

Glascocock County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 2008-2018



CSRA Regional Development Center
January, 2008



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CSRA Regional Development Center

For:
Glascok County
City of Edgehill
City of Gibson
Town of Mitchell

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Chapter 1: Introduction



1.0 Introduction

Planning and implementing systems to effectively manage solid waste is a vital responsibility of local government. State government primarily serves a regulatory role in solid waste management, implementing regulations adopted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resource's Environmental Protection Division.

Major shifts have occurred in solid waste policies and regulations in the past two decades. A higher level of community involvement has resulted from residents recognizing the impact of solid waste on quality of life issues. Their efforts, combined with state policies, led to more waste reduction education, monitoring of illegal dumping, and expanded curbside recycling services. City and regional planners are also more aware of the effects of solid waste to the overall planning system and have incorporated these issues into the comprehensive planning process.

In the regulatory arena, the state and federal government have implemented more stringent criteria for the siting, design, construction and operation of solid waste facilities, driving regionalization of the solid waste collection and disposal infrastructure. As Georgia communities continue to close municipal solid waste facilities and rely on private sector disposal options, the regulatory role of local governments is expected to increase.

The *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act* of 1990 requires local governments take steps to address solid waste management issues. The development of a solid waste management plan provides local communities with the opportunity to consider pressing issues.

1.1 Background of Solid Waste Management in Georgia

In 1989, the Georgia General Assembly passed SB 103, creating the Joint Solid Waste Management Study Committee to analyze the status of solid waste management statewide and to make recommendations for a comprehensive revision to the 1972 *Solid Waste Management Act*. The findings and recommendations in the study committee report were drafted as legislation and introduced as an administration bill in the 1990 session of the General Assembly as SB 533, the *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act*.

SB 533 (the *Act*) provides a framework to manage solid waste at the local and state level. The first step in implementing the *Act* is the development of the *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan*. The purpose of the State plan is essentially threefold:

- To present a status report of solid waste management in Georgia;
- To set forth the state strategy for reducing and managing solid waste; and,
- To establish the procedures and criteria for local/regional solid waste plans and other components of local/regional solid waste management strategy.

The *Glascok County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* represents the next step in the planning process and includes data in seven topic areas that are considered critical components of the solid waste management planning process. These include:

- Waste Disposal Stream Analysis
- Waste Reduction Element
- Collection Element
- Disposal Element
- Land Limitation Element
- Education and Public Involvement Element
- Implementation Schedule

1.2 Local Government Roles and Responsibilities

The *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act* requires each local government to develop a solid waste management plan independently or collectively. The *Act* deems it necessary that these plans provide assurance of adequate solid waste disposal capabilities for at least ten years from the date of completion of the plan; the documentation of adequate collection capabilities for at least ten years from the date of completion of the plan; enumeration of solid waste handling facilities as to size and type within the plan area; and identification of sites which are not suitable for solid waste handling facilities based on environmental and land use factors.

The *Act* prevents the issuance of permits, grants, or loans for any solid waste facility and/or equipment not consistent with an approved solid waste management plan.

The *Act* also requires annual reporting requirements on:

- The amount of solid waste collected, processed, and disposed of in the plan area;
- The progress, toward the reduction in solid waste generation since the previous reporting;
- The remaining permitted volume capacity of disposal facilities;
- Existing recycling and composting activities;
- Public information and education activities conducted; and,
- Any other pertinent information as required by the state.

The planning requirement is aimed at assessing solid waste management systems statewide and provides an opportunity to review the efficacy of existing laws and regulations. Annual reporting requirements are met by local governments through the completion and submittal of a “Solid Waste Annual Survey and Full-Cost Report” to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

1.3 The Planning Process

The content and planning process in this *Plan* conform to *Chapter 110-4-3 Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management* of the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Each of the five core planning requirements (waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education & public involvement) includes sections on inventories, assessments, needs and goals. This *Plan* updates the *Glascok County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* that was adopted in 1993 and amended in 2005.

A working committee composed of solid waste experts and officials from Glascock County and the cities of Gibson, Edgehill and Mitchell was formed to help direct the planning effort. The working committee assisted with required technical data and served as policy liaisons with their respective elected leadership. Furthermore, as required by the solid waste minimum planning standards, two public hearings were held in Glascock County on June 12, 2007 and September 25, 2007 to elicit community input on solid waste needs and goals, and the final draft. Community input was assessed by the working committee and incorporated into the *Plan*. Finally, neighboring local governments and state agencies were sent copies of the plan for review and comment.

1.4 How to Use this Plan

The *Glascock County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* is intended to serve as county/city policy and a reference point for potential users. A number of companion planning documents should be used in conjunction with the *Plan*. These include:

- *Glascock County Joint Comprehensive Plan*
- DNR Environmental Planning Criteria
- Local, State and Federal Plans, Rules and Regulations

Regulations and plans are frequently amended and updated. It is the user's responsibility to contact the appropriate county/city building, planning, public works or engineering department for the most up-to-date regulatory and planning documents. Please refer to the disclaimer at the beginning of this document concerning the use of data and information.

1.5 Description of the Planning Area

Glascock County and the cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell are located in east-central Georgia. Gibson, the county seat and the center of Glascock County, lies roughly 33 miles west of Augusta. The county and municipalities are members of the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center located in Augusta. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Glascock County is considered to be located in the Augusta Economic Area – suggesting that the health of the county economy is most directly tied to the economic conditions of metropolitan Augusta-Richmond County.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Glascock County lies almost entirely within the Sand Hills Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) of Georgia. A very small portion of the county is located in the Southern Coastal Plain MLRA. The Sand Hills MLRA topography is rolling to hilly and the elevation ranges from 350 to 500 feet above sea level. The soils are primarily derived from marine sands, loams and clays and are considered to be infertile and droughty.

U.S. Census Bureau information suggests that in 2000, Glascock County was home to 2,556 persons. This figure only saw a slight increase from the 1990 census, when the population was 2,357. Population data for the Glascock County's three municipalities show that they have seen little to no growth since 1990; however, the number of households in the county grew from 867 in 1990 to 1,004 in 2000. Annual estimates

I N T R O D U C T I O N

prepared by the Census Bureau suggest only a slight growth rate for the county and municipalities through July, 2006. Service-providing and goods-producing jobs account for a large percentage of civilian employment of Glascock County residents – accounting for 32.1 and 33.6 percent respectively.

Chapter 2: Waste Stream Analysis



2.0 Introduction

The Waste Disposal Stream analysis provides an inventory of waste stream generators – such as residential, commercial and industrial uses, construction and demolition debris (C&D), etc.; the types of waste they contribute to the waste disposal stream (e.g. paper, plastic, metal, etc.) and an estimate of these various components as a percentage of the total waste stream.

This information will guide local government decision-making regarding current and future solid waste management service and facility needs. In addition, the data will provide the basis for creating, implementing, and sustaining programs to assist the State in achieving a reduction of the amount of municipal solid waste disposed state-wide.

2.1 Waste Stream Generators

Data from the *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan* illustrates that a steadily increasing tonnage of waste is being disposed of in municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills. Likewise, the state’s MSW landfills are also serving as a repository for waste generated out of state.

Table 1: Waste Disposed in Georgia MSW Landfills (1994-2004)

Year	Tons Per Year			Pounds Per Person Per Day		
	Generated in Georgia	Imported	Total	Generated in Georgia	Imported	Total
1994	7,083,345	138,946	7,222,291	5.55	.11	5.66
1995	7,534,790	149,481	7,684,271	5.77	.11	5.88
1996	7,062,499	160,000	7,222,499	5.28	.12	5.40
1997	7,753,072	172,150	7,925,222	5.66	.13	5.79
1998	8,832,259	193,819	9,026,078	6.31	.13	6.44
1999	8,928,747	453,875	9,382,622	6.24	.31	6.55
2000	9,213,264	511,472	9,724,736	6.17	.34	6.51
2001	9,785,329	893,651	10,678,980	6.55	.60	7.15
2002	9,282,913	950,779	10,233,692	6.05	.63	6.68
2003	9,937,787	1,197,686	11,135,473	6.38	.76	7.14
2004	10,282,942	1,633,182	11,916,124	6.38	1.01	7.39

Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan (2005)

As illustrated in **Table 1**, the per-capita disposal rate of Georgians increased by almost 15 percent between 1994 and 2004. Since 1999 however, the disposal rate of individual Georgians – excluding imported waste – has fluctuated. Regardless, a comparison of the 2004 tonnage disposal rate with the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2004 state population estimates suggests that Georgian’s annually dispose of over 1.15 tons of waste per person, or 6.38 pounds per person per day.

2.2 Waste Characterization

The *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan* indicates that in 2004, Georgia facilitated the disposal of 11,916,124 tons of waste to municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills (including imported waste). The plan indicates that one-third of this amount is actually waste that is not defined as municipal solid waste - almost 4,000,000 tons. While some variations of the definition exist, “municipal solid waste” can be described as: “Solid waste from single-family and multi-family residences (including septic tanks); and from businesses such as retail, offices, restaurants, warehouses, grocery, hotel/motel, and institutions such as schools, universities and government buildings.”¹ Municipal solid waste does not include agricultural waste, sludge/bio-solids, mining waste, or waste generated from silvicultural or industrial/manufacturing activities or processes.

Table 2: CSRA Waste Characterization Analysis			
Paper		Organics	
Newspaper	6.9%	Yard Waste	3.0%
Corrugated Cardboard	8.5%	Wood (non-C&D)	1.3%
Office	1.9%	Food Waste	14.0%
Magazine/Glossy	2.6%	Textiles	6.1%
Paperboard	5.4%	Diapers	2.8%
Mixed (Other Recyclable)	3.2%	Fines	2.7%
Other (Non-recyclable)	7.0%	Other Organics	1.3%
Total	36.0%	Total	31.2%
Plastic		C&D	
#1 PET Bottles	1.6%	Drywall	0.1%
#2 HDPE Bottles	1.1%	Wood	1.3%
#3-#7 Bottles	0.3%	Inerts	1.0%
Expanded Polystyrene	2.0%	Carpet	0.2%
Film Plastic	8.4%	Other C&D	0.5%
Other Rigid Plastic	4.2%	Total	3.2%
Total	17.6%		
Glass		Inorganics	
Clear	2.2%	Televisions	0.1%
Green	0.8%	Computers	0.1%
Amber	1.6%	Other Electronics	0.8%
Other	0.5%	Tires	0.0%
Total	5.1%	HHW	0.5%
		Other Inorganics	0.7%
		Total	2.1%
Metal		Total	
Steel Cans	1.8%	Paper	36%
Aluminum Cans	0.9%	Plastics	17.6%
Other Ferrous	1.4%	Glass	5.1%
Other Non-Ferrous	0.8%	Metal	4.9%
Total	4.9%	Organics	31.2%
		C&D	3.2%
		Inorganics	2.1%
		Total	100%
<i>Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study (2005)</i>			

The *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan* uses data derived from the *Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study* to identify the type of waste that is being disposed in municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills throughout the state. **Table 2**

¹ Georgia Department of Community Affairs, *Non-MSW Survey Report* (2002)

characterizes the type of waste disposed throughout the 13 county CSRA region in 2005. The preliminary analysis of the regional waste characterization contained in **Table 2** shows the percentage of commercial and residential waste disposed of in an MSW landfill by type of material.

The information contained in **Table 2** suggests that the majority of disposed residential and commercial waste within the region is materials, paper and organics. **Table 2** shows that a large percentage of residential and commercial “municipal solid waste” being deposited into MSW landfills in the region is either recyclable or could be diverted to C&D or inert landfills. Overall the waste characterization for the CSRA is consistent with the state of Georgia as a whole.

2.3 Inventory of Waste Disposed

Table 3 provides waste generation rates for Glascock County, Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell between 2003 and 2006. All tonnage listed in **Table 3** passes through the McDuffie County Solid Waste Transfer Station. Prior to delivery to the transfer station in McDuffie County, the waste from Edgehill, Mitchell and Glascock County is taken to the transfer facility in Glascock County. The City of Gibson takes their solid waste directly to McDuffie County. Glascock County is billed for the cumulative waste from the county transfer facility and the City of Gibson.

Table 3: Waste Generated Rates						
Jurisdiction	Tonnage	Tonnage	Tonnage	Tonnage	Lbs. Per Person Per Day (2006)	Percent Change 2003-2006
	2003	2004	2005	2006		
Glascock County (including Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell)	887.3	940.0	892.3	860.5	1.7 lbs/ person/day	-3.0%
<i>Source: Glascock County Department of Solid Waste</i>						
<i>* See section 2.4 for further explanation</i>						

Based on the cumulative data provided by Glascock County, the cumulative per capita disposal rate of residents in 2006 was 1.7 pounds per person, per day. This is dramatically lower than the statewide average of 6.38 lbs per person per day. There are a number of possible reasons for the low per capita disposal rate. First, the lack of available pickup services in Edgehill and the unincorporated areas of Glascock County and the lack of un-staffed drop off points decrease the probability that solid waste will be collected at the transfer facility. Additionally, the lack of required countywide solid waste collection services increases the likelihood that some solid waste is simply never collected. It is a possibility that rural residents are burning waste or transporting it to un-staffed green-box stations in adjacent counties.

2.4 Fluctuations in Quantities Disposed

Table 3 illustrates that Glascock County solid waste disposal rates increased between 2003 and 2004, and since then, tonnage has decreased. There has been neither a natural disaster nor a dramatic increase or decrease in population or employment to explain such fluctuations. Similar to the low per capita disposal rate in the county, these



fluctuations in the quantities of waste may be attributed to lack of municipal pickup service, accessibility of drop off locations, trash burning and/or transport to adjacent counties.

2.5 Anticipated Waste Amounts

The volume of solid waste generated is directly dependent on population size. According to the 2000 US Census, the projected county population is anticipated to increase to 2,696 by 2016. **Table 4** presents waste generation rates developed by comparing the disposal rates contained in **Table 3** with county population estimates. County-wide waste generation rates are expected to increase over the ten year period by 2.9 percent – rising from 907 to 934 tons per year.

Table 4: Glascock County, Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell Waste Disposal Projections, 2007-2018

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Population	2,626	2,634	2,643	2,651	2,660	2,668	2,676	2,687	2,696	2,704	2,713
Total Tons/Day	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Total Tons/Yr	910.6	913.3	916.5	919.2	922.4	925.1	927.9	931.7	934.8	938	941.2

Population Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; Calculations by CSRA RDC

Table 5 presents a composite breakdown of the type of waste generated by Glascock County that is projected to be landfilled over the next 10 year period based on the waste characterization analysis contained in **Table 2**.

Table 5: Glascock County, Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell Waste Disposal Projections by Type, 2007-2018

Waste Type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Paper	327.8	328.8	329.9	330.9	332.1	333	334	335.4	336.5	337.7	338.8
Organics	284.1	284.9	285.9	286.8	287.8	288.6	289.5	290.7	291.7	292.7	293.7
Plastic	160.3	160.7	161.3	161.8	162.3	162.8	163.3	164	164.5	165.1	165.7
C&D	29.1	29.2	29.3	29.4	29.5	29.6	29.7	29.8	29.9	30	30.1
Glass	46.4	46.6	46.7	46.9	47	47.2	47.3	47.5	47.7	47.8	48
Inorganics	19.1	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.4	19.4	19.5	19.6	19.6	19.7	19.8
Metal	44.6	44.8	44.9	45	45.2	45.3	45.5	45.7	45.8	46	46.1
Total Tons/Yr	910.6	913.3	916.5	919.2	922.4	925.1	927.9	931.7	934.8	938	941.2

Note: Calculations by CSRA RDC; numbers are approximate due to rounding

Chapter 3: Waste Reduction



3.0 Introduction

Chapter 3 provides detailed information on Glascock County's existing waste reduction programs that target residential, commercial/institutional, industrial, construction and demolition, and inert waste streams.

3.1 Inventory

3.1.1 Waste Reduction and Recycling Programs

There are no public waste reduction activities within Glascock County, Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell; although, white goods, newspaper and aluminum are recycled privately. The Glascock County 4-H Club collects aluminum cans in bins that are set up at the transfer facility. From the transfer station, the cans are bagged and sent to Sandersville, GA for recycling. Since 2003, slightly over 1000 lbs of cans have been collected through the efforts of the 4-H Club.

Newspapers are also privately collected throughout Glascock County via drop boxes. The recycling program is run through the Jefferson County Service Center. Newspapers are collected from the drop-off bins throughout Glascock and Jefferson County approximately once a week and are taken to the Jefferson County Service Center where their patients and volunteers at the Ogeechee Behavioral Health Service Center sort the newspapers into 25 lb bundles. The newspaper is then sold to a private paper company for recycling. Between 2003 and 2006, 387.4 tons of newspaper has been recycled.

Recycling Solutions, a recycling company in Warren County, has three roll-off containers at the Glascock County transfer facility for recycling of white goods. On a monthly basis, Recycling Solutions picks up the contents of the roll-off containers and transports it to Warren County for recycling.

According to the Georgia Department of Labor's Area Labor Profile for Glascock County the following employers are the counties five largest: Bank of Gibson, CRHI LLC, Gibson Health and Rehab Center, Pulliam Lumber Co., Inc., and Thiele Kaolin Co. All five organizations were surveyed asking for an inventory of current recycling practices that take place within their facility. None of the employers have recycling programs in place.

3.1.2 Yard Trimming/Mulching/Composting

Glascock County, Gibson, Edgehill and Mitchell do not conduct compost or mulching operations. Although some residents may utilize backyard composting, no quantities are available.

The City of Gibson provides curbside collection of yard waste to residents on the first and third Wednesday of the month. This service is included in the monthly charge for solid waste pickup. Leaves, limbs and clippings are collected with a backhoe. The city then hauls the yard waste with the city owned trash truck to the inert landfill in Thomson-McDuffie.

3.1.3 Special Management Issues

Items requiring special management procedures, with the exception of white goods, are not accepted at the Glascock County transfer facility. There is a \$5.00 disposal fee for all white goods. As previously mentioned, white goods are recycled by Recycling Solutions, a recycling company in Warren County.

Other items such as, electronics, household hazardous waste, lead acid batteries, and tires, must be transported and dropped off by the resident to another disposal facility, such as be McDuffie County Transfer station.

3.2 Assessment & Needs

3.2.1 Waste Reduction & Recycling Programs

In the past, Georgia's solid waste management laws referenced a 25 percent waste reduction goal. Recent revisions to the laws do not specifically suggest a 25 percent reduction, although waste reduction is still an overall goal of state guidelines. Consequently, the original 25 percent goal should still serve as a benchmark for Glascock County jurisdictions to determine the effectiveness of their waste reduction programs.

As previously mentioned, there are a few small scale private recycling efforts in effect in the county, but these waste reduction operations account for less than a one percent reduction in the county's waste stream – dramatically less than the recommend 25 percent reduction.

Glascock County has the opportunity to begin public recycling efforts. With the assistance of the State's Recycling Hub Grant Program and the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority grant, equipment, such as a compactor and collection bins, could be purchased to support the expansion of a county-wide single commodity collection program. With an emphasis on the collection of a single recyclable commodity such as cardboard or glass via the establishment of new commercial accounts, program operation costs may be offset. In addition to commercial accounts, recycling bins should be placed at the county transfer facility for use by private citizens.

3.2.2 Yard Trimming/Mulching/Composting

Glascock County should consider the addition of a chipper for use at the county transfer facility. The addition of this equipment should be viewed as the first step in a county-wide mulching/composting program. The addition of a chipper would allow the county to divert some of Gibson's yard waste from going to McDuffie County's inert landfill. Before initiating such a program, the county should be aware that mulching/composting programs may require additional permitting.

Matching funds for waste reduction equipment can be obtained through the State's Recycling Hub Grant Program.

3.2.3 Special Management Issues

Currently, Glascock County's transfer station does not accept electronics, household hazardous waste, lead acid batteries, tires and other items that require special management. However, the county does accept white goods and recycles them with Recycling Solutions. The County does not have any plans to change the way the transfer facility handles items that require special management during the planning period. Should the situation arise, Glascock County will contract with a private company to handle those special management issues.

3.2.4 Miscellaneous

In developing waste reduction policies, Glascock County, Edgehill, Gibson, and Mitchell should examine the regional context. Currently, CSRA counties are considered too small to generate enough recyclables to result in an economically feasible waste reduction program. However, collectively the region includes an area of close to 500,000 residents. To address this problem, numerous area local governments have indicated a desire to implement a regional recycling program. Glascock County has indicated its desire to participate in such a program by taking official action to support the CSRA Regional Development Center's application to the United States Department of Agriculture to receive funding for a regional recycling feasibility study (**Appendix A**).

Demand for greater access to waste reduction programs should also come directly from citizens. Efforts should be made to establish an affiliate chapter of Keep Georgia Beautiful in order to assist in the expansion of current waste reduction activities and citizen participation in such programs.

3.3 Goals

All goals are applicable to Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell unless otherwise noted.

- Encourage local businesses to increase their waste reduction and recycling efforts.
- Establish chipping and mulching of yard waste for citizen and public use at the county transfer station. (Glascock County)
- Participate in region-wide recycling feasibility study.
- Coordinate all waste reduction and recycling activities with other elements in this Plan.
- Establish a Keep Georgia Beautiful chapter.
- Work with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the CSRA RDC to identify viable waste reduction and recycling projects.
- Establish recycling facility operations and increase educational outreach efforts through equipment and materials purchased with the assistance of the GEFA grant.
- Initiate single stream recycled material collection service for commercial customers in the county through equipment purchased with the assistance of the State Recycling Hub Grant Program (Glascock County).

Chapter 4: Collection



4.0 Introduction

Chapter 4 addresses the collection of solid waste, recyclable, and compostable materials for the ten-year plan period. Every aspect of the solid waste management program represents a link in the chain of a well run and environmentally sound system. An inadequate collection program can create complications for other components of the program, such as those associated with illegal dumping, high costs or inefficient disposal practices. Dissatisfaction with collection services may also lead to poor participation rates with new waste reduction programs.

Glascok County is a largely rural county and contains the cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell. The population trends for the County anticipate slow to moderate growth and a corresponding increase in solid waste produced.

4.1 Inventory

4.1.1 Collection Programs

The current solid waste collection system for Glascok County is divided into three categories – county collection, municipal collection, and individual hauling (See **Table 6**).

Table 6: Inventory of Collection Programs						
Type	Collector	Program Description	Jurisdictions Served	Sectors Served	Number of Households Served	Contractual Arrangements
County Collection	Glascok County	Commercial Pickup	Glascok County	C	Approx. 40	County Service
Municipal Collection	City of Gibson	Residential Pickup	City of Gibson	R	305-315	Municipal service
Municipal Collection	Private hauler	Residential Pickup	City of Mitchell	R	94	Contract between city and private hauler
Individual Hauling	City & County Residents	Countywide Drop off at County Transfer Station	Glascok County	R, C	Variable	County Service

** R= Residential, C= Commercial, C&D= Construction and Demolition*

The first category highlighted in the table is an overview of county services. Glascok County picks up waste from approximately 40 businesses within the county. On a weekly basis, the county trash truck picks up the waste from privately owned dumpsters and hauls it to the transfer facility. The county owns and uses the following equipment in its solid waste collection system: one trash truck and 25 dumpsters.

The next category of collection identified in **Table 6** is municipal waste collection. The City of Gibson provides pick up of yard waste on a bi-weekly basis. In order to keep the solid waste and yard waste separate, collection of solid waste occurs every Tuesday and



yard waste is picked up on the first and third Wednesday of the month. The City of Gibson owns and uses the following equipment in its solid waste collection system: one service truck, one tractor, and one backhoe. The City does not provide its residents with trash collection bins.

Approximately 305-315 households are served through residential collection by the City of Gibson. Residents of the City of Gibson are required to participate in this collection method and fees are collected through the monthly water bill. The cost of collection, including trash and yard waste, is \$2.00 per month.

The Town of Mitchell has a contract with one of its citizens for residential solid waste collection. Per the contract between the town and the private hauler, curbside waste is collected, via a privately owned truck and a city owned trailer, and is taken to the county transfer facility. Solid waste is collected on Tuesday and Friday and residents are charged a fee of \$5.00 on their monthly water bill.

Within the City of Edgehill the small population makes municipal collection of household solid waste unfeasible. Edgehill relies on volunteer labor from its citizens to collect and transports its waste to the transfer facility in Gibson.

Finally, **Table 6** addresses individual hauling. Glascock County residents, excluding those in the City of Gibson and the Town of Mitchell, transport their solid waste to the County transfer station on their own. Residents deposit their waste free of charge in roll off containers managed by staff at the county transfer station. There is no data available on the number of residents that choose this method for the disposal of their solid waste.

4.1.1 Yard Trimmings

As previously discussed in Chapter 3, yard waste service in Glascock County is limited to pick-up provided by the City of Gibson to city residents. On the third Wednesday of every month, the City picks up limbs and leaves at the curb. There is no additional charge for limb pick up.

4.1.2 Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping is disposal of waste in an unpermitted area. Illegally dumped wastes are primarily non-hazardous materials that are dumped to avoid either disposal fees or the time and effort required for proper disposal. Sites used for illegal dumping vary, but typically include abandoned residential or commercial buildings; vacant lots and wooded areas; and infrequently used alleys or roadways. Because of their accessibility and poor lighting, areas along rural roads and railways are particularly vulnerable.

Glascock County and the cities of Gibson, Edgehill, and Mitchell have not identified illegal dumping as an issue, and none of the jurisdictions have ordinances in place related to dumping.

4.2 Assessment and Needs

Although the population in the unincorporated area is projected to grow steadily through 2015, county-wide pickup is not likely to be practical due to a limited and scattered population. The County should always keep the option open and study the feasibility of county-wide collection or the expansion of municipal service in the unincorporated portions of the county if economically feasible in the future. Until that time, the reliance on individuals transporting their own waste continues to be the most viable option for the residents of the unincorporated area. Maintenance of county owned equipment will be required.

The existing curbside collection service in the cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell will be adequate through the planning period. No major improvements are needed at this time; although, maintaining municipal equipment will also be required.

At this time, Glascock County's ordinances do not adequately address illegal dumping. It is recommended that Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell adopt ordinances relating to illegal dumping. Enforcement of these ordinances should occur on a complaint only basis.

4.3 Contingency Strategy

Natural disasters strike with varying degrees of severity and pose both short- and long-term challenges to public service providers. The most severe natural disasters generate debris in quantities that can overwhelm existing solid waste management facilities or force communities to use disposal options that otherwise would not be acceptable. Debris removal is a major component of every disaster recovery operation. Much of the debris generated from natural disasters is not hazardous. Soil, building material, and green waste, such as trees and shrubs, make up most of the volume of disaster debris. Most of this waste can be recycled into useful commodities.

In previous situations where collection and disposal needs were not met by county and city collection, the county contracted with Advanced Disposal Services. In the event of a natural disaster or other major event in the future that would disrupt the collection of solid waste within Glascock County, all three municipalities and the unincorporated county should work with Advanced Disposal Services along with neighboring counties to procure additional resources to collect waste until regular procedures could be re-instituted. As part of such an arrangement, temporary hauling of waste material to another transfer facility would be considered if necessary.

Because much of the debris that results from a natural disaster would be vegetative, the County transfer station would serve as initial drop-off points for organic debris from throughout the County until hauling of waste and debris to the McDuffie County Transfer Facility can resume.

Public notification efforts in all jurisdictions regarding debris management and removal, and alternative collection efforts may include any combination of: public service announcements, newspaper articles, posting of flyers, mailings, public meeting announcements, etc. Glascock County, Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell estimate that

contingency efforts of debris collection and removal, and the collection of accumulated household waste, will take one to two weeks to become operational following a significant natural disaster.

Additionally, Glascock County should consider the purchase of another trash truck. Both the City of Gibson and Glascock County own one trash truck each. In the event that the city's truck is out of service, residential collection is halted, and if the county's truck is out of service, commercial collection is halted in the county and trash cannot be transferred to McDuffie County. In both jurisdictions, trash collection and disposal is delayed until the truck is repaired. With the purchase of one additional truck, residential and commercial pickup and transfer could continue as usual even in the event of the inevitable breakdown. Glascock County and the City of Gibson need to coordinate and establish necessary procedures and cost associated with the city's use of the county's second trash truck in the event that the city's truck needs repairs.

4.4 Goals

All goals are applicable to Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell unless otherwise noted.

- Evaluate collection efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new collection mechanisms are feasible.
- Review *Joint Glascock County Joint Comprehensive Plan* prior to developing future solid waste management policies.
- Maintain city government collection vehicle and equipment replacement.
- Adopt ordinances that deal with illegal dumping.
- Study the feasibility of expanded curbside waste collection services by Gibson and/or private sector providers.
- Purchase an additional trash truck with GEFA funds. (Glascock County)

Chapter 5: Disposal



5.0 Introduction

Chapter 5 provides an overview of current solid waste disposal methods utilized in Glascock County and assesses the communities’ needs during the ten-year plan period. Disposal methods have taken on more significance as communities throughout the CSRA have closed municipal landfills and shifted to private disposal. Cost and service coverage areas have become increasingly significant issues.

5.1 Inventory

The county’s transfer facility is the only disposal facility in operation in Glascock County. The landfill is no longer in operation and ceased accepting waste in 1994 (see **Table 7**). The County participates in ongoing quarterly monitoring of the closed disposal facility.

Table 7: Glascock County’s Disposal Facilities

Jurisdiction	Facility Name	Permit Number	Dominion	Reporting Year	Status
Glascock County	Gibson CR50 Phase 1 (SL)	062-002D (SL)	Public	2007	Landfill closed, ceased accepting waste on April 8, 1994
Glascock County	Glascock County transfer station	PBR-062-2COL	Public	2007	Transfer facility is open and actively accepting waste

Source: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division

As previously mentioned, the county owns one trash truck and 25 dumpsters. The City of Gibson owns one service truck, one tractor, and one backhoe. The Town of Mitchell owns a trailer that is used to transport solid waste to the Glascock County transfer facility.

5.2 Thermal Treatment Technologies

There are no thermal treatment technologies currently in use by Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell.

5.3 Assessment and Needs

Glascock County’s goal is to ensure that county and municipal equipment is maintained and that the solid waste disposal needs of the county are met for the next ten years.

Collection services are handled by both Glascock County and the City of Gibson and disposal of this cumulative waste is taken to a single county operated transfer facility in McDuffie County. McDuffie County then hauls its waste to the Chambers R&B MSW Landfill in Homer, GA. The Chambers landfill is operated by Waste Management Inc.

Glascock County is charged fees for disposal based on fees established between McDuffie County and the Chambers R&B Landfill. This arrangement limits competition during the term of the County’s contract with the McDuffie County. To ensure the most favorable costs for disposal services, Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson,

and Mitchell should coordinate closely when it is time for the County to renegotiate its contract with its McDuffie County. Glascock County should also consider the feasibility of contracting directly with a disposal provider.

5.4 Assurance of Ten-Year Disposal Capacity

Under the *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990*, each local government must provide ten-year capacity assurance whether that local government relies on its own landfill, another local government, regional authority, private entity or any combination thereof for disposal of the solid waste generated within the planning jurisdiction. **Appendices B** and **C** contain the required letters of disposal capacity.

5.5 Contingency Strategy

In the event of a natural disaster or other major event that would disrupt the disposal of solid waste within the County, Glascock County and Edgehill, Gibson, and Mitchell should contract with a private hauler to dispose of additional waste until regular procedures could be re-instituted. To ensure coordination of contingency disposal strategies, an intergovernmental agreement on emergency disposal between all four jurisdictions would be prudent. In addition, the Glascock County should maintain a uniform up-to-date list of collection companies and disposal facilities.

Based on current capacities and a coordinated emergency disposal strategy, it should take no more than a one to two weeks to bring the contingency strategy disposal option on-line.

As previously mentioned in the collection contingency strategy, Glascock County should consider the purchase of an additional trash truck. An additional truck would ensure uninterrupted trash pickup and transfer in the event that Glascock County's or Gibson's truck breaks down.

5.6 Goals

All goals are applicable to Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell unless otherwise noted.

- Evaluate disposal efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new disposal mechanisms are feasible.
- Review the *Joint Glascock County Comprehensive Plan* prior to developing future solid waste management policies.
- Develop a disposal contingency program and coordinate with all jurisdictions on unified contingency strategy.
- Maintain city and county disposal vehicles and equipment.
- Pro-actively consider alternative future disposal options.

Chapter 6: Land Limitation



6.0 Introduction

Chapter 6 deals with the inventory, analysis, and determination of land areas which, due to environmental limitations or land use factors, are considered unsuitable for the development of solid waste handling facilities. *The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990* defines a solid waste handling facility as: any facility, the primary purpose of which is the storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, or disposal, or any combination thereof, of solid waste. Although it may be technically feasible to build solid waste handling facilities in most situations, there are regulatory and financial constraints which render certain locations unavailable. Distances around airports and bodies of surface water are examples of regulatory constraints. Other siting considerations may not be specifically prohibited but would result in more extensive engineering, environmental, and hydrogeological requirements. The criteria contained in this chapter are established to provide for environmentally sound and financially practical disposal siting.

Specific items to be considered are as follows:

(1) Natural Environmental Limitations:

- a) **Water supply watersheds:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1 requires that at any location within a small water supply watershed, new solid waste landfills must have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- b) **Groundwater recharge areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.02(3)(a) requires that in significant groundwater recharge areas, DNR shall not issue permits for new solid waste landfills not having synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- c) **Wetlands:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.03(3)(e) establishes that solid waste landfills may constitute an unacceptable use of a wetland.
- d) **River corridors:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.04(4)(h) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills within protected river corridors.
- e) **Protected mountains:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.05(4)(l) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills in areas designated as protected mountains.

(2) Criteria for siting: The following items are criteria for siting solid waste handling facilities under DNR Rules. Local governments preparing plans should consult with DNR for the most current applicable rules.

- a) **Zoning:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a) requires that the site must conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances, and that written verification of such be submitted to EPD.
- b) **Airport safety:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c) requires that new solid waste landfill units or lateral expansions of existing units shall not be within 10,000 feet of any public use or private use airport runway end used by turbojet aircraft

or within 5,000 feet of any public use or private use airport runway end used by only piston type aircraft.

- c) **Flood plains:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(d) stipulates that any solid waste landfill located in the 100-year flood plain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the flood plain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment.
- d) **Wetlands:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(e) prohibits the development of solid waste landfills in wetlands, as defined by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, unless evidence is provided by the applicant to EPD that use of such wetlands has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all other applicable state and federal laws and rules.
- e) **Fault areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(f) requires that new landfill units and lateral expansions of existing landfills shall not be located within 200 feet of a fault that has had displacement in the Holocene Epoch unless the owner or operator demonstrates to EPD that an alternative setback distance of less than 200 feet will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the landfill unit and will be protective of human health and the environment.
- f) **Seismic impact zones:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(g) prohibits the development of new landfill units and lateral expansions in seismic impact zones unless the owner or operator demonstrates to EPD that all containment structures, including liners, leachate collection systems, and surface water control systems are designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site.
- a) **Unstable areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(h) requires owners or operators of new landfill units, existing landfill units, and lateral expansions located in an unstable area to demonstrate that engineering measures have been incorporated into the landfill unit's design to ensure that the integrity of the structural components of the landfill unit will not be disrupted. The owner or operator must place the demonstration in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record. The owner or operator must consider the following factors, at a minimum, when determining whether an area is unstable:
 - 1. On-site or local soil conditions that may result in significant differential settling;
 - 2. On-site or local geologic or geomorphologic features; and
 - 3. On-site or local human-made features or events (both surface and subsurface).
- a) **Significant groundwater recharge areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(j) states that new municipal solid waste landfill or lateral expansion of an existing municipal solid waste landfill shall not have any part of such site located within two miles of any area that has been designated by the Director as a significant groundwater recharge area unless such municipal solid waste landfill will have a liner and leachate collection system. In the case of a regional landfill which accepts solid waste generated outside the counties or special districts constituting

the region or a municipal solid waste landfill which accepts solid waste generated outside the county in which the landfill is located, no part of such site shall be within any area that has been designated as a significant groundwater recharge area.

Any entity requesting a renewal or issuance of a solid waste handling permit from EPD must demonstrate that the facility or expansion is consistent with the local government's solid waste management plan. Chapter 391-3-4 of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Protection Division relates to solid waste management in Georgia. Chapter 391-3-4.05 deals specifically with the siting criteria associated with solid waste handling facilities.

Solid waste handling facility applicants should always check with DNR and the local planning jurisdiction to verify procedures for siting solid waste handling management facilities that include but are not limited to the following:

- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(b) requires that whenever any applicant begins a process to select a site for a solid waste disposal facility, documentation demonstrating compliance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-26(a) be submitted to EPD; further, whenever any applicant takes action resulting in a siting decision for a publicly or privately owned solid waste disposal facility, documentation demonstrating compliance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-26(b) be submitted to EPD.
- Once a site has been selected, the applicant must conduct a Hydrological Assessment in accordance with the provisions of DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(k). Preparation of the land limitation element of a solid waste management plan should comply with the *Solid Waste Management Act* and the Rules of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for solid waste management (Chapter 391-3-4) relating to historic sites, airports, jurisdictional boundaries, access, etc. These documents should be consulted for specifics on land limitations and siting of solid waste management facilities.
- If an applicant undertakes the Facilities Issues Negotiation Process pursuant to a facility siting decision, the process will be undertaken in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-32 and any guidelines issued by the Department pursuant to State law.

6.1 Inventory

The following section includes inventories of existing natural and regulatory siting limitations. Protected mountains, fault areas, seismic impact zones, protected river corridors or unstable areas were not identified in Glascock County.

The base data used for the mapping component has been provided by the CSRA Regional Development Center. The siting criteria maps referenced in this chapter are approximate, intended for reference purposes only and do not map all local, state and federal siting criteria referenced herein.

6.1.1 Water Supply Watersheds

There are many different factors that determine the volume of water in a stream or other body of water. These factors include the amount of precipitation, land cover, slope, soil type, and capacity and speed of absorption into the soil. Any water that is not absorbed by the soil, detained on the surface by lakes or ponds, or used by vegetation, runs off of the land as overflow, or surface run-off. Water that is later released by the soil adds to this overflow to produce what is known as total run-off. As run-off flows to areas of lower elevation, it collects in drainage areas, the boundaries of which form watersheds. Run-off from these watersheds flows into streams which serve as outlets for water in the watersheds.

Glascok County is located in both the Savannah River drainage basin and the Ogeechee River drainage basin. Only a small portion on the eastern border of the county is in the Savannah River Basin. That portion is completely contained within the Brier Creek watershed. The remainder of the county is in the Ogeechee River Basin. Within the basin, Glascok County is contained in the Upper Ogeechee watershed. This plan makes note of these geographic and hydrological subdivisions so that a distinction can be made between them and “water supply watersheds” that require additional resource protection to ensure a safe supply of public drinking water.

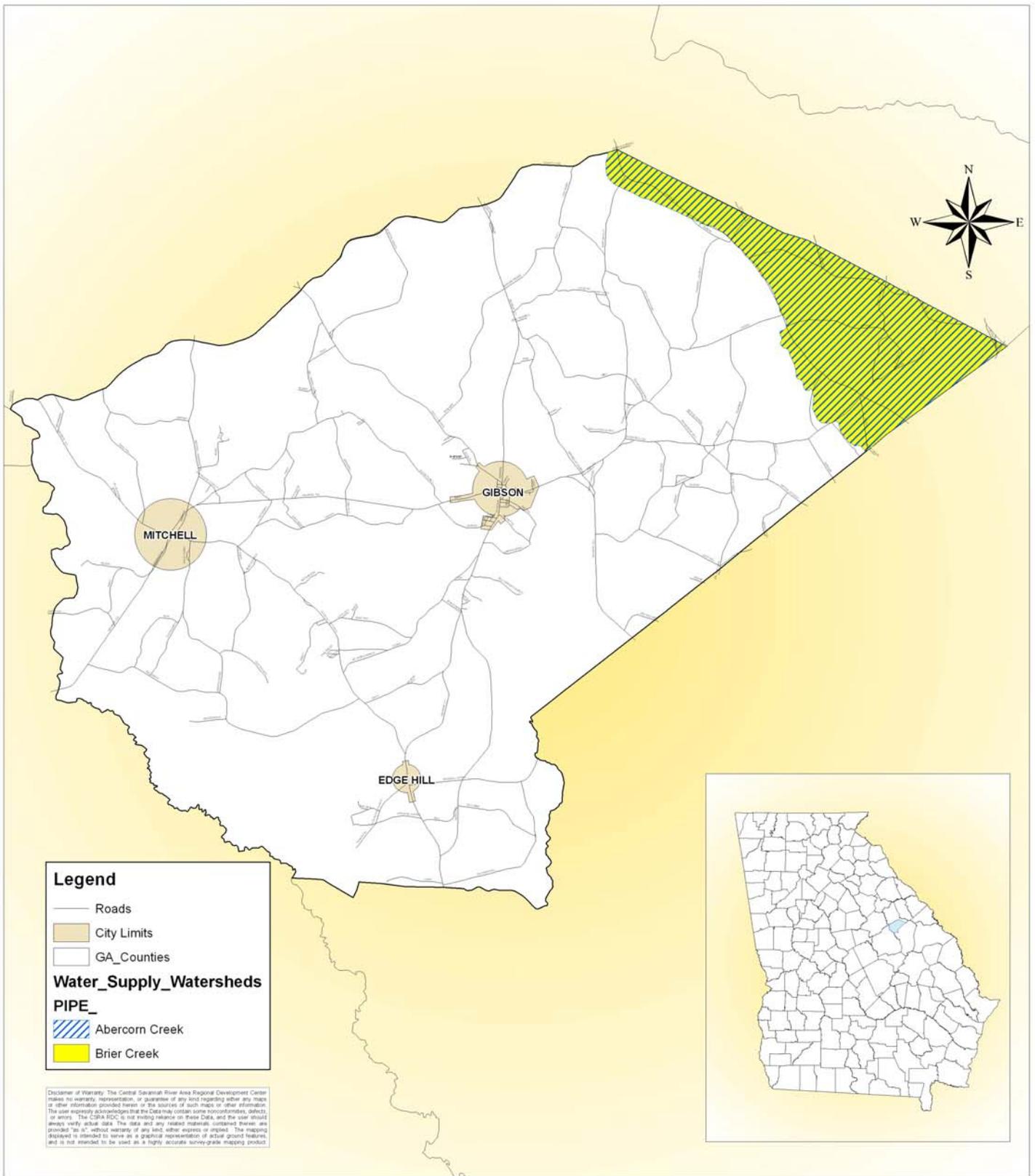
DNR’s *Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria* define a water supply watershed as an area of land upstream from a governmentally owned public drinking water intake. Glascok County lies partially within two water supply watersheds. The eastern edge of the county is located in the overlapping watersheds of Brier Creek and Abercorn Creek. The remaining portion of the county is not in a water supply watershed. Glascok County’s water supply watersheds can be found on **Map A**. Both water supply watersheds in Glascok County are subject to DNR’s *Criteria for Water Supply Watersheds*.

6.1.2 Groundwater Recharge Areas

Groundwater recharge areas are portions of the earth’s surface where water infiltrates the ground to replenish an aquifer, which is any stratum or zone of rock beneath the surface of the earth capable of containing or producing water from a well. In order to avoid toxic and hazardous waste contamination to drinking water supplies, groundwater or aquifer recharge areas must be protected. While recharge takes place throughout almost all of Georgia’s land area, the rate or amount of recharge reaching underground aquifers varies from place to place depending on geologic conditions.

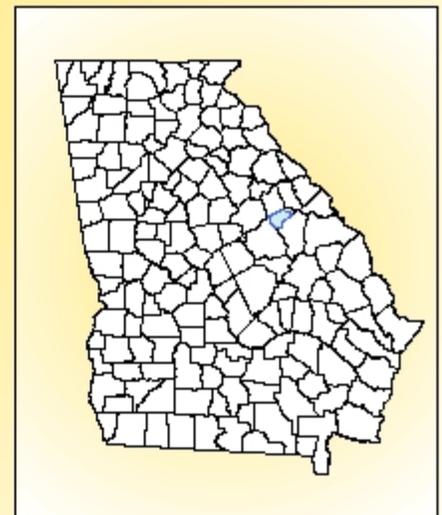
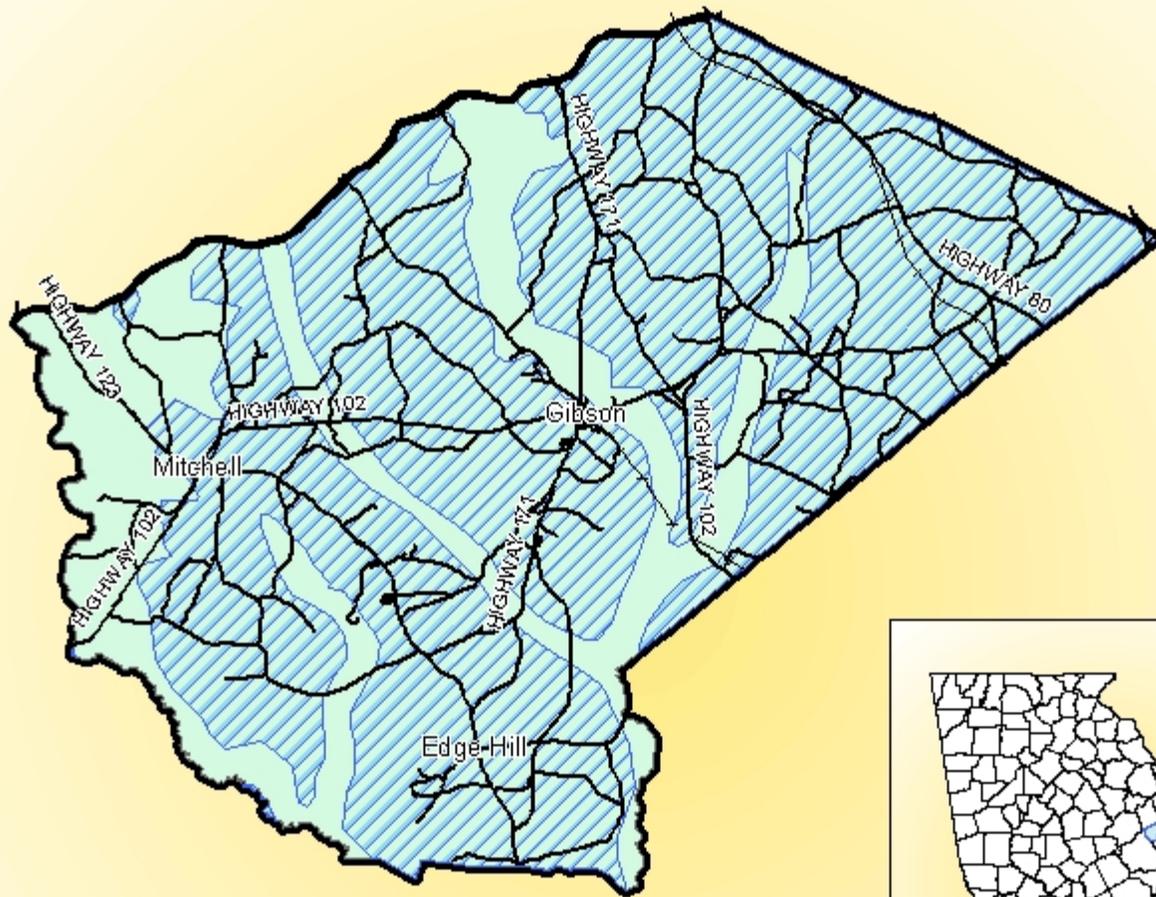
According to data provided by DNR on the Ground-Water Pollution Susceptibility Map of Georgia, Hydrologic Atlas 20, Glascok County contains several significant groundwater recharge areas (See **Map B**).

Both the state and federal government regulate groundwater recharge areas. Requirements from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD) include restrictions and regulations on sanitary landfills, land disposal of hazardous wastes, spray irrigation of wastewater and wastewater treatment basins.



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Map A Glascock County Water Supply Watershed



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Map B
Glascock County
Groundwater Recharge Areas

6.1.3 Wetlands

Federal law defines freshwater wetlands as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Preservation of wetlands is vital because of the many important functions they serve. They are among the world's most biologically productive ecosystems and serve as crucial habitats for wildlife. Wetlands can help maintain water quality or improve degraded water by performing functions similar to a waste-water treatment plant, filtering sediment, toxic substances and nutrients. Wetland vegetation filters and retains sediments which otherwise enter lakes, streams and reservoirs often necessitating costly maintenance dredging activities. Wetlands are also important to flood protection, as they act as water storage areas, significantly reducing peak flows downstream, and the meandering nature of wetlands combined with abundant vegetation reduce flood velocities.

In Glascock County, wetlands are located along the Glascock County/ Washington County border – formed by the Ogeechee River – and a number of smaller creeks throughout the County (See **Map C**).

6.1.4 River Corridors

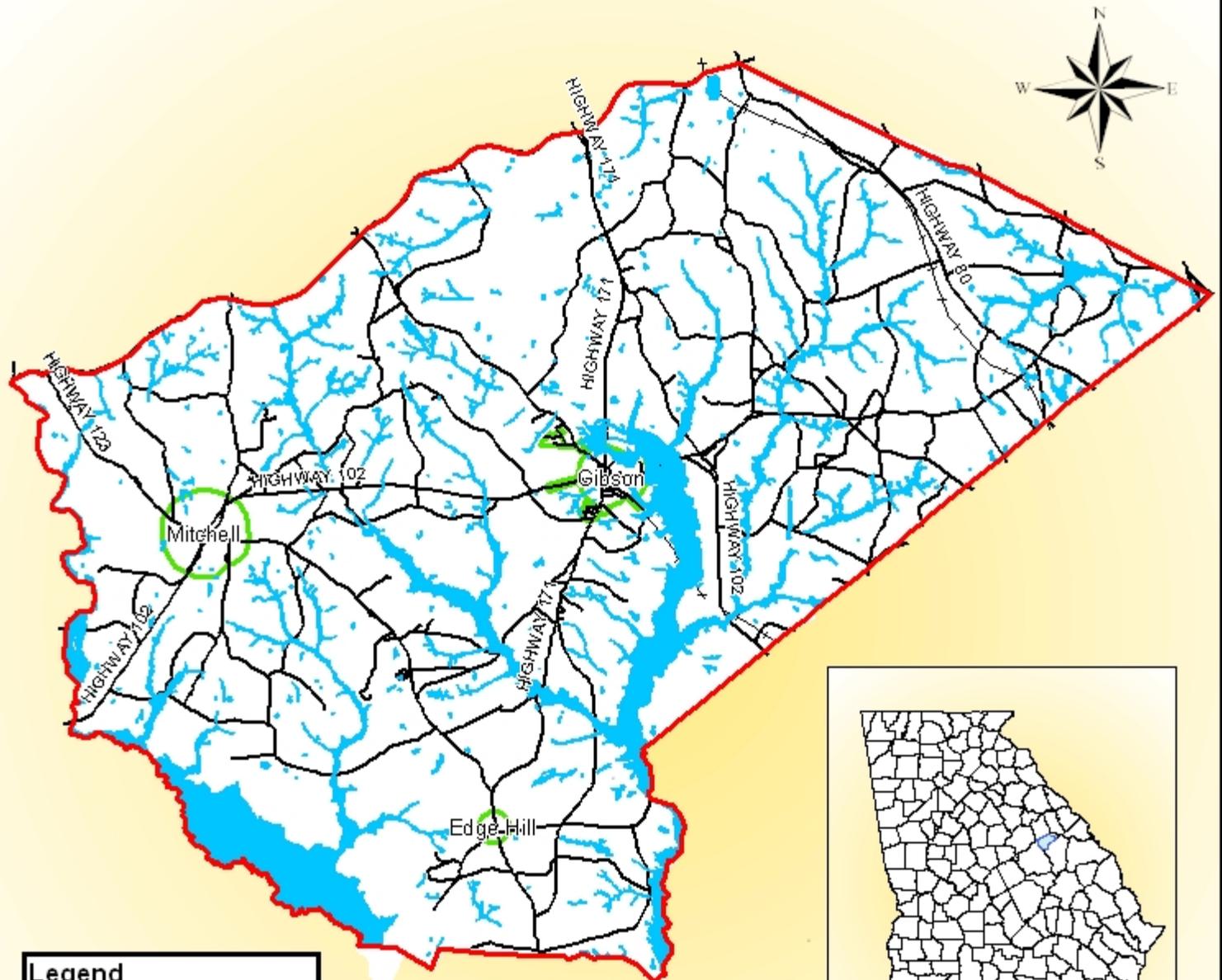
River corridors and their immediate shore land environment (sometimes referred to as the *riparian zone*) are areas of critical environmental significance. They provide a number of benefits including: drinking water, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, flood storage capacity, and assimilative capacity for wastewater discharges-the river or stream's ability to dilute wastewater to a point when it is no longer a threat to human health.

Section 305(b) of the federal Clean Water Act requires that all states biennially list navigable waters throughout the state and provide a description of the water quality of such streams and its impact on its designated uses. Consistent with these requirements, DNR has developed minimum planning criteria for its river corridors in order to protect these vital resources. There are no river corridors within Glascock County currently on EPA's 303(D)/305(B) list of protected rivers.

6.1.5 Local Zoning

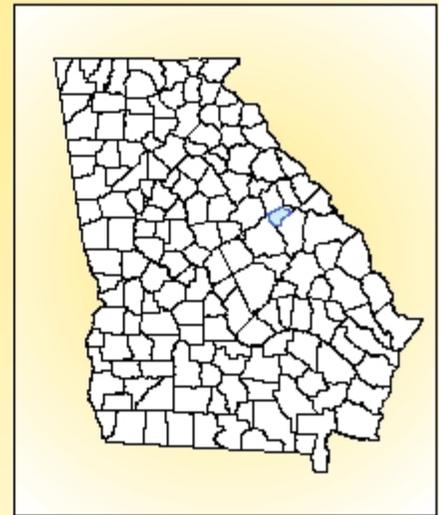
Zoning is an act of city or county authorities by exercise of police powers in regulating, controlling or specifying the type of use to which the property may be put in specific areas.

There are no zoning ordinances in Glascock County or the cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell.



Legend

- Glascock County
- NWI Wetlands
- Cities
- Roads
- + + Railroads



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Map C
Glascock County
NWI Wetland Areas

6.1.6 Flood Plains

Flood plains are relatively flat lands that border streams and rivers that are normally dry, but are covered with water during floods. The severity of a flood is usually measured in terms of loss to human life or property, which is directly proportional to the amount of development in the flood plain surrounding the stream or river.

Flooding occurs when the volume of water exceeds the ability of a water body (stream, river, or lake) to contain it within its normal banks. Floodplains serve three major purposes: Natural water storage and conveyance, water quality maintenance, and groundwater recharge. These three purposes are greatly inhibited when floodplains are misused or abused through improper and unsuitable land development. For example, if floodplains are filled in order to construct a building, then valuable water storage areas and recharge areas are lost. This causes unnecessary flooding in previously dry areas and can damage buildings or other structures. Therefore, floodplain development is usually discouraged with the exception of recreational facilities.

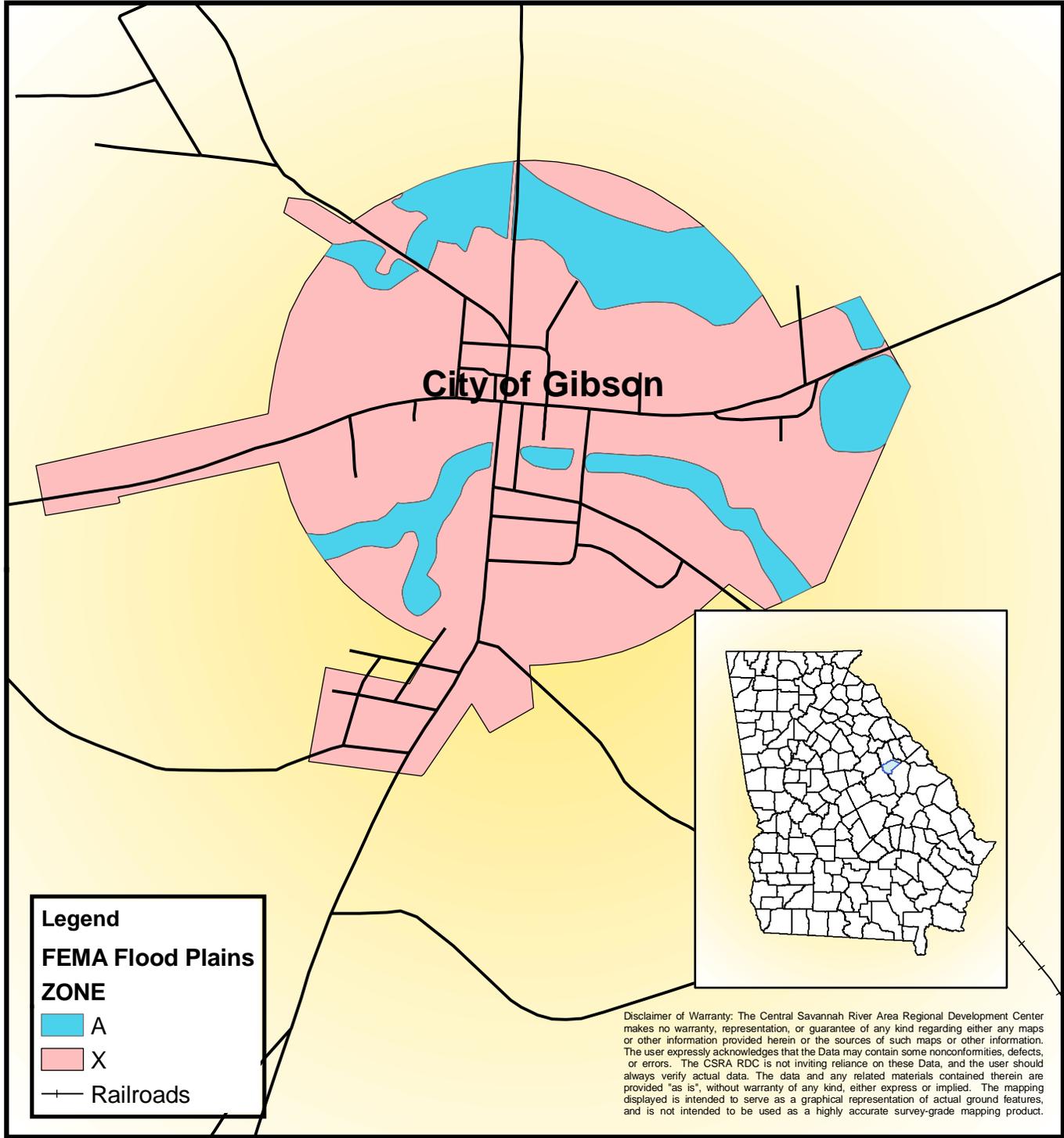
Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill and Mitchell do not participate in the Federal Flood Insurance program. However, The City of Gibson does participate in the program. In 1986, it was determined that the city was considered Zone A and X. These designations determine flood insurance rate zones. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Zone A is the flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the 1-percent annual chance floodplain and Zone X is the flood insurance rate zones that correspond to areas outside the 1-percent annual chance floodplain. **Map D** illustrates areas that have been identified as flood zones by the FEMA.

6.1.7 Historic Resources

In 1978, the Historic Preservation Section (HSP) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources conducted a historic resources survey of Glascock County. Upon completion of the survey, the HPS recommended 12 Natural Registry nominations (**Table 8**).

Table 8: Historic Resources in Glascock County	
Name	Location
Glascock County Courthouse	Gibson, GA
Kelley House	Gibson, GA
Peebles House	Gibson, GA
James Kelley/ Sherman Harris Place	Glascock County
Railroad Depot	Mitchell, GA
Euphratus Primitive Baptist Church	Edgehill, GA
Rebecca Knighton Home	Gibson, GA
Usry Mill	Glascock County
Hardin Log Cabin	Glascock County
City of Gibson Historic District	Gibson, GA
City of Mitchell Historic District	Mitchell, GA

To date, the only building that is on the National Registry of Historic Places is the county courthouse. The Glascock County Courthouse, a Classic Revival style building built in the



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Map D
Glascocock County
Flood Plain Areas

early 1900's, was added to the National Register of Historical Places in 1980 and has recently been completely restored (See **Map E**). The structure is still used as the County's courthouse and also houses other government offices.

6.1.8 Airport Proximity

There are no airports located in Glascock County or the cities of Edgehill, Mitchell and Gibson.

6.1.8 Jurisdictional Boundaries

Glascock County is bordered by Hancock, Warren, Jefferson and Washington Counties. Potential siting of solid waste handling facilities within Glascock County must be consistent with siting criteria in neighboring jurisdictions.

6.1.9 Access

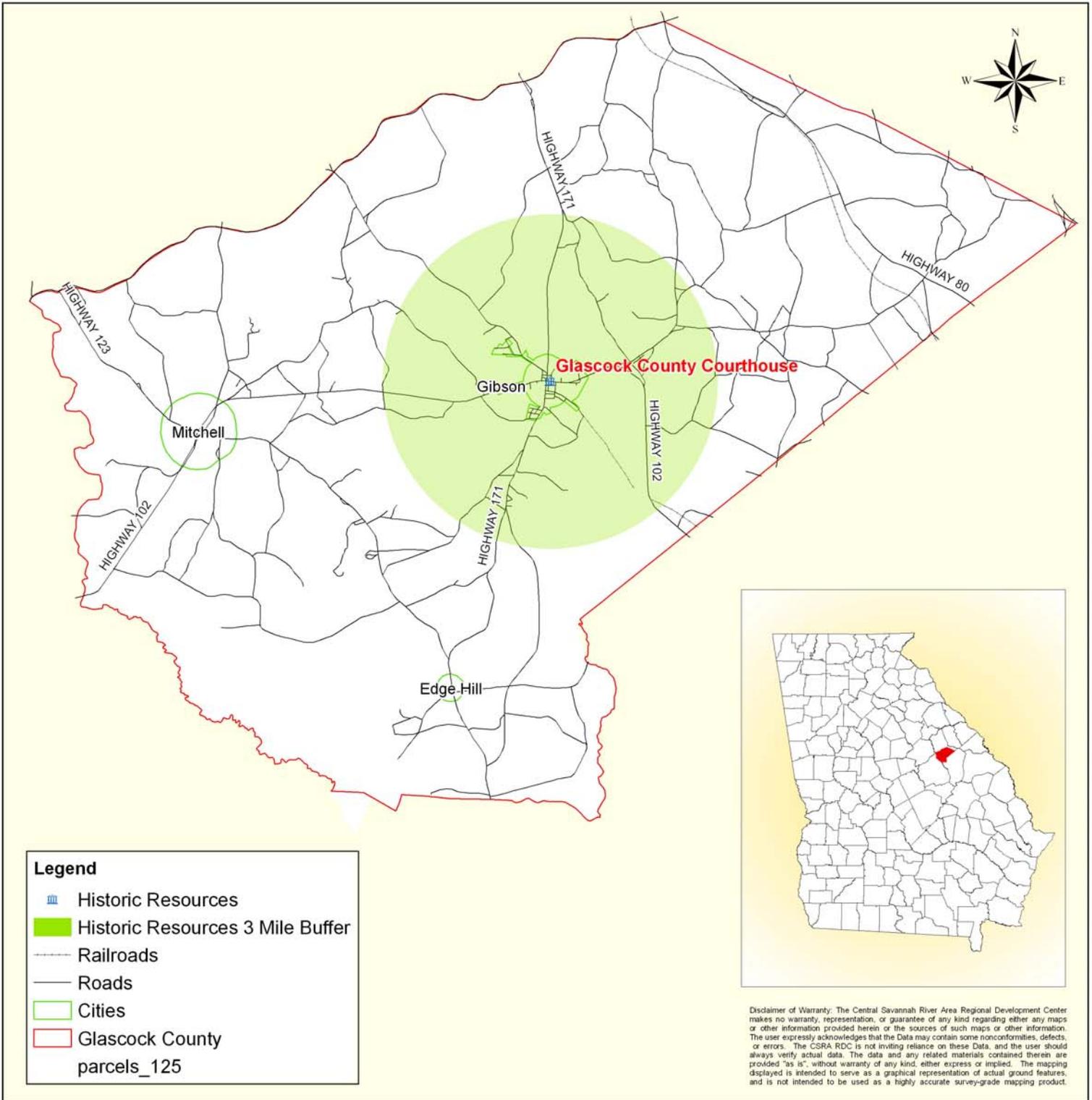
The highway system throughout Glascock County is fairly well-maintained and provides access to the majority of the community. However, roads throughout the county are narrow and typically handle a low traffic volume. There is not a major highway system close to Glascock County and the current highway system in the county is inadequate to handle a heavy volume of large truck traffic associated with a solid waste handling facility.

6.2 Assessment and Needs

The goal of the land limitation element is to identify areas of Glascock County which should be avoided when developing solid waste handling facilities. This is an effort towards providing environmentally and socially sound solid waste handling facilities. As the County considers siting new disposal facilities, local officials need to be cognizant of environmental considerations as well as other special needs. Regulation should not necessarily result in the prohibition of private solid waste handling facilities but ensure that the development of facilities do not conflict with this *Plan*, local comprehensive planning documents, or other local, state and federal regulations. While the maps contained in this chapter illustrate some of the land limitations applicable in Glascock County, it is important to note that additional local, state and federal siting criteria may result in additional properties being deemed inappropriate for the siting of solid waste handling facilities.

6.2.1 Water Supply Watersheds

Only a small portion of the county is in a water supply watershed. The unincorporated portions of Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell do not access a water supply watershed for their municipal water systems; instead, residents and businesses access ground water via a well or municipal water system. Siting of a solid waste handling facility should not be located in a water supply watershed and must be consistent with DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1.



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Map E Glascock County Historic Resources

6.2.2 Groundwater Recharge Areas

The citizens of unincorporated Glascock County rely heavily on groundwater sources for their drinking water supply. According to DNR rules, landfills shall be prohibited from locating within two miles of portions of the county that have been identified as groundwater recharge areas.

The entire county is either in a groundwater recharge area or in a two-mile buffer of the recharge area; therefore, the siting of any other new solid waste handling facility within the county would be inappropriate.

6.2.3 Wetlands

Consistent with DNR rules, solid waste handling facilities shall not be located within identified wetland areas.

6.2.4 River Corridors

There are no protected river corridors in Glascock County.

6.2.5 Local Zoning

Glascock County does not have local land use regulation in place to discourage the location of solid waste handling facilities. Although, the extensive groundwater recharge areas throughout the county would make the siting of a solid waste handling facility difficult according to DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1.

6.2.6 Floodplains

The critical and fragile habitats associated with wetlands are often present in floodplains. In addition, floodplains that may be disrupted or altered by filling activities associated with solid waste handling facilities – potentially creating flooding problems for downstream property owners. Solid waste handling facilities shall be prohibited from being located within floodplain areas.

6.2.7 Historic Resources

Glascock County takes pride in the historical value of its newly renovated courthouse. In order to protect the marketability of this resource, it is in the communities' best interests to prohibit the siting of solid waste handling facilities within close proximity. This facility has the potential to negatively impact historic resources due to noise, smell, traffic, viewshed obstruction, etc. Solid waste handling facilities shall not be located within three miles of the Glascock County Courthouse. If any of the other historic sites in Glascock are added to the National Registry in the future, they too should be avoided when siting a solid waste handling facility.

6.2.8 Jurisdictional Boundaries

Until any multi-jurisdictional agreements are made between Glascock County and its neighboring counties, solid waste handling facilities should be located in such a way as to not be a detriment to these other jurisdictions. The county respects the siting criteria adopted by its neighboring counties. Because of the rural atmosphere of unincorporated Glascock County, and the ample supply of open land, these development criteria should not pose a problem for the county so long as any development does not conflict with a neighboring jurisdiction's siting criteria.

6.2.9 Access

Siting of a solid waste handling facility in Glascock County would be inappropriate due to the lack of access to major highway systems and the existence of narrow and low-volume roadways throughout the county. A solid waste handling facility, and the traffic associated with such facility, would cause an undue burden on the county's roadways.

6.3 Procedures for Siting Solid Waste Handling Facilities

Any entity requesting a renewal or issuance of a solid waste handling permit from EPD must demonstrate that the facility or facility expansion is consistent with the local government's solid waste management plan. Chapter 391-3-4.05 of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Protection Division Rules deals specifically with the siting criteria associated with siting landfills and/or solid waste transfer facilities. In addition to the criteria set forth under DNR's regulations, the County will also use the following criteria to determine whether the issuance of the requested permit is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan:

- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed unsuitable according to development criteria (examples include, but are not limited to: in groundwater recharge areas; located within two miles of a municipal water supply; on soils poorly suited for development; on slopes of greater than 25 percent; in area that do not have easy accessibility to transportation networks; on urban or built up lands; on or around water bodies or wetlands; or on federal, state, or public lands; in compliance with neighboring jurisdiction's siting criteria).
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with any local zoning ordinances.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts other natural or cultural resources of the County.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the current solid waste management infrastructure of the County;
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts collection capability and disposal capacity identified in the Plan.

- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the County's ability to contribute to state-wide waste reduction.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the financial viability of the County's solid waste management system.

No proposed facility or facility expansion will be sited without a letter from the Glascock County Board of Commissioners for the unincorporated area or the City Councils of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell for their respective jurisdictions, stating that the facility is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. The Glascock County Board of Commission or the City Council in Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell will hold at least one public hearing to gather input to make this determination for their respective jurisdictions.

Applicants of proposed facilities or facility expansions shall consult with City and/or County officials in order to identify an appropriate date to schedule a public hearing. The applicant shall advertise the public hearing in the local newspaper and distribute letters of intent to adjacent property owners no less than 15 days prior to the date of the scheduled hearing. Should the Board/Council determine, based on information provided, to disapprove the proposal based on inconsistency with the adopted solid waste management plan, the applicant may appeal and provide additional information at a subsequent Board/Council meeting. Applicants may appeal any additional negative ruling by the Board/Council to circuit court.

6.4 Goals

All goals are applicable to Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell unless otherwise noted.

- Continue to coordinate solid waste planning with County ordinances and the *Joint Glascock County Comprehensive Plan*.
- Continue use of Siting Criteria Maps in review and planning for future solid waste management facilities.

Chapter 7: Public Involvement



7.0 Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to provide an inventory and assessment of existing educational programs and public involvement activities available in Glascock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell. Local governments throughout Georgia are encouraging residents to become more aware of the true costs of solid waste management and the need for waste reduction, recycling and siting of new facilities.

7.1 Inventory

7.1.1 Local Government Programs

Currently, Glascock County jurisdictions do not participate in the Keep Georgia Beautiful program. Development of an affiliate chapter of this non-profit organization would allow Glascock County, Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell to initiate efforts towards public education on waste reduction. Keep Georgia Beautiful chapters provide information to interested parties as well as presents educational programs at local schools.

Additionally, public education efforts have been undertaken in the development of this solid waste management plan. The Solid Waste Management Act requires that local governments conduct two public hearings before submitting a solid waste management plan to the Regional Development Center for review. The first public hearing was held on June 12, 2007 at the Glascock County Courthouse. City and county officials, affected parties and the general public were encouraged to attend and become involved in the planning process. The hearing was designed to inform the public on the planning process and to encourage input on solid waste goals, needs, and issues. The second public hearing was held near the conclusion of the planning process on October 2, 2007. A copy of the *Plan* was prepared and distributed to stakeholders for review and comment.

7.1.2 Solid Waste Committee/Task Force

There is currently no solid waste committee/task force in place within the county or its incorporated areas.

7.1.3 School System Programs

The Glascock County Board of Education (BOE) has active programs for educating students about the ways in which solid waste affects each of us. The state science curriculum objectives are known as *Georgia Performance Standards* and are the standardized curriculum for providing an introduction to solid waste and waste reduction. Glascock County begins this education in elementary school and continues it throughout students' secondary education. The level to which the school district provides education about solid waste reduction far exceeds the state established curriculum in both content and the duration of the education.

Additionally, the local 4-H club takes an active role in the education of middle school aged students in the county. Representatives from the club volunteer to teach solid waste issues, including the process of recycling, what materials are combustible, the

number of years it takes for certain materials to break down, landfill problems, how to reduce waste, etc.

In order to further reinforce good waste reduction habits, the 4-H also conducts recycling contests with the students. The students are given incentives to collect aluminum cans and tabs. The aluminum is sold and recycled and the proceeds are given to a charity that is chosen by the students. Through this program, approximately 250 lbs. of cans are recycled per year.

7.1.4 Litter Control Programs

Glascok County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell do not have ordinances regulating litter and illegal dumping.

7.1.5 Regional RDC Programs

The CSRA RDC does not have any regional recycling programs in place. The RDC is currently applying for Solid Waste Management Grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the preparation of a regional recycling feasibility study. Glascok County has expressed their support of the RDC in its efforts (**Appendix B**).

7.2 Assessment and Needs

7.2.1 Education Programs

Besides the education of school aged children, there is currently very little infrastructure in place throughout Glascok County to increase public awareness of local solid waste management and waste reduction practices and programs. Without an autonomous solid waste task force or steering committee, or an independent waste reduction advocacy organization such as Keep Georgia Beautiful operating in the county, there is little discourse on the impacts of local decisions affecting the waste stream.

While communities of larger size typically have the resources to designate a public sector employee to promote public education, waste reduction and litter control efforts, the limited resources in Glascok County and the cities of Gibson, Edgehill, and Mitchell may make such an appointment impractical. Alternatively, a public/private initiative to establish an affiliate chapter of Keep Georgia Beautiful, or similar organization, may be the communities' best vehicle for increasing public awareness and involvement in local solid waste management issues.

The Glascok County Board of Education, in cooperation with the county's 4-H club, is currently providing solid waste management education far in excess of the minimum approved state curriculum. Efforts like these should continue, with the County providing resources and support. GEFA funds can also be applied toward education programs teaching solid waste reduction and recycling.

Although none of the jurisdictions have identified illegal dumping as an issue, the county should consider the formation of an affiliate of Keep Georgia Beautiful Program. This

would be the first step in the overall prevention of future littering and illegal dumping issues within the County.

7.2.1 Litter Control Programs

Glascocock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell should adopt ordinances regulating litter and illegal dumping. By in large, enforcement of these ordinances should be the responsibility of local law enforcement and will need to be handled on a complaint basis.

7.3 Goals

All goals are applicable to Glascocock County and the Cities of Edgehill, Gibson and Mitchell unless otherwise noted.

- Educate residents on the importance of pursuing a reduction in the amount of solid waste received at disposal facilities through participation in recycling programs.
- Apply GEFA money towards education about solid waste reduction and recycling.
- Coordinate with citizens and private organizations to establish an affiliate chapter of Keep Georgia Beautiful.
- Work with the State's Recycling Coordinator, neighboring counties and/or the CSRA RDC to identify viable educational and recycling projects in the region.
- Publicize and promote all proposed solid waste reduction programs.
- Continue coordination between BOE and 4-H Club for education programs in elementary and middle schools.

Chapter 8: Implementation



8.0 Introduction

The implementation strategy represents a culmination of information gathered in the preceding sections. After all sections have been inventoried and assessed, and needs and goals have been identified, the plan must identify an implementation schedule for relevant current programs and future planned programs for each element.

Any solid waste management plan should look not only to the future, but also the past for guidance in establishing priorities. The following are recognized as the major accomplishments from the previous plan:

- Maintain all solid waste equipment in proper working order.
- Continue to utilize the current collection system of solid waste. (Glascock County, City of Gibson, Town of Mitchell)
- Partnership with McDuffie County to provide a transfer station and contract to dispose of solid waste.
- Publicize and promote all proposed solid waste reduction programs through the County Extension Service.
- Contact state and federal funding agencies about finance options.

A complete “report of accomplishments” for the short-term work program period between 2004 and 2008 can be found in **Appendix D**.

The implementation strategy is presented in the attached work plan. It includes specific actions which address the needs and goals expressed in the planning elements and which will help the State reach the statewide goal of waste disposal reduction. Plans and programs presented in the implementation strategy demonstrate ten year collection capability and disposal capacity. Finally, the implementation strategy identifies specific administrative responsibilities and budgeting necessary to implement the Plan (See **Appendix E**).

Appendices



Glascocock County Commissioners

370 West Main Street
Post Office Box 66
Gibson, Georgia 30810
(706) 598-2671

ANTHONY GRISWELL, Chairman
JOE L. DIXON, Vice-Chairman

JOHNNY CRUTCHFIELD, Commissioner
TRACY G. HUTCHESON, County Clerk

Andy Crosson
CSRA Regional Development Center
3023 Riverwatch Parkway, Suite A
Augusta, GA. 30907-2016

Dear Mr. Crosson,

The Glascock County Board of Commissioners is pleased to participate in the Regional Feasibility Recycling Study. We have committed to the fund match of \$116.30. The CSRA RDC is authorized by the Board of Commissioners on our behalf with the filing of the USDA Solid Waste Management grant to provide the remainder of the funds for this project.

Sincerely,



Anthony Griswell
Chairman

McDuffie County Solid Waste

*P.O. Box 354
Thomson, Ga. 30824
Ph: 706-595-2374 Fax: 706-597-2609*

September 18, 2007

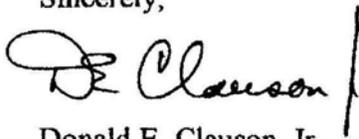
Glascock County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 66
Gibson, Ga. 30810

Dear Chairman;

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Glascock County from 2008-2018. Waste is hauled from Glascock County to the McDuffie County Transfer Station, Georgia EPD permit number 006PBR-097-08TS. This assurance is based upon Glascock County, (including Gibson, Mitchell and Edge Hill communities), disposing of approximately 800-900 tons of waste at this facility on an annual basis.

We thank the Glascock County Board of Commissioners for this business partnership and look forward to providing environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,



Donald E. Clauson, Jr.
McDuffie County Solid Waste Manager



WASTE MANAGEMENT

478 Bennett Rd.
Homer, GA 30547
(706) 677-4868 (800) 690-9610
(706) 677-2912 Fax

Glascocock County Board of Commissioners
P. O. Box 66
Gibson, GA 30810

Re: Glascocock County, City of Edgehill, City of Gibson, and the Town of Mitchell
Capacity Letter

Dear Board of Commissioners;

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Glascocock County and the incorporated cities and town from 2008 to 2018. Various haulers haul waste to the following facility: R&B Landfill and the EPD permit number for this facility is 006-009 D (MSW). This facility has a remaining capacity of 17 years. This assurance is based upon waste generated in Glascocock County disposing of approximately 800 to 900 tons of waste on an annual basis.

We thank Glascocock County for this business partnership and look forward to providing environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charlie Laws'.

Charlie Laws
District Manager
WM – Northeast Georgia

From everyday collection to environmental protection, Think Green® Think Waste Management.

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APPENDIX D: REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Glascocock County Solid Waste Management Plan Report of Accomplishments						
ACTIVITY		Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source	Status	Comments
Waste Reduction						
1	Introduce a county-wide program for effective waste measuring system in order to track waste consumption and reduction	County		General Fund	Ongoing	
2	Continue to measure and record waste reduction efforts (recycling, white goods, etc.)	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
3	Cooperate with any County recycling in the future	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
4	Contact state and federal funding agencies about financing options for waste reduction programs	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
Collection						
1	Continue to use volunteers for curbside collection of household garbage (Edgehill)	City of Edgehill/ Volunteers	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
2	Continue to use private hauler for waste collection (Mitchell)	City of Mitchell	\$4,800	General Fund	Ongoing	
3	Maintain all solid waste equipment in proper working order	City/County			Ongoing	
Disposal						
1	Continue to utilize the Glascocock County transfer station	City/County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
2	Continue to utilize the City of Gibson collection system (Gibson)	City of Gibson	\$250,000	General Fund	Ongoing	
3	Contract with McDuffie County to provide a transfer station to dispose of solid waste	County	N/A	N/A	Complete	
4	Continue to utilize tax revenue for Solid Waste Management as part of services provided through taxes (Mitchell)	City of Mitchell	N/A	N/A	Incomplete	Changed to monthly fee for services in '05
5	Investigate the feasibility of implementing a fee to offset the cost of curbside collection	City of Mitchell	N/A	N/A	Complete	
Education & Public Involvement						
1	Publicize and promote all proposed solid waste reduction programs through the County Extension service	City/County	\$50,000	General Fund	Ongoing	



APPENDIX E: IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Glascocock County Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Schedule															
ACTIVITY		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
Waste Reduction															
1	Encourage local businesses to increase their waste reduction and recycling efforts.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/County	N/A	N/A
2	Establish chipping and mulching of yard waste for citizen and public use at the county transfer station	X	X	X									County	Variable	GEFA Grant
3	Participate in region-wide recycling feasibility study	X	X										County	N/A	N/A
5	Coordinate all waste reduction and recycling activities with other elements in this Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/County	N/A	N/A
6	Establish a Keep Georgia Beautiful chapter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/County	N/A	N/A
7	Work with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the CSRA RDC to identify viable waste reduction and recycling projects	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	N/A	N/A
8	Establish recycling facility operations and increase educational outreach efforts through equipment and materials purchased with the assistance of the GEFA grant	X	X	X	X	X	X						County	Variable	GEFA Grant
9	Initiate single stream recycled material collection service for commercial customers in the county through equipment purchased with the assistance of the State Recycling Hub Grant Program	X	X	X	X	X	X						County	Variable	HUB Grant



APPENDIX E: IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
Collection															
1	Evaluate collection efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new collection mechanisms are feasible	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/County	N/A	N/A
2	Review <i>Joint Glascock County Joint Comprehensive Plan</i> prior to developing future solid waste management policies	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	N/A	N/A
4	Maintain city government collection and vehicle and equipment replacement.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities	N/A	N/A
5	Adopt ordinances that deal with illegal dumping	X	X										Cities/County	N/A	N/A
6	Study the feasibility of expanded curbside waste collection services by Gibson and/or private sector providers	X	X	X	X	X							County/Gibson	Variable	General Fund
7	Purchase an additional trash truck	X	X	X	X	X							County	\$100,000	Solid Waste Operating Fund
Disposal															
1	Evaluate disposal efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new disposal mechanisms are feasible		X		X		X		X		X	X	Cities/County	N/A	N/A
2	Review the <i>Joint Glascock County Comprehensive Plan</i> prior to developing future solid waste management policies	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/County	N/A	N/A



APPENDIX E: IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
3	Develop disposal contingency program and coordinate with all jurisdictions on unified contingency strategy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/ County	N/A	N/A
4	Maintain city and county disposal vehicles and equipment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Gibson/ County	Variable	Solid Waste Operating Fund
5	Pro-actively consider alternative future disposal options.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	N/A	N/A
Land Limitation Element															
1	Continue to coordinate solid waste planning with County ordinances and the <i>Joint Glascock County Comprehensive Plan</i> .	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/ County	N/A	N/A
2	Continue use of Siting Criteria Maps in review and planning for future solid waste management facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	N/A	N/A
Education & Public Involvement															
1	Educate residents on the importance of pursuing a reduction in the amount of solid waste received at disposal facilities through participation in recycling programs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/ County	N/A	N/A
2	Apply GEFA money towards education about solid waste reduction and recycling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities/ County	Variable	GEFA Grant



APPENDIX E: IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
3	Coordinate with citizens and private organizations to establish an affiliate chapter of Keep Georgia Beautiful	X	X	X									Cities/ County/ Volunteers	N/A	N/A
4	Work with the State’s Recycling Coordinator and the CSRA RDC to identify viable educational and recycling projects in the county	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	N/A	N/A
5	Publicize and promote all proposed solid waste reduction programs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	N/A	N/A
6	Continue coordination between BOE and 4-H Club for education programs in elementary and middle schools	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	BOE/ County	N/A	N/A

