



City of Ridgecrest

www.ci.ridgecrest.ca.us

Planning/Community Development
100 West California Ave.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(760) 499-5060 FAX (760) 499-1580

Mandatory Trash and Recycle Services Vacant Single Family House Exception Program (VHEP)

Dear Property Owner,

The City of Ridgecrest, in cooperation with Benz Sanitation, is very pleased to inform you of the establishment of the **Vacant House Exception Program**. In order to better serve the citizens of Ridgecrest, the City Council has approved this Program for single family homes that are currently vacant or going to be vacant for a period of three months or longer. Trash/recycling services and billing would be discontinued until the house was sold or re-occupied.

Our records show that you reported your property as vacant to the City (per date listed on your address label) and you want to be considered for a billing exemption for this vacant house. Please complete the attached VHEP Form to request a billing exemption or adjustment to your Sanitation Bill.

Exemption Criteria:

- You must be the owner of the property.
- You must be currently receiving trash service at a vacant single family residence.
- The single family residence must be or going to be vacant for a minimum of three continuous months.
- You must certify the dates of vacancy by signing the VHEP application form.
- You must submit the VHEP application to the City of Ridgecrest – Waste Management.

Re-occupied house: If the house has been re-occupied since your original request (as per date on address label), you would no longer qualify for the exemption and services will be continued as required by City Ordinance.

Vacant house: If your house is still vacant (since your original request) you may be able to receive a credit on any future bills based on the date you made your original request to the City. However, you will still be responsible for any billings incurred prior to your request. Please check your upcoming billing statement for any credits you may be receiving.

Receiving your Exemption: Once you're signed VHEP Form has been received and verified, Benz Sanitation will pick up your trash and recycle carts/barrels. Please place the barrels in a place where they can be easily picked up.

In closing, you must submit your VHEP Form to the City as soon as possible to receive your exception. The City has worked hard to make this new Vacant Single Family House Exemption Program work for you and others in our community.

Thank you for your patience as the City tries to better serve its citizens while still meeting the State of California Recycling Mandates for trash, solid waste diversion and recycling.

Sincerely

Gary Parsons, City of Ridgecrest

See VHEP application of reverse



Vacant Single Family House Exception Program (VHEP) Application

APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION OF ADJUSTMENT OF MANDATORY SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING PROPERTY RELATED FEES FOR VACANT SINGLE FAMILY HOMES

There are limited exemptions or adjustments on the basis of the following criteria. The provisions were established by the City Council to allow residential property owners with legitimate Vacant Property to be exempted or qualify for billing adjustments of property related trash fees

Please **Print Clearly** and return to: **City of Ridgecrest – Waste Management** Phone: 760-499-5069
100 W. California Ave, Ridgecrest, CA 93555 Fax: 760-499-1580

Criteria for Qualification

1. The applicant must be the property owner
2. The property must be a single family house, (multifamily units do not qualify for this program)
3. The property must currently be receiving trash service at the property address –(be specific)
4. The property must be vacant and/or going to be vacant for a minimum of three months
5. The program begins with the date on file at the City that you first notified the City of the vacant property
6. The property must not have been re-occupied since the first notified date.
7. The applicant must certify the dates of vacancy by signing this application.
8. Please fill-in all know information below.

A Property Owner: _____ **Contact:** _____
Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

B Property Address: _____ **APN:** _____ - _____ - _____
Number N\S\E\W Street Name Ave\St\Ct\Wy\

C Use: Owner Occupied _____ Rental: _____ Vacation Home: _____ For Sale: _____

D Vacancy Dates: Date owner notified City the property was Vacant: _____
Is the date on file at the City as on mailing label

Property continuously vacant since above date _____ Expect re-occupancy _____
 Property will be vacant on _____ for a minimum of three months and property owner will notify Benz upon sale or re-occupancy.

E Signature and Acknowledgement:

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that all information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and correctly represented. Additionally, I understand that I am responsible for all billings until my exemption or adjustment reimbursement is confirmed. The applicant hereby agrees to pay a penalty if a violation of the program guidelines occurs.

 Date _____
Signature of Property Owner or Authorized Agent

For Official Use Only	Date Received: _____	By: <input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
To Benz: _____		To: Finance: _____

Action Taken by Benz: <input type="checkbox"/> Billing Adjustment _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Trash cart removed: _____
Comments: _____		
Returned to City: <input type="checkbox"/> _____		