
<td>770 Liter</td>
<td>1.100 Liter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leistungsgebühr pro Jahr</td>
<td>69,16 Euro</td>
<td>106,40 Euro</td>
<td>147,40 Euro</td>
<td>69,16 + 182,20 Euro = 251,36 Euro</td>
<td>284,20 Euro</td>
<td>1.611,22 Euro</td>
<td>2.084,60 Euro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In der Gebühr enthaltene Regelleerungen pro Jahr</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gebühr für jede zusätzliche Leerung</td>
<td>5,32 Euro</td>
<td>5,32 Euro</td>
<td>7,37 Euro</td>
<td>9,11 Euro</td>
<td>5,32 Euro (60l)</td>
<td>9,11 Euro (120 l)</td>
<td>14,21 Euro</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

¹ Bei nicht privaten Nutzungseinheiten wird jeweils eine Grundgebühr für jede angefangene 120 Quadratmeter Bürofläche festgelegt. Gebührenordnung für die Abfallentsorgung in der Stadtgemeinde Bremen vom 19. November 2013 (Brem.GBl. S. 581)
Waste information

is responsible for public information
• Extensive presence in the Internet
• Brochures
• Basic Information in different languages

• Waste calendar: collecting dates for every house in the city
• Environmental education, especially for young people
  – Tour Global: interactive information about sustainability
  – Tour de Müll: public viewing in waste treatment plants

• www.entsorgung-kommunual.de
Waste development

1999: 507.1 kg/E

2016: 425.7 kg/E

2016: Recovery total: 99.8%

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