

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT

Introduction

Since we all generate waste, it is necessary for all of us to assume an active part in comprehensive solid waste management. Because the changes in solid waste management proposed in this plan will require all of us to change our habits whether at work, at play, or at home, education must assume a major role. Citizens must be adequately educated as to the need for these changes, the reasons for changes, and methods for taking individual positive action towards achieving our waste management goals.

Hall County and its municipalities are dedicated to educating its people about the necessity of caring for our environment. The aim is to educate citizens to become more responsible and progressive in an effort to reach the 25% waste reduction goal and go beyond. While it is evident that a great number of resources have been utilized, many still remain untapped. Four general categories of resources (organizations, facilities, media, and special programs and promotions) are addressed in this section.

Inventory

Organizations

Solid Waste Plan Implementation Committee (PIC)

The purpose of the PIC is to assist in developing and implementing the local comprehensive solid waste plan. Its membership includes one representative from each local government (elected official or staff); one representative from Georgia Mountains Regional Development Center; and seven “at large” representatives (citizens, elected officials, staff, cooperating agencies) for a total of 15 members. Cooperating agencies include Cooperative Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Georgia Department of Transportation, Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce, Keep Hall Beautiful, and Elachee Nature Science Center. Other duties include surveying public opinion, analyzing options, and giving direction to local officials.

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Keep Hall Beautiful

Keep Hall Beautiful is the local certified affiliate of the national Keep America Beautiful System, as well as, the local affiliate for the Keep Georgia Beautiful program under the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Keep Hall Beautiful consists of representatives from public and private sectors from all parts of the County. The organization promotes a clean environment by educating citizens through various programs and media about recycling and other solid waste issues. Eight subcommittees function in the organization: Adopt-A-Stream, Beautification, Education, Finance, Membership, Public Relations, Strategic Planning and Volunteer Projects.

Keep Hall Beautiful has recognized several needs associated with waste management. There is a need to teach more youths and adults about solid waste management as well as motivate them to become involved in programs such as litter clean up and recycling. There needs to be an increase in the number of schools that compete for the Environmental Achievement Award given to schools who satisfy seven specified criteria promoting a clean environment.

Keep Hall Beautiful provides a unique opportunity for public involvement with its Vehicle Litter Incident Report. This takes the form of a self-mailing, postage-paid brochure that residents can fill out when they observe someone littering from a vehicle in Hall County. The program is in partnership with the Hall County Sheriff's Office, who upon receiving a completed report form sends a letter with specifics on the observed incident to the registered vehicle owner. While not being legally enforceable, the procedure puts the alleged violator on notice that people are watching and care about preventing litter.

There are a number of other programs employed throughout the County to promote waste reduction and recycling. A listing of various programs or events is as follows:

- Cell Phone Recycling
- Adopt-A-Road
- Kidney Car
- Mule Camp Springs
- Great American Cleanup

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- Crimes Against the Environment Workshop
- Waste In Place
- There's No Such Thing As Away
- Unkempt Properties
- Keep Hall Beautiful Work Crew
- Appliance and Furniture Pick Up Week

Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce is a local organization of businesspeople dedicated to promoting commercial and industrial interests within the community. The chamber provides support to the local business environment and makes a positive contribution to the greater community. The chamber has recognized the connection between quality of life issues and economic development as evidenced by its past support of the Clean Hall Task Force and the committees below.

Greater Hall Chamber Environmental Management Committee - This Chamber committee is active in pursuing environmental, health and safety issues pertaining mainly to the business community. It provides members to the EnviroShare Team. It continues to organize educational opportunities in the form of workshops and seminars of interest to businesses. The committee has recently branched out to the general public by assisting with a household mercury collection program in partnership with Hall County Resource Recovery Division.

Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee -The Chamber Beautification Committee works together on planned projects to promote enhance and assist in the plans for beautification. Each subcommittee selects projects that are implemented through the committee. Periodic beautification awards are presented in various categories ranging from residents to businesses.

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Hall County Code Enforcement Division

The Hall County Code Enforcement Division is a certified law enforcement agency that enforces County ordinances and State laws relating to a variety of disciplines including but not limited to property maintenance and environmental issues.

Clean & Green; City of Gainesville, Public Works Department

Clean & Green is a new city program as of February 2004. The major goal is to first maintain, then enhance the major arterial roadways into Gainesville, Georgia.

Community pride and involvement are key elements of the Clean & Green program. Using existing plantings and litter pick up arrangements, the initial plan is to provide basic maintenance as well as explore enhancement possibilities.

Friends of the Parks

“Friends of the Parks” is an organization committed to promoting beautification through greenways and through ongoing beautification efforts to parks, trails, entrances and other Gainesville common areas. Interested citizens, take part in programs such as “Adopt a Bed”, “Honor someone you love by the purchase of a park bench or tree” and “Park Rooters.”

Lake Lanier Association

“Operation Shore Sweep” is an annual event held each spring and fall for the purpose of cleaning-up Lake Lanier’s shoreline. The Lake Lanier Association coordinates a large number of volunteers to pick-up litter along the shore. Hall County Government typically supports the effort by allowing disposal of collected materials at its landfill free of charge. Volunteer groups compete for prizes by trying to collect the largest amount of litter. Music and food are part of the festivities afterwards.

Georgia Mountains Regional Development Center

The Georgia Mountains RDC coordinates the Regional Environmental Issues Action Committee, which was formally known as the Solid Waste Action Committee. Solid waste management issues still serve as the backbone; however, the name change reflects a broadened scope. Future activities are expected to reflect this broadened scope. This committee plans meetings and informative tours of area solid waste facilities and projects

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for the Solid Waste Task Force, which is composed of elected officials, administrative staff and solid waste staff of this 13 county region. The committee plans and conducts educational meetings on an as needed basis, catering mainly to the aforementioned representatives of local government.

School Environmental or Recycling Clubs

There are a number of environmental clubs at schools throughout the planning region. Such groups can provide a structure for in-depth learning about solid waste management. Their efforts should be duly noted within the overall plan and technical and professional assistance be provided when and where needed. This would increase student awareness and hopefully increase student involvement.

Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts

The area Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are organizations that can provide assistance with various projects and are looking for presentations on solid waste topics. Anniversary celebrations and other functions represent opportunities for disseminating solid waste information to children and adult leaders alike.

League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters is active in promoting and sponsoring informational forums and other public meetings to foster understanding of topical issues, increase public awareness and educate the public on solid waste issues.

Cooperative Extension Service

The Cooperative Extension Service is dedicated to increasing public awareness and participation in a host of issues relating to solid waste and topics of consumer interest such as backyard composting and household hazardous wastes.

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)

The AARP may represent a largely untapped resource of volunteers that could be involved and should be recruited for assistance in solid waste educational activities.

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Other Organizations

To identify human resources that could be used in educational programs, a community resource survey could be developed and mailed to the following types of organizations listed in the Chamber of Commerce Club/Organization Directory:

- * Youth Organizations (Boy Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, Girls, Inc., 4-H, Junior Achievement)
- * Church Organizations and Groups
- * Civic Organizations (Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, Optimist, etc.)
- * Professional/Business Organizations
- * Nature/Environmental Organizations

The Media

Radio

Local English and Hispanic radio stations might be used to air more public service announcements and advertisements regarding recycling and other solid waste events. A study of airing these public service announcements and ads during peak listening times may help. Submitting plenty of announcements in a timely manner is in order. Interview shows provide another radio format that has and should see additional use.

Television

TV-18, the joint effort between the City of Gainesville and Hall County, provides a ready and free outlet for information dissemination. This outlet has been used in the past and will continue to be used to air public service announcements and ads of educational elements that are best illustrated visually and to reach an additional audience. A series of public service announcements about plastics recycling could be aired to educate people about the various resin codes. A talk show could be conducted to introduce different segments of waste management.

Press Conferences

Press conferences may be a useful way of disseminating information to the press in a manner that allows two-way communication and confirmation of details. Two-way

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communication increases the accuracy of public information regarding solid waste management programs. Press conferences should be held to unveil new programs or major changes to existing programs.

Paid Advertisements

When it is imperative that specific information be relayed to the public, paid advertisements can provide that such information is presented and in a specific way and as accurately as possible. Paid advertisements should be used on an as needed basis.

Newspaper

News articles are a staple in getting information before the majority of the public. Waste management officials need to coordinate with Gainesville's local English and Hispanic newspapers, in reporting accurate and timely information about special events such as "Appliance and Furniture Pick up Week" etc., or in relaying important information such as recycling site locations.

A key editor or reporter should be assigned by the newspapers to attend Keep Hall Beautiful meetings to serve as a liaison to the newspapers and have first-hand knowledge and accurate information pertaining to publicity goals. Another idea might be to identify one newspaper representative from each newspaper who could take responsibility for all Keep Hall Beautiful public service announcements and ads.

Newspapers can also be used to publish inserts in conjunction with special events such as Earth Day to educate about solid waste management, or environmental fairs to publicize the event and educate, or to print articles by the Natural Resources Coordinator.

Interviews

Interviews of key people involved in solid waste management activities may be used in radio, television or print media to provide a format that would give detailed information to the public.

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Exhibits, Display Boards, Information Booths

Displays, exhibits and information booths may be used to reach people missed by other local media. There are many opportunities in the planning region for setting up displays, exhibits and information booths. Some of these include the Annual Home Show, Earthfest at Elachee, and Mule Camp Market. This type of media should be placed in public places and staffed by Master Composter/Recyclers and/or Keep Hall Beautiful members, etc.

World Wide Web

Use of various web sites such as the official sites of Hall County, EnviroShare, City of Gainesville, Keep Hall Beautiful and others may be useful at reaching those that have access to the Internet.

Special Promotions & Programs

Graffiti Hotline

The "Graffiti Hotline" is a program, whose goal is to continually reduce the number of occurrences by giving citizens a way to report graffiti locations. Volunteer groups, officially authorized to remove graffiti will receive information regarding graffiti on private property and make arrangements for removal with the property owner. Boys and Girls Clubs remove graffiti on public property using the county and city manpower and equipment.

Adopt-A-Stream

Adopt-A-Stream is a program with a three-part focus: To monitor water quality both chemically and biologically, to clean up streams, and to educate the public on the importance of good water quality. At this time the local Adopt-A-Stream program has twenty-one groups who have volunteered to adopt a one-mile stream segment.

Bring One for the Chipper

"Bring One for the Chipper" is a Christmas tree chipping program intended to show people the varied methods for waste reduction and to treat wastes as resources. Involved parties include the Hall County Resource Recovery Division, Keep Hall Beautiful, Hall

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County Road Maintenance Division, City of Gainesville's Department of Sanitation, and some other municipalities in the planning area. Free mulch is provided to area residents. The program should be expanded to increase public involvement.

Hispanic Community Needs

Due to the county's considerable Hispanic population, consideration needs to be given to this segment of the population and the communications difficulty resulting from the language barrier and cultural differences. Hall County has done a good job of producing bi-lingual publications related to solid waste management. However, there appears to be a need for more and perhaps, personalized, one on one communication. There are areas of the planning region known to be problem areas of concern as to potential solid waste code violations.

The idea has been proposed of offering a targeted sweep of such areas and providing free assistance in removing problem waste materials. This would be somewhat similar to the Appliance and Furniture Pick Up Week but more targeted geographically.

The intent of this program would not be a show of the heavy hand of a regulator or government but an effort to provide a concentrated effort to provide needed assistance in alleviating problematic conditions. Such a sweep approach has been conducted in Athens, Georgia with success. The effort would involve many groups and agencies, such as, but not limited to, local Hispanic organizations, Keep Hall Beautiful, Hall County Department of Public Works, Gainesville Department of Public Works and the citizens in the neighborhoods themselves. The goals of the sweep program would be an improved quality of life in the particular neighborhoods and the planning region and a lessened concern of potential code violations.

Recycling Contests

Recycling contests have been used in some areas to increase awareness of and participation in recycling. Some curbside recycling programs have a contest component. Usually, they take on the form of selecting a household's trash at random. The trash is

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sorted and if no recyclables are found, cash or other incentive reward is given. Such programs have been somewhat effective; however, once started they must be continued or risk lowering participation levels.

Local Recycling Awards

A local awards program was developed by Keep Hall Beautiful but has taken a hiatus the last two years. An awards program should be created for area businesses and/or individuals who are doing a good job of waste reduction. The Chamber of Commerce should be consulted in creating the business program and Keep Hall Beautiful in creating the program for individuals.

Home Composting Demonstration Site

The planning region has access to the regional home composting demonstration site located at Elachee Nature Science Center.

In order to maximize exposure and to connect home composting with source reduction efforts, mini demonstration sites could be established at each county compactor site. Instructional signs similar to those at the regional site could be used and displayed each compactor site.

Facilities

Elachee Nature Science Center

Elachee Nature Center is open to the public and serves to educate visitors about nature and the environment. Elachee provides environmental education as a contracted service to Gainesville City Schools and perhaps others. The facility is utilized for its indoor/outdoor meeting and demonstration space, and as stated previously, Elachee hosts the area's Home Composting Demonstration site.

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Hall County Library System

One goal is to utilize display space available in the library's lobby. Keep Hall Beautiful and Hall County Resource Recovery or other interested groups could possibly design and set-up displays.

Hall County Recycling Center

Hall County is currently operating a recycling center at a county owned facility at 1008 Chestnut Street. The goal is to further develop, expand and publicize the operation by providing educational tours of the facility.

Solid Waste Management In Times of Disasters

Weather-related or man-made disasters may result in quantities of wastes requiring special operations. The severity and manner of a disaster will dictate how the planning region will react with respect to solid waste management functions. A localized, less severe event that might generate debris, could be dealt with by the affected local government on its own. However, a more severe or widespread event dictates activation of a countywide response.

Hall County has a plan entitled "Hall County Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Plan", which outlines disaster preparedness. Hall County and all the municipalities in the County have adopted a "Local Government Resolution for Emergency Management", which places coordinated emergency management functions with Hall County, as the lead, through the Emergency Management Agency Director.

The County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated in times of disasters, as declared by the Chairman of the Hall County Commission, the Governor of Georgia and/or President of the United States. As of the writing of this plan, the EOC would be housed in the Hall County Fire Services Headquarters on East Crescent Drive or the Fire Services Training Center on Allen Creek Road. Sometime late in 2004 a new facility is planned to be operational, which would not only serve as the EOC, but also provide offices for Hall County Fire Services and Hall County Public Safety.

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Debris Clearance

“Hall County Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Plan” provides a comprehensive listing of area personnel and equipment resources residing in the private and public sectors. The private sector suppliers include construction and transportation contractors. The public sector suppliers include Hall County, City of Gainesville and City of Oakwood.

Hall County Public Works Department maintains information relevant to disaster response in a manual entitled “Emergency Support Functions for Hall County Public Works”. This is a subset of the larger Emergency Operations Plan that contains areas of responsibilities organized by division within Public Works. These divisions are Engineering, Road Maintenance, Traffic Engineering, Solid Waste, Fleet Maintenance, and Resource Recovery. Also included is a detailed roster of equipment and personnel with contact information, certifications, licenses, training and skills. This manual provides anyone responding to a disaster with the needed resources, whether in the field or office, to begin to adequately address the situation.

The first priority in responding to a disaster is public safety. For the most part this means taking the measures necessary to make any blocked roads passable. It is most important that public safety vehicles have access for emergency response. Once emergency response for provision of public safety has been addressed, then general clean up can begin. One caveat to this would be that in times of man-made disasters, agencies such as the GBI or FBI might have jurisdiction that supersedes the County’s. For example, the need to preserve evidence could halt or alter clean up efforts.

Waste Reduction/Processing

Hall County has an air curtain destructor that is used to burn clean, untreated wood, which is basically limited to trees and parts thereof. There have been times, such as the March 20, 1998 tornado, that an additional air curtain destructor was rented from private sources. When possible, these are set up on public lands, such as public school property, but can be set up on private property under the proper emergency situation and at the

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directive of the EMA Director. These are operated by Road Maintenance personnel and, in times of major disasters, on a round-the-clock basis.

An annual open burning ban, which takes effect each May 1 and continues through Sept. 30, makes burning, even with an air curtain destructor, an unacceptable option five months out of the year. The ban covers the original 13 counties that comprise the Atlanta Ozone Non-attainment Area and 32 additional counties that surround the Ozone Non-attainment area, including Hall.

The county has also employed contractors to grind woody debris. This was done in the case of the county's last major ice storm in spring of 2000. This storm event produced an estimated 12,700 cubic yards of processed wood mulch. After this mulch was produced, it was stored in two large piles for a period of months until the County contracted with another contractor to remove the wood mulch. The contractor hauled the vast majority of the mulch to a composting operation outside of Hall County.

The RFP also called for approximately 700 cubic yards to be hauled and dumped at the Smithgall Arboretum located at Lakehill Drive and Cleveland Highway (Rt. 129) on the north side of Gainesville. This still developing project could perhaps provide a future outlet for mulch.

Based on this experience, this approach could be followed again with some modifications. It would likely be less costly to employ a single contractor to handle both grinding and removal of the wood mulch, as it should reduce mobilization costs. Also, caution should be used when storing large amounts of wood mulch, as spontaneous combustion can result. Fires, so started, are difficult to completely extinguish.

Collection

Collection will be dependent on the particular circumstances of the disaster. In less severe cases, wastes may be self-hauled by residents and/or local government staff; in more severe cases, private contractors may haul wastes. In these more severe cases, it is

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assumed that there would be official state and/or federal disaster declarations for which there would be financial aid available to cover the higher costs associated with employing private contractors. Staging areas may be used for the temporary storage of waste prior to processing and ultimate disposition. In all cases, it is anticipated and recommended that the staging areas be staffed.

For disaster clean up for which reimbursement is available from federal/state sources, Hall Co. Road Maintenance Division would keep detailed records of any disaster related clean up including types of equipment used, size, horsepower, name of operator, tons hauled to disposal and disposal location(s). This Division has past experience in this due to managing the clean up from tornadoes and ice storms that have struck the County in the past.

Suggested Policies/Procedures Governing Staging Areas

The basic intent of disaster mode operations is to clean up debris resulting from the recent disaster as opposed to “opportunistic” wastes that individuals, seeing an opportunity, might unfairly take advantage of to dispose of non-disaster related wastes. This is designed to help guard against further stretching already over-extended resources. Also, certain disaster declarations may carry with it funding assistance for clean up, which rightly ought to be used for its intended purpose.

In light of the above, staging areas should be staffed. Staff at staging areas should have the following duties:

1. Direct residents to dump debris in the proper location.
2. Try to keep the debris pile as compact as possible rather than having it spread out over a large area.
3. Monitor the site to ensure non-storm debris is not dumped illegally. If bagged garbage or other unacceptable items are brought in, they should be directed to use the Hall County Landfill or compactor sites (bagged garbage only).
4. Keep waste types separate when advantageous and practical to do so, e.g., tree sections that could be used for firewood. Some wastes, such as yard trimmings,

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can't be disposed of in lined landfills, such as the County's Candler Road Landfill, and should go to inert landfill. Hall County's experience with disasters has shown that waste separation tends to work better at staging areas as opposed to out in the field.

5. In cases of disaster funding, assist in keeping required records for cost reimbursement.

Potential Debris Staging Areas

The following is an outline of the staging areas that could be used in the event of an emergency. It seems that heavy rains always accompany these severe storms. Therefore, these selected areas are paved or graveled. The areas around Lake Lanier would only be used as a last resort and then only with inert debris. These areas would have priority in getting them back to normal with the assurance that any damage caused by equipment would promptly be repaired.

Hall County

1. Parking areas at Hall County parks
2. Cleared area behind Road Maintenance Division offices off Barber Road

Gainesville

1. Ivey Watson parking area
2. Alta Vista complex.
3. Free Chapel Church parking area.
4. City of Gainesville's Industrial Park West
5. Chattahoochee Golf Course parking area and the County Club area.
6. Dunlap Landing Park (if needed as a last resort).
7. Wessell Park.
8. City of Gainesville's water treatment facility on Crepe Myrtle at Valley Drive off Riverside
9. American Legion's parking area.
10. Enota School parking area.
11. City Park and the Civic Center.
12. Georgia State Patrol Post on Cleveland Highway
13. Area behind Regions Bank at the old Sherwood Plaza Shopping Center.
14. Club on MLK at Downey.
15. Airport on Aviation

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Gillsville

The City of Gillsville does not have any maintenance staff. Any clean up effort would be performed by individual property owners, volunteers who offer their services and County/State personnel who might be assigned to assist.

City Park, located on County Line Road approximately 2 miles north of town could be used for the storage of debris.

If the need arises to set up a local Command Center, Gillsville has a Community Center building in the City Park, which could be made available.

Oakwood

Graveled parking area for the Oakwood Community Center located at the corner of Railroad Street & Allen Street.

Clermont

Clermont Park located across from Concord Baptist Church

Flowery Branch

None listed

Lula

None listed

Collection Contingency Strategy

In the event the normal collection infrastructure were disrupted due to any disaster, the following would guide putting in place contingency waste collection.

Normally, due to bidding procedures that must be followed by the public sector when purchasing goods and services, this process could take upwards of a month. However, given an emergency situation, the local governing body can waive normal bidding procedures to expedite the process of putting a collection contract in place.

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For those local governments that contract with private haulers for collection (Flowery Branch and Gillsville), they could simply contract with another hauler serving the planning area (see appendix).

For those local governments in the planning area that provide collection services directly (Clermont, Gainesville, Lula, Oakwood, and Hall County), contracts for service would have to be developed. Sample contracts could be obtained from within the planning area to use as a model in developing these.

The estimated time it would take to put such collection measures in place is 24 to 48 hours.

Disposal

Disposal options are dependent on the type of disaster generating the waste and the areas affected. In agricultural areas, an event such as the most recent tornado that struck Hall County, Hall County was permitted to dispose of livestock on site by burying, but this option depends on specifics such as number of livestock involved, size of the property, distance to streams, water, etc. At times, on-site disposal is the preferred method. This should always be done with the agreement of environmental regulatory agencies.

Tornados, being indiscriminate, can generate an impossible to predict hodge podge of materials. This mixture may at times be intertwined and impossible or impractical to separate. The burning of mixed materials is not possible, even at times not prohibited by the open burning ban. When possible, the materials should be disposed of in a C and D landfill as these are often less costly than MSW landfills. Also, since yard trimmings are often a large component, the material may not be disposed of in MSW (lined) landfills.

Disposal contingency strategy

The planning region is known to be served by the following facilities:

1. Hall County's Candler Road Landfill, Hall County (MSW);
2. RTS Landfill and Recycling Center, Hall County (C and D);
3. Crystal Creek Landfill, Hall County (inert);
4. BFI Richland Creek Road Landfill, Gwinnett County (Flowery Branch);
5. Chambers R & B Landfill, Banks County (Gillsville); and

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6. White County Transfer Station (Clermont)

In the event the normal means of disposal becomes interrupted due to any disaster, the following procedure would be used to provide for interim disposal of solid waste. If the RTS Landfill were to become disabled, construction and demolition wastes generated from within the planning region could easily be diverted to the Candler Road Landfill for disposal until such time as the RTS facility could be brought back on-line. In fact, the Candler Road Landfill could easily handle C and D waste from the planning region on an ongoing basis.

Should the Crystal Creek Landfill become incapacitated, its waste could easily be diverted to RTS Landfill. It could not, however, be diverted to the County's lined landfill, as least with respect to the yard trimmings portion.

The most crippling impact would be the disabling of Hall County's Candler Road Landfill, since MSW is most highly regulated. Hall County could contract, on behalf of the planning region, for temporary disposal capacity. Given an emergency situation, the Hall County Commission could vote to waive normal bidding procedures to put in place this temporary contract for out-of-county disposal capacity at an MSW landfill.

The affected local governments could handle hauling to an out of county facility, such as nearby Chambers-R and B Landfill or BFI-Richland Creek Road Landfill on a short-term basis.

For those local governments relying on private out-of-county facilities, should their elected disposal option become incapacitated due to a disaster, they could simply elect, once again, to use the Hall County's landfill.

The estimated time it would take to put contingency disposal measures in place is 24 to 48 hours.

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The EOC provides the hub from which internal and external (public) communications would originate. The Emergency Management Director would communicate public information through the Public Information Officers of Hall County and/or City of Gainesville. Pertinent information may also be released by governing officials as the situation dictates (Refer to Appendix PUBLIC INFORMATION EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION).

Noteworthy disaster events often garner the attention of local, state and national news media. It is important that the media get its information from a few official sources. These are listed above.

With such events being the focus of much public attention, it's been Hall County's experience that public involvement, i.e., securing volunteers to assist with recovery, is not a problem. Quite the contrary has been the case. Often, too many volunteers create a situation requiring their management, lest they become unmanageable, counterproductive and slow the very recovery they are trying to assist. The sheer numbers can create a dedicated management need (Refer to Appendix VOLUNTEER SERVICES EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION).

Needs/Goals

The above-mentioned programs should strive to ensure that sound waste management practices and procedures are brought to the general public's attention.

1. Citizens need to be educated regarding efforts that may be implemented in the household to reduce waste generation. The Hall County Resource Recovery Division should coordinate this educational program. The county should support the continuance of state funding, through the State's Solid Waste Trust Fund for education and enforcement in regards to solid waste management. When the funding mechanism

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sunsets, Hall County should lobby, through ACCG (Association County Commissioners of Georgia), for renewal.

2. Targeted outreach to the Hispanic community via neighborhood sweeps.
3. The Solid Waste Plan Implementation Committee should continue to advise government regarding public opinion and views of entities potentially affected by solid waste management goals contained in this plan. Membership should be re-energized with new goals.
4. Students and schools need to be involved in the educational process regarding solid waste management.
5. Keep Hall Beautiful should assist Resource Recovery in increasing the number of presentations on solid waste management issues to schools and youth organizations.
6. A speaker's bureau should be formed to make educational presentations to professional, business, civic and church organizations.
7. Increase public awareness and participation in the Christmas tree chipping program.
8. Increase public awareness of the littering problem in the planning area.
9. Educate Boy and Girl Scouts about solid waste management issues.
10. Conduct forums or debates on solid waste issues.
11. Work with Cooperative Extension Service in educating the general public.
12. Utilize the time and talents of American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).
13. Continue and expand corporate education program, in conjunction with EnviroShare, to target heavier users of disposal facilities to help them seek out and find alternatives for

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their solid waste disposal. Conduct workshops and meetings for businesses, industries and institutions regarding solid waste issues.

14. Citizens need to be educated regarding efforts that may be implemented in the household to reduce waste generation. Hall County Resource Recovery Division should coordinate this educational program.

15. Hold workshops for training teachers on how to educate their students about solid waste management issues.

16. Hold environmental fairs at local colleges (student union/cafeteria) to educate college students, faculty and staff about solid waste and teach them how they could become involved.

17. Utilize seasonal educational opportunities such as Earth Day and America Recycles Day as an opportunity to focus on solid waste education.

18. Provide the public with more education on household hazardous waste (alternatives) and source reduction. One item of local concern to the planning area is the issue of marine fuels. Due to seasonality of boating on Lake Lanier, such fuels are prone to fuel instability and deterioration during storage. These effects can harm performance in service and cause damage to the fuel system. Fuel filter plugging, injector nozzle fouling and combustion chamber deposits are typical problems. Educating boaters on the need to add fuel stabilizers before winter storage could be helpful.

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