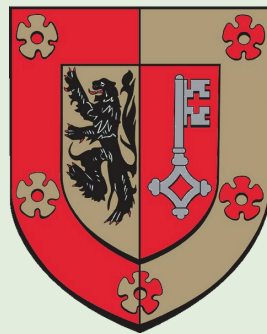


# Introduction of an identification system for grey waste bins and adjustments to municipal taxes

From January 1st, 2025



**Gemeng Fluessweiler**





Dear citizens,

With this leaflet, we aim to explain the new waste regulations of the municipality of Flaxweiler in a clear and understandable manner, using explanations and examples.

Under the law of March 21st, 2012, the municipality is required to pass on the costs of waste disposal to citizens, in accordance with the polluter-pays principle. In recent years, however, the billing no longer covered the costs, forcing the municipality to bear the additional costs. We therefore felt compelled to take a closer look at this issue.

However, it would not have been practical to simply increase the fees without simultaneously working toward an overall improvement – one that benefits both the environment and the finances of our citizens.

It is well known that the best waste is the waste that is never produced. Each citizen can take steps to avoid waste as much as possible when purchasing goods. The various waste separation options available are designed to help everyone minimize the amount of residual waste for the grey bin.

The goal is for households to no longer need to have their grey bins emptied weekly, but only every two weeks, for example – thanks to careful waste separation and a significant reduction in the volume of waste.

Responsible waste management is a step toward a sustainable future that benefits us all – our municipality, our environment, and future generations.

Paul Ruppert  
Mayor



What are the basic principles of waste management?

**Avoidance:** The best waste is the waste that is never produced. Conscious consumption and avoiding unnecessary purchases can greatly reduce the overall amount of waste.

**Reuse:** Many items that are no longer needed can be given away, swapped or sold instead of being thrown away. This extends their useful life and avoids waste.

**Recycling:** Materials such as paper, glass and plastic should be collected separately and recycled. This extends their lifespan and helps prevent waste.

**Disposal:** Only waste that cannot be avoided or reused belongs in the landfill.

An important step towards a clean future!

Waste separation is a crucial part of waste management and plays an important role in protecting the environment. Proper separation conserves valuable resources, reduces environmental impact and increases recycling rates.

It is a simple yet highly effective measure that everyone can adopt. It plays a crucial role in protecting the environment and shaping a sustainable future. Every contribution matters!

To promote the shared goal of a clean and sustainable environment, the municipal administration provides bins **free of charge** for responsible waste separation:

- Organic waste bin – 45L, 80L: weekly collection in front of the house
- Glass bin – 40L, 120L, 240L: fortnightly collection of used glass in front of the house
- Paper bin – 40L, 120L, 240L: fortnightly waste paper collection in front of the house
- VALORLUX bags for PMC packaging disposal: fortnightly VALORLUX collection in front of the house

## Why is the new identification system being introduced?

In accordance with the Waste Act of March 21st, 2012, the municipality of Flaxweiler is obliged to apply the polluter-pays principle. This principle states that the person who produces waste is also responsible for its disposal.

According to the municipality's new waste regulations, every household must have a residual waste bin.

If each individual is responsible for their own waste, this creates incentives to reduce the amount of waste produced. This promotes a more conscious use of resources and encourages consumers to think about their waste production. This not only leads to a cleaner environment, but also supports the municipality's sustainability goals.

The identification system leverages modern technology to enhance waste management. Equipped with an RFID transponder chip, the residual waste bin facilitates digital monitoring of emptying frequencies. This system ensures accurate tracking of waste disposal, allowing for efficient planning and optimization of waste management processes.

This approach ensures a fair distribution of costs while enhancing transparency, fostering a more conscious use of resources. The identification system encourages waste reduction and separation by enabling citizens to monitor and adjust their individual waste contributions effectively.



## What is an RFID transponder chip?

RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) is a technology that enables objects to be identified and tracked by using radio waves.

A transponder chip is a small device integrated into the residual waste bin that stores specific information, such as the household address or the bin's identification number.

It is important to highlight that no personal data is stored or transmitted to the waste collection company!



Residual  
waste

**Bin size:** 60L, 80L, 120L, 240L

**Fee:** Depending on the size and emptying frequencies

**Cycle:** weekly

**Emptying:** in front of the house

## How the system works

**Allocation of the chip:** Each residual waste bin is assigned an individual RFID transponder chip. The chip contains a unique identification number that is linked to the registered household address. The transponder chip is installed underneath the grey residual waste bin and is used in combination with two labels: one with the corresponding chip number and one with the household address. This makes it easier for citizens to identify their respective bins.

**Identification:** When residual waste is collected, the bin is detected by a lorry with an RFID reader. The lorry sends a signal that activates the chip and reads the information. The chip replaces the SIGRE sticker that was previously attached to the bin each year. Following the official introduction of the system, only bins fitted with a chip will be emptied.

**Data collection:** The information from the RFID chip is transmitted to a central database, where the collection intervals for each household are logged.

**Transparency and billing:** By collecting this data, the municipality and the waste disposal company can gain a clearer understanding of the amount of waste generated by each household. This information enables the calculation of charges based on the polluter-pays principle, allowing households that produce less waste to benefit from lower fees.

## System advantages

- **Efficiency:** The collection process becomes faster and more precise.
- **Transparency:** The frequency of waste collections for each household is clearly traceable.
- **Encouraging waste reduction:** Consumers are motivated to generate less waste, as it directly affects their costs.
- **Environmental protection:** Enhanced data utilisation supports targeted waste prevention and recycling initiatives.

In summary, the RFID system modernises waste management by improving transparency and efficiency while fostering greater awareness of waste reduction.

## Revised Pricing Structure

The fees outlined below were approved by the municipal council at its meeting on November 26th, 2024. They will come into effect once approved by the Ministry of Interior Affairs and published in accordance with legal requirements. These fees are designed to cover the costs of waste management in the municipality of Flaxweiler, in line with the polluter-pays principle and in compliance with Article 17 of the amended law of March 21st, 2012, on waste.

### 1) The basic fee covers the following costs :

- the management of all waste for which no specific fee is charged
- regular information and awareness-raising initiatives for the population regarding waste management
- the collection, transport, and treatment of waste disposed of outside the provided collection facilities
- waste prevention measures

Volume of the grey bin	Basic fee per year
60 L	45 €
80 L	60 €
120 L	90 €
240 L	180 €

2) The emptying fee is calculated based on the number of times the grey bin is emptied, as recorded through the identification system of the collection vehicle.

Volume of the grey bin	Fee per collection
60 L	4,65 €
80 L	6,20 €
120 L	9,30 €
240 L	18,60 €

### 3. Other fees :

Rubbish bags for household waste, which can be placed in front of the house on the designated collection day, are available from the municipal administration at a price of €8.50 each.

The exchange of a grey bin for one with a smaller or larger volume is charged at €40 per request. Damaged bins will be replaced free of charge with a new bin of the same capacity.

#### **4. Invoices**

Invoices for waste disposal are issued three times a year, with each invoice covering a period of four months.

#### **5. Subsidy for the use of sanitary nappies**

The charges for waste disposal, which are based on the volume of waste bins and the frequency of emptying, can be especially challenging for parents of young children and individuals with incontinence, as the amount of nappies to be disposed of can be significant.

To address this, the municipality will introduce an annual subsidy.

The following allowances are planned:

- For parents or legal guardians: a subsidy of €6 per month per child for children aged 0 to 36 months, available upon written application.
- For individuals with incontinence: a subsidy of €6 per month, granted upon written application and the submission of a medical certificate or a certificate from a care service.

The application using a form can be submitted each year starting from January 1st of the current year, with January 31st of the following year as the deadline. For example, the application for the year 2025 can be submitted between January 1st, 2025, and January 31st, 2026. If there is a change of residence outside the municipality during the year, eligibility for the subsidy will be revoked.

The application must be resubmitted annually. In the event of incorrect information, the municipality reserves the right to reclaim any amounts already paid and to suspend payment of the subsidy for a period of three years.

Please note that institutions such as nurseries, nursing homes, or day care centres are excluded from this subsidy.

## Example

The municipality has determined the new emptying fee based on a bi-weekly cycle. This decision is driven not only by cost considerations but also by the emphasis on waste avoidance and proper waste separation.

### Household with a residual waste bin of 120 litres

The grey bin was collected 11 times during the first billing period, 9 times during the second, and 6 times during the third billing period.

120L residual waste bin	1st billing period January - April	2nd billing period May - August	3rd billing period September - December	Taxes per year
Basic tax	30 €	30 €	30 €	90 €
Service fee per emptying: 9,30 €	11 x 9,30 € = 102,30 €	9 x 9,30 € = 83,70 €	6 x 9,30 € = 55,80 €	241,80 €
Total	132,30 €	113,70 €	85,80 €	331,80 €

## Fees in comparison

### Household with a residual waste bin of 120 litres

#### CURRENT

52 emptying operations:

Basic fee = **240€**

### Household with a residual waste bin of 120 litres

#### FROM 01/01/2025

26 empties:

Basic fee **90€**

Emptying fee 26x 9,30€ = **241,80€**

90€ + 241,80€ = **331,80€**

## Information meeting

An informational meeting about the new waste identification system and the adjustment of municipal taxes is taking place on December 9th, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Flaxweiler community hall. The official invitation will follow shortly. This event will provide all residents with an opportunity to learn about the upcoming changes and ask questions.