SHIPPING CONTAINER DELIVERY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

When preparing for your container delivery you need to spend some time reviewing the suitability of your intended drop site. Here’s a list of guidelines you must follow to ensure a successful delivery:

Are your road surfaces suitable?

Heavy trucks are designed to be driven on dry, compacted surfaces such as asphalt or concrete. The trucks are not 4x4, so when they’re moved off sealed roads they can easily lose traction and become stuck. Compacted dirt and gravel are okay, so long as the surface is dry. Unsuitable ground includes loose dirt, wet and muddy areas, sandy conditions, grass (if the soil is soft), ice and snow, steep inclines and declines, sloping surfaces, drains, ditches and trenches. Additionally the drop site and access to the drop site must be free of rocks, stumps, debris and tree limbs that could damage our equipment. At a minimum standard, the drop site must be on a maintained 2 lane county road.

Height, Width & Visibility Restrictions:

Generally, a minimum height and width of 14 feet is required for moving a container. For unloading of the container up to 20 feet of height is required so the tilt bed can be raised up and the container slid off of the trailer. Low hanging tree branches, gates, ditches and other obstacles can easily damage components on the tractor or trailer, so you need to ensure there is sufficient clearance to avoid them. Limited visibility can create a safety hazard for the driver, so on the day of the delivery you should plan to have at least two people on site to act as spotters if low hanging objects such as electrical wires or telephone cables are potential problems.
40FT & 45FT Containers: Is there enough clearance?

There must be adequate space to maneuver a 75’ long tractor trailer as needed at the delivery location. Heavy trucks need more turning radius than normal vehicles. There must be at least 100 feet in a straight line at the intended drop site, so that the container can be unloaded and the truck can drive forward unobstructed.

20FT & Smaller Containers: Is there enough clearance?

Less space is required to maneuver a truck delivering a 20FT container, but there must be at least 60 feet in a straight line at the intended drop site. The same height, width, & visibility restrictions from above apply.
The Drop Site:
The drop site where your container will sit should be level and the
ground where the truck will park while unloading the container also
needs to be level. Your chosen drop site should not require the
tractor or trailer to move up or down any terrain that is unpaved or
sloping in order to complete a delivery. When placing the container
onto the ground the weight of the container needs to be distributed
to the four corner castings. Concrete and asphalt surfaces are
excellent choices. Alternatively, stone pavers, hard blocks of wood,
railroad ties or gravel can be placed in the corners to keep the
container level and the weight evenly distributed. If the container is
not level, the doors will bind (pinch) making them hard to operate.

Planning Your Delivery:
It is important that your drop site is ready for the arrival of your
container. We allot 30 minutes for our driver and equipment to
unload your container and complete the delivery. Any excess time
spent on site may incur an additional charge. On the day of delivery
you must be contactable by phone. Ensure the path to the drop site
is clear with no vehicles or other obstacles blocking the path. We
recommended you inform your neighbors of the delivery as well.

When the driver arrives on site he/she will walk around the drop site
to check it’s suitability. If the driver deems the drop site to be unsafe
or inaccessible the driver will not proceed. We recommend that you
consider an alternative drop site for your container (in advance) in
the event that the driver deems your first choice to be unsuitable. If
you insist that the driver proceeds and attempts delivery to a site
that is deemed unsuitable the driver will ask that you sign a waiver
accepting responsibility for cost of possible damage to your
container, cost of the additional time taken for unloading and
recovery cost of the vehicle in the event it becomes stuck.

In the unlikely event that delivery cannot be completed and an
alternate location cannot be agreed upon your container may be
returned to the depot. On the rare occasions when this occurs your
delivery fee will not be refunded. In the event that a driver is required
to spend longer than 30 minutes on site the following fees are
payable by the container buyer: $95 per hour for 40ft and 45ft
containers / $55 per hour for 20ft containers.
INCLEMENT WEATHER (RAIN, SNOW, HIGH HEAT, ETC):

Please remember that we are not at your location, so you are our only eyes and ears. If the weather is bad, you must let us know so we can reschedule. For unsealed (not concrete/asphalt) delivery roads/paths/sites: when bad weather is forecast for the day of your delivery, or the ground is wet from previous precipitation it’s imperative that you contact us on 503-SHIPPED (503-744-7733) to have your delivery rescheduled.

CANCELATIONS/ISSUES:

If you order a shipping container and the delivery driver can’t drop at your preferred delivery site, the driver will drop your container at the next closest suitable location. If you refuse delivery for any reason we will refund the full purchase price of your container less a 10% restocking fee. Delivery costs are often pre-paid 3rd party costs and as such as always non-refundable in any circumstances. Problem situations can easily be avoided by properly assessing these guidelines and ensuring that your intended drop site is suitable. By following these guidelines and taking the time to ensure that your drop site is suitable, you will have a safe and successful delivery of your container(s). If you need help or have any questions at all, please reach out to us at:

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