



Public Works & Transportation Committee
Resolution #08-447

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**ADOPTING THE THIRD UPDATE TO THE
WILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
(2001 - 2007 UPDATE)**

WHEREAS, in January 1991, the Will County Board adopted the Solid Waste Management Plan prepared pursuant to the Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (415, ILCS 15/1 et. Seq); and

WHEREAS, in March 1996, the Will County Board adopted its first five-year Solid Waste Management Plan Update; and

WHEREAS, in June 2001, the Will County Board adopted certain amendments to the Solid Waste Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, in November 2001, the Will County Board adopted its second five-year Solid Waste Management Plan Update; and

WHEREAS, in January 2006, the Will County Board adopted certain amendments to the Solid Waste Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act requires that the County Solid Waste Management Plan be updated, and that any necessary and/or appropriate revisions be submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and also be available to the public for review and comment; and

WHEREAS, Will County issued public notice, held a written public comment period and a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Will County either distributed in hard copy form or made available electronic copies of the 2001 - 2007 solid waste plan update to Will County waste and recycling haulers, municipalities, county board members, the county executive, townships, libraries that service Will County and made the document available for public comment at county offices; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 – 2007 solid waste plan update contains waste generation figures for Will County and the Will County Service Area (which includes municipalities that are in whole or in part within Will County); and

WHEREAS, the Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division received one written comment and there were no comments received at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the public comment received and the Will County's response thereto are to be included within the 2001 – 2007 Update to the Will County Solid Waste Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Will County Public Works and Transportation Committee has reviewed and recommends approval of the attached 2001 - 2007 Update to the Will County Solid Waste Management Plan.

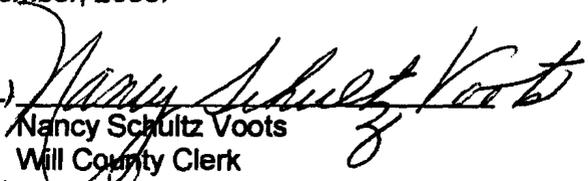
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The 2001 – 2007 Update in the form of the Will County Solid Waste Management Plan of November, 2008 (attached hereto) adopted;
2. This Resolution and every provision thereof shall be considered separable, and the invalidity of any portion of this Resolution shall not affect the validity of the remainder;
3. All Resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed;
4. This Resolution shall take effect following its passage, approval, recording, and publishing, as may be required by law.

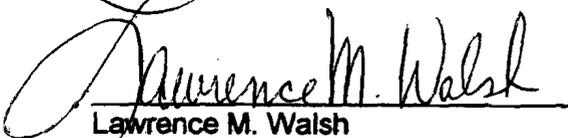
Adopted by the Will County Board this 20th day of November, 2008.

Vote: Yes 26 No 0 Pass _____

(SEAL)


Nancy Schultz Voots
Will County Clerk

Approved this 4th day of December, 2008.


Lawrence M. Walsh
Will County Executive

WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS



Solid Waste Management Plan Update – 2001-2007



Prepared by:
The Will County Land Use Department
Waste Services Division
Adopted: November 20, 2008

Original 20-Year Solid Waste Plan: 1991

First Update: 1996

Second Update: 2001

Third Update: 2007

The Will County Land Use Department

Waste Services Division

815-727-8834

www.willcountylanduse.com

Will County Solid Waste Management Plan 2001-2007 Update

Lawrence M. Walsh – County Executive

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Lorean Likavec, Secretary

**Will County
Solid Waste Management Plan
2001-2007 Update**

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Executive Summary

The Will County Board adopted the Solid Waste Management Plan in January 1991. Since that time, the Board passed Plan Updates in March 1996 and November 2001. Therefore, this will be the third Plan Update to the Solid Waste Management Plan. The main goal of this document is to provide a status report of the County's solid waste management system and related programs, and provide recommendations for future programs and changes.

The Waste Services Division of the Will County Land Use Department is the entity responsible for implementing the Plan and any Plan Updates for Will County. At the time of the 2001 Update, the Waste Services Division had nine full-time employees and one part-time employee. Since that time, the Division's staff levels have decreased. Currently, the Waste Services Division employs seven personnel: Manager, two Senior Waste Analysts, Recycling Program Specialist, Waste Analyst, Part-Time Environmental Educator, and a Secretary. The County expects to maintain at least a similar level of Waste Services Division staff, unless fiscal conditions change significantly.

The Plan adopted in 1991 included information on various waste technologies including information on volume reduction, combustion for volume reduction, recycling, landscape waste composting and landfilling. The analysis of these technologies remains unchanged since the 2001 Plan Update.

Legislative changes that have occurred since 2001 are included in this Plan Update. The major solid waste legislative actions include: an increase in the State surcharge to \$2.22 ton (includes all fees), an increase in the tire disposal fee, establishment of an IEPA open dumping cleanup program, establishment of a permit program for clean construction and demolition debris (CCDD) for certain fill operations, and a law that clarifies that a pollution control facility must be consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan in effect as of the application filing date. Other new laws include amending the Township Code to allow a Township to administer a recycling program in unincorporated areas, establishment of green cleaning supply guidelines for schools, and a ban on the sale of thermostats containing mercury. Also included is a summary of relevant court decisions since 2001 affecting solid waste management. Chapter Two of this Plan Update contains an extensive list of applicable new solid waste laws since 2001.

Demographic information, regarding the Will County Service Area (Will County and all municipalities fully or partially within Will County) and how it relates to waste generation, has been updated. Will County is now among the fastest growing counties in the country, and waste generation has also increased as indicated by reports the County receives from waste haulers. This larger waste generation has also affected the waste projections for 2030. These projections indicate a generation of 3,071,328 tons (without recycling) in the Will County (a.k.a. Prairie View) Service Area for 2030.

To accommodate this waste, the County has provided a long-term disposal option, the Prairie View Recycling and Disposal (RDF) Facility near Wilmington. This Facility opened in January 2004 after clearing various legal hurdles, and has a closing date of January 2027. This site has a deed restriction that only waste generated from the Will County Service Area can be accepted. As a result of redevelopment activities at the former Joliet Arsenal, the site must also accept non-hazardous waste at no charge from the Army, the Veteran's Cemetery and the U.S. Forest Service. Another site, the Laraway RDF, was recently approved for expansion and accepts primarily special waste.

To reduce the amount of waste being disposed at the Prairie View RDF, the County, along with its municipalities and townships, worked together to provide various recycling programs. All but a handful of municipalities have implemented curbside recycling, and some municipalities and townships have agreements with the County to collect traditional recyclables and electronics. Other programs such as collection events for household hazardous waste, electronics, tires, shoes and books have also been started or continued. The County will also pursue development of a permanent household hazardous waste facility, which will begin



Will County Solid Waste Plan Update – 2001-2007

with a long-term agreement with the IEPA to provide free hauling and disposal services. As authorized budgets permit, more electronic and traditional recycling drop-off sites will be established.

As of 2007, Will County residents, commercial and institutional establishments were recycling 36% of the waste they generate. However, this percentage could possibly be higher, due to the fact that reporting from large commercial sites is limited. Although the recycling rate dipped for a short period, possibly due to less promotion (attributable to less staff), the County should continue to increase its recycling rate if the haulers and more commercial entities provide complete reporting. The County collects this information pursuant to a reporting ordinance.

Other programs the County provides to promote recycling are presentations to schools and an award program for those schools that recycle or reduce their waste. Waste Services also provides presentations to the general public, attendance at community fairs and events, and publishes recycling guides and brochures (in printed and electronic form) that inform the public on how to recycle and where to bring their recyclables. In recent years, a commercial recycling program “Recycling Works” was established to assist businesses in recycling and reducing their waste. An unwanted medication take back program has also been established recently with the IEPA and local pharmacies.

The County continued its delegation agreement and related grant with the IEPA to provide inspections at landfills, transfer stations, compost sites, land application sites and open dump sites. Hundreds and hundreds of sites have been cleaned and the permitted sites monitored for compliance to regulations and their permit since the agreement began in 1988.

To summarize, the County plans to continue its current solid waste programs in enforcement, recycling, planning and education. New programs will be created, if needed and as the budget allows. This document will be used as a reference guide for solid waste management in Will County until the County Board passes an amendment or new Plan Update.

Dean Olson, Manager
Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division



Chapter 1

Introduction and Background

The Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (415 ILCS 15/1 et seq.) was approved on August 23, 1988, and requires all Illinois counties to plan for the management of solid waste generated within the county for a 20-year planning period. Counties update their plans every five years. Each plan must include a description of the volume of solid waste generated within the County’s borders with a projection of the volume of waste that will be generated over the next 20 years. The plan must describe the current and proposed facilities for the management of the waste stream and evaluate the proposed solid waste facilities and programs. Finally, the plan must include a recycling program designed to recycle 25% of the waste generated within the County by its fifth year.

The State requires that County plans conform to the State of Illinois waste management hierarchy, listed in descending order of preference (415 ILCS 20/1 et seq.):

1. Volume Reduction
2. Recycling and ReUse
3. Combustion with Energy Recovery or for Volume Reduction
4. Disposal in Landfill Facilities

Will County Solid Waste Plan - 1991

The Will County Board approved the first Will County Solid Waste Plan in January 1991. The County was then home to ten landfills. Seven communities had curbside recycling collection while five more offered drop-off recycling service to residents. This resulted in approximately 7% of the County’s waste stream being recycled. Landscape waste was just banned from landfills (Public Act 85-1430), and was expected to increase the overall recycling rate to 21% when added to recycling figures.

Prepared by Becker Associates, Inc. and consisting of seven volumes total, the Plan included seven major goals with 22 objectives to guide the development of recycling. It targeted residential and non-residential waste streams and calculated a 30-40% recycling rate with the implementation of more recycling and waste diversion programs.

Will County committed to ten actions to achieve the State and County recycling goals over 20 years:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Public Education | Economic Incentives |
| Technical Assistance | Demonstration Programs |
| Grant and Loan Assistance | General Use Material Preparation |
| Elected Official Support | Site Approval Support |
| Government Implementation | Market Development |

Additionally, the County recognized the need for long-term disposal within its 849 square mile jurisdiction. With consensus from the Municipal Advisory Committee, the County assumed the lead role in the development of a new landfill to provide a discounted price structure for waste generated within Will County borders. The plan concluded with a call for strong County leadership and cooperation with both the private sector and other units of government to meet both waste and recycling goals.



Will County Solid Waste Plan Update - 1996

When it came time to prepare the 1996 Plan Update, it was apparent the past five years had been a time of great change and improvement in the solid waste sector. Weekly curbside service was available in 23 communities with seven of those communities offering drop-off recycling for residents and businesses not serviced through the curbside contract. An additional seven communities offered a stand-alone recycling drop-off service. There were four composting facilities operating in Will County and three on-farm land-application operations recycling yard waste.

Several more materials had been banned from landfills, including: appliances with CFCs, lead-acid batteries and whole tires. On a national scale, the ability to direct waste to a single facility was successfully challenged resulting in “no flow control” authority for the County. This meant that pursuit of a County landfill would be done without a guarantee of waste material. But with population growth outpacing previous projections, and five landfills closed since, the change in “flow control” did not alter the need to seek and obtain site approval for a County landfill.

The County was served by four permitted transfer stations, with a fifth station under construction, two operating Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfills, a temporarily closed MSW landfill, a special waste/MSW landfill and a fly ash landfill. Overall disposal capacity had diminished and a 455-acre site on a portion of the Joliet Arsenal was under proposal to be developed into a Will County landfill. The County Board approved the 1996 Will County Solid Waste Plan Update in March 1996.

Will County Solid Waste Plan Update – 2001

Over the five years between Updates, landfill disposal capacity had diminished considerably. The Wheatland Prairie Landfill, which had been temporarily closed, re-opened, filled to its permitted capacity and closed. Other MSW landfills closed or were reaching capacity. As the County relied on transfer stations to carry waste outside its borders, population growth continued to out-pace past projections and the possibility of a third airport in the southeast area of the County further increased waste generation estimates. The County continued to pursue a County owned landfill at the Joliet Arsenal. Now named the Prairie View Recycling and Disposal Facility, it had passed the local siting process in March 1999. A deed restriction, added later that same year, restricted the facility’s ability to accept out-of-county waste (acceptable waste included waste generated from all areas of the County and the municipalities within Will County, including all waste from communities partially within Will County.) Although primarily designed for in-county waste, lack of “flow control” and other factors temporarily threatened the financial feasibility of the project.

The County had undertaken a dynamic education program to increase school and residential recycling and had successfully reached a 25% recycling rate. An ordinance required all waste haulers, landscapers and recyclers to report amounts collected within Will County every six months. This had resulted in more reliable and enhanced data collection.

This was the first plan update to include information on the County’s Delegation Agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) that had been in effect since 1988. Among staff’s many duties, inspections of IEPA-permitted facilities and illegal dumpsites were summarized.



Will County Solid Waste Plan Update – 2001-2007

As in previous reports, the in-depth analysis of various solid waste management technologies prepared for the original Plan in 1991 is incorporated into this report. Will County recognizes that recycling technologies have and will continue to evolve, however the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act does not require this type of information to be re-examined in-depth. The Solid Waste Management Plan contained in this update supercedes and replaces the original 1991 Plan, the 1996 Plan update and the 2001 Plan update; and thus becomes the officially adopted Plan for the management of municipal waste generated within the boundaries of Will County.

This Plan update includes the following chapters:

Chapter 2 - A summary of legislative changes and judicial rulings since 2001;

Chapter 3 - Updated demographic and waste management data including projections of population, employment and waste generation to the year 2020;

Chapter 4 - A status report on the 1991 Plan, the 1996 Plan Update and the 2001 Plan Update recommendations; and

Chapter 5 - The officially adopted plan for the management of municipal waste generated within the boundaries of Will County.



Chapter 2

Legislative Changes

Federal Legislative Changes. Beginning with the passage of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) in 1976, the subsequent 1984 passage of EPA regulatory authority over solid waste and the subsequent acceptance of Subtitle D regulations, the federal government established its role in the solid waste industry. Over the years many federal solid waste bills have been proposed that relate to a variety of solid waste issues including waste-to-energy, interstate transportation of waste, landfill gas credits, and recycling. Table 1-1 lists some of the most recent legislation. Additionally many judicial rulings have occurred interpreting existing legislation and some of these are listed in Table 1-2.

State Legislative Changes. A great deal of solid waste-related legislation has been enacted in Illinois since 2001, when Will County adopted its last Solid Waste Management Plan Update. This State legislation directly affects the management of municipal waste in Will County. Table 1-1 summarizes the most important solid waste-related legislation that has been passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor of Illinois.

Judicial Rulings. Since 2001, there have also been landmark judicial rulings in both the federal and state courts that affect solid waste management in Will County. In addition, the Illinois Pollution Control Board has issued important opinions and orders with regards to solid waste management. Table 1-2 summarizes the most important solid waste-related judicial rulings from the courts as well as opinions and orders of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

Disclaimer: The following information is presented in summary form. It is not intended to replace a thorough reading of the legislation or judicial rulings. It not intended to be a comprehensive list of every legislative act or judicial decision, but is offered for facilitating an understanding of the foundation and context for the Solid Waste Management Plan.

TABLE 1-1. SUMMARY OF SOLID WASTE-RELATED LEGISLATION SINCE 2001

Legislation	Description of Legislation
Federal	
EPA Rule Federal Register	Final Rule on Bioreactor Landfills Research, Demonstration and Development permits as of March 22, 2004. Permits variances from certain federal regulations for new and existing MSW landfill units and lateral expansions. Because the additional liquid can change both the strength and behavior of waste, owner/operators seeking an RD&D permit must complete a stability analysis demonstrating physical stability before a permit will be issued.
EPA Guidance Electronics	On May 13, 2004 the EPA issued <i>the Guidelines for Materials Management</i> ; designed as a framework for EPA’s consideration of partners for their e-cycling campaign. All partners are expected to exert due diligence in handling and disposing of used electronics. Partners are encouraged to provide written evidence substantiating that the electronic waste they produce are managed safely at fully licensed facilities.
H.R. 4520	A Tax Credit for landfill gas (LFG) and waste-to-energy (WTE) was passed and signed by the president on October 22, 2004. The credit is good for 5 years at nine cents per kwh.



TABLE 1-1. SUMMARY OF SOLID WASTE-RELATED LEGISLATION SINCE 2001

Legislation	Description of Legislation
EPA Amendment	On August 5, 2005 the EPA amended the “Universal Waste” rule to include mercury containing devices such as thermostats, fluorescent lights, barometers, manometers, flow meters, various gauges and other electronic mercury switches commonly found in industrial, commercial, governmental and household items.
H.R. 6	The Tax Credit for landfill gas (LFG) and waste-to-energy (WTE) was extended to 10 years; signed by the president on August 8, 2005. The credit continues at nine cents per kwh. This legislation also established Clean Renewable Energy Bonds, a new category of tax fee bonds for facilities that qualify under section 45.
Illinois	
P.A. 93-0032	Increases fees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State tipping fee surcharge at landfills increased from \$0.95 per ton to \$2.22 per ton (all-inclusive). • An increase to the advance disposal fee on the sale of tires increased from \$1.00 to \$2.00 on new tires. • Used and new tire purchases were also assessed a separate \$0.50 fee until December 31, 2007. • Hauling truck license fees for waste trucks and medical waste vehicles increased from \$2,800 to \$3,808. • The tax exemption on heavy equipment used at landfills was eliminated, resulting in an increase of at least 5% on capital expenditures. • Non-Title V Clean Air Act permit fees increased: For emissions of less than 25 tons per year fee went from \$100 to \$200 For emissions between 25 –100 tons year fee went from \$1,000 to \$1,800 For emissions of more than 100 tons per year fee went from \$13.50 per ton to \$18 per ton (\$3,500 cap)
P.A. 93-0121	Provides that a pet crematorium is not a waste management facility for the purposes of the Environmental Protection Act.
P.A. 93-0165	Bans the sale or distribution of mercury-containing fever thermometers or novelty items.
P.A. 93-0179	Revises standards for use of clean construction and demolition debris as fill material.
P.A. 93-0839	Eliminated funding for DCEO Used Tire Recovery Grant Program.
P.A. 93-0998	Exempts facilities recycling broken, uncontaminated concrete from siting as pollution control facilities, if locally zoned.
P.A. 93-0138	Requires licensure for pumping, hauling and disposing of wastes from portable toilets.
P.A. 94-0091	Eliminated the State’s Keep Illinois Beautiful fund and Solid Waste Management Revolving Loan fund.
P.A. 94-0272	Exempts recycled broken, uncontaminated concrete from the definition of waste. Creates an Open Dumping Clean-up Program within IEPA. Requires interim authorization and permits to use clean construction and demolition debris in certain fill operations.
P.A. 94-0314	Requires IEPA to notify property and well owners of potential threats when soil and groundwater contamination is found beyond the boundary of the site where releases occurred.
P.A. 94-0518	Establishes a commission to investigate options for the recycling and proper disposal of computer equipment.
P.A. 95-0049	Increases new and used-Tire Management Fee to \$2.50 per tire and removes termination date of Jan. 1 2008
P.A. 95-0119	Amends the Township Code to allow a township to administer a recycling program in unincorporated areas.
P.A. 95-0084	Establishes Green Cleaning Supply Guidelines for schools.
P.A. 95-0121	Redefines general Construction and Demolition Debris to include reclaimed asphalt.



TABLE 1-1. SUMMARY OF SOLID WASTE-RELATED LEGISLATION SINCE 2001

Legislation	Description of Legislation
P.A. 95-0177	Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Excludes from the definition of a “Pollution Control Facility” any site or facility that temporarily holds (for 10 days or less) non-putrescible solid waste in original containers (no larger than 500 gallons in size), provided the solid waste is transferred to a non-contiguous recycling, disposal, treatment or storage area and such site complies with certain federal guidelines.
P.A. 95-0253	Establishes Scrap Metal identification requirements and criteria for state inspections of facilities.
P.A. 95-0408	Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Excludes from the definition of a “Pollution Control Facility” any Transfer Station used exclusively for landscape waste that is held on site for less than 24 hours.
P.A. 95-0452	Bans the sale of thermostats containing mercury.

TABLE 1-2. SUMMARY OF COURT DECISIONS SINCE 2001 AFFECTING WILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Court Cases	Background and Final Decision
On the Green Apartments v. City of Tacoma 98-35976 (9 th Cir, 2001)	A local ordinance does not burden interstate commerce if it requires residents and businesses to use city-provided waste collection services and prevents self-hauling by waste generators to in-state disposal sites.
Maharg, Inc. v. Van Wert SWMD 99-4035, (6 th Cir 2001)	A waste management agency does not unconstitutionally burden interstate commerce by requiring all solid waste collected within the county to be transported to transfer and disposal facilities designated by the County. In-state and out-of-state facilities were eligible for designation if they contracted with the county to collect and remit to the county a fee on all solid waste from the county.
United Haulers Assoc. Inc. v. Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority, (2d Cir, 7-27-01)	Reversing a prior federal district decision, the appeals court ruled that Oneida and Herkimer Counties flow control rules are exempt from the Commerce Clause, because the counties designated a publicly owned waste facility for disposal. The prohibition against flow control in the <i>Carbone</i> case only applies to privately owned facilities.
Waste Management Holdings v. Gilmore (4 th Cir., 2001)	The federal appeals court ruled that Virginia’s limits on the amount of solid waste that a landfill could accept and its ban on barges transporting solid waste on certain state rivers violates the U.S. Constitution. The decision confirms that states may not pass laws with the intent of stopping the importation of out-of-state waste.
Shannon v. State of Texas (2004 WL 63925 Dist 1, 1-15-04)	Local waste transport permit fees are considered a “tax” and must be apportioned based on the amount of business activity haulers conduct within the local jurisdiction.
Southeast Resource Recovery Inc v. South Carolina Dept. of Health and Environmental Control (2004 – 595 S.E.2d 468)	Local governments need to prepare solid waste plans that detail the community’s goals in fairly specific terms in order to exert any power over a landfill siting.
Morris V. State of Arkansas (2004 WL 897512, Ark. App 4-28-04)	Upheld the federal standard based on <i>California v. Greenwood</i> , a 1988 Supreme County decision, which concludes that it is not reasonable for an individual to have an expectation of privacy when placing garbage at the curb.
National Solid Waste Management Association (NSWMA) v. Pine Belt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority, 389 F.3d 491(5 th Cir. 2004)	Flow Control allowed in some circumstances. Several cities and counties in Mississippi formed a solid waste authority, then built a landfill and transfer stations. To improve the facility’s financial position, all members enacted flow control ordinances to direct waste to the authority’s facilities. Since waste had not gone out of state prior to this change, nor did out-of-state waste behavior change, the Court ruled that no discrimination against interstate commerce existed.



TABLE 1-2. SUMMARY OF COURT DECISIONS SINCE 2001 AFFECTING WILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION	
Court Cases	Background and Final Decision
United Haulers Association Inc v. Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Management Authority, 261 F.3d 245 (2d Cir. 2001) & No. 5:95-CV0516 N.D.N.Y. 3/24/05	Flow Control is allowed in some circumstances. Two NY Counties joined to form a Solid Waste Authority and passed a law requiring all haulers to bring all locally collected waste to designated, publicly owned facilities. The US Court of Appeals reversed a lower court ruling seeing no discrimination in the county laws (all businesses, regardless of location were equally affected). A lower court then ruled that no burden was placed on interstate commerce and dismissed the lawsuit.
Southern Waste Systems, LLC v City of Delray Beach, No. 04-13035, 11 th Cir. 8/16/05	Supports a city’s right to award all residential and commercial collection and disposal waste and recycling services to a single provider through an open bidding process even when the billings are done directly by the provider to the individual homes and businesses.
Illinois Court Cases	
Alternative Fuels, Inc. v. IEPA, No. 96071 (Illinois Supreme Court), opinion filed 10/21/04 and modified 6/16/05.	Alternative Fuels Inc. (AFI) disputed the IEPA’s position that the plastic material they were to provide to Illinois Power as a fuel was a waste. Alternative Fuels won favorable decisions from the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB), St. Clair County Circuit Court and the 4 th District Court. The Illinois Supreme Court, however dissented. The dissenting votes held the dispute was not ripe because AFI had voluntarily shut down without having the Attorney General file a complaint with the IPCB for a legal decision.

Summary Analysis of Legislation. Although many of the court decisions and legislative actions affect business practices in the waste industry, not nearly as many have a direct impact on the implementation of the Solid Waste Plan. Since the Plan allows for recycling of more items, it adapts easily to changes that encourage more recycling, such as the Universal Waste Rule change of 2005.

A USEPA action in 2005 amended the Universal Waste rule to include mercury containing devices, thus regulating this material commonly used in thermostats, thermometers, fluorescent lights, barometers, manometers, flow meters, various gauges and other switches commonly found in industrial, commercial, governmental and household items. As a result, these items are subject to hazardous waste manifesting or testing if not recycled when generated by businesses, schools, non-profits or other commercial properties. Due to the small quantity discarded per household, residents may still discard these items in their garbage, but are strongly encouraged not to do so. Mercury is recognized as a serious pollutant and residents are encouraged to bring items to special collections such as Household Hazardous Waste or Medication Take-Back events.

One major rule that could affect Will County sometime in the future may be the USEPA’s final rule on Bioreactor Landfills and Research, Demonstration and Development permits. That ruling could allow the County’s Landfill to develop as a bioreactor, should the operator and Will County believe it would be worthwhile, considering the site has a fixed closure date. The bioreactor could create additional airspace with a more rapid decomposition of the waste (settling), resulting in higher gas generation earlier, and thus lower closure costs later. Additionally, federal legislation was passed that extended tax credits for landfill gas-to-energy projects for another ten years.

In State legislative action, a permit process must now be followed when a quarry or mine site accepts clean construction or demolition debris. Other legislation redefined general construction debris to include reclaimed asphalt. Another law now exempts facilities that recycle broken uncontaminated concrete from siting as a pollution control facility. Since Will County is home to



both quarries and construction debris, changes in State law that allow C&D recycling, or make it easier, such as the exemption from the siting for concrete, could potentially reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill. However, in the few years since these laws were passed, the amount of construction waste received at the Prairie View RDF has not been impacted.

In other legislative action at the State level, an open dumping cleanup program was authorized and then established by the IEPA. This program is paid for in part from fees generated by the waste entering landfills throughout Illinois. Other State laws were passed which increased fees for the state surcharge (the fee paid on each ton of waste delivered to a landfill) and for used tires. These fees allow IEPA programs to continue to be funded. These programs include enforcement, household hazardous waste collections, permitting, tire cleanups and open dump cleanup.

Recently, green cleaning supply guidelines were passed for schools. Although this does not impact the Will County Solid Waste Plan directly, it enhances our mission to reduce hazardous waste.

Another recent law allows a Township to administer a recycling program in their unincorporated areas. Again, this law enhances the County's ability to work with our townships and increase the County's recycling rate.

Court action on the Federal level allowed flow control for solid waste authorities under certain circumstances. The County has not pursued flow control. We allow our municipalities and businesses to determine their waste disposal through the competitive bidding process. This means that we are subject to changes in the marketplace that may increase or decrease the amount of waste disposed of at the Prairie View Waste and Recycling Facility.

On the State level, one case challenged the way the IEPA interprets a material as a waste, however the firm ultimately lost at the Supreme Court level. As inspectors, the County follows these cases in order to determine if the facilities we inspect are performing within the rules of the laws.



Chapter 3

Waste Needs Assessment

Introduction

This chapter provides basic information on Will County's waste generation and disposal needs. This is done through the presentation of past, present and projected demographic trends; employment data and disposal/recycling information.

Demographic Trends

Waste generation is directly related to an area's population, housing and employment. Will County, Illinois is and has been experiencing dramatic growth in both its resident and business populations; currently rated at one of the fastest growing Counties in the United States. In a document from the U.S. Census Bureau, titled 2005 Population Estimates for Illinois Counties, it stated, "*Rapidly-growing Will County, which includes the cities of Joliet, Romeoville, Plainfield, and Bolingbrook, was estimated to have gained 140,500 residents since the 2000 Census, by far the largest numerical increase posted by the state's 102 counties and 11th highest among the nation's 3,141 counties.*"

For this Solid Waste Plan Update, the Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division (Waste Services) gathered current demographic data from the Will County Land Use Department, Planning Division (Planning Division) and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC*). The Planning division's data is based on the 2000 U.S. Census; special census data compiled by municipalities within Will County and population growth estimates through 2030. CMAP, which is responsible for the regional 2040 transportation plan, provided additional population and employment data through 2030. This data is the foundation for the projected rates of waste generation used in this Solid Waste Plan Update.

The data includes border communities numbers from homes and businesses outside the Will County limits, but included within the permitted waste customer base for the Prairie View Recycling and Disposal Facility (Prairie View RDF). This facility, located at the former Joliet Army Ammunition Plant is owned by Will County. It began receiving waste in 2004 from the Will County service area. It is a long-term waste disposal facility for all of Will County, including all the communities within Will County and those communities at least partially located within Will County. The communities include Aurora, Beecher, Bolingbrook, Braceville, Braidwood, Channahon, Coal City, Crest Hill, Crete, Diamond, Elwood, Frankfort, Godley, Homer Glen, Joliet, Lemont, Lockport, Manhattan, Matteson, Minooka, Mokena, Monee, Naperville, New Lenox, Orland Park, Park Forest, Peotone, Plainfield, Rockdale, Romeoville, Sauk Village, Shorewood, Steger, Symerton, Tinley Park, University Park, Wilmington and Woodridge. Population and employment data from the U.S. Census and CMAP for Will County and the non-Will County portions of these communities (hereafter referred to as the Service Area) were used to determine the amount of solid waste generated in the entire Service Area in 2005.

* **NIPC merged with CATS in 2007 to form CMAP** - To integrate planning for transportation and land use, the **Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning** was created by merging the staffs of the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) and the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS). CMAP serves the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. NIPC served northeastern Illinois from 1957 - 2007.

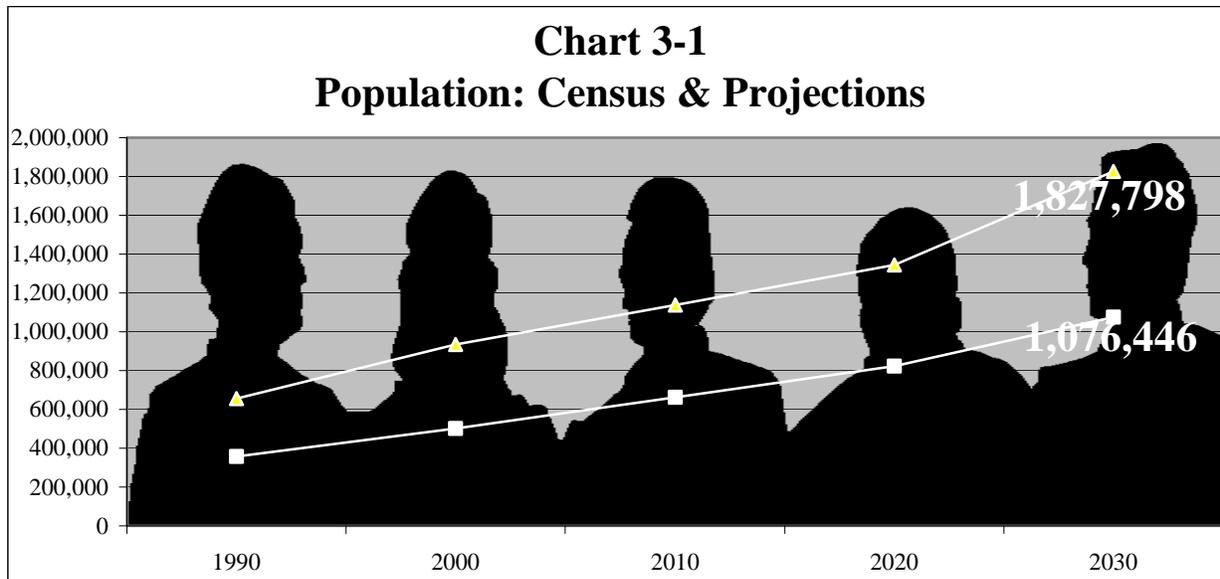


Population. According to U.S. Census data from 2000 and the Will County Land Use Planning Division 2005 Population Estimates, Will County has a population of 642,813, up from 357,313 in 1990 (an increase of over 180% in 15 years). Depending on whether a third Chicago metropolitan airport is constructed near Peotone and various redevelopment situations, CMAP estimates that Will County’s population will increase to approximately 1,076,466 by 2030. Table 3-1 depicts the projected population growth for the Service Area through the year 2030.

Area Population	1990 ¹	2000 ¹	2030 ²
Will County	357,231	502,266	1,076,446
Remainder of Service Area	297,673	430,937	751,352
Prairie View Service Area	654,904	933,203	1,827,798

Source:
 1. U.S. Census, Published 1991 and 2001
 2. NIPC Projection (excluding Grundy and Kendall County portions), Published 2006

Prairie View RDF Service Area Population. According to 2000 U.S. Census data, the population in the remainder of the Service Area amounted to an additional 430,937 people. Thus, the entire Service Area included 933,203 people in 2000 (502,266 Will County residents plus 430,937 non-Will County residents). The Service Area population is projected to increase to 1,827,798 by 2030 (nearly doubling in thirty years) based on projections of population prepared by CMAP.



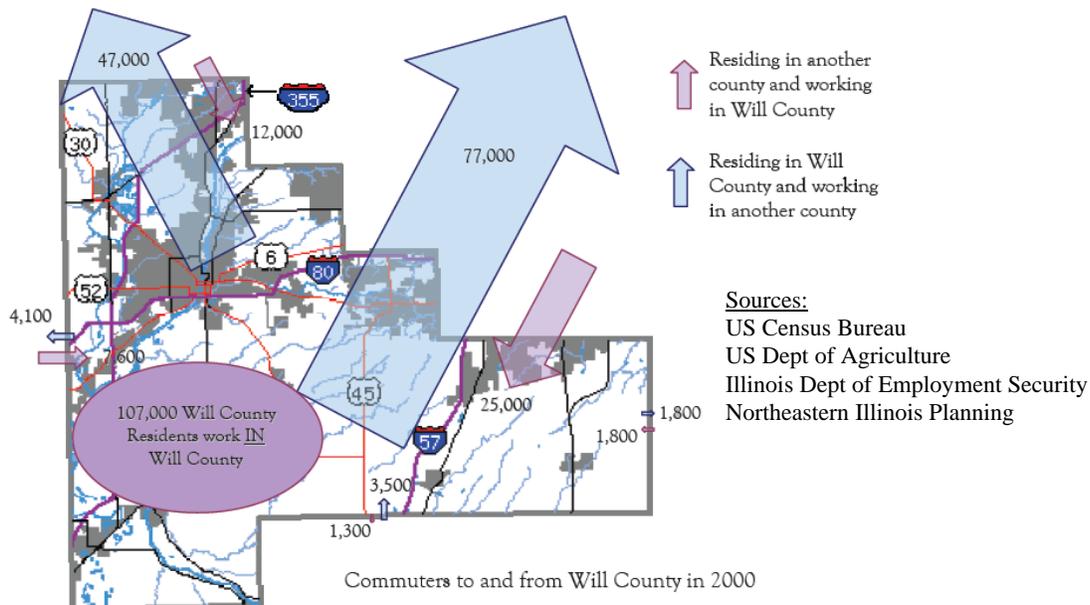


Employment. According to CMAP’s estimates, 169,317 persons were employed in Will County in 2000 (not including self-employed or family workers). CMAP’s projections of employment suggest an increase of 245% to 415,549 persons by 2030. Table 2-2 presents the most recent CMAP estimates for Will County employment growth.

Prairie View RDF Service Area Employment. According to CMAP, employment in the remainder of the Service Area amounted to 213,610 persons in 2000. Thus the entire Service Area employment was 382,927 in 2000. Projections of employment for the entire Service Area suggest a total of 939,806 employed persons by 2030.

TABLE 3-2 PRAIRIE VIEW RDF SERVICE AREA Employment Projections, 2000 - 2030		
	2000	2030
Will County - Industrial	23,533	57,756
Will County – Commercial / Institutional	145,784	357,793
WILL COUNTY - TOTAL	169,317	415,549
Border Service Area - Industrial	22,877	56,146
Border Service Area Commercial / Institutional	190,733	468,111
BORDER SERVICE AREA - TOTAL	213,610	524,257
Total Industrial	46,410	113,902
Total Commercial / Institutional	336,517	825,904
PRAIRIE VIEW RDF SERVICE AREA TOTAL	382,927	939,806

Source: NIPC* (excluding Grundy and Kendall County portions), 2006





Solid Waste Generation and Management

Over the years, methods to determine waste generation based on population and employment information have been evolving. Back in the 1980s and 1990s, many solid waste professionals were just beginning to develop estimation techniques. The waste generation rates used in both the 1991 Solid Waste Management Plan and the 1996 Five-Year Update were based on limited sampling information (four Will County communities [Bolingbrook, Joliet, Lockport and Romeoville] for residential and two dozen estimates from haulers & generators for commercial/industrial information).

In 1999, Will County began receiving waste generation reports every six months from waste and recycling collection service providers (due to the passage of a County ordinance). The report requests a breakdown of waste recycled and disposed. In 2000, the County received reports from seventy different haulers offering the most accurate, detailed data obtainable regarding the County’s waste generation and management. This impacted the generation rates used in the 2001 Plan Update.

Likewise, the hundreds of reports that the County has obtained over the past five years create a database unique to Will County. This database is the foundation of the numbers used to calculate the “pounds per capita per day” and “pounds per employee per day” of waste and recycling that has occurred. Once calculated, these figures are then used to project future waste generation rates based on population and employment projection information.

<p align="center">TABLE 3-3 COMPARISON OF WILL COUNTY WASTE GENERATION RATES 1991, 1996, 2000 & 2005</p>			
Sector	1991 & 1996 Waste Generation Rates ¹ (lbs per capita, per day)	2000 Waste Generation Rates ¹ (lbs per capita, per day)	2001-2005 Average Annual Waste Generation Rates ¹ (lbs per capita, per day)
Residential	2.8 PCD	2.04 PCD	2.89 PCD
Commercial/Institutional	7.9 PED	12.07 PED	8.85 PED
Industrial	20.9 PED	30.51 PED	17.11 PED
Construction/Demolition Debris	0.72 PCD	N/A ²	1.13 PCD
Landscape Material Collected	N/A ³	N/A ³	0.12 PCD
Total	5.8 PCD	6.28 PCD	7.37 PCD
<p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PCD refers to pounds per capita per day, PED refers to pounds per employee per day 2. Construction/demolition debris was not disaggregated from commercial/institutional waste in 2000 3. Landscape material collection was not included in previous SW Plans <p>Source: Will County Solid Waste Management Plan, Volume II, 1991 Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division, 2001 Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division, Data Collection Surveys 2001-2005</p>			

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) as defined by the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/3.21), municipal waste refers to “garbage, general household and commercial waste, industrial lunchroom or office waste, landscape waste, and construction or demolition debris.” For the purposes of this Solid Waste Plan Update, municipal waste will refer to residential, commercial,



institutional and construction/demolition waste (i.e., industrial waste is separated from MSW and landscape material is assumed to be recycled due to the State ban on its disposal).

Based on the semi-annual reports that Waste Services has received from a variety of contractors over the past five years, residential waste has been generated at a rate of 2.89 pounds per capita per day. The commercial and institutional waste was generated at a rate of 8.85 pounds per employee per day. The construction/demolition material has been generated at a rate of 1.13 pounds per capita per day. Over the past five years, the industrial waste generation has averaged a rate of 17.11 pounds per employee per day while landscape material collected for recycling averaged a rate of 0.12 pounds per capita per day. As shown in Table 3-4, nearly three and a half million tons of MSW was generated in Will County over the previous five years (2001 through 2005). An additional 3.6 million tons was generated within border communities included in the Prairie View Service Area; resulting in a grand total of 7.1 million tons of material over the past five years.

**TABLE 3-4
PRAIRIE VIEW RDF SERVICE AREA
SOLID WASTE GENERATION, 2001 - 2005 (TONS)**

Sector	Tons Generated – 5 yrs	Percent of Total	Generation Rate ¹
Will County Waste Generation			
Residential Material Generation	1,386,532	40%	2.89 PCD
Commercial & Institutional Waste	1,162,023	33%	8.85 PED
Construction/Demolition Material	528,217	15%	1.13 PCD
Industrial Waste Generation	366,332	10%	17.11 PED
Landscape Material Collection	64,266	2%	0.12 PCD
Total Waste Generation	3,443,103	100.0%	
Remainder of Service Area Waste Generation			
Residential Waste	1,189,631	32%	2.89 PCD
Commercial/Institutional Waste	1,520,317	42%	8.85 PED
Construction/Demolition Waste	513,485	14%	1.13 PCD
Industrial Waste	356,115	10%	17.11 PED
Landscape Material Collection	84,082	2%	0.12 PCD
Total Waste Generation	3,663,629	100.0%	
PRAIRIE VIEW SERVICE AREA WASTE GENERATION			
Residential Waste	2,576,162	36%	2.89 PCD
Commercial/Institutional Waste	2,682,340	37%	8.85 PED
Construction/Demolition Waste	1,041,701	15%	1.13 PCD
Industrial Waste	722,447	10%	17.11 PED
Landscape Material Collection	148,348	2%	0.12 PCD
Total Waste Generation	7,170,998	100.0%	
Notes:			
1. PCD refers to pounds per capita per day, PED refers to pounds per employee per day. Will County's residential, commercial & institutional, construction/demolition and industrial waste generation rates were applied to the remainder of the Service Area to determine waste generation.			
2. Municipal waste generation refers to the sum of residential and commercial/institutional waste.			
Source: Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division, 2006			



vast majority of waste generated in Will County. Over the past five years, 73% of the unwanted MSW materials generated by the residential, commercial, institutional and industrial sectors were disposed in sanitary landfills (2,350,216 tons), as depicted in Table 3-5. The remaining 27% was taken to recycling centers or compost/land application facilities (862,570 tons).

**TABLE 3-5
WILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISPOSITION, 2001-2005 (TONS)**

Sector	Recyclables				Solid Waste Disposed	Tons Generated	% of Total
	Paper/Fiber ¹	Containers ²	Landscape ³	Other ⁴			
Residential	96,144	144,207	136,642	55,101	1,092,151	1,524,245	28%
Commercial & Institutional ⁵	99,561	11,432	7,477	168,547	1,001,956	1,288,973	22%
Industrial	7,482	1,092	4,757	130,130	256,109	399,570	36%
Total	203,187	156,731	148,876	353,778	2,350,216	3,212,788	27%

Notes:

1. Refers to all grades of paper.
2. Refers to aluminum, plastic, steel and glass containers.
3. Refers to landscape materials such as grass, leaves, and brush.
4. Other refers to scrap metal, construction/demolition debris, lumber and other recyclables.
5. Commercial & Institutional date is combined due to reporting data coming in combined.

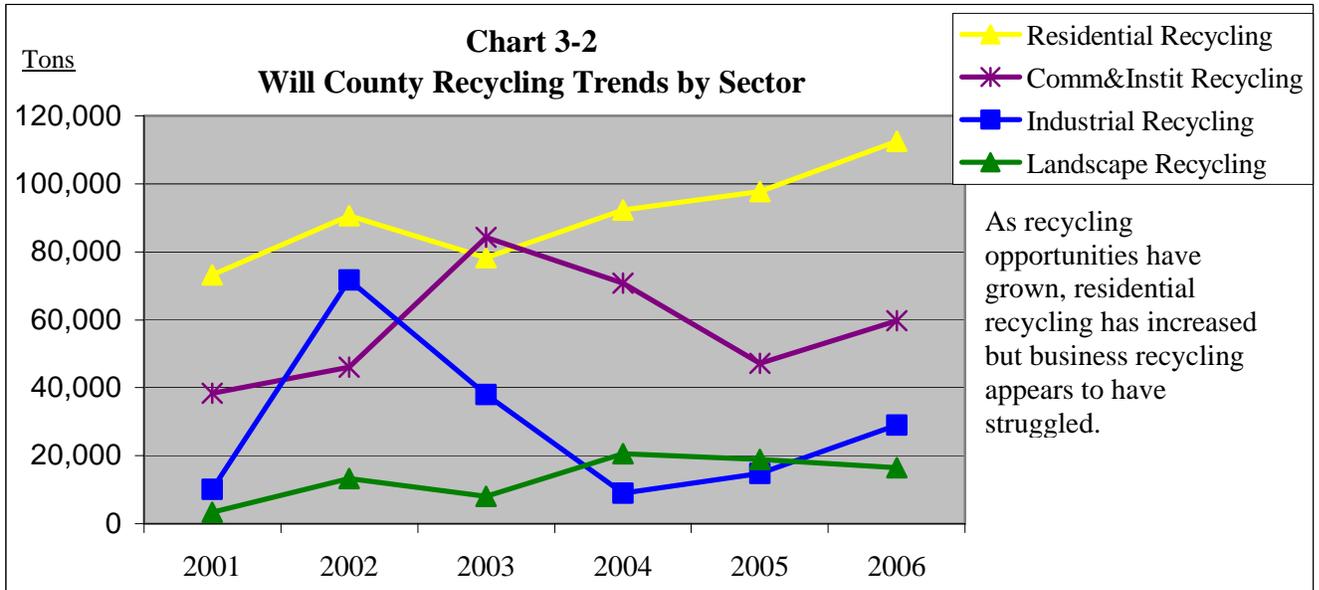
Source: Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division, 2006

Material Collection. All solid waste collection in Will County is performed by the private sector, except for some small quantities of landscape material that is collected by municipal, township and county crews. From document destruction firms to cooking grease recyclers and solid waste haulers, over one hundred different companies reported waste collection activity in Will County between 2001 and 2005. There has been consolidation in the waste-hauling sector, with only four firms currently providing municipal contracted collection services.

Several of these firms operate under more than one name:

1. Allied Waste (a.k.a. BFI, Groen, Citiwaste)
2. Crown Recycling and Disposal (a.k.a. Groot Recycling)
3. NuWay (a.k.a. A&J Disposal, Heartland, Homewood, Star, Tinley Park Disposal)
4. Skyline Disposal
5. Veolia (formerly Onyx)
6. Waste Management

Other service providers collect waste and recyclables from the commercial sector, the unincorporated areas of the County, and those municipalities without contracts/franchised collection. Curbside recycling is available in all but five municipalities: Godley, Homer Glen, Monee, Steger and University Park (three of which rely on residents to individually contract for garbage/recycling service). Additionally, a small number of customers located in rural unincorporated areas of the County do not have adequate access to curbside recycling collection.



Over the past six years commercial recycling grew, faltered and has begun to grow again. There are various theories for the rise and fall of material, such as the fluctuating price paid for these commodities, an economic recession, etc. Whatever the cause, this is an area of interest since the waste generated by commercial, institutional and industrial sectors is currently equal to the waste disposed of by residents.

Of equal interest is the growth of landscape material collection. As the population and business areas grow, more land is turned into lawns that require mowing, as well as leaf and brush maintenance. Although many homes and commercial enterprises leave grass clippings on the lawn to retain moisture and decrease collection costs; the need for composting and land application operations appears to be growing. Landscape transfer stations may be needed in areas lacking enough open space to site a compost facility.

Along these same lines, the increase in residential development means an increase in food waste both from homes and restaurants. Waste Services is following discussions at the State level to increase food waste composting opportunities such as have been occurring in Canada and several other states within the U.S.A.



Pollution Control Facilities

Transfer Stations – A Transfer Station is a permitted facility where municipal solid waste or landscape waste is unloaded from collection vehicles and reloaded onto larger long-distance transport vehicles for shipment to disposal facilities, such as regional landfills or compost sites. By combining the loads of several individual collection trucks into a single shipment, money can be saved on the labor and operating costs of transporting the material to a distant disposal site. Transfer Stations can also reduce the total number of vehicular trips traveling to and from the disposal site.



There are currently four transfer stations in Will County, all of which are permitted by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). They are: Banner Western Transfer and Recycling facility located in Rockdale (which only accepts refuse from Waste Management, Inc.), Waste Management-Southwest Transfer Station/Material Recycling Facility located in Joliet, Citiwaste, Inc. also located in Joliet (which is restricted to handling only non-putrescible waste), and the E.C. Rizzi & Associates transfer station (for landscape waste only) in Bolingbrook. Table 3-6 lists these transfer stations.

**TABLE 3-6
WILL COUNTY TRANSFER STATIONS, 2006**

Facility Name	Location	Estimated PD ¹	Permitted PD ¹	IEPA Site Number
Banner-Western Transfer & Recycling Center	Rockdale	Average 125 tons Recyclables		1970850012
WM-Southwest Transfer Station & MRF	Joliet	1200-1300 tons		1970450096
Citiwaste Transfer Station	Joliet	Average 200 tons	600 tons	1978093002
E.C. Rizzi & Associates ²	Bolingbrook	Application 2-300 cy ³		1974155082

Note: 1. PD – Per Day
1. Accepts landscape waste for transfer only.
2. cy – cubic yards



A collection vehicle dumps its load onto the tipping floor.

Additional transfer stations may be sited for either refuse or landscape waste in the future. Traffic congestion and distance impact the cost of driving collection vehicles directly to disposal or compost sites. Given the population and employment growth expected in and around Will County, this Plan Update allows for additional transfer station siting to be considered as the need arises.



Compost Facility/Land Application. A compost facility is a permitted yard waste recycling center; designed and operated for the purpose of controlled decomposing of grass clippings, leaves and brush. A land-application process is done on permitted farmland. Landscape waste materials are spread on the land, often plowed into the soil, and degrade naturally, returning nutrients directly to the soil.

Over the past five years several Will County compost facilities and land-application farms have closed. Of the eight sites listed in the 2001 Plan Update, five remain. There are two Land & Lakes compost facilities in Romeoville and one compost facility in Peotone, Christensen Farms. Two farms continue to operate as land application sites. Both sites are located in the Crete area. Table 3-7 lists the compost/on-farm land application facilities in Will County. The closures are related to housing and commercial growth. This Plan Update allows for expansion of compost sites, land application operations and landscape waste transfer station development.

<p align="center">TABLE 3-7 WILL COUNTY COMPOST/LAND APPLICATION SITES, 2006</p>		
Facility Name	Location	IEPA Site Number
Land & Lakes Willow Ranch Compost Facility	Romeoville	1970100001
Land & Lakes Willow Ranch Compost Facility	Romeoville	1978030003
Christensen Farms On-Farm Compost Facility	Peotone	1970755021
Smits Farms On-Farm Compost Facility	Crete	1978010004
Plum Valley Nursery On-Farm Compost Facility	Crete	1970300015
<p align="center">Source: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 2006 Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division, 2006</p>		

Sanitary Landfills. In 1984 the EPA was given regulatory authority over landfills and defined a sanitary landfill under the Resource and Recovery Act, Subtitle D regulations. These criteria ensure that such landfills are designed and operated to protect human health and the environment. The criteria establish requirements in: location, operation, design, ground water monitoring, corrective action, closure and post-closure, and financial assurance. A sanitary landfill receives municipal solid waste (such as household, commercial, industrial and institutional non-hazardous waste).

Since 2000, when Will County had five permitted, non-hazardous, municipal waste landfills, two have closed (CDT Landfill in Joliet, Wheatland Prairie Recycling and Disposal Facility near Plainfield), two do not accept municipal solid waste, taking only fly ash (Lincoln Stone Quarry in Joliet and Renwick Landfill - formerly known as Mineral Solutions and American Fly Ash between Romeoville and Crest Hill). That leaves the Laraway Recycling and Disposal Facility south of Joliet and Will County’s new Prairie View Recycling and Disposal Facility located on the former Joliet Arsenal Site, near Wilmington. Since neither Lincoln Stone Quarry nor Renwick Landfill accepts municipal solid waste for disposal, they will not be considered further in this Plan Update.

The Prairie View Recycling and Disposal Facility is Will County’s primary disposal option available to its residents and businesses. The site opened on January 19, 2004, and has accepted an average of



approximately 2,200 tons per day of municipal solid waste and non-hazardous special waste for 2004 and 2005 according to the IEPA’s 18th & 19th Annual Nonhazardous Solid Waste Management and Landfill Capacity in Illinois. In 2006, the Facility accepted an average of over 3,200 tons per day, according to reports sent to the IEPA. In addition to receiving waste from the Will County Service Area, the Facility must accept waste free of charge from the Department of the Army, the Department of Agriculture (Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie), and the Department of Veteran’s Affairs (Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery) from restoration and cleanup of the former Joliet Army Ammunition Plant pursuant to Public Law 104-106. The site has an anticipated closure date of January 19, 2027.

The Laraway Recycling and Disposal Facility is permitted to accept primarily non-hazardous special waste (including asbestos-containing material), non-hazardous contaminated soils and construction and demolition debris. Laraway was granted siting approval by the Will County Board on January 18, 2007 to expand vertically and horizontally. The expansion will provide disposal capacity for the service area (Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will Counties) for approximately 30 years. This expansion has a capacity of about 18,721,000 tons.

Another component of the Laraway expansion is soil treatment. Laraway anticipates receiving significant quantities of petroleum-contaminated soils from industrial properties and brownfield sites throughout the service area. These soils will be treated and then used as part of an environmental remediation project to facilitate the closure of two phosphogypsum stacks. This will include the exhumation of a small phosphogypsum stack and placing it on the larger phosphogypsum stack. The larger stack will then be covered with approximately 11,700,000 tons of treated soils and a final cover system to construct a landform that will facilitate its reuse. The expanded Laraway facility is expected to receive approximately 1,000,000 tons of waste (non-hazardous contaminated soils and special wastes) per year.

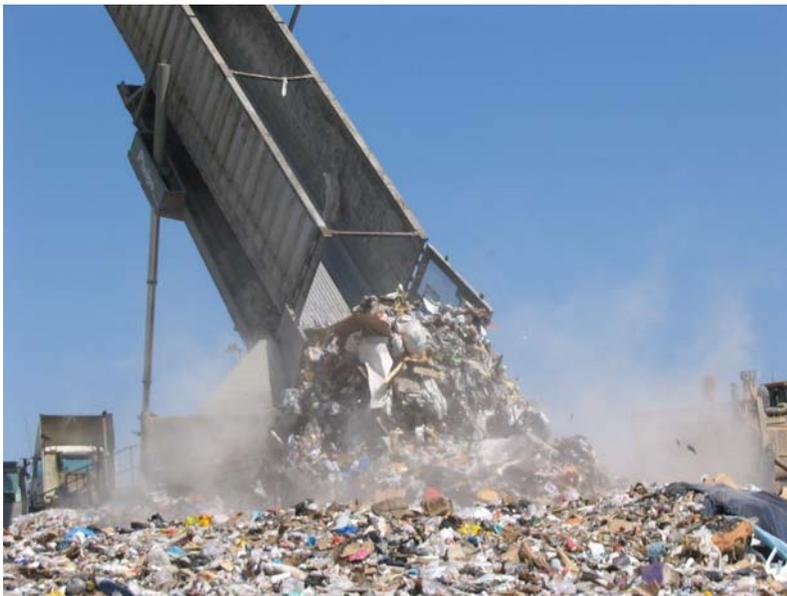
**TABLE 3-8
WILL COUNTY MUNICIPAL WASTE LANDFILLS – JAN 1, 2007**

Facility Name	Location	IEPA Site #	Remaining Capacity (tons)	Expected Closure Date
Prairie View Recycling and Disposal Facility	Wilmington	1971105050	19,054,000	2027
Laraway Recycling and Disposal Facility ¹	Elwood	1970450002	18,721,000	2039

Note:
1. Accepts construction and demolition waste, although predominantly special waste. An expansion was approved by the Will County Board on January 18, 2007.



The Will County Prairie View Recycling and Disposal Facility (Prairie View RDF) opened in January 2004



The Prairie View RDF accepted an average of approximately 2,200 tons per day of waste in its first two years of operation. That increased to 3,200 tons per day in 2006.





Waste Generation Projections

The population and employment projections from CMAP for 2030 do not include portions of communities that extend into Kendall and Grundy Counties (Aurora, Channahon, Coal City, Diamond, Godley, Joliet and Minooka). These communities did not provide projections to 2030 for this Plan Update. Consequently, waste generation projections for the Grundy and Kendall County portions of the Service Area were not determined for this Plan Update.

The Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (415 ILCS 15/1 et seq.) requires that, among other things, all counties:

- 1) Estimate the amount of waste to be generated within its boundaries for the next 20 years
- 2) Describe the variables affecting the generation of waste; and
- 3) Review and update the Plan at least every five years.

From 1970 to 1990, the population of the Chicago metropolitan area increased a mere four percent. Employment increased at a similar, relatively slow rate. According to NIPC, since 1990 population and employment levels in the Chicago metropolitan area have been, and currently are, increasing at an extremely accelerated rate. Will County is recognized as one of the fastest growing counties in the United States and recently experienced a major highway expansion (Il Rt. 355). In addition, there is an area near Peotone in eastern Will County that is being considered as the site of a third regional airport.

With or without the third regional airport, Will County’s growth will increase dramatically. CMAP’s most recent estimates suggested that Will County’s population would increase to approximately 1,076,466 by 2030. Employment is expected to increase, with the addition of 246,232 more jobs, for a total of 415,549 employment opportunities by 2030.

Waste generation is affected primarily by changes in population and employment. Using projections of population and employment from Tables 3-1 and 3-2, respectively, and the waste generation rates reported in Table 3-3, Will County and the Service Area would generate approximately 36,557,703 tons over the next twenty-three years (by 2030). These projections are derived on an annual basis through 2030 using the following formulas:

$$\text{Residential Waste Generation} = \frac{((3.33 \text{ PCD} * \text{Service Area Population}) * 365 \text{ days})}{2000 \text{ pounds}}$$

$$\text{Construction and Demolition Waste Generation} = \frac{((1.28 \text{ PCD} * \text{Service Area Population}) * 365 \text{ days})}{2000 \text{ pounds}}$$

$$\text{Commercial and Institutional Waste Generation} = \frac{((8.85 \text{ PED} * \text{Service Area Comm/Inst Employment}) * 365 \text{ days})}{2000 \text{ pounds}}$$

$$\text{Industrial Waste Generation} = \frac{((17.11 \text{ PED} * \text{Service Area Industrial Employment}) * 365 \text{ days})}{2000 \text{ pounds}}$$

(Note: calculations using these waste generation rates will result in slightly different amounts than those reported here due to rounding).

In Table 3-9, the actual waste generation measurements recorded from 2001 through 2005 are shown. These measurements are used to create a “pounds per capita” and “pounds per employee” per day calculation. Then the calculations are applied to the projected population and employment numbers to provide an estimate of the amount of waste to be generated in 2030.



**TABLE 3-9
PRAIRIE VIEW RDF SERVICE AREA
SOLID WASTE GENERATION PROJECTIONS TO 2030**

Waste Stream	Tons of Waste Generated		Calculation Information		Annual Tons of Waste Generated 2030
	Total Generated 2001-2005	Annual Average 2001-2005	PCD PED ¹	Population or Employment	
Will County Waste Generation					
Residential Material	1,386,532	277,306	2.89	1,076,446	568,641
Commercial/Institutional	1,162,023	232,405	8.85	357,793	577,634
Construction/Demolition	528,217	105,643	1.13	1,076,446	222,158
Industrial MSW	366,332	73,266	17.11	57,756	180,312
Landscape Material Collected	64,266	12,853	0.12	1,076,446	23,316
Total Waste Generation	3,507,369	701,474			1,572,060
Remainder of Service Area ²					
Residential Material	1,189,631	237,926	2.89	1,076,446	396,908
Commercial/Institutional	1,520,317	304,063	8.85	357,793	755,735
Construction/Demolition	513,485	102,697	1.13	1,076,446	155,065
Industrial MSW	356,115	71,223	17.11	57,756	175,286
Landscape Material Collected	84,082	16,816	0.12	1,076,446	16,274
Total Waste Generation	3,663,629	732,726			1,499,267
Prairie View Service Area Waste Generation					
Residential	2,576,162	515,232	2.89	1,076,446	965,549
Commercial/Institutional	2,682,340	536,468	8.85	357,793	1,333,369
Construction/Demolition	1,041,701	208,340	1.13	1,076,446	377,222
Industrial MSW	722,447	144,489	17.11	57,756	355,598
Landscape Material Collected	148,348	29,670	0.12	1,076,446	39,590
Total Waste Generation	7,170,998	1,434,200			3,071,328

Notes:

1. PCD is Pounds per Capita per Day and PED is Pounds per Employee per Day.
2. Will County waste generation rates for residential, commercial/institutional, industrial, construction/demolition and landscape materials were applied to the remainder of the service area.

Source: Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division, 2006 and NIPC.



Chapter 4

Status Report on Past Updates / Current Plan Components

Over the years, the Solid Waste Management Plan components have evolved, adapting to changes in legislation, addressing a variety of waste streams and exploring methods of collection, waste reduction and recycling. This chapter summarizes the status of Solid Waste Management Plan components contained in the original 1991 Plan and the past two updates. In addition, within the “Table” format, the summary includes the 2001-2007 recommendations to implement, modify, or remove the previous Plan components from further consideration. Any additional components are added to the officially adopted Plan in Chapter 4.

Although conceived as a twenty-year plan, the State of Illinois requires each County Solid Waste Plan to be updated every five years in order to adapt to changes in the Solid Waste industry and comply with the intent of the Will County Board with regards to Plan implementation. Some of the original Plan's recommended system components are no longer relevant, applicable, necessary or have proven to be inappropriate. Therefore, the four columns of information (shown on the following pages) summarize the Plan Components; depicting additions, eliminations and modifications to reflect current conditions.

NOTE: Definitions of Terms Used in the Status Report

Delete – means to delete this goal in its entirety

Continue – means to continue to pursue previous actions described, already implemented

Implement – means to begin action described

Modify – means to change slightly the action described, includes description of action to be taken



**TABLE 3-1. SUMMARY OF WILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
COMPONENT STATUS
(1991 Solid Waste Plan, 1996 Plan Update, 2001 Plan Update)**

Plan Component	1991 Plan Recommendation	1996 Plan Update Recommendation	2001 Plan Update Recommendation	2001-2007 Status & Recommendation(s)
Source Reduction & ReUse	5% volume reduction goal at the source	5% volume reduction goal at the source	Deleted; No standardized method exists to track the effects of source reduction	Continue
	Build cost of disposal into bid considerations	Recommendation dropped from further consideration	Modify; Disposal cost should be given informal consideration during bidding	Modify; Encourage disposal cost identification in waste service bids/proposals
	Assign bid preferences for recycled feedstock and consideration of disposal cost	No bid preferences, rather County will promote recycled-content procurement	Implement; No bid preferences shall be given to products with recycled-content	Modify; Pursue purchasing to include recycled-content with non-recycled-content bid requests
	Develop promotional campaign regarding source reduction	Continue in grade schools, discontinue for businesses and institutions	Modify; Develop source reduction campaign for schools and businesses	Continue in schools and businesses
	Requirement of a two-sided copying policy for County govt.	Requirement removed, since all county offices have double-sided copying ability	Implement	Encourage double-sided copying in all County offices
	Creation of information clearinghouse	Discontinue due to lack of personnel	Establish a clearinghouse within Waste Services	Develop clearinghouse on website
	Work with Three Rivers Mfg. Assn. and others to offer waste audit assistance	Discontinue due to lack of personnel	Offer waste audit assistance to all businesses in County	Implement
	Work with municipalities to develop volume/weight-based collection programs	Provide technical assistance as requested	Implement	Implement
	Continue volume reduction/recycling grant program	Continue with tip fee surcharge revenues	Implement	Implement when it is determined needed.
	Recycling & Landscape Material (LSM)	30, 40 and 50 % reduction goals 5, 10 and 15 years after implementation of Plan	30, 40 and 50 % reduction goals 5, 10 and 15 years after implementation of Plan	Modify; 30, 35, 40 & 45% goals in 5, 10, 15 and 20 years respectively.
Develop public education campaign for recycling		Continue for residential sector, business leaders should implement education for commercial sector	Modify; Develop public education campaigns for residential, institutional and private sectors	Continue School Waste Reduction program, public education campaigns and restart commercial program.
Develop technical assistance program for recycling		Implement	Implement	Continue
			Add; Book Recycling Program with ReUse Component	Continue
			Add; Electronic Recycling Program	Modify; Establish permanent electronic collection sites
Implement/expand in-house recycling program		Implement	Implement	Continue



Will County Solid Waste Plan Update – 2001-2007

Plan Component	1991 Plan Recommendation	1996 Plan Update Recommendation	2001 Plan Update Recommendation	2001-2007 Status & Recommendation(s)
Recycling & LSM (cont'd)	Continue grant/loan recycling program with record keeping requirements	Continue program but discontinue record keeping requirements	Modify; Reinstate record keeping requirements	Implement
	Develop support of recycling programs for elected officials	Implement	Implement	Implement
	Implement "Pay-By-The-Bag" programs in unincorporated areas	Implement	Modify; Seek cooperation with townships for variable rate pricing	Implement
	Identify/implement demonstration programs for recycling	Implement	Continue	Continue
	Prepare "general use" recycling materials	Continue	Continue	Continue
	Provide site approval support for recycling/LSM facilities	Continue	Continue	Continue within IEPA regulations
	Provide market development assistance for recycling industry	Removed from consideration, given level of private-sector recycling	Modify; Re-instate market development activities, primarily for C&D materials	Implement
Incineration	Volume reduction is totally excluded due to high cost	Continue	Continue	Continue
	Energy recovery not included in County's plan for the near future	Exclude from future consideration given county landfill plans	Continue	Continue
Landfills	County will develop landfill with the private sector	Site selected at Joliet Arsenal for county-owned landfill	Implement	Continue
	Landfill will be only for the disposal of waste generated within Will County	Landfill will be primarily for county waste, with a 20-year disposal capacity guarantee	Modify; 20 to 23 year disposal capacity guarantee for service area generated waste	Continue
	County-owned, privately operated facility	Continue	Implement	Continue
	County will pay costs of site purchase, siting, permitting & construction. Bonds to be issued for all costs	Not mentioned in Plan Update	Modify; Selected contractor will assume all costs of siting, permitting and construction	Modify; Any Pollution Control facility applicant will assume all costs of siting, permitting and construction
	County will prepare siting application	Not mentioned in Plan Update	Implemented; County reviewed siting application prepared by contractor selected to operate landfill	Continue
	Intergovernmental agreements for waste w/ municipalities for landfill	Implement	Delete; No such formal agreements will be sought	Continue



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Plan Component	1991 Plan Recommendation	1996 Plan Update Recommendation	2001 Plan Update Recommendation	2001-2007 Status & Recommendation(s)
Landfills (cont'd)	County will investigate processing methods to reduce volume of waste landfilled	Not mentioned in Plan Update	Modify; Volume reduction processing methods are to be considered at landfill	Continue; Operator secured permit for C&D material recycling area
		Modify; County will charge market rate tip fees at landfill for non-residential waste; county municipalities will be charged a discounted tip fee	Modify; Non-residential tip fee not mentioned in landfill contract; contractor selected and operating agreement has been signed	Continue
			Add; Assist in remediation of brownfield sites as grant funding allows	Continue through completion of current project
			Add; Aerial Photography and Altitude Comparison done at closing landfills	Discontinue unless needed
Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)	County will conduct at least 3 HHW collection programs annually	Modify; County will provide 1 collection event through contract, 2 additional collections annually will be sought from IEPA	Modify; Landfill contractor to provide at least 3 collections, additional collections sought through IEPA, municipalities and townships	Modify; Landfill contractor will provide funding for mobile collections: At least 2 HHW & 1 Electronics annually; additional collections will be sought directly from IEPA; County will continue funding regional permanent HHW site in Naperville; County will pursue permanent HHW site within Will County. Landfill contractor may be asked to modify funding to support permanent electronic and HHW sites.
	Cost of holding HHW collection events will eventually be built into disposal costs at LF	Not mentioned in Plan Update	Implement; Costs are borne by selected landfill contractor through operating agreement	Modify; Costs are borne by landfill contractor, IEPA and/or Solid Waste Fund
Transfer Stations	Transfer stations will be needed depending on selected landfill location	One transfer station needed in both northern and eastern parts of County	Modify; Selected contractor may desire to site transfer stations in northern and eastern parts of the County	Continue
				Modify; Allow C&D recycling facilities pending State regulation changes
Collection in Unincorporated Areas	County will franchise collection in unincorporated areas	Implement	Implement	Modify; County will encourage townships to explore residential franchise opportunities alone or in partnership w/municipalities. If necessary, the County will pursue special service areas for waste, recycling and/or landscape collection services



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Plan Component	1991 Plan Recommendation	1996 Plan Update Recommendation	2001 Plan Update Recommendation	2001-2007 Status & Recommendation(s)
Collection in Unincorporated Areas (cont'd)	Curbside and/or drop-off recycling will be required of all haulers operating in unincorporated areas	Drop-off recycling will be implemented in municipalities to serve unincorporated areas	Modify; County will implement waste collection franchises in the County under certain conditions	Modify; Implement recycling Drop-off programs for townships and municipalities and pursue curbside collection franchises or municipal contract expansions into unincorporated areas under appropriate conditions.
Municipal Services				Add; County will assist & encourage communities to explore or improve residential waste & recycling service contracts
				Add; County will encourage municipalities with residential contracts to explore partnerships w/townships
Plan Updates	Updated at minimum of 5-year intervals	Updated at minimum of 5-year intervals	Modify; update Plan as needed (at a minimum of 5-year intervals)	Update Plan as needed, at minimum 5-years
	Assess volume reduction goals at first five-year update	Assess volume reduction goals at next five-year Plan Update	Delete; discontinue source reduction tracking; maintain recycling record keeping	Continue
	Review technologies intended to reduce volume of material permanently disposed at landfills	Not mentioned in Plan Update	Implement volume reduction strategies at landfill	Continue



Chapter 5

Solid Waste Management System

The Solid Waste Management Plan presented in this section is a reflection of the information, infrastructure and technology available through 2007. The solid waste management field has evolved considerably since 1991 as a result of political, social, economic and technological change. Will County's approach to Solid Waste has, likewise, evolved. The Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (415 ILCS 15/1 et seq.) recognizes the changing nature of this industry and requires that each County's Plan be updated at least every five years.

The Will County Solid Waste Management Plan must achieve two goals:

1. Provide sufficient detail and direction to facilitate the efficient and effective implementation of the waste reduction and final disposal components detailed in this Plan.
2. Allow enough flexibility to accommodate new, expanded or modified programs and facilities.

The Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division (Waste Services) is the governmental entity responsible for implementing this Plan on behalf of the County. Since 1988, Waste Services has enforced Illinois solid waste regulations through a delegation agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). Waste Services is also responsible for coordinating the review of applications for local siting in unincorporated areas of Will County, pursuant to the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/39.2).

This Solid Waste Management Plan Update (2001 – 2007) for Will County conforms to the waste management hierarchy established in the Illinois Solid Waste Management Act [415 ILCS 20/2(b)]. All recommendations listed in this Plan are contingent upon adequate funding and staffing levels. This updated Plan includes the following sections:

- ☒ Funding Mechanisms
- ☒ Administrative Tasks
- ☒ Waste Reduction and Recycling Recommendations
- ☒ Pollution Control Facility Recommendations



FUNDING MECHANISMS

The Waste Services Division of Land Use is not funded through property taxes. All employment costs and operational expenses are dependent upon a combination of grant funds and Host Agreement Contractual fees.

Under the operating agreement for the Will County Prairie View RDF the operator, Waste Management of Illinois, pays Waste Services the maximum allowable fee for every ton of “commercial solid waste” received in the form of a permanent disposal surcharge fee. Pursuant to the Illinois Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 22.15(j)], Will County has also enacted an ordinance to collect a tip fee surcharge on waste permanently disposed of within the County. In the future, Will County intends to collect the maximum tip fee surcharge allowed by State of Illinois for all pollution control facilities as well as any applicable host fees.

Pursuant to a grant, on a quarterly basis, the Illinois EPA reimburses the County for work performed under the delegation agreement; including partial cost sharing for vehicles used for inspection purposes.

Occasionally other grant revenue is received from the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Illinois EPA’s Brownfield Grant program, the Illinois EPA Delegation Agreement, neighboring counties or local governments within Will County. These funds are offered in a cost-sharing format and used for a myriad of recycling and reclamation programs and administrative costs related to them. When these funds are available, Waste Services is able to provide a greater assortment of programs to a wider variety of resident and business constituents.

Other possible sources of program funding include surcharges at various collection events, grants, franchise fees for waste collected in designated unincorporated areas of the county, donations and other untapped resources.





ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

Disposal Capacity Monitoring – The review of existing landfill space and incineration capacity in and around Will County coupled with the analysis of varying rates of disposal are used to monitor the area’s disposal capacity. Each year, the Illinois EPA releases a Disposal Capacity Report for the State. In addition to reviewing this document, Waste Services staff monitors available disposal capacity at pollution control facilities in northern Illinois and northwest Indiana that currently service or may service the residents and businesses of Will County.

Legislative Tracking - Staff will continue to monitor legislation concerning solid waste-related issues. When necessary, Waste Services will continue to prepare summaries of legislation and recommendations for action to the Will County Executive’s Office and/or the County Board Legislative Committee. Staff will continue to work with the County Executive’s Office and the Legislative Committee to propose state legislation as deemed necessary by the Committee.

Assistance to Units of Local Government - Staff will provide technical assistance to units of local government to address solid waste, recycling and landscape waste collection needs. Staff will provide both “boiler plate” bid and service proposal documents and/or individual assistance with contracts and franchise agreements to cities, villages and townships interested in implementing and/or renewing contracts for waste management services with private-sector service providers. This may include pursuit of Special Service Areas, Solid Waste Districts or Subdivision Collection Service Agreements to meet the needs of all area residents and businesses. Staff will be available to attend village, township or other community meetings to present information on recycling and disposal services. To this end, Waste Services will continue to maintain current copies of all municipal contracts, a list of service providers and a database of current municipal contract pricing and service arrangements. Additionally, Waste Services will provide a Waste and Recycling Guide for residential, municipal and township use offering a comprehensive listing of recycling and disposal services available.

Assistance to Institutions, School Districts and Commercial Establishments - Staff will provide technical assistance to institutions, school districts and commercial establishments to address solid waste, recycling and landscape waste collection needs. Staff will provide “boiler plate” bid and service proposal documents and/or individual assistance with contracts to those interested in implementing and/or renewing contracts for waste management services with private-sector service providers. Staff will be available to attend board of director or district meetings to present information on recycling and disposal services. Additionally, Waste Services will provide a Waste and Recycling Guide for businesses and institutions offering a comprehensive listing of recycling and disposal services available.

Delegation Agreement with the IEPA - Will County will continue to maintain a delegation agreement with the IEPA to conduct inspections and enforce provisions of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/1 et seq.) at over 20 IEPA-permitted facilities and numerous open dumpsites. For instance, during the two years covering 2005 and 2006, Waste Services conducted a total of 586 inspections of waste sites in the county. This includes 140 inspections of IEPA-permitted sites (such as landfills and transfer stations) and regulated compost and on-farm compost / land application facilities. Additionally, it includes 446 inspections of illegal dumps and illegal burn piles. Through these efforts, Waste Services enforced the cleanup more than 4,400 cubic yards of material, while attempting to keep all permitted facilities in compliance.



Since 1988, Waste Services has conducted nearly 5,000 inspections. Of that, about 15% were for permitted sites and the remaining were in response to illegal burning and dumping. Waste inspection enforcement resulted in the clean-up of approximately 1,000 illegal dumpsites. The delegation agreement results in a faster response to complaints and the quicker clean-up of potentially harmful situations.

Groundwater Monitoring - Waste Services will continue to conduct “split sampling” of selected groundwater samples at Will County's eleven permitted landfill sites in accordance with IEPA sampling protocol (see table 5-1 below). The samples are sent to an IEPA-certified laboratory for analysis. The County verifies the results obtained by the individual landfills utilizing a consultant and then reports to them to IEPA. This process maintains the integrity of the sampling program. Quarterly and annual groundwater monitoring results are reviewed to identify any exceedances of Applicable Groundwater Quality Standards, determine if statistically significant trends are present and report statistically significant changes in groundwater quality to the IEPA. Each facility’s permit documents the constituents to be sampled. Waste Services has commented on groundwater and other components in a facility’s IEPA permit application and will continue on a case-by-case basis.

TABLE 5-1. LIST OF WILL COUNTY PERMITTED LANDFILLS	
FACILITY	PERMIT STATUS
Beecher Landfill, Units I and II	Closed
Beecher Landfill, Unit III	Closed
CDT Landfill, 005	Closed
CDT Landfill, 006	Closed
Joliet Arsenal Ammunition Plant	Closed
Laraway Recycling and Disposal Facility	Operating
Lincoln Stone Quarry/Midwest Generation ¹	Operating
Prairie View Recycling & Disposal Facility	Operating
Renwick Landfill (formerly Mineral Solutions) ²	Operating
Wheatland Prairie Landfill	Closed
Willow Ranch Landfill	Closed
Wilmington Municipal Landfill	Closed
Notes:	
1. This landfill accepts on-site generated fly ash from coal combustion facilities.	
2. This landfill accepts only fly ash from coal combustion facilities.	

Aerial Photography and Altitude Comparison. Aerial photography with altitude comparison is a tool used to determine permitted elevations commonly used as landfills reach capacity. When the need arises, as it did over the past five years due to landfill closures, the Waste Services Division may conduct aerial surveys to determine final cover elevations. These have been compared to IEPA permitted elevations and/or waste volumes with actual elevations and/or waste volumes of landfills in Will County. Waste Services has used this data to determine whether a facility is in compliance with its permitted height contours, waste boundaries and/or volumes. Given current conditions, use of this tool is not anticipated over the next five years.



Backyard Burning –Waste Services has been called to many illegal dumpsites that are the result of the illegal burning of garbage. The State of Illinois allows agricultural waste to be burned if certain criteria are met. The State of Illinois never allows tires or construction/demolition materials to be burned. Since 1997 all Illinois municipalities with more than 75,000 residents, except one, prohibited the burning of leaves within their corporate boundaries. Many smaller incorporated communities have passed laws prohibiting the burning of all materials except logs in a recreational fire setting.

Smoke from burning leaves, grass, brush and most plants contain high concentrations of pollutants such as carbon monoxide, particulate matter and photochemically reactive chemicals. Some of these are known carcinogens and some contribute to smog formation. Exposure to carbon monoxide can result in reduced oxygen flow. Particulate matter can become embedded in lung tissue. Smoke from leaves contains some chemicals that are commonly found in cigarette smoke and linked as a major factor in lung cancer. In response to this health threat and to better manage the waste stream, an ordinance may be developed to restrict open burning in densely populated, unincorporated areas.

The following communities prohibit garbage, leaf, grass and brush burning, while most allow recreational fires: Aurora, Bolingbrook, Crete, Frankfort, Joliet, Lemont, Lockport, Mokena, Monee, Naperville, New Lenox, Peotone, Plainfield, Romeoville, Shorewood, Steger, University Park, Wilmington, Woodridge. Waste Services and the Sheriff's Office commonly respond to smoke complaints where residents are burning landscape materials that can inflame respiratory ailments, such as asthma and emphysema. Residents of these areas may usually only burn dry twigs and logs for small recreational fires. Wet landscape materials should not be burned as they increase smoke and may cause increased respiratory irritation to neighbors.

Brownfields Programs – Brownfields are contaminated sites, not currently in use and that are hampered by real or perceived contamination problems; unable to generate tax revenue. They are in need of some remediation before being utilized as recreational areas or as productive tax-bases in the industrial and commercial sectors. Will County shall continue to be dedicated to facilitating the remediation of these sites.

The County, in partnership with the Village of Crete, was able to receive grant funding through the Illinois EPA's Brownfield Grant. This grant offers up to \$240,000 to provide Phase I assessment and Phase II work including remediation of contaminated property. The County will continue to oversee the remediation and completion of the grant funded project site in Crete. Finally, the County will encourage the development of the cleaned site, to put it to a beneficial use.

Waste Hauler Reporting – Since 1999 Will County waste and recycling haulers have been required by County Ordinance (Waste Hauler Reporting Ordinance #00-398) to report their total waste and recycling activity. The purpose of this ordinance is to ensure that Waste Services maintains accurate and timely waste generation, collection, and disposal records from Will County service providers. This data is then utilized to track the County's progress towards the waste reduction goals found in this Plan and the State of Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (415 ILCS 15/1 et seq.). This information allows the County to provide complete listings to residents and businesses of the service providers available. In addition, this data aids in the determination of adequate service supply and allows Waste Service staff to target areas that need service improvement. Given the fast-paced nature of the recycling markets, this tool is quite effective for a variety of reasons and will continue to be utilized.



WASTE REDUCTION & RECYCLING RECOMMENDATIONS

Curbside Recycling – Over the past fifteen years, an increasing number of Will County residents have been able to receive curbside recycling service. Most are serviced through municipal waste and recycling contracts that include curbside recycling as part of their waste service agreement. Some are residents in unincorporated areas that contract with haulers on an individual basis and request the service for an additional cost; while other unincorporated residents receive the service as a basic part of waste collection. However, even with all these improvements, there are residents that remain unable to contract for service or find the additional cost prohibitive.

Staff will work with unincorporated areas, through townships, subdivision associations and community groups to improve access to recycling, composting and disposal service. In addition, staff will offer “consulting” services to municipalities to assist them when they bid service contracts to ensure that garbage, recycling and landscape collection services continue to be offered and improvements in these services are considered.

Variable Rate Collection - Quantity-based waste collection programs provide economic incentives to reduce waste generation and disposal. In addition, these programs tend to provide rate equity in that waste generators pay for their service based on the quantity of waste requiring disposal, rather than a flat rate for unlimited quantities. Staff will continue to offer technical assistance to interested Will County municipalities to encourage the implementation of variable rate collection systems (i.e., volume- and/or weight-based collection systems, modified systems).

Traditional Recycling Drop-Offs – Recycling drop-offs that accept cardboard, chipboard, most fiber, glass bottles, aluminum and tin cans, plastic containers, and more are considered “Traditional Recycling Drop-Offs.” There are currently ten recycling drop-offs in Will County. Four are operated in partnership with the County and a host municipality or township. Waste Management, Inc. services one site through the County’s Prairie View RDF operating contract. The Village of Crete is home to the oldest Recycling Drop-off in Illinois and the Crete Lions Club operates it. The remaining four are operated by the municipality in which they are located. In rural areas, where curbside recycling continues to be poorly established and in urban areas where apartments and small businesses continue to find recycling service to be overly expensive or difficult to accommodate, due to parking space limitations, there is a need for more recycling drop-offs. Waste Services staff will examine such areas and work with other units of local government and the private sector to contractually supply recycling drop-off locations with the intention of establishing a countywide network of recycling drop-offs.

County Office (In-House) Recycling Program - Staff will continue to work with all County departments to maintain and/or expand the in-house recycling program established with County Resolution 02-537, which requires all County employees to recycle. A grant of more than \$50,000 from the State of Illinois in 2007 funded the expansion of collection containers in nearly every County office and allowed the Adult Detention Facility to install a cardboard baler to establish a cost-effective recycling program in this 24/7 facility as it nearly tripled in size. Emphasis will continue to be placed on diverting the maximum amount of the waste stream while ensuring ease of use. Waste Services will work with Building Maintenance and contractors to receive accurate record keeping and cost-effective service in all future county waste/recycling collection contracts.

Business Recycling Program – Over the years, commercial recycling has been growing, becoming a



more accepted part of doing business. It is common to see a cardboard baler behind several types of chain stores. However, at the same time, commercial recycling data collection shows a drop in the overall recycling rate. Staff has produced a Commercial Recycling Guide for Will County businesses. This guide offers new, existing and future businesses the ability to learn what recycling services are available and encourages businesses to competitively shop for affordable environmental services. Large businesses or high waste generating businesses (those using a compactor or requiring almost daily collection service) will benefit from assistance from the County, as staff can often explain ways to make recycling services more cost effective than pure disposal.

To increase business recycling, staff developed a Commercial Recycling Program, called “Recycling Works” that was launched at the end of 2006. This “free” program offers confidential personalized, on-site technical assistance to commercial, institutional and industrial establishments wishing to characterize waste, expand source reduction, reuse and recycling opportunities and implement waste reduction programs. It rewards members who reach various diversion goals and encourages them to speak about their recycling and waste reduction success at Chamber or other business meetings. In this manner, businesses learn from one another, which in some instances makes the message more acceptable.

When appropriate, staff will offer waste reduction workshops and distribute waste reduction-related information for businesses. Although previous intentions to improve business recycling were delayed, staff intends to focus on this waste stream in the coming years; working closely with area chambers, economic developers and recycling companies to establish sustainable programs for items such as: cardboard, mixed paper, fluorescent lights, electronics, oil, pallets, plastic wrapping, containers, and more. Should a community, chamber or group of businesses be interested in a single collection contract, staff will assist in creating commercial waste franchises, contracts or bid documents for waste and recycling collection.

Used Tire Management – Banned from Illinois landfills in 1992, whole tires are an interesting segment of the waste stream. Markets for shredded tires have grown to include uses in road bases, recycling into running tracks, play-area ground cover, horse arenas and tire-derived fuel that is blended with coal to produce electricity.

Although tire retailers are required to offer tire recycling to customers purchasing tires (Illinois P.A. 87-727), there is a fee for this service. Many citizens do not realize that they must pay the fee even if they choose to keep their old tire(s). The cost of disposal rises sharply for larger truck and farm equipment tires. Additionally, retailers are not required to take tires without the purchase of new tires; resulting in less disposal options for people with spare tires.



In 1997, Will County held its first tire recycling collection event. Over the 10 years since then, the County has hosted an additional 17 tire collections, allowing approximately 3,600 households to discard nearly 144,000 tires at no charge. The events have been paid for through County Solid Waste



funds or State EPA funds. These events offer free disposal to municipalities and townships for tires illegally dumped in their right-of-ways. They enable farmers to clean-up fields where the tires represent mosquito breeding grounds and fire hazards. These events give residents in economic need a cost effective alternative to illegal burning, dumping or disposal.

Waste Services will continue to periodically provide tire collection programs for County residents either independently or in conjunction with the IEPA’s Tire Cleanup Program. These events will continue to be open to all county residents as well as municipal public works and township highway departments. Will County will continue to assist businesses in locating disposal options for tires, but will not pay for the disposal of tires from businesses. A listing of tire retailers that accept used tires from the general public will be maintained and published in the Will County Waste & Recycling Guide, which will also be placed on the County Land Use website in PDF format. When necessary, Waste Services will update and print the tire management brochure for use on inspections and as an additional resource for the public. Whenever possible, Will County will work with the State and the private sector to develop additional end markets for used tires.

Book ReUse and Recycling Events – Since 1999 staff has organized and managed ten book collection events. These events have enabled nearly 3,500 residents, schools, libraries and others to drop-off outdated curriculum materials, encyclopedias, adult fiction and non-fiction as well as the ever-popular children’s books for reuse or recycling. Over the years, an estimated 100,000 books have been collected with 44% of those taken for reuse by participants and non-profit groups. With an average cost of \$1,000, these are the most economical events not aided by grant funds.



Most commercial, household curbside and drop-off recycling programs do not allow the recycling of hard or soft cover books but some processors are beginning to accept them. Although staff supports the expansion of this paper recycling service, the Book Collection Event encourages reuse prior to recycling as directed by the State of Illinois waste hierarchy and therefore this low-cost, tremendously popular event will be continued annually.

Electronics Recycling Events and Permanent Drop-Off Sites – Electronic items, such as CPUs, keyboards, hard drives, compact disc devices, typewriters, adding machines, telephones, stereo

components, speakers, cameras, VCRs, televisions and other similar devices began to be recognized as an increasing waste stream in the late 1990s. Since 2000 Waste Services has conducted nine one-day collection events at various locations throughout Will County targeting these materials. These events enable residents, schools and others to drop-off outdated or broken consumer electronic devices for recycling or proper disposal. (These events are NOT intended for the recycling or disposal of “white good” items.)



Over the last few years, the computer manufacturing industry has been under pressure to alter their devices, which have an average life span of only three-years thanks to ever increasing software demands and technological advances. Several national electronic retail chains and manufacturers



have recently begun recycling collections of their own for select electronic items. A few states have passed laws requiring manufacturers to take-back their equipment and federal legislation is being discussed. Staff encourages residents and businesses to ask manufacturers about take-back opportunities when they are purchasing new equipment.

Due to the nature of this waste stream, the lead, cadmium and other resources embedded within the devices coupled with the diverse nature of electronic products and the public’s ability to donate or simply store older working devices; it is unlikely that all citizens will benefit from any foreseeable manufacturing recycling requirements.

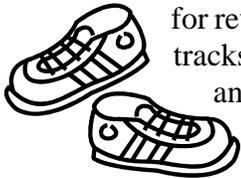
Additionally, in February of 2009, the Federal government will cease analog broadcasting and switch to digital-based broadcasting for television signals. Although a converter system is to be released, purchases of digital televisions to replace analog sets are expected to dramatically rise throughout 2008 and 2009. This will result in massive quantities of unwanted analog televisions. A recycling drop-off system that is available weekly, easy to use and conveniently located must be in place or the majority of these televisions will be put in the landfill.

In preparation for this, Will County began a permanent electronic recycling program in partnership with the Village of Bolingbrook, Channahon Township, the Troy Township Highway Department and Washington Township in conjunction with the Village of Beecher. These four sites opened in July 2007 and offer drop-off service anywhere from 10 hours a week to 24/7. These four locations accepted 154,460 pounds of computers, televisions,



microwaves, VCRs, cameras, printers and other electronic items in their first six months of operation. More locations are being sought. Continuation of one-day collections in areas lacking a permanent site, pursuit of private sector collection options and legislative action that may include manufacturer responsibility, shall continue to be pursued. Will County shall continue to provide electronic recycling to keep these items out of the waste stream.

Gym Shoe Collection – Over the past few years the Nike Corporation has been tentatively encouraging gym shoe recycling and several nearby counties have responded with collection events. In the Spring of 2006, Will County held its first annual event; offering five days of drop-off service at the County Administrative Building and partnering with several schools to collect athletic shoes throughout the County. A total of 840 pairs of shoes were recovered. Staff then split the shoes between Nike and a non-profit group called “Share Your Soles.” The shoes were primarily targeted for reuse and those unable to be reused, were recycled into athletic surfaces, such as running tracks. In the Spring of 2007, over 1,100 additional pairs of shoes were recovered for reuse and recycling. In the Fall of 2007, as part of the I-355 Grand Opening ceremony, the County offered Gym Shoe Collection stations at three locations along the tollway, marking the first time such a program was offered at a festival.



Staff has been very pleased with the success of this event and especially with the emphasis on reuse. However, as the number of shoes grows, the County is interested in partnering with the schools in a year-round collection effort that will result in students doing more sorting of reusable verses



recyclable only shoes. Staff will continue to highlight the program with a 5-day collection each Spring at the County Building. Additionally, staff will use this opportunity to remind all residents of clothing donation opportunities to encourage more shoe and garment reuse with a variety of vendors.

Education Center – Under the agreement with the operator of the Prairie View RDF, Waste Services has a room in the Scale House that can be used as an Education Center. Although originally the landfill site was to be the location for an office for all the Waste Services staff and the Education Center, it has been downsized to a conference room. This room has occasionally been used for government and community group meetings, as well as educational presentations. This room is now envisioned as a resource room; to be enhanced with photos, books, recycled product examples and more as resources and opportunities facilitate it.

However, there is a need for an Educational Center that can serve the entire county. The more densely populated areas of the county are not close to Prairie View. Likewise, staff offices are not suitable for tour groups. Often one grade of a public school numbers 60 or more children. Staff envisions a fund-raising campaign and intergovernmental arrangement with several public and private entities to create a Mobile Environmental Education Unit. This vehicle will offer hands on resources, be taken to schools, community groups, festivals and more. It shall include interactive exhibits on a variety of environment-related topics informative to the casual observer as well as the student. School and community groups will visit to learn about waste reduction, recycling and disposal issues. Matching funds may be sought from other public entities and private companies in return for sponsorship recognition.

School Waste Reduction Programs - Staff will continue to prepare environment-related programs specifically for school-aged children (K-12). The programs will be updated as needed, will be tailored to the specific needs of area schools and will meet the goals of the Illinois Learning Standards for elementary and secondary students. When possible, teacher workshops will also be conducted to fulfill their continuing education requirements. Staff will continue to periodically publish ENVIRONEWS for teachers, administrators and students. Handouts and assistance will be available on topics such as vermicomposting in the classroom, reduction of chemicals in the classroom, waste-free lunches, school composting and more.

Staff will continue to assist area schools participating in the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities' "Illinois Earth Flag Program." This program will continue to be tailored to meet the needs of area schools as well. Schools meeting ever-increasing environmental goals in waste reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, etc. will continue to be honored at an annual Earth Award ceremony.

Web-based Information Clearinghouse - The Will County Waste Services Division will continue to gather reference materials and informational handouts concerning source reduction and reuse, household hazardous waste, recycling and composting, as well as various disposal technologies developed by a variety of private, non-profit and public agencies. In the past, a library of information was developed but some hard cover materials became outdated. Staff has increased the amount of information offered through the website and will continue to develop a list of websites that offer additional information on environmental topics.

These materials will be added to the educational materials staff has already developed on a myriad of waste reduction and environmental topics, including proper disposal of tires, household hazardous waste, composting, alternatives to hazardous household cleaning items and commercial waste



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reduction. These materials will be updated and new materials will be prepared on an as needed basis. Future topics will likely include “buy recycled,” waste reduction, energy use, water conservation and pollution prevention. All materials will be made available to the public through the website, listed in the Waste & Recycling Guide and made available at some public presentations.

The website will continue to be expanded, not only listing special collection events, annual reports and links but, when the Educational Center Pathway takes shape, becoming home to a virtual tour of the Pathway. Residents, students and business people will be directed to the website for waste reduction tips, recycling and waste service information.

Public Education Programs - Staff will continue to develop and conduct educational programs for park districts, adult and community groups regarding waste reduction and other similar environment-related issues. Presentations by Waste Services shall be available to all public and private community groups on a first come, first served basis. These programs may include:

Earth Day/Arbor Day – Each year, Earth Day (April 22nd) and Arbor Day (last Friday in April) provide opportunities to partner with community groups to celebrate our environment. Waste Services will continue to publicize events and attend community celebrations, utilizing April as “Earth Month” to educate the public about recycling and other “earth friendly” practices. 2010 will be the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day with an expectation that additional activities will be held in several Will County communities simultaneously.

Will County Fair – Will County government will continue to rent exhibit space at the Will County Fair held annually in Peotone. The fair provides a great opportunity to educate residents and businesses about solid waste/recycling issues and listen to public concerns as it attracts 1,000s of visitors from throughout the County.

America Recycles Day – This nationwide event is celebrated on November 15th. The event promotes the importance of purchasing items made with recycled content. Over the years, staff has coordinated local events in conjunction with other programs at the state and federal level. Events have included shopper awareness programs at retail outlets and “green shopping challenge” contests. Staff will continue to offer various recycling awareness programs at this time of year; working with retail outlets to offer special displays on buying recycled materials and shopping contests as opportunities are available.

Backyard Compost Education – Staff will promote composting, mulching, vermicomposting or chipping as alternatives to burning and/or disposal for yard waste and specific food waste components. These events may include opportunities for residents to purchase compost bins. Staff will solicit partnerships with area park districts, schools, community organizations and “master gardeners” to assist with compost education throughout the year. Staff may also establish and maintain compost demonstration sites.

CD/DVD/Video Media – Staff will explore the opportunity to prepare and distribute public education materials on compact disc, digital or video formats. If found to be economical, these will be distributed to schools, libraries and public access channels to be played anytime, but promoted especially in April and November for Earth Month and America Recycles Day. They will also be given to residents at special events.



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Written Materials – In addition to the written materials already mentioned as part of the Business Recycling Program, the Public Education Program and the Information Clearinghouse documents, Waste Services will continue to provide:

Annual Report – Staff will continue to publish an annual report detailing the activities of the Division, the recycling rate of the County and highlighting the year's accomplishments and possible future endeavors.

Newsletter – Periodically staff has created, published and mailed a newsletter to County residents. The cost was prohibitively high as compared to other means of reaching citizens regarding timely topics and upcoming events. In the future, staff intends to rely on less costly methods of direct communication but is considering the publishing of a Website newsletter to provide the additional background some topics require.

Waste and Recycling Guide – Staff will continue to publish a comprehensive waste and recycling guide to inform residents about waste disposal, landscape waste and the myriad of recycling services available. The waste and recycling guide will be distributed to libraries, forest preserve offices and local government offices for further distribution. It will also be made into a PDF format and placed on the website (with website updates as required).

Waste and Recycling Pages - Due to budget and staff constraints the Waste and Recycling Pages was discontinued. This once annual guide was delivered to residents through the mail in an easy to read format. It gave information on upcoming events and offered photos of past events to both inform and entertain in the style of a newspaper. The Waste and Recycling Guide, printed in an 8.5x11 format and available in PDF format on the website, provides more information at a substantial savings. (It is not mailed to residents, but available at many public buildings.)

Procurement Policies - Staff will encourage various County departments to purchase recycled-content supplies (such as copy paper, business cards, calendars, note pads, toilet and tissue paper, etc.) whenever possible. Staff will also work to amend the County's Procurement Ordinance to favor the purchase and use of items manufactured with post-consumer recycled-content materials when performance standards, product availability and price are comparable to similar items made with virgin materials. Staff will keep up-to-date with Federal and State recycled-content procurement standards, while considering the addition of links to websites featuring various items made with post-consumer recycled content. Any formally adopted County procurement standards/ordinances may be shared with other units of local government within the County for their consideration.

In addition, as new county buildings are constructed/renovated, staff will encourage the consideration of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. The LEED standards were developed by the United States Green Building Council to improve energy efficiency, impact on the environment and use of recycled-content products within the building (such as tile, carpet, roofing material, etc.). They allow a building to earn points for different components with a goal of reaching a silver, gold or platinum rating for efficiency and environmental impact.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Management – Household Hazardous Waste consists of a



variety of products used in homes such as cleaning fluids, pesticides, lawn and pool chemicals, drain cleaners, oil-based paint, stains, varnishes, strippers, automotive fluids, batteries, medications, mercury containing lamps, thermostats and thermometers, etc. These items may cause fires, explosions, toxic gases or other unsafe conditions if placed in the regular garbage.

Since 1996, Will County has hosted or sponsored 47 HHW one-day collection events. As of 1998, the Prairie View operating contractor, Waste Management, has paid for at least two HHW events each year. In 1999 Waste Services began contributing annual funding to the first Regional Permanent HHW in the State of Illinois, located in Naperville. Additionally, Will County has been awarded several one-day events from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). In 2006, the City of Chicago opened a permanent HHW site in partnership with the IEPA. That facility does not receive any funding from Will County, but some residents that work in Chicago have utilized the site's services.



Collectively, the permanent drop-offs and one-day events have provided safe disposal/recycling service to over 33,000 residents. One-day events are held in different locations, providing local drop-off opportunities while enhancing public awareness; while the permanent site offers weekly drop-off service to residents that are moving, cleaning for a relative or otherwise unable to wait for a one-day event. These two programs compliment one another by providing year-round service opportunities.

Due to the success of these programs, Waste Services shall continue to offer one-day collection HHW events through the Prairie View RDF contractor and provide permanent site funding as budgets allow. Waste Services will continue to maintain applications with the IEPA to host IEPA-funded collection events, as appropriate. If possible, the County shall provide financial assistance to hold HHW collection events at other times throughout the year.

Staff will continue to include a listing of local businesses that accept some HHW materials from the public (i.e. motor oil, antifreeze, batteries). These resources shall continue to be listed in the Waste and Recycling Guide and on the website. Staff will maintain a list of dates of other HHW collection programs scheduled in the Chicago area in the event that Will County residents choose to attend.

Although approximately half of Will County 849 square miles are rural, much of the remaining portion is densely populated. Aurora, Naperville and Joliet are now the 2nd, 4th and 5th largest cities in Illinois with a combined population of over 465,000. Given the growing population throughout the County, the cost of driving and the need to offer convenient alternatives to hiding hazardous material in the garbage; staff will be evaluating the possibility of establishing an additional permanent HHW collection center in a location to better serve all County residents. The IEPA currently offers disposal cost funding to municipal and county governments to encourage more permanent Regional HHW programs. Lastly, as the owners of the Prairie View RDF, the more proactive Will County can be to keep hazardous materials out of the landfill, the less liability concerns are created.



As long as the City of Naperville's Regional HHW Facility remains a viable and cost efficient HHW site for residents of Will County, staff will endeavor to keep the facility open and accepting as many different types of HHW as possible. Financial contributions from local governments in Will County may be solicited to support the operation of Naperville's facility.



Medication Take-Back – In 2007 staff worked with the Illinois EPA to fund the County's first one-day Medication Take-Back in New Lenox. Nearly seven gallons of pills and liquid medications were collected as part of a Health Fair with assistance from the New Lenox police and a volunteer pharmacist. In September, four permanent Medication Take-Back locations were established in a public-private partnership with a Joliet pharmacy. All over-the-counter and non-DEA regulated prescription medications are accepted, along with inhalers and mercury containing medication devices

(thermometers and blood pressure gauges). An effort will be made to create more public-private partnerships with pharmacies in Will County to host permanent collection programs in a user-friendly and convenient setting. Additional one-day collections may also be held to increase awareness and serve areas without permanent locations as long as disposal funds remain available through the Illinois EPA

Used-Oil Collection – In 2006, a private oil recycling company offered a one-day used motor-oil collection to residents. While staff continues to list service stations that accept used oil from the public, often residents need outlets that accept oil and oil filters. Staff will investigate the possibility of implementing permanent used oil collection programs with municipalities and/or townships throughout the County.

Batteries – Will County has been partnering with the Crete Library for several years to collect household batteries. Staff will explore the possibility of expanding this program.

CFLs – Compact Fluorescent Light sales are surging. Each of these light bulbs contains a small amount of mercury that needs to be properly recovered when the bulb burns out. Will County will partner with the Forest Preserve to offer a drop-off for these items while encouraging businesses that sell these products to take them back.

Pollution Prevention – Staff will work with interested conditionally exempt small quantity generators (CESQG's) in the County to determine the quantity and composition of the CESQG waste stream. Depending on the need, Staff will distribute waste audit and other pollution prevention information to these businesses. In addition, staff will work with selected industries to target pollution prevention opportunities. The County will recognize and award businesses that successfully implement pollution prevention programs.

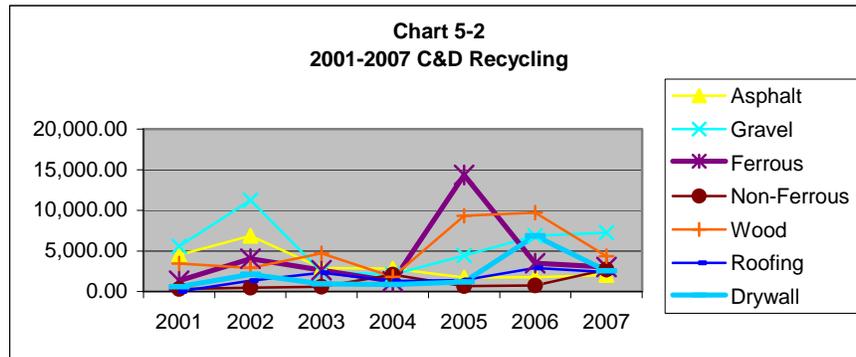
Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Management – Will County recognizes that anticipated growth in population over the next 20 years will result in increased generation of construction and demolition (C&D) debris. Staff will maintain current waste reduction programs for C&D debris and establish new programs as the need arises. Staff will:



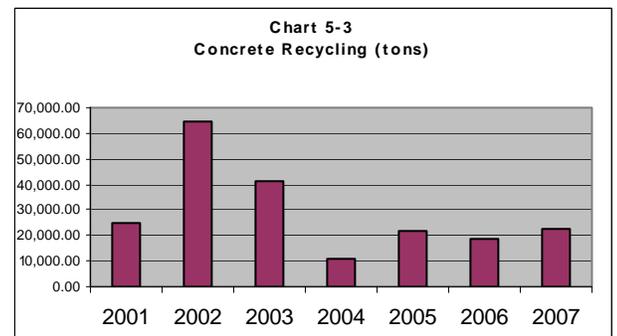
- Assist contractors, developers and waste/recycling service providers to locate outlets for or alternatives to disposal of C&D debris;
- Assist local and state agencies to maintain directories of C&D debris recycling opportunities;
- Develop educational materials and sponsor workshops to promote C&D recycling as necessary;
- Conduct on-site waste audits and provide practical solutions to C&D management;
- Assist service providers to expand recycling service availability and provide market development assistance;
- Maintain lists of grant opportunities to fund C&D management projects; and
- Maintain a C&D recycling facility at the landfill in conjunction with the operator, if economically feasible.

Over the past five years staff expanded the Builders Permit Reimbursement Program, designed to encourage recycling of C&D materials at the job site through a rebate on a portion of the builders permit fee. Staff found that market development in the C&D area is needed. This program was discontinued when funding became low, however other programs targeting C&D may be developed.

Staff has tracked C&D recycling through the semi-annual waste hauler reports (Waste Hauler Reporting Ordinance #00-398). Below are two charts showing some of the recycling of construction and demolition materials that has occurred from 2001 through 2007 as reported to Will County.



Current State law only allows general C&D recycling facilities in Cook and DuPage County with specific restrictions, however, due to increased construction in Will County, Waste Services staff shall pursue legislation that allows C&D recycling facilities (with certain restrictions) inside Will County.





POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Incineration as Long Term Disposal Option – Incineration for volume reduction and/or energy recovery facilities of any kind are not recommended components of the Will County Solid Waste Management Plan because of the relatively high capital costs of constructing and operating such facilities (resulting in tip fees that are more expensive than landfilling or transferring waste for proper disposal).

Landfill as Long Term Disposal Option - Since adoption of its Solid Waste Management Plan in 1991, Will County has found incineration to be more expensive than landfilling. Consequently, the County has consistently pursued the development of a County-owned, privately operated landfill. Following an extensive site selection process that evaluated potential sites throughout the County, a preferred site was identified on the property of the former Joliet Army Ammunition Plant.

Pursuant to the Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-106), the federal government conveyed a portion of the Arsenal property to the County for use as a long-term disposal facility. On March 4, 1999, the parcel was granted site location approval by the Will County Board (Ordinance #99-72) pursuant to section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/39.2).

The siting of this landfill, now named the Prairie View Recycling and Disposal Facility (RDF), culminated nearly 10 years of proactive, cooperative solid waste planning by the County, municipalities, elected officials, citizens, businesses, and the solid waste industry. Open for waste disposal on January 19, 2004, the Prairie View RDF will meet the waste disposal needs of the Will County Service Area (Will County and municipalities located at least partly in the County) for a period of 23 years, coinciding with a period of rapid growth within the service area. The Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) projects the service area population will grow to 1,827,798 people by 2030. That's a 51% increase over Year 2000 Census figures. The landfill is a crucial component of the public infrastructure that will be needed to address such growth.

Having sited a long-term disposal facility in accordance with the policies contained in the Will County Solid Waste Management Plan, the County has determined that there is no need for any new or expanded landfill facilities within Will County except as contemplated within the Host Agreements for the Prairie View RDF and the Laraway Recycling and Disposal Facility, which will result in the remediation of an environmental project approved by Will County. This policy determination applies to both new and expanded landfills and shall remain effective until such time as the Prairie View RDF has depleted its capacity or the County amends the Solid Waste Management Plan to indicate otherwise. Accordingly, except as specified above, the County has determined that no other landfills (new and/or expanded) are needed or desired within Will County.

Once it is determined that enough gas is generated at the Prairie View RDF; the County and its operator will consider the use of landfill gas for an electric plant, biodiesel or other emerging technologies that are economically and environmentally practical. Additionally, the County will assess whether to allow its operator to recirculate leachate at the landfill. Recirculation of leachate, if properly controlled, can provide additional gas generation and airspace. A bioreactor will not be considered unless the closure date for the Prairie View RDF is extended.

New and/or Expansions of Existing Pollution Control Facilities – The goal of the County's Solid



Waste Management Plan is to develop a comprehensive, integrated solid waste management system to accommodate the needs of the County for at least 20 years. Among the objectives of the plan is to comply with the statutes governing the siting of pollution control facilities, specifically section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/39.2), states that siting approval may only be granted if “sufficient details” demonstrating compliance with the nine criteria of Section 39.2 are included in siting applications. Therefore, in order to comply with this statute, and in order to ensure that sufficient information is presented on proposed pollution control facilities, applications for local siting approval to be located anywhere in Will County shall contain at a minimum the information detailed in Section 39.2 of the Act. It is the opinion of the County Board (based on a recommendation by Staff) that unless an application contains all the required information, the application is incomplete and does not contain the necessary information for the siting authority to adequately review and objectively rule on the proposed facility. Any siting application filed within Will County that does not contain all of the required information is inconsistent with the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan, and therefore inconsistent with Criteria 9 of Section 39.2 of the Act.

Any new or expanded pollution control facility seeking local siting approval anywhere in Will County (in order to be consistent with Criteria 8 of Section 39.2 of the Act) must negotiate a host agreement with the County prior to any determination of Plan consistency being made by the County. Host agreements with the County shall be for the purpose of:

- Outlining the type of pollution control facility and scope of operations at the proposed site;
- Indemnifying the County from possible future environmental liabilities;
- Compensating the County and other units of local government in the form of a host fee applied to each ton of waste received for processing and/or disposal;
- Compensating the Will County Land Use Department, Waste Services Division in the form of a host fee applied to each ton of waste received for processing and/or disposal to cover the cost of inspections, enforcement actions and other waste related activities performed by the Division;
- Compensate the County for costs related to road improvements and maintenance deemed necessary by the County, State or Local authority.
- Creating an Environmental Contingency Fund in addition to any such similar funds required by State law;
- Requiring approval of operation transfer by the Will County Board (based on a recommendation by Staff);
- Remaining capacity determinations (where applicable);
- Prohibitions on the acceptance of hazardous waste;
- Long-term disposal capacity requirements for non-hazardous waste generated in Will County;
- A property value protection program for adjoining properties;
- A domestic water well protection program for adjoining properties;
- Maintaining and/or improving local roadways affected by new/expanded facilities;
- Access to financial records;
- Development of procedures to enforce all host agreement provisions; and

The County may, at its option, waive any of the above requirements or suggest further requirements if it is determined to be in the best interest of the County.



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Open Door Policy – Any new and/or expanded pollution control facility located in Will County shall not exclude any participant in the local solid waste management marketplace from using the facility.

Transfer Stations – The County will not pursue the development of a County-owned transfer station, rather the County will allow the private-sector to develop a transfer station network as it deems appropriate and pursuant to the terms of the Host and Operating Agreement for the Prairie View RDF.

**WRITTEN COMMENT RECEIVED WITH A RESPONSE REGARDING
THE DRAFT WILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2001-2007
UPDATE**

On September 15, 2008 the Waste Services Division received via e-mail the following comment:

Although only able to scan through the Solid Waste Plan, I don't believe I saw any reference to individual, homeowner composting. Just as recycling has received forums focusing on public education and outreach, I believe similar efforts should be considered for composting. As I see it, we are fast approaching a time when our solid waste disposal options will require creative thinking and solutions. Composting is another alternative to sending materials to fast-filling landfills.

My comment would be for the county to consider some programs, similar to the recycling programs, which encourage and educate people on composting. The township of New Lenox actually offers low-cost compost machines; however, the community often is not aware of this resource and does not understand the value of composting. In a relatively short period of time, recycling has become a familiar part of life. Composting should be just as well understood and moderately accessible.

Thanks,

Michelle Majack

New Lenox

On September 16, 2008, Marta Keane, Recycling Program Specialist with the Will County Land Use Department provided the following response via e-mail:

Michelle,

Thank you for your comment on the Will County Solid Waste Plan Update 2001-2007. We appreciate and support your enthusiasm for composting. Please review the Public Education section of the Plan and you will find the following paragraph:

Backyard Compost Education: Staff will promote composting, mulching, vermi-composting or chipping as alternatives to burning and or disposal for yard waste and specific food components, these events may include opportunities for residents to purchase compost bins. Staff will solicit partnerships with area park districts, schools, community organizations and "master gardeners" to assist with compost education throughout the year. Staff may also establish and maintain compost demonstration sites. Also, we have a composting brochure and a Residential Guide on our website. <http://www.willcountylanduse.com/WasteServ/Residential%20Guide202008-Summer.pdf>

If you check page 10 and page 22 of the guide, you will find information on composting and vermi-composting. We believe that home composting is an inexpensive and environmentally preferable method of disposing of leaves, brush, weeds, grass clippings and even some food waste. Please check these resources and let us know if you have any additional suggestions for promoting home composting in our plan or in any other outlets.

On September 16, 2008, Michelle Majack provided the following response to Ms. Keane's e-mail.

Thanks so much! Had I read the plan more thoroughly, I would have noticed all this great info!