



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

Waste Collection Companies Meeting Notes February 4, 2010

Companies with Attendees: AAA Recycling and Disposal, American Disposal Services, Con-Serv Industries, Charlie and Son, KMG Hauling, New Vision Disposal, Potomac Disposal Services, Reston Trash, Trash Away, VHI, Inc., and Waste Management

Visitors: Clean Energy Fuels

County staff: Joyce Doughty, Charlie Forbes, Pamela Gratton, Dennis Batts, Linda Boone, Don Green

Introductions/Welcome

Joyce Doughty, Director, Division of Solid Waste Disposal and Resource Recovery welcomed everyone at 5:00 p.m.

Announcements/Updates

SWMP Events calendar

Collectors were reminded to check the hauler newsletter and the County's website for upcoming events such as Electric Sundays. In 2009, 8,500 customers were served; over half million pounds of materials were collected at these events. Three of Electric Sundays are scheduled at the I-95 Landfill this year (until now, all events were at I-66), and there will also be document destruction offered at the event scheduled for March 27 at the South County Government Center. Companies were asked to let customers know about these events.

Budget for FY2011

No system fee or contract rate increases are projected for next year. Until the Board of Supervisors approves the budget recommendation, the rates could change. County staff will notify collection companies of the approved budget rate in early May.

Collector Questions

Policy for Minimum Collection for Refuse and Recyclables – a discussion ensued clarifying points about the draft policy document that was presented. Waste collection and recycling service are currently required once a week. This policy applies mostly to commercial collection where a compactor is involved. Condos and apartment property owners can apply for an alternate recycling collection schedule through the already-required MSW Management and Recycling Plan form.

As a cost-cutting exercise, businesses are beginning to ask for a waiver from the once-a-week required collection of waste also. The County is considering that at this time, but no eating and drinking establishments will be allowed this waiver, and the collection container must be a sealed compactor. A letter from the establishment owner is required to apply for this waiver.

Collectors can provide comments on the draft policy document for a few weeks. County staff has received requests from two locations already; they had lots of cardboard that could be held for less frequent collection. A final policy document will be sent to collection companies when it is ready.



Department of Public Works and Environmental Services
Solid Waste Management Program

12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 458
Fairfax, Virginia 22035

Phone: 703-324-5230, TTY: 711, Fax: 703-324-3950
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes



Recycling Program Updates

Pamela Gratton, Recycling Manager discussed:

Annual Recycling Report Due March 1

Please review SWA 09-007. These penalties will apply to companies that do not submit this report on time.

Green Guide for Recycling

The green guide is a revised Red-Green sheet. It shows what the County requires to be recycled by curbside collection customers. The form is on the website and can be downloaded for distribution to your customers. There is a Spanish guide also.

No significant changes in the recycling program are anticipated for the next few months.

DSWDRR Items and Discussion

Enforcement Issues

Don Green reviewed the increasing number of complaints from residents about collection companies. Most are about mixing recyclables and waste. Most complaints are found to be valid upon investigation. Please remind crews not to mix waste with recycling materials. Oftentimes, trucks do not have the required signage to show that the truck is involved in single-stream recycling.

Other complaints involve missed collections. Companies were reminded to rectify missed collections as quickly as possible.

Q: How will missed collections be handled when there is bad weather.

A: We expect collectors to make every reasonable effort to make up the missed collections.

Before the County takes enforcement action, our inspectors typically have actually witnessed the missed collection. We give companies an opportunity to make up the missed collection. We ask about accessibility of roads if we receive a complaint. Our goal is to have the waste picked up quickly.

We have also received a number of complaints from customers who terminated service but cannot get their ex-collector to pick up unwanted totes/bins. Collectors were reminded to reclaim totes/bins quickly.

CTO renewals

Linda Boone discussed the CTO renewal process that is underway. The due dates for applications are in the initial letters, usually the first Friday of expiration month. Collectors are asked to work with the Permit Office to finalize application and documents. The Permit Office will provide a summary of discrepancies, errors, and omissions in writing to the company, who must correct and resubmit the renewal application. Companies are asked to actively pursue getting their CTOs approved on time.

Items that commonly cause delays in CTO renewal include the following:

- Inadequate Statements of Service

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- No proof of BPOL
- Corporations not listing SCC number and registered agent
- Incorrect bond amounts
- Failure to include payment of permit fees (\$120 per vehicle).
- Delays in scheduling vehicle inspections (make sure registration matches truck being inspected)

Communications with customers

Collectors were reminded to follow up on missed collections or notify customers of changes in service: these customers, if dissatisfied, will not hesitate to call County staff.

Communication with Government Center

Let the Admin Office know of changes in your operations or application information. It can avoid potential enforcement actions.

Waste Delivery/Disposal Agreements (WD/DA)

The new WD/DAs are coming in May. This form is also used to request and designate out-of-county waste deliveries for planning purposes. No major changes in the contract are expected this year.

Solid Waste Public Forum (May 18, 2010)

Collectors and your customers are invited to attend. The meeting will be held at the Government Center, Room 2/3 at 7:00 pm.

Operational Issues

Snow

County and other regional disposal facilities can close when weather is bad – collectors should plan contingencies accordingly. If collectors provide blackberry or cell numbers, we can add them to the County distribution lists and keep them updated on weather or other issues.

I-66 Construction Updates

The reconfigured Recycling and Disposal Center is now open. The Workers facility is at 50% design stage. New building will be located between the existing temporary building and the trailers parking area. Staff will minimize impact to collectors during the construction period.

Sanitary Districts Announcements

None are actively in process now.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 6, 2010 - Government Center, Room 9/10