

# FACTORS INFLUENCING HOUSEHOLD SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN URBAN NYERI MUNICIPALITY.

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## ABSTRACT

The main objective of this study was to determine factors that influence household solid waste management practices in urban Nyeri Municipality. Descriptive cross-sectional household survey was conducted in June, 2011. Households were randomly selected in all four urban sub-locations of the Municipality; 313 households were selected across formal and informal estates. A questionnaire was used to collect quantitative data. Training of interviewers was done and the instrument was pre-tested. Data was collected from households through interviews and further information was collected through key informant interviews and focus group discussions. Respondents were household heads. The proposal was approved by the Great Lakes University of Kisumu and the National Council for Science and Research. Informed consent from respondents was obtained before interview. Results from the survey showed that 26.2% of households practiced correct methods of household solid waste management. The percentage of households where separation of solid waste was practiced was 24.6%; the 75.4% incorrect practice was associated with carelessness, socialization style and long distances to the nearest garbage chamber. The common correct methods of solid waste management were: use of a self-provided bin for storage, use of garbage chamber, compost pit and kerbside services for household disposal.

**KEY WORDS:** Household, solid waste management, household head, settlement, urban.