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**ALMA/BACON COUNTY JOINT  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT  
SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE  
2003-2007**



# Broadhurst

Environmental

March 21, 2003

Ms. Kelly Brookshire  
Regional Development Committee  
Waycross, Ga.

Re: Broadhurst capacity

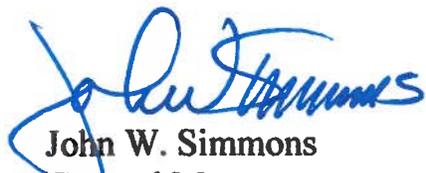
Dear Ms. Brookshire,

Republic Services of Ga., LC d/b/a Broadhurst Environmental is a sub title D state-of-the-art solid waste disposal facility.

As of the above date we have 13,000,000 cubic yards of airspace for solid waste disposal; at current daily volumes the landfill will not reach capacity for 22.5 years.

Enclosed is our latest **capacity report** from our engineering consultant. Any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



John W. Simmons  
General Manager

RETURN TO:  
 REMAINING CAPACITY REPORT  
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION  
 LAND PROTECTION BRANCH  
 4244 INTERNATIONAL PARKWAY, SUITE 104  
 ATLANTA, GA 30354  
 For assistance call: (404) 362-2696

DATE ENTRY \_\_\_\_\_

**REMAINING MSW CAPACITY REPORT**

Permit Holder: Wayne County Solid Waste Management Authority  
 Address: 174 North Brunswick Street Jesup, Georgia 31545  
 Site Name: Wayne County SR23 Broadhurst MSW Landfill  
 EPD Permit Number: 151-014D(SL)

		CALCULATED	
<b>I. SURVEY DATA</b>		May 14, 2002	
A. Date of Topographic Survey			
B. Remaining MSW Volume (Available Fill Volume Based on Survey)	13,549,380		cy
C. Estimated Percent by Volume of Total Used by Cover Soil	8		%
D. Net Remaining MSW Waste Volume (Line B Reduced by Line C)		12,465,430	cy
<b>II. AMOUNT OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSED</b>			
E. Tons Per Day Received for Disposal	1,442		ton/day
F. Total Operational Days Per Year	286		days
G. Total Estimated Annual Tons Disposed		412,412	tons
<b>III. WASTE PLACEMENT</b>			
H. Estimated Waste Compaction Density	1500		lbs/cy
I. Estimated Waste Compaction Density	0.75		tons/cy
J. Net Volume Used Per Day (Line E Divided by Line I)		1,923	cy/day
K. Net Volume Used Per Year (Line G Divided by Line I)		549,883	cy/yr
<b>IV. REMAINING CAPACITY (SITE LIFE)</b>			
L. Remaining Capacity (Line D Divided by Line J)		6482	days
M. Remaining Capacity (Line D Divided by Line K)		22.67	years
N. Estimated Date of Completion for Facility		January 14, 2024	
<b>V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>			
1. This report covers data from 4/16/01 - 5/14/02			
2. A computer generated volume was prepared in 2002 and is considered more accurate than previous remaining volume calculations. This resulted in an increase in remaining capacity from last year.			

I hereby certify the above determinations were performed under my direct supervision.

W F Hodges  
 Registered Professional Engineer  
 Georgia Registration No. 15689  
7/26/02  
 Date



John A. Flom  
 Permit Holder  
8-5-02  
 Date

CITY OF ALMA & BACON COUNTY

RESOLUTION OF SUBMITTAL

WHEREAS: The City of Alma and Bacon County has completed a Joint Five Year Solid Waste Management Short Term Work Program for the period 2003 to 2007.

WHEREAS: This Five Year Short Term Work Program was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures Act, and a Public Hearing was held on April 7th 2003 at 5:00 p.m. in the Bacon County Courthouse.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the City Council of Alma and the County Commission of Bacon County hereby submits the Five Year Short Term Work Program 2003-2007 to the Southeast Georgia Regional Developmental Center for Regional Review, and to the Department of Community Affairs for review to determine compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures Act.

Adopted this 5th day of May 2003.  
City of Alma

Adopted this 6th day of May 2003.  
Bacon County

[Signature]  
Mayor

[Signature]  
Chairman, County Commission

[Signature]

\_\_\_\_\_

**ALMA/BACON COUNTY JOINT  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT  
SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE**

**2003-2007**

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**ALMA/BACON COUNTY JOINT  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT  
SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE**

**2003-2007**

**OVERVIEW**

**Introduction**

The purpose of the Alma/Bacon County Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Short Term Work Program (STWP) update is to provide the City of Alma and Bacon County with a tool to manage and to guide their SWMP until 2007. By meeting the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures established as part of the legislation, the City of Alma/Bacon County Solid Waste Management Plan serves as a basis for the decision-making regarding **Waste Collection, Waste Reduction, Waste Disposal, Waste Education and Public Involvement, and Implementation and Financing.**

Jordan, Jones, and Goulding, Inc. prepared the original plan for the Tri-County Landfill in 1993. The Tri-County Landfill complied with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990. Some of the basic information used to form the Tri-County landfill was formulated by the Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center (SEGa RDC) in its "*Area Wide Solid Waste Management Plan 1987-2000,*" prepared in 1987.

The agreement to construct the Tri-County Landfill was signed in the spring of 1990 pledging to create a \$1.4 million, 300-acre environmentally sensitive landfill to manage household waste (MSW). The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) authorized the permit for the Tri-County Landfill on July 16, 1993. The Tri-County Landfill was sanctioned and accepted by Bacon County and the City of Alma following the Department of Community Affairs' review and approval.

Since 1992, several aspects of solid waste management in southeast Georgia have changed. Perhaps the most significant change has been the emergence and proliferation of privately owned and operated landfills in middle and south Georgia. This has contributed heavily to the large number of counties and municipalities that have privatized collection and disposal, just as Bacon County and its municipality have done, contracting with the Southland Waste, Inc.

Market forces in the recycling industry have created less than favorable conditions for many recycling programs. Some proposed recycling programs outlined in the original plan have become cost prohibitive due to these conditions, whereas others have languished but still only operate on a voluntary basis. The hoped for goals of the early part of the decade concerning recycling have not been realized. Although public awareness of the benefits of recycling has increased, the need still exists for further

education and information concerning the overall importance of good solid waste management planning and implementation.

### **Tri-County Landfill**

The Tri-County Landfill project came to a halt during the mid-nineties due to pressure from concerned citizens, privately owned landfills operating at a lower cost, restrictions placed on the Tri-County Landfill, cost overruns during construction, and the unknown cost associated with maintaining and operating the Tri-County Landfill.

The Tri-County Landfill operation collapsed when the ability to utilize waste generated from outside of the Tri-County operational area was denied. For example, by late 1995, Ware County's tipping fee at the Iron Bridge Landfill, which was scheduled for closure by 1997, was a competitive \$22.50 per ton. The Broadhurst Facility in Wayne County was charging only \$22 per ton in 1995 with a daily intake of approximately 900 tons. Tipping fees at the Tri-County Landfill were projected to be as high as \$114.00 per ton. Due to the uncertainty of the Tri-County Landfill the City Council of Alma and the Bacon County Commission relinquished membership in the Tri-County Landfill.

The Tri-County Landfill currently remains unused and will require a leachate collection tank to be installed before opening. The aforementioned Iron Bridge Landfill has been closed and the majority of members are using Southland Waste Inc. and/or Reddy Disposal Inc. for the disposal of household waste and/or commercial waste.

MSW is collected weekly by Southland Waste Inc. and taken to Broadhurst for disposal. Yard waste that is not composted by the residents of the City is collected weekly, and the County residents are encouraged to compost or place yard waste in the City's inert landfill. All recyclables, HHW, and special waste collected at the Southland Waste Inc. Transfer Station are separated, recycled or disposed of according to the composition of materials. All commercial waste is collected and disposed of via contract through private waste haulers.

In compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, this document provides an update of the status quo for solid waste management and offers a narrative outlining the changes that have occurred since the original Plan was drafted in 1993 and concludes with the new Short Term Work Program 2003-2007.

## SUMMARY OF ALMA/BACON COUNTY/TRI-COUNTY LANDFILL

### JOINT SOLID WASTE

### MANAGEMENT PLAN -1993

The 1993 Bacon County Solid Waste Management Plan addressed seven (7) elements in solid waste management and established specific goals for each element. The following is a summary of those goals:

#### **1. Amount of Waste Element:**

To determine the amount and composition of the solid waste stream generated and/or disposed of in the Bacon County area to create a valid data base upon which to formulate effective solid waste management decisions; develop a ten-year solid waste program; and to determine if state and local goals have been met. In computing the amount of waste that is generated, the sum of the following types of waste was determined:

1. Solid waste disposed in area landfills
2. Inert waste disposed in inert landfills
3. Recycle materials
4. Yard waste chipped for use as compost
5. Incinerator ash from biomedical waste products

#### **2. Collection Element:**

To provide for the efficient and cost effective collection of solid waste, recyclables and compostable material for the ten-year planning period. To reduce the number of "green boxes" used as collection points in the Tri-County area, a review by each participant of the costs and, wherever possible, to establish an enterprise fund accounting system for solid waste collection. **Note-** At the time of the drafting of the Tri-County SWMP, the collection systems then in place were believed to be adequate for the ten-year period for which the initial plan would cover. This calculated assumption was based on the amount of waste figures generated as well as target goals for waste reduction. There have been changes in the collection element precipitated by the privatization of collection in a majority of participants in the Tri-County Plan. These changes have in no way compromised the integrity of the initial plan and will be explained in detail in the "*Changes Section*" of this update along with duly noted referencing in the new Short Term Work Program 2003-2007. It should also be noted that privatization has a singular impact on the need to address the establishment of an enterprise fund.

### **3. Waste Reduction Element:**

To develop a strategy for achieving the state-wide twenty-five (25%) percent reduction goal in the per capita disposal rate by 2007 through waste reduction programs including source reduction, recycling, and mulch production. Initiate a public education program specifically to inform and instruct the public concerning waste reduction. (This is also a part of Element 6) **Note:** Unforeseen developments in the recycling market have forced much of what had been projected in terms of recycling to be re-evaluated. This will be examined more in the "*Changes Section*".

### **4. Disposal Element:**

To continue to utilize the Tri-County Sanitary Landfill through the year 2000 when its capacity will have been reached. Develop a strategy that will ensure cost effective efficient disposal of all waste pursuant to the closing of the existing landfill; and study the possibility of privatized disposal. Develop a contingency plan to include most possible scenarios for disposal. The following briefly summarizes the actions taken by the Tri-County governments in 1993 to assure adequate solid waste disposal capacity for the future:

1. Tri-County Landfill Agreement among the counties.
2. Adoption of a solid waste reduction goal by July 1, 1996 and beyond.
3. EPD-approved closure plan for the Ware County Iron Bridge Road Landfill.
4. Site Acceptability obtained, Phase I Design and Operation plans under review by EPD.
5. Site Acceptability obtained for Phase II of Tri-County Landfill. (Disposal capacity through FY 2025).

### **5. Land Limitations Element:**

Identify those areas most suitable for placing solid waste management facilities and identify those areas, which would be unsuitable for placing such a facility in the Tri-County Region. To ensure that any proposed waste disposal or transfer facilities will be compatible with surrounding land use both current and future.

### **6. Educational and Public Involvement Element:**

To enhance public knowledge of the importance of planned solid waste management in the Tri-County Region. To increase public awareness to the problems associated with solid waste management and the mandated regulations in effect throughout the State of Georgia. The formation of a Clean and Beautiful Commission charged with the responsibility of an on-going public education/information program.

### **7. Implementation and Financing Element:**

To demonstrate fiscal responsibility in implementing an affordable solid waste management plan while meeting the requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act.

## **CHANGES THAT HAVE AFFECTED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The most significant changes to the original Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan has been the continuing transition to a privatized system of collection and disposal and the modified recycling goals stemming from market forces in the recycling industry. Privatization of collection and disposal has significantly reduced direct governmental participation in day-to-day services. This does not negate the fact that authority and responsibility for all solid waste management activities is still under the auspices of the City and County.

In terms of composition, the main sources of solid waste in Bacon County remain residential, commercial/institutional, industrial, and a small amount of agricultural waste. Growth within the City of Alma and Bacon County has remained stable during the last decade. The stabilization of growth has contributed to a solid waste system that is efficient and cost effective to operate.

Due to the rural nature of the City of Alma and Bacon County, low-tech backyard composting and burning of yard waste is common and has greatly reduce the amount of yard debris entering the MSW stream. The reduction of yard waste entering into the MSW stream has been an important factor in waste reduction since the inception of the plan.

The recycling boom predicted in the 1980s has not been realized. Although there is an increased awareness of the need to recycle where economically possible, the parameters necessary for mandatory recycling do not exist. The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center continues to collect and process old newspaper (ONP), old magazines (OMG), and old corrugated cardboard (OCC). Aluminum cans remain a popular item to separate for recycling and many businesses and governmental offices maintain discrete containers for their collection. The collection of white and brown goods is handled via contractual agreement with Southland Waste, Inc.

Public Awareness of environmental issues, from toxic spills to landfill problems, has increased with frequent television and newspaper coverage. Along with increased awareness has come increased legislation regulating solid waste management.

Although a heightened public awareness and new state regulatory efforts have made a difference, continued public education and public involvement are critical to the success of any solid waste management plan. The City of Alma and Bacon County are committed to educating the citizenry on solid waste management problems.

In the past, public service announcements (PSAs) concerning various aspects of waste management and recycling have been periodically disseminated with utility bills. This practice will not continue during this five-year period of the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Other media outlets such as area newspapers and local cable access TV will be utilized for public service announcements. There are also opportunities such as Browning-Ferris (recently purchased by Allied Waste) Industries' MOBIUS program, which is designed to teach the values of recycling and environmental awareness to students K-6.

Similar programs are available from various public and private sources. City and County officials are available, per request, to give presentations concerning solid waste management to schools, civic, church or commercial groups.

## SUMMARY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

### SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM

#### PLAN ELEMENTS FOR 2003-2007

1. **Waste Collection:**

It is not economically feasible for the City of Alma and Bacon County to operate and maintain a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) collection service or site.

- Private waste haulers will collect and dispose of MSW weekly.
- Private waste haulers will collect and manage the disposal of Commercial Waste via individual contract with user.
- Private waste haulers, upon request, will collect white and brown goods and other items that are large and bulky by appointment.
- The City of Alma will collect yard waste once per week and dispose of it at the City of Alma's Inert Landfill.

2. **Waste Reduction:**

Currently the City of Alma and Bacon County does not have a mandated Waste Reduction Plan. The amount of solid waste that is produced by industries located within the county's boundaries is small in comparison to other communities of corresponding size because of the lack of industrial growth.

To further reduce the amount of waste entering the MSW stream the city and county encourages residents to take yard debris/waste to the inert landfill or manage it on site, and to disposal of C&D, HHW, and special waste at the Southland Waste Inc., Transfer Station. Items not suited for disposal at the inert landfill are gathered and mechanically separated on site and taken to the Broadhurst landfill for proper routing and handling. The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center collects old Corrugated Containers (OCC), Old Magazines (OMG) and Old Newspapers (ONP) and recycles them.

The City and County will continue to encourage the citizens to properly dispose of all yard waste, C&D, HHW, MSW, and special waste. The reduction of unauthorized waste entering the MSW stream will greatly extend the usable life of the Broadhurst site.

3. **Waste Disposal:**

Private waste haulers dispose of MSW. Yard waste within the city limits is collected by the City and disposed of at the Inert Landfill. County residents are encouraged to take items not used for composting to the City's Inert Landfill for chipping/mulching.

The City and County encourages all residents to dispose of MSW, C&D, HHW, yard waste, and special waste as suggested by Southland Waste Inc., and the City and County.

4. **Implementation and Financing Element:**

To demonstrate fiscal responsibility in implementing an affordable solid Waste Management Plan while meeting the requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act.

5. **Land Limitations Element:**

Identify those areas most suitable for placing solid waste management facilities and identify those areas that would be unsuitable for placing such a facility in Alma/Bacon County. To ensure that any proposed waste disposal or transfer facilities will be compatible with surrounding land use both current and future.

6. **Waste Education and Public Involvement:**

The City of Alma and Bacon County do not have a Keep America Beautiful Program (KAB) or Adopt-A-Highway Program. The City and County do have a Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) and will continue to support and participate in the program.

The city and county have free access to local media outlets. Public Service Announcements (PSA) and information pertaining to Solid Waste Management are published and/or broadcasted with local media.

## **LIST OF SOLID WASTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **CITY OF ALMA AND BACON COUNTY**

**1992-1997**

The following is a list of major accomplishments achieved during 1992-1997.

- Formulation of a Solid Waste Management Plan in concurrence with State of Georgia mandate
- Sited and constructed a USEPA Subtitle "D" municipal solid waste landfill
- Successfully completed requirements for closure of the existing Iron Bridge Road (EPD Permit Number 148-003D(SL)) landfill with a Subtitle "D" cap. (Note- this was an unlined facility)
- Removal of Green Boxes and the accompanying sanitation problems associated with them
- An aggressive enforcement policy with respect to illegal dumping has been successful in reducing such infractions
- Privatization of collection and disposal of solid waste
- Alma/Bacon Developmental Center developed a weekly business pickup service and drop box pickup service
- Nascent residential recyclable pickup service provided at no charge by the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center to two residential routes on alternating weekly schedules
- Acquisition of an additional baler by the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center
- The City of Alma and Bacon County offer free presentations concerning solid waste management and/or recycling to interested public or private groups upon request

## **LIST OF SOLID WASTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**1998-2002**

- **Discontinued Green Boxes**
- **County and Municipal waste collected weekly**
- **Transfer Station completed and leased to Southland Waste, Inc**
- **Municipal Yard Waste collected every two weeks**
- **The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center collects ONP, OMG and OCC countywide**
- **All residents of Bacon County receive free mulched and chipped materials from the inert landfill**

**THE CITY OF ALMA AND BACON COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANGEMENT  
REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
1998-2002**

**Note: The language utilized in the 1998-2002 Record of Accomplishments is taken verbatim from the original Solid Waste Management Plan Update and Short Term Work Program of 1998-2002.**

# The City of Alma and Bacon County Solid Waste Management Report of Accomplishments Collection

Activity	Status	Explanation
Discontinue collection from Green Boxes in county. Southland Waste provides for residential pickup, once per week.	Completed	
Planned transfer station completed in conjunction with Alma. Currently being leased to Southland Waste	Completed	
Alma-Bacon MR Center to serve as countywide recycling center. A separate manned center could not be justified for cost-effectiveness.	Completed	
All Green Boxes have been removed to promote public safety and enhance the overall quality of life. Green Boxes still available for commercial and industrial rental.	Completed	
Municipal waste collected weekly by Southland Waste.	Ongoing	Contract renewable every 5 years.
Recyclables handled at Alma-Bacon County MR Center. A separate collection route for recyclables was deemed cost prohibitive. The public is urged to recycle where possible, mandatory recycling, at the time, is not cost effective.	Ongoing	Alma-Bacon County MR Center has proven to be the most cost effective and efficient program in handling community recyclables.
Collect yard waste every week	Ongoing	This program maintained by City of Alma.

## Education and Public Involvement

Activity	Status	Explanation
Each of the counties and their respective municipalities has coordinated policies on recycling in conjunction with local MR Centers that compliment each other.	Completed	
Each county in conjunction with its Comprehensive Plan has established some form of Clean and Beautiful Commission; economies of scale dictate the size and nature of each organization.	Completed	
Citizens' Solid Waste Advisory Groups were active in each county during the initial drafting of the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan. Continued activity is expected for the remaining five years.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
Groups such as the Waycross-Ware Partnership with Neighborhoods have been an outgrowth of the original CAG offering periodic clean-ups and recycling weekends.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
Consumers are encouraged to buy and use recycled goods when cost-effective to do so. Periodic information campaigns have successfully increased public awareness. These will continue over the next five years.	Not Accomplished	Alma Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
Local newspapers have provided a series of public service announcements concerning all aspects of solid waste management. They will continue to do so over the next five years.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
Tours are available on request of any facility including the unopened Tri-County landfill.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.

## Education Materials

Activity	Status	Explanation
Recycling center directory available to all centers via state of Georgia	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership
Recycling and related information on solid waste management are provided on a periodic basis via utility bills in all counties.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
Schools in each county (K-12) have adopted curricular that emphasize the relationship between environmental integrity and solid waste management.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
Local radio and TV provide PSAs as needed	Ongoing	In contract with Southland Waste
A manned "hotline" was deemed cost prohibitive. Each county provides an emergency 24-hour line. All "trouble calls" are handled by appropriate departments.	Ongoing	In contract with Southland Waste
A speaker's bureau was deemed cost prohibitive. Resource personnel are available in all counties to speak upon request.	Completed	Public works report given at City Council meeting and reported on radio and in newspaper.
Earth Day and Week awareness continues to grow in the Tri-County area through public education and school programs	Ongoing	Alma-Bacon County has adopted a very aggressive clean up program that coincides with Georgia Cites Week and other Georgia programs.
Storefront displays proved to be unfeasible. Local merchants are cooperative in emphasizing recycling and conservation/recycling mascot.	Ongoing	Alma-Bacon County MR Center provides recycle bins behind merchant's buildings.
Brochures and pamphlets are generated as needed concerning solid waste developments. Time specific circulars usually accompany appropriate events such as Earth Day etc.	Ongoing	Alma-Bacon County participates in Keep Georgia Beautiful programs and aggressively enforces litter control.

<p>Waycross, Blackshear and Alma have all joined the "Adopt-A-Highway" Program. Economies of scale have prevented Patterson and Offerman from Participating.</p>	<p>Not Accomplished</p>	<p>Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership</p>
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## Disposal

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Disposal at Tri-County landfill prevented due to reasons cited in narrative. Disposal is now at Broadhurst landfill in Wayne County via 5 year contract with Southland Waste, Inc.	Ongoing	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership and entered into contract with Southland Waste.
An inert landfill has been established and is maintained for countywide yard waste composting.	Ongoing	City of Alma provides pick up in city for a monthly fee. County residents must transport and with no fee.

## Waste Reduction

Activity	Status	Explanation
A separate countywide recycling center was deemed cost prohibitive, however the Alma-Bacon County MR Center does provide countywide service.	Ongoing	MR Center satisfies recycling needs.
Due to the rural nature of the County home yard, waste composting is common. Education materials concerning the benefits of composting have been disseminated in utility bills.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
County has agreement with City of Alma to use mulching site.	Not Accomplished	Alma-Bacon County withdrew from Tri-County Partnership.
The MR Center remains self-service although will pickup on request large or unwieldy items. Route collection of recyclables was deemed cost prohibitive.	Ongoing	MR Center provides cost effective and efficient service for recyclables.
Yard waste collected is processed at the inert landfill.	Ongoing	City provides service for monthly fee
Volume based collection rates were considered but not adopted for residential collection. Commercial and industrial Green Box usage is volume based.	Completed	

# ALMA/BACON COUNTY JOINT Solid Waste Management Short Term Work Program Update

<b>Waste Collection Element</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
1) Continue to perform weekly curbside collection of MSW through agreement/contract with Southland Waste, Inc.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	City: \$120 per customer (annual) County: \$132 per customer (annual cost)	User Fees
2) Continue to collect yard waste once per week and dispose of at the Inert Landfill/Southland Waste Inc., Transfer Station.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	City of Alma	\$48 per customer (annual)	User Fees
3) White and brown goods are collected by appointment only. (Southland Waste, Inc. must have a weeks notice)	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	\$0 cost to customer/contractual agreement with hauler to provide this free service	Service is free to residents of Alma/Bacon (contractual agreement)
4) Commercial waste is collected by commercial waste haulers.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	Based on Volume	Individual user fees

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Annual Cost	Funding Source
5) The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center has expanded its facility and continues to provide service to Alma and Bacon County.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	State Funding	Recyclable Materials
6) The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center maintains ONP, OMG, and OCC drop-off centers for residents.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	State Funding	Recyclable Materials
7) The collection of HHW and special waste materials is handled at the Solid Waste Transfer Station located at the Inert Landfill or to Harris Rd. Transfer Station, Waycross, GA.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	Cost Based on Weight	User Fees
8) Alma/Bacon County has coordinated policies on recycling in conjunction with local Alma/Bacon Developmental Center that compliment each other.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County/Alma and Bacon Developmental Center	State Funding	Recyclable Materials

## Disposal

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate (annual cost)	Funding Source
1) Continue the contractual agreement with Southland Waste, Inc. for disposal of solid waste for duration of five year STWP.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	\$120 City per household \$132 County per household	User Fees
2) Continue to support and maintain the City and County Inert Landfill for disposal of yard waste.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	\$62,000 (County contribution) \$48 per household (city)	User Fees (City) and County Funds
3) HHW and special waste are processed at the Southland Waste Inc. Transfer Station and transferred either to the Waycross Transfer Station or Broadhurst (Wayne County).	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Southland Waste	Variable by Weight	User Fees
4) Recyclables are taken to the Southland Waste Inc. Transfer Station and mechanically separated for disposal at either the Ware County Transfer Station or Broadhurst (Wayne County).	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	Cost Based on Weight	User Fees
5) Alma/Bacon County has coordinated policies on recycling in conjunction with local Alma/Bacon Developmental Center that compliment each other.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County/ Alma and Bacon Developmental Center	State Funding	Recyclable Materials

## Waste Reduction

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
1) Alma/Bacon County will continue to support and encourage the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center to provide countywide recycling for ONP, OMG, and OCC to reduce recyclable materials from entering the MSW stream.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County/Alma/Bacon Developmental Center	State Funding	Recyclable Materials
2) The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center is self-service, and will pick up large cardboard containers upon request to prevent them from entering the MSW stream.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County/Alma/Bacon Developmental Center	State Funding	Recyclable Materials
3) The City will continue to reduce the amount of yard waste from entering the MSW stream by collecting yard waste weekly from individuals not composting and routing it to the Inert Landfill for chipping/mulching.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma	\$48 per customer	User Fees

User Fees	Variable	Alma/Bacon County	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	
Recyclable Materials	State Funding	Alma/Bacon County/Alma and Bacon Developmental Center	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	<p>4) City and County residents are encouraged to utilize the Southland Waste Inc. Transfer Station to eliminate or reduce the amount of HHW, C&amp;D, and special waste from entering the MSW stream.</p> <p>5) Alma/Bacon County will continue to support the endeavors of the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center to increase its capabilities for receiving and processing ONP, OMG, and OCC to reduce the amount of recyclable paper from entering the MSW stream.</p>
Recyclable Materials	State Funding	Alma/Bacon County/Alma and Bacon Development Center	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	<p>6) Alma/Bacon County will encourage and support endeavors of the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center to increase the governmental office paper-recycling program to reduce the amount of recyclable paper from entering the solid waste stream.</p>

<p>7) To reduce the amount of yard waste from entering the MSW stream the County will continue to encourage residents not composting to take yard waste to the inert landfill for chipping and mulching.</p>	<p>2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007</p>	<p>Bacon County</p>	<p>\$62,000 (county's share of the inert landfill)</p>	<p>County Funds</p>
<p>8) To reduce the amount of recyclable paper from entering the solid waste stream Alma/Bacon County has coordinated policies on recycling in conjunction with local Alma/Bacon Developmental Center that compliment each other.</p>	<p>2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007</p>	<p>Alma/Bacon County/ Alma and Bacon Development Center</p>	<p>State Funding</p>	<p>Recyclable Materials</p>

## Financing and Implementation

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Annual Cost	Funding Source
1) Bacon County will continue to support the City of Alma's inert landfill.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Bacon County	\$62,000	County Funds
2) The City of Alma will continue to support and finance the inert landfill.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	City of Alma	\$48 per household	User fees
3) Continue to support one part-time employee at inert landfill.	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007	Alma/Bacon County	\$20,000	Paid from by user fees(activity 2) and county funds (activity 1)

## Land Limitations

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Annual Cost	Funding Source
<p>1) Identify those areas most suitable for placing solid waste management facilities and identify those areas that would be unsuitable for placing such a facility in Alma/Bacon County. To ensure that any proposed waste disposal or transfer facilities will be compatible with surrounding land use both current and future.</p>	<p>2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007</p>	<p>Alma/Bacon County/SEGa RDC</p>	<p>\$100</p>	<p>County Funds</p>

5/20/2003

2003 MAY 15 PM 2: 0

**Notification of Bacon County/City of Alma/  
Short Term Work Program and  
Report of Accomplishments Submittal and  
Regional Review Hearing/Comment Opportunity**

**Date of Submittal:** May 12, 2003

**Submitting**

**Local Government(s):**

City of Alma	Bacon County
P.O. Box 429	P.O. Box 356
Alma, GA 31510	Alma, GA 31510
(912) 632-8072	(912) 632-5214

**Contact Person:** Jerry Turner, Better Home Town Coordinator

**New Local Plan:**     **Joint Plan**     **Single Jurisdiction**  
 **Capital Improvements Element**  
 **Local Plan Amendment (Single Jurisdiction)**  
 **Local Plan Update:**     **Joint Plan**     **Single Jurisdiction**

**Regional Review Hearing Date and Time:** May 22, 2003, 10:00 AM

**Place of Regional Hearing:** Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center  
1725 South Georgia Parkway, West  
Waycross, GA 31503

**Description of General Nature of Plan:**

The local governments of Bacon County and the City of Alma have approved their respective Solid Waste Management Short Term Work Program (STWP) Updates and Reports of Accomplishments. The purpose of the STWP is to list the specific actions that the local government intends to take during the next five years to address the needs and goals identified in the plan.

**Reviewing Regional Development Center:** Southeast Georgia  
Regional Development Center

**Contact Person:** Fred Carpenter  
**Address:** Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center  
1725 South Georgia Parkway, West  
Waycross, GA 31503  
**Phone:** 912-285-6097

**ALMA/BACON COUNTY JOINT  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT  
SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE**

**2003-2007**

**OVERVIEW**

**Introduction**

The purpose of the Alma/Bacon County Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Short Term Work Program (STWP) update is to provide the City of Alma and Bacon County with a tool to manage and to guide their SWMP until 2007. By meeting the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures established as part of the legislation, the City of Alma/Bacon County Solid Waste Management Plan serves as a basis for the decision-making regarding **Waste Collection, Waste Reduction, Waste Disposal, Land Limitation, Waste Education and Public Involvement, and Implementation and Financing.**

Jordan, Jones, and Goulding, Inc. prepared the original plan for the Tri-County Landfill in 1993. The Tri-County Landfill complied with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990. Some of the basic information used to form the Tri-County landfill was formulated by the Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center (SEGa RDC) in its "*Area Wide Solid Waste Management Plan 1987-2000,*" prepared in 1987.

The agreement to construct the Tri-County Landfill was signed in the spring of 1990 pledging to create a \$1.4 million, 300-acre environmentally sensitive landfill to manage household waste (HHW). The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) authorized the permit for the Tri-County Landfill on July 16, 1993. The Tri-County Landfill was sanctioned and accepted by Bacon County and the City of Alma following the Department of Community Affairs' review and approval.

Since 1992-1997, several aspects of solid waste management in southeast Georgia changed. Perhaps the most significant change has been the emergence and proliferation of privately owned and operated landfills in middle and south Georgia. This has contributed heavily to the large number of counties and municipalities that have privatized collection and disposal, just as Bacon County and its municipality have done, contracting with the Southland Waste, Inc.

Market forces in the recycling industry have created less than favorable conditions for many recycling programs. Some proposed recycling programs outlined in the original plan have become cost prohibitive due to these conditions, whereas others have languished but still only operate on a voluntary basis. The hoped for goals of the early part of the decade concerning recycling have been not realized. Although public awareness of the benefits of recycling has increased, the need still exists for further

education and information concerning the overall importance of good solid waste management planning and implementation.

### **Tri-County Landfill**

The Tri-County Landfill project came to a halt during the mid-nineties due to pressure from concerned citizens, privately owned landfills operating at a lower cost, restrictions placed on the Tri-County Landfill, cost overruns during construction, and the unknown cost associated with maintaining and operating the Tri-County Landfill.

The Tri-County Landfill operation collapsed when the ability to utilize waste generated from outside of the Tri-County operational area was denied. For example, by late 1995, Ware County's tipping fee at the Iron Bridge Landfill, which was scheduled for closure by 1997, was a competitive \$22.50 per ton. The Broadhurst Facility in Wayne County was charging only \$22 per ton in 1995 with a daily intake of approximately 900 tons. Tipping fees at the Tri-County Landfill were projected to be as high as \$114.00 per ton.

The Tri-County Landfill currently remains unused and will require a leachate collection tank to be installed before opening. The aforementioned Iron Bridge Landfill has been closed and the majority of members are using Southland Waste Inc. and/or Reddy Disposal Inc. for the disposal of household waste and/or commercial waste. Household waste (HHW) is currently being taken to the Broadhurst Facility in Wayne County, Georgia. Yard waste is either composted by the homeowner or collected and disposed of in inert landfills.

Southland Waste Inc. collects and disposes of metal goods monthly. Items made of paper are collected by the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center. White and brown goods are treated as commercial waste. Commercial waste is collected and disposed of by private waste haulers. Due to the uncertainty of the Tri-County Landfill the City Council of Alma and the Bacon County Commission relinquished membership in the Tri-County Landfill.

In compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, this document provides an update of the status quo for solid waste management and offers a narrative outlining the changes that have occurred since the original Plan was drafted in 1993 and concludes with the new Short Term Work Program 2003-2008.

## SUMMARY OF ALMA/BACON COUNTY/TRI-COUNTY LANDFILL

### JOINT SOLID WASTE

#### MANAGEMENT PLAN -1993

The 1993 Bacon County Solid Waste Management Plan addressed seven (7) elements in solid waste management and established specific goals for each element. The following is a summary of those goals:

##### **1. Amount of Waste Element:**

To determine the amount and composition of the solid waste stream generated and/or disposed of in the Bacon County area to create a valid data base upon which to formulate effective solid waste management decisions; develop a ten-year solid waste program; and to determine if state and local goals have been met. In computing the amount of waste that is generated, the sum of the following types of waste was determined:

1. Solid waste disposed in area landfills
2. Inert waste disposed in inert landfills
3. Recycle materials
4. Yard waste chipped for use as compost
5. Incinerator ash from biomedical waste products

##### **2. Collection Element:**

To provide for the efficient and cost effective collection of solid waste, recyclables and compostable material for the ten-year planning period. To reduce the number of "green boxes" used as collection points in the Tri-County area, a review by each participant of the costs and, wherever possible, to establish an enterprise fund accounting system for solid waste collection. **Note-** At the time of the drafting of the Tri-County SWMP, the collection systems then in place were believed to be adequate for the ten-year period for which the initial plan would cover. This calculated assumption was based on the amount of waste figures generated as well as target goals for waste reduction. There have been changes in the collection element precipitated by the privatization of collection in a majority of participants in the Tri-County Plan. These changes have in no way compromised the integrity of the initial plan and will be explained in detail in the "*Changes Section*" of this update along with duly noted referencing in the new Short Term Work Program 2003-2007. It should also be noted that privatization has a singular impact on the need to address the establishment of an enterprise fund.

### **3. Waste Reduction Element:**

To develop a strategy for achieving the state-wide twenty-five (25%) percent reduction goal in the per capita disposal rate by 2007 through waste reduction programs including source reduction, recycling, and mulch production. Initiate a public education program specifically to inform and instruct the public concerning waste reduction. (This is also a part of Element 6) **Note:** Unforeseen developments in the recycling market have forced much of what had been projected in terms of recycling to be re-evaluated. This will be examined more in the "*Changes Section*".

### **4. Disposal Element:**

To continue to utilize the Tri-County Sanitary Landfill through the year 2000 when its capacity will have been reached. Develop a strategy that will ensure cost effective efficient disposal of all waste pursuant to the closing of the existing landfill; and study the possibility of privatized disposal. Develop a contingency plan to include most possible scenarios for disposal. The following briefly summarizes the actions taken by the Tri-County governments in 1993 to assure adequate solid waste disposal capacity for the future:

1. Tri-County Landfill Agreement among the counties.
2. Adoption of a solid waste reduction goal by July 1, 1996 and beyond.
3. EPD-approved closure plan for the Ware County Iron Bridge Road Landfill.
4. Site Acceptability obtained, Phase I Design and Operation plans under review by EPD.
5. Site Acceptability obtained for Phase II of Tri-County Landfill. (Disposal capacity through FY 2025).

### **5. Land Limitations Element:**

Identify those areas most suitable for placing solid waste management facilities and identify those areas, which would be unsuitable for placing such a facility in the Tri-County Region. To ensure that any proposed waste disposal or transfer facilities will be compatible with surrounding land use both current and future.

### **6. Educational and Public Involvement Element:**

To enhance public knowledge of the importance of planned solid waste management in the Tri-County Region. To increase public awareness to the problems associated with solid waste management and the mandated regulations in effect throughout the State of Georgia. The formation of a Clean and Beautiful Commission charged with the responsibility of an on-going public education/information program.

### **7. Implementation and Financing Element:**

To demonstrate fiscal responsibility in implementing an affordable solid waste management plan while meeting the requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act.

## **CHANGES THAT HAVE AFFECTED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The most significant changes to the original Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan has been the continuing transition to a privatized system of collection and disposal and the modified recycling goals stemming from market forces in the recycling industry. Privatization of collection and disposal has significantly reduced direct governmental participation in day-to-day services. This does not negate the fact that authority and responsibility for all solid waste management activities is still under the auspices of the City and County.

In terms of composition, the main sources of solid waste in Bacon County remain residential, commercial/institutional, industrial, and a small amount of agricultural waste. Growth within the City of Alma and Bacon County has remained stable during the last decade. The stabilization of growth has contributed to a solid waste system that is efficient and cost effective to operate.

Due to the rural nature of the City of Alma and Bacon County, low-tech backyard composting and burning of yard waste has greatly reduce the amount of yard debris entering the solid waste stream. The reduction of yard debris entering into the solid waste stream has been an important factor in waste reduction since the inception of the plan.

The recycling boom predicted in the 1980s has not been realized. Although there is an increased awareness of the need to recycle where economically possible, the parameters necessary for mandatory recycling do not exist. The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center continues to process old newspaper (ONP) and old corrugated cardboard (OCC). Aluminum cans remain a popular item to separate for recycling and many businesses and governmental offices maintain discrete containers for their collection. The collection of white and brown goods is handled via the contractual agreement with Southland Waste, Inc.

Public Awareness of environmental issues, from toxic spills to landfill problems, has increased with frequent television and newspaper coverage. Along with increased awareness has come increased legislation regulating solid waste management.

Although a heightened public awareness and new state regulatory efforts have made a difference, continued public education and public involvement are critical to the success of any solid waste management plan. The City of Alma and Bacon County are committed to educate the citizenry on solid waste management problems.

In the past, public service announcements concerning various aspects of waste management and recycling have been periodically disseminated with utility bills. This practice will not continue during this five-year period of the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Other media outlets such as area newspapers and local cable access TV will be utilized for public service announcements. There are also opportunities such as Browning-Ferris (recently purchased by Allied Waste) Industries' MOBIUS program, which is designed to teach the values of recycling and environmental awareness to students K-6.

Similar programs are available from various public and private sources. City and County officials are available, per request, to give presentations concerning solid waste management to schools, civic, church or commercial groups.

## SUMMARY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

### PLAN ELEMENTS FOR 2003-2007

1. **Waste Collection:**

It is not economically feasible for the City of Alma and Bacon County to operate and maintain a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) collection service.

- Private waste haulers will collect and dispose of MSW weekly.
- Private waste haulers will collect and manage the disposal of Commercial Waste via individual contract with user.
- Private waste haulers, upon request, will collect white and brown goods and other items that are large and bulky by appointment.
- Private waste haulers will collect MSW weekly.
- The City of Alma will collect yard waste once per week and dispose of it at the City of Alma's Inert Landfill.

2. **Waste Reduction:**

Currently the City of Alma and Bacon County does not have a mandated Waste Reduction Plan. The amount of solid waste that is produced by industries located within the county's boundaries is small in comparison to other communities of corresponding size because of the lack of industrial growth.

To further reduce the amount of waste entering the MSW stream the city and county encourages residents to take yard debris/waste to the inert landfill or manage it on site, to disposal of C&D, HHW, and special waste at the Southland Waste Inc., Transfer Station. Items not suited for disposal at the inert landfill are gathered and mechanically separated on site and taken to the Broadhurst landfill for disposal or recycled. The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center collects old Corrugated Containers (OCC), Old Magazines (OMG) and Old Newspapers (ONP) and recycles them.

The City and County will continue to encourage the citizens to properly dispose of all yard debris/waste, C&D, HHW, MSW, and special waste. The elimination of unauthorized waste from the MSW stream reduces the amount of waste entering the Solid Waste Management Site.

3. **Waste Disposal:**

Private waste haulers dispose of MSW. Yard debris/waste within the city limits is collected and disposed of at the Inert Landfill/Southland Waste Inc., Transfer Station. County residents are encouraged to take items not used for composting to the City's Inert Landfill/Transfer Station for chipping/mulching.

The City and County encourages all residents to dispose of MSW, C&D, HHW, yard debris/waste, and special waste as suggested by Southland Waste Inc., and the City and County.

4. **Implementation and Financing Element:**

To demonstrate fiscal responsibility in implementing an affordable solid Waste Management Plan while meeting the requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act.

5. **Land Limitations Element:**

Identify those areas most suitable for placing solid waste management facilities and identify those areas that would be unsuitable for placing such a facility in Alma/Bacon County. To ensure that any proposed waste disposal or transfer facilities will be compatible with surrounding land use both current and future.

6. **Waste Education and Public Involvement:**

The City of Alma and Bacon County do not have a Keep America Beautiful Program (KAB) or Adopt-A-Highway Program. The City and County does have a Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) and will continue to support and participate in the program.

The city and county have free access to local media outlets. Public Service Announcements (PSA) and information pertaining to Solid Waste Management are published and/or broadcasted with local media.

## **LIST OF SOLID WASTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **CITY OF ALMA AND BACON COUNTY**

**1992-1997**

The following is a list of major accomplishments achieved during 1992-1997.

- Formulation of a Solid Waste Management Plan in concurrence with State of Georgia mandate.
- Sited and constructed a USEPA Subtitle "D" municipal solid waste landfill.
- Successfully completed requirements for closure of the existing Iron Bridge Road (EPD Permit Number 148-003D(SL)) landfill with a Subtitle "D" cap. (Note- this was an unlined facility).
- Removal of Green Boxes and the accompanying sanitation problems associated with them.
- An aggressive enforcement policy with respect to illegal dumping has been successful in reducing such infractions.
- Privatization of collection and disposal of solid Waste.
- Alma/Bacon Developmental Center developed a weekly business pickup service and drop box pickup service.
- Nascent residential recyclable pickup service provided at no charge by the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center to two residential routes on alternating weekly schedules.
- Acquisition of an additional baler by the Alma/Bacon Developmental Center.
- The City of Alma and Bacon County offer free presentations concerning solid waste management and/or recycling to interested public or private groups upon request.

## **LIST OF SOLID WASTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**1998-2002**

- Discontinued Green Boxes.
- County and Municipal waste collected weekly.
- Transfer Station completed and leased to Southland Waste, Inc.
- Municipal Yard Waste collected every two weeks.
- The Alma/Bacon Developmental Center collects ONP and OCC countywide.
- The residents of Bacon receive free mulched and chipped materials from the inert landfill.

List of materials that must come with each plan or STWP update:

Name(s) of jurisdictions: Bacon Co; Alma

ROA Alma, Bacon Co

STWP for period covered by the update Alma, Bacon Co

OK **Letter of transmittal to RDC** Alma, Bacon

**Public hearing notices from jurisdiction(s)**

**Regional Public hearing notice from RDC** ✓

**Landfill Capacity assurance** does not mention govt by name

In Database



3473 HARRIS ROAD  
WAYCROSS, GA 31503

PH: (912) 284-1222  
FAX: (912) 284-9912

Roger Boatright, Mayor  
Alma City Commission  
P.O. Box 429  
Alma, Georgia 31510

Dear Mayor Boatright,

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by the City of Alma. Waste is hauled by Southland Waste Systems of Georgia, Inc. to the following facility (ies): Broadhurst Environmental and the Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 151-014D(SL).<sup>1</sup> This facility has a remaining capacity of 22.67 years.<sup>2</sup> This assurance is based upon the City of Alma disposing of approximately 1204 tons of waste on an annual basis.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Linton".

Angela Linton  
Office Manger

<sup>1</sup> If more than one landfill is needed to meet the ten-year capacity assurance requirement, list each landfill.

<sup>2</sup> If more than one landfill is listed, provide the remaining capacity for each landfill.

3473 HARRIS ROAD  
WAYCROSS, GA 31503



PH: (912) 284-1222  
FAX: (912) 284-9912

Eugene Dyal, Chairman  
Bacon County Commission  
P.O. Box 356  
Alma, Georgia 31510

Dear Chairman Dyal,

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Bacon County. Waste is hauled by Southland Waste Systems of Georgia, Inc. to the following facility (ies): Broadhurst Environmental and the Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 151-014D(SL).<sup>1</sup> This facility has a remaining capacity of 22.67 years.<sup>2</sup> This assurance is based upon Bacon County disposing of approximately 2468 tons of waste on an annual basis.

We thank the Bacon County Commission 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 that reads "Angela Linton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Angela Linton  
Office Manger

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<sup>1</sup> If more than one landfill is needed to meet the ten-year capacity assurance requirement, list each landfill.  
<sup>2</sup> If more than one landfill is listed, provide the remaining capacity for each landfill.

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Chairman Eugene Dyal    Mayor Roger Boatright  
Bacon County Commission    City of Alma

**FROM:** Rick Brooks, <sup>R Brooks</sup> Director Planning and Environmental Management Division

**CC:** Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center

**DATE:** May 3, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Adjustment of 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Updates

A decade ago, solid waste management planning was a top priority for local officials across the state. Georgia had less than five years of disposal capacity and many parts of the state were struggling to provide adequate solid waste collection services. In 1990, the Solid Waste Management Act was adopted, requiring all local governments to prepare a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan that demonstrated:

- a minimum of 10 years of solid waste disposal capacity,
- identified an environmentally sound solid waste collection system, and
- set forth a strategy that would help the state achieve its goal of a 25% per capita reduction in the disposal of municipal solid waste.

While the urgency to prepare and implement solid waste management plans has diminished, the need to have an up-to-date Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is as strong as ever. Georgia's population continues to grow, and while over 550 local governments have implemented recycling programs, the state has fallen short of meeting its 25% waste disposal reduction goal. Many of the solid waste management services provided by the public sector have been privatized over the past decade, changing the level and type of solid waste management services available throughout the state. And while the amount of disposal capacity in the state has risen sharply over the last decade, this capacity is found in fewer, larger regional facilities.

With all of these changes and the changes to come over the next decade, it is critical that we continue to monitor and plan for the proper management of the solid waste generated within our state. In order to help eliminate duplicative planning efforts and to better coordinate local government planning responsibilities, DCA has consolidated local Solid Waste Management and Comprehensive planning due dates. Thus, the SWMP due date for Bacon County Commission and the City of Alma has been changed to coincide with the established deadline for your Comprehensive Plan.

MEMORANDUM

Page 2

May 3, 2002

The 6/30/03 due date for completion of the Solid Waste Management Plan update by Bacon County Commission and the City of Alma has been changed to 10/31/07. However, in lieu of a full plan update, your local government must prepare a "transitional" Short Term Work Program (STWP) due by 6/30/2003.

As a key component of the solid waste management plan, the STWP update provides local governments an opportunity to assess solid waste management and planning activities for the final years of the planning period. The update must include a list of accomplishments enacted since your last STWP update through 6/30/2003 and a program update of planned activities from 6/30/2003 through 10/31/07.

**To remain in compliance with State law and remain eligible for solid waste loans, grants, and permits, Bacon County Commission and the City of Alma must prepare a transitional STWP update, have it approved by DCA, and be locally adopted by 6/30/2003.**

Based on experience, the STWP update process can take as little as 70 days or as long as 190 days to complete. Please remember that this schedule also includes the time necessary for the Southeast Georgia RDC and DCA to review and approve the STWP. Assistance and guidance documents on preparing the STWP update are available from your RDC Office or by contacting Mary Harrington of my staff at (404) 679-3144 or [mharring@dca.state.ga.us](mailto:mharring@dca.state.ga.us).

We hope this one time change in your solid waste management plan update schedule does not create any undue inconveniences and that it presents an opportunity to enhance the coordination of your local planning efforts. We believe that the local governments that are affected by these changes will benefit from this decision.

RB/meh

**RECEIVED**

**SEP 9 1998**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**TRI-COUNTY  
(BACON, PIERCE, AND WARE)  
SOLID WASTE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN  
UPDATE AND  
SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM  
1998 - 2002**

**TRI-COUNTY (BACON, PIERCE, AND WARE)  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE  
AND SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM  
1998 - 2002**

**INTRODUCTION**

Four main factors have affected the Tri-County (Bacon, Pierce and Ware) Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) in the first five years of its initial ten-year span. These factors are: 1) the proliferation of privately-owned and operated landfills in Southeast Georgia; 2) market forces in the recycling industry; 3) volume-driven tipping fees affected by privatization of collection and disposal in the Tri-County area; and 4) the completed, but still unopened Tri-County Landfill. At the nexus of the original plan was the still-under-construction Tri-County Landfill located in northern Ware County. This subtitle "D" approved facility (the only such regional facility in the state at the time - 1992) was to have handled all disposal needs of the participants of the Tri-County SWMP. Although the facility is complete with the exception of a leachate collection tank, it is still unopened and unused.

The agreement to construct a regional landfill was signed in the spring of 1990 with officials from Bacon, Pierce and Ware Counties pledging to create a \$1.4 million, 300 acre environmentally sensitive landfill to handle household garbage. (See **Attachment 1 - Waycross Journal-Herald - May 12, 1990**) The Georgia EPD approved the permit for the Tri-County Landfill on July 16, 1993. The projected \$1.4 million cost to the participating counties was to be distributed on a proportional scale based on population with Ware County covering 62% of the cost while Pierce would contribute 22% and Bacon would pay 16 %. However, in June of 1994, Bacon County, citing cost overruns, passed a resolution to pull out of the Tri-County Landfill agreement. (See **Attachment 2 - Waycross Journal-Herald - June 30, 1994**). In response to this occurrence, Clinch County was voted in as a participant of the Tri-County Land Fill, but not as a member of the original Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Due to the extended time of construction precipitated by a series of problems associated with site selection (See **Attachment 3 - Waycross Journal-Herald - December 27, 1991**), (See **Attachment 4 - Waycross Journal-Herald - March 21, 1992**), and (**Attachment 5 - Waycross Journal-Herald March 24, 1992**) many assumptions concerning the economic viability of the Tri-County Landfill proved to be false. This was due to changes in the private sector of waste management and unforeseen events in the recycling industry during the intervening time. The potential for regional landfills and regional waste plans that seemed so rational in the late 1980s and early 1990s had not reached fruition. The project cost of the Tri-County Land Fill had by late 1995 neared \$4 million. Much of the cost overrun was attributed to ever changing environmental regulations that required compliance. Citizen opposition to "outside"

management of the landfill by a private company that indicated it would bring in waste from other customers as well as the participants in the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan created a political "hot potato" that further impeded completion and utilization. (See Attachment 6 - Waycross Journal-Herald - September 26, 1995)

Pursuant to the adverse public input the decision was made to abandon outside management but to continue on toward completion of the facility. Concurrently, several new privately owned and operated landfills in the region were beginning to impact the Tri-County landfill in terms of tipping fees. Since public opinion was of the ilk to **not** accept "outside" trash, volume would be decreased from projected figures and tipping fees would increase to the point of being noncompetitive. For example, by late 1995 Ware County's tipping fee at the Iron Bridge Landfill (scheduled for closure by 1997) was a competitive \$22.50 per ton. However projected tipping fees of \$40 or more per ton at the new Tri-County Landfill, due to reduced volume, would not create a competitive situation and the prospect of operating the new landfill at a deficit seemed assured. The Broadhurst Facility in Wayne County (site of all disposal for the Tri-County plan participants at the present time) was charging only \$22 per ton in 1995 with a daily intake of some 900 tons. Estimated figures indicated that should Ware County begin operation of the Tri-County Landfill with only Ware County garbage the cost of disposal could run as high as \$114 per ton. (See Attachment 7 - Waycross Journal-Herald - October 5, 1995)

Currently the Tri-County Landfill remains unused and will require a leachate collection tank to be installed before opening. (See Attachment 8 - Waycross Journal-Herald - September 26, 1996 ) The aforementioned Iron Bridge Landfill has been closed and each member of the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan is utilizing Southland Waste, Inc. for disposal of household waste which is transported to the Broadhurst Facility in neighboring Wayne County. The fate of the Tri-County Landfill remains uncertain. The Ware County Commission would like to maintain the facility, keeping current all permitting involved, in hopes that at some point in the future the facility will be able to operate cost effectively.

### TRI-COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The 1992 Tri-County Solid Waste Plan addressed seven (7) elements in solid waste management and established specific goals for each element. The following is a summary of the goals:

#### **1. Amount of Waste Element:**

To determine the amount and composition of the solid waste stream generated and/or disposed of in the Tri-County area to create a valid data base upon which to formulate effective solid waste management decisions; develop a 10-year solid waste plan; and to ascertain if statewide and local goals have been met. In computing the amount of waste generated, the sum of the following types of waste was determined:

1. Solid waste disposed in area landfills,
2. Inert waste disposed in inert landfills,

3. Recycled materials;
4. Yard waste chipped for use as compost;
5. Incinerator ash from biomedical waste products.

## **2. Collection Element:**

To provide for the efficient and cost effective collection of solid waste, recyclables and compostable material for the ten-year planning period; to reduce the number of "green boxes" used as collection points throughout the Tri-County area; a review, by each participant, of collection costs and, where possible, establish an enterprise fund accounting system for solid waste collection. **Note** - At the time of the drafting of the Tri-County SWMP the collection systems then in place were believed to be adequate for the ten-year period for which the initial plan would cover. This calculated assumption was based on the amount of waste figures generated as well as target goals for waste reduction. There have been changes in the collection element precipitated by the privatization of collection in a majority of participants in the Tri-County plan. These changes have in no way compromised the integrity of the initial plan and will be explained in detail in the CHANGES SECTION of this update along with duly noted referencing in the new Short Term Work Program 1998-2002. It should also be noted that privatization had a singular impact on the need to address the establishment of an enterprise fund.

## **3. Waste Reduction Element:**

To provide a strategy for achieving the 25 percent reduction goal in the per capita disposal rate by 1996 through waste reduction programs including source reduction, recycling and mulch production. Iniate a public education program specifically to inform and instruct the public concerning waste reduction. (This is also a part of Element 6) **Note** - Unforeseen developments in the recycling market have forced much of what had been projected in terms of recycling to be re-evaluated. This will be examined in more detail in the CHANGES SECTION.

**4. Disposal Element:** The Tri-County governments will continue to utilize the existing Ware County and Alma-Bacon County landfills for approximately two more years until 1994. The following briefly summarizes the actions taken by the Tri-County governments to assure adequate solid waste disposal capacity for the future:

- 1) Tri-County landfill agreement (contract) among the counties. (Bacon, Pierce and Ware)
- 2) Adoption of a 25% waste reduction goal by July 1, 1996 and beyond.
- 3) EPD-approved closure plan for the Ware County Iron Bridge Road landfill. (Disposal capacity through FY 1994)
- 4) Site Acceptability obtained, Phase I Design and Operation plans under review by EPD. (Disposal capacity through FY 1999)
- 5) Site Acceptability obtained for Phase II of Tri-County landfill. (Disposal capacity through 2025)

A contingency plan for waste disposal will be developed to encompass the possibility that due to some unforeseen circumstance the Tri-County landfill would not open on schedule.

**5. Land Limitations:** Identify those areas most acceptable for siting solid waste management facilities and identify those areas that may be unsuitable for siting a facility within the Tri-County area. To insure that proposed waste treatment and disposal facilities are compatible with surrounding land uses and are not sited in areas which have been identified by the communities involved as having environmental or developmental limitations.

**6. Educational and Public Involvement Element:** To help area residents better understand the problems associated with solid waste management. To better educate area residents about the concerns and needs associated with littering, waste reduction, recycling, disposal of household hazardous waste and composting. The formation of a Clean and Beautiful Commission charged with the responsibility of an on-going public education/information program.

**7. Implementation and Financing Element:** To demonstrate fiscal responsibility in implementing an affordable solid waste management plan, while also meeting the goals and requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since the adoption of the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan, in spite of many problems, many positive steps have been taken to improve the solid waste management program in the Tri-County area. The following is a list of major accomplishments achieved during the first five-year segment of the plan.

### BACON COUNTY

- The formulation of a Solid Waste Management Plan in concurrence with State of Georgia mandate by the City of Alma and Bacon County
- The removal of 92 Green Boxes from Bacon County and the accompanying sanitation problems associated with them.
- An aggressive enforcement policy with respect to illegal dumping has been successful in reducing such infractions in Bacon County.
- The completion of a transfer station (leased to Southland Waste, Inc.) two miles from Alma that serves both the City of Alma and Bacon County.
- Privatization of collection and disposal by Bacon County
- Weekly litter pickup by those performing community service sentences
- Inert landfill for yard waste serves City of Alma and Bacon County
- Reduction of solid waste stream to comply with amended State of Georgia requirements.
- Expansion of recycling services provided by the Alma-Bacon County Mental Retardation Center
- Concerted efforts, by the City of Alma and Bacon County, through periodic Public Service Announcements via all media, to increase the public knowledge of problems associated with solid waste management and recycling.

- Bacon County participates in the "Adopt-a-Highway" Program.
- Commitment by Bacon Board of Education to include curriculum with an emphasis on solid waste management and recycling in conjunction with environmental studies.
- Both the City of Alma and Bacon County offer free presentations concerning solid waste management and/or recycling to interested public or private groups upon request.

#### **PIERCE COUNTY**

- Formulation of a Solid Waste Management Plan in concurrence with State of Georgia mandate by the Cities of Blackshear, Patterson, Offerman and Pierce County.
- Removal of 119 Green Boxes from Pierce County and the accompanying sanitation problems associated with them.
- An aggressive enforcement policy with respect to illegal dumping has been successful in reducing such infractions in Pierce County.
- Privatization of collection and disposal by Pierce County, Patterson and Offerman.
- Expansion of existing Transfer Station in conjunction with Southland Waste, Inc. to handle not only household solid waste but White and Brown waste, C & D waste and tires county-wide.
- Expansion of inert landfill adjacent to the County Farm location.
- Revision of collection rates by City of Blackshear.
- Reduction of solid waste stream in Pierce County and all municipalities to comply with amended State of Georgia requirements.
- Commitment by Pierce County Board of Education to include curriculum with an emphasis on solid waste management and recycling in conjunction with environmental studies.
- Concerted efforts, by all local governments in Pierce County, through periodic Public Service Announcements via all media, to increase the public knowledge of problems associated with solid waste management and recycling.
- Pierce County and the Cities of Blackshear, Patterson and Offerman offer free presentations concerning solid waste management and/or recycling to interested public or private groups upon request.
- The City of Blackshear achieved the Governor's Better Hometown award for 1997.
- The City of Patterson received a Local Development Fund grant to purchase a chipper which has helped in waste reduction.
- Pierce County participates in the "Adopt-a-Highway" Program.

#### **WARE COUNTY**

- Formulation of a Solid Waste Management Plan in concurrence with State of Georgia mandate by the City of Waycross and Ware County.
- Sited and constructed a USEPA Subtitle "D" municipal solid waste landfill.
- Successfully completed requirements for closure of the existing Iron Bridge Road (EPD Permit Number 148-003D(SL)) landfill with a Subtitle "D" cap. (Note - This was an unlined facility.)
- Removal of 92 Green Boxes from Ware County and the accompanying sanitation problems associated with them.
- An aggressive enforcement policy with respect to illegal dumping has been successful in reducing such infractions in Ware County.

- An aggressive enforcement policy with respect to illegal dumping has been successful in reducing such infractions in Ware County.
- Privatization of collection and disposal by Ware County.
- Expansion and relocation of the Waycross - Ware County MR Center to facilitate increased options for recycling.
- MR Center developed a weekly business pickup service and drop box pickup service at 30 boxes located in Ware and Pierce County.
- Nascent residential recyclable pickup service provided at no charge by the MR Center to two residential area routes on alternating weekly schedules covering approximately 25% of the geographical area of the City of Waycross.
- Acquisition of an additional baler by the MR Center.
- Concerted efforts, by the City of Waycross and Ware County, through periodic Public Service Announcements via all media, to increase the public knowledge of problems associated with solid waste management and recycling.
- Ware County and the City of Waycross offer free presentations concerning solid waste management and/or recycling to interested public or private groups upon request.
- Ware County participates in the "Adopt-a-Highway" Program.
- Waycross - Ware County Clean and Beautiful Commission is active in the U.S. 1 Scenic Highway Program.
- City of Waycross has initiated volume-based rates for commercial and industrial waste customers.
- Commitment by Ware County Board of Education to include curriculum with an emphasis on solid waste management and recycling in conjunction with environmental studies.

These accomplishments are empirical evidence that significant progress has been made since the adoption of the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan in 1992.

#### **CHANGING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE TRI-COUNTY AREA**

Since the passage of the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan a number of significant changes have occurred that will affect the final five years of the initial 10-year period covered by the plan. The withdrawal, in June of 1994, of Bacon County and Alma from the Tri-County Landfill agreement did not reflect a flaw in the concept of regional solid waste management; it did, however, indicate the rapidly changing scenario in Southeast Georgia in terms of solid waste management. Pursuant to the recommendation of DCA staff, Bacon County and the City of Alma opted to remain as members of the Tri-County Plan through the duration of the remaining five-year period in an effort to facilitate the preparation of the 1998 Update and new Short Term Work Program. At the present time it is difficult to speculate on the future of the Tri-County Plan as it appears that individual Solid Waste Plans for each participant county may be more appealing than the original tripartite arrangement.

With the emergence of several privately owned and operated landfills in the Southeast Georgia region the expected waste volume projected for the Tri-County Landfill was dissipated to noncompetitive levels. Projected tipping fees were found to be too low for the decreased per day volume and Ware County officials calculated that operational costs would exceed revenue generation. **(Note: See aforementioned news items for details)** This development has obviously impacted the disposal element of the Tri-County Plan which stipulated the Tri-County Landfill as

site of all waste disposal for the Plan participants. Currently all disposal for each member of the Tri-County Plan is at the Broadhurst Facility in Wayne County. This arrangement, while different, achieves the same results in terms of the disposal element of the SWMP.

The incorporation of Offerman, a town of approximately 400 people in Pierce County, has also impacted the SWMP. Offerman has been included in the new Short Term Work Program 1998-2002. Although Offerman, as a nascent municipality has limited resources, it will be able to meet the minimal requirements for solid waste management planning. **Collection and Disposal** are privatized. **Waste Reduction**, including recycling and composting, will be addressed at a series of public hearings to be held within the next calendar year. **Education and Public Involvement** will also be addressed through the public hearings. The local government puts out a monthly "newsletter" which will be used to inform the public on solid waste management issues.

The removal of all but commercially located Green Boxes in the three counties has been a significant positive step forward. In concert with this, the public awareness that "dumping" will not be tolerated and that aggressive enforcement is here to stay has begun to mitigate years of the "out-of-sight, out-of-mind" philosophy that has characterized solid waste management in the South for decades. Although recycling has not become the panacea it was forecast to be, public awareness in the Tri-County area has improved greatly as reflected in the expansion of both the Bacon County and Ware County MR Facilities. Several privately owned and operated recyclers continue to service the area.

In light of the unforeseen developments associated with the Tri-County SWMP the accomplishments noted above demonstrate the commitment and resolve of the participants to provide cost effective and environmentally sound waste management for the duration of the Plan.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan 1992-2002 was and still will be:

- To achieve a balanced, affordable solid waste management plan implementation strategy while meeting the goals and requirements of the Solid Waste Management Act.
- To reduce the amount of solid waste generated by the three counties and their respective municipalities.
- Support sound management of solid waste by helping residents achieve an understanding and awareness of the social and environmental problems, concerns and needs associated with solid waste management.
- To ensure the efficient and cost-effective collection of solid waste for the remaining five year period of the plan.
- To ensure the efficient and cost-effective disposal at an approved landfill facility for the remaining five-year period of the plan.
- To ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities are sited in areas suitable for such developments, are compatible with surrounding land use; in areas not recognized as having environmental or other developmental limitations.
- To maintain the Tri-County Landfill Facility in Ware County, keeping permitting current, toward the end of opening it to operation as a cost-effective facility sometime in the future.

To meet these objectives and goals the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Plan 1998-2002 Update presents the direction and intent for solid waste management over the next five years, which follows in chart form.