

CHAPTER 8
SOLID WASTE 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 modern era of solid waste and recycling management in Florida began with the Florida Legislature's passage of the Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA) of 1988, including a 30% recycling goal. In 2008, the Florida Legislature, through the Energy, Climate Change and Economic Security Act of 2008, established a new statewide weight-based recycling goal of 75% by 2020.

The Solid Waste Division adheres to the reporting requirements of the legislation. Chapter 62-708, F.A.C. requires Volusia County to annually calculate the full cost of solid waste management. Chapter 62-716.450, F.A.C. requires Volusia County to submit a solid waste and recycling annual report to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by April 1 of each year. The Solid Waste Division manages and operates the Tomoka Farms Road Landfill, the West Volusia Transfer Station and maintains the closed Plymouth Avenue Landfill. Tipping fees are authorized by Resolution 2018-179 and may be amended when necessary by the County Council at a duly advertised public hearing.

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 June 2020, S2L, Incorporated completed an update to the Tomoka Farms Road Ten (10) Year Development Plan and plans for current and future disposal capacity, stormwater drainage improvements, recycling and alternative energy opportunities, leachate management improvements, and costs for implementation. In May 2020, Neel Schaffer completed the Feasibility Study and Conceptual Design for the West Volusia Transfer Station Expansion and Improvements. This report recommends and plans for entrance and site improvements, stormwater management, customer convenience center expansion and transfer building expansion to fully service growth on the west side of Volusia County. These plans meet the requirements of Section 163.3177 (6) (c), Florida Statutes and the Solid Waste Management Act of 1988 and the Florida Legislature, through the Energy, Climate Change and Economic Security Act of 2008 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. The Solid Waste Management Plan and the Feasibility Study and Conceptual Design for the West Volusia Transfer Station Expansion and Improvements support documents for this element. This Comprehensive Plan and these support documents provide for

the proper management and disposal of solid and hazardous waste to provide in excess 100-years of disposal capacity.

B. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL:

- 8.1 Volusia County shall plan for current and future needs of solid waste disposal and continue waste reduction and recycling opportunities.

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.1.1 Maintain the reduction in the amount of Volusia County's solid waste stream and to strive to reduce the amount.

POLICIES:

- 8.1.1.1 Objectives shall be met with the recycling of yard trash, white goods, construction/demolition and tires as market conditions determine.
- 8.1.1.2 Volusia County shall continue voluntary curbside recycling from households as market conditions determine.
- 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 solid waste division shall continue to recycle tires.
- 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 research cost effective recycling opportunities and alternative energy solutions.
- 8.1.1.9 Continue a multi-jurisdictional team which includes: Volusia County Growth and Resource Management and Public Works Division, all municipalities and interested adjacent cities and counties to maintain recycling and solid waste reduction programs.

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 Continue to require a mandatory solid waste collection program to include all of Volusia County (incorporated as well as unincorporated).
- 8.2.1.3 Maintain the proper number and/or size of trash receptacles and increase the opportunities to recycle on County owned properties.
- 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.

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 facilities 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 New proposed 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 new solid waste facilities on or within 10 miles of arterial roadways. (See Transportation Element).
- 8.2.3.4 Volusia County shall continue to research the need for future solid waste transfer stations 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. Compatibility with existing land uses and land development trends in the vicinity of the proposed site;
 - b. Accessibility of the site to the regional road network, with minimal use of neighborhood streets for local haul transit to and from the site;
 - c. Minimum feasible haul time and distance from the proposed site to the ultimate disposal area(s); and
 - d. Availability of water supply for fire protection.
 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 household 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.

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.3.1 Maintain a 9.3 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 utilizing training courses pre-approved by the Department pursuant to Section 403.716, F.S.
- 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.

OBJECTIVE:

- 8.3.2 Maintain the current 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 and type of household hazardous waste collected to assess the need of additional collection facilities.
- 8.3.2.2 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.

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 Fire Rescue will be notified if a hazardous waste violation is identified.
- 8.3.3.5 The Volusia County Solid Waste Services Division shall institute a program responsible for educating the public through community group meetings, internet, social media, newspaper and radio advertising, and literature placed in the County's libraries, 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 household hazardous waste collection facility by residential 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, obsolete electronics 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 pursuant to Section 50-451–et seq. Code of Ordinances of the County of Volusia.