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Good Practice „Underground containers in Tallinn Heritage Area”

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Underground containers



In Tallinn, it is a waste holder obligation to own enough waste containers (containers are not owned by the city).

The size of the underground containers varies from 0,8 m³ to 5 m³.

Since 2005 apartment associations have set up over 400 underground containers. Usually one apartment association owns 3 containers (for residual waste, biodegradable waste and paper/carton).



Underground containers



Underground containers are alternative solution instead of regular wheelie bins

Underground containers blend in to the surrounding milieu much better than ordinary plastic wheelie containers, they have lot of different exterior options and they are significantly hygienic

Similar to the waste storehouses city of Tallinn also supports apartment associations up to 70% of payments to set up underground containers within the project "Fix up the courtyard"



It is not mandatory to set up underground containers, but it is recommended

Containers have to be located on waste holders immovable

Underground containers

Proven results

- Installation of underground containers has helped to achieve aesthetic appearance in city surroundings.
- There is no need to empty underground containers as often as ordinary wheelie containers.
- Underground containers are compact and give more free space in courtyards.

Possible success factors

- Apartment associations are ready to set up more underground containers when local government supports financially their installation.
- Installation of underground containers are promoted by city as more aesthetic and hygienic solution.

Main difficulties encountered

- It is hard to set up underground containers in some area due to the heritage protection or difficulties in the excavation.
- It is not possible to set up underground containers in some area, because there are utility networks underground.
- It needs enough space to empty underground containers.
- It is very complicated to move the containers afterwards.



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Thank you!



Project media