

ESSENTIAL SERVICES[®] by Dan Pemble, 1798 Lee Janzen Dr., Kissimmee, Florida 34744



When we think of “essential services” in the USA, some basic things that immediately come to mind are: electricity, gas, and water, all of which are expected to be available in our homes – at all times. How about police and fire protection, ambulatory services, hospital emergency room treatment, telephone services, etc., etc. Of course there are countless other things that can be classified as essential services and all can generally be defined as: services rendered which, when interrupted, may endanger the life, health, or personal safety of some or all of the population. So, as you can imagine, a list of all essential services is in fact quite extensive. A discussion of ALL essential services is far beyond the intended scope of this article. Although not necessarily thought of as an essential service, this article focuses on the very essential (and valuable) services afforded us in our local community by trash/garbage, garden refuse, and recyclable materials periodic pickup and disposal management.

It should be readily apparent to most all persons residing in the USA that waste collection and management is indeed an essential service that affects the entire population of the country! The importance of such service is often overlooked - if not completely taken for granted by many. Certainly those employed in waste collection and management totally deserve a world of credit and appreciation for the services they provide! Just imagine if all of a sudden the services provided by this unique group of companies and employees are suddenly temporarily terminated – because of labor disputes, loss of contracts, or for whatever reasons. What exactly are the implications related to the loss of these services? Within the realm of the definition of essential services and the lack thereof, we would immediately be in “deep yogurt”! That is, our life, safety, and health could soon become endangered; exactly why is that? Mountains of untreated and uncollected decaying garbage (vegetable and animal materials) will very soon coalesce into a breeding ground for undesirable flies, insects, maggots, and rodents, all of which may well impregnate the surrounding human population with a variety of diseases! Thankfully, no such disruptions happen on a regular basis in the USA and this should bring a greater appreciation in all of us for the true Essential Services provided to us by our waste management EXPERTS! **Sincere thanks to the waste management Teams across the USA - wherever you may be!**



(The easily-predictable consequences of NO waste management “Essential Services”!)