

**Gaston County Elected Officials Seminar
Recycling Challenges and Opportunities
Monday, November 30, 2009
Citizen's Resource Center, Dallas**

AGENDA

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 6:00 – 6:15 pm | Networking & Displays about Recycling |
| 6:15 pm | Buffet Dinner |
| 6:30 pm | Welcome and Invocation – Joe Carpenter |
| | Opening Remarks – Jennifer T. Stultz |
| 6:40 pm | Recycling Overview - and Explanation of the
Recycling Simulation - Martha Lide |
| 7:10 pm | Recycling Simulation |
| | Round A – Household Options |
| | Round B – Business Options |
| | Round C – Working together |
| 8:10 pm | Wrap Up- Results and Discussion |
| 8:30 pm | Adjournment |



City of Mount Trashmore – Population 10,500/4,650 Households Wastewise County, NC - Population 200,000

Background:

- There have been a lot of suggestions from residents to elected officials that there needs to be more of an emphasis on curbside recycling. Schools want to participate in recycling. There have been suggestions about the economic development impact of recycling – the potential of job creation.

Current Waste Collection, Waste Disposal and Recycling Program:

- City residents produce 5,500 tons of waste per year. All waste is taken to the Wastewise County Landfill by a private hauling company.
- There is voluntary drop off recycling which results in 1,500 tons of recycling per year.
- Haulers are not franchised by the County; several different haulers which operate in neighboring towns and across unincorporated Wasteswise County.
- The City does very little public education on recycling; only a list of drop off sites is included on the City website.

Waste Analysis and Emerging Considerations:

- The City recently conducted an analysis of their waste and found the waste stream was 40% Residential, 40% Commercial/Industrial and 20 % Construction & Demolition.
- A single stream Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) has also recently become operational in the region.
- The State has a goal of increasing recycling by 20% and may be offering some additional financial incentives to jurisdictions that show improved recycling.

Budget:

- All of the solid waste related revenues are collected through the property tax bill and are not itemized on the tax bill or utility bill.
- Estimated cost for collection of waste and recycling to city is \$130 per year per household. The cost of waste collection and disposal are rising.



Recycling Simulation Instructions

Your table represents the Mount Trashmore City Council. A City Manager has been assigned to your table to answer any questions, clarify any issues, and keep the simulation on track.

There will be 3 rounds during the simulation. You will be presented with several options for action during each round. Each round will have a different focus:

- Household Recycling
- Business Recycling
- Collaboration on Recycling (each table will send representative to collaborate, others observe discussion / public hearing)

During Each Round:

- You will have 15 minutes to choose one of the options offered in the round. You will be given a 2 minute warning, and then a bell will ring to end the round.
- Your Council must pass a motion in order to adopt a recommended action. If the Council cannot agree on an action, no action will be recorded for the round.
- You cannot add additional options or combine options for the simulation, but feel free to talk about them.
- At the end of each round, your City Manager will take your Council Action to the Tabulation Table

Who Wins?

- Most Jobs created
- Most Tipping Fees saved
- Most tons of waste diverted from the landfill (extending landfill life)
- Most energy saved





Round A Household Option #1- Visible Fees/Education

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Make Household Waste /Recycling Cost/Fees Visible and Implement Recycling Education Program

Cost: \$

Action Requested: Motion to approve the expenditure of \$ to reprogram the tax bill to display a fee for waste collection.

Background Information:

- Residents do not see the cost of waste and recycling collection – need to make fees more visible to the residents on utility bill or tax bill.
- In other States and counties, fees for waste and recycling are more visible to the residents. They have a better understanding of the cost of waste collection and disposal.
- Showing fees will also serve as a way to better educate our citizens about the true costs of operating these services.
- Changing to fees will take costs out of General Fund.
- Residents will not be able to deduct fees on federal /state tax returns
- The education program will include:
 - Flyers for mail out with utility bills and sent home with school children
 - Updating the website to reflect recycling “Do’s and Don’ts”
 - Expanding the Recycling Education in schools program
 - Two Recycling Education Day Events would be scheduled

TABLE # _____





Round A Household Option #2 – Pay as You Throw

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Pay as You Throw Waste and Recycling Program

Cost: \$\$

Action: Motion to approve implementation of a Pay as You Throw Waste and Recycling program

Background Information:

- A Pay as You Throw (PAYT) program charges a variable price depending on the waste disposal level of each household. The waste disposal level and therefore the monthly fee will be based on the volume of the container used – the more trash you throw away the more you pay.
- The program will utilize the city's weekly curbside trash collection services; the current 90-gallon carts will be converted to recycling carts and there will be a tiered cost for varying size rollout carts for trash.
- Program will also result in reduced waste and increased recycling. The PAYT program will encourage citizens to reduce the amount of household waste disposed of through curbside collection.

TABLE # _____





Round A Household Option #3 – Curbside Recycling

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Implementation of Voluntary Curbside Recycling with 96 Gallon Wheel out Carts

Cost: \$\$\$

Action: Motion to approve voluntary Curbside Recycling with 96 Gallon Wheel out carts with costs spread across the community.

Background Information:

- The collection of recycled materials will be done by a vendor who will provide a “turn- key” operation for recycling services. The vendor will provide the recycling containers and the trucks and personnel required for collection. The City will go through a formal RFP process to select a vendor.
- Each household will receive a 96 gallon wheeled recycling container with a lid, which would be collected every other week.
- All recyclable materials, such as newspaper, glass, cans, cardboard, can be “co mingled” in this one container.

TABLE # _____





Round B Business Option #1 – Voluntary Recycling

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Voluntary Businesses Recycling Program

Cost: \$

Action: Motion to approve free non regulatory Business Recycling Program supported by the City

Background Information:

- Recycling coordinator will periodically mail out letters to all businesses in the City offering free, non-regulatory waste analysis program services.
- Recycling coordinator will visit businesses upon request of the upper management to interview the facility managers and any key staff to determine the organization's needs and recycling opportunities.
- Coordinator will collect samples of waste products generated and research markets for the materials.
- Once the business determines they want to work with a particular contractor or company, the recycling coordinator will schedule a meeting with all parties to finalize the arrangements and details (shipping requirements, i.e. weights, packaging, etc).

TABLE # _____





Round B Business Option #2 – Required Recycling

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Ordinance Requiring Businesses to Recycle Cardboard and Office Paper

Cost: \$\$

Action: Motion to approve Business Recycling Ordinance for Cardboard and Office Paper

Background Information:

- The City has encouraged businesses to do voluntary recycling for the past year but there has been no significant impact on the waste stream. A working group of business leaders has met for the past six months and recommends this option.
- The ordinance would require businesses that contract for 16 cubic yards or greater of waste collection service per week to recycle all corrugated cardboard and office paper unless they meet any one of the exemptions outlined in the ordinance.
- Businesses can either contract with a vendor for pick up of them materials or take them to a recycling facility.
- A civil penalty for non compliance of \$50 begins following the issuance of a third notice of violation. Subsequent penalties increase by \$50 per event and may be issued every 15 days, with a cap of \$2,500.
- Prior to implementation, the city will conduct an extensive education and outreach campaign.

TABLE # _____





Round B Business Option # 3 – Education

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Institute an Education Campaign for Voluntary Business Recycling

Cost: \$

The cost of the program will include staff time, flyer design and preparation and website modification.

Action: Motion to approve business recycling education campaign

Background Information:

The Public Works director has proposed a comprehensive Educational Program for the Businesses located in the City. It will include:

- The theme of the campaign will be Businesses Go Green Leading in Mount Trashmore
- Flyers will be distributed to all businesses
- Events will be organized in conjunction with the local Chamber
- The City website will be updated to encourage businesses to recycle and providing a wide array of resources
- A recognition program will be instituted.

TABLE # _____





Round C Collaboration – Option #1 – MRF

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Establish a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to serve the County

Cost: \$\$\$

Action: Motion to approve establishment of a Countywide Materials Recovery Facility and direct all recyclables generated in the County and municipalities to the facility

Background Information:

- The facility will be operated on County landfill site and will require modification of existing baling facility. The facility will have to be modified to add a conveyor system for feeding and sorting materials and a horizontal baler for condensing material and increasing outbound shipment weights.
- The facility would be operated as an enterprise fund and some of the proceeds would be returned to the participating Cities.
- Cities would modify their collection contracts and procedures to direct the recycled materials to the County facility.
- This facility will allow the both the Cities and the County to increase revenue, increase recycling and extend the life of the County landfill.

TABLE # _____





Round C Collaboration Option # 2 – Joint Contracting

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Work Together on a Joint Contract for Recycling Collection

Cost: \$

Action: Motion to approve RFP for joint contract for recycling collection

Background Information:

- In order to get the best price for recycling, a joint RFP could be issued to cover the entire County and all its municipalities to contract for recycling.
- If the County and cities work together we will have a significant volume which should attract better prices by potential vendors.
- The municipalities in Wastewise County currently contract with various vendors to carryout collection of waste and recycling.
- The selected municipality would supply all carts and personnel and trucks to collect recycling.
- The State is offering grants for purchase of recycling carts. It is anticipated that collaborating on the grant and purchase of carts will result in more chance of receiving grant funds and a better price per cart.

TABLE # _____





Round C Collaboration Option #3 – Franchising

MEMO

To: Mount Trashmore City Council

Date: November 30, 2009

From: Mount Trashmore, City Manager

Recommendation: Countywide Franchise

Cost: \$

Action: Motion to approve a countywide franchise for recycling collection.

Background Information:

- The County has many private haulers that provide waste collection services in the unincorporated areas and in the municipalities.
- Often there are two or three companies that serve the same neighborhoods in the unincorporated areas. Because there are so many different companies and no oversight, we have no control of costs and no tracking of collection statistics.
- A Countywide franchise would allow us to stipulate that recycling services be offered to all residents. It would also help us to regulate services better in our County, eliminate overlapping areas for collection services and better track waste and recycling volumes.

TABLE # _____





Round A

Household Option #1- Visible Fees/Education

Action Taken: Made Household Waste /Recycling Cost/Fees Visible and Implemented a Recycling Education Program

Impact:

Jobs Created:	1 Job
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$13,000
Landfill Space Saved:	1,500 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	156,250 Gallons



Round A Household Option #2 – Pay as You Throw

Action Taken: Implemented a Pay as You Throw Waste and Recycling Program

Impact:

Jobs Created:	5 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$130,000
Landfill Space Saved:	15,000 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	1,562,500 Gallons





Round A Household Option #3 – Curbside Recycling

Action Taken: Implemented Mandatory Curbside Recycling with 96 Gallon Wheel out Carts

Impact:

Jobs Created:	8 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$208,000
Landfill Space Saved:	24,000 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	2,500,000 Gallons





Round B Business Option #1 – Voluntary Recycling

Action Taken: Implemented Voluntary Businesses Recycling Program

Impact:

Jobs Created:	1 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$13,000
Landfill Space Saved:	1,500 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	156,250 Gallons





Round B Business Option #2 – Required Recycling

**Action Taken: Implemented Ordinance Requiring Businesses to Recycle
Cardboard and Office Paper Voluntary Businesses Recycling Program**

Impact:

Jobs Created:	6 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$156,000
Landfill Space Saved:	18,000 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	1,875,000 Gallons





Round B Business Option #3 – Education

Action Taken: Instituted an Education Campaign for Voluntary Business Recycling

Impact:

Jobs Created:	1 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$26,000
Landfill Space Saved:	3,000 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	312,000 Gallons





Round C Collaboration Option #1 – MRF

Action Taken: Established a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to serve the County

Impact:

Jobs Created:	5 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$130,000
Landfill Space Saved:	15,000 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	1,562,500 Gallons





Round C Collaboration Option #2 – Joint Contract

Action Taken: Worked Together on a Joint Contract for Recycling Collection

Impact:

Jobs Created:	3 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$78,000
Landfill Space Saved:	9,000 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	1,093,750 Gallons





Round C Collaboration Option #3 – Franchise

Action Taken: Implemented a Countywide Franchise for Waste and Recycling

Impact:

Jobs Created:	1 Jobs
Tipping Fees Saved:	\$13,000
Landfill Space Saved:	1,500 Cubic Yards
Gallons of Gasoline Saved	156,250 Gallons

