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## **TASKS AND THE COMPETENCES OF MUNICIPALITIES CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – TRENDS**

Environmental protection is one of the main tasks of a municipality. At the same time, tasks in this area are very diverse and extensive. The Author presents three best known tasks of a municipality: spatial planning, municipal waste management and the protection of trees and shrubs. Within these spheres some amendments of current law are proposed in order to meet the demands of residents and to rationalize the impact of municipalities on environmental protection. The main conclusion that can be drawn from the above presentation is that the most important role of a municipality refers to tasks of organizational and directly - executive nature, examples of which have been presented in the article.