



## **Yosemite West Property & Homeowners, Inc. (YWPHI)**

**<http://www.yosemitewest.org/>**

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Dear Community Members,

This letter is to provide guidance and suggestions about an important issue that affects the entire Yosemite West community. Quite simply, there is a problem with how people are dumping garbage in our community. While YWPHI as an organization has no specific responsibilities relating to garbage, we do want to facilitate responsible communication.

As most of you know, Mariposa county does not provide garbage service in our area and homeowners are required to remove their own refuse. Refuse can be removed by either (1) dumpster service (either privately paid for, or by co-op) or (2) individually, where garbage producers haul their garbage to a local landfill, or otherwise legally dispose of their refuse.

Recently, there have been numerous complaints about how garbage is being illegally dumped within our community. For the most part, the dumping is occurring next to and around the various bear-proof dumpsters in our community. People stuff trash into overflowing dumpsters, or dump next to them if they are full or locked. There have been eye witness reports of this occurring, and it appears that both visitors to Yosemite West, and those living or working in Yosemite West, are at fault.

Not only is garbage unsightly, there is a real cost with leaving garbage out in an area with a bear population. As bears become normalized, they become more bold and break into houses, a very damaging and dangerous situation that has occurred numerous times over the past years. As a community, we need to work together to stop people from illegally dumping trash in our community.

In addition to garbage dumpsters being overfilled, the recycling bins are also being used for garbage dumping. YWPHI worked hard to get the recycle bins placed in the community, and they are currently provided on a no-cost basis. However, the bin vendor says he finds so much garbage in his recycle bins that they are barely profitable, and our community is in jeopardy of losing the recycling service.

**Please be a responsible community member → plan for your garbage.**

To help:

- Rental Owners, please ensure that all your **guests know where they can legally dispose of their garbage**, and that guests know they cannot deposit their trash in or around any privately-controlled dumpsters. Be clear in your instructions to your guests. Rental guests should not wander the streets asking if anyone knows the codes to the dumpsters.

- Garbage cannot be deposited in the National Park dumpsters.

- Trash cannot be commingled with recycling.

- If you see anyone illegally dumping garbage, consider taking a picture of the event, including license plates of any vehicles -- we might be able to address the issue with the county sheriff.

We all are fortunate enough to own a home or property in one of the most beautiful and awe-inspiring parks in the world. We (and our guests) expect and deserve a pristine and natural environment to enjoy. Please do your part in managing your household waste and help keep Yosemite West a desirable location to own a home -  
- for either private use or as an income property.

Sincerely,



Ted Williams  
President, YWPHI