



# 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 August 6, 2015

**Companies with attendees:** KMG Hauling, LFF Recycling, Republic Services, Charlie & Son Trash Service, Broad Run Recycling, PDS, ADS

**Online Participants:** PDS, Thompson Hauling, Waste Management

**County Staff:** Charlie Forbes, Alex Castillo, Jessica Smithberger

The meeting began at 5:00 p.m.

### Introductions/Welcome

Charlie greeted the attendees and welcomed them to the meeting. He Alex Castillo and Jessica Smithberger

### Enforcement Updates

Mixing Materials. Charlie addressed an unusual surge in complaints, including referrals from other agencies. The public seems to be very aware of what happens on trash and recycling collection days, and express concern about haulers mixing recyclables and yard waste with trash.

SWMP staff's first step is to reach out to the hauler and inform them of the issue. When complaints are repeated, the next step in the process is for staff to observe collection at that location; if staff observes the company mixing materials, enforcement action will be taken.

Between one quarter and one third of all complaints come to the SWMP through the Board of Supervisors' offices. Customers sometimes contact their district supervisor with complaints.

Q: People are saying that yard waste is being mixed?

A: Both recyclables and yard waste – either recyclables mixed with trash, yard waste mixed with trash, or all materials at once (especially with collections of multiple materials on the same day).

Early Collection Regulations. The Fairfax County Code states that in residential areas and within 100 yards of a residential area, collection cannot occur before 6:00 a.m. SWMP staff receive calls in the spring and fall especially, and residents are often irate. This is a noise ordinance issue that is administered by the Department of Planning and Zoning, and the Solid Waste Management Program only enforces it.



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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes)



Please be aware that there are often many complaints about this issue. SWMP staff is aware that there is pressure on company managers to serve crews; however, companies must comply with this regulation.

Recycling. Charlie reminded companies that recycling collection is required to be a “base-level” of service for their customers. Companies with CTO permits must provide recycling services to their customers. The Code is clear on this matter and states that source separated recycling is required at the most basic level of trash collection services.

Charlie asked if companies had questions or concerns and for companies to keep us informed of what’s going on in terms of these enforcement issues. He also expressed that County staff are willing and able to come out and speak with crews about regulations if companies want that service. Staff is also willing to provide training and education opportunities for matters regarding the Fairfax County Code.

### **LIS Team Updates**

Once Covanta assumes the operation of the Covanta scalehouse, the scale tickets will look different from the County’s tickets. A sample was provided for attendees to view; however, the sample cannot be distributed since it is still in draft format. The tickets will still contain the County type codes (material, origin, destination) next to the codes that Covanta will use in their system – this will allow customers to reconcile their Covanta tickets with their County invoices.

Online payments are now available for disposal bills. The link is located on the Fairfax County recycling and trash website. Please let staff know if you have questions, concerns, or problems making payments online.

### **Collector’ Issues and Discussion**

Q: has there been any feedback from brokers on the document change?

A: No, not so far.

Charlie asked for feedback on the container regulations that will go into effect in February 2016 that will introduce a size ration regulation for recycling containers with respect to adjacent trash containers in a certain area of service. Clarifications about the specific numbers in the regulation will be emailed to customers.

A resident who attended the meeting raised concerns about the noise levels and suggested adding certain materials on the containers and trucks that may help reduce the noise when large trash and recycling containers are emptied. Discussion followed, and the consensus among attendees and County staff was that such measures have been investigated and attempted in the past, but they were neither effective nor cost efficient. County staff will attempt to investigate existing technological solutions to noise problems.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 5:00 p.m., room 120C (1<sup>st</sup> floor, located in the cafeteria)**