



# Jurisdictional Reports

## 2009

Jurisdictional reports are requested of all Potomac Watershed jurisdictions annually by the Alice Ferguson Foundation. They are presented at the annual Trash Summit held in the Washington, D.C. metro area, usually in the fall. For information about the Trash Summit, visit [www.TrashSummit.org](http://www.TrashSummit.org). All jurisdictional reports are available online at [www.TrashFreePotomac.org](http://www.TrashFreePotomac.org) and published in the Trash Summit Program Books.

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## Virginia

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Arlington County, Virginia

### Department of Environmental Services

Arlington County is pleased to present the following summary of the extensive programs we have in place to reduce trash and increase recycling, and educate residents about the trash issue. With the recent expansion of the County's recycling programs, and implementation of new programs such as the Adopt a Street program, measurable progress in reducing trash and increasing recycling has been made.

### Programs to Reduce Trash and Increase Recycling

#### *Residential Recycling*

In 2009, Arlington County greatly expanded the [curbside recycling program](#) to allow single stream recycling and to increase the types of materials that can be recycled. Acceptable materials include: plastics 1-7 (yogurt cups, margarine tubs), aluminum foil & trays, milk & juice cartons, paperback and hardcover books, rigid plastics (buckets, flower pots, toys), empty aerosol cans, plastic bags, and wire hangers.

The County replaced the smaller recycling bins with the new wheeled carts that hold larger quantities of materials, keep contents dry, and make it easy for residents to move materials to the curb. This cart has been electronically linked to each

address, with a radio frequency identification tag (RFID) to record the cart's identification number, date and time of collection. This tracks how many carts are set out on any given day and allows the County to target our outreach efforts and help better plan the collection routes.

Arlington County is also making it easier for residents to recycle electronics. Residents can request a curbside pickup of electronic materials for recycling, and the items will be collected for recycling on their recycling day.

*Commercial Recycling*

Every business and non-residential property is required by County Code to establish and maintain a recycling program to recycle the two materials it generates annually in the greatest quantities. Businesses must submit an updated Business Recycling Plan Form by February 1st of every third year, and disseminate educational materials to inform employees and business tenants about the program.

Arlington County has also encouraged business recycling through the [Saving Arlington's Valuable Resources \(SAVR\) program](#). Arlington County invites local businesses, multi family properties, and institutions to submit entries for its semi-annual SAVR Awards program. The SAVR Awards recognize outstanding achievements in recycling, waste reduction, and the use of recycled products in the commercial sector.

Arlington's Solid Waste Bureau implemented on street recycling on Columbia Pike by placing eight Victor Stanley recycling containers and integrated the recycling collection into the every day maintenance of Columbia Pike. Rosslyn Business Improvement District (BID) placed ten on street recycling containers and Crystal City BID placed fifty on street recycling containers.

*Litter Control Programs*

In 2009, Arlington County began the [Adopt a Street Program](#), which is designed to support litter control and storm water management throughout Arlington, while providing residents with an opportunity to do something positive for the community by volunteering to keep our neighborhood clean. Individuals or groups may "adopt" a specific section of road pledging to keep the street, curb, and storm drain free of trash and debris, for a commitment of 1 year with duties performed on a quarterly basis. In return, the Solid Waste Bureau provides free street cleaning supplies and sweeping debris pickup. The County has a goal of having 300 blocks adopted in the first year of the program.

In 2009, [Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment](#) organized 18 stream and roadside cleanups, collecting 345 bags of trash from Arlington's streams and roadways and the Potomac River. More than 440 volunteers were involved in these projects.

In urban areas like Arlington, where space is limited for regional stormwater facilities, street sweeping is one of the most cost-effective ways to remove the sediments, litter, and associated pollutants that accumulate on streets before they wash into streams.

<b>Material Collected from Street Sweeping Program</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Cubic yards of particulate matter collected</b>	<b>Residential lane miles swept/ # of cycles</b>	<b>Commercial lane miles swept / # of cycles</b>
2001	4,786	NA	NA
2002	6,380	NA / 4.5	NA /13
2003	6,901	10,082 / 5.26	6,760 / 13
2004	4,786	8,082 / 4.2	6,500 / 12.5
2005	5,744	10,265 / 6	6,049 / 11
2006	5,697	10,159 / 6	6,200 / 12
2007	5,409	10,261 / 6	6,000 / 11
2008	3,819	11,929 / 7	6,760 / 13
2009	3,072	14,910 / 8.75	7,410 / 14.25

## Stormwater Planning Division

- Floatables monitoring program – part of county’s MS4 permit
  - Brochures with Stream Cleanup Data Forms distributed at supervisor district offices, outreach events such as Celebrate Fairfax and Fall for Fairfax, etc.
  - Stream Cleanup Data Form and info on program on county web page:  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/stormwater/floatables.htm>
  - Cleanup data forms continue to be submitted & data tracked in Floatables database
- Part of interagency workgroup (including Stormwater Planning, Solid Waste, Wastewater, Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District and Clean Fairfax Council) addressing trash and litter issues.
- Currently developing stream cleanup data-sharing partnerships with the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Clean Virginia Waterways.
- Stormy the Raindrop - web page, coloring book encourage children to keep streams clean by not littering (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/stormwater/stormy/>)
- Anti-litter stories in two flood protection information newsletters mailed to 20,000 Fairfax County residents
- Various podcasts (picking up pet waste, litter, floatables monitoring program) aired on [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov).
- “Stream Health Action Steps” fact sheet which included anti-litter messages was distributed at fairs and other public events, and mailed to residents
- Anti-litter messages are included the several web site of the “Only Rain Campaign” (<http://www.onlyrain.org>), which is done in partnership with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission.
- Fairfax County anti-litter messages on Twitter.com
- Plans for an educational campaign about plastic bag recycling and encouraging use of reusable bags (to begin Fall 2009)
- A large anti-litter poster displayed at Fall for Fairfax
- Recent “Works for Us!” public works employee newsletters featured anti-litter messages related to stream cleanups

## Division of Solid Waste

- Recycling Education Efforts:
  - Exhibited at 8 community festivals and events.
  - Made presentations at 68 elementary, middle and high schools.
  - Provided a keynote speaker to 17 community-driven events (e.g. HOA meetings).
  - Provided speakers and exhibits to 8 local businesses for employee fairs/seminars.
- Recycling Activities:
  - Hosted 11 “Recycling Roadshows” – Fairfax County’s remote recycling events featuring personal document shredding/recycling, electronics recycling and CFL recycling.
  - Hosted 6 “Community Cleanup” events for the collection of household hazardous waste.
  - Hosted 11 “Electric Sunday” events – Fairfax County’s monthly collection event focusing on electronic waste such as televisions, computers and peripheral electronics.

## Fairfax County Park Authority

- FCPA RMD Watershed Clean-up, Oct. 18, 2008, hosted at six sites, 441 participants, 1102.5 volunteer hours, 9100 lbs, at least 158 bags (for largest collector site, 8,000 lbs, number of bags not reported.)
- FCPA RMD Watershed Clean-up, 447 participants, 21+ miles of stream, 16,035 pounds plus 9 cubic yard dumpster, 69 33-gallon bags of trash and 5 50-gallon bags of trash and recyclables.
- FCPA RMD Watershed Clean-up, Oct. 17, 2009, scheduled for 7 sites, poor weather resulted in cancellations at 4 or 5 sites. Data collection is not complete. For the data that we have, we had 39 volunteers, contributing 147 hours, collecting 450 lbs and 5 cu yds of trash.
- Recycling is now mandatory at all Fairfax County Park Authority staffed sites.
  - Hidden Oaks recycles about 10 c. yds./mo in plastics. 4 c. yds./mo in paper.

- : By the end of the junk mail project's first year, Frying Pan Farm Park reduced unwanted mail by 30 pieces and almost seven pounds per month. That's a 61% drop in the number of unwanted mailings and a 66% drop in material weight.
- Sully has 5 new recycling containers in addition to ones we already have. We continue to call companies who send us unwanted faxes and get them to take our names off the list. We are participating in the junk mail effort through the Park Authority.
- We use cloth dusting rags and wash them each week for collections care/ cyclical maintenance. We wash all tablecloths and kitchen cloths for our cooking programs. We mend (volunteers help us) table cloths and biscuit cloths instead of getting rid of them.

Prince William County, Virginia

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### **Activities from Summer 2008 to Fall 2009**

Prince William County Department of Public Works sponsored a total of 10 County Clean Ups from Summer 2008 to Fall 2009 at 6 locations across the county. Locations are evaluated for participation at the end of each calendar year.

Prince William County Department of Public Works supports a litter crew that works daily to keep our roads free of litter and illegal Popsicle signs. The litter crew has cleaned 1198 lane miles while removing 27,506 illegal Popsicle signs and 236.79 tons of trash. Public Works also supports 16 Adopt a Spot locations with trash pickups and sign placement.

Prince William Clean Community Council supports clean up campaigns in individual communities and for Adopt-A-Spot sites. Prince William County Department of Public Works supported the Council's 82 Adopt-A-Spot, Adopt-A-Stream and community clean ups.

The efforts of the Department of Public Works and the Clean Community Council are evaluated through a quarterly litter rating done by citizen volunteers. The rating system is from Keep America Beautiful with the rating of '1' being best. The county has an average rating of 1.57.

Prince William County Department of Public Works assists residents in keeping their yards free of trash and debris and ensures that homes meet local code requirements. This is accomplished through education, voluntary action and enforcement.

Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District sponsors a number of Adopt-a-Stream Programs. Adopt-a-Stream volunteers cleaned over 23.35 miles and picked up 30,769 pounds of trash in 2008.

Friends of the Occoquan sponsors clean ups along the Occoquan River in the spring and fall.

Prince William County Government has initiated its green efforts including recommendations in 11 key environmental areas including water quality, environmental spill and incident response, land conservation and open space, waste reduction and recycling and public education.

Prince William County Public Works sponsors an annual Youth Ambassadors Conference on the Environment. Water quality, waste reduction and community action are key topics.

Prince William County Public Works sponsors an Earth Day Festival (since 2004) to raise awareness about these topics.

Prince William County Public Works is sponsoring our community's Fall Into Action Campaign to encourage residents and businesses to assist with local efforts to protect the environment. We have partnered with a variety of agencies to recruit volunteers and support for their annual activities.

## Department of Transportation & Environmental Services

Congruent with the Eco-City Alexandria Initiative, the City performs actions that address the issue of trash in the environment.

The City of Alexandria unanimously approved the Eco-City Action Plan 2030 (EAP) on June 23, 2009. The EAP will serve as the road map for city leaders, staff, and citizens to implement the sustainability visions and principles set forth in Alexandria's Eco-City Charter. The EAP explains how Alexandria can lead the new green economy, address the challenges of climate change, and continue its high quality of life while decreasing the city's carbon and ecological footprints.

Of the 10 Charter Principles, the goals of Chapter 8 focus on Solid Waste by: "Recognizing that managing waste is a public health issue as well as a quality of life issue, Alexandria will maintain its well-preserved public image by managing, handling, and disposing of solid waste in an environmentally sustainable manner. Alexandria will manage waste as a hierarchy of uses....

- Priority One: Reduce
- Priority Two: Reuse
- Priority Three: Recycle
- Priority Four: Resource Recovery (e.g., Convert to Energy, Composting, etc.)
- PRIORITY FIVE: PROPER DISPOSAL

The City continues to participate in the AFF Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup and hosts other cleanups during the year throughout the City. During the period July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009, the City held the following cleanup events:

- 4/4/2009, PWC at Four Mile Run Park, 50 volunteers with 110 bags of trash
- 10/25/2008, Clean Virginia Waterways as part of International Coast Cleanup, Founders Park in Alexandria, 14 volunteers and 15 bags of trash
- 12/13/2008, Holmes Run Cleanup (old channel behind Beatley Library), 16 volunteers, 14 bags

### *Additional measures:*

- Requires the installation of stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) for development and redevelopment that remove floatables (trash) and other pollutants from stormwater. (There are approximately 400 BMPs currently in the City that are required to be maintained by the property owner.)
- Posted information related to our PWC2009 site and "Why Trash is a Problem?" on OEQ's website: <http://alexandriava.gov/tes/oeq/info/default.aspx?id=3698>
- Organized Storm Drain Marking Events to affix placards ("No Dumping Drain to Potomac River" and other local streams). 256 placards were placed on storm drain inlets by volunteers during the above period.
- Provided a consistent message of "Only Rain Down the Storm Drain" through participation in the Northern Virginia Regional Commission's Clean Water Partners seasonal campaigns (radio, search engine and social media) and onlyrain.org website.
- Handed out brochures related to proper disposal of Pet Waste and Everyday Activities Can Contribute to Stormwater Pollution.

## Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD)

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- Storm drain education that included litter and recycling messages
- FY 2009: 26 projects, 16, 412 residents educated, 2086 storm drain labels applied, 372 volunteers
- FY 2010 to date: 6 projects, 2,450 residents educated, 661 storm drain labels applied, 106 volunteers.
- Fall 2009 International Coastal Cleanup:
  - Created joint press release with FCPA about fall clean up events focused on 7 park cleanups on Oct 17.
  - This was picked up and printed by at least 4 newspapers.
  - Information printed in Solid Waste newsletter distributed to all parents of FCPS students.
  - Distributed info via district outreach avenues: i.e. website, calendar and Conservation Currents newsletter.
  - Info posted on stormwater web site.

## District of Columbia

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Washington, D.C.

### District Department of Environment

Since the summer months of 2008 the District of Columbia has taken important steps toward understanding the sources of trash in District waterways and is taking steps to abate trash pollution. The Anacostia River has been designated as impaired by trash, as a result much of the District's efforts have focused on abating trash in the Anacostia River. The challenge over the next year will be to scale up efforts in order to achieve greater reductions in trash loads, from District lands, that reach the Anacostia River, its tributaries and other District waterways.

In the past twelve months the District has undertaken the following activities:

- In December 2008 The District Department of the Environment published the Anacostia Trash Reduction Plan which outlines the types of trash impacting the Anacostia River and tributaries. The second phase of this study is currently underway and is determining the loading rate from various land use types within the District of Columbia Anacostia Watershed.
- The District Department of the Environment funded a project with the Anacostia Watershed Society to construct and operate an in-stream trash trap on Nash Run. Anacostia Watershed Society staff have maintained the trap, characterized the types of trash reaching the trap, and prevented significant amounts of trash from reaching Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens and the Anacostia River.
- The District Department of the Environment funded a project with the Earth Conservation Corps and the Anacostia River Keeper to install the Bandalong Floating litter trap on the tidal reach of Watts Branch, the largest of the District's Tributaries to the Anacostia River. The Bandalong Intercepts floating debris before it reaches the Anacostia River. The project also involves retrofitting catch basins that discharge to Fort Dupont Park with catch basin inlet screens and catch basin inserts. Most catch basins that discharge to the stream have been retrofitted.
- The District of Columbia City Council passed, by a super majority, The Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Act of 2009. This bill places a \$0.05 fee on all single use plastic and paper bags sold by liquor stores and food vendors in the District of Columbia. The proceeds from the fee are deposited in the Anacostia Restoration Fund which will provide funds for cleaning and restoring the Anacostia River. The District Department of the Environment has regulatory responsibility for the Act and is responsible for administering the fund.

- The District Department of Public Works Completed a study of street sweeping routes. The results of the study indicate that it is possible to increase sweeping route efficiency and provide additional time for sweeping in areas where there is significant trash loading.

## Department of Public Works

### *Commercial:*

DPW's Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP) continued to:

- enforce solid waste laws;
- preserve public space;
- deter vector harborage;
- reduce illegal dumping.

DPW's Office of Recycling continued to:

- enforce recycling laws;
- conduct workshops within Commercial Properties;
- attend inter-governmental committees and task forces (including the CY 2009 Chairmanship of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Solid Waste Committee).

### *Residential:*

Starting with a July 2008 press conference, the Department of Public Works, in conjunction with city's contracted processor, expanded the variety of materials collected from private homes receiving curbside and alley-way 32 gallon, *single stream* (commingled containers with paper products) carts. New materials include plastic bags (a persistent contaminant of local ecosystems and water ways) as well as aerosol cans, and plastic cups, tubs, crates and toys.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), E-cycling, and secure document shredding were also provided for residents on a weekly, drop-off basis at the two solid waste transfer stations, every Saturday, from 8am ~ 3pm.

The DPW Office of the Director released a 2008 Public Works Resource Guide describing the means by which all residents and visitors to the District may take advantage of existing DPW services.

### *Public Schools:*

The DPW Office of Recycling assisted DC Public Schools Office of the Chancellor in developing a framework for the systematic establishment of school recycling programs. A major component of the partnership with the Office of the Chancellor was the training of four college graduates via a summer internship with the Office of Recycling. This internship gave individuals the opportunity to visit professionals and facilities across the region in order to get a truly comprehensive and interactive knowledge of material consumption and disposal. In return, these interns committed to working, still unpaid, with the public schools to coach representatives of sites' Green Teams.

Green Teams will establish:

- Targeted materials for separation;
- Placement and labeling of containers;
- Movement of materials between classroom bins and school yard dumpsters;
- Staff/student promotions, measurement schemes, and competitions.

### *Public Buildings*

The Department of Real Estate Services (formerly known as the Office of Property Management) continues to facilitate recycling in District government buildings via monthly meetings organized by the Government Building's Employee Recycling Program Coordinators.

DPW's SWEEP division has initiated its own Green Team to identify opportunities to reduce resource consumption and/or hazards, and promote relevant new policies and behaviors among staff members.

### *Public Space*

DPW In partnership with the Capitol Hill and the Downtown Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), facilitated servicing recycling collection receptacles from public sidewalks. To support this program, DPW conducted a workshop for dozens of Downtown BID Service and Maintenance (SAMs) employees.

### *Community Events*

Event organizers interested in receiving solid waste and recycling receptacles and service, or educational guidance on best practices, may call the Office of Recycling to fill out a service request or discuss implementation concerns for their event.

## **Maryland**

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### **Prince George's County, Maryland**

Prince George's County has intensified efforts to achieve a litter free community in the Potomac River watershed by working with the Alice Ferguson Foundation. We have mobilized our staff volunteers in the field and have asked county residents to create a beautification and litter control program facilitated by county agencies. Participation in our program enables residents to demonstrate their community pride by taking part in removing litter from a portion of the county that they adopt such as neighborhood, parks, roads, streams and streets. Citizens with strong commitment to litter-free communities are encouraged to adopt areas in their neighborhoods. Prince George's County volunteers continue to make ongoing commitments to clean up and control litter in the county.

### **Major watershed clean ups and public outreach**

1. Prince George's County organized and supported 21 community clean-ups from Summer 2008 to Summer 2009.
2. Achieved the removal of more than 30,500 illegal signs and 4,350 tons of litter and illegal dumping in the public right-of-way thru county and contracted crews from July 2008 to date.
3. Provided logistical support and coordination for three (3) County Executive's Livable Communities Initiative Annual Countywide Spring & Fall Community Clean-up events since April 2008 with over 3700 volunteers participating and the disposing of more than 66 tons of litter.
4. Through "Keep Prince George's County Beautiful", the County runs several outreach programs that include the "Cigarette Litter Prevention", "Litter Free Schools" (with the public school system), and "The Great American Clean-up".
5. Outreach and education also remains an integral part of the County-wide and community clean up program.
6. Annual 21<sup>st</sup> Potomac Watershed Cleanup of for April 4, 2009. Prince George's county partnered with Alison Ferguson Foundation to supply six Roll-off containers and provided waivers at the landfill for trash collected during the clean-up. In Prince George's County, the clean-up netted 44.745 tons of trash.
7. Annual Earth-Day /Anacostia Watershed clean-up scheduled April 18, 2009. County partnered with the Anacostia Watershed Society by attending all logistical meetings. Prince George's County supplied two Roll-

off containers and provided waivers at the landfill for trash collected during the Earth Day clean-up. Trash picked up on that day amounted to 59 tons.

8. Department of Environmental Resources (DER) partnered with the county's Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T) to organize two (fall & spring) county area-wide clean-up where county residents volunteered to clean public spaces within their neighborhoods
9. Annual Earth-Day clean-up. The Department of Environmental Resources partnered with Lower Beaver Dam Citizens Association and the Anacostia Watershed Society. Two Roll-off containers were supplied for this clean-up. Date of this clean-up was April 26, 2008.

### **Technology and Trash Management in Prince George's County**

The County has resorted to technology to enhance the management of trash within its jurisdiction. The following technological tools are being utilized by the County:

1. Trash Net Systems to trap trash in streams. Currently these trash nets have been installed at Flagstaff Street in Kentland, Ray Road/Talbert Lane in Chillum, and automated trash screens at Colmar Manor and Bladensburg Pumping Stations;
2. Single Stream Recycling facility at 1000 Ritchie Rd. in Upper Marlboro. This new approach facilitates recycling because it minimizes the need to sort recycling materials. This technology has made recycling easier because residents dump various recycling items in one container. The result is that recycling in the County has jumped up by 25%.
3. The County has also acquired technology recently that makes it possible to recycle rigid plastics like chairs and tables at its Material Recycle Facility.
4. The County's Department of Public Works and Transportation also uses street sweeping vehicles to pick up trash on the streets.
5. Through the Illegal Dumping Task Force, the County has installed cameras at undisclosed locations to catch those who dispose of trash illegally. At least 20 individuals have been fined.

Montgomery County, Maryland

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### **Litter Enforcement**

Montgomery County Police, and other metro-area law enforcement agencies strictly enforced existing litter laws. All those who live, work and travel in Montgomery County are reminded that throwing or dumping items onto any public highway or property (other than personal property) without the owner's permission is illegal. Anti-littering and dumping laws include:

- **Maryland State Law CR 10-110** states that littering or dumping of items under 100 pounds is a misdemeanor and carries a penalty of up to \$1,500 and/or 30 days in jail. Prohibitions against littering or dumping of items over 100 pounds are also spelled out.
- **Maryland Motor Vehicle Law 21-111** states that it is illegal to drop or place an injurious substance on a roadway. It is also illegal to throw, deposit or discharge refuse from a vehicle onto the roadway. A citation can result in a fine of up to \$140 and two points. A littered substance that results in injury carries a penalty of up to \$280 and three points.
- **Montgomery County Code, Chapter 48, Section 11** provides both criminal and civil violations against dumping or littering on property and roadways. A criminal violation carries a penalty of up to six months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine. A civil violation carries a penalty of up to \$500.

### **Street Sweeping**

Street sweeping is used to both keep streets looking clean and also to remove trash and litter, road salt, sand, and grit applied to roadways during the winter. These sweeps in turn prevent the pollutants from reaching local waterways.

- In FY2009, an estimated 3,000+ tons of dirt, sand, and debris will be collected, thus providing protection for priority watershed areas.
- The Department of Environmental Protection has identified priority watershed areas, in which the arterial roads are swept ten times per year in the program.
- 3,950 curb miles will be swept, including the sweeping of about 87% of our roadway system.
- Residential roads are swept once from March 16 through June 30, weather permitting.

### **Storm Drain Marking**

Montgomery County provides “No Dumping” markers for citizens who want to post them on local storm drains. This is intended to remind residents that storm drains are *not* trash cans. When pollutants like motor oil, household hazardous liquids, or plastic bags get dumped down storm drains they contaminate the water and impair the biotic communities in our waterways. This program is used by community and watershed groups, scouting groups, and other citizens and helps to raise awareness of the connection between street and stream.

### **Illegal Dumping and Spill Management**

The Department of Environmental Protection’s Code Enforcement division investigates all reported incidents of illegal dumping. Illegal dumping is defined as the act of depositing solid waste at an unapproved facility including: disposing trash in dumpsters or containers which are not owned by the person depositing the material, disposing of trash in roadways, fields, wooded areas, stream valleys, parklands, or any other unacceptable locations. Hosing leaves or grass clippings into storm drains is considered illegal dumping. An Illegal Dumping Hotline is advertised to citizens: 240.777.DUMP.

### **Storm Water Facility Maintenance Program**

Storm water facilities like ponds, sand filters, and underground storage structures help protect our waterways by removing pollution, recharging groundwater, protecting stream banks, and keeping roads and properties from flooding. In order for these facilities to work properly, inspection and maintenance is essential. The owner may transfer the responsibility for the structural maintenance of a stormwater facility to Montgomery, but the owner retains responsibility for picking up trash and landscaping maintenance. In turn the County conducts annual inspections and maintenance including removing trash which impedes the proper function of the facility by blocking inlets and outlets.

### **Transit Service Trash Management**

During FY09, the County's Ride-On Bus Services spent over \$433,000 for trash management at the Ride-On sites. The contractor, Maryland Environmental Services picks up trash, 3 times in a two week period, from bus stops and sheltered locations in the County. In 2008, Transit Services trash collection included 419.13 tons picked up from 650 stops in the county; this includes regular stops with a trash can and sheltered locations with trash cans. This collection number does NOT include trash in the Cities of Gaithersburg or Takoma Park. It does include City of Rockville, as we were still providing trash pick-up for them until the end of 2008.

### **Adopt-A-Road**

Montgomery County's Adopt A Road program has more than 750 volunteers regularly cleaning road segments in an effort to Keep Montgomery County Beautiful.

### **Solid Waste Services/Recycling**

This Division within the Department of Environmental Protection is responsible for trash collection, for regulating trash drop-off, and for recycling programs including education and outreach to meet the County’s goal of recycling 50 percent of total waste generated, and recycling enforcement. Collecting residential and business trash in a secure location prevents

it from blowing or floating around as litter. In FY2009, the Division continued to make progress toward the goal of recycling 50 percent of the county's waste. The overall recycling rate in the county rose from 43.2 percent in FY07 (528,187 tons) to 44.3 percent in FY08 (553,501 tons). In the commercial business sector alone, recycling increased from 37.3 percent recycled in FY07 to 40 percent in FY08.

Despite the national economic downturn, the Division found markets for a significant number of additional materials and made them economically viable for County-wide collection. The County now also accepts durable/reusable plastic containers, tubs, lids, pails, buckets, and flower pots across all population sectors. Single-family households can now also recycle aerosol cans, durable/reusable plastic containers and lids, as well as coated paper, including milk and juice cartons, frozen food boxes, ice cream containers and lids, paper beverage and coffee cups, wax-coated fruit and produce boxes, and juice/drink boxes.

The County significantly expanded the electronics recycling program. The County added televisions and other consumer electronics to the previously existing computer recycling program. Currently, over 150 tons a month of computers, televisions and other consumer electronics are safely recycled through the County program.

During FY09, the County continued to conduct model outreach, education, and enforcement programs to increase awareness of recycling benefits. Staff members participated in 313 outreach and education events, providing 36,255 people with assistance and information on recycling. They conducted 11,057 on-site consultations to businesses, organizations and government facilities, providing technical assistance, hands-on guidance, and specific recommendations on setting up, maintaining, and expanding waste reduction and recycling programs. They increased investigations and enforcement efforts to ensure compliance with Montgomery County recycling regulations.

The County increased the number of active volunteers in the Recycling Volunteer Program. These volunteers provide assistance to educate others on the benefits of and need to recycle. Together, they contributed 1,248 hours of direct service with an estimated value of \$31,188.

During FY09, the County distributed 5,802 compost bins to residents. Along with the bins residents also received training and instructions on how to properly backyard compost and grasscycle to manage grass and leaves at the source. This helps to prevent the problem of people hosing down yard trim materials into storm drains.

#### Charles County, Maryland

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- Potomac River Cleanup
- Community Clean-ups
- Adopt-A-Road Volunteer Litter Pick-up Program
- Adopt-A-Spot Volunteer Litter Pick-up Program
- Hazardous Waste Collection 9xs/year
- Electronic Recycling Program
- Environmental Education: School and Civic Associations, Landfill Tours, Literature, Source Reduction, County Fair
- Fall 2009 cooperative effort with Charles County Public Schools, the Charles County Fair Board, and Coca-Cola Enterprises to increase recycling in Charles County. CCE donated recycling barrels to schools, the fair grounds, and to Charles County Government for use in public venues.
- Weigh Tickets
- Number of Presentations Requested
- Number of Landfill/Recycling Center Tours Requested

List of activities/actions that your jurisdiction has participated in and completed this past year (Summer 2008 to Fall 2009) to address litter including ways to:

### **Reduce trash and increase recycling.**

#### *Litter Cleanup Project(s) / Parking Lots / Roadsides*

At least one full-time employee is dedicated exclusively to the cleanup of litter along the roadsides, in City parking lots, in our parks, around the lake and our various recreational areas, and at the two recycling areas.

#### *Recycling Projects*

Greenbelt's Department of Public Works promotes and collects an expanded list of recyclables from the various City buildings, parks, and from City residents. The City is proud of its recycling average of above 52% by the citizens.

Public Works sponsors quarterly Electronics Recycling events whereby the collection of computers and miscellaneous electronic equipment averages about 14 tons per year. These items are contracted to a reputable recycling company for proper disposal. At these events Public Works is also collecting batteries, CFLs and Expanded Polystyrene.

Yard waste materials from citizens and City land are recycled each year. In October of 2008, 600 tons of yard waste materials were ground into mulch that the citizens can then use in their gardens.

Public Works co-sponsors with the Greenbelt Credit Union two Shred-It events to properly dispose of and recycle sensitive materials. Local citizens and business are encouraged to participate in this free event.

#### *Resource Recovery*

The department arranges for a charitable organization to conduct regular collections of household items, furniture, and clothing. The City provides space within one of its parking lots for these collections. This service is provided at no cost to the charitable organization.

#### *Community Cleanups*

The Department of Public Works sponsors at least two Community Cleanup events each year whereby citizens, schools, scout troops, etc. are encouraged to participate. The volunteers are provided tools, gloves, trash bags, snacks and water. Recyclables are separated and disposed of properly.

### **Increase education and awareness of the trash issue.**

#### *Environmental Education*

In addition to numerous speaking opportunities to various citizen groups in the City about environmental issues and new technology, the Department of Public Works creates a display case at the Community Center, once a year, for one month, highlighting the benefits of reducing, reusing, and recycling. The City of Greenbelt mails refuse and recycling information to its customers and publishes it annually in the City newsletter.

### **Evaluate and measure your actions addressing the trash issues.**

The City of Greenbelt weighs the amounts of recycling produced by curbside, yard collection and electronics recycling. Our next goal is to have a recycling rate of 54%.

## Frederick County, Maryland

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Between the summer of 2008 and the fall of 2009 the Frederick County Department of Solid Waste Management greatly expanded its recycling program. The changes included:

1. The Board of County Commissioners set a goal of a 60% waste diversion rate by 2025.
2. Switched from dual stream to single stream recycling system (no more sorting of materials by residents—the easier it is, more people will do it!)
3. Added more than 17,000 households to existing collection routes, so that all single-family homes in the county now have curbside recycling service available.
4. County purchased and distributed (at a cost of approximately \$3.5 million) more than 65,000 wheeled, lidded, large-capacity recycling carts for single family homes,.
5. Implemented new technologies, including RFID chips embedded in all recycling carts so that the county can gather better data about residential participation rates, and new collection and materials transfer procedures that ensure accurate measurements of what is collected across the county.
6. Expanded the range of materials accepted for recycling. New items include: bulky items (like plastic lawn furniture), aerosol cans, plastic bags, wide-mouth plastic containers, etc.
7. Began a Commercial Recycling Program that provides technical assistance to local businesses and encourages waste reduction for workplaces and organizations.
8. Began pilot program for recycling at public events (such as community festivals).
9. Hired new outreach staff to communicate with and educate media outlets and the public about waste management issues.
10. Ramped up outreach and education efforts regarding waste diversion—composting, reusing materials, recycling a broad range of items (including electronics, automotive materials, textiles and more) and source reduction—to encourage residents to create less waste in the first place.

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