

## PLEASE VERIFY THE AVAILABILITY FEE COUNT ON THE LISTING FORM

For your convenience, a block showing the number of Availability Fees applied to each parcel has now been added to the listing form to allow you to verify that the Availability Fee Count is correct. The Availability Fee is the charge for having **available** the service of Collection, Transportation and Disposal of Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials in Martin County. This fee displays on your tax bill with the code SW1 and a description of GARBAGE. The ordinance imposing this fee was adopted by the County Commissioners in July of 1994, was codified as Chapter 18 of the Martin County Code, and was revised on December 1, 2014. The current ordinance may be viewed online by clicking on the Code of Ordinances link on the Martin County website [www.martincountyncgov.com](http://www.martincountyncgov.com).

A fee is billed for **each occurrence of a property improvement** that is present on **January 1** each year, with no pro-rated charge or refund for a partial year. **The fee is billed to the owner of the land** to which the property improvement is attached. Any request for release and/or refund of availability fees billed in error must be presented in writing to the assessor within 1 year of the date the bill which contains the fee becomes delinquent.

**Quick Summary:** 1 availability fee is billed for each occupancy unit and each unit has the privilege of weekly curbside pickup of 1 rollout container and 1 recycling container (regardless of whether or not the service is utilized). Extra containers may be arranged by contacting the Tax Assessor's Office. If a business, industrial or commercial establishment uses dumpster service the availability fee is not billed.

Refer to the examples on the reverse side.

**Examples :**

- **I own a house and large lot, and my parents own a mobile home that is located on my lot.** You will be billed 2 fees. The parents will not be billed a fee.
- **I own a duplex.** You will be billed two fees.
- **I own a mobile home park with 30 spaces, but only 21 of them contain mobile homes on January 1.** You must list the number of occupied lots as of January 1 and if you indicate 21, you will be billed 21 fees.
- **I own two houses, but one of them is not rented on January 1.** You will be billed 2 fees (unless the electrical service was disconnected on January 1). Actual occupancy is not considered.
- **A church uses dumpster service, but has a rollout container at the parsonage.** The church will be billed 1 fee (for the parsonage) provided the church generates more than 1 cubic yard of waste to qualify for dumpster service.
- **I own an apartment complex with 20 apartments.** Each unit can be served by a rollout cart so you will be billed for 20 fees.
- **I own a business office complex with 4 different businesses operating.** If each business can be served by a rollout container you will be billed 4 fees.
- **My civic club owns the building where it meets, but we don't have a cart and take the trash home after meetings.** You will be billed 1 fee. A cart is available upon request. You are not required to use the service, but it is available to you.
- **A volunteer fire department has 5 rollout containers to handle the occasional group meetings.** The fire department will be billed 5 fees.
- **My business uses rollout container service, but requires 2 containers to handle the weekly trash.** You will be billed 2 fees.