

CHAPTER 8
SOLID WASTE SUB-ELEMENT

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A. OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Solid Waste Sub-element of the Comprehensive Plan is to provide effective and safe disposal of solid waste for the present and anticipated future residents of Volusia County. The requirements of this Sub-element have changed dramatically as a result of the passage of the Solid Waste Management Act in 1988 by the Florida Legislature.

This law mandated all counties to reduce their solid waste stream by 30 percent by 1994. Counties were required to initiate a recycling program by July 1, 1989, and to meet an extensive list of recycling responsibilities.

The Solid Waste Management Act required a Full Cost Accounting Program, an annual report to the Legislature and numerous other rule changes that will increase the cost of solid waste disposal in Volusia County through the year 2025. Tipping fees at the landfill increased on October 1, 1989. The Plymouth Avenue landfill closed January 1996 and the West Volusia Transfer Station began operation at that time to properly dispose of material from the County's west side residents and businesses.

The management of solid waste is important to the health, safety and welfare of all Volusia County residents. The proper management of solid waste is particularly important to the Aquifer Recharge, Sanitary Sewer, and Potable Water Sub-elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Improper disposal of solid and hazardous waste in unauthorized areas can contaminate our drinking water or expose residents to dangerous health risks when toxic chemicals are illegally disposed of in residential neighborhoods.

In July 1988 the consulting firm of Camp Dresser & McKee prepared a Solid Waste Management Plan which presents feasible solid waste disposal alternatives for waste generated in Volusia County from 1990-2010. This report recommends a solid waste disposal plan for the County to follow, and includes short-term (0-5 years) and long-term (5-20 years) costs for implementing the recommended solid waste disposal plan. This plan meets the requirements of Section 163.3177 (6) (c), Florida Statutes and Section 9J5.011 of the Florida Administrative Code and the Solid Waste Management Act of 1988 which establishes minimum requirements for the content of the Solid Waste Sub-element.

The adopted components of the Solid Waste Sub-element include the Overview, the Goals, Objectives and Policies. Three reports: the Solid Waste Management Plan, a hazardous waste report prepared by Volusia County Growth Management Division, and a recycling marketing study by the consulting firm of Dyer, Riddle, Mills and Precourt are printed separately as support documents for this Sub-element. This Comprehensive Plan and these support documents provide for the proper management and disposal of solid and hazardous waste through the year 2025.

B. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES
SOLID WASTE

GOAL:

8.1 Volusia County shall reduce its reliance on landfills.

OBJECTIVE:

8.1.1 Maintain the rate of reduction in the amount of Volusia County's solid waste stream by 30% and meet additional State waste reduction goals as they are enacted.

POLICIES:

8.1.1.1 No more than one-half (15%) of the objective shall be met with the recycling of yard trash, white goods, construction/demolition and tires.

8.1.1.2 The remaining 15% of the objective shall continue to be met with other programs including voluntary curbside recycling from households.

8.1.1.3 The mandatory commercial recycling program shall continue. Increase educational efforts to encourage compliance with the County Code 106, Article V.

8.1.1.4 The previously implemented program requiring that a collection center be operated at the landfill for white goods shall continue.

8.1.1.5 Maintain alternative disposal methods for yard trash.

8.1.1.6 The previously implemented plan to dispose of shredded tire materials shall remain in effect. However, alternative methods of disposal shall be encouraged.

8.1.1.7 Volusia County shall continue education of the public to avoid products which: are not recyclable, cannot be converted, or cannot be used as a resource or derived fuel.

8.1.1.8 Continue to undertake a market analysis to determine demand and investigate the viability of cooperative ventures for recyclable materials.

8.1.1.9 Continue a multi-jurisdictional team which includes: Volusia County Growth Management and Public Works Division, all 16 cities and interested adjacent cities and counties to maintain recycling and solid waste reduction programs.

8.1.1.10 Volusia County shall continue to coordinate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in the closing of the Class I landfill facility at the Plymouth Avenue site.

GOAL:

- 8.2 All solid waste facilities (landfills, transfer stations, household hazardous waste collection centers) shall be conveniently and cost effectively located and built and maintained in such a manner as to minimize the adverse impacts on the environment, residential neighborhoods and road networks.

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.2.1 Volusia County shall continue to implement programs designed to eliminate littering and illegal dumping.

POLICIES:

- 8.2.1.1 Educate the public regarding the problems, health hazards and additional costs that result from littering and illegal dumping. County laws regarding solid waste should also be widely publicized. Citizen groups will be encouraged to report violations to the County.
- 8.2.1.2 The previously implemented program to require a mandatory solid waste collection program to include all of Volusia County (incorporated as well as unincorporated) shall continue.
- 8.2.1.3 Maintain the proper number and/or size of trash receptacles and increase the opportunities to recycle on County owned properties (especially County parks, and County government buildings).
- 8.2.1.4 Coordinate with the appropriate enforcement agencies for the effective enforcement of anti-littering and illegal dumping laws.
- 8.2.1.5 Continue to develop volunteer clean-up programs and support major clean-up projects where feasible and appropriate. Increase public awareness through educational campaigns directed at the public and business sections of the County.
- 8.2.1.6 Locate solid waste facilities as near as possible to the largest waste generators.

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.2.2 All solid waste facilities shall be located and maintained so as not to degrade surface water quality.

POLICIES:

- 8.2.2.1 Follow all federal, State and County regulations which protect water quality and regulate solid waste facilities' construction.
- 8.2.2.2 Future solid waste disposal sites (excluding buffers) shall not be located in areas which are designated by the County as environmentally or ecologically sensitive areas (see Conservation and Land Use Elements).

OBJECTIVE:

8.2.3 Locate and maintain solid waste facilities in a manner which does not adversely affect residential neighborhoods or local streets.

POLICIES:

8.2.3.1 Landfills and resource recovery facilities shall not be located in residential neighborhoods.

8.2.3.2 Avoid transfer truck traffic and reduce local haul (any refuse transported within Volusia County) on residential neighborhood streets.

8.2.3.3 Locate solid waste facilities on or within 10 miles of arterial roadways. (See Transportation Element).

8.2.3.4 Volusia County shall continue to locate future solid waste transfer stations so as to provide for efficient and cost-effective management of waste flows, while minimizing the adverse impacts on the environment and residential neighborhoods. Consideration of this policy includes, at a minimum, that:

1. Location criteria for transfer stations should include, but not limited to:
 - a. Proximity to concentrations of waste generators in terms of volume;
 - b. Compatibility with existing land uses and land development trends in the vicinity of the proposed site;
 - c. Accessibility of the site to the regional road network, with minimal use of neighborhood streets for local haul transit to and from the site;
 - d. Minimum feasible haul time and distance from the proposed site to the ultimate disposal area(s); and
 - e. Potential for co-location of short-term (30 day maximum storage period) hazardous waste transfer facility (public drop-off and temporary storage).
2. Reduction in adverse impacts of local haul and transfer truck traffic on residential neighborhood streets.
3. Increased cost efficiency in the operation of the solid waste flow stream.

8.2.3.5 Encourage closed landfills to be converted to uses compatible with their surroundings especially if landfill is located in close proximity to a residential neighborhood.

GOAL:

8.3 Ensure that the availability and quality of solid waste disposal facilities and hazardous waste collection facilities: meet public needs, conform to state and federal standards,

are managed properly, and are provided for in an efficient and coordinated manner (State Goal 13, ECFRPC Goal 50).

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.3.1 Maintain an 8.6 pounds per capita per day disposal capacity at all solid waste facilities combined. The level of service for solid waste capacity shall be a minimum of 5 years of construction life for the County landfill. Any development that results in the landfill falling below this capacity will not be issued a certificate of capacity for concurrency unless the impacts of the developments are mitigated.

POLICIES:

- 8.3.1.1 Maintain existing enterprise fund to pay for solid waste disposal.
- 8.3.1.2 Operators of solid waste facilities shall be certified by Governmental Refuse Collection and Disposal Association (GRCDA) and/or the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).
- 8.3.1.3 Volusia County Public Works working with Volusia County municipalities and other appropriate agencies will determine where temporary debris sites will be located to manage debris generated from hurricanes and other natural disasters.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.3.2 Increase the number of household hazardous waste collection facilities.

POLICIES:

- 8.3.2.1 The Volusia County Solid Waste Division shall continue to collect data regarding the amount, type and location of source of household hazardous waste collected at the household hazardous waste collection facilities to assess the need and location of additional collection facilities.
- 8.3.2.2 In order to reduce the volume of improperly disposed hazardous waste, the Environmental Management Division shall provide each industrial park and industrial subdivision the following information:
- Federal, State and local regulations concerning the storage and disposal of hazardous waste and waste exchange, and management/disposal options. The park or subdivision management shall be responsible for disseminating this information to its tenants.
- 8.3.2.3 Guidelines shall be established through the Land Development Regulation process to regulate the location of private hazardous waste transporter facilities.

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.3.3 The County shall assist in the enforcement of those mechanisms regulating the proper accumulation and disposal of hazardous waste (State policies 13.2, 13.4, 13.6 and 13.11 ECFRPC policies 50.4 and 50.5).

POLICIES:

- 8.3.3.1 The Environmental Management Division shall maintain a list of state approved hazardous waste transporters who service Florida.
- 8.3.3.2 Funding shall continue to be provided for the continuing education of Environmental Management and Solid Waste Division personnel involved with the hazardous waste program so they keep current of hazardous wastes rules and regulations.
- 8.3.3.3 Volusia County shall provide adequate Environmental Management staff as well as Solid Waste Division staff dedicated to hazardous waste inspections.
- 8.3.3.4 Guidelines shall be provided by the Environmental Management Division to County Fire Services Administration personnel regarding hazardous waste violations which require the Environmental Management Division immediate response, including HAZMAT.
- 8.3.3.5 Volusia County's Fire Services shall study alternative funding for HAZMAT including but not limited to, the feasibility of the cities contributing funds.
- 8.3.3.6 The Volusia County Solid Waste Services Division shall institute a program responsible for educating the public through community group meetings, newspaper and radio advertising, and literature placed in the County's libraries (14), regarding the health and environmental hazards of improperly disposing of household hazardous and other special wastes. The purpose of this program shall be to increase the usage of the County's hazardous waste collection facility by households. The wastes to be discussed should include, but not limited to: waste oils, transportation fluids, pesticides, batteries, lead-based paints, infectious wastes, fluorescent tubes, and/or mercury containing devices.

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.3.4 Volusia County shall continue to maintain a program to dispose of septic tank and wastewater treatment plant sludge in an environmentally acceptable manner.

POLICIES:

- 8.3.4.1 Volusia County shall continue to maintain the wastewater Residual Program established under Section 50-451 et seq. Code of Ordinances of the County of Volusia.
- 8.3.4.2 Volusia County shall continue to require a regulating permitting program for disposal of septic and wastewater sludge as adopted by County Ordinance #88-18 and amended by Section 50-451 et seq. Code of Ordinances of the County of Volusia.