March 2, 2021
Solid Waste Advisory No. 21-002

Contact: Charlie Forbes, Chief
Recycling, Compliance, and Planning
Solid Waste Management Program
charles.forbes@fairfaxcounty.gov
703-324-5230

Penalties for Non-Submittal of Annual Recycling Rate Reports from Companies with Certificates-to-Operate

All companies that manage municipal solid waste or recycle materials generated in Fairfax County must submit an annual recycling report to the Solid Waste Management Program (Chapter 109.1-2-4 of the Code of the County of Fairfax). This includes those companies collecting refuse and recycling in the County with a Certificate-to-Operate (CTO). Fairfax County compiles this information in compliance with the Code of Virginia, Section 10.1-1411, which requires the County to recycle at least twenty-five percent (25%) of municipal solid waste (MSW) generated within its borders.

The County must report this information to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality by April 30 of each year. Therefore, the County requires the submission of recycling information from companies with CTOs by March 1 of each year.

Fairfax County sends a report form to every collector with a CTO in early January. The collector must complete and return the form to the County by Noon on March 1. If March 1 falls on a weekend, the report is due by Noon the following Monday. Failure to submit the annual recycling report on time are subject to penalties.

Collectors that do not submit their Annual Recycling Rate Report by the March 1 deadline will be subject to the following penalties:

- Beginning on March 15, collectors who have not yet submitted their report will be charged the penalty rate for all deliveries until the day after the report is received by the County.
- The County may suspend or revoke the CTO of any collector who fails to submit their annual recycling report after it is thirty (30) days late.

This is a more lenient policy than in years past due to the difficulties we have all experienced during the COVID-19 Pandemic. That said, the SWMP does need these reports in a timely manner to fulfill our obligations to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.