

**Translation from Finnish**  
**Legally binding only in Finnish and Swedish**  
**Ministry of the Environment, Finland**

**Government Decree**  
**on the Separate Collection and Recycling of Waste Paper**  
**(528/2013)**

Issued in Helsinki on 27 June 2013

In accordance with a decision of the Government the following is enacted under the Waste Act (646/2011):

**Section 1**  
***Purpose and scope of application***

- (1) This Decree lays down provisions on the obligation of the producer of paper products referred to in section 48(1)(5) of the Waste Act (646/2011) to organise the separate collection and recycling of paper products specified in the paragraph that are discarded as waste (*waste paper*).
- (2) This Decree does not, however, apply to books.

**Section 2**  
***Definitions***

For the purposes of this Decree:

- 1) *paper products* means newspapers, magazines, direct-mail advertising, telephone directories, mail order catalogues, envelopes, office paper or other similar paper products;
- 2) *separate collection of waste paper* means the collection of waste paper separate from other waste in order to facilitate recycling, subject to the conditions laid down in section 15 of the Waste Act.

**Section 3**  
***Separate collection and recycling of waste paper***

The producer shall organise the separate collection and recycling of waste paper so as to recycle paper products corresponding to at least 75 per cent by weight of the paper products placed on the market by the producer.

#### **Section 4**

##### ***Reception and transport of waste paper organised by the producer***

- (1) In order to fulfil the obligation laid down in section 49(1) of the Waste Act, the producer shall organise the reception of waste paper generated on properties located in single-family housing areas, and in sparsely populated areas in the entire country, free of charge and in a manner that is effortless for the holder of the waste paper, for the purpose of the separate collection of waste paper. Accordingly, the producer shall provide at least one reception point per municipality, or if there is more than one population centre in the municipality, one per population centre with 500 or more residents. In this Decree, *population centre* means a group of buildings with at least 200 residents, the distance between which may not exceed 200 metres.
- (2) The reception point located in a population centre referred to in subsection 1 above may be replaced with a reception point located elsewhere if the reception of waste organised in this manner is equally effortless for the holder of the waste paper.
- (3) General requirements concerning the establishment, maintenance and management of waste reception points are laid down in section 10 of the Government Decree on Waste (179/2012).
- (4) Provisions on the producer's obligation to organise the transport of waste paper from properties located somewhere other than in a single-family housing area or a sparsely populated area are laid down in section 49(2) of the Waste Act.

#### **Section 5**

##### ***Provision of information on the reception of waste paper***

The producer shall, as part of the provision of information referred to in section 51(1) of the Waste Act, by public campaigns and other means ensure that the property holders and other holders of paper products receive the necessary information on the separate collection obligations and instructions concerning waste paper, and on the available separate collection and recycling arrangements.

#### **Section 6**

##### ***Report on solvency and an action plan on organising waste management***

- (1) The producer corporation shall submit a report on its solvency and an action plan on organising waste management referred to in section 64(1) of the Waste Act to the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Pirkanmaa by the end of April of each year.
- (2) The report on solvency shall include the confirmed financial statements of the latest financial period, the budget for the new financial period and, where necessary, interim financial statements or a financial statement forecast. If the documents mentioned above cannot be submitted, solvency shall be demonstrated by other means.

**Section 7**  
***Producer's application for approval in the producer register***

The producer's application for approval in the producer register shall contain:

- 1) the producer's name, contact information and business identity code;
- 2) the name and contact information of the contact person;
- 3) a copy of the extract from the Trade Register or Register of Associations;
- 4) a description of the paper products placed on the market by the producer, and an assessment of their volume in tonnes per year;
- 5) a description of the separate collection and reception point network, transport, pre-treatment, recycling, other types of recovery and disposal of waste paper organised by the producer;
- 6) an assessment of the annual volume in tonnes of waste paper covered by the waste management organised by the producer;
- 7) an account of the provision of information on the reception of waste paper;
- 8) information on the agreements concerning the organisation of waste management and the contractual parties' environmental permits and environmental management systems.

**Section 8**  
***Producer corporations' application for approval in the producer register***

The producer corporation's application for approval in the producer register shall contain:

- 1) information on the producer corporation corresponding to the information referred to in section 7(1-3)(5-8);
- 2) a description of the paper products placed on the market by the producers within the producer corporation, and an assessment of their volume in tonnes per year;
- 3) the name, business identity code and branch of industry of each founder in the producer corporation;
- 4) the names and business identity codes of producers within the producer corporation and the dates on which they joined the corporation;

- 5) rules of the producer corporation and, if necessary, a separate description of the division of responsibilities between the producers and of how a new producer can reach agreement with the producer corporation on attending to producer responsibility;
- 6) a report on the producer corporation's solvency, as specified in section 6.

***Section 9***  
***Notification of changes to operations***

- (1) The notification specified in section 106 of the Waste Act concerning substantial changes to operations and new producer corporation members shall be submitted within a month of the change.
- (2) Provisions on when to issue the report on solvency and the action plan on the securing of operations, if there are substantial changes to the operations of the producer corporation, are laid down in section 64 of the Waste Act.

***Section 10***  
***Notification of monitoring data***

The producer or the producer corporation acting on behalf of its members shall notify the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Pirkanmaa by the end of April of each year of the following information on its operations during the previous year:

- 1) the volume in tonnes of paper manufactured in or imported to Finland that is used for the production of paper products placed on the Finnish market;
- 2) the volume in tonnes of imported printed paper products;
- 3) the volume in tonnes of separately collected waste paper in Finland;
- 4) the volume in tonnes of waste paper that has been recycled, recovered as energy or treated in other ways, itemised by treatment facility, together with the name and location of the treatment facility;
- 5) the recycling rate achieved and an account of the basis for the assessment and calculation of the data provided;
- 6) an account of the provision of information on the reception of waste paper.

***Section 11***  
***Entry into force***

- (1) This Decree enters into force on 8 July 2013.
- (2) This Decree repeals the Government decision on the collection and recovery of waste paper (883/1998).
- (3) Section 3 of the Decree applies to the organisation of the separate collection and recycling of waste paper as of 2015. Until then, section 3 of the Government decision referred to in subsection 2 shall apply.
- (4) The producer shall meet its obligations concerning the number of reception points, as laid down in section 4(1), by 1 January 2015 at the latest.
- (5) A producer or a representative producer corporation who filed an application for approval in the producer register before the entry into force of this Decree shall ensure that the information in the application corresponds to the requirements of the Decree and shall submit the corrected information to the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Pirkanmaa, where necessary, within three months of the entry into force of this Decree.

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Minister of the Environment  
**Ville Niinistö**

Ministerial Adviser  
**Tarja-Riitta Blauberg**