

Solid Waste Management

LOB #355:

RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL CENTERS

Purpose

SWMP operates two locations for residents and small businesses to manage wastes and recyclables that they generate. Presently, each provide convenient waste disposal and recycling opportunities for County residents and small businesses.

Description

The SWMP operates two Recycling and Disposal Centers (RDC), one at the I-66 Transfer Station as well as the I-95 Landfill Complex. These facilities are served by County staff using County equipment to manage refuse or recyclables delivered by residents. This LOB is performed with 21/21.0 FTE positions.

Refuse - Residents with refuse are directed to a scale where the amount of waste delivered is weighed to determine the appropriate disposal fee. The resident pays the fee and then is directed to the area where waste is deposited. This area is elevated above the height of the open-top container. The resident pushes the waste from the elevated platform into the container without the need to lift the waste into a container.

- At the I-66 Transfer Station, refuse collected in the open-top containers is moved into the facility using a roll-off truck. The container is emptied and consolidated with other waste for transportation to the Energy/Resource Recovery Facility (E/RRF); and
- Once hauled to the E/RRF, the container is transported directly to the facility and emptied onto the floor where it is moved into the pit for eventual introduction into one of the facility's four boiler units.

Recyclables - Recyclables delivered to the Recycling and Disposal Centers are sent directly to the area dedicated for the collection of recyclables. The recyclables are not weighed on a scale as they are accepted without paying a fee. The materials are placed by the resident, with help from staff, into a compactor. The compactor has a mechanical blade that compresses the material to allow for more material to be placed into the container. The compactor is moved using a roll-off truck that has a bed that can be raised to deliver and empty or remove a full roll-off container using a mechanical pulley system. Full containers of recyclables are pulled onto the roll-off truck and transported to a recyclables processing facility.

Yard Waste - Residents with yard waste (brush, leaves, grass) are directed to a scale where the amount of waste delivered is weighed to determine the appropriate disposal fee. The resident pays the fee and is directed to the appropriate area where the yard waste is unloaded onto the ground as directed by staff. Brush is ground into mulch material by County staff using County equipment; the mulch is made available to residents that haul it away themselves. Residents with leaves and grass are directed to the appropriate area to unload the material which is stored for eventual shipment and processing at composting facilities in either Prince William or Loudoun counties.

Emergency Response Services - Equipment and staff used at this location is the same equipment and staff used to respond to natural or man-made disasters in the County. They are also used for snow removal during winter months.

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Benefits

The Recycling and Disposal Centers benefits include:

- Provide a convenient way for residents to manage generated wastes and recyclables;
- Recyclables are accepted at no cost to the user because the recycling service costs are covered by fees collected for the disposal of waste; and
- Household hazardous waste and electronics recycling services are also provided to residents at each facility. These materials are accepted at no cost to the user because the service costs are covered by fees collected for the disposal of waste.

Equipment and staff used at this location is the same equipment and staff used to respond to emergencies such as flooding, storm events and other natural or man-made disasters in the County. They coordinate with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the Police Department during emergency events to provide assistance such as roadway clearing. They are also used for snow and ice control during winter months.

Mandates

There is no mandate requiring jurisdictions in Virginia to provide a disposal facility for the management of municipal solid waste generated within their borders. However, jurisdictions in Virginia are required to have a 20-Year Solid Waste Management Plan that identifies where the jurisdiction will dispose of wastes generated within its borders for the 20-year term.

Fairfax County is committed to managing its own wastes as a way to finance the system many decades ago. The Code of Virginia (§ 15.2-815 below) allows jurisdictions to require wastes generated within its borders to be disposed of at the disposal facility that it designates. Article 7 of the Fairfax County solid waste ordinance, Chapter 109.1, identifies disposal facilities designated for the disposal of wastes. As wastes are delivered to either of the County's two disposal facilities, fees are collected from the generator of the waste for the disposal service. These fees support the SWMP, including the salaries and benefits of over 300.0 FTE positions.

§ 15.2-815. Regulation of garbage, trash and refuse pickup and disposal services; contracting for such services in certain counties.

The board may adopt an ordinance requiring the delivery of all or any portion of the garbage, trash and refuse generated or disposed of within such County to waste disposal facilities located therein or to waste disposal facilities located outside of such County if the County has contracted for capacity at or service from such facilities.

Trends and Challenges

Trends

- Users of the I-95 Landfill Complex have increased in recent years due to population increases in areas located near to the facility and is expected to continue.

Challenges

- As demand for household hazardous waste and electronics recycling increase, new sources of revenue may be needed to continue these activities since both locations are operating seven days per week.

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Resources

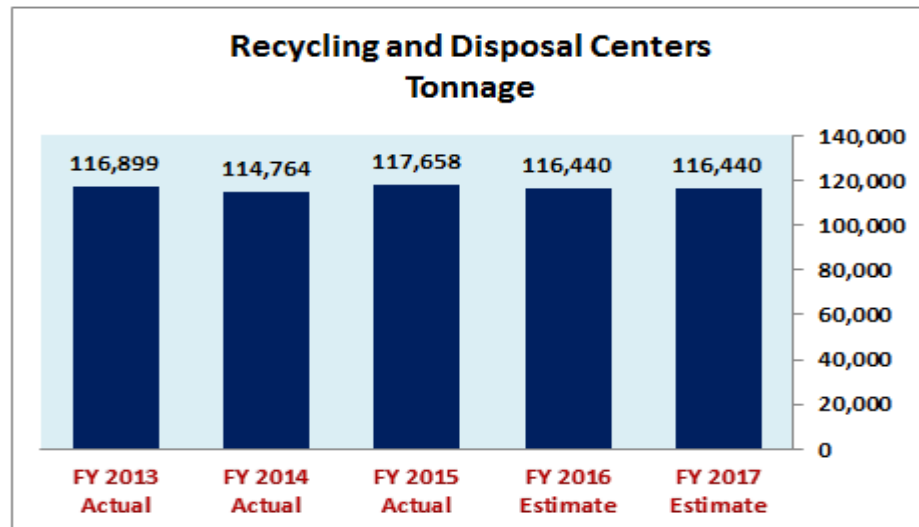
Category	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Adopted
LOB #355: Recycling and Disposal Centers			
FUNDING			
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Compensation	\$1,483,120	\$1,533,546	\$1,582,159
Operating Expenses	4,695,023	3,960,960	4,053,669
Capital Equipment	33,470	35,144	36,901
Total Expenditures	\$6,211,613	\$5,529,650	\$5,672,729
Total Revenue	\$5,511,439	\$5,713,785	\$5,729,657
POSITIONS			
Authorized Positions/Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)			
<u>Positions:</u>			
Regular	19 / 19	21 / 21	21 / 21
Total Positions	19 / 19	21 / 21	21 / 21

Metrics

Metric Indicator	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate	FY 2017 Estimate
Tonnage through RDC: I-66 and I-95	116,899	114,764	117,658	116,440	116,440
Number of transactions	265,233	259,592	252,791	259,205	259,205

Recycling and Disposal Centers –Tonnage

This metric reflects the tonnage delivered to the Recycling and Disposal Centers (RDCs) at I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill complex. It has remained fairly consistent since FY 2013 and the trend is expected to continue into FY 2017 and beyond.



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Recycling and Disposal Centers – Number of Transactions

This metric shows the approximate number of users of RDCs based upon the number of transactions. A transaction is initiated when customers deposit their refuse at the centers. Customers must first drive through a scale house where their disposal is tallied and tracked in a computer system designed for this purpose. Similar to the tonnage, the number of transactions is fairly steady, and there is no expectation for any substantial deviation in either direction.

The RDCs are relied upon by residents for recycling and waste disposal. Since FY 2014, use of the RDCs has averaged around 260,000 visits annually. Although the number of transactions declined slightly in FY 2015, the projected increase in RDC tonnages for FY 2016 shows that the program is maintaining its overall volume. Services at I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex (used cooking oil recycling, electronics recycling and more household hazardous waste service) were recently expanded for residents. Response to these additional services has been overwhelmingly positive. The number of users, both residential and commercial, aids in the financial support of the Fairfax County solid waste program.

