



Northeast Georgia Regional  
Solid Waste Management Authority

# *Regional Solid Waste Management Plan*

2021 – 2031

Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, and Walton County

Prepared by the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission  
Planning & Government Services Division





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1 – Introduction	1-1
Section 2 – Regional Overview	2-1
Section 3 – Land Suitability Analysis	3-1
Section 4 – NEGRSWMA Work Program	4-1
Section 5 – Athens-Clarke County	5-1
Section 6 – Barrow County	6-1
Section 7 – Elbert County	7-1
Section 8 – Greene County	8-1
Section 9 – Jackson County	9-1
Section 10 – Madison County	10-1
Section 11 – Morgan County	11-1
Section 12 – Oconee County	12-1
Section 13 – Oglethorpe County	13-1
Section 14 – Walton County	14-1
<hr/>	
Appendix A – Landfill Assurance Letter(s)	15-1
Appendix B – Public Education and Involvement Materials	16-1
Appendix C – County Participation Resolutions	17-1
Appendix D – Adoption Resolutions	18-1
Appendix E – Supplemental County Information	19-1



## 1 INTRODUCTION

The Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) has been developed for the ten counties and 47 municipalities that are included within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (NEGRSWMA). Resolutions from each of the participating counties indicating their participation in the Solid Waste Management Plan Update are included in Appendix D. This plan is intended to update the previous 2004 and 2011 regional solid waste management plans.

The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan pursuant to the requirements set forth in O.C.G.A. Section 12-8-31.1. This plan includes activities addressed at the regional, collaborative scale; however, the required planning elements are addressed on a county-by-county basis. Therefore, each county will have its own section under the purview of this plan. Planning element requirements include:

1. **Management Assurance:** *Providing for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity within the planning area for at least ten (10) years from the date of completion of the plan;*
2. **Facility Inventory:** *Enumeration of the solid waste handling facilities as to size and type; and*
3. **Land Suitability Analysis:** *Identification of the sites which are not suitable for solid waste handling facilities based upon environmental and land use factors.*

*And, in addition, each county chapter will include the following two elements:*

4. **Report of Accomplishments.** *The Report of Accomplishments is an evaluation of the Short-Term Work Program (STWP) included in the local government's previously adopted Solid Waste Management Plan. The Report of Accomplishments requires the local government to state whether activities listed in the STWP have been completed, are currently underway, have been postponed, or have not been accomplished and are no longer slated for implementation. In addition, a brief narrative should be included for all activities listed.*
5. **Updated Community Work Program (CWP).** *The new CWP is the implementation plan for the ten (10) year scope of the jurisdiction's plan. The CWP identifies existing and new activities the local government will implement or continue to implement over the next ten (10) years. It includes the activity, timeframe for implementation, estimated cost, responsible party, and potential funding source.*

The Plan includes a waste disposal stream analysis for the 2020 annual year and a summary of how waste is collected and disposed per county.

The update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements were met or exceeded.

The NEGRSWMA Board had a major role in facilitating and developing this plan. As appointees of the participating counties, Board members assisted in gathering data, defining County needs and goals, and identifying implementation strategies. Board members also undertook review of the written document. The NEGRSWMA Board was assisted in their efforts by staff at the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission (NEGRC).

This update has been completed by the NEGRSWMA in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards, as outlined above. Public Hearings were conducted as part of this SWMP update for each county jurisdiction. This first Public Hearing was hosted by the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission and conducted August 31, 2020, virtually. The purpose of this meeting was to introduce the Solid Waste Management Planning process and elicit community feedback. The subsequent Public Hearings were held between the dates of August 24, 2021 and September 7, 2021 for each county throughout the region. The purpose of these meetings were to present the final draft plans to the public and allow the opportunity for public comment at least two weeks prior to local and regional adoption. The advertisements and presentation materials for both public hearings are included in Appendix B of this report. The next deadline for completion of a full SWMP update by the Authority will be in 2031.

### 1.1 Defined Planning Area

The local governments included in this plan are the ten (10) member counties of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and the municipalities within these counties, listed in Table 1.1.

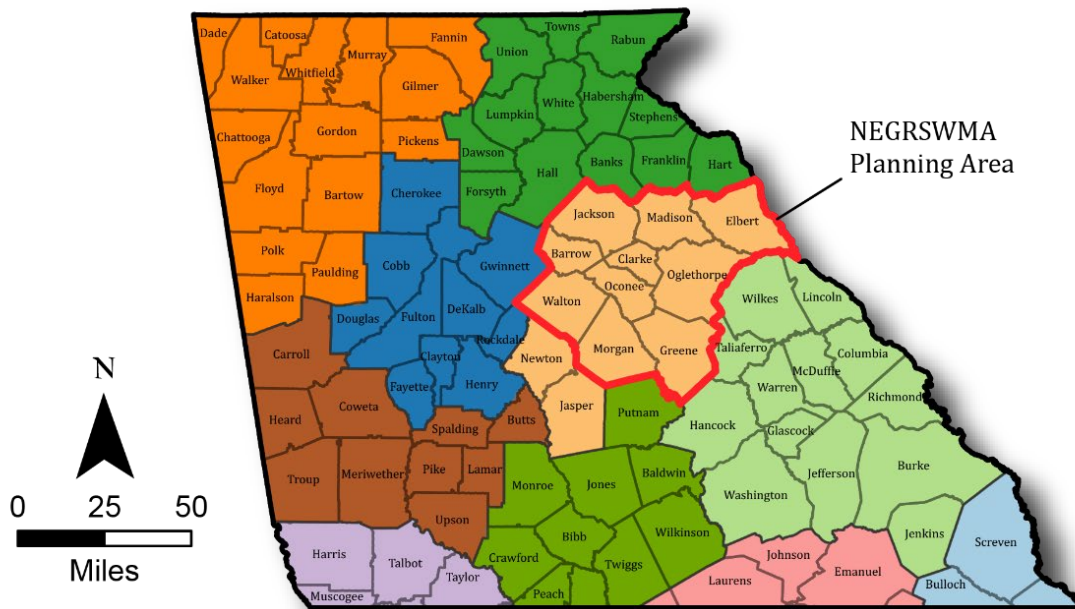
**Table 1.1: Local Governments Included in the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan 2021-2031**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athens-Clarke County                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City of Winterville</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Barrow County                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City of Auburn</li> <li>○ Town of Bethlehem</li> <li>○ Town of Carl</li> <li>○ City of Statham</li> <li>○ City of Winder</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Elbert County                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City of Bowman</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Madison County                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City of Carlton</li> <li>○ City of Colbert</li> <li>○ City of Comer</li> <li>○ City of Danielsville</li> <li>○ City of Hull</li> <li>○ City of Ila</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Morgan County                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City of Bostwick</li> <li>○ Town of Buckhead</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City of Elberton</li> <li>● Greene County</li> <li>○ City of Greensboro</li> <li>○ Town of Siloam</li> <li>○ City of Union Point</li> <li>○ City of White Plains</li> <li>○ City of Woodville</li> <li>● Jackson County</li> <li>○ City of Arcade</li> <li>○ Town of Braselton</li> <li>○ City of Commerce</li> <li>○ City of Hoschton</li> <li>○ City of Jefferson</li> <li>○ City of Nicholson</li> <li>○ City of Pendergrass</li> <li>○ City of Talmo</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City of Madison</li> <li>○ City of Rutledge</li> <li>● Oconee County</li> <li>○ Town of Bishop</li> <li>○ Town of Bogart</li> <li>○ Town of North High Shoals</li> <li>○ City of Watkinsville</li> <li>● Oglethorpe County</li> <li>○ City of Arnoldsville</li> <li>○ City of Crawford</li> <li>○ City of Lexington</li> <li>○ City of Maxeys</li> <li>● Walton County</li> <li>○ Town of Between</li> <li>○ City of Good Hope</li> <li>○ Town of Jersey</li> <li>○ City of Loganville</li> <li>○ City of Monroe</li> <li>○ City of Social Circle</li> <li>○ City of Walnut Grove</li> </ul> |
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The location of these counties is shown below in Figure 1.1.

**Figure 1.1: Planning Area Map**



**1.2 Population and Projected Waste Disposal**

This section looks at existing and future population trends to determine future needs as they relate to the handling and disposal of solid waste generated in each county. The growth rates in the table below are from a demographic analysis conducted by the State of Georgia Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget (2018). Due to current economic conditions, the population numbers produced as part of the comprehensive planning process did not reflect current growth patterns. As a result, some growth rates have been adjusted, and the following rates will be used to project future population numbers and tonnage projections.

**Table 1.2: Estimated Population Growth**

County	Estimated Growth (2031)
Georgia	16.48%
Northeast Georgia	23.32%
Barrow County	44.01%
Athens-Clarke County	15.09%
Elbert County	-2.37%
Greene County	25.35%
Jackson County	34.65%
Madison County	11.77%
Morgan County	10.16%
Oconee County	33.21%
Oglethorpe County	7.81%
Walton County	16.89%



The following table shows population projections for each County over the next ten (10) years.

**Table 1.3: Population Projections by County**

Population Projections	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Athens-Clarke County	128,341	129,779	131,215	132,655	134,087	135,847	137,606	139,368	141,126	142,888	144,497
Barrow County	83,346	86,383	89,406	92,436	95,472	98,513	101,564	104,608	107,649	110,701	113,809
Elbert County	18,986	18,945	18,910	18,873	18,836	18,804	18,771	18,743	18,721	18,695	18,638
Greene County	18,165	18,717	19,270	19,830	20,381	20,715	21,065	21,405	21,739	22,091	22,318
Jackson County	72,331	74,700	77,067	79,428	81,799	83,781	85,751	87,733	89,708	91,696	93,588
Madison County	29,910	30,177	30,432	30,703	30,967	31,267	31,575	31,887	32,187	32,487	32,800
Morgan County	18,995	19,138	19,272	19,423	19,568	19,733	19,903	20,074	20,247	20,426	20,591
Oconee County	40,514	41,737	42,980	44,206	45,440	46,518	47,597	48,672	49,757	50,829	51,880
Oglethorpe County	15,149	15,240	15,335	15,429	15,520	15,624	15,728	15,836	15,945	16,048	16,146
Walton County	94,665	95,814	96,985	98,151	99,299	100,694	102,085	103,470	104,859	106,246	107,715
<b>Total Planning Area</b>	<b>520,402</b>	<b>530,630</b>	<b>540,872</b>	<b>551,134</b>	<b>561,369</b>	<b>571,496</b>	<b>581,645</b>	<b>591,796</b>	<b>601,938</b>	<b>612,107</b>	<b>621,982</b>

*Source: State of Georgia Governor’s Office of Planning & Budget 2018.*

To project future disposal tonnage, 2020 solid waste generation numbers were used to estimate the annual projected tonnages generated for each of the ten (10) counties within the planning area over the next ten (10) years. “Tonnage generated” represents the total weight (in pounds) of waste disposed of in Municipal Solid Waste Landfills (MSW) originating from each county annually. The 2020 figures were provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and were derived from quarterly reports submitted by each MSW disposal facility in the state. Furthermore, the average disposal rate for the ten (10) county planning area was calculated to be 4.26 pounds per person per day, compared to the 2018 national average of 4.4 pounds per person per day (EPA, 2018).

The table below projects the total tonnage of MSW to be disposed of by each County.

**Table 1.4: MSW Tonnage Projections by County**

Tonnage Projections	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Athens-Clarke County	103,998	105,149	106,303	107,450	108,861	110,270	111,682	113,091	114,503	115,792	117,080	118,369
Barrow County	127,454	131,914	136,385	140,864	145,351	149,853	154,344	158,831	163,334	167,920	172,504	177,088
Elbert County	16,713	16,682	16,649	16,617	16,589	16,559	16,535	16,515	16,492	16,442	16,392	16,352
Greene County	25,750	26,511	27,281	28,039	28,499	28,980	29,448	29,908	30,392	30,704	31,018	31,325
Jackson County	101,911	105,140	108,361	111,596	114,300	116,988	119,692	122,386	125,098	127,679	130,278	132,868
Madison County	6,636	6,692	6,752	6,810	6,876	6,943	7,012	7,078	7,144	7,213	7,283	7,352
Morgan County	10,865	10,941	11,027	11,109	11,203	11,299	11,396	11,495	11,596	11,690	11,784	11,879
Oconee County	674	694	714	734	751	769	786	804	821	838	855	872
Oglethorpe County	5,884	5,921	5,957	5,992	6,032	6,072	6,114	6,156	6,196	6,234	6,269	6,306
Walton County	109,264	110,599	111,929	113,238	114,829	116,415	117,995	119,579	121,160	122,836	124,505	126,185
<b>Total Planning Area</b>	<b>509,149</b>	<b>518,976</b>	<b>528,823</b>	<b>538,644</b>	<b>548,361</b>	<b>558,099</b>	<b>567,839</b>	<b>577,570</b>	<b>587,328</b>	<b>596,803</b>	<b>606,281</b>	<b>615,761</b>

The following formula was used to calculate the projected tonnage:

$$\text{Population} \times \text{2020 Annual Per Capita Disposal Rate} = \text{Projected Tonnage}$$

The sum of estimated tonnage generated shown in the table is the basis for the landfill assurance letter(s) associated with this plan, included in Appendix A.

### 1.3 Person Responsible for Plan

The person responsible for updating and coordinating the Solid Waste Management Plan is indicated below:

Executive Director  
 Northeast Georgia Regional Commission  
 305 Research Drive  
 Athens, Georgia 30605-2795  
 Phone: (706) 369-5650  
 Fax: (706) 369-5792

Any questions related to the contents of this plan or to request additional information should be directed to the person listed above. The following table lists the local contact or department responsible for coordinating the Community Work Program at each participating county. Specific questions about any of the activities listed in a given County's plan should be directed to the person listed below.

County	Department	Phone Number
Athens-Clarke County	Solid Waste Department	(706) 613-3512
Barrow County	Keep Barrow County Beautiful	(770) 307-3005
Elbert County	Administration Office, County Manager	(706) 283-2000
Greene County	Administration Office, County Manager	(706) 453-7716
Jackson County	Solid Waste Department	(706) 367-5253
Madison County	Keep Madison County Beautiful	(706) 795-5151
Morgan County	Solid Waste / Sanitation	(706) 342-5075
Oconee County	Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission	(706) 310-3560
Oglethorpe County	Administration Office, County Manager	(706)743-8159
Walton County	Keep Walton County Beautiful	(770)267-1421

## 2 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

The Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority has chosen to prepare the enumeration of facilities, needs and goals, ten (10) year capacity assurance, and work program to satisfy each of the solid waste management planning elements on a county-by-county basis.

This section provides a summary of the state of solid waste management and disposal in the region, outlines the role of the Authority, and outlines regional needs and goals identified by the Authority for the planning period.

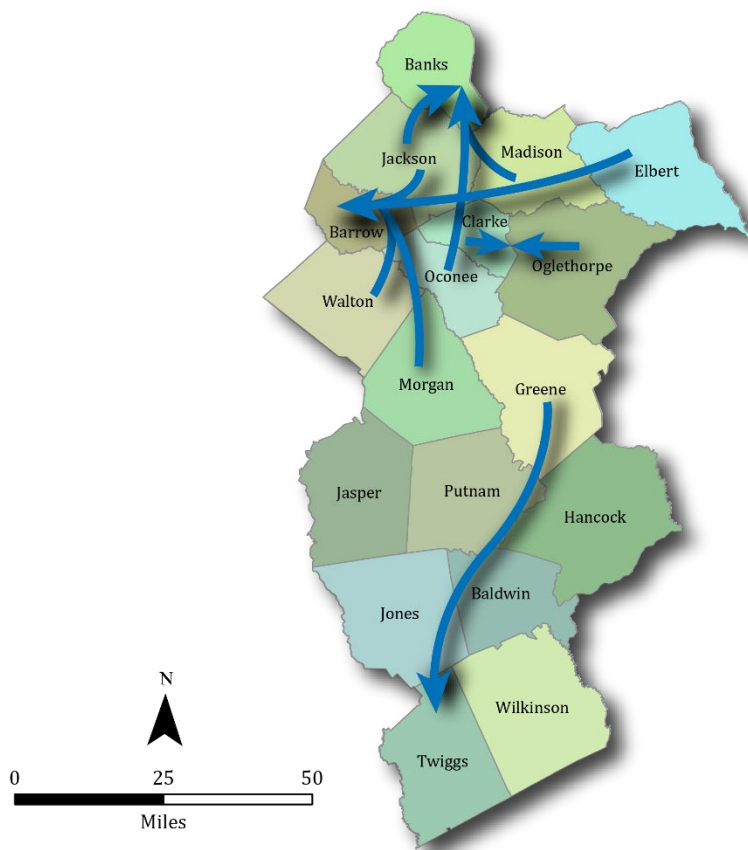
### 2.1 State of Solid Waste in the Region

Currently, there are two municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills within the region, the Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill in Barrow County and the Athens-Clarke County (ACC) Landfill. The ACC Landfill is county-owned and accepts waste generated in Athens-Clarke County and Oglethorpe County. The ACC facility has an estimated fill date of 2064, according to Georgia EPD data. The Oak Grove Landfill is privately-owned and accepts waste from over 16 counties and in volumes of over 360,000 tons annually. The Oak Grove facility has a remaining airspace capacity of 4.6 million cubic yards which will provide an estimated lifespan of 10-years.

The other two MSW landfills that the ten (10) member counties rely mostly on include the Advanced Disposal Wolf Creek Landfill in Twiggs County and the Waste Management R&B Landfill in Banks County. Of the four landfills, the R&B Landfill and the Athens-Clarke County Landfill have provided a 10-year capacity assurance letter for this plan. Figure 2.1 shows the flow of disposal in the regional waste stream from each county.

Currently, the method of operating a transfer station and partnering with a private hauler to transport waste out-of-county for disposal is the preferred method in most member counties. The NEGRSWMA identified the need to start planning for a new, modern disposal facility in the region that would incorporate the most up-to-date waste reduction and energy recapturing techniques. Some counties do agree on the need to begin planning for a new one-to-two county MSW disposal facility; however, the prospect of being the community that hosts a regional landfill creates opposition. Solid waste professionals and elected officials will need to work together to understand and sustainably manage the region's need for additional solid waste storage and handling.

**Figure 2.1: Regional MSW Waste Stream Analysis 2020**



*Note: This map is simplified to express the main distribution of municipal solid waste from each county. For a more detailed analysis of each county's waste stream, please refer to individual county chapters.*

The projected 19.5% increase in population within the planning area over the next ten (10) years, in combination with the life expectancy of the Oak Grove MSW Landfill, will require a collaborative public-private effort in determining the most appropriate siting for a new regional landfill during the planning period. It is undetermined whether siting of a new facility would occur within the planning area; however, the NEGRSWMA will assist local governments with facilitating these discussions when deemed necessary.

Construction and Development (C&D) and Inert Waste landfills have a much higher presence in this region than MSW landfills. There are four C&D landfills in the region, three in Walton County and one in Oglethorpe County. These facilities accept the majority of C&D waste generated by the ten (10)-county planning area. The Oglethorpe County C&D Landfill is currently undergoing two expansion phases. Once complete, this facility is expected to have a lifespan of approximately 30

years. The three C&D landfills in Walton County are privately owned and are located adjacent to one another on GA Highway 78. The Walton County C&D Landfill has an estimated fill date of 2021, the Republic Services US-78 C&D Landfill has an estimated fill date of 2100, while the Caruthers Mill C&D Landfill has an estimated fill date of 2031.

**Table 2.1: Regional Landfill (MSW and C&D) Remaining Capacity**

Permit #	Facility Name	Facility Type	Remaining Capacity (yd <sup>3</sup> )	Estimated Fill Date
007-020D(SL)	Republic Waste - Oak Grove SR 324	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	4,600,000.00	1/1/2031
029-012D(SL)	Clarke Co - Athens Dunlap Rd (SL) Ph 2-4	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	6,191,445.00	3/9/2064
109-003D(C&D)	Oglethorpe Co - US 78 Ph 2 C&D Landfill	Construction and Demolition Landfill	115,213.00	10/1/2020*
147-012D(C&D)	Republic - US 78 C&D Landfill	Construction and Demolition Landfill	12,628,579.00	1/1/2100
147-013D(C&D)	Walton C&D Landfill	Construction and Demolition Landfill	830,904.00	3/1/2021
147-014D(C&D)	Caruthers Mill C&D Landfill	Construction and Demolition Landfill	6,123,104	8/06/2030
*Current expansion projected to extend lifespan by 30 years				

Inert waste (i.e. leaf and limb, etc.) is managed in a variety of ways by member counties. In most counties, it is the responsibility of the property owner to transport inert waste to an inert landfill, while most cities and more populous areas have curbside collection services. Some municipalities contract with a private entity for shredding services and reuse the shredded material for mulching, erosion control, and composting. Athens-Clarke County is the only jurisdiction that offers curbside leaf and limb service county-wide. None of the counties expressed concern toward the management or operation of public or private inert waste landfills in their jurisdictions.

Materials requiring special handling (i.e. industrial waste, hazardous waste, medical waste, etc.) are addressed solely by the private sector. Due to the specific requirements of each type of material, each facility is smaller than a traditional disposal facility. There are no publicly owned industrial waste processing facilities within the planning area. Industrial waste generated within the planning area is transported either to the Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill in Barrow County, the Richland Creek Sanitary Landfill in Gwinnett County, the GFL Landfill in Taylor County, or to privately-owned and material-specific processing facilities.

Illegal dumping and roadside litter is a major issue in the region in certain member counties. Currently, the method of addressing these issues are through cleanup and public education events through Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates, camera monitoring, and increased code enforcement activities through local Police Departments. Rural counties, such as Greene, Elbert, and Madison, seem to have the greatest need to address illegal dumping activities. In addition, the proper disposal of used tires is identified as one of the major issues affecting all member counties. The annual tire amnesty grant program provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has assisted several counties with covering the costs associated with tire disposal and

hosting limited, free disposal of tires to residents once annually. It is a goal of the NEGRSWMA for all member counties to participate in this annual grant program during the next ten (10) years.

In keeping with waste reduction goals, the overall target for the planning area is a 10% reduction over the next ten (10) years or a per-capita disposal rate decrease by 1% per year for the next 10 (10) years. Public education, manufacturing practices, and single-stream collection methods have been identified as the most significant challenges to reducing solid waste volumes and/or increasing the recycling stream. Member counties address recycling and public education in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, curbside collection services in more populous areas and convenience centers in rural areas.

Seven of the ten (10) member counties are Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates and facilitate public education campaigns and cleanup events to improve the efficiency of waste collection. The other three perform these roles through a mixture of volunteers, local Sherriff's offices, and Administrative departments. The following list of counties are Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates:

- Athens-Clarke
- Barrow
- Elbert
- Jackson
- Madison
- Oconee
- Walton

The state of the recycling industry is in need of much improvement. Most member counties reported to experience a high rejection rate of recyclable materials in the sorting phase. This is a result of multiple reasons, including poor public education toward proper disposal of materials, single-stream collection methods, and inconsistent local and state regulations for recyclable materials. The high rejection rate results in much of the recyclable material being sent to a landfill disposal facility instead of being remanufactured. Public education toward how to handle and properly clean materials before discarding could have positive effects, especially in counties that operate convenience centers with separated bins. Also, considering creative ways to segregate materials during the collection phase and a refinement of the range of accepted materials could assist counties with the resale of material during processing. Ultimately, communicating the importance of reducing and reusing goods on the manufacturing and consumer side of the process is one of the most important messages to be focused on over the next decade.

One member county currently operates a commercial composting operation as a waste reduction strategy: Athens-Clarke County. This is an example of static pile conversion of inert waste. The ACC Commercial Composting Facility produces a compost to be used as a soil amendment using food scraps, composted bio-solids, and leaf and limb debris collected throughout the county. Bio-solids refer to processed wastewater solids that have met specific criteria and are suitable for composting. Athens-Clarke County prevents approximately 10,664 tons of material from entering a landfill through this program. Two other member counties are interested in implementing a similar program and one private company has expressed interest in building a commercial composting operation in the region. The expansion of programs such as this throughout the region will greater assist with waste reduction goals for each county.

## 2.2 Role of NEGRSWMA

The Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (NEGRSWMA or “Authority”) acts as a collaborative organization to facilitate and promote effective solid waste management and recycling practices throughout the region. It is not the intention of this Authority to directly manage, own, or administer solid waste facilities, disposal areas, or equipment. The general purpose of the Authority is officially declared to be to research, study, and planning for the solid waste management needs of its member counties, to gather data and research all phases of the solid waste management needs of member counties, and to ensure compliance of the regional plan for the development of projects in addition to member county reviews.

The Authority meets quarterly to discuss and share information for continued education on relevant solid waste management issues that each county experiences. The Authority will continue to meet quarterly during the following ten (10) year planning period. Any additional efforts, as outlined in the NEGRSWMA Work Program, will be addressed as necessary by representative board members or staff at the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission.

## 2.3 Needs and Goals – NEGRSWMA

The following provides a summary of needs and goals for the NEGRSWMA over the ten (10) year period covered by this plan update:

- The Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority has identified a strong need for a continued educational forum for member counties. The joint public education and involvement component of the Authority’s mission contributes greatly to the local discussion of solid waste management. This includes facilitating joint training programs for Authority Board members. Two topics of particular interest are programs for environmental laws and waste diversion methods.
- The need for cost-effective planning efforts is important across the region. The NEGRSWMA will continue to play a role in updating the plan, as needed, for each county, as their deadline approaches, to maintain an efficient path for all 46 affected local governments.
- While the landfill assurance capacity is accounted for during the following ten (10) year planning period, a need to start planning for a new, modern disposal facility in the region was identified. NEGRSWMA members will further determine the level of need and most appropriate planning options for future disposal during the following ten (10) years. At the time of this planning process, no new sites for disposal facilities were identified or proposed within the planning area by member counties.
- Educating the public on recycling best management practices and other waste diversion tactics is identified as a major need throughout the region. The NEGRSWMA members and Northeast Georgia Regional Commission will work together to determine the most appropriate methods for outreach and education for each member county.



- The annual tire amnesty grant program provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has assisted several counties with covering the costs associated with tire disposal. It is a goal of the NEGRSWMA for all member counties to participate in this annual grant program during the next ten (10) years.
- Increased dialogue between NEGRSWMA board members and local elected officials is needed, in addition to public engagement, to guide and educate them on local solid waste streams and better facilitate new ideas for management.
- As part of this planning process, a need for more regionally specific waste composition data was identified. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs no longer tracks or prepares waste composition data. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division does receive and maintain data from disposal facilities across the state; however, this data is not specific enough to determine waste stream characterization. The Authority will explore benefits of reporting regionally specific waste streams for member counties and determine its feasibility.
- The NEGRSWMA has identified a need to continue to investigate opportunities to work together on waste reduction approaches. The current approach is to hold regularly scheduled meetings, often with experts guest-speaking about potential waste reduction programs; this has filled the need to identify and implement joint waste reduction programs.
- The NEGRSMWMA expressed an interest in defining a procedure to ensure that private haulers operating in the region meet certain standards. Of particular interest was a way for counties to stay informed about private haulers with outstanding balances at disposal facilities and transfer stations in the region. Concepts for regional oversight of private haulers ranged from a regional permitting process to a regional database of complaints against haulers submitted by counties.

### 3 LAND SUITABILITY ANALYSIS

#### 3.1 Land Suitability Criteria - Region

There are a number of different factors considered when selecting a suitable site for development of new landfills and/or other waste handling facilities. Environmental, demographic, land use, and political factors collectively place limitations and pose challenges with regard to finding an appropriate site. To reference State regulations regarding siting of a waste facility, refer to the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management Criteria for Siting (§ 391-3-4-.05).

Sites selected for landfills and other related facilities should not diminish the overall quality of life for residents in a community. These sites should also have a minimal impact on the natural environment. The factors discussed in this section include state- and regional-level criteria that must be considered when determining a suitable site for waste handling facilities. This section is included to provide guidance and consideration in an effort to minimize the adverse effects that could result from selecting a site.

*Note: The criteria in this section do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility.*

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##### 3.1.1 NATURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITATIONS

This section discusses some of the restrictions with regard to where a solid waste facility can be located within a county based on federal, state, regional, and local policy. The items discussed in this section are illustrated in Figure 3.1. Unless otherwise specified, Local Governments will follow existing State regulations as they apply to the items defined below.

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###### 3.1.1.1 WATER SUPPLY WATERSHEDS

*Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1 requires that at any location within a small water supply watershed, new solid waste landfills must have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.*

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###### 3.1.1.2 GROUNDWATER RECHARGE AREAS & SIGNIFICANT GROUNDWATER RECHARGE AREAS

*DNR Rule 391-3-16-.02(3)(a) requires that in significant groundwater recharge areas, DNR shall not issue permits for new sanitary landfills not having synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.*

*DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(i) states that a new municipal solid waste landfill or lateral expansion of an existing municipal solid waste landfill shall not have any part of such site located within two miles of any area that has been designated by the Director as a significant groundwater recharge area unless such municipal solid waste landfill will have a liner and leachate collection system. In the case of a regional landfill which accepts solid waste generated outside the counties or special districts constituting the region or a municipal solid waste landfill which accepts solid waste generated outside the county in which the landfill is located, no part of such site shall be within any area that has been designated as a significant groundwater recharge area.*

A groundwater recharge area is a surface land area where water that enters an aquifer is first absorbed into the ground through soft, porous soils. Significant groundwater recharge areas throughout the region were identified based on the Georgia Geologic Survey Hydrologic Atlas 18: "Most Significant Ground-Water Recharge Areas of Georgia." Any proposed development or expansion should be done in compliance with local government ordinances and with the appropriate DNR rule, above.

#### 3.1.1.3 WETLANDS

*DNR Rule 391-3-16-.03(3)(e) establishes that hazardous or sanitary waste landfills may constitute an unacceptable use of a wetland.*

*"DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(e) states that a solid waste handling facility shall not be located in wetlands, as defined by the U.S. Corps. of Engineers, unless evidence is provided to the Director, by the applicant, that use of such wetlands has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all other applicable state and federal laws and rules. The owner or operator must place a demonstration of compliance in the operating record and notify the Directory that it has been placed in the operating record.*

Applicable DNR rules must be referenced and applicants will be required to obtain a Section 404 Permit prior to getting a Land Disturbance Permit.

#### 3.1.1.4 RIVER CORRIDORS

*DNR Rule 391-3-16-.04(4)(h) prohibits the development of hazardous waste or solid waste landfills within river corridors.*

Counties and the Regional Authority will not permit the development of any new landfills within protected river corridors throughout the region.

#### 3.1.1.5 PROTECTED MOUNTAINS

*DNR Rule 391-3-16-.05(4)(l) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills in areas designated as protected mountains.*

There are no protected mountains in the participating counties of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority.

#### 3.1.1.6 FLOODPLAINS

*DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(d) stipulates that any solid waste landfill located in the 100-year floodplain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a hazard to human health and the environment. The owner or operator must place a demonstration of compliance in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record.*

All applicants proposing development within the 100-year floodplain are required to comply with the requirements of the Local Governments Flood Protection Ordinance and the Protected Environmental Areas Ordinance prior to receiving a Land Disturbance Permit. Additionally, any future proposed landfill development within a 100-year floodplain will be required to comply with FEMA regulations as well as the DNR Rule stated above.

#### 3.1.1.7 FAULT ZONES, SEISMIC IMPACT ZONES & UNSTABLE AREAS

*DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(f) focuses on fault areas and requires that new landfill units and lateral expansions of existing landfills shall not be located within 200 feet (60 meters) of a fault that has had displacement in Holocene time unless the owner or operator demonstrates to the Director that an alternative setback distance of less than 200 feet (60 meters) will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the landfill unit and will be protective of human health and the environment.*

*DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(g) prohibits the development of new landfills and lateral expansions of existing landfills in seismic impact zones, unless all landfill containment structures, including existing landfill liners, leachate collection systems, and surface water control systems, are designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site.*

*DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(h), existing landfills and lateral expansions of existing landfills located in an unstable area must demonstrate that engineering measures have been incorporated into the landfill*

*unit's design to ensure that the integrity of the structural components of the landfill will not be disrupted.*

A registered professional engineer (P.E.) or registered geologist (P.G.) is required to conduct a hydro-geological assessment at the proposed location of any new solid waste disposal facility. The potential for problems to result from development on fault zones, areas susceptible to seismic activity, and unstable ground are evaluated as part of this assessment. Excerpts from the DNR rules pertaining to each of these items are listed above.

#### 3.1.1.8 ZONING RESTRICTIONS

*DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a) requires that the site must conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances, and that written verification of such be submitted to EPD [Georgia Environmental Protection Division] by the applicant demonstrating that the proposed site complies with local zoning and land use ordinances, if any. This verification shall include a letter from the local governmental authority stating that the proposed site complies with local zoning or land use ordinances, if any. This verification shall be provided at the time of submission of a permit application and reaffirmed by the governmental authority prior to permit issuance.*

Landfills, recycling collection centers, transfer stations, and composting facilities are examples of facility types that would be subject to this requirement. While current zoning classifications may prohibit or limit development of solid waste facilities, the possibility of granting a re-zoning, a special use permit, or other exception still exists and are determined at the discretion of the Local Government. As a result, it is important for decision makers to consider land uses and environmental conditions when reviewing the proposed locations of solid waste facilities. Local Governments or applicants should also utilize the Future Land Use map of the local Comprehensive Plan to assist in determining an appropriate location for a solid waste handling facility.

#### 3.1.1.9 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES

*Georgia Code O.C.G.A. 12-8-25.1 states that no permit shall be issued within 5,708 yards of the geographic center of any of three sites currently designated in Georgia as a National Historic Site (NHS). The three NHS sites in Georgia are the Andersonville Prison in Americus, GA, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Atlanta, GA, and the Jimmy Carter Preservation District in Plains, GA. None of these sites are located within the region.*

There are a number of historic sites and districts listed in the National Register of Historic Places located throughout the 10-County planning area of the NEGRSWMA. Special consideration should be taken when considering siting a new facility within an area of potential effect to resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

#### 3.1.1.10 AIRPORT SAFETY

*DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c) requires that new solid waste landfill units or lateral expansions of existing units shall not be located within 10,000 feet of any public-use or private-use airport runway end used by turbojet aircraft or within 5,000 feet of any public-use or private-use airport runway end used by only piston type aircraft.*

State and Federal solid waste regulations and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) have specific requirements regarding the proximity of new MSW landfills to certain types of airports. The state and federal regulations requires a 10,000 feet of buffer from an airport with turbo-jet aircraft and 5,000 feet of buffer for piston type aircraft. The FAA, however, requires a six (6) mile separation between new MSW landfills and airports that are recipients of Federal grants, primarily serve general aviation aircraft, and are scheduled air carrier operations using aircraft with less than 60 passenger seats. Per Georgia Department of Transportation's Aviation Programs Manger, the only airports in Georgia currently impacted by this regulation are the airports in Albany, Athens, Brunswick, Columbus, Macon, and Valdosta. The FAA categorizes new landfills as those that were established or constructed after April 5, 2000. The existing Athens-Clarke County Landfill was established prior to April 2000 and therefore this criterion does not apply to an expansion of this landfill. This was confirmed in correspondence from the State of Georgia, Department of Law in a letter dated May 6, 2008.

#### 3.1.1.11 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

Local governments, according to the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, are prohibited to develop an MSW landfill within one-half mile of an adjacent county or city border without the express approval of the governing authority of that adjoining city or county. The existing Athens-Clarke County Landfill and the proposed Phase 5 expansion of this landfill are allowed to extend into and beyond the political subdivision limit per an agreement between Clarke County and Oglethorpe County.

#### 3.1.1.12 WELLHEAD PROTECTION ZONES AND PUBLIC WELL

No new landfill or expansion of an existing landfill shall be allowed if any part of the property is located within the inner or outer management area of a wellhead protection zone for a municipal water supply well existing at the time an application for the landfill is filed with the Georgia EPD. The location of wellhead protection zones shall be obtained from the Georgia EPD.

### 3.1.1.13 LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF SOLID WASTE FACILITIES WITHIN A GIVEN AREA

*Georgia Code O.C.G.A. § 12-8-24 states that no permit shall be issued for any solid waste handling facility other than a material recovery facility or compost facility or for any solid waste disposal facility other than a private industry solid waste disposal facility if any part of the premises proposed for permitting would lie within any geographic area in the shape of a circle with a two-mile radius, and the circular geographic area already includes all or a portion of three or more landfills within that portion of its territory which is within this state (including the landfill proposed for permitting in the case of a proposed expansion).*

The State of Georgia General Assembly determined that an excessive concentration of solid waste facilities in any one community can adversely affect the health, safety, well-being, and environment of that community and impose an onus on the community without any reciprocal benefits to the community.

### 3.1.1.14 LOCATING DISPOSAL FACILITY NEAR PRIVATE RECREATIONAL CAMPS

*Georgia Code O.C.G.A. § 12-8-25.5 states that No permit shall be issued for any new municipal solid waste disposal facility if any part of the premises proposed for permitting is within one mile of any private recreational camp operated primarily for use by persons under 18 years of age and which camp has been so operated at its location for 25 years or more.*

The sole private recreational camp located within the NEGRSWMA planning area is located within Elbert County.

### 3.1.1.15 GRANITE AREAS

During the development of this plan, stakeholder groups identified granite areas as a significant regional economic resource and environmentally sensitive resource, therefore warranting special consideration. Geologic data was used to determine the location of granite areas in the region and was included as a component of the regional land suitability analysis.

### 3.1.1.16 REGIONAL PLAN COMPLIANCE

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission generates a Regional Plan, updated every five years, which includes a Regional Development section identifying the regional development patterns desired, based on existing and expected conditions over the next 20 years. The Conservation and Development component delineates important conservation areas based on environmentally sensitive areas, important resources, and other environmental and cultural resources throughout

the region. The Conservation areas identified in this plan are included as a component of the regional land suitability analysis to maintain coherence across regional entities.

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### 3.1.2 LAND LIMITATIONS SITE SUITABILITY

The map shown in Figure 3.1, below, assesses the suitability of land throughout the region based on both environmental and land use limitations at the state and regional level. Examining the DNR rules listed in the Minimum Planning Standards and the Northeast Georgia Regional Plan, the NEGRC produced this graphic to illustrate how these controls translate into site suitability to potential development or expansion of a solid waste handling facility. The graphic is intended as a guide and delineates the siting criteria into the following categories:

- Unsuitable. Land is not suitable for development of a solid waste facility
- Restrictive. Potentially suitable for development subject to certain State and Regional environmental restrictions and/or requirements
- Conditional. Deemed most suitable, but is subject to County Commission approval, rezoning, special use procedures, local ordinances, etc.

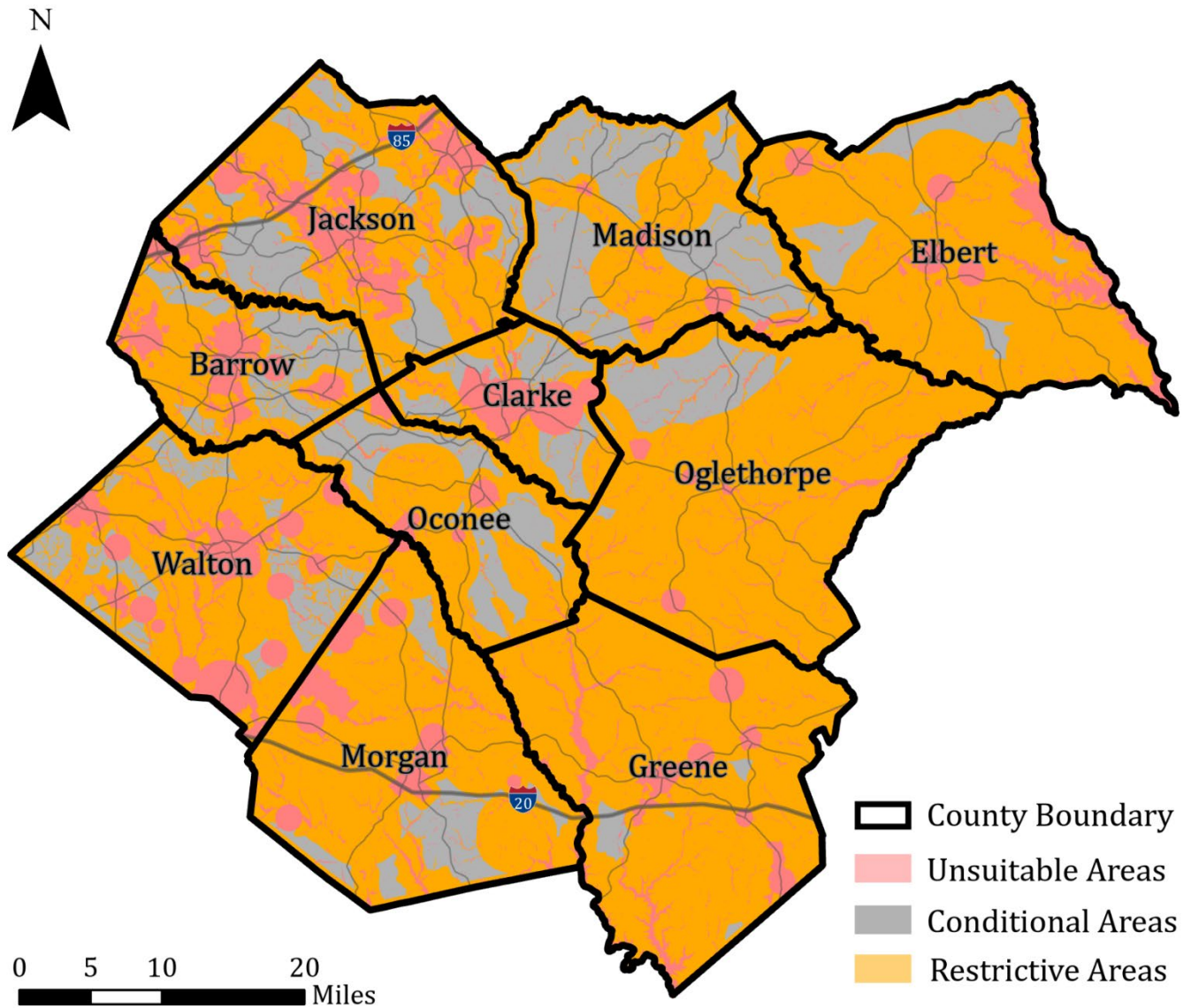
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### 3.1.3 ACTIONS REQUIRED BY APPLICANT

It is the responsibility of the applicant to consult with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Counties within the area(s) of potential effect, and the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority to verify procedures and siting requirements. Specifically, applicants should reference and adhere to the rules and regulations defined in the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management Criteria for Siting (§ 391-3-4-.05). Restrictions and siting criteria defined in this document will be utilized unless more stringent regulations have been established by Local Governments.



Figure 3.1: Land Suitability Map – Region



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

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### 3.1.4 PLAN CONSISTENCY

Any entity requesting a renewal or issuance of a solid waste handling permit from EPD must demonstrate that the facility or facility expansion is consistent with the local government’s Solid Waste Management Plan. Local Governments will use the following criteria to determine whether the issuance of the requested permit is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan.

- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed unsuitable by local governments according to the criteria listed above.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with local zoning ordinances.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts natural or cultural resources in the ten (10)-county planning area.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the current solid waste management infrastructure of the County.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts collection capability and disposal capacity identified in the Plan.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the financial viability of the County’s solid waste management system.

No proposed facility or facility expansion will be sited within the ten (10)-county planning area without a letter from the Local Governments Chief Elected Body and the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority stating that the facility is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. In addition, the local County Commission will hold at least one (1) public hearing to gather input to make this determination.



## 4 NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (NEGRSWMA) WORK PROGRAM

### 4.1 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of the NEGRSWMA’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives the Authority the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the Authority to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>4.1.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The NEGRSWMA will promote and disseminate DCA’s waste composition data specific to the region, when available.				X	DCA no longer generated or reports waste composition data. Quarterly waste disposal data is available via Georgia EPD.
<b>4.1.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
The NEGRSWMA will disseminate information about private haulers operating in the region among counties.				X	The NEGRSWMA has not continued this activity as most participating counties allow the free market to govern private hauling operations.
<b>4.1.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
The NEGRSWMA will continue to explore opportunities for two or more counties to work together on waste reduction programs.	X				This activity is continued through quarterly education and roundtable meetings with Authority members.
<b>4.1.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
The NEGRSWMA will continue to share information about disposal	X				This activity is continued through quarterly education and roundtable meetings with Authority

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
strategies implemented on a county by county basis.					members.
<b>4.1.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION / INVOLVEMENT</b>					
The NEGRSWMA will hold public hearings on the solid waste management plan and other regional solid waste management issues, as needed.	X				The NEGRSWMA has held an opening public hearing in addition to the required public hearings for the update of the regional Solid Waste Management Plan.
The NEGRSWMA Board will continue to hold roundtables on solid waste management issues of interest to all counties in the region.	X				The NEGRSWMA has continued to hold quarterly roundtables.
The Counties will continue to share their public education and information materials and approaches at NEGRSWMA meetings.	X				Counties have continued participation in quarterly meetings and collaborated to assist other counties with new programs and initiatives.
<b>4.1.6 PLANNING</b>					
The NEGRSWMA will prepare the multijurisdictional solid waste management plan and all updates and hold public hearings accordingly.	X				The NEGRSWMA has prepared the multijurisdictional solid waste management plan and all updates and held public hearings accordingly.
The NEGRSWMA will assist member counties with submitting their updated solid waste management plan section as needed to meet state requirements and deadlines.	X				The NEGRSWMA has assisted all member counties with submitting their updated solid waste management plan section as needed to meet updated state requirements.

## 4.2 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the Authority’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the Authority is moving forward with implementation of the plan. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>4.2.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The NEGRSWMA will promote and disseminate EPD’s waste disposal data specific to the region, annually.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRC	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
<b>4.2.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
The NEGRSWMA will disseminate information about private haulers operating in the region among counties, if requested by a member county.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRC	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
<b>4.2.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
The NEGRSWMA will continue to host educational roundtables for member counties to learn about initiatives and best management practices for waste reduction and recycling programs.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRSWMA / NEGRC	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
<b>4.2.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The NEGRSWMA will review any facility proposals within the region as to maintain compliance with the Solid Waste Management Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRSWMA	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>4.2.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
The NEGRSWMA determine the most effective education and outreach methods for each county.	X					NEGRSWMA / NEGRC	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
The NEGRSWMA will partner with member counties to disseminate educational materials and host events regarding waste disposal and recycling, annually.		X	X	X	X	NEGRSWMA / NEGRC	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
The NEGRSWMA will hold public hearings on the solid waste management plan and other regional solid waste management issues, as needed.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRSWMA	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
The NEGRSWMA Board will continue to hold roundtables on solid waste management issues of interest to all counties in the region.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRSWMA	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
Member Counties will continue to share their public education and information materials and approaches at NEGRSWMA meetings, as requested.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRSWMA	N/A	NEGRSWMA General Fund
<b>4.2.6 PLANNING</b>								
The NEGRSWMA will continue to partner with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission for planning, administrative, and operational assistance of the Authority.	X	X	X	X	X	NEGRSWMA / NEGRC	Varies by County	Annual County Fees
The NEGRSWMA will prepare the multi-jurisdictional solid waste management plan and all updates and hold public hearings accordingly.					X	NEGRSWMA / NEGRC	Varies by County	County Fees
The NEGRSWMA will assist member counties with submitting their updated solid waste management plan section as needed to meet state requirements and deadlines.					X	NEGRSWMA / NEGRC	Varies by County	County Fees

## 5 ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY (ACC)

### 5.1 County Description

Clarke County (Athens-Clarke County Unified Government) is located in the north-central portion of the planning area and serves as the major urban hub for the region. The City of Winterville is also located within Clarke County. The total population for the area is 128,341, according to 2020 U.S. Census estimates. Being home to the University of Georgia, the nation’s oldest land grant university, the county experiences a higher percentage of transient residents compared to other communities. However, the county does not experience significant fluctuations in the solid waste stream despite the seasonal changes in population.

The County has the highest residential density (NEGRC Housing & Transportation Analysis, 2020) in the region and the highest concentration of employment (Georgia DOL, 2020). The total number of housing units in the county is 55,022 (U.S. Census, 2020). Housing units are comprised of approximately 36% owner-occupied units compared to 55.8% renter-occupied units, with the remaining 8.2% considered vacant (U.S. Census). As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses within the county, private and public, is 3,369.

### 5.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. Athens-Clarke County is unique in the context of the region because the County owns and operates a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill in partnership with Oglethorpe County. Therefore, a significant percentage of waste generated stays within the county for disposal. The table below outlines an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for ACC including MSW, Construction and Development (C&D) waste, and Industrial waste.

**Table 5.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Athens-Clarke County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	5,403.57	3.33
Barrow	Industrial Waste	20,967.03	12.94
Clarke	MSW	98,570.65	60.83
Hall	C&D	15.33	0.01
Meriwether	MSW	23.62	0.01
Oglethorpe	C&D	11,727.40	7.24
Walton	C&D	25,337.68	15.64
Total Tonnage:	All Types	162,045.28	100%



Additionally, there are two recovered material processing facilities within ACC’s jurisdiction, the Athens-Clarke County Recovered Materials Processing Facility and the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials Facility (CHaRM). Tables 5.2 and 5.3 show a summary of the material processed at these facilities in fiscal year 2020 as well as the average annual tonnage processed from FY 2015–2020 and FY 2018-2020, respectively.

**Table 5.2: Material Processed at the Athens-Clarke County Recovered Materials Processing Facility – FY 2020**

Month	Tonnage
July	1,167.93
August	1,291.80
September	1,139.75
October	1,230.16
November	1,098.83
December	1,272.16
January	1,311.69
February	1,221.1
March	1,130.61
April	950.3
May	936.73
June	1,038.38
Total	13,789.44
Average Tonnage Per Month (FY 20)	1,149.12
Average Tonnage Per Year (FY15-20)	18,861.59

**Table 5.3: Material Processed at the Athens Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) Facility – FY 2020**

Month	Tonnage
July	38.88
August	25.93
September	10.45
October	29.37
November	47.53
December	24.25
January	5.15
February	27.12
March	28.49
April	0.22
May	16.49
June	11.39
Total	265.24
Average Tonnage Per Month (FY 20)	22.10
Average Tonnage Per Year (FY18-20)	254.17

### 5.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Athens-Clarke County jurisdiction.

**Table 5.4: Enumeration of Facilities – Athens-Clarke County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
029-012D(SL)	Athens-Clarke County Landfill	5700 Lexington Rd. Winterville, GA 30683	MSW Landfill	Athens-Clarke County	444 acres
029-012D(SL)	Athens-Clarke County Composting Facility	5700 Lexington Rd. Winterville, GA 30683	Composting Facility	Athens-Clarke County	9 acres
N/A	Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) Facility	1005 College Ave Athens, GA 30601	Recycled Material Processing Facility	Athens-Clarke County	4 acres
N/A	Athens-Clarke County Recovered Materials Processing Facility	725 Hancock Industrial Way Athens, GA 30605	Recycled Material Processing Facility	Athens-Clarke County	22,000 square feet / 120 tons per day
N/A	Athens-Clarke County Solid Waste Department	725 Hancock Industrial Way Athens, GA 30605	Administrative Building	Athens-Clarke County	N/A
Unknown	Athens-Clarke County Inert Landfill	1005 College Ave Athens, GA 30601	Inert Waste Landfill (Closed)	Athens-Clarke County	N/A
029-004D(SL)	Athens-Clarke County Landfill (SL) Phase 1	5700 Lexington Rd. Winterville, GA 30683	MSW Landfill (Closed)	Athens-Clarke County	N/A
N/A	Will Hunter Landfill	370 Will Hunter Road Athens, GA 30606	MSW Landfill (Closed)	Private	N/A
N/A	Airport Landfill	1010 Ben Epps Drive Athens, GA 30605	MSW Landfill (Closed)	Athens-Clarke County	N/A
PBR-029-26OSP	UGA Bio-Conversion Research and Education Facility	1155 E. Whitehall Rd. Athens, GA 30602	Composting Facility	University of Georgia	Unknown

### 5.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

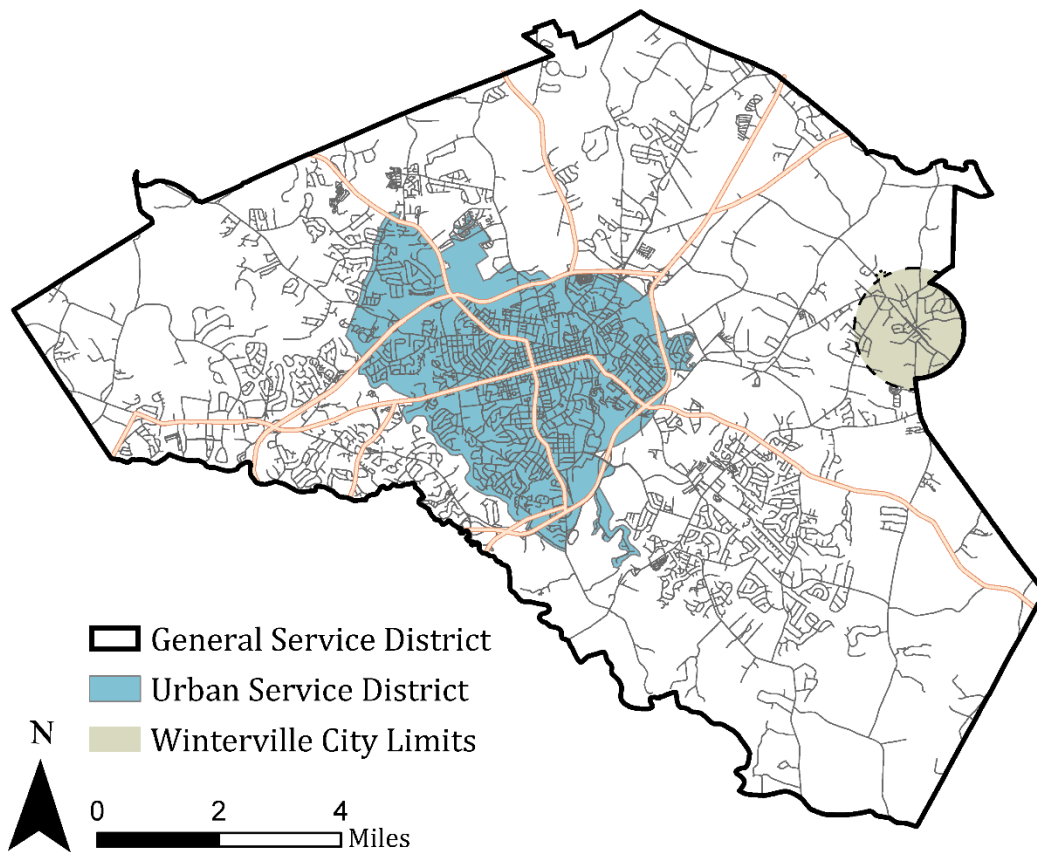
#### Collection

Athens-Clarke County provides public collection in the Urban Service District; the remainder of the county is served by private collection services in the General Service District (see Figure 5.1). In the Urban Service District, the county provides residential collection (once-a-week), curbside commercial collection (daily pick-up, twice daily in downtown area), and dumpster service to commercial customers. There are no public access dumpsters or convenience centers in Athens-Clarke County. Curbside commercial customers are primarily in downtown Athens, although waste from businesses in primarily residential areas, such as the Normaltown neighborhood, are often collected curbside (i.e., businesses are treated as residential customers). The County also collects leaf and limb material throughout the county (once every 6-weeks, curbside) and will collect bulky goods by special pickup.

Residential collection in the General Service District is provided through private collection by resident subscription service with a private hauler of choice. Private haulers in the county operate under a permit to the County. Among the permit requirements is for haulers to offer recycling and a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) rate structure with rate differentials from ACC policy to residential customers.

The University of Georgia collects its own waste for disposal at the county landfill, but there is no formal agreement between the University and the County government. The University also collects recyclables and operates an office paper recycling program throughout the campus. The table below shows the existing collection programs in the county.

**Figure 5.1: Urban Service District Map – Athens-Clarke County**



**Table 5.5: Inventory of Collection Programs – Athens-Clarke County**

Type	Collector	Program Description	Jurisdiction Served	Number of Households/ Businesses Served, if available	Contractual Arrangements
Residential Curbside Collection	Athens-Clarke County	Weekly curbside collection of garbage and mixed-stream recyclables	Urban Service District	10,199	Residents are billed monthly by County based on bin volume
Residential Curbside Collection	Athens-Clarke County	6-week curbside collection of leaf and limb material	Entire County	≈40,000	General Fund / Property Tax-Based
Residential Curbside Collection	Permitted Private Haulers	Weekly curbside collection of garbage and mixed-stream recyclables	General Service District	22,047	Residents contract directly with hauler of choice
Commercial Curbside Collection	Athens-Clarke County	Recyclables, Dumpster Collection, and Downtown Curbside Collection	Urban Service District and General Service District	722	Businesses are billed monthly by County
Commercial Curbside Collection	Permitted Private Haulers	Recyclables and Dumpster Collection	Urban Service District and General Service District	3,262	Businesses contract directly with hauler of choice
Campus Collection	University of Georgia	Recyclables and Dumpster Collection	University of Georgia Campus	N/A	N/A

*Needs and Goals:*

Athens-Clarke County’s goal for collection is to ensure efficient and effective collection of solid waste in the county over the next ten (10) years. To this end, the County is committed to ensuring that residents in the general service district receive the same level of service as those in the urban service district. Some of the options being considered include franchising, contracting, or expanding the County’s service area.

**Disposal**

Athens-Clarke County owns and operates a Subtitle D landfill on the eastern border of the county. Fees at the landfill are \$43 per ton with a \$10 minimum for commercial and a per-bag fee of \$1.50 up to six bags for residential. The site is 444 acres with 193 acres permitted for disposal. A Phase 5 expansion, including 79 acres into Oglethorpe County, was completed in 2020. According to the most recent EPD Remaining Capacity Report, the Athens-Clarke Landfill has an expected fill date of 2064 at current disposal rates.

The Athens-Clarke County landfill primarily receives waste from within county limits and Oglethorpe County. Approximately, 95% of the municipal solid waste generated in Athens-Clarke County was delivered to the county landfill in 2020. In the same year, private haulers in the county delivered just over 5,400 tons to Oak Grove landfill in Barrow County and 23 tons were disposed in Meriwether County. Biomedical waste from Piedmont Athens Regional, St. Mary’s Hospital, and the University of Georgia is disposed of by private entities.

The University of Georgia hauls most of its waste to the county landfill for disposal and also operates an inert landfill and a bio-conversion facility for non-degradable materials.

Athens-Clarke County has an agreement with Oglethorpe County to dispose of C&D waste at its landfill in exchange for Oglethorpe disposing MSW at the Athens-Clarke County Landfill. The agreement structure is based on tipping fees for disposal at each waste disposal facility. ACC also relies on other C&D landfills in Walton County and Hall County to dispose of waste. Walton County accepted approximately 25,300 tons in 2020 of C&D waste from ACC, while Hall County only received 25 tons.

Most of the solid waste generated within the county will continue to be delivered to the Athens-Clarke County Landfill. However, private haulers in the General Service District of the county are able to deliver solid waste and construction and demolition debris to other landfills in the region.

*Needs and Goals:*

Athens-Clarke County's goal is to ensure that disposal and transfer facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs for the next ten (10) years.

**Waste Reduction**

*Yard/Inert Debris & Composting*

The County operates an EPD-permitted commercial composting facility at the Athens-Clarke County Landfill. The facility has been in operation since 2011 and uses leaf and limb material collected through curbside pickup, bio-solids from the water treatment plants, and food scraps collected at various drop-off sites and collected curbside from commercial customers to produce commercially available compost. The facility produces two types of compost: bio-solid compost and food scrap compost. The County then sells screened compost material for \$20.00 per cubic yard.

The compost facility processes up to 12,900 tons of inert material annually, including food scraps, bio-solids (sludge), and yard debris. This program diverts material that would have otherwise been disposed of in a landfill and generates between \$35,000 and \$80,000 in annual revenue. The County plans to continue operating the compost facility indefinitely, and expand operations as necessary.

**Table 5.6: Commercial Compost Volume – Athens-Clarke County**

Year	Cubic Yards Sold (Compost)	Organics Tonnage (Food Scraps)	Biosolids Tonnage	Leaf and Limb Tonnage
2015	3,539	96.58	2,590.90	6,447.95
2016	3,985	65.36	2,855.90	5,643.94
2017	2,914	88.28	2,762.58	7,938.41
2018	3,771	213.18	3,170.66	7,213.02
2019	4,524	1,321.17	4,643.5	6,074.32
2020	2,244	367.07	5,613.37	6,875.83
Average Tonnage Per Year (FY15-20)	3,496	359	3,606	6,699

*Recycling*

The County has two recycling facilities: the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) facility and the Athens-Clarke County Recovered Materials Processing Facility (RMPF). Combined, these facilities divert approximately 19,115 tons of material from the landfill, annually.

The County and private haulers offer single-stream, curbside recycling services to residents and commercial businesses. Currently, the County accepts paper, carton and flattened cardboard, metal cans and containers, plastic bottles and containers, and glass jars and bottles through this service. The County plans to continue accepting these materials over the next ten (10) years as long as there are markets available to sell the listed recyclable materials. ACC also offers nine recycling drop-off sites throughout the county for residents to dispose of these materials. The County plans to continue operating these facilities and offering drop-off sites.

The CHaRM facility is a drop-off facility for mixed items that can not be recycled through curb service or at the ACC recycling drop-off sites due to chemical composition, hazardous components, size, shape, or other factors. Materials dropped off at this site will be processed, recycled, or safely disposed. The County plans to continue operating this facility indefinitely. Currently, the facility operates three days per week, year-round.

The Athens-Clarke County Recovered Materials Processing Facility (RMPF), located at 699 Hancock Industrial Way, is operated in partnership with a private contractor. Athens-Clarke County owns the property and currently contracts with Republic Services for operation of the facility. The facility is nearly 25 years old, 22,000 square feet on just over 5 acres and owned by Athens-Clarke County. The facility currently processes approximately 19,000 tons per year of recyclables - residential and commercial single stream, pre-sorted cardboard, and pre-sorted shredded paper. The current facility was constructed to handle paper (specifically, increased newsprint, mixed paper and cardboard), bottles, and cans.

The Athens-Clarke County 2020 SPLOST includes funding for construction of a new RMPF facility to be located adjacent to the ACC Landfill. The project is expected to begin in fiscal year 2024 and be

completed in fiscal year 2027. This new facility will be 40,000 square feet with extra storage space for covered tipping floors, bale storage, or to maximize potential revenues from end markets and new sortation technology to better sort incoming material. Also, an improved educational resource space will be included in the new facility that will be a larger, safer interactive space than what the current RMPF offers. Operation of the facility will be similar to the current RMPF structure in that ACC will own the facility, but will contract with a private entity for operations. The goal of this facility will be to significantly improve sorting efficiency and achieve sending zero waste to the ACC Landfill.

Once the new RMPF is constructed, the current Recovered Materials Processing Facility, located at 699 Hancock Industrial Way, will be repurposed into a Creative Reuse Space and new home for the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM), Teacher Reuse Store, and Toolshed.

*Needs and Goals:*

Athens-Clarke County's waste reduction and recycling programs are available to all waste generators. ACC will continue a proactive approach to waste reduction through the education efforts of the ACC Recycling Division, Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful (KACCB), and partnerships with other entities.

Based on the inventory and assessment, adequacy of current programs and other programmatic options, including costs, Athens-Clarke County has developed the following waste reduction needs and goals:

- To divert 75% of waste from the landfill by 2030 and 90% by 2050;
- To sustain all waste reduction programs for the next ten (10) years.

## **5.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory**

Athens-Clarke County handles education and public involvement primarily through the ACC Recycling Division and Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful. Athens-Clarke County is a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation (KGBF) program via the national Keep America Beautiful (KAB) program. This is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by the County and local donations offering community support and education regarding issues that affect the health and appearance of the environment. Housed within the Athens-Clarke County Solid Waste Department, the mission of KACCB is to educate and empower citizens and businesses with the resources to take action as environmental stewards of litter prevention, waste reduction, and beautification. The ACC Solid Waste Department, through the ACC Recycling Division and KACCB, work together to facilitate a number of events and outreach efforts to improve community knowledge in regard to solid waste management, waste reduction, litter abatement, and beautification.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county. The County offers additional programs not listed in this table; a comprehensive list can be found in Appendix E.

**Table 5.7: Brief Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs**

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Down and Dirty Cleanups	Matches businesses and organizations with a roadway or public space that needs a cleanup or beautification. KACCB will provide the group with tools, safety vests, trash and recycling bags, and pickup of the group's collected trash as needed.	Continuous	377 volunteers, 594 volunteer hours, 39 cleanups
Adopt-A-Highway	A local litter prevention program sponsored by Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful (KACCB) that works to involve community volunteers in local roadside clean-up efforts. The goal of the program is to reduce roadside litter in an effort to keep the community clean and beautiful. Community organizations and/or volunteers accept the responsibility of regular litter pickups on their "adopted" local roadway.	Continuous	1601 volunteers, 2762 volunteer hours, 176 cleanups
Schoolyard Litter Gitters	K-12 students are able to learn about volunteerism and make a positive impact by taking ownership of their schoolyard and their communities.	Annual	860 volunteers, 1190 volunteer hours, 23 cleanups at 17 schools
ACC Employee Litter Cleanups	Program offered to County employees who may choose to pick-up roadside litter to fulfill work hours.	Continuous	N/A
Adopt Athens	A community appearance program that allows community volunteers to take part in the care and maintenance of county roads, parks, rivers, medians, bus stops, etc.	Continuous	2 groups
Loop-10 Beautification Project	A long-term plan to beautify the Athens Loop-10 highway in collaboration with the Georgia Department of Transportation and ACC Landscape Management Division.	Continuous	22 volunteers, 55 volunteer hours
Beautiful Business of the Month	A program that recognizes businesses that improve the appearance of our community through their landscaping and beautification efforts. Each month, KACCB accepts nominations for local businesses through the KACCB website. Businesses can be nominated based on Cleanliness, Sustainability, Flower beds/Planters, Design/Color/Creativity, and Landscaping.	Monthly	12
Bring One for the Chipper	A program for recycling undecorated Christmas trees by shredding and composting the material free of charge to county residents.	Annual	72 volunteers, 144 volunteer hours, 277 participants, 14.1 tons of trees collected
Cell Phone / Inkjet /	A program that collaborates with	Continuous	6694 inkjet cartridges, 93



Northeast Georgia Solid Waste Management Authority – Athens-Clarke County

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Laserjet Recycling	private organizations to recycle inkjet cartridges, small electronics, and laserjet print cartridges. The empty inkjet cartridges are recycled back into circulation, helping to decrease the amount of solid waste that is put into landfills.		small electronics, 1279 laser jet cartridges, 673 cell phones
School Garden Network	A partnership of Athens organizations and KACCB that have come together to make sure that every school in Athens-Clarke County has a school garden that is accessible to enhance instruction that engages students, staff, families and the community.	Continuous	571 volunteers, 1560 volunteer hours
Mascot Bee Bee Clean	A program for schools to invite the Bee Bee Clean mascot to classrooms for students to learn about solid waste issues related to littering, landfills, and waste reduction.	Continuous	2 events/activities
ToolShed	A program that offers a large inventory of tools ranging from gardening tools to renovation tools to assist volunteers with community improvement projects.	Continuous	115 projects
Keepin' It Clean Dirty Dance Benefit	An annual fund raising event for community daffodil planting efforts.	Annual	260+ participants
Rivers Alive	An annual event that organizes volunteer litter cleanup efforts in local waterways.	Annual	276 volunteers, 1104 volunteer hours, 21 sites
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service	An annual celebration in support of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and commitment to service by participating in community cleanup projects.	Annual	800 volunteers, 3200 volunteer hours, 22 sites
Great American Cleanup	An annual challenge for county residents to pick up roadside litter. The ACC Solid Waste Department offers collection of all waste collected.	Annual	331 volunteers, 497 volunteer hours
Composting	Programs include Master Composter Partnership Program, composting presentations for local schools, neighborhood groups, and businesses and the sale of compost bins for home composting through KACCB. Additionally, ACC hosts International Compost Awareness Week each year.	Continuous/Annual	N/A
ACC Green School Program	A program designed to assist schools with environmental education and improvement efforts that focus on conservation, preservation, and beautification of our environment. Annually, the program recognizes participating schools that implement exceptional environmental education and improvement programs	Continuous	23 Schools
Teacher Reuse Store	A collaboration of business, industry, education, and local government that provides a variety of school supplies, materials, and other items to local educators at no cost. The program is open to any teacher in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Oconee,	Continuous	Varies – example from June 2021: 3,107 lb material diverted from the landfill; 68 teachers “shopped” with us; 47 volunteer hours from 14

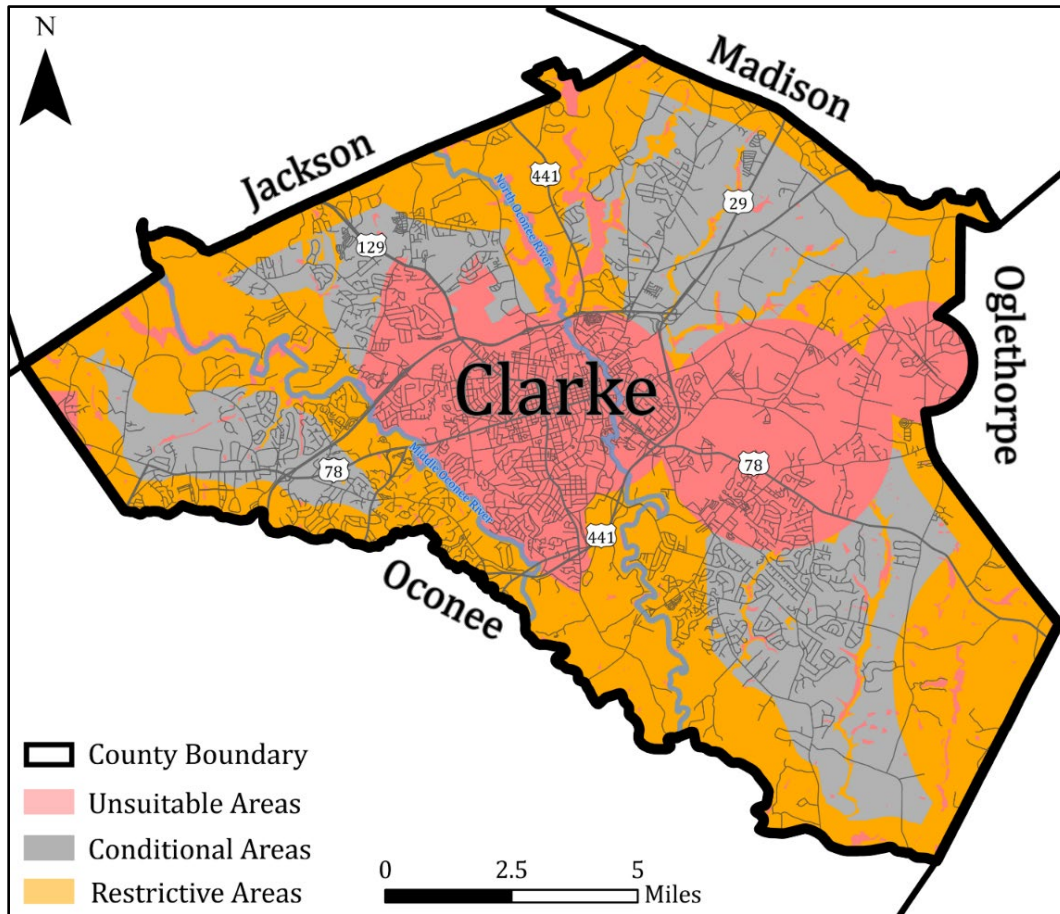
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
	and Oglethorpe counties.		volunteers
Center for Hard to Recycle Material (CHaRM)	The Athens-Clarke County Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) is a one stop drop for items that can't be recycled at the curb or at the ACC recycling drop-off sites due to their chemical composition, hazardous components, size, shape, etc. These materials will be collected at the CHaRM for reuse, recycling and in rare cases, safe disposal.	Continuous	Approximately 800 customers per month
Scrap Tire Amnesty	A bi-annual event that offers free, limited disposal of used tires for Athens-Clarke County residents and Oglethorpe County residents.	Twice per year	Approximately 300 customers each event

## 5.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 5.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

Figure 5.2: Land Suitability Analysis – Athens-Clarke County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

### 5.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009-2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of ACC’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives ACC the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for ACC to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>5.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
ACC will re-evaluate current ordinances, policies, and operations to determine if changes need to be made to assist in achieving the goals of the Solid Waste Management Plan.		X			ACC is not interested in hosting a regional landfill at this time.
ACC will continue to develop and implement strategies to improve documentation of the origin of solid waste delivered to its landfill.		X			ACC Landfill will continue to ask origin of landfill loads.
ACC will update regulations to audit private haulers and account for the amount and types of waste collected.		X			Through the Waste Minimization Fee quarterly reporting element.
<b>5.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
ACC will continue residential backyard and curbside collection in the Urban Service District, mixed public and private commercial collection, and licensing of private haulers for residential collection in the General Service District. Government residential and commercial collections are subscription, Pay-As-You Throw Fee Systems. Ordinance requires the same for private, franchised haulers.		X			This is an ongoing effort.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
ACC will maintain and replace vehicle fleet.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will continue “bulky item pickup” in Urban Services District. Charge based on cost of service.		X			This is an ongoing effort. Additionally, staff has held bulky item collection days at the CHaRM during peak UGA student move out periods.
If recommended by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC), ACC will enhance current non-exclusive hauler franchise regulations (i.e.: identifying collection zones, etc.) for residential and commercial collection.		X			This was completed but is underway again. The current M&C want to explore this topic again.
ACC will continue pickup of residential leaf & limb throughout ACC and City of Winterville.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
City of Winterville residents will continue to contract with private firms directly. These firms operate in ACC General Service District and therefore are <i>de facto</i> under the ACC hauler franchise regulations.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
<b>5.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
ACC will pursue new recycling opportunities and/or partnerships with area schools, institutions, businesses, and industries.		X			This is an ongoing effort. ACC has established a Green School Program and Sustainable Industry Roundtable to communicate with schools, institutions, businesses, and industries.
ACC will explore feasibility of moving to single stream recycling and converting existing facilities.	X				Completed in 2010
ACC will work with multi-family properties to encourage recycling and increase participation in recycling.		X			This is an ongoing effort. ACC passed the Commercial Recycling Ordinance and Policy requiring recycling in multi-family properties.
ACC will continue to implement the Green School Program.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will continue to host the annual tire amnesty event.		X			ACC has increased participation by hosting two annual tire amnesty events. This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will accept tires for a cost at drop off centers.		X			Added the CHaRM as a drop-off center. Landfill is still an active drop-off center.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
ACC will continue the ongoing effort to enhance residential curbside recycling program by adding more recyclable materials to the list as markets become available.		X			This is an ongoing effort. With the conversion to single stream, ACC accepted more plastics for recycling (3-7).
ACC will continue curbside recycling in the Urban Service District.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will continue requiring residential franchised waste haulers to offer full scope of curbside/backdoor recycling in general service district.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will continue to operate drop-off recycling centers.		X			Although some have closed down and replaced by new ones. This is ongoing. Added a drop-off site at the ACC Fleet Management Facility during this timeframe.
ACC will continue to fund recycling and waste reduction efforts (includes RMPF fees).		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will continue to explore the possibility of establishing a southeast Athens recycling drop-off site.	X				No new drop-off sites opened in this area.
The KACCB will implement compost bin distribution program.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will host residential collection events for special wastes (eg: computers, electronics, household hazardous waste, etc.).	X				CHaRM opened in 2015 and the need for one day events ceased since there is a regularly scheduled option.
ACC will implement GEFA grant to create a household hazardous waste collection shed at the RMPF.	X				Received the GEFA grant.
ACC will continue landfill mulching operation for leaf, limb, and other wood waste.		X			This is an ongoing effort. Mulch mainly used for compost operations and road maintenance.
The City of Winterville residents will continue to use ACC drop-off site located in the City of Winterville.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will accept electronics for recycling at the landfill.	X				Completed and implemented until the CHaRM opened. No longer have electronics drop-off at the landfill.
ACC will pursue solid waste related grants to assist achieving waste reduction goals.		X			This is an ongoing effort.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>5.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
ACC will continue operation of MSW Subtitle D landfill in cooperation with Oglethorpe County.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will maintain and replace depreciated equipment and vehicles for landfill operation.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will construct and operate Phase III of the MSW Subtitle D Landfill.	X				
ACC will pursue site suitability and permitting options for Phase V of the MSW Subtitle D Landfill.	X				
ACC will construct and operate Phase V.		X			Construction completed in 2019.
ACC will continue agreement with Oglethorpe County where Oglethorpe sends its MSW to ACC MSW Landfill and ACC disposes of C&D in Oglethorpe’s C&D landfill.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will investigate the feasibility of a landfill gas to energy facility at the landfill site.	X				This facility was opened in 2012.
ACC will operate Phase IV as a composting facility.	X				The compost facility opened in 2011.
ACC will study the feasibility of making compost available for public sale. Additionally, study feasibility of accepting food waste from businesses, restaurants, cafeterias, etc.	X				Food scraps were added in 2019.
<b>5.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION / INVOLVEMENT</b>					
ACC will publish solid waste reduction/recycling newspaper as funds and time permit.	X				Completed but no longer relevant to have newspaper (One Man’s Trash). Staff has digital newsletter.
ACC will continue development of ongoing waste reduction and recycling education.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will support the Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful program by funding a full-time Executive Director and related program costs.		X			This is an ongoing effort. Staff has grown to include two Program Education Specialists.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
ACC will continue support of Compliance Officer positions for compliance and enforcement of environmental ordinances.		X			Yes, just not within the SW Department. All Compliance Officers were moved to populate the Code Enforcement Division of Building Permits & Inspections.
ACC will continue to sponsor the SWAC on solid waste.		X			This is an ongoing effort. Group is undergoing a name change.
ACC will continue to facilitate the Sustainable Industry Roundtable.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will utilize educational materials and avenues to notify residents of local business that accept used motor oil.				X	Motor oil is accepted at the CHaRM.
ACC will continue to operate the litter hotline for residents to report illegal dumping.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
City of Winterville relies on ACC's education program except for enforcement, which is carried out by the City of Winterville's police department.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will provide technical assistance to commercial businesses, institutions, and industries in an effort to further reduce solid waste generated and disposed of in the Athens-Clarke County landfill.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
<b>5.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
ACC will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.		X			This is an ongoing effort.
ACC will adopt a Major Amendment to Land Limitations element once approved by DCA.	X				
ACC will evaluate the need to strengthen ordinances and policies to achieve the goals of this plan.	X				
ACC will maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.		X			This is an ongoing effort.



### 5.8 2021-2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>5.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
ACC is estimated to increase in population by 15% by 2031. ACC Government will continue to address any increases in waste as necessary. Staff will be creating a Strategic Plan to address integrated waste management.	X	X				ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
<b>5.8.2 COLLECTION</b>								
ACC will continue to operate backyard and curbside MSW collection services for residential properties within the Urban Service District of Athens-Clarke County.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Collections Total \$3.8 million (Approx. \$701,000 for backyard and curbside MSW)	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue to operate backyard and curbside recycled material collection services for residential within the Urban Service District of Athens-Clarke County.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Collections Total \$3.8 million (Approx. \$273,000 for backyard and curbside recycling)	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
ACC will continue to rely on open market curbside collection services for all residential properties not included within the Urban Service District of Athens-Clarke County (includes MSW and recycled materials).	X	X	X	X	X	Private Haulers or Self Hauling	Cost specific to individual private hauler rates	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue to operate curbside and/or dumpster MSW and/or recycling collection throughout the county on a subscription basis includes Commercial Business District (downtown)	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Collections Total \$3.8 million (Approx. \$824,000 for commercial collections)	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
ACC and private haulers will provide Pay-As-You-Throw rate structure for residential customers. The structures should include rate differentials according to ACC policy.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC and Private Haulers	Cost in Fees listed above or specific to individual private hauler	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund and Private Hauler User Fees
ACC will maintain and replace vehicle fleet.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	TBD	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund and General Fund
ACC will explore the feasibility, along with grant funding, for converting collections fleet to hybrid, CNG or electric vehicles.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund or Grant Funding
ACC will continue bulky item pickup in the Urban Services District. Charge based on cost of service.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Self-Supporting	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
If recommended by Mayor and Commission, ACC will explore enhancements to the current hauler franchise regulations (i.e.: identifying collection zones, limiting haulers, expanding ACC Collection, etc.) for residential collection.	X	X				ACC Mayor and Commission / ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue pickup of residential leaf and limb throughout ACC and City of Winterville	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Approx. \$690,000	General Fund
ACC will alter collections in the Commercial Business District (downtown) through the use of	X	X				ACC Solid Waste Department	Approx. \$700,000	TSPLOST and other funding sources TBD

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
Eco-Stations with dumpsters								
ACC will promote and expand compost collection route.	X	X				ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time and \$5,000	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will research and potentially enhance/alter Commercial Business District (downtown) cleaning procedures including use of leaf blowers.	X					ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time and	General Fund
ACC will update collection ordinances and policies to gain efficiencies or economies.	X	X				ACC Mayor and Commission	Staff Time	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
City of Winterville residents will continue to contract with private haulers directly. These haulers operate in ACC General Service District and therefore are de facto under the ACC hauler franchise regulations.	X	X	X	X	X	Winterville Residents	Cost Born by Haulers	User Fees
<b>5.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION</b>								
ACC will continue to fund recycling and waste reduction efforts (includes RMPF fees and Waste Minimization Fees)	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Mayor and Commission	Market Driven	Landfill Enterprise Fund and General Fund
ACC will pursue new recycling opportunities and/or partnerships with area schools, institutions, businesses, and industries.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will work with multi-family properties to ensure compliance with the ACC Commercial Recycling Ordinance and Policy.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Code Enforcement and ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue the ongoing effort to enhance the residential curbside recycling program by adding more recyclable materials to the Target Material List as markets become available.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue the partnership for operation of the ACC RMPF with a private operator. Create new contract for RMPF through RFP process.	X					ACC Solid Waste Department and Private Operator	Staff Time and Material Revenue	Landfill Enterprise Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
ACC will start to receive SPLOST money to build a new RMPF at the ACC Landfill.			X	X	X	ACC Mayor and Commission	\$7 million	SPLOST
ACC will continue to promote the use of CHaRM and expand acceptable recyclable materials list as markets become available.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	TBD	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will explore the feasibility of a swap shop at the CHaRM for certain chemicals and paint	X	X				ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue to expand the Teacher Reuse Store and Creative Reuse Programs.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will start to receive SPLOST money to move and renovate the old RMPF for a new CHaRM, Teacher Reuse and Creative Reuse space.			X	X	X	ACC Mayor and Commission	\$1 million	SPLOST
ACC will explore adding one full-time position at the CHaRM, replacing the existing part-time position	X					ACC Recycling Division	\$50,000	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue to operate drop-off recycling centers.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Dependent on Volume	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will make improvements to the recycling drop-off centers from beautification, newly painted containers with new stickers and/or signage.	X	X				ACC Recycling Division	Approx. \$20,000	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue to operate compost facility on the ACC Landfill property exploring ways to increase feedstock capacity while maintaining low contamination.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
The City of Winterville residents will continue to use an ACC drop-off site located in the City of Winterville.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Included in Drop-off Operating Costs	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will pursue solid waste related grants to assist achieving waste reduction goals.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division and KACCB	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
KACCB will support ongoing Christmas tree recycling, inkjet cartridge recycling, and cell phone recycling.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department and KACCB	Staff Time	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
ACC will expand CHaRM collection through increased promotion to under-served communities, including neighborhood cleanups and 'CHaRM Days' using trailers.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time, \$3,000/yr increased processing costs	CHaRM revenue, Landfill Enterprise Fund
KACCB will maintain existing compost bin sale program	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB	Staff Time and Fundraiser sell for \$50/bin	KACCB Board
<b>5.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL</b>								
ACC will continue to operate a MSW landfill in cooperation with Oglethorpe County.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	\$1.8 million	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will maintain and replace depreciated equipment and vehicles for landfill operation.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	TBD	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue agreement with Oglethorpe County where Oglethorpe sends MSW to ACC MSW Landfill and ACC disposes of C&D in Oglethorpe's C&D Landfill. Oglethorpe receives host fee from ACC.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue partnership with private landfill gas to energy facility.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department and Private Contractor	Cost Born by Private Contractor	Landfill Enterprise Fund receives revenues for energy sale
ACC will operate Phase IV as a composting operation.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Landfill Division	\$250,000 annually	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC to increase staffing at compost facility with Mayor and Commission approval (Compost Heavy Equipment Operator).	X					ACC Mayor and Commission and ACC Solid Waste Department	\$50,000 annually	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will study the feasibility of creating a swap shop for reuse of materials at the ACC Landfill.	X	X				ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will study the feasibility of recycling some Construction and Demolition Material in cooperation with Oglethorpe County.	X	X				ACC Solid Waste Department and Oglethorpe County	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
ACC to continue recycling at the Landfill MRF.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will hire a consultant to explore the environmental justice issues surrounding the Dunlap and Pittard Road communities.	X	X				ACC Mayor and Commission and ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time and \$50,000	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC along with the SWAC will explore the options to restore and/or move the Billups Grove Schoolhouse.	X	X				ACC Solid Waste Department and appropriate partners	Staff Time and \$20,000	Grant, Donations or other
ACC will complete a feasibility study on the construction and use of a solidification pit for leachate management at the ACC Landfill.	X	X				ACC Landfill Division	Staff Time and \$25,000	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will explore leachate management alternatives to recirculation.	X	X				ACC Landfill Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue to update Design and Operation (D&O) plan per EPD regulations.	X		X		X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time and \$20,000	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will continue to explore the possibility of solar on the closed EDA's.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund and SPLOST
ACC will continue to partner with private sector to operate the RMPF and market materials collected for diversion from the ACC Landfill.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time, Advertising	Landfill Enterprise Fund and Fees
ACC will promote education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department and KACCB	Staff Time	General Fund
<b>5.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT</b>								
ACC will continue to fund the Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful (KACCB) Program for county-wide public education pertaining to waste reduction, litter prevention and beautification.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Mayor and Commission	\$275,000	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
KACCB will promote education and enforcement programs concerning litter and illegal dumping with assistance from the Litter Abatement Steering Committee.	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB and ACC Litter Abatement Steering Committee	\$5,000	General Fund / KACCB Board
KACCB will continue to operate the litter abatement programs, including the litter hotline.	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB	Staff Time	General Fund
ACC will continue to support the ACC Green School program.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division and KACCB	Staff Time Plus \$10,000	Landfill Enterprise Fund / General Fund
ACC will continue to sponsor the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will create bylaws for the adhoc Solid Waste Advisory Committee and request a representative from each Commission District.	X					ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
The Solid Waste Advisory Committee will research and suggest policy for plastic bags and single-use plastics.	X	X				ACC Solid Waste Advisory Committee	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
The City of Winterville will rely on the County’s education programs for waste reduction and drop-off site usage.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division and City of Winterville	Staff Time	City of Winterville General Fund / Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will create a Waste Reduction Ambassador program for volunteer recruitment.		X				ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund
ACC will provide technical assistance to commercial businesses, institutions, and industries in an effort to further reduce solid waste generated and disposed in ACC.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund / WMF
ACC will continue to partner with the UGA Cooperative Extension for the Master Composter Program.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department and UGA Cooperative Extension	Staff Time and \$1,500	Landfill Enterprise Funds and Fees

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
ACC will continue to use new communications means to reach residential and commercial waste generators (social media, etc.).	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund and Fees
Implement recycling collection at high-use transit facilities.		X	X	X	X	ACC Solid Waste Department and ACC Transit	Staff Time / Cost of Containers	Landfill Enterprise Fund
Increase diversion from Landfill MRF.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division	Staff Time / CHaRM Processing Fees	Landfill Enterprise Funds / User Fees
Develop modular and customizable hard-to-recycle material receptacles for installation at high generation facilities.		X	X	X	X	ACC Recycling Division and Office of Sustainability	Staff Time	Landfill Enterprise Fund and Fees
KACCB will continue to administer the cigarette litter program including CLR's.	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB	\$5,000	General Fund
KACCB will continue to administer the Athens Toolshed Program.	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB	\$5,000 plus Grants and Donations	General Fund
KACCB will continue to educate and engage residents in collaborate beautification programs.	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB / KACCB Board / GDOT / Landscape Management Division / UGA Botanical Gardens	\$5,000 plus Grants and Donations	General Fund and KACCB Board
KACCB will create community-wide public service announcements pertaining to litter abatement, beautification and community improvement.	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB	\$7,000	General Fund and KACCB Board
KACCB will continue to administer large scale community volunteer events.	X	X	X	X	X	KACCB	\$7,000 plus Donations and Partner Support	General Fund / KACCB Board
<b>5.8.6 LAND LIMITATION</b>								
ACC will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Mayor and Commission and ACC Planning Department	Staff Time	General Fund



Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
ACC will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X	X	X	X	X	ACC Mayor and Commission and ACC Planning Department	Staff Time	General Fund
ACC will review existing ordinances to ensure consistency with Solid Waste Management Plan.		X				ACC Mayor and Commission, ACC Planning Department, and ACC Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	General Fund

## 6 BARROW COUNTY

### 6.1 County Description

Barrow County is located on the northwestern edge of the planning area, covering approximately 162 square miles. In recent history, the county was predominantly rural. However, it has experienced an 84% growth in population since 2000 and is comprised of increasingly suburbanized character. Barrow County has six municipalities, including Braselton, Auburn, Bethlehem, Carl, Statham, and Winder. The largest of these, based on population, is the City of Winder (the county seat). Barrow County also includes a portion of the rapidly growing town of Braselton that spans four counties (Barrow, Jackson, Gwinnett, and Hall). Fort Yargo State Park is located in Barrow County, near the City of Winder.

Barrow County's population is expected to continue increasing to a total of 120,023 by 2031, according to predictions by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. The county does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population.

The total number of housing units in the county are estimated to be 31,716 (U.S. Census, 2020). Households are 68.9% owner-occupied and 23.6% renter-occupied (U.S. Census). As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses within the county, private and public, is 1,330.

### 6.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. Barrow County is home to the area's largest regional landfill, the Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill. This facility receives upwards of 360,000 tons of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) annually, making it a significant component that various counties in the region rely on.

The majority of MSW generated by Barrow County is disposed of in-county at this facility. The table below outlines an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Barrow County including MSW and Construction and Development (C&D) waste.

**Table 6.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Barrow County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	8,484.50	5.23%
Barrow	MSW	118,896.44	73.23%
Cherokee	MSW	9.59	0.01%
Gwinnett	MSW	61.09	0.04%
Hall	C&D	235.73	0.15%
Lamar	MSW	1.92	0.001%
Oglethorpe	C&D	27.98	0.02%
Walton	C&D	34,681.10	21.36%
<b>Total Tonnage:</b>	<b>All Types</b>	<b>162,398.35</b>	<b>100%</b>

Additionally, since Barrow County acts as a significant source of disposal for the region, the following table outlines the waste received in 2020 by facilities in the county.

**Table 6.2: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Received in Barrow County 2020**

County	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Athens-Clarke	Industrial Waste	20,967.03	5.49%
Barrow	MSW	121,463.65	31.78%
Clayton	Industrial Waste	66.13	0.02%
Dekalb	Industrial Waste	4,354.77	1.14%
Elbert	MSW	15531.18	4.06%
Fulton	MSW	1770.84	0.46%
Gwinnett	MSW/Industrial	71909.08	18.81%
Hall	MSW	1674.37	0.44%
Jackon	MSW	723.42	0.19%
Lumpkin	Industrial Waste	1461.04	0.38%
Madison	Industrial Waste	320.57	0.08%
Morgan	MSW	10852.69	2.84%
Newton	Industrial Waste	394.1	0.10%
Oconee	MSW/Industrial	32.76	0.01%
Walton	MSW/Industrial	108263.12	28.32%
Wilkes	MSW	8658.54	2.27%
Out of Town	All Types	1,572.34	0.41%
Atlanta	MSW	11.81	0.00%
Out of State	MSW	3334.79	0.87%
<b>Total Tonnage</b>	<b>All Types</b>	<b>382,219.87</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 6.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Barrow County jurisdiction.

**Table 6.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Barrow County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
007-020D(SL)	Republic Services – Oak Grove Landfill	967 Carl-Bethlehem Road Winder, GA 30680	MSW Landfill	Private	4,600,000 cubic yards
007-021D(IN)	Patrick Inert Landfill	655 Patrick Industrial Blvd Winder, GA 30680	Inert Landfill	Private	N/A
PBR-007-13TS	211 Waste Disposal	1410 GA Hwy 211 Winder, GA 30680	Transfer Station	Private	N/A
007-016D(SL)	Barrow County Landfill (Phase 2+3)	1172 Finch Road Winder, GA 30680	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Private	N/A
007-018D(SL)	Republic Services – Speedway SR324 Site 1	967 Carl-Bethlehem Road Winder, GA 30680	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Private	N/A
PBR-007-100STT	Exclusive Services & Pallet Company	2238 Atlanta Highway SE Statham, GA 30666	On-Site Thermal Treatment Facility	Private	N/A

### 6.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

#### Collection

Barrow County is served by various collection methods county-wide: private curbside collection services, personal disposal, and municipal contracting with private haulers. The County plans to rely on an open market for collection services during the ten (10) year plan scope. Businesses and residents are able to contract directly with a hauling service of choice. Yard trimmings are not collected in the county.

The County addresses illegal dumping through enforcement of the Environmental Ordinance, as well as posting signage at known illegal dumping hot spots. The County contracts directly with a private landscape company for collection of roadside litter. Costs for this service are determined on a per mile basis.

The City of Auburn, Bethlehem, Winder, and the Town of Carl contract directly with private hauling services for their respective jurisdictions. The City of Winder also provides curbside collection of yard trimmings by City staff. The City of Statham provides curbside collection services through the City Street Department.

#### Needs and Goals

Existing collection programs are sufficient to handle the solid waste stream generated within Barrow County. The County will explore opportunities to maximize the efficiency of service delivery as opportunities for such are available.

## **Disposal**

Barrow County is the host of a privately-owned, regional, MSW disposal facility, the Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill. This landfill handles nearly all of the MSW waste generated within the county. The County also relies on out-of-county MSW landfills for a small percentage of disposal needs, including the Banks County R&B Landfill, the Pine Bluff Landfill in Cherokee County, and the Richland Creek Landfill in Gwinnett County. The Oak Grove Landfill has an estimated airspace capacity of 4.6 million cubic yards as of 2021, providing an approximate lifespan of ten (10) years. If this facility becomes limited in its capacity for disposal during the planning period, Barrow County will divert its waste stream to the nearest out-of-county facility, the R&B Landfill in Banks County (see Appendix A).

Construction and Development waste is disposed of in a mixture of locations. The majority of C&D waste is disposed of at the US-78 C&D Landfill in Walton County, while the remainder of waste is disposed of at the Oglethorpe County C&D Landfill.

### *Needs and Goals*

By relying on the open market for collection and disposal services, the County does not have an active role in determining disposal capacity. However, based on the landfills used by private haulers and the remaining capacity of these landfills, it is determined that all disposal needs will be met during the ten (10) year planning scope; refer to landfill capacity assurances provided in Appendix A. It is assumed that the majority of waste will continue to be disposed of at the Oak Grove Landfill in the amount of approximately 120,000+ tons annually.

Goals of the County include reducing the amount of waste generated per capita. This will be pursued through education and outreach of solid waste and recycling best management practices via Keep Barrow County Beautiful efforts.

Barrow County will also ensure that disposal facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs for the next ten (10) years.

## **Waste Reduction**

### *Recycling*

The County does not provide curbside recycling services. Residents and businesses county-wide contract directly with private hauling services for recycling. Commercial and residential recycling is encouraged by the County. Drop off locations and participation of County sponsored events are available and advertised to businesses. Currently, the County offers two unstaffed drop off locations for recycling of magazines, newspapers, and corrugated cardboard.

All local municipalities contract with private hauling services for curbside recycling services.

*Needs and Goals*

Goals of the County include increasing the participation of recycling throughout the county in a financially sustainable manner. Since the County’s role is indirect, and the service is provided by private haulers, this will be pursued through education and outreach of solid waste and recycling best management practices via Keep Barrow County Beautiful.

There are no plans to offer collection of inert yard waste in the county. This will continue to be the responsibility of businesses and residents to dispose of.

Barrow County will work to ensure that recycling services and inert waste disposal within their jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements.

**6.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory**

Barrow County is a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) program via Keep Barrow County Beautiful (KACCB). This is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by the County and local donations promoting environmental awareness and education through litter prevention, waste reduction, and beautification programs. Housed within the Barrow County Courthouse, KBCB and various other entities work together to facilitate annual recycling events and other outreach efforts to improve community knowledge in regard to solid waste, recycling, and beautification.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 5.6: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Barrow County**

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Adopt-A-Road	KBB administers this program for civic organizations, non-profits, and other interested parties to contribute toward litter clean-up on county roadways.	Continuous	≈40 Volunteers
Volunteer Board	The KBB Volunteer Board coordinates educational outreach and events throughout the county. Members serve 4-year terms and meet monthly.	Continuous	7 Board Members
Litter Prevention	KBB offers informational materials online in regard to litter prevention and contract with NE Georgia Landscaping to collect roadside litter.	Continuous	N/A
Great American Clean-Up Days	An annual litter clean-up event facilitated by KBB that takes place in various locations throughout the county and in participating local governments.	Bi-Annual	≈25 Volunteers
School Education	KBB visits local public schools to	Annual	4 Participating Schools

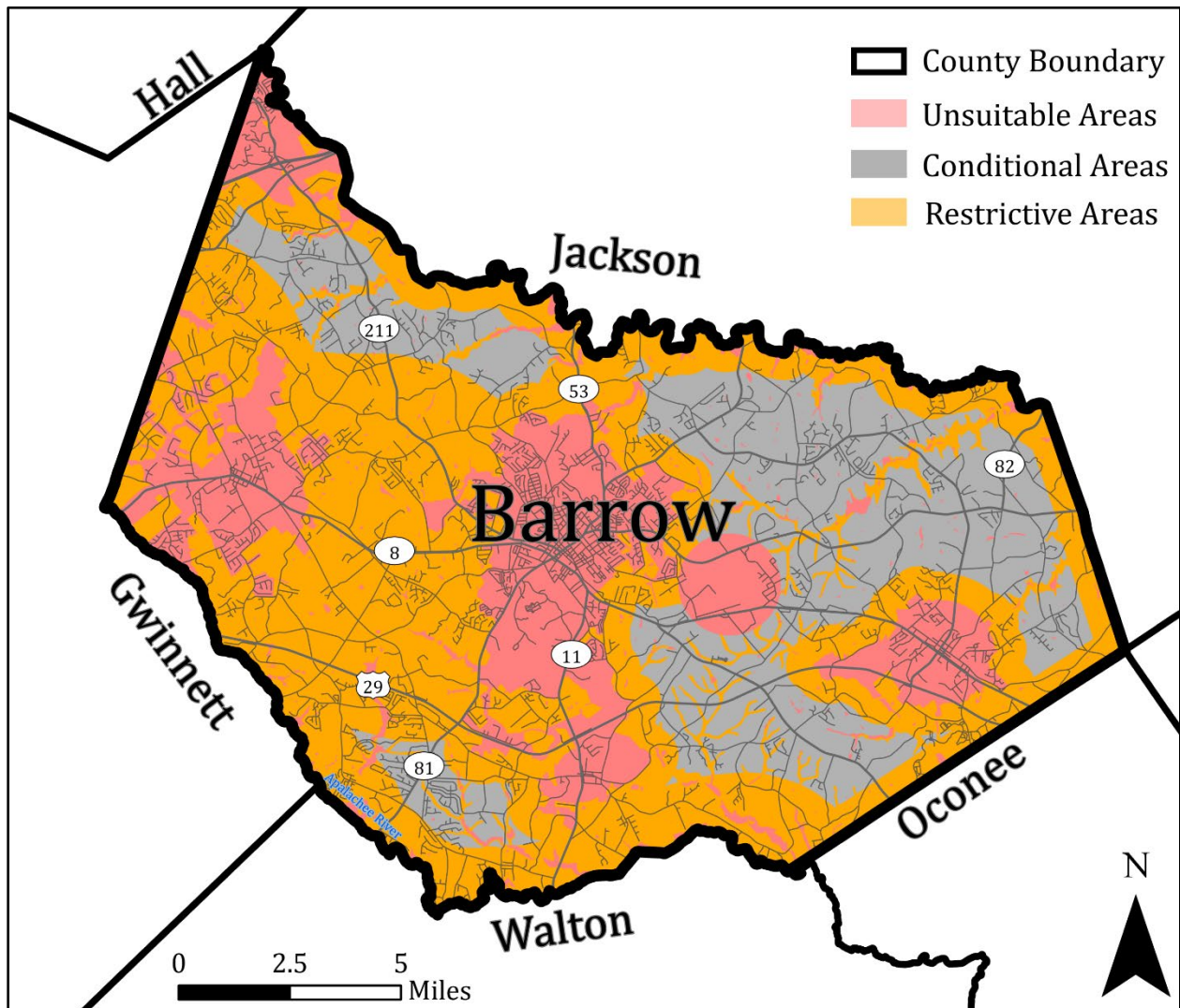
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
	teach about the benefits of recycling and environmental stewardship.		
Tire Amnesty	The County hosts an annual tire amnesty event allowing residents to dispose of a limited number of used tires at no cost.	Annual	14,000 lbs. of Tires (2020)
Roadside Cleanup Events	Program facilitated by KBCB to collect litter along county roads.	Quarterly	≈15 Volunteers
Document Shredding Event	Program offered by KBCB to offer free document shredding to Barrow County residents in the Fall.	Annual	N/A
Bring One For The Chipper	Program hosted by KBCB for residents to shred and recycle Christmas trees. Participants are provided with free seeds and tree seedlings.	Annual	≈30 Participants
Yard of the Month	Award program hosted by the KBB Volunteer Board that recognizes yards of merit throughout Barrow County. Residents are awarded with a sign, free plant, and certificate.	Monthly	N/A
Teacher Reuse Store	A collaboration of business, industry, education, and local government that provides a variety of school supplies, materials, and other items to local educators at no cost. The program is open to any teacher in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, and Oglethorpe counties.		N/A

## 6.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 6.1 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

Figure 6.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Barrow County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*



## 6.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of Barrow County’s existing Short-Term Work Program. This requirement gives the County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>6.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed within the County.	X				Use when available and appropriate.
<b>6.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
Residents can continue to contract with a private firm for residential curbside collection of solid waste.		X			Residents in the County have the option to select the hauler that best suits their needs.
The City of Auburn will continue to contract with a private firm for collection of residential and commercial solid waste.		X			City of Auburn continues to contract with a private hauler for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) collection. Customers are billed as part of their utility bill.
The City of Bethlehem will continue to contract with a private firm for collection of residential and commercial solid waste.		X			City of Bethlehem continues to contract with a private hauler for MSW collection.
The County will continue to strengthen enforcement of a new illegal disposal ordinance as funding allows.		X			The County addresses illegal dumping through enforcement of the Environmental Ordinance, as well as posting signage at known illegal dumping hot spots.
The City of Statham will continue to provide public collection of residential and commercial solid waste.		X			The City of Statham Street Department will continue to provide residential and commercial solid waste collection.
The City of Statham will contract with private hauler for collection of MSW and recycling (beginning July 2010)		X			

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
The City of Carl will continue to contract with a private firm for collection of residential and commercial solid waste.		X			The City of Carl will continue to contract for collection of MSW.
The City of Winder will continue public collection of residential and commercial solid waste.		X			The City of Winder will continue to contract with a private hauler for collection of MSW. Leaf and limb service will be performed by City staff.
<b>6.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue residential recyclables collection through either public or private means with curbside and/or staffed drop-off sites.		X			The unincorporated portions of the county are served by open market curbside recycling services provided by private haulers. However, the current participation rate is low.
The City of Winder will continue to contract with a private firm for curbside collection for recyclables.		X			The City of Winder continues to use a private firm for recyclables.
The County will encourage commercial recycling.		X			Commercial recycling is encouraged by the County. Drop off locations and participation of County sponsored events are available and advertised to businesses.
KBB will continue to promote recycling and waste reduction activities in the County.		X			KBB continues to promote waste reduction programs.
City of Statham will contract with private hauler for collection of recycling.		X			
<b>6.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to deliver waste to a private landfill.		X			MSW collected in the County is disposed of at a private facility.
The County will develop education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.		X			The County has active code enforcement programs. Signage and announcements in the newspaper are also used to deter illegal dumping.
All municipalities will cooperate with the County for MSW disposal.		X			Cooperation for disposal continues between the municipalities and the County.
<b>6.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION / INVOLVEMENT</b>					
Barrow County will continue to fund the Keep Barrow Beautiful Program for local public education.		X			The County continues to fund this program.
The Citizens Advisory Committee will continue to address public education issues associated with recycling and waste reduction in the County.		X			Public Education efforts are coordinated with the County’s Stormwater Management Program and emphasize illegal dumping around creeks and streams, electronics recycling, and litter programs that involve students. The County also utilizes informational packets to educate residents.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
The County will continue to work with a private disposal firm to address public concerns about solid waste.		X			The County continues to work with a private disposal firm to address public concerns. Additionally, the County has a Citizen Complaint Contact Number where resident complaints are recorded, logged, and addressed by the Sheriff's Office.
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.		X			The County and its municipalities coordinate public education activities and events.
<b>6.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.		X			The County works to make sure these controls are in place.
The County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.		X			Permits and requests are reviewed for consistency with the County's SWMP.
The County will update and maintain Land Limitations map as changes occur in the County and cities.		X			
The County will maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.		X			

### 6.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Party responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>6.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County is estimated to increase in population by 44% by 2031. The County will continue to rely on the private open market to manage collection and disposal of all waste generated within the county.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
<b>6.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
Barrow County will continue to rely on the open market for collection services and allow residents the option to select the hauler that best suits their needs.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
The County will continue to address illegal dumping through enforcement of the Environmental Ordinance, as well as posting signage at known illegal dumping hot spots.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Code Enforcement	Dependent on Volume	Fines / General Fund
City of Auburn will continue to contract with a private hauler for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) collection. Customers will be billed as part of their utility bill.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Auburn	Dependent on Users	User Fees

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The Town of Bethlehem will continue to contract with a private hauler for MSW collection.	X	X	X	X	X	Town of Bethlehem	Dependent on Users	User Fees
The City of Statham Street Department will continue to provide residential and commercial solid waste collection.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Statham	Dependent on Users	User Fees
The Town of Carl will continue to contract with a private hauler for collection of MSW.	X	X	X	X	X	Town of Carl	Dependent on Users	User Fees
The City of Winder will continue to contract with a private hauler for collection of MSW.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Winder	Dependent on Users	User Fees
The City of Winder will continue to provide leaf and limb service performed by City staff.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Winder	N/A	General Fund
<b>6.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
Barrow County will continue to rely on open market options through private haulers for curbside recycling services.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County	Dependent on Users	User Fees
The City of Winder will continue to contract with a private service for recyclables.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Winder	Dependent on Users	User Fees
Commercial recycling is encouraged by the County. Drop off locations and participation of County sponsored events will continue to be made available and advertised to businesses.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County / Keep Barrow County Beautiful	N/A	User Fees / General Fund
KBCB will continue to promote waste reduction programs through the County website.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Barrow County Beautiful	N/A	General Fund
City of Statham will continue to contract with a private hauler for collection of recycling.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Statham	Dependent on Users	User Fees
<b>6.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to rely on private partnerships for the disposal of all MSW generated.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners	N/A	User Fees

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The County will continue to rely on active code enforcement programs, signage, and newspaper announcements to deter illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners	N/A	Fines / General Fund
Cooperation for disposal will continue between the municipalities and the County.	X	X	X	X	X	All Local Governments	N/A	N/A
<b>6.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
Barrow County will continue to fund the Keep Barrow Beautiful Program for local public education.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners	\$22,500 Annually	General Fund / Donations
Barrow County will continue public education efforts coordinated with the County's Stormwater Management Program to emphasize prevention of illegal dumping around creeks and streams, electronics recycling, and litter programs that involve students. The County will also utilize informational packets to educate residents.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Public Works Department / Keep Barrow County Beautiful	N/A	General Fund
The County will continue to work with a private disposal firm to address public concerns. Additionally, the County has a Citizen Complaint Contact Number where resident complaints are recorded, logged, and addressed by the Sheriff's Office.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners / Barrow County Sheriff's Office	N/A	N/A
The County and its municipalities will continue to coordinate public education activities and events.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Barrow County Beautiful	N/A	N/A
<b>6.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners / Barrow County Manager / Barrow County Planning & Community Development Department	N/A	N/A

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners / Barrow County Manager / Barrow County Planning & Community Development Department	N/A	N/A
The County will update and maintain Land Limitations map as changes occur in the County and cities.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners / Barrow County Planning & Community Development Department	N/A	N/A
The County will maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.	X	X	X	X	X	Barrow County Board of Commissioners / Barrow County Manager	N/A	N/A
The County will determine where appropriate protections for land limitation are needed through local land use ordinances and the future land use map during the 2022 Comprehensive Plan update to.	X	X				Barrow County Board of Commissioners / Barrow County Planning & Community Development Department	N/A	General Fund

## 7 ELBERT COUNTY

### 7.1 County Description

Elbert County is located on the northeastern edge of the planning area, on the border of South Carolina. The county covers approximately 375 square miles and has the lowest population density in the region (NEGRC Housing & Transportation Analysis, 2020). The county has two municipalities, Elberton, which serves as the county seat, and Bowman.

The most recent population figures estimate the county population to be 20,074 (U.S. Census). This figure shows a slight population loss from 20,166 in 2010. Elbert County does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population.

The County has 9,730 housing units with 8,056 being occupied and 1,674 vacant (U.S. Census, 2020). Of the occupied housing units, 60.7% are owner-occupied, with the remaining 22.1% renter-occupied (U.S. Census). As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses within the county, private and public, is 504.

### 7.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. The table below shows an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Elbert County, including MSW and Construction and Development (C&D) waste.

**Table 7.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Elbert County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	1,182.06	6.75%
Barrow	MSW	15,531.18	88.63%
Oglethorpe	C&D	703.67	4.02%
Walton	C&D	106.69	0.61%
<b>Total Tonnage:</b>	<b>All Types</b>	<b>17,523.60</b>	<b>100%</b>



### 7.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Elbert County jurisdiction.

**Table 7.2: Enumeration of Facilities – Elbert County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
N/A	Elbert County Solid Waste Transfer Station	2188 Hulmes Chapel Road Elberton, GA 30635	Transfer Station	Elbert County	5,625 square feet / 80 tons
052-008D (SL)	Elbert County Landfill	2188 Hulmes Chapel Road Elberton, GA 30635	Landfill (CLOSED)	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #1	1196 Petersburg Road Elberton, GA 30635	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #2	1061 Longstreet Road Elberton, GA 30635	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #3	2405 Chastain Road Elberton, GA 30635	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #4	1061 Jones Ferry Road Elberton, GA 30635	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #5	22 North Segars Street Bowman, GA 30624	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #6	2117 Turner Hill Road Elberton, GA 30635	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #7	1018 Centerville Road Elberton, GA 30660	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #8	152 Adams Industrial Drive Elberton, GA 30635	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A
N/A	Elbert County Convenience Center #9	2188 Hulmes Chapel Road Elberton, GA 30635	Convenience Center	Elbert County	N/A

### 7.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

#### Collection

Elbert County utilizes the method of convenience centers for collection of MSW and recycled materials. The County plans to maintain operations of all eight convenience centers located throughout the county. All waste received is hauled to the county transfer station and a private hauler is contracted to transport MSW to a private, out-of-county landfill. Some private haulers operate curbside collection services around the periphery of local municipalities. The County does not regulate these services.

The City of Elberton offers municipal curbside collection services for residents and commercial businesses. Curbside collections include options for solid waste and recyclable materials. This service is paid for through user fees and is planned to continue as-is. Private haulers also operate within city boundaries and contract directly with residents and businesses. The City of Elberton does not regulate the operations of private haulers. All waste collected is transported to the Elbert County Transfer Station.

The City of Bowman relies on private haulers for the collection of residential and commercial waste and recycled materials. All waste collected is transported to the Elbert County Transfer Station.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Elbert County plans to maintain and update equipment as necessary for efficient operation of the transfer station and all convenience centers. The current dynamic of collection systems throughout the county is sufficient to meet the demands of residents and businesses. Due to the county's rural setting, the offering of curbside collection services is not a priority at this time.

In the event of a natural disaster or other major event that would disrupt collection, the County has an open area designated at the County facility where excess waste could be stockpiled until it could be processed at the transfer station.

### **Disposal**

There are no permitted disposal facilities within Elbert County, currently.

Elbert County operates collection centers and a transfer station for collection of all waste and contracts with private entities to transport waste to private, out-of-county disposal facilities. Contracts for hauling are renewed annually to maintain up-to-date, competitive pricing for services. Currently, the County relies on a combination of MSW disposal at the Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill in Barrow County and the Waste Management R&B Landfill in Banks County. Construction and Development (C&D) waste is disposed of at the Oglethorpe County C&D Landfill and the Walton County C&D Landfill.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Elbert County has no desire to host a private- or publicly-owned disposal facility. The County plans to maintain disposal methods as-is for the following ten (10) years. The County will continually review local ordinances to ensure that sufficient land-use protections are in place in regard to disposal or waste management facilities.

The county is estimated to reduce in population by 2.5% over the next ten (10) years. It is reasonable to assume that the County's current disposal program will be adequate to meet the County's needs during the current planning period. Assurance for disposal at the multiple regional landfills nearby is provided in Appendix A of this document.

Elbert County will ensure that any collection and/or disposal facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste disposal programs for the next ten (10) years.

## **Waste Reduction**

### *Yard/Inert Waste*

Yard waste and untreated wood are accepted at the County’s MSW transfer station. A private shredding company is contracted to grind the material and it is available to the public, and used by local governments for erosion control.

### *Recycling*

The County receives approximately 474 tons of recycled material annually, according to 2015-2019 reporting data, with 2019 receiving the highest amount of 675 tons. Recycled material is accepted at all convenience centers and the transfer station. The County coordinates the sale of this material to the private market for secondary use. The County is interested in exploring any potential options that would improve the rate of recycling within the county.

The City of Elberton offers curbside collection services for recycled material, and plans to continue offering this service throughout the ten year planning scope. However, due to global market limitations, the possibility for resale of recyclable materials is much lower than previous years. The local municipalities and Elbert County will continue to offer recycling services for materials that have an acceptable economic market for secondary use.

### *Needs and Goals*

Elbert County would like to increase its recycled material stream by 25% over the next ten (10) years. This will be accomplished through public education, outreach, and any improvements to collection methods that become necessary.

The County is interested in exploring composting program options for leaf and limb material. Currently, a private third-party is contracted for grinding material. A composting program could further reduce the amount of waste generated in the county and offer benefits to residents if compost material is offered for sale. The County will determine if a program such as this is feasible.

## **7.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory**

Elbert County is a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) program via Keep Elbert County Beautiful (KECB). This is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by the County and local donations offering community support and education regarding issues that affect the health and appearance of the environment. Housed in the old Beaverdam School, the mission of KECB is to promote public interest in the general improvement of the environment of Elbert County. KECB and each of the three local governments work together to facilitate a number of events and outreach efforts to offer recycling incentives and improve community knowledge in regard to solid waste, recycling, and beautification.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 7.3: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Elbert County**

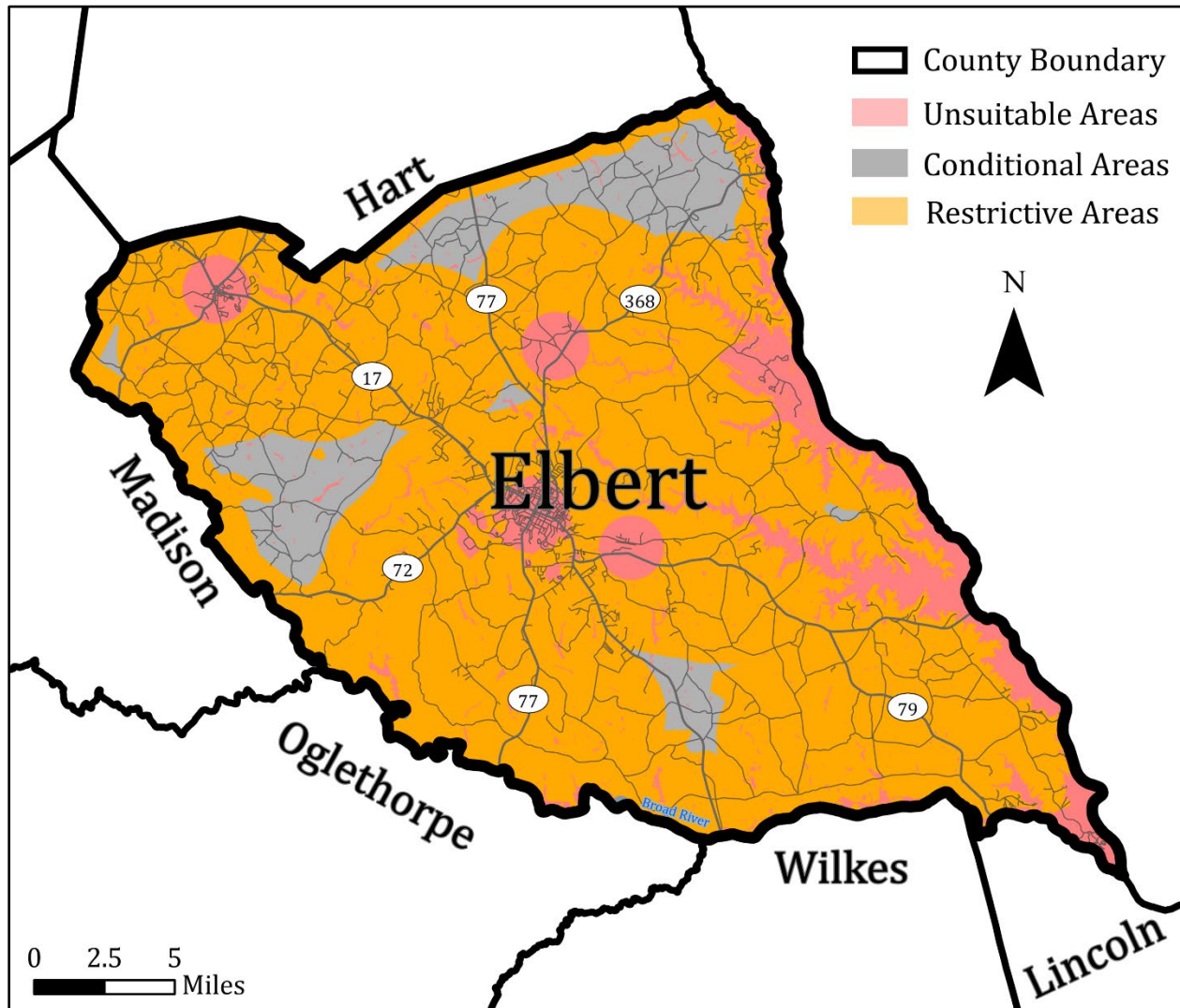
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Public School Education	KECB offers anti-littering and pro-recycling education at local K-12 schools.	Continuous	All local public schools
Local Government Recycling Program	Recycling program at the Elbert County Government Complex and Courthouse.	Continuous	N/A
Quarterly Recycling Events	Recurring recycling events held in the City of Bowman and Elberton. KECB works with the local governments to set up recycling drop-off sites for local residents. Once a year document shredding services are also provided.	Quarterly	50 – 100 vehicle loads per event
Adopt-A-Road	Program facilitated by KECB for participating organizations to commit to at least two cleanups per year.	Annual+	13 Participating Organizations
Local Trash Clean-Ups	Community clean-ups organized on a yearly or as needed basis. Groups organize the events and KECB provides bags, pickers, vests, gloves, bottled water, snacks, and signage.	Every 4-6 Weeks	2-15 per cleanup
City of Elberton Litter Hotline	KECB and the City of Elberton established a litter reporting hotline for illegal activities.	Continuous	N/A
Elbert County Littervention	Elbert County and KECB are collaborating to expand camera monitoring stations throughout the county at common illegal dumping sites and increasing code enforcement toward offences.	Continuous	N/A
Tire Amnesty	The County and KECB host an annual tire amnesty event to provide free, limited disposal of used tires to residents.	Annual	550 – 1,000 tires annually

## 7.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 5.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

Figure 7.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Elbert County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

### 7.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 - 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of Elbert County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives the County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>7.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County.	x				
<b>7.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
Elbert County will continue to operate the ten drop-off stations for collection of residential solid waste and recyclables.	x				
The City of Elberton will continue collect residential and commercial waste.	x				
The City of Bowman will continue to collect residential and commercial waste.					
Ebert County will continue to offer PAYT.	x				
<b>7.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate drop-off centers and transfer station for collection and processing of recyclables.	x				

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
The County will continue to accept leaf and limb at the transfer station for a fee. Mulch will be given to residents free of charge.	x				
City of Elberton will continue to operate curbside recycling for its residents and commercial businesses.	x				
The County will host electronics recycling programs in conjunction with programs held by Athens-Clarke County.	x				
The City of Elberton will host city-wide spring cleanup events.	x				
The County will continue to operate the tire disposal and recycling program through the end user.	x				
<b>7.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
Elbert County will continue to have waste hauled from convenience centers to transfer station to landfill.	x				
The County will continue education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.	x				KECB
The County will use inmate crews from the Department of Corrections to pickup and bag trash along major roads and areas with greater concentrations of litter on a weekly basis.	x				Private Contractor
The County will maintain and use cameras placed at illegal dumping hot spots and other known locations of dumping to assist with enforcement.	x				
All municipalities will cooperate with the county for disposal.	x				
<b>7.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION / INVOLVEMENT</b>					

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
The County will continue to work with civic groups for public education.	x				KECB
The Elbert County Board of Education will continue to conduct public education efforts.	x				
Establish Keep Elbert County Beautiful program.	x				Established 2014
The school curricula regarding aspects of solid waste management, including recycling program and illegal dumping will continue to be offered.	x				
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.	x				
<b>7.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	x				Zoning Ordinance adopted 2012
The County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	x				
The County will update and maintain the Land Limitations Map as changes occur in the County and cities.	x				
The County will maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.	x				



### 7.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>7.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The projected waste generated from Elbert County is set to remain relatively stable, at a .02% growth over the next ten years. The County will address any fluctuations in the amount of waste as necessary.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Board of Commissioners / Elbert County Solid Waste Department	TBD	Local Funds
The County will maintain documentation from KECB through cost-benefit reports, tire amnesty events, recycling events, shredding, etc.	X	X	X	X	X	KECB	N/A	N/A
The County Solid Waste Department will host annual meetings with KECB to further improve coordination and trends occurring throughout the county.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Solid Waste Department / KECB	N/A	N/A
<b>7.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
The City of Elberton currently provides a mix of private haulers and municipal collection services to transport waste to the County Transfer Station. The City plans to continue this method of collection.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Elberton Utilities	Dependent on Users	User Fees
Elbert County will continue to operate 8 convenience centers for drop-off residential disposal	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Solid Waste Department	\$128,000 Annually	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
services.								
Elbert County will continue to offer the PAYT program.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County	N/A	User Fees
KECB will host 4 recycling events for public service/participation annually	X	X	X	X	X	KECB	N/A	General Fund
Elbert County Transfer Station will operate part-time for one Saturday per month for at least six months of the year.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County / KECB	Staff Time	User Fees / General Fund
<b>7.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to accept leaf and limb at the transfer station for a fee. Mulch will be given to residents free of charge. A third-party will be hired annually for mulching services.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Solid Waste Department	N/A	User Fees
City of Elberton will continue to operate curbside collection for recycled materials for residential and commercial businesses.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Elberton Utilities	Dependent on Users	User Fees
The City of Elberton will host city-wide spring cleanup events.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Elberton / KECB / Volunteers	N/A	General Fund
The County will continue to operate the tire disposal and recycling program through the end user.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Solid Waste Department / KECB	Dependent on Volume	Disposal Fees / Grants
Elbert County would like to increase its recycling stream by 25% by 2031.					X	Elbert County Solid Waste Department / KECB	TBD	General Fund
KECB will continue to host one tire amnesty event annually.	X	X	X	X	X	KECB	Dependent on Volume	Grant Funds
Elbert County will perform a feasibility analysis for a local composting program at the County Transfer Station.			X			Elbert County Board of Commissioners / Elbert County Solid Waste Department	TBD	General Fund
<b>7.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to operate a transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Solid Waste	\$780,000 Annually	User Fees / General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
						Department		
The County will continue education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	KECB	N/A	General Fund / Fines
The County and KECB will partner with the NEGRSWMA to determine any appropriate expansions of outreach and educational efforts.		X				County Manager / KECB	N/A	N/A
All municipalities will cooperate with the county for disposal.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Bowman / City of Elberton / Elbert County	N/A	N/A
The County plans to continue sourcing private, out-of-county disposal services for all MSW.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Solid Waste Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
The County will expand the use of cameras to help with law enforcement.		X				Elbert County Code Enforcement / KECB	\$5,000	General Fund / Citation Fees
The County will continue annual upgrades and maintenance of their transfer station equipment and facility as needed.		X	X	X	X	Elbert County Solid Waste Department	TBD	General Fund
The County will determine the appropriate ordinance additions to address soil amendment activities throughout the county.		X				County Manager / Elbert County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
<b>7.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to work with civic groups and the Board of Education for public education efforts.	X	X	X	X	X	KECB	TBD	General Fund / Board of Education
The school curricula regarding aspects of solid waste management, including recycling program and illegal dumping will continue to be offered.	X	X	X	X	X	KECB	N/A	N/A
City of Elberton will continue coordinating with KECB for needs regarding tire amnesty and recycling events at city recycling facility.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Elberton Utilities / KECB	N/A	N/A

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The KECB program will expand to include 1 full-time position or 2-part time positions.			X			KECB	\$40,000	General Fund / Donations / Membership Sales
<b>7.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP and local land-use ordinances.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
The County will maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.	X	X	X	X	X	Elbert County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
The County will review local ordinances to ensure proper protections are in place in regard to the siting of disposal facilities.	X	X				County Manager / Elbert County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A

## 8 GREENE COUNTY

### 8.1 County Description

Greene County is located in the southeastern edge of the planning area and covers approximately 406 square miles. The County has five municipalities, the largest being the county seat, Greensboro. The other, much smaller, municipalities are Siloam, Union Point, White Plains, and Woodville. A significant portion of the county is federally-owned as the Oconee National Forest.

The most recent estimates from the U.S. Census show the county population to be 18,498. Population growth in Greene County has maintained steady, increasing 11 percent from the year 2000 through 2010, and 15.7 percent from 2010 to 2020. According to the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, Greene County is expected to reach 22,769 residents by the year 2031.

According to estimates, there are 10,545 households throughout the county, with 27.4% considered vacant (U.S. Census). Of the occupied housing units, 74.6% are owner-occupied and the remaining 25.4% are renter-occupied (U.S. Census). As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses within the county, private and public, is 502.

### 8.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. Greene County relies on private entities for the collection and disposal of all Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). Currently, there are no MSW landfills permitted within the county. Therefore, all MSW waste generated is transported to out-of-county facilities for disposal. The table below outlines an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Greene County, including MSW and Construction and Development (C&D) waste.

**Table 8.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Greene County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Fulton	C&D	56.06	0.18%
Gwinnett	MSW	1,438.90	4.51%
Hall	C&D	3.84	0.01%
Oglethorpe	C&D	3,016.16	9.46%
Twiggs	MSW	24,310.88	76.22%
Walton	C&D	3,071.06	9.63%
Total Tonnage:	All Types	28,880.74	100%

Greene County operates a convenience center for recyclable materials and municipal solid waste. This facility is located centrally, south of the City of Greensboro. The County owns and operates this facility with no user fee cost to residents. The following table outlines an overview of waste handled at this facility:

**Table 8.2: Greene County Convenience Center Waste Received – 2015-2019**

Year	Solid Waste (tons)	Recycling (tons)
2015	7,488.63	396.42
2016	7,737.18	383.18
2017	8,141.38	616.56
2018	9,002.40	759.6
2019	9,699.64	572.63
<b>Annual Average (2015-2019)</b>	<b>8,413.85</b>	<b>545.678</b>

### 8.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Greene County jurisdiction.

**Table 8.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Greene County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
N/A	Greene County Convenience Center	1211 Meadow Crest Road Greensboro, GA 30642	Transfer Station	Greene County	5 Acres
PBR-066-011TS	ADS – Carey Station Road Transfer Station	2870 Carey Station Road Greensboro, GA 30642	Transfer Station	Private	7,500 sq. ft.
PBR-066-08IL	Tri-County Inert Waste Landfill – Waste Management	2830 Carey Station Road Greensboro, GA 30642	Inert Landfill	Private	103 Acres
066-007D(SL)	Greene County – US 278 W Phase 1	3270 Old Union Point Road Union Point, GA 30669	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Greene County	N/A
066-008D(SL)	Greene County – US 278 W Phase 2	3260 Old Union Point Road Union Point, GA 30669	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Greene County	N/A

## 8.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

### Collection

Greene County has a unique collection strategy comparative to the region. The County contracts directly with a private hauling service to provide residential curbside collection for MSW throughout the county, including all cities. A special-use, county-wide tax district is used to fund the service. The tax is all-inclusive for waste services and includes the county and all five cities via a service agreement. The County renews service contracts every five years through competitive bid, or ten (10) years with an option for five year cancellation. The next renewal period for services will take place in 2023.

Commercial waste collection is not offered through the County. Private businesses and construction sites must contract services through their vendor of choice.

The County contracts with a private entity for roadside litter collection. This costs the County approximately \$90,000 annually. The County plans to continue this method for the entire planning scope in combination with supplementary volunteer services.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Greene County's goal for collection is to ensure efficient and effective collection of solid waste in the county over the next ten (10) years. Residential waste collection for the County is comprehensive, with curbside MSW collection available to all residents. Greene County's needs are being met by the current strategy for collection and they plan to continue this method during the entire planning scope.

A significant portion of Greene County is comprised of undeveloped, rural land and the Oconee National Forest. These areas are difficult to monitor consistently and do experience some illegal dumping and littering. The County would like to improve the overall public education of solid waste disposal, recycling, and littering over the next ten (10) years to combat this issue.

### Disposal

There are no MSW or C&D disposal facilities permitted within Greene County. The County contracts with a private entity for out-of-county disposal of MSW. In 2020, approximately 95% of all MSW generated within the county was disposed of at the Wolf Creek Landfill in Twiggs County. The remaining 5% of waste was disposed of at the Richland Creek Landfill in Gwinnett County. The Wolf Creek Landfill has an estimated fill date of 2028, and was undergoing an application for expansion during the time of this planning process. If this facility becomes limited in its ability to accept waste from Greene County, the waste stream will be diverted to the nearest available out-of-county landfill, the R&B Landfill in Banks County (see Appendix A).

Construction and Development waste is disposed of at a mixture of locations as well. Greene County relies on Fulton, Hall, Oglethorpe, and Walton County for disposal of this waste. Table 8.1 shows the disposal rates during 2020 for C&D waste.

Greene County is host to a privately operated, tri-county inert waste landfill. This facility operates as a drop-off location for inert waste and serves all of Greene County.

### *Needs and Goals*

The Wolf Creek Landfill in Twiggs County has adequate capacity for the disposal needs of Greene County (see landfill assurance letters in Appendix A). The County plans to continue utilizing out-of-county disposal facilities due to the extremely limited suitability of land for new facilities in its jurisdiction.

Greene County's goal is to ensure that the transfer stations and inert waste disposal facilities within its planning area meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective waste disposal for the next ten (10) years.

## **Waste Reduction**

### *Yard/Inert Waste*

The County contracts with a private firm to provide a container for yard trimmings at the County Convenience Center. The City of Greensboro provides curbside collection of yard trimmings and storm downed limbs and trees for all city residents. The collected material is mulched and hauled to City property or given to residents for use as landscaping material. Union Point also provides curbside collection of yard trimmings.

All residents have access to the tri-county inert waste landfill for disposal purposes.

### *Recycling*

The County accepts various recyclable materials at the County Convenience Center. This service is offered at no cost to residents and the County sells material on the secondary market. Curbside, mixed-stream recycling services are not available for residents through the County service agreement. The County processes approximately 545 tons of recycled materials annually.

In addition, Habitat for Humanity offers two aluminum can drop-off sites for fundraising activities. The Liberty Fire Department also collects aluminum cans for fundraising activities.

Greene County is home to the Novelis aluminum recycling facility. This facility is privately owned and operated, and melts approximately 65 billion aluminum cans and closed-loop automotive aluminum parts, annually. While this facility operates on a global trading scale, it is a significant resource to have in the region and offers a local avenue to the aluminum recycling stream.

### *Needs and Goals*

With a small and disperse population, curbside collection of recycled materials is not currently feasible throughout Greene County. The County plans to continue operating a drop-off center for residents and businesses that would like to recycle. The cost of operating this facility is approximately \$400,000 annually. The County plans to maintain and upgrade the facility as needed. Future recycling efforts may include a feasibility analysis of offering curbside recycling collection within city limits.

The County would like to increase the education and awareness of recycling programs to the general public and continue to sustain current waste reduction programs for the next ten (10) years.



### 8.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory

Greene County has limited formal education and public involvement programs. The County does not plan on becoming a Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliate within the next ten (10) years. Any increases in public outreach and education will be performed by County staff in partnership with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or NEGRSWMA, when opportunities are available. The NEGRSWMA plans to determine the most effective public outreach methods for each county during 2022-2023 for implementation.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 8.4: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Greene County**

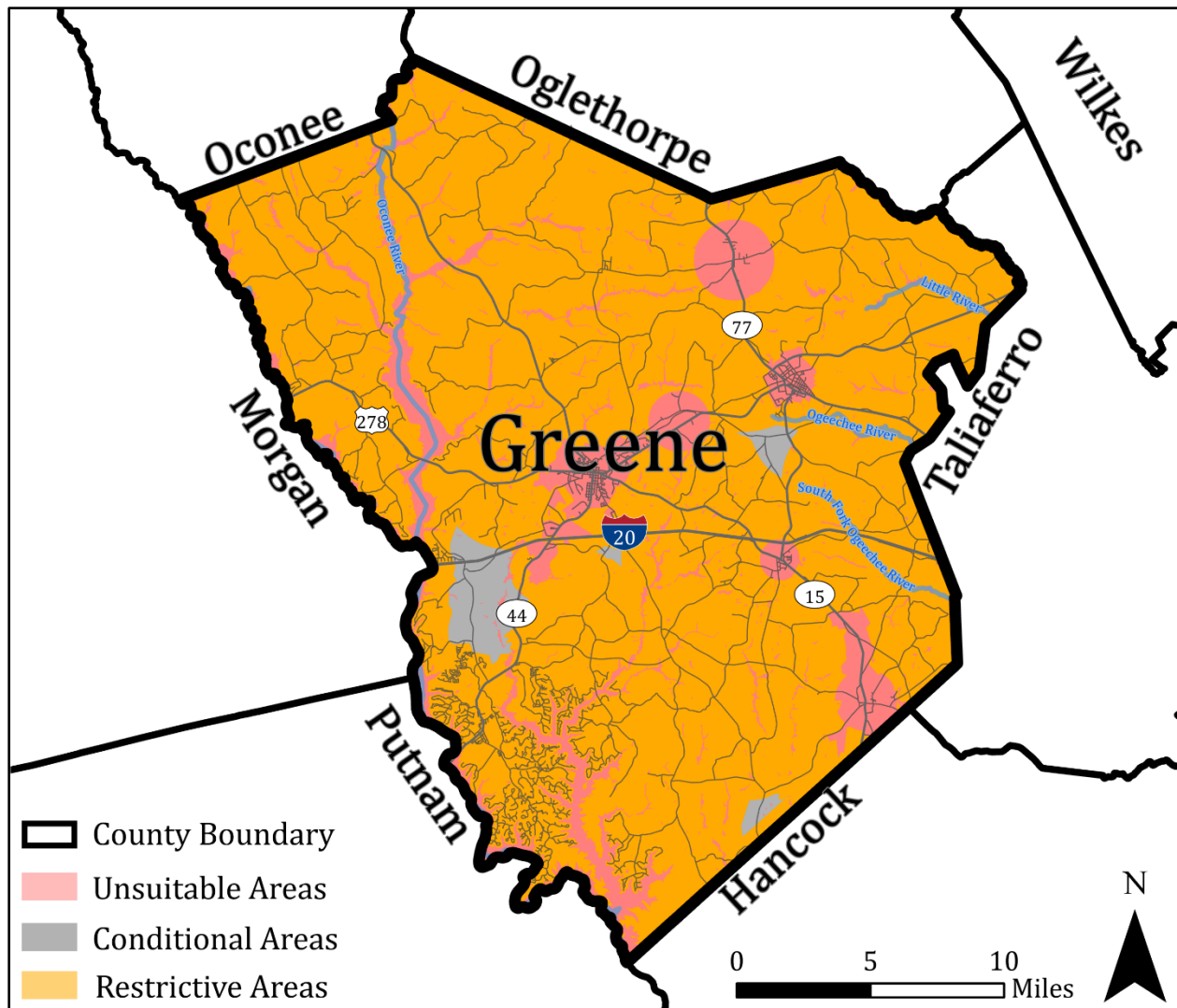
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Media Outreach	The County publishes information in regard to trash collection, acceptable materials for drop-off, and illegal dumping incidents on social media outlets, the County website, and local newspapers	Continuous	N/A

### 8.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 8.1 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

Figure 8.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Greene County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

### 8.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of Greene County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives Greene County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>8.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County.		✓			
<b>8.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
County will continue to have MSW collected curbside by a private hauler.		✓			
The City of Greensboro will provide curbside yard trimmings collection to residents.		✓			
The City of Union Point will provide curbside yard trimmings, white goods and brown goods collection to residents.		✓			

8.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT					
The County and civic groups will have periodic “recycling days” for the drop-off of recyclables from residents of the unincorporated areas and smaller cities.		✓			
The County and municipalities will encourage commercial recycling programs.				✓	
The County will continue to contract with a private firm to collect recyclables and yard trimmings at the Meadow Crest convenience center.		✓			
The County will explore the feasibility of opening a new convenience center closer to Union Point.				✓	The single convenience center is located as close to the geographic center of the County as possible. With population shifts, the concentration of citizens is predominately in the south end of the County, thus making the addition of a center in Union Point no longer appropriate for the County. Given Service Delivery Strategy and the Reserved Powers provisions of the Ga. Constitution, any city that desires to supplement the base level of service afforded by the County is the rightful owner of such effort for their respective jurisdiction. The County has no current plans to pursue this particular target.
The County will allow for yard trimmings to be dropped off at convenience centers.		✓			
The County will continue partnership with a private paper recycling firm and Habitat for Humanity to encourage recycling of aluminum cans.		✓			
8.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT					
The County will continue its contract with a private collector to arrange for waste disposal.		✓			

The County will continue to strengthen its education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.		✓			
The County will use inmate crews from the Department of Corrections to pick-up and bag trash along major roads and areas with greater concentrations of litter.				✓	The County had to discontinue the contract with the DOC crews as the effort had become less productive than needed. The County now contracts with a private provider to pickup litter along County Roads multiple times each year.
All municipalities will cooperate with the County for disposal.		✓			
<b>8.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION / INVOLVEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to cooperate with local civic organizations for public education activities.		✓			
The Solid Waste Commission will be responsible for implementing public education programs.		✓			
The County will utilize schools and community events as a means of educating people about waste reduction and illegal dumping.		✓			
The County will continue to work with Georgia Power to host the "Bring One for the Chipper" event.				✓	Georgia Power has not made this program available in recent years.
The County and Solid Waste Commission will work with civic groups and volunteers to conduct cleanups.		✓			
<b>8.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.		✓			
The County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.		✓			

### 8.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>8.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County is projected to increase its waste stream by 25-percent by 2031. The County will continue monitoring waste stream amounts with private contractors to collect and dispose of waste accordingly.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	N/A	General Fund
<b>8.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
County will continue to have MSW collected curbside by a private hauler county-wide (including all cities).	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	Dependent on Volume	Local Waste TAD
The County will continue seeking 10-year collection contracts with private hauling companies with a 5-year option for renewal. Current contract is set to expire in 2023, at which point the County will bid for a new contract.		X				Greene County Board of Commissioners	TBD	Local Waste TAD
<b>8.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to cover the costs of large illegal dumping	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	Site Specific	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
cleanup throughout the county in partnership with Georgia DNR.								
The County will continue to contract with a private firm to collect recyclables and yard trimmings at the Meadow Crest convenience center.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	Volume Dependent	General Fund
The County will allow for yard trimmings to be dropped off at convenience center.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	N/A	General Fund
<b>8.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue its contract with a private collector to arrange for waste disposal. Current contract relies on the Wolf Creek Landfill, which has an expected lifespan of 28 years.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	N/A	User Fees
The County will continue to strengthen its education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping through local newspapers and their website.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Public Works & Roads	N/A	General Fund
The County will rely on private contractor (Lovin Contractors) for roadside litter cleanup.						Greene County Public Works	90,000 Annually	General Fund
All municipalities will cooperate with the County for disposal and be included in the County’s collection and disposal contract.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	N/A	User Fees
<b>8.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
The County will determine interest in partnering with Georgia DNR to co-host annual public school education series regarding litter, recycling, and solid waste education.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Administration	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will utilize schools and community events as a means of educating people about waste reduction and illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Administration	Staff Time	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The County will partner with the NEGRSWMA to determine the most effective public outreach strategies in regard to recycling and litter control.		X				Greene County Administration / NEGRSWMA	TBD	General Fund / Annual NEGRSWMA Fees
<b>8.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
The County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with the SWMP.	X	X	X	X	X	Greene County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A



## 9 JACKSON COUNTY

### 9.1 County Description

Jackson County is located on the northwestern edge of the planning area. The County has nine municipalities: Commerce, Jefferson, Braselton, Arcade, Hoschton, Maysville, Nicholson, Pendergrass, and Talmo. The City of Jefferson serves as the county seat and is the most populous municipality. Jackson County covers approximately 343 square miles.

The U.S. Census estimates the County population to be 73,789. This is a significant increase of 77% from the 2000 Census figure of 41,589. Jackson County is experiencing rapid suburban and industrial growth due to access to I-85, a major commercial corridor connecting Atlanta to Charlotte, NC. The population is expected to continue this significant growth during the planning period to 97,391 by 2031.

There are 28,823 housing units in Jackson County, with 9.6% considered vacant. Of all housing units, 77.8% are owner-occupied and the remaining 22.2% are renter-occupied (U.S. Census). As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses within the county, private and public, is 1,582.

### 9.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. Jackson County contracts with private entities for the transport and disposal of all Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), Industrial waste, and Construction and Development (C&D) waste generated. Therefore, all waste generated is disposed of at out-of-county facilities. The table below outlines an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for ACC, including MSW, C&D, and Industrial waste.

**Table 9.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Jackson County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	101,705.83	91.65%
Barrow	MSW	175.41	0.16%
Butts	Industrial	16.95	0.02%
Cherokee	MSW	29.82	0.03%
Fulton	C&D	7.75	0.01%
Gwinnett	Industrial	56.93	0.05%
Hall	C&D	4,162.87	3.75%
Oglethorpe	C&D	271.42	0.24%
Taylor	Industrial	571.07	0.51%
Walton	C&D	3,968.48	3.58%
<b>Total Tonnage</b>	<b>All Types</b>	<b>110,969.55</b>	<b>100%</b>

Jackson County operates two staffed compactor sites and a transfer station for recyclable materials and municipal solid waste. The transfer station facility is located centrally, northeast of the City of Jefferson. The County owns and operates this facility with a per-bag user fee cost to residents. Volumes above three bags per vehicle are weighed for accurate fees to all users. The following table outlines the volume of waste handled at this County facility:

**Table 9.2: Jackson County Transfer Station Waste Received – 2015-2020**

Year	Solid Waste (tons)	Recycling (tons)
2015	29,705.34	75.30
2016	33,881.62	184.53
2017	42,931.31	281.58
2018	54,406.09	244.39
2019	55,200.92	272.33
2020	76,100.82	265.00
<b>Growth Rate (2015-2020)</b>	<b>156%</b>	<b>252%</b>

### 9.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Jackson County jurisdiction.

**Table 9.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Jackson County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
PBR-078-09TS	Jackson County Transfer Station	100 Landfill Drive Jefferson, GA 30549	Transfer Station	Jackson County	300 Tons / Day
N/A	Compactor Site #1	843 New Kings Bridge Road Athens, GA 30607	Convenience Center	Jackson County	6-8 Tons / Week
N/A	Compactor Site #2	268 Yarbrough Ridgeway Road Commerce, GA 30529	Convenience Center	Jackson County	6-8 Tons / Week
PBR-078-019TS	Garbage Hound Sanitation Transfer Station	759 Highway 60 Hoschton, GA 30548	Transfer Station	Private	N/A
PBR-078-11 OSP	Louisiana – Pacific Corporation Athens OSB	10910 Commerce Road Athens, GA 30607	On-Site Processing Facility / On_Site Thermal Treatment Facility	Private	N/A
PBR-078-16 OSP	Huber Engineered Wood - Sludge and Wood Processing	1442 Highway 334 Commerce, GA 30530	On-Site Processing Facility	Private	N/A
PBR-078-100STT	Richard Stanley Lewis Air Curtain Destructor	8385 Highway 53 Braselton, GA 30517	On-Site Thermal Treatment Facility	Private	N/A
PBR-078-150STT	Lanier Palett Recycling	2410 Highway 334 Commerce, GA 30530	On-Site Thermal Treatment Facility	Private	N/A
PBR-078-019COL	All-Pro Bio Solutions	160 Hawthorne Drive Jefferson, GA 30549	Biomedical Collection	Private	N/A

## 9.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

### Collection

Jackson County operates a transfer station and two staffed compactor sites. All county residents have access to these sites for collection of MSW. Private hauling services are available in parts of the county for residents who want curbside collection. Residents and private businesses contract directly with hauling services. Some cities within the County contract with private haulers while in others, residents and businesses contract directly with haulers if they want curbside collection services. The Cities of Arcade, Commerce, Jefferson, and Hoschton contract with private hauling companies for curbside collection services. The Town of Braselton relies on an open market for residential and commercial curbside collection services. The City of Nicholson provides curbside pickup for residential waste.

### Needs and Goals

Jackson County's goal for collection is to ensure efficient and effective collection of solid waste in the region over the next ten (10) years. Collection programs for solid waste are sufficient to meet existing community needs. The more populated areas have at-the-source collection and the convenience centers are available for all citizens. The County is currently expanding the capacity of the transfer station to accommodate drastic growth. The expansion will allow the transfer station to continue operating for the next ten (10) years. As the population grows, the County will continue to review what investments are needed to serve collection demands.

## **Disposal**

Jackson County does not have a disposal facility within its jurisdiction. Therefore, the County and all municipalities rely on out-of-county disposal facilities to accommodate waste generated.

A variety of facilities are used for disposal services; refer to Table 9.1 for a summary of the County's disposal stream in 2020. Primarily, the R&B Landfill in Banks County is used for MSW disposal, while C&D waste is disposed of in Hall, Oglethorpe, and Walton Counties. It is the choice of private haulers at which facility waste is disposed. The County contracts with private hauling services for waste processed at its own facilities.

Illegal dumping is not deemed to be a significant problem in Jackson County. The County Marshall is responsible for enforcement of illegal dumping violations.

### *Needs and Goals*

Jackson County's waste projections show a 34% increase in MSW during the planning period. Despite the increase in annual MSW tonnage, the County's existing disposal programs should be adequate to address increases. The County plans to continue utilizing out-of-county facilities for all disposal needs. The R&B Landfill in Banks County has an estimated 20-year life expectancy and Waste Management has provided a letter of capacity assurance ensuring their commitment to partnering for disposal services at this facility (refer to Appendix A).

Additionally, Jackson County's goal is to ensure that any solid waste facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs for the next ten (10) years.

## **Waste Reduction**

### *Yard/Inert Waste*

The Jackson County transfer station accepts yard trimmings and contracts with a private vendor for grinding/mulching. The material is made available to residents upon request. Most of the cities within Jackson County also use the transfer station drop-off for yard trimmings. Hoschton and Nicholson collect yard trimmings and transport them to the County transfer station. The Cities of Commerce and Jefferson pick up yard trimmings. They also mulch/grind and make the material available to residents as needed.

### *Recycling*

Jackson County currently operates a drop-off program to collect recyclables at the County transfer station and two staffed compactor sites. Compactor sites accept bagged household garbage, furniture, and appliances. The transfer station collects the following products for recycling at an item-based fee:

- White goods (i.e. refrigerators, dryers)
- Furniture
- Paint
- Tires
- Scale Loads

Additionally, the items below are accepted at no charge:

- Aluminum
- Brass
- Bronze
- Copper
- Iron
- Steel
- Tin (not including cans)
- Cardboard

Some cities within the county contract individually with private haulers for curbside collection. The Cities of Arcade and Jefferson offer curbside recycling to all residents through a contract with a private hauler. Both Cities collect newspaper and cardboard, but Jefferson also collects aluminum and plastic. Residents also have access to the County drop-off centers. The City of Commerce relies on the County drop-off centers and has several volunteer organizations that collect and recycle newspaper and corrugated cardboard. The City of Hoschton contracts with a private hauler for curbside recyclable collection and also utilizes the County drop-off centers. The Cities of Nicholson, Pendergrass, Braselton, and Talmo rely on County programs.

The County hosts various recycling events throughout the year to improve options for recyclable materials. These programs are outlined in Section 9.5 and the following table shows the volume of recyclable materials received at these events:

**Table 9.4: Jackson County Spring/Fall Recycling Events Waste Received – 2018-2019**

Material	Spring 2018	Fall 2018	Spring 2019	Fall 2019
Tires	740 (99 paid for)	633 (53 paid for)	655 Tires (613 paid for)	661 Tires (634 paid for)
Latex Paint	714 Gallons	201 Gallons	660 Gallons	466 Gallons
Oil Paint	55 Gallons	38 Gallons	83 Gallons	47 Gallons
Spray Paint	73 Cans	31 Cans	23 Cans	38 Cans
E-Waste	10,513 lbs. <i>99 PC's, 51 Laptops, 40 LCD Monitors, 48 TV's and Monitors (CRT), and 5 Flat Screen TV's</i>	7,852 lbs. <i>48 PC's, 18 Laptops, 17 LCD Monitors, 13 TV's and Monitors (CRT), and 33 Flat Screen TV's</i>	5,153 lbs. <i>37 PC's, 21 Laptops, 29 LCD Monitors, 11 CRT TV's, 7 CRT Monitors, 10 Flat Screen TV's</i>	7,026 lbs. <i>63 PC's, 142 Laptops, 29 LCD Monitors, 30 CRT TV's, 11 CRT Monitors, 14 Flat Screen TV's</i>
Cardboard	1,592 lbs.	1,193 lbs.	1,231 lbs.	980 lbs.
Shredded Paper	9,900 lbs.	7,800 lbs.	8,600 lbs.	7,500 lbs.
Fluorescent Light Bulbs	86 Rods / 112 Bulbs	36 Rods / 72 Bulbs	96 Rods / 87 Bulbs	137 Rods / 84 Bulbs
Auto Oil	315 Gallons	158 Gallons	192 Gallons	114 Gallons
Auto Batteries	84 Batteries	135 Batteries	1,059 lbs.	705 lbs.
Plastic Bags	11 lbs.	9 lbs.	8 lbs.	6 lbs.
Household Batteries	684 lbs.	322 lbs.	426 lbs.	365 lbs.
Glasses / Hearing Aids	55 Glasses	68 Glasses	112 Glasses	132 Glasses
Aluminum Cans	20 lbs.	27 lbs.	111 lbs.	9 lbs.
Books and Magazines	114 Books / 73 Magazines	323 Books / 137 Magazines	428 Books / 213 Magazines	324 Books / 97 Magazines
Clothing	647 lbs.	588 lbs.	113 lbs.	162 lbs.
Drug Take Back Program	4 Bags	2.5 Bags	2 Bags	4 bags

*Needs and Goals*

Jackson County’s recycling stream has remained stable. However, processing time and facility space are restricting the volume of material handled. An expansion of each drop-off facility and the transfer station may enable the County to find a source of continued life for more recyclable material.

The County plans to sustain recycling operations and mulching of yard waste for county residents for the next ten (10) years. Keep Jackson County Beautiful, the Jackson County Solid Waste Department, and the NEGRSWMA will explore opportunities to increase education and awareness of programs. Additionally, Jackson County will ensure that all waste reduction operations meet regulatory requirements.

**9.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory**

Jackson County is a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) program via Keep Jackson County Beautiful (KJCB). This is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by the County and local donations offering community support and education regarding issues that affect the health and appearance of the environment. KJCB, the Jackson County Solid Waste Department, and Jackson County Planning Department work together to facilitate a number of events and outreach efforts to improve community knowledge in regard to solid waste, recycling, and beautification.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 9.5: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Jackson County**

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Spring Into Recycling Event	Event offered for Jackson County residents to recycling e-waste, document shredding, paint, fluorescent light bulbs, tires, prescription drugs, auto oil and batteries, plastic bags, household batteries, eyeglasses, hearing aids, used clothing, and cardboard at no cost.	Annual	See Table 9.4
Fall Recycling Event	Event offered for Jackson County residents to recycling e-waste, document shredding, paint, fluorescent light bulbs, tires, prescription drugs, auto oil and batteries, plastic bags, household batteries, eyeglasses, hearing aids, used clothing, and cardboard at no cost.	Annual	See Table 9.4
Special Event Kits	Program that offers ClearStream	As Requested	3-4 Event Uses Annually

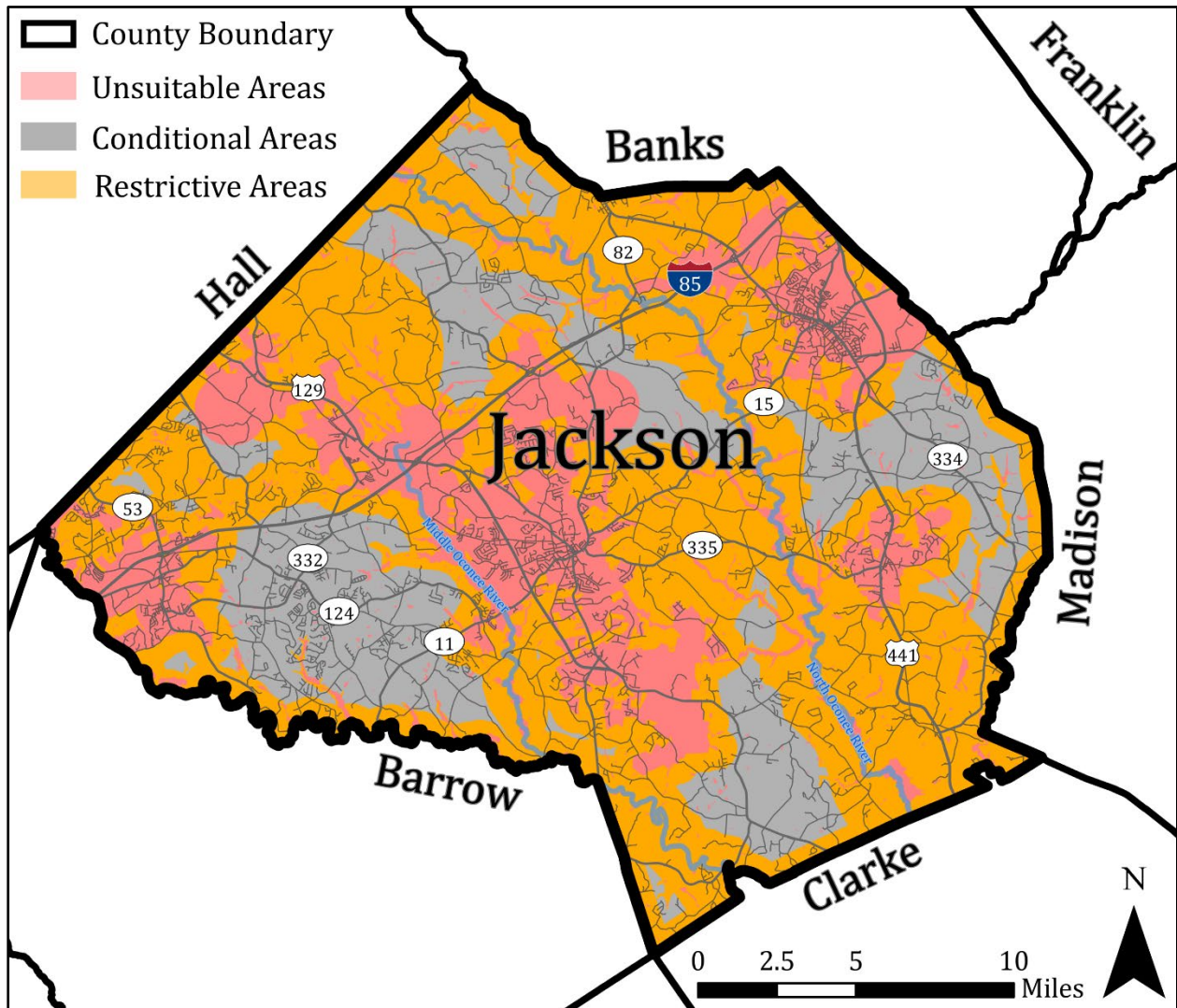
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
	recycling bins with bags for the collection of aluminum cans and plastic bottles at special events or festivals. The bags can be returned to KJCB or arrangements can be made with a recycling center to take the materials.		
Adopt-A-Road	Program coordinated by KJCB for groups and organizations to adopt the responsibility of litter cleanup along county roads. KJCB provides safety vests, pickers, latex gloves, and garbage bags to the adoptee/group and will also arrange for the removal of the filled garbage bags.	Continuous	60 active AAR groups who take part in a minimum of 4 cleanups a year.
Environmental Education – Enviroscope	KJCB places Resource Libraries that includes books, lesson plans and lessons on the Enviroscope that correlate with Georgia curriculum standards.	Continuous	2 Classrooms
Teacher Reuse Store	A collaboration of business, industry, education, and local government that provides a variety of school supplies, materials, and other items to local educators at no cost. The program is open to any teacher in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, and Oglethorpe counties.		N/A

## 9.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 5.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

Figure 9.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Jackson County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*



### 9.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 - 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of Jackson County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives Jackson County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>9.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County	X				Implemented
<b>9.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate transfer station and two staffed compactor sites.	X				Implemented
The City of Commerce will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside collection service of MSW.	X				Implemented
The City of Jefferson will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside collection service of recyclables and MSW.	X				Implemented
The City of Arcade will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside collection service of recyclables and MSW.	X				Implemented
The City of Braselton will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside collection service of MSW.	X				Implemented

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
The City of Hoschton will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside collection service of MSW and recyclables.	X				Implemented
The City of Nicholson will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide weekly curbside collection of MSW.	X				Implemented
The City of Maysville will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside collection service of MSW.	X				Implemented
The City of Pendergrass will continue to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside collection service of MSW.	X				Implemented
<b>9.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate a drop-off site for recyclables at the transfer station and two staffed compactor sites.	X				Ongoing
Explore the potential to accept additional recyclables at the transfer station.	X				Ongoing
Residents in the City of Arcade will contract with private haulers for the curbside collection of recyclables.	X				Ongoing
The City of Jefferson will continue contracting with a private firm for curbside collection of recyclables.	X				Ongoing
The City of Hoschton will continue contracting with a private firm for curbside collection of recyclables.	X				Ongoing
The County will continue to grind and mulch yard trimmings at the transfer station and make available to residents.	X				Ongoing
The Cities of Commerce and Jefferson will continue to collect and mulch yard trimmings.	X				Ongoing
The County and municipalities will encourage commercial recycling programs.	X				Ongoing
The County will continue to work with Southeastern Paper to encourage white paper recycling.				X	Southeastern changed ownership

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>9.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate the County-owned transfer station.	X				Ongoing
The County will explore the feasibility of expanding the transfer station.	X				Ongoing
The County will continue to contract with a private firm for the disposal of waste.	X				Implemented
The County will continue education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.	X				Implemented
<b>9.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION / INVOLVEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to fund its recently implemented Keep Jackson Beautiful Program (KJCB).	X				Implemented
The County will work with KJCB to hold Amnesty events.	X				Ongoing
The County and KJCB will host one Hazardous Waste Amnesty event.	X				Ongoing
The County will continue to hold Great American Cleanup and Bring one for the Chipper events in cooperation with KJCB.	X				Ongoing
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.	X				Ongoing
<b>9.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X				Implemented
The County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X				Implemented

### 9.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>9.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County is estimated to grow by 34% by 2031. County facilities will be expanded to compensate for the additional waste stream as necessary.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Solid Waste Department	TBD	General Fund / User Fees
<b>9.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
Jackson County will continue to operate three facilities: two convenience centers with compactor equipment and one transfer facility.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Solid Waste Department	\$3,565,000 Annually	General Fund / User Fees
Jackson County will continue to rely on the open market for any curbside pickup services within the county. All other residents will be required to utilize convenience centers and transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
All local municipalities will continue to rely on open market for collection services.	X	X	X	X	X	All Local Governments	N/A	N/A

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>9.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to host tire amnesty event once annually.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Solid Waste Department / KJCB	\$1,435 Per Event	Grants
The County will utilize county work crews, the Georgia Dept. of Corrections, and citizens assigned community service for roadside litter cleanup.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Sherriff's Office / KJCB	N/A	N/A
KJCB will continue hosting the "Adopt a Road" program.	X	X	X	X	X	KJCB	Staff Time	General Fund
KJCB will host an annual "Great American Cleanup" event for Jackson County litter cleanup.	X	X	X	X	X	KJCB	Staff Time	General Fund
The Jackson County Transfer Station will host an annual E-waste event for electronics. Jackson County covers the cost of disposal for all Jackson County residents.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Solid Waste Department / KJCB	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
Jackson County will continue to host two recycling day events annually.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Solid Waste Department / KJCB	\$5,000	General Fund
Jackson County will expand storage at transfer station for recyclable materials to improve sales of material to secondary market.			X			Jackson County Solid Waste Department	TBD	General Fund
<b>9.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to operate two compactor sites and one transfer facility to direct and dispose of waste.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Solid Waste Department	\$3,565,000 Annually	User Fees / General Fund
The Jackson County Transfer Station will be expanded to accommodate a 10-year scope for their growing waste stream.	X					Jackson County Board of Commissioners / Jackson County Solid Waste Department	TBD	General Fund
<b>9.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
Annual K-12 educational sessions regarding solid waste and recycling will continue through partnership with KJCB and local	X	X	X	X	X	KJCB / Board of Education / 4-H / Volunteers	Staff Time	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
Board of Education and 4-H Chapter.								
The County will perform outreach and education regarding proper techniques for transportation of waste to local transfer stations utilizing the county website and various other platforms.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Solid Waste Department / KJCB	N/A	General Fund
The County will continue to partner with interested local municipalities to offer “One for the Chipper” shredding event for Christmas trees.	X	X	X	X	X	KJCB	\$1,000	General Fund
<b>9.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP and local land-use ordinances.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Board of Commissioners / Planning & Zoning	N/A	N/A
The County will maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.	X	X	X	X	X	Jackson County Board of Commissioners / Planning & Zoning	N/A	N/A

## 10 MADISON COUNTY

### 10.1 County Description

Madison County is located on the northern edge of the planning area and covers 286 square miles. The county has six municipalities, with Danielsville serving as the county seat. The other municipalities include Carlton, Colbert, Comer, Hull, and Ila. The County's population has grown 21.2% over the previous two decades from 25,730 in 2000 to 31,175 in 2020, according to the U.S. Census (2020). The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget predicts the County's population to further increase to 33,431 by 2031. Madison County does not experience significant seasonal changes in population.

There are approximately 12,693 housing units in Madison County with 1,054 considered vacant units. Of the housing units, 69.6% are owner-occupied while the remaining 22.0% are renter-occupied. As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses, private and public, within the county is 399.

### 10.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. Madison County contracts with private entities for the disposal of all waste generated, including MSW and C&D. The table below outlines an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Madison County including MSW, Construction and Development (C&D), and Industrial waste.

**Table 10.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Madison County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	6,636.04	59.72%
Barrow	Industrial	320.57	2.89%
Oglethorpe	C&D	2,802.03	25.22%
Walton	C&D	1,352.68	12.17%
Total Tonnage:	All Types	11,111.32	100%

Madison County operates a centrally located Solid Waste Transfer Station for recyclable materials and municipal solid waste. The transfer station facility is located 2.5 miles south of the City of Danielsville. The County owns and operates this facility with a per-bag user fee cost to residents.

Fees are \$1.00 per bag up to 33-gallons and \$2.00 per bag above 33-gallons. The following table outlines the volume of waste handled at this facility. Recycling tonnages include comingled material, cardboard, and mixed paper.

**Table 10.2: Madison County Transfer Station Waste Received – 2015-2020**

Year	Solid Waste (tons)	Recycling (tons)
2015	2,788.73	130.79
2016	2,791.04	188.45
2017	2,834.53	142.91
2018	2,990.29	132.09
2019	3,157.23	149.45
2020	3,590.70	125.67
<b>Summary (2015-2020)</b>	<b>28.76% (Growth Rate)</b>	<b>144.89 (Average Volume)</b>

### 10.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Madison County jurisdiction.

**Table 10.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Madison County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
N/A	Madison County Solid Waste Transfer Station	2100 Colbert-Danielsville Road Danielsville, GA 30633	Transfer Station	Madison County	N/A
PBR-095-08IL	Highway 106 Inert Landfill	Providence Church Road Danielsville, GA 30633	Inert Waste Landfill (CLOSED)	Private	14 Acres
095-006D(SL)	Madison County Sanitary Landfill 2 & 3	2100 Colbert-Danielsville Road Danielsville, GA 30633	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Madison County	N/A

### 10.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

#### Collection

Madison County offers drop-off service for MSW and recyclable materials to County residents at the Madison County Solid Waste Transfer Station. The County does not plan to add more convenience centers within its jurisdiction during the planning scope.



The Cities of Comer, Danielsville, Ila, and Carlton contract with private entities to provide curbside collection of residential waste. The City of Colbert provides curbside collection services for residential waste directly.

The City of Hull requires residents to contract directly with private hauling services for curbside collection.

Businesses in the county contract directly with private hauling services or with respective municipalities for collection of solid waste and recycling.

For roadside litter collection, the County relies on the Adopt-A-County Road program facilitated by KMCB and the Madison County Jail inmates for cleanup services.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Collection programs for solid waste are sufficient to meet existing community needs. Areas within city limits have curbside collection services while the transfer station and recycling center drop-off service is available for all citizens. The population is estimated to grow in population by 12% by 2031. As the population grows, the County will continue to review what is needed to serve community needs and maintain necessary equipment.

The County plans to expand local code enforcement in regard to solid waste incidents by distinguishing roles of officers and creating a new position. In addition to this new position, the County will explore the feasibility of operating cameras throughout the county to monitor known illegal dumping areas and deter these activities.

The County will ensure that all residents have access to efficient and effective options for the collection of solid waste over the next ten (10) years.

### **Disposal**

Madison County operates a transfer station and contracts with a private hauler to transfer all MSW collected to a disposal facility. Currently, the County relies on out-of-county disposal for all MSW. In 2020, 100 percent of waste generated within the County was disposed of at the privately owned and operated Banks County R&B Landfill. This landfill has an expected lifespan of approximately 20 years. The County plans to continue utilizing this facility for disposal needs for the entire planning scope, unless more competitive disposal costs are found at another facility.

One privately owned and operated inert waste landfill is permitted within the County.

Letters of capacity assurance for the following ten (10) year planning period can be found in Appendix A.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Madison County's current disposal practices are adequate to meet demands. The County's goal is to ensure effective and environmentally sound disposal of all waste. Madison County will ensure that disposal practices and any disposal facilities within their jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements over the next ten (10) years.

The land application of liquid agricultural waste was identified as a potential threat to the environment throughout the county. The Madison County Board of Commissioners and Solid Waste Department plan to review local ordinances to determine if any additional language is needed to more specifically define classifications of soil amendment with agricultural waste.

### **Waste Reduction**

#### *Yard/Inert Waste*

The Madison County transfer station does accept yard trimmings. Residents throughout the County either take their yard trimmings, leaves, and limbs to the transfer station or the Oglethorpe County C&D landfill for disposal.

Keep Madison Beautiful sponsors an annual project to recycle Christmas trees. The local electric utility grinds the trees into mulch that is used to landscape government offices. The Cities of Comer and Danielsville own grinders that are used to mulch limbs. City work crews then use the mulch for landscaping.

#### *Recycling*

Madison County accepts recyclable materials at the County Transfer Station. Materials accepted include glass, paper, aluminum, steel cans, scrap metal, tires, motor oil, batteries, electronics, ink cartridges, light bulbs, and plastics. All County residents have access to the facility for drop-off service. The County also hosts several annual recycling events, further information for events are outlined in Section 10.5.

The County experiences an average annual volume of approximately 148 tons of commingled, cardboard and mixed paper recyclable material.

#### *Needs and Goals*

The County has experienced difficulties in the sale of recycled materials in recent years. The County General Fund subsidizes the costs of accepting the material if sale to the secondary market does not cover all costs. The County's goal is to maintain a fiscally sustainable recycling program over the next ten years.

Keep Madison County Beautiful plans to continue to increase the participation of recycling throughout the county via special events, outreach, and collaboration with Madison County and the NEGRSWMA.

## **10.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory**

Madison County is a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) program via Keep Madison County Beautiful (KMCB). This is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by the County and local donations offering community support and education regarding issues that affect the health and appearance of the environment. The goals of KMCB are to promote beautification efforts in the community, maintain sustained litter reduction, promote the proper handling of solid waste, and

enhance environmental awareness through education. KMCB and the Madison County Solid Waste Department work together to facilitate events and outreach efforts to accomplish these goals.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 10.4: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Madison County**

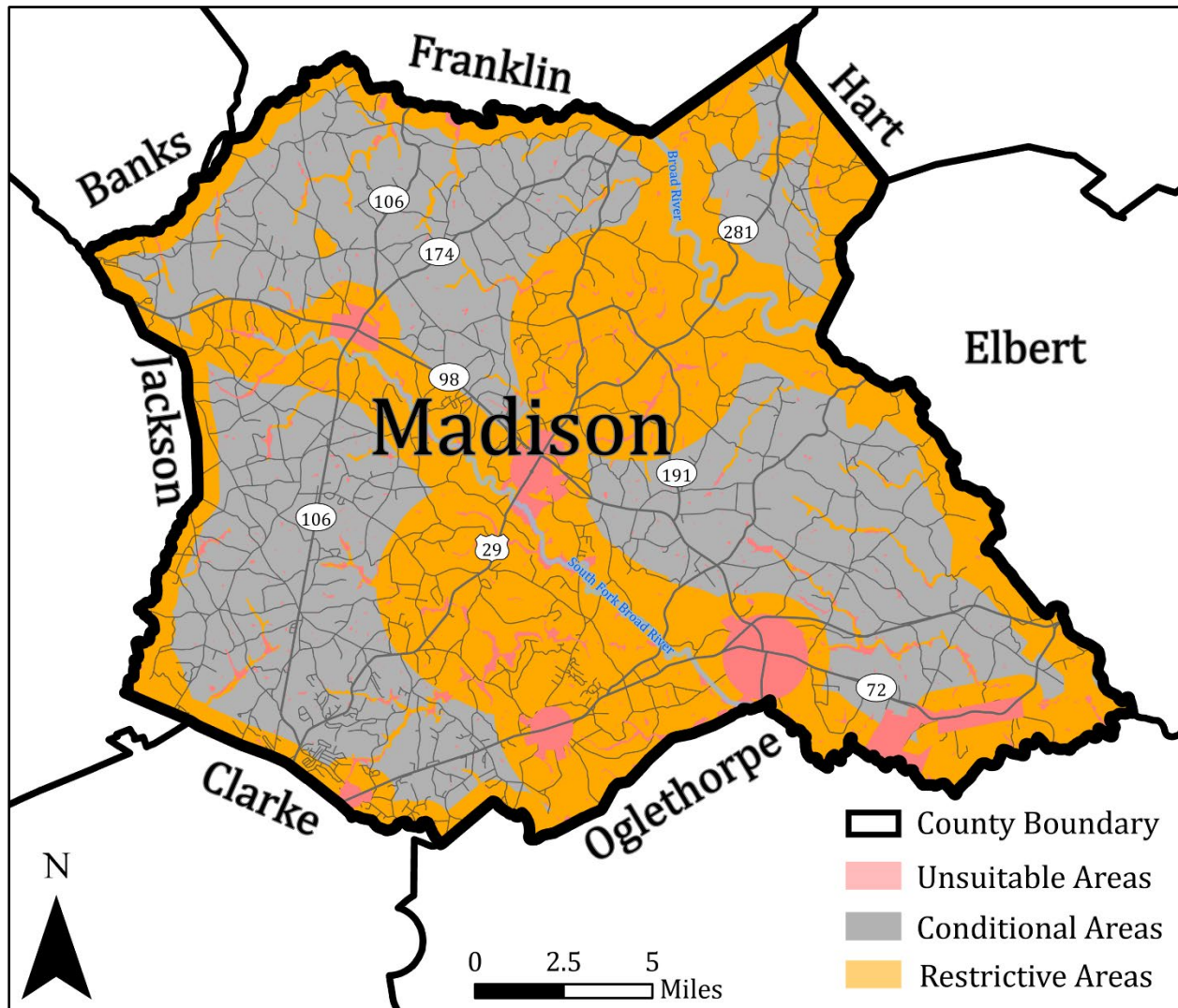
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Tire Amnesty	Event offering citizens of Madison County the ability to dispose of up to 10 used tires at no cost.	Annual	N/A (total tonnage: 109T)
Adopt-A-County Road (AACR)	Program created for citizens, civic organizations, non-profit organizations, and interested parties to contribute toward the effort of maintaining litter-free roadways by agreeing to remove litter and debris on the adopted road/area a minimum of 4 times per year, and report the required information back to KMCB	Continuous	11
Spring Into Recycling	Program celebrating Earth Day by offering free recycling of various materials to residents of Madison County.	Annual	N/A (no event in 2020)
Fall Into Recycling	Program celebrating America Recycles Day by offering free recycling of various materials to residents of Madison County.	Annual	65
KMCB River Cleanup	KMCB sponsored river clean up event in coordination with Madison County's 4-H program.	Annual	12
Bring One for the Chipper Christmas Tree Recycling	Program offering free disposal and recycling of undecorated, live Christmas trees by shredding.	Annual	5
Third-Grade Summit	Field trip program for local public schools to bring third grade classes to the Madison County Transfer Station to learn about solid waste and recycling.	Annual	N/A (no event in 2020)
Teacher Reuse Store	A collaboration of business, industry, education, and local government that provides a variety of school supplies, materials, and other items to local educators at no cost. The program is open to any teacher in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, and Oglethorpe counties.	N/A	N/A

## 10.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 5.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

**Figure 10.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Madison County**



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

### 10.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of the County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives the County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>10.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County.		X			
<b>10.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate solid waste drop-off at the transfer station.		X			
The City of Colbert will continue curbside solid waste collection for residential waste.		X			
The City of Comer will continue to provide residential curbside solid waste and yard waste collection.		X			Contracts through AAA Sanitation
The City of Danielsville will continue curbside pickup of residential solid waste.		X			Contracts through Waste Pro
The City of Ila will continue curbside solid waste collection for residential waste.		X			Contracts through Waste Pro
The Cities of Hull and Carlton will continue to have residents contract directly with private haulers for collection.					City of Hull will continue to have residents contract directly with private haulers City of Carlton provides curbside pickup, contracted through Madison Sanitation
Businesses in the County will contract with private haulers or with respective municipalities for collection of solid waste.		X			

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>10.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will provide a drop-off site for recyclables at the transfer station.		X			
The City of Colbert will continue to provide curbside recycling services.		X			
The City of Comer will continue to provide curbside recycling services.			X		No longer provides curbside recycling services to residents
The County and municipalities will encourage commercial recycling programs through education.		X			
Various civic organizations and private businesses will continue to help KMCB sponsor recycling programs.		X			
KMCB will continue to promote recycling and waste reduction activities in the County.		X			
The Count will place more bins for recyclables at school and allow for additional items to be recycled.			X		The school system contracts all recycling services through a private company
The County and KMCB will facilitate phone book recycling competitions between schools.			X		No longer an active program; decline in participation after the schools went with a private company for their recycling
<b>10.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate a transfer station and contract with a private hauler for waste disposal.		X			
The County will promote education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.		X			
The County will create a “litter patrol officer” position with the authority to administer tickets for littering.			X		
<b>10.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to fund the KMCB Program for county-wide public education.		X			

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.		X			
The County and KMBC will hold educational programs for school groups in the classroom and at the recycling center.		X			
<b>10.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.		X			
The County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.		X			
The County will review existing ordinances to ensure consistency with Solid Waste Management Plan.		X			

### 10.8 2021 – 2031 Work Program

The Work Program consists of a list of goals and objectives of the County which are intended to be accomplished during the ten (10) year scope of this plan. This section also satisfies the requirement of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act (§12-8-31.1) which states a municipality must provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity within the planning area for at least ten years from the date of completion of the plan. The following information is categorized into various subsections of waste management and assigned the following criteria:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>10.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County is estimated to increase in population by 12% by 2031. The County will continue to address any increases in waste as necessary.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Solid Waste Department	TBD	User Fees / General Fund
<b>10.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to operate solid waste drop-off at the transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Solid Waste Department	≈\$150,000	User Fees / General Fund
The City of Colbert will continue curbside solid waste collection for residential waste.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Colbert	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
The City of Comer will continue to contract with a private hauler for residential curbside solid waste and yard waste collection.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Comer	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
The City of Danielsville will continue to contract with a private hauler for residential curbside collection.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Danielsville	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
The City of Ila will continue to contract with a private hauler for residential curbside collection.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Ila	Dependent on Volume	User Fees



Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The City of Hull will continue to have residents contract directly with private haulers for collection.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Hull	N/A	N/A
The City of Carlton will continue to provide curbside pickup, contracted through a private hauler.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Carlton	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
Businesses in the County will contract with private haulers or with respective municipalities for collection of solid waste.	X	X	X	X	X	Private Businesses	N/A	N/A
<b>10.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will provide a drop-off site for recyclables at the transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Solid Waste Department	≈\$13,000	User Fees / General Fund
The City of Colbert will continue to provide curbside recycling services.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Colbert	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
The County will encourage commercial recycling programs through education.	X	X	X	X	X	KMCB / Madison County Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	General Fund
Various civic organizations and private businesses will continue to help KMCB sponsor recycling programs.	X	X	X	X	X	KMCB / Private Businesses / Volunteers	N/A	N/A
KMCB will continue to promote recycling and waste reduction activities in the County.	X	X	X	X	X	KMCB	Staff Time	General Fund
Madison County will begin operating camera monitoring stations at known illegal dumping sites.		X	X			Madison County Board of Commissioners	\$5,000	General Fund
Madison County will create a new code enforcement position for nuisance abatement to expand oversight of solid waste offences.	X					Madison County Board of Commissioners	\$40,000	General Fund / Fines
<b>10.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to operate a transfer station and contract with a private hauler for waste disposal.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Solid Waste Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
The County will promote education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	KMCB / Madison County Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>10.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to fund the KMCB Program for county-wide public education.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Board of Commissioners	≈\$7,000	General Fund / Donations
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.	X	X	X	X	X	All Municipalities	N/A	N/A
The County and KMBC will hold educational programs for school groups in the classroom and at the recycling center.	X	X	X	X	X	KMBC / Madison County Solid Waste Department	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will continue to host annual Spring and Fall recycling events for residents.	X	X	X	X	X	KMBC / Madison County Solid Waste Department	≈\$400	General Fund
The County will determine the appropriate ordinance additions to address soil amendment activities throughout the county		X				Madison County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
<b>10.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
The County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
The County will review existing ordinances to ensure consistency with Solid Waste Management Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	Madison County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A

## 11 MORGAN COUNTY

### 11.1 County Description

Morgan County covers 355 square miles in the southern part of the planning area and has four municipalities: Bostwick, Buckhead, Madison, and Rutledge. The City of Madison is the largest of these and serves as the county seat. Morgan County is considered primarily rural and is home to the largest state park in Georgia, Hard Labor Creek State Park. The county’s population has grown 25.9% since 2000, from 15,457 residents to its current population of 19,465 (U.S. Census). According to the Governor’s Office for Planning and Budget, the county population is expected to reach 20,924 by 2031. Morgan County does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population.

There are 8,177 housing units in Morgan County with 11% considered vacant. Approximately, 68.2% of housing units are owner-occupied, with the remaining 20.8% being renter-occupied. As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses, both public and private, is 558.

### 11.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. The table below shows an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Morgan County, including MSW, Construction and Development (C&D) waste, and Industrial waste.

**Table 11.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Morgan County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	7.37	0.05%
Barrow	MSW	10,852.69	66.63%
Oglethorpe	C&D	14.07	0.09%
Polk	MSW	4.63	0.03%
Walton	C&D	5,408.40	33.21%
<b>Total Tonnage:</b>	<b>All Types</b>	<b>16,287.16</b>	<b>100%</b>

Morgan County operates a transfer station and 12 convenience centers for recyclable materials and municipal solid waste. The transfer station facility is located centrally, northeast of the City of Madison. The County owns and operates this facility and accepts waste from all county residents

and local governments. The additional unmanned convenience centers are located throughout the county and are listed in Table 11.3. The following table outlines an overview of waste handled in total by county facilities; recycled material is not included in the following table. Contamination in the recycle bins is a major issue that the County experiences. Therefore, the majority of recyclable material is rejected by recycling facilities and sent to a landfill for disposal.

**Table 11.2: Municipal Solid Waste Received at Morgan County Facilities – 2015-2019**

Year	Solid Waste (tons)
2015	13,812.66
2016	19,952.77
2017	21,133.78
2018	14,411.25
2019	22,936.10
<b>Annual Average</b>	<b>18,449.31</b>

### 11.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Morgan County jurisdiction.

**Table 11.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Morgan County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
104-009D(IN)	Morgan County Inert Landfill	2480 Athens Highway Madison, GA 30650	Inert Waste Landfill	Morgan County	8 acres
PBR-104-07TS	Morgan County Transfer Station	2480 Athens Highway Madison, GA 30650	Transfer Station	Morgan County	N/A
104-007D(SL)	Morgan County US-441 Phase 1 & 2 Landfill	2480 Athens Highway Madison, GA 30650	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	2153 Greensboro Hwy/US 278 Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	4691 Buckhead Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	1020 Doster Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	2240 Newborn Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	4861 Lower Apalachee Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	1721 Prospect Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	1182 Wellington St Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A

N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	1001 Clack Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	1770 Kingston Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	2570 Fairplay Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	1000 Newton Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
N/A	Morgan County Convenience Center	Seven Islands Rd Madison, GA 30650	Convenience Center	Morgan County	N/A
PBR-104-08TS	Advanced Disposal – Madison Transfer Station	1240 Lions Club Rd Madison, GA 30650	Transfer Station	Private	N/A

## 11.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

### Collection

Morgan County utilizes the method of convenience centers for collection of MSW and recycled materials. There are 13 convenience centers located throughout the county, including the main Morgan County Transfer Station. The County plans to consolidate three convenience centers into one serving the northernmost area of the county.

All other convenience centers are expected to remain in operation throughout the next ten (10) years. All waste received is hauled to the County transfer station and a private hauler is contracted to transport MSW to a private, out-of-county landfill. Some private haulers operate within and around the periphery of local municipalities. The County does not regulate these services.

Construction and Development waste is not accepted from contractors at county facilities. It is the responsibility of private contractors to collect and transfer C&D waste to out-of-county disposal facilities.

The City of Madison provides weekly curbside collection service for all residential MSW. Commercial businesses are required to contract directly with a private hauler of choice. The City of Madison plans to continue offering this service throughout the next ten (10) years. Equipment and service are paid for through user fees.

The City of Bostwick and Town of Buckhead rely on County convenience centers for collection. However, the Town of Buckhead does offer curbside collection of residential MSW if requested. The City of Rutledge contracts with a private hauler for weekly curbside collection services throughout the city. Rutledge is the only municipality that does not transport its MSW or recyclable materials to Morgan County facilities.

### *Needs and Goals*

Morgan County’s goal for collection is to ensure efficient and effective collection of solid waste within its jurisdiction over the next ten (10) years.

Collection programs are available for all residents and businesses in the county. At-the-source collection programs are available in the more populated areas while residents in the less-populated areas are able to utilize convenience centers for collection at no cost. The County plans to maintain and update equipment as necessary for efficient operation of the transfer station and all

convenience centers. The current dynamic of collection systems throughout the county is sufficient to meet the demands of residents and businesses.

## **Disposal**

There are no permitted MSW or C&D disposal facilities within Morgan County, currently.

All municipalities, except for the City of Rutledge, transfer waste from their respective jurisdictions to County facilities. Subsequently, Morgan County relies on private haulers to transfer waste from county facilities to out-of-county disposal facilities. Contracts for hauling are three years in length with two annual extensions available. The County wishes to continue this schedule to maintain up-to-date, competitive pricing for hauling and disposal services. Currently, the County relies on a combination of MSW disposal at the Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill in Barrow County, the Waste Management R&B Landfill in Banks County, and the Grady Road Landfill in Polk County (see Table 11.1). Construction and Development (C&D) waste is disposed of at the Walton County C&D Landfill. The Oak Grove Landfill has an estimated fill date of 2029, and therefore, unable to provide a 10-year capacity assurance letter for this plan. If the Oak Grove facility becomes a limited option for disposal during the ten (10) year planning period, the County will divert its waste stream to the nearest out-of-county facility, the R&B Landfill in Banks County (see Appendix A).

The County owns and operates an inert waste landfill at the same location as the County Transfer Station. The facility will continue as a static operation. There are no plans to begin a composting program at this facility; however, exploring the potential for composting or mulching activities was expressed as an interest in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan. All Morgan County residents have access to inert waste disposal at this facility.

### *Needs and Goals*

The County plans to maintain disposal methods as is for the following ten (10) years. Refer to Appendix A for landfill assurances during the planning scope. Additionally, the County will continually review local ordinances to ensure that a sufficient land-use protections are in place in regard to disposal or waste management facilities. Any opportunities for hosting a privately operated disposal facility will be reviewed as needed.

Morgan County is estimated to increase in population by 10 percent over the next ten (10) years. It is reasonable to assume that the County's current disposal program will be adequate to meet the County's needs during the current planning period.

The County will ensure that any disposal facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste disposal programs for the next ten (10) years.

## **Waste Reduction**

### *Yard/Inert Waste*

The County does not offer yard waste collection. Residents have the option to dispose of inert waste at the Morgan County Inert Landfill. Yard waste is not accepted at any of the county convenience centers.

The City of Madison offers curbside collection of yard waste and partners with a local farmer for the storage of all material collected. The City contracts privately for shredding services and provides shredded material to land owner and uses it throughout the city for mulching purposes. All material collected is reused.

### *Recycling*

The County accepts metal and cardboard materials at convenience centers. However, the rate of contamination is high and the majority of material is rejected by recycling centers and sent to landfills for disposal. This needs to be addressed through education and outreach to residents to communicate what materials are accepted and how to handle the materials pre-disposal. The County hopes to increase the rate of materials accepted and will explore feasible outreach activities to pursue.

The City of Madison and Rutledge rely on a private hauler for residential and commercial curbside recycling pickup. Both cities plan to continue utilizing this method of collection. All other municipalities utilize County convenience centers for drop-off service for disposal of recyclable materials.

### *Needs and Goals*

Morgan County's goal is to sustain current waste reduction programs for the next ten (10) years.

The County would like to increase awareness for recyclable material handling to the general public so that they may reduce the rejection rate of materials. This will be accomplished through various outreach methods. The County will work with local municipalities and the NEGRSWMA to determine the most appropriate activities to pursue during the planning period.

## **11.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory**

Morgan County has limited formal education and public involvement programs. The County does not plan on becoming a Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliate within the next ten (10) years. Any increases in public outreach and education will be performed by County staff in partnership with the City of Madison, Rutledge, Bostwick, and the Town of Buckhead or the NEGRSWMA. The NEGRSWMA plans to determine the most effective public outreach methods for each county during 2022-2023 for implementation.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 11.4: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Morgan County**

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Media Outreach	The County publishes information in regard to trash collection, acceptable materials for drop-off, and illegal dumping incidents on social media outlets, the County website, and local newspapers	Continuous	N/A
Amnesty Day	Recurring amnesty event on the first Saturday of every month where the County Transfer Station accepts limited tires and C&D material for a fee.	Monthly	

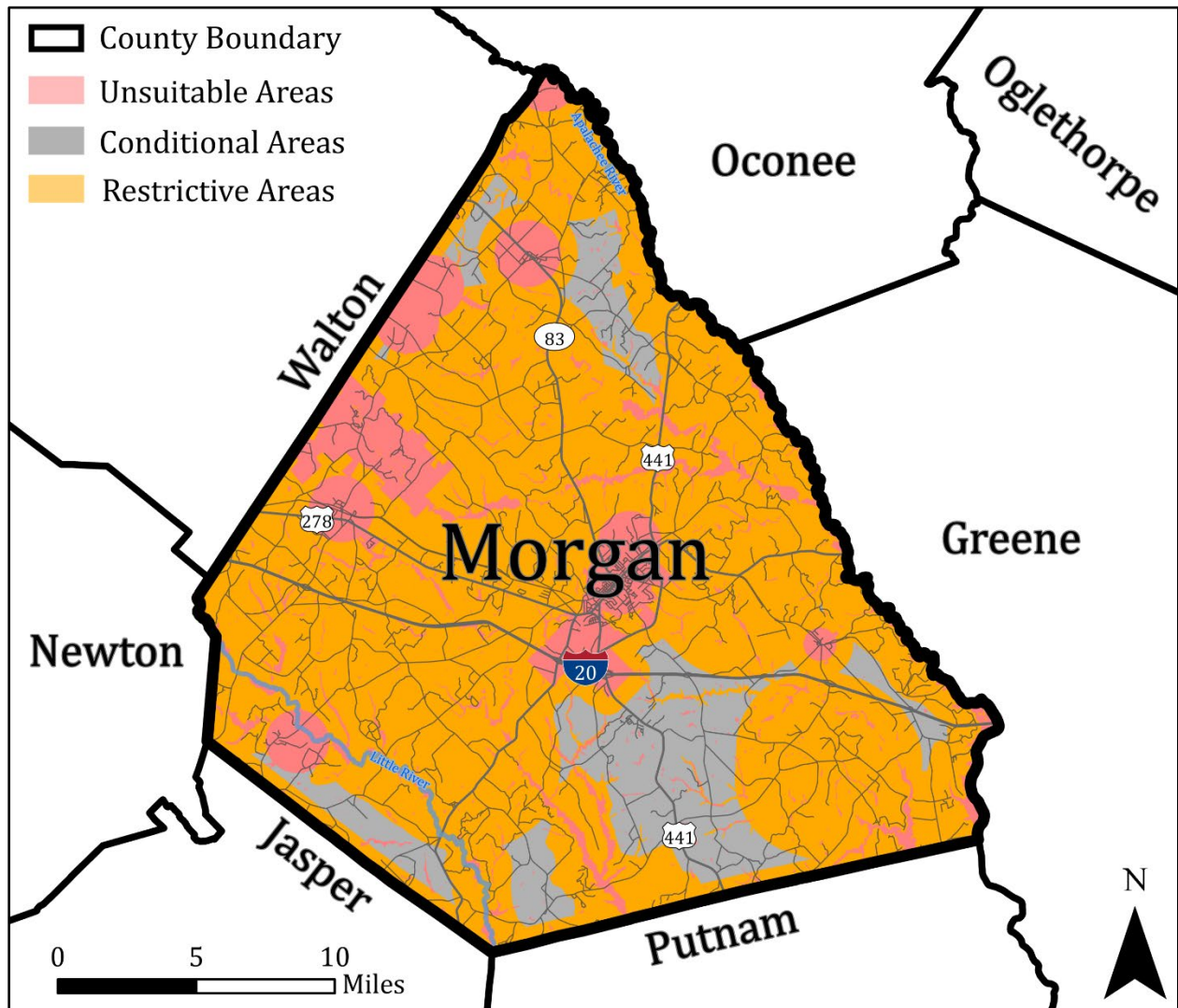
### 11.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 5.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.



Figure 11.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Morgan County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

### 11.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of the County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives the County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>11.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County	X				The County utilized this information in the past to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan and will continue to use this information when available and appropriate.
<b>11.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
Morgan County will continue to operate a solid waste green-box system at 13 sites.		X			The County continues to operate 13 unstaffed collection sites throughout the County
Each City will continue to maintain an agreement with the County for disposal of waste at the County transfer station.		X			Agreements are still in effect.
City of Madison will continue to provide backdoor pick-up of solid waste to residents and commercial businesses within city limits.		X			City of Madison currently provides curbside pickup services for city residents and provides pickup for commercial businesses within city limits. The City provides these services itself.
City of Rutledge will continue to contract with a private company to provide curbside collection of MSW.		X			The City of Rutledge continues to contract with a private hauler to provide curbside pickup for city residents.
City of Bostwick will continue to provide collection through County compactors.		X			The City of Bostwick continues to use compactors located at County Collection Sites.
City of Buckhead will continue to provide backdoor collection of MSW.		X			City of Buckhead offers curbside pickup for city residents. Buckhead residents also continue to use compactors at County Collection Sites.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
City of Madison will continue with weekly leaf and limb collection.		X			The City of Madison continues to offer leaf and limb collection.
<b>11.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
County will continue to operate 13 unstaffed recycling sites throughout the county and a recycling dumpster at the courthouse. Materials will be delivered to Athens-Clarke County Recovered Materials Processing Facility.		X			The County provides a recycling dumpster at each of the 13 unstaffed Collection Site. Recyclable materials are delivered to Pratt Recycling in Covington and Hallman Metal Recycle in Eatonton.
City of Madison will continue to contract with a private hauler for curbside pickup of recyclables for residents.		X			The City of Madison continues to contract with a private hauler for curbside pickup of recyclables for city residents.
The County will continue to accept tires at the transfer station.		X			The County continues to accept tires at the transfer station for a small fee.
The County will continue to pickup recycling bins from the schools and dispose of at the Athens-Clarke recycling center.				X	Recycling bins are no longer permanently located at the schools. Recycling bins are provided upon request.
The City of Madison will continue to use an incentive program to encourage recycling (\$10 / month fee if you recycle, \$14 / month if you do not.)		X			The City of Madison continues to use an incentive program to encourage recycling (\$12/ month fee if you recycle, \$16/month if you do not).
The County will continue to distribute recycling blue bins to residents upon request.				X	The County has discontinued this practice.
Study the feasibility of creating a composting site at the transfer station.				X	The County determined not to create a composting site.
Continue to operate recycling centers at the four school sites.				X	The County does not operate recycling centers at the four school sites.
Explore feasibility of leasing or purchasing a chipper for the County.				X	The County does not lease or own a chipper. The County has opened an inert landfill

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>11.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate a transfer station.		X			The County continues to operate a transfer station.
The County will continue to contract with a private hauler for disposal.		X			The County contracts with a private hauler for disposal of waste received at the transfer station.
The County will continue with closure of the non Subtitle D landfill.		X			The site was closed in 1998. The County continues to monitor as required.
The County will continue education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.		X			The County continues to enforce illegal dumping.
The County will use and maintain cameras at the drop off centers to deter illegal dumping.		X			The County continues to use cameras at unstaffed collection sites.
All municipalities will cooperate with the County for disposal options.		X			All municipalities continue to cooperate with the County.
The County will continue to accept tires at the transfer station.		X			The County continues to accept tires at the transfer station for a small fee.
<b>11.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>					
City of Madison will continue to work in conjunction with local schools to provide public information.		X			The City of Madison continues to work with the Board of Education.
All municipalities will work with the county for coordination of public education activities.		X			The municipalities will continue to work with the County.
The County will continue to provide twice a year Amnesty Days at the transfer station.		X			Beginning November 2020, the County will replace its twice a year week-long Amnesty Days with one Amnesty Day per month.
The County will place educational ads in the local paper about waste reduction, illegal dumping, and littering.		X			The County continues to refine public service announcements.
The County will continue to support Keep Morgan County Beautiful programs (Bring One for the Chipper, River cleanups, school programs, etc.)		X			The County will support Keep Morgan County Beautiful programs when feasible.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>11.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.		X			The County has implemented strict zoning requirements.
County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.				X	There have not been any requests for new solid waste facilities or expansions.

### 11.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>11.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County is estimated to increase its MSW waste stream by 10% by 2031. The County will continue to operate convenience centers and a transfer station to manage all waste generated.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Board of Commissioners, Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
<b>11.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
Morgan County will continue to operate compactor sites at up to 11 locations across the county.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
City of Madison will continue to maintain an agreement with the County for disposal of waste at the County transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept., City of Madison Street & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
City of Madison will continue to provide curbside pick-up of solid waste to residents and commercial businesses within city limits.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison Street & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	Service Fees
City of Rutledge will continue to contract with a private company to provide curbside collection of MSW.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Rutledge City Council	N/A	N/A

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
City of Bostwick will continue to utilize collection through County compactors.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County, City of Bostwick	N/A	N/A
Town of Buckhead will continue to provide curbside collection of MSW upon request.	X	X	X	X	X	Town of Buckhead	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
City of Madison will continue with weekly leaf and limb collection.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison Street & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
<b>11.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
County will continue to operate 11 recycling sites throughout the county. Materials will be delivered to Pratt Recycling in Covington and Hallman Metal Recycling in Eatonton.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
City of Madison will continue to contract with a private hauler for curbside pickup of recyclables for residents.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison City Council	N/A	N/A
The County will continue to accept tires, cardboard, and metal at the transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
The City of Madison will continue to use an incentive program to encourage recycling (\$12 / month fee if you recycle, \$16 / month if you do not.)	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison City Council	Dependent on Volume	Service Fees
City of Madison will continue public-private partnership for disposal, shredding, and use of leaf and limb material so that all leaf and limb material collected is reused.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison Streets & Sanitation / City Manager	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
Investigate measures to reduce the waste impact at the inert landfill, such as composting, mulching, or chipping.		X	X			Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	\$2,500	General Fund
Investigate measures to reduce waste leaving the transfer station, such as improved sorting, recycling, and bailing waste.		X	X			Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	\$2,500	General Fund
Investigate methods to encourage and increase recycling, such as manned convenience centers.		X				Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	\$2,500	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>11.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to operate a transfer station and convenience centers.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	\$835,000 (5-year average)	General Fund
The County will continue to contract with a private hauler for disposal. Contracts will be renewed every three (3) years with option to extend up to two one (1) year terms.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Board of Commissioners	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
The County will continue with reporting of the closed non-Subtitle D landfill.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will continue enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Sherriff's Department	Staff Time	General Fund / Fines
The County will use and maintain cameras at the convenience centers to deter illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Sherriff's Department	\$5,000	General Fund
The City of Madison, Town of Buckhead, and City of Bostwick will rely on the County for disposal options.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison, Town of Buckhead, City of Bostwick, Morgan County	Dependent on Volume	Service Fees / General Fund
The City of Rutledge will continue to rely on private contracting for disposal options.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Rutledge City Council	N/A	N/A
The County will continue to accept tires, cardboard, and metal at the transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund / Material Sales Revenue
<b>11.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
City of Madison will continue to work in conjunction with local schools to provide public information when opportunities are available.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison Manager / Board of Education	Staff Time	General Fund
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison, Town of Buckhead, City of Rutledge, City of Bostwick, Morgan	Staff Time	General Funds



Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
						County		
The County will continue to provide once a month Amnesty Days at the transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	General Fund / Material Sales Revenue
The County will begin participating in annual tire amnesty program, funded by Georgia EPD grant cycle		X	X	X	X	Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	EPD
The County will place educational public service announcements online and in newsletters about waste reduction, illegal dumping, and littering.	X	X	X	X	X	County Manager / Morgan County Solid Waste & Sanitation Dept.	N/A	N/A
The County will coordinate with all municipalities and the NEGRSWMA to determine the most effective and appropriate education outreach methods for solid waste and recycling.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Madison, Town of Buckhead, City of Rutledge, City of Bostwick, Morgan County, NEGRSWMA	Staff Time	General Funds
<b>11.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Board of Commissioners / Morgan County Planning & Development Dept.	N/A	N/A
County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities, disposal facilities, or expansions to determine consistency with the SWMP.	X	X	X	X	X	Morgan County Board of Commissioners / Morgan County Planning & Development Dept.	N/A	N/A

## 11.9 Local Procedures for Determining Plan Consistency

In order for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) to issue or renew a permit for a solid waste handling facility, the facility or facility expansion must be consistent with a local government's solid waste management plan. See Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (Georgia DNR), Environmental Protection Division Chapter 391-3-4 Solid Waste Management (Rules); and the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, O.C.G.A. 12-8-20 et seq. In addition to the Georgia DNR regulations and Morgan County's ordinances, the County will also use the following criteria to determine whether the issuance of the requested permit is consistent with Section 9 of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan:

In order for the Georgia EPD and Morgan County to determine whether applications for siting renewal or for expansion of a solid waste handling facility are consistent with this Plan, the following procedures shall be followed in submitting an Application, notifying the public, and evaluating the impact of the proposed facility or expansion on the Plan. No solid waste handling facility shall be deemed consistent with this Plan unless it receives an approval issued by the governing authority of Morgan County and any affected jurisdiction. No proposed facility or facility expansion will be sited in the planning area without a letter from the governing authority of the County (and of any affected municipality) stating that the facility is consistent with Section 3 and 11 of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

### 11.9.1.1 APPLICATION

At least 60 days prior to filing for a solid waste handling permit, or notifying EPD in the case of a solid waste handling facility that is permitted by rule, the Applicant shall submit to the County a written statement (known as an Application for Determination of Plan Consistency) documenting the following in detail:

A. How the proposed facility or facility expansion will meet the specific goals and needs identified in the Plan, including specifically:

(1) Impact on Waste Reduction Program and Recycling

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion impacts the waste reduction and recycling efforts of the County, as set forth in Section 9.3 of the full Plan. The needs and goals shall be referenced in this analysis. A financial analysis shall be included.

(2) Impact on Waste Collection

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion impacts the waste handling and collection capability of the County, as set forth in Section 9.4 of the full Plan. The needs and goals shall be referenced in this analysis. A financial analysis shall be included.

(3) Impact on Waste Disposal

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion impacts the disposal capability of the County, as set forth in Section 9.5 of the full Plan. The needs and goals shall be referenced in this analysis. A financial analysis shall be included.

(4) Consistency with Environmental Limitations

The Applicant must submit detailed information on how the proposed facility or expansion impacts each of the specific Environmental Limitations detailed previously.

(5) Consistency with Land Use Limitations

The Applicant must submit detailed information on how the proposed facility or expansion impacts each of the specific Land Use Limitations detailed previously.

(6) Effect on State's and County's per capita Waste Reduction Goals

The Applicant must submit information on the effect the facility will have upon waste generated within the State achieving the State's per capita disposal reduction goal and must submit information that all generating jurisdictions from which waste will be received are part of an approved solid waste management plan and have a strategy to meet, and are actively engage in meeting, the goal to reduce the per capita rate of municipal solid waste disposed statewide in solid waste facilities.

(7) Vehicle Traffic and Safety; Road Conditions

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion impacts vehicle traffic and safety, as well as road conditions. Operation hours, estimated traffic, traffic routes, dust generation, noise, light and odor are all factors that should be analyzed.

(8) Financial Viability of Existing Solid Waste Management System

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion will impact the financial viability of the existing solid waste management system. The County considers it significant if the proposed facility will have a negative impact on the County's ability to operate the exiting waste management facilities and system.

(9) Individual and Business Solid Waste Management Rules

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion will impact individual and business solid waste management rates.

(10) Natural and Cultural Resources

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion will impact existing and nearby natural and cultural resources, within a two mile radius, including Historic Sites, lakes and rivers used for recreation, public parks, national forests, WMAs, schools and other public facilities.

(11) Current Solid Waste Management Infrastructure, Public and Private

The Applicant must submit information on how the proposed facility or expansion will impact the current solid waste management infrastructure, both public and private.

- B. The owner/operator must demonstrate how he and any future owner/operators will satisfy the financial assurance provisions of this plan and local ordinances.
- C. The owner/operator must demonstrate how the proposed facility is consistent with local zoning and land use ordinances.
- D. The owner/operator must demonstrate how the proposed facility is sited in an area deemed suitable according to the criteria listed in the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

#### 11.9.1.2 APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND HEARING SCHEDULE

Upon receipt of an Application for Determination of Plan Consistency, the governing authority shall have seven (7) business days to review the application for completeness. If the application is incomplete, the governing authority shall return the application with the deficiencies noted. The application may be resubmitted once the deficiencies are corrected. If the application is accepted as complete, the Applicant shall be advised of the date of 1) the First Hearing, 2) the Second Hearing, and 3) the Decision Hearing.

- A. The First Hearing must be held within 30 days of the date the application was deemed complete, and may be a specially called meeting.
- B. The Second Hearing shall be held within 30 days after the First Hearing, but no sooner than two (2) weeks after the First Hearing; it may be a specially called meeting or a regular meeting.
- C. The Decision Hearing shall be the governing body's next regularly scheduled meeting after the Second Hearing, provided that occurs at least one week after the Second Hearing; if not, the decision hearing shall be at the next successive regular meeting. The decision hearing may not occur at a specially called meeting.

#### 11.9.1.3 MAILED NOTICE TO THE ADJACENT OWNERS REQUIRED

Upon receipt of notice of the schedule for the three (3) hearings, the Applicant shall cause to be mailed, via first class mail with proof of mailing, a letter advising all property owners any portion of whose property is within five hundred feet of the boundaries of the parcel or lot containing the proposed facility, of the time, place and purpose of the First Hearing, the Second Hearing, and the Decision Hearing. Such notice shall contain a summary description of the proposed facility, including its size and purpose, the owner of the parcel or tract of land, the owner of the facility, the proposed operator of the facility, and Applicant for the approval. The Applicant shall also cause a letter containing the above information to be mailed, along with a full and complete copy of the Application, to the legal organ, to each newspaper, radio station, and television station in Morgan County. Letters shall be mailed and postmarked at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the First

Hearing. Proof of such mailing must be submitted to the governing authority at least three (3) days prior to the First Hearing, along with a list of all owners and persons notified. Ownership shall be determined based on Morgan County tax records as of the date of the application. Failure to provide proper notice shall cause the hearings to be continued and the hearing schedule to be reset and re-noticed.

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#### 11.9.1.4 PUBLISHED NOTICES REQUIRED

The Applicant shall also be required to pay for notice to be published in the official legal organ of the County (as designated under O.C.G.A. § 9-13-142). The notice shall be published at least four (4) times in the legal organ. Each notice shall be at least four (4) inches by six (6) inches, shall be published as an advertisement in the general news section of the paper (not the legal notices or classified section) and shall contain a bold heading stating “Notice of Public Hearing, Proposed Solid Waste Facility.” Each notice shall further state the time, place and purpose of the First Hearing, the Second Hearing, and the Decision Hearing (except that notices published after hearings occur may omit information about the hearings that have already occurred); and shall further contain a summary description of the proposed facility, including its size and purpose, the owner of the parcel or tract of land, the owner of the facility, the proposed operator of the facility, and Applicant for the approval. The notices shall advise at which hearing public comments will be taken. The first notice shall be published ten (10) to 30 days before the First Hearing. The second notice shall be published five (5) to ten (10) days before the First Hearing. The third notice shall be published five (5) to ten (10) days before the Second Hearing. The final notice shall be published five (5) to ten (10) days before the Decision Hearing. Failure to provide proper notice shall cause the hearings to be continued and the hearing schedule to be reset and re-noticed.

The initial notice regarding all three hearings must be posted at a prominent place of public notice at the Morgan County Courthouse, Madison City Hall, and every U. S. Post Office in the County (if permitted by the Postmaster), at least one week before the First Hearing.

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#### 11.9.1.5 APPLICATION COPIES AND FEE

The Applicant shall be required to submit 15 copies of the application to each involved governing authority. Copies of the application shall be made available to the public for review for no charge. The Applicant shall also submit a fee of \$1,000 for review to each involved governing authority.

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#### 11.9.1.6 FIRST HEARING

The governing body shall hold three meetings on the application, and shall make its decision at a third meeting. The first two (2) meetings shall include public hearings. At the First Hearing, the applicant shall present its application and receive initial public comments. The hearing shall be transcribed or recorded so that it may be transcribed later if necessary. Evidence tendered shall be kept by the clerk of the governing body as part of the record. The public shall be allowed to comment and present evidence in opposition. The Applicant and opponents have up to one hour, unless an extension is granted by the governing body. The governing authority’s staff shall also present its initial review and opinion on the application. The governing authority shall have the

opportunity to ask questions of the staff, any experts, the applicant, supporters and opponents. The governing authority may request any further information desired from the Applicant, the public or the staff. The governing authority may also request independent experts be retained by the Applicant, to verify the Applicant's information or develop new and additional information. The governing authority may also retain its own experts or other consultants to assist with review of the application.

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#### 11.9.1.7 SECOND HEARING

The next hearing is the Second Hearing. The purpose of this hearing is to allow the Applicant to present further or new information or information in rebuttal to information presented by the opponents at the last hearing. Likewise, the opponents shall have opportunity to present further or new or rebuttal information. The staff may also update its review of the application based on information learned at the First Hearing or otherwise. The Applicant and its supporters shall have one hour and opponents shall have one hour, unless an extension is granted by the governing authority. The governing authority shall have the opportunity to ask questions of the staff, any experts, the applicant, supporters and opponents. The hearing shall be transcribed or recorded so that it may be transcribed later if necessary. Evidence tendered shall be kept by the clerk of the governing body as part of the record. At the close of the evidence at the Second Hearing, the governing authority shall discuss the application. No vote shall be taken at this time.

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#### 11.9.1.8 DECISION HEARING

The decision hearing is the hearing to make a decision whether to grant or deny the determination of plan consistency. The Decision Hearing shall be the next regularly scheduled governing body meeting after the Second Hearing, provided that is at least one (1) week after the Second Hearing. At the Decision Hearing, the governing body will reconvene to consider proposed written decisions, which may be submitted by any party at any time prior to the hearing or at the hearing. No further evidence or public comment will be taken. Any member of the governing authority may make a motion to put forth any proposed written decision or a verbal motion, regarding the decision.

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#### 11.9.1.9 DETERMINATION OF PLAN CONSISTENCY

The written decision, known as the "Determination of Plan Consistency", should be based on the evidence in the record and the criteria in the Plan. Written decisions may be supplemented with further conditions proposed at that hearing. No vote shall be final until a written decision is adopted by the governing body. The decision shall state whether the application is consistent with the Plan or not, and why it is deemed consistent or inconsistent. To be consistent, the application must satisfactorily address all of the criteria listed above as relevant to the siting of a solid waste handling facility. Failure to satisfactorily address all of the above criteria shall require a determination of inconsistency with the Plan. The governing authority shall notify the Applicant by sending a copy of the written decision within five (5) days of the Decision Hearing.

#### 11.9.1.10 APPEALS PROCEDURES

In the event the governing body or bodies find that the application is not consistent with the Plan, the Applicant shall have the right to appeal to the Superior Court of Morgan County within 30 days of the Decision Hearing. The Applicant shall also have the right to address the inconsistencies, resubmit the application and begin the process again. Such a resubmission shall not occur within six (6) months of the date of the denial.

In the event the Applicant chooses to appeal, the Applicant shall file a copy of the appeal with the County governing authority, and the County Clerk, assisted by the County Attorney, shall forward a copy of the entire record (including all evidence submitted by all sides) to the Superior Court as soon as is practicable, along with the minutes of the hearings, copies of the tapes or transcriptions of the hearings, the written decision, a copy of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, and all other relevant ordinances, maps and documents. The appeal shall be based on the record evidence.

#### 11.9.2 ASSESSMENT OF LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT

Based on the siting criteria identified above and the exhibits and appendices of this Plan, Morgan County is of limited suitability for siting solid waste handling facilities. The procedures described above, once put into place, will help ensure that facilities sited in the County are consistent with this Plan and that natural environmental resources and cultural and historic places and resources, as well as the citizens of the County, will be protected. The Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is an important part of the health, safety and welfare of the people of Morgan County and an important part of protecting the natural environmental resources and the cultural and historic places and resources in the County and its municipalities.

#### 11.9.3 REGULATORY NEEDS

The Morgan County Board of Commissioners should amend those sections within the Zoning Ordinance applicable to conditional use approval for landfills to include provisions related to compliance with the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan as amended herein, and whether the application has received a Determination of Plan Consistency that is positive. Further, these amendments should address anticipated impacts of proposed facilities on current solid waste management facilities and infrastructure; the anticipated impact proposed facilities will have upon adequate collection and disposal capabilities within the planning area; and the effect proposed facilities will have upon waste generated within the state achieving the per capita waste disposal reduction goal. Specific reference should be made to provisions of this Regional Solid Waste Management Plan in analysis of proposed waste collection, disposal, transfer, recovery, or reduction facilities in order that planning consistency be established and that continuity in waste policy be strictly established.

#### 11.9.4 LAND LIMITATIONS SITE SUITABILITY

The map shown in Figure 11.1 assesses the suitability of land throughout the County based on both the environmental and land use limitations. Local land use ordinances were not used for the creation of this map and further consultation with any affected local governments is required when performing a site suitability analysis for a proposed facility. The graphic is intended as a guide and breaks down the siting criteria into the following categories:

- Unsuitable. Land is not suitable for development of a solid waste facility
- Restrictive. Potentially suitable for development subject to certain State and Regional environmental restrictions and/or requirements
- Conditional. Deemed most suitable, but is subject to County Commission approval, rezoning, special use procedures, local ordinances, etc.

#### 11.9.5 NEEDS AND GOALS

There are several needs and goals for this Land Limitation Element. One is to ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities are compatible with surrounding areas and are sited in areas suitable for the location of such facilities based on natural environmental limitations and land use factors. Another purpose of this Land Limitation Element is to provide an assessment of areas in Morgan County which are unsuitable for solid waste handling facilities (as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22, and which term includes, but is not limited to, municipal solid waste landfills, construction and demolition landfills, inert landfills, thermal treatment or disposal facilities, recovered materials processing facilities, recycling centers, composting facilities, waste transfer stations, waste processing stations, waste collection centers, hazardous waste facilities, and similar facilities). Unsuitability is determined based on environmental criteria, land use criteria, and a variety of other criteria, including the County's Future Land Use Map. Environmental criteria, also known as natural environmental limitations, include water supply watersheds, spring and wellhead protection areas, wetlands, protected river corridors, flood plains, geology, faults and soil suitability.

Morgan County does not anticipate needing to open a new solid waste handling facility within its jurisdictional boundaries in the foreseeable future. However, it understands that existing solid waste handling facilities may seek to expand or that private entities may seek to locate new solid waste handling facilities in the County. This Plan is intended to apply to any expansions and renewals of any existing solid waste handling facilities in the County and to all proposed future solid waste handling facilities and their expansions. It is also intended to apply to any proposed expansion of any existing grandfathered non-conforming use. Future waste disposal facilities, whether landfill or thermal energy, or other, should be constructed on a size-need basis dependent upon waste generated within the County and its municipality and not oversized to handle or dispose of imported waste. If any suitable disposal sites or sites for any solid waste handling facility can later be found in the County after a complete examination of particular sites and after a thorough analysis of all criteria determined to be necessary for choosing a suitable site, Morgan County must conserve its scarce suitable disposal sites and should endeavor to limit use of such



sites to disposal of wastes generated from only within the County, to the extent that is permissible under law.

Under this Plan, Morgan County shall consider the items listed below under Environmental Limitations and Land Use Limitations in determining the suitability of any proposed location of any new solid waste handling facility or any expansion of an existing facility in unincorporated Morgan County. Cities in Morgan County (Madison, Bostwick, Rutledge and Buckhead) were previously determined under the 2004 and 2010 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan to be unsuitable for solid waste management facilities. The cities are of small size and do not have suitable locations for new solid waste handling or solid waste management facilities. That determination is unchanged by this 2021 amendment.

## 12 OCONEE COUNTY

### 12.1 County Description

Oconee County is located in the middle of the ten (10)-county planning region. The county has four municipalities, including Bishop, Bogart, North High Shoals, and Watkinsville that serves as the county seat. Oconee County's 186 square miles are predominantly rural, especially in the southern and western part of the county.

The most recent population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau show the county population to be 40,871. This is a 24.6% increase from the 2010 population of 32,808. Oconee County does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population; however, the county does have a high number of residents who commute out-of-county for work.

The total number of housing units in the county are 15,316 with 5.5% considered vacant units (U.S. Census). The vast majority (12,409) of the residences are single family homes, with an owner-occupied to renter-occupied ratio of 76.8% to 17.7%. As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses, both public and private, is 1,250.

### 12.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. The table below shows an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Oconee County, including MSW, Construction and Development (C&D) waste, and Industrial waste.

**Table 12.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Oconee County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	674.38	2.79%
Barrow	Industrial	31.05	0.13%
Hall	C&D	6.05	0.03%
Oglethorpe	C&D	615.37	2.55%
Walton	C&D	22,806.54	94.50%
Total Tonnage:	All Types	23,518.02	100%

Additionally, there are five County operated convenience centers that accept MSW and recyclable materials. Table 12.2 shows a summary of the volume of material processed at these facilities from 2016-2019. Materials included in this table include plastics, aerosol cans, milk and juice cartons, aluminum and metal cans, glass, food boxes, cardboard, magazines, and mixed paper.

**Table 12.2: Volume of Materials Processed at Oconee County Convenience Centers – 2014-2019**

Year	MSW (Tons)	Recycling (Ton)
2014	971.96	563.00
2015	1,033.03	520.55
2016	1,036.14	522.35
2017	1,729.98	602.96
2018	1,755.38	559.80
2019	2,029.32	491.78
<b>Average Tonnage Per Year (2015-2019)</b>	<b>1,425.97</b>	<b>543.41</b>

### 12.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Oconee County jurisdiction.

**Table 12.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Oconee County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
108-007D(SL)	Oconee County Inert Landfill	2721 Macon Hwy Watkinsville, GA 30677	Inert Landfill	Oconee County	19 Acres
N/A	Greensboro Highway (SR-15) Convenience Center	33.841334, -83.386135	Transfer Station	Oconee County	N/A
N/A	Mars Hill Area/Jimmy Daniel Road Convenience Center	33.916343, -83.480716	Transfer Station	Oconee County	N/A
N/A	Hog Mountain Road (SR-53) Convenience Center	33.902367, -83.576606	Transfer Station	Oconee County	N/A
N/A	Rankin Road Convenience Center	33.875704, -83.442737	Transfer Station	Oconee County	N/A
N/A	Macon Highway/US-441 Convenience Center	33.763958, -83.435588	Transfer Station	Oconee County	N/A
PBR-108-11TS	Roll-Off Systems Transfer Station	1100 B Garrett Drive Statham, GA 30666	Transfer Station	Private	N/A
108-002D(SL)	Oconee County Mayne Mill Road Fragment (SL)	33.769781, -83.402551	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Oconee County	N/A
108-007D(SL)	Oconee County US 441/CR109 (SL)	2721 Macon Hwy Watkinsville, GA 30677	MSW Landfill (CLOSED)	Oconee County	N/A

## 12.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

### Collection

Oconee County relies on a mixture of services for collection of MSW. Private hauling services are available for weekly residential curbside collection, if preferred. Residents contract directly with the private entity for this service. The County also operates five convenience centers where residents can utilize drop-off service under a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) bag program (see Table 12.3 for list of facilities). All waste disposed at convenience centers must use County-approved PAYT bags for disposal. The PAYT Bags cost \$3.00 each. The \$3 bag fee helps to pay the cost of garbage disposal at a state approved landfill. The large PAYT Bag is a 52 gallon plastic bag with the Oconee County logo imprinted on the bag. These bags are available at area retailers (grocery and convenience stores). Smaller bags (15 gallon) are available only at collection sites for \$2.00.

Through a private contractor, the City of Watkinsville provides for curbside collection of residential waste and for the collection of waste from a small number of businesses in the downtown area. The City of Bogart provides residential curbside collection services. The Cities of Bishop and North High Shoals rely on private curbside collection services and County convenience centers for collection service.

Commercial businesses rely on private curbside collection service throughout the county. Businesses contract directly with private hauling companies for weekly service.

Bulk waste may be disposed of at the Macon Highway/US-441 Convenience Center. Garbage fees are \$65.00 per ton, with \$9.50 minimum.

Roadside litter is collected by a combination of community service workers, Keep Oconee County Beautiful clean-up efforts, and a third-party contractor that performs right-of-way cutting and cleanup 3-4 times per year.

### *Needs and Goals*

Collection programs for solid waste are sufficient to meet existing community needs. The more populated areas have curbside collection services available, while five staffed convenience centers are available for solid waste and recyclable materials for all residents.

Oconee County plans to continue enforcement of illegal dumping through local littering and dumping ordinances enforced by the Sherriff's Department Code Enforcement Office.

The County's goal for collection is to ensure efficient and effective collection of solid waste throughout its jurisdiction over the next ten (10) years.

### Disposal

Oconee County is not host to a MSW landfill. Therefore, the County relies on out-of-county disposal of all MSW, C&D, and Industrial waste. Private hauling services are contracted for the transfer of waste from convenience centers to disposal facilities. Residential and commercial curbside collection services transport waste directly to disposal facilities.

The majority of MSW generated in Oconee County is disposed of at the Oak Grove Landfill and Banks County R&B Landfill. Between the years of 2014-2019, Oconee County experienced a 208% increase in waste processed. Over the following ten (10) years, the county is estimated to increase in population by 33% (Governor’s Office of Planning & Budget). The County plans to continue relying on out-of-county private facilities for disposal services. Refer to landfill assurance letters included in Appendix A for capacity assurance over the following ten year planning period.

Construction and Development waste is not accepted at county facilities. Therefore, all C&D waste is transferred to out-of-county disposal facilities. Disposal of C&D waste is the responsibility of residents and private entities. A mixture of facilities are relied on for disposal, including the Hall, Oglethorpe, and Walton C&D landfills. See Table 12.1 for an outline of the 2020 C&D waste stream.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Oconee County’s goal is to ensure that disposal and transfer facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs for the next ten (10) years.

### **Waste Reduction**

#### *Yard/Inert Waste*

Yard waste fees are \$35 per ton with \$9.50 minimum and are accepted at the Macon Highway/US-441 Inert Waste Landfill.

The City of Bogart provides once per month curbside collection of leaves and limbs. The County Road Department provides once a month leaf and limb mulching for the City of Bogart. Mulch is stored at the Road Department and sold to the public or used for maintaining government property.

Through a private contractor, the City of Watkinsville Sanitation Department offers once-a-week leaf and limb collection and mulching for City residents. Residents place materials at the curb for collection. The contractor mulches the material and transports to an out-of-county landfill with a composting operation.

#### *Recycling*

Recyclables can be disposed of at no-charge at any of the County collection sites. Accepted materials are outlined on the Oconee County website. Additionally, weekly or bi-weekly curbside recycling services are available through private hauling services. Residents and commercial businesses are responsible for contracting directly with private services.

#### *Needs and Goals*

The County has expressed interest in initiating a composting program at the County Inert Landfill to extend the life expectancy of the facility. This program would rely on public-private partnership structure where private contractors would perform shredding and mixing activities and the County would maintain ownership and administration responsibilities of the site. This implementation of this program will be explored over the next five years.

The County has a goal of increasing the percentage of recyclable materials accepted for further processing. Increasing public education on how to properly treat and dispose of recyclables is an option that will be explored through the Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission (KOCBC).

### 12.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory

Oconee County is a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) program via Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission (KOCBC). This is a government-funded organization funded by the County and local donations offering community support and education regarding issues that affect the health and appearance of the environment. The mission of KOCBC is to increase citizen awareness of the need for individual environmental stewardship and to offer opportunities for public involvement in local projects. KOCBC and the County Sanitation Department work together to facilitate a number of events and outreach efforts to develop and execute environmental and educational outreach programs, provide supporting educational materials for county programs such as litter abatement, solid waste management, recycling, and beautification.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 5.6: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Oconee County**

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Dirty Dozen Monthly Road Cleanups	Roadside litter cleanup events hosted by KOCBC and held once a month throughout the year.	Monthly	≈15 Volunteers
Bring One For The Chipper	Christmas tree recycling event held at various locations throughout the county to recycle trees as mulch or use them for other environmentally friendly purposes such as fish habitat.	Annual	2 sites staffed by 10 volunteers for one day / 2 unstaffed sites open 3 weeks for drop off plus 5 staffed locations
Adopt-A-Mile	Any civic-minded organization, business, family, or individual can adopt a minimum of one mile of county roadway. KOCBC and the Oconee County Road Department will furnish road signs, including an Adopt-A-Mile sign and a sign with the adopter's name, to designate this stretch of road as an official Adopt-A-Mile roadway.	Continuous	85 Groups
Rivers Alive – Trashy River Float	Annual event hosted by KOCBC to collect trash from local waterways.	Annual	12-15 Volunteers
KOCBC KAB Youth Advisory Council	Program that engages passionate youth in reducing waste, enhancing natural resources, and beautifying our community. The Youth Advisory Council is open to dedicated middle and high school students who want to make a positive difference in their community. As an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, members gain	Continuous	15 members

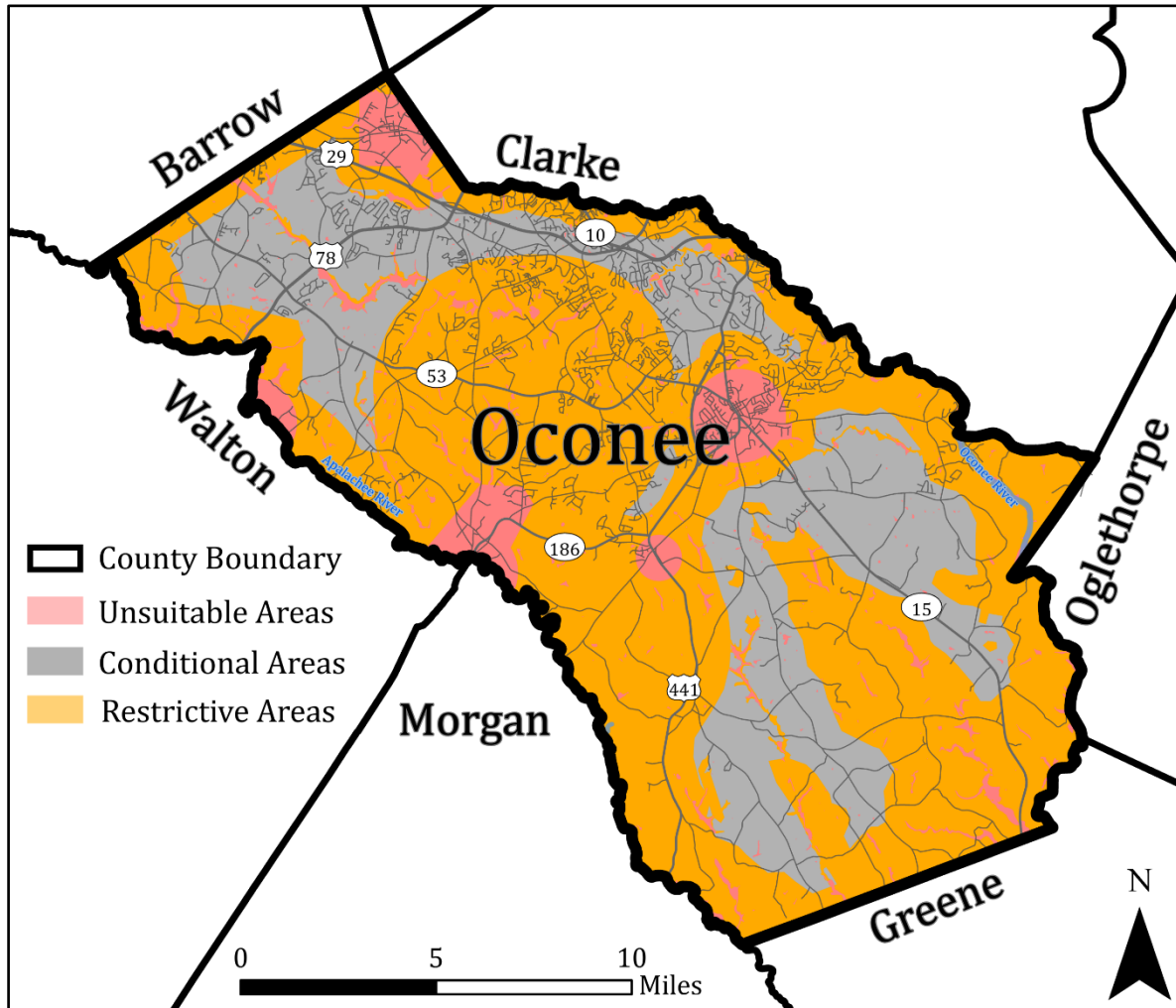
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
	experience leading, problem solving, and educating others on important sustainability issues.		
Lend-A-Bin	The KOCBC offers recycling bins, cardboard waste receptacles, and a cardboard compost bin available for lending for public or private events.	Continuous	50 bins available for loan
Online Recycling Education	KOCBC performs outreach and provides educational videos and other material for recycling and solid waste tips on the Oconee County webpage.	Continuous	N/A
Social Media	KOCBC maintains and active outreach program on social media platforms and provides educational videos and other material for recycling and solid waste tips.	Continuous	N/A
CHaRM	Oconee County residents have access to the Athens-Clarke County CHaRM facility for materials that can't be recycled at Oconee County Convenience Centers.	Continuous	N/A
Teacher Reuse Store	A collaboration of business, industry, education, and local government that provides a variety of school supplies, materials, and other items to local educators at no cost. The program is open to any teacher in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, and Oglethorpe counties.	Continuous	N/A

## 12.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 5.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

Figure 12.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Oconee County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*



**12.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013**

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of the County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives the County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented, and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>12.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County.		X			DCA no longer publishes waste characterization data.
<b>12.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
If private haulers continue to contract directly with generators, Oconee County will continue licensing these haulers.	X				Ongoing annually
Oconee County will continue to staff 5 PAYT drop-off centers for residential solid waste.	X				Ongoing annually
The City of Bogart will continue to provide residential collection service.	X				Ongoing annually
The City of Watkinsville will provide residential curbside collection service for solid waste through private contract or public service.	X				Ongoing annually
<b>12.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will continue to operate 5 staffed drop-off sites for recyclables.	X				Ongoing annually

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
The County and municipalities will encourage commercial recycling programs.	X				Ongoing annually
Keep Oconee County Beautiful (KOCB) Program will continue to promote recycling and waste reduction activities in the county.	X				Ongoing annually
KOCB will continue to hold “Great American Cleanup” event	X				Ongoing annually
KOCB will continue to facilitate the “Bring One for the Chipper” program	X				Ongoing annually
KOCB will continue to coordinate other events such as Rivers Alive and Adopt-a-Mile	X				Ongoing annually
Utilize inmate crews to pick up roadside litter	X				Changed to community service crews with OCSO Litter Patrol Program
The City of Bogart will continue to provide curbside collection of recyclables.	X				Ongoing annually
The County will continue to sell composting bins to citizens at low cost.				X	Too many cheaper options that are readily available to citizens
The cities of Bogart and Watkinsville will continue to collect leaves and limbs weekly and mulch.	X				Ongoing annually
Work with local schools to offer all recycling options.		X			As requested by individual schools
<b>12.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
The County will promote education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping.	X				Ongoing annually
The County will continue to contract with a private hauler for disposal of waste from the staffed collection centers.	X				Ongoing annually
The County will explore the feasibility of consolidating the Bogart	X				The two sites were consolidated

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
site and the Highway 53 site into a new and improved site location.					
<b>12.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>					
Oconee County will continue to fund Keep Oconee County Beautiful Program for public education and involvement activities.	X				Ongoing annually
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.		X			Will continue to invite all to partner – only City of Watkinsville is consistently responsive
<b>12.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X				Ongoing annually
The County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X				Ongoing annually

### 12.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>12.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County’s waste generation is expected to increase by 20-33% over the next ten years. The County will address any increases in waste through county facility and equipment upgrades as needed.		X	X	X	X	Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	TBD	General Fund
The County will reduce the rejection rate of recycled materials by 50% during the planning period.					X	Oconee County Sanitation Dept. / KOCBC	N/A	N/A
<b>12.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to rely on private haulers for any curbside collection services.	X	X	X	X	X	Private Sector	N/A	N/A
The County will continue to staff 5 PAYT convenience centers for residential solid waste.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	\$437,000 Annually	User Fees (PAYT) / General Fund
The City of Bogart will continue to provide residential collection service.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Bogart	Dependent on Volume	User Fees

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The City of Watkinsville will provide residential curbside collection service for solid waste through private contract or public service.	X	X	X	X	X	The City of Watkinsville	City Pays Flat Rate Per Unit	General Fund
<b>12.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will begin a composting program at Hwy-441 inert waste landfill.			X			Oconee County Sanitation Dept. / KOCBC	TBD	General Fund
The County will initiate a public-private partnership for operations of the composting program including, but not limited to, third-party contracting for material grinding activities.			X	X	X	Oconee County Board of Commissioners / Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	TBD	General Fund
The County will continue to accept recyclables at all convenience centers.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	General Fund / Material Sales
The County and municipalities will encourage commercial recycling programs.	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC	Staff Time	General Fund
Keep Oconee County Beautiful (KOCB) Program will continue to promote recycling and waste reduction activities in the county.	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC	Staff Time	General Fund / Donations
KOCB will continue to hold “Great American Cleanup” event	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC / Volunteers	Staff Time	General Fund / Donations
KOCB will continue to facilitate the “Bring One for the Chipper” program	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC / Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	Staff Time	General Fund
KOCB will continue to coordinate other events such as Rivers Alive and Adopt-a-Mile	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC	Staff Time	General Fund / Donations
The County will utilize community service workers via the Oconee County Sheriff’s Office Litter Patrol Division to pick up roadside litter, address litter/dumping concern reports and coordinate cleanups with KOCB	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Sheriff’s Office Litter Patrol Division / KOCBC	N/A	N/A
The City of Bogart will continue to provide curbside collection of recyclables.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Bogart	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
The Cities of Bogart and Watkinsville will continue to	X	X	X	X	X	City of Bogart / City of	Dependent on Volume	General Funds

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
collect leaves and limbs weekly for shredding.						Watkinsville		
KOCBC will work with local schools both public & private to offer recycling education and support.	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will continue to host an annual, collaborative battery and tire amnesty event.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County / KOCBC	Dependent on Volume	Grants / General Fund
<b>12.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to rely on Banks and Barrow County private, regional landfills for disposal of all MSW generated.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees (PAYT) / General Fund
The County will continue to rely on surrounding C&D landfills in Walton County, Oglethorpe County, and Hall County for C&D disposal.	X	X	X	X	X	Private Sector	N/A	N/A
The County will restrict the disposal of C&D at their county convenience centers to more efficiently serve the residential waste stream.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	N/A	N/A
KOCBC will promote education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping and provide an online litter/dumping concerns form.	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will continue to contract with a private hauler for disposal of waste from collection centers.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Sanitation Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees (PAYT) / General Fund
<b>12.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
Oconee County will continue to fund Keep Oconee County Beautiful Program for public education and involvement activities.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Board of Commissioners	\$30,000	General Fund / Donations
All municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.	X	X	X	X	X	KOCBC	Staff Time	General Fund
<b>12.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will ensure sufficient local land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The County will review any private proposals for landfill siting's and ensure compliance with the SWMP, regional plan, and local land use ordinances.	X	X	X	X	X	Oconee County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A

## 13 OGLETHORPE COUNTY

### 13.1 County Description

Oglethorpe County is located on the eastern edge of the planning region and is the largest county by land area, at 436 square miles. The County has four municipalities. Lexington serves as the county seat, but Crawford is the largest municipality in the County by population. The Cities of Arnoldsville and Maxeys are the other two municipalities. All four have populations below 1,000 and the County is considered rural and agricultural throughout.

The most recent estimates show the county population to be 16,273. This is a 28.8% increase in population from 2000. The county does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population and is expected to maintain a stable population between 2021 and 2031 (Governor’s Office of Planning & Budget).

There are 6,937 housing units in Oglethorpe County. Of these, 10.9% are considered vacant (U.S. Census). Furthermore, 69.2% are owner-occupied and 19.9% are renter-occupied. As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses within the county, private and public, is 216.

### 13.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. Oglethorpe County partners with an adjacent county, Athens-Clarke, for the location and operation of a publicly-owned Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill. This landfill is located on property in both counties; therefore, a significant percentage of waste generated stays within the county for disposal. The table below outlines an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Oglethorpe, including MSW, Construction and Development (C&D) waste, and Industrial waste.

**Table 13.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Oglethorpe County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Athens-Clarke	MSW	5,267.59	53.1%
Banks	MSW	616.83	6.2%
Oglethorpe	C&D	3,631.05	36.6%
Walton	C&D	404.71	4.1%
<b>Total Tonnage</b>	<b>All Types</b>	<b>9,920.18</b>	<b>100%</b>



Additionally, there is a County-owned Construction and Development landfill within Oglethorpe’s jurisdiction. This landfill is currently undergoing a process of expansion. The Oglethorpe C&D landfill accepts waste from numerous counties in the region, most significantly from Athens-Clarke County as part of a landfill agreement structure. Table 13.2 shows a summary of the volume of material disposed of at this facility from 2016-2020 as well as the percentage of growth observed during that period.

**Table 13.2: Material Disposed at the Oglethorpe C&D Landfill – 2016-2020**

Year	Tonnage
2016	18,495.51
2017	17,568.89
2018	19,547.10
2019	22,228.79
2020	26,191.88
<b>Percent Growth (2016-2020)</b>	<b>29.4%</b>

### 13.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Oglethorpe County jurisdiction.

**Table 13.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Oglethorpe County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
029-012D(SL)	Athens-Clarke County Landfill	5700 Lexington Rd. Winterville, GA 30683	MSW Landfill	Athens-Clarke County	444 acres
109-003D(C&D)	Oglethorpe County C&D Landfill Phase 2	882 Athens Road Crawford, GA 30630	C&D Landfill	Oglethorpe County	40 acres
PBR-109-10TS	American Stadium Services Transfer Station	921 Wolfskin Road Arnoldsville, GA 30619	Transfer Station	Private	N/A
PBR-109-011L	Shealy Farms, Inc.	1550 Robert Hardeman Rd Winterville, GA 30683	Inert Landfill	Private	N/A
N/A	Oglethorpe County Convenience Center – Athens Road	882 Athens Road Crawford, GA 30630	Convenience Center	Oglethorpe County	N/A
N/A	Oglethorpe County Convenience Center – Devil’s Pond	33.919147, -83.156537	Convenience Center	Oglethorpe County	N/A
N/A	Oglethorpe County Convenience Center – Simston District	33.899552, -82.992390	Convenience Center	Oglethorpe County	N/A
N/A	Oglethorpe County Convenience Center – Maxeys	33.758971, -83.178524	Convenience Center	Oglethorpe County	N/A

### 13.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

#### Collection

Oglethorpe County utilizes the method of convenience centers for collection of MSW and recycled materials. The County plans to maintain operations of all four convenience centers located throughout the county. The County operates drop-off service through a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) bag program. All waste disposed at convenience centers must use county approved PAYT bags for disposal. The PAYT Bags cost \$0.50 per 13-gallon bag and \$1.00 per 30-gallon bag. The bag fee helps pay the cost of garbage transport and disposal at the Athens-Clarke County Landfill. These bags are available for purchase at the front offices of each convenience center.

Private haulers operate curbside collection services around the periphery of local municipalities and contract directly with residents and business owners. The County does not regulate these services. The City of Moxley relies on the use of a County convenience center for drop-off collection services. However, Moxley will offer curbside collection for its residents on a voluntary basis through open market options of private haulers.

The City of Lexington contracts with a private hauling service for the collection of residential solid waste. Private businesses contract directly with private haulers for curbside services. The City of Crawford contracts with a private hauler for curbside collection services of residential and commercial solid waste.

The collection of Construction and Development waste is the responsibility of residents and private businesses.

Litter collection is community service- and volunteer-based. The County currently operates monitoring cameras in known illegal dumping areas and will continue to address illegal littering and dumping as necessary.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Oglethorpe County plans to maintain and update equipment as necessary for efficient operation of the transfer station and all convenience centers. Collection programs for solid waste are sufficient to meet existing community needs. As the population grows, the County will continue to review what is needed to serve community needs. The County's goal for collection is to ensure efficient and effective collection of solid waste throughout its jurisdiction over the next ten (10) years.

Oglethorpe County plans to continue enforcement of illegal dumping through local littering and dumping ordinances. The potential to expand camera monitoring operations and increase penalties for offenders will be explored by County staff and code enforcement officials.

#### Disposal

Oglethorpe County has a capacity assurance agreement with adjacent Athens-Clarke County for the right of disposal at the Athens-Clarke County Landfill. All MSW collected at Oglethorpe County facilities is disposed of at the ACC disposal facility. Private haulers have the ability to dispose of

waste at the facility of their choice. Refer to Table 13.1 for a summary of MSW generated by Oglethorpe County.

Oglethorpe County owns and operates a Construction and Development landfill. All Oglethorpe County and Athens-Clarke County residents have access for disposal for C&D material. Disposal fees are based on volume at \$35.00 per ton. Other counties are able to dispose of waste at this facility and pay a disposal fee for their use. Refer to Table 13.2 for a summary of C&D volume received at this facility.

Oglethorpe County is currently expanding the C&D Landfill is a two to three year Phase II expansion. Afterward, the County will begin a vertical and horizontal Phase III expansion project that will double its capacity and extend the life of the facility by 30 years.

#### *Needs and Goals*

Oglethorpe County plans to continue partnering with Athens-Clarke County for all disposal needs over the next ten (10) years. The ACC Landfill has a life expectancy of 47 years. Refer to Appendix A for the landfill assurance letter associated with this facility.

Oglethorpe County’s goal is to ensure that disposal and transfer facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs for the next ten (10) years.

### **Waste Reduction**

#### *Yard/Inert Waste*

Yard waste is accepted at the C&D Landfill for Oglethorpe County residents at the same fee rate of \$35.00 per ton. It is the responsibility of the property owner to transport and dispose of the waste. There are no curbside collection services for inert waste in the county.

#### *Recycling*

Recyclable material is accepted at all four staffed convenience centers. The County accepts metal cans, mixed paper goods, glass, cardboard, and mixed plastics. Additionally, tires, scrap metal, and electronics are accepted at the C&D Landfill for recycling. All material collected is transported by a private hauler to the Athens-Clarke County Material Recovery Processing Facility. Any items not accepted for general recycling are accepted at the ACC Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM).

#### *Needs and Goals*

Oglethorpe County’s goal is sustain waste reduction programs for the next ten (10) years. This will potentially involve becoming a Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliate and partnering with Athens-Clarke County and the NEGRSWMA for educational opportunities. The County would like to increase education and awareness of recycling programs and explore program opportunities for recycling C&D material at the County Landfill. A program of C&D material reuse would seek to extend the life expectancy of the landfill.

The County and NEGRSWMA will work together to determine the most appropriate outreach methods in 2022-2023.

### 13.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory

Oglethorpe County has limited formal education and public involvement programs. The County has expressed interest in becoming a Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliate within the next ten (10) years; options will be explored through quarterly NEGRSWMA meetings. The County will consider improvements toward public outreach and education. These efforts will be performed by County staff in partnership with Athens-Clarke County, the NEGRSWMA, and the Cities of Crawford, Lexington, Arnoldsville, and Maxeys. The NEGRSWMA plans to determine the most effective public outreach methods for each county in 2022-2023.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 13.4: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Oglethorpe County**

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Media Outreach	The County publishes information in regard to trash collection, acceptable materials for drop-off on the County website and in local newspapers	Continuous	N/A
Tire Amnesty	An annual week event that offers free, limited disposal of used tires for Athens and Oglethorpe residents.	Annual	N/A
Teacher Re-Use Store	A collaboration of business, industry, education, and local government that provides a variety of school supplies, materials, and other items to local educators at no cost. The program is open to any teacher in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, and Oglethorpe counties.	Continuous	N/A

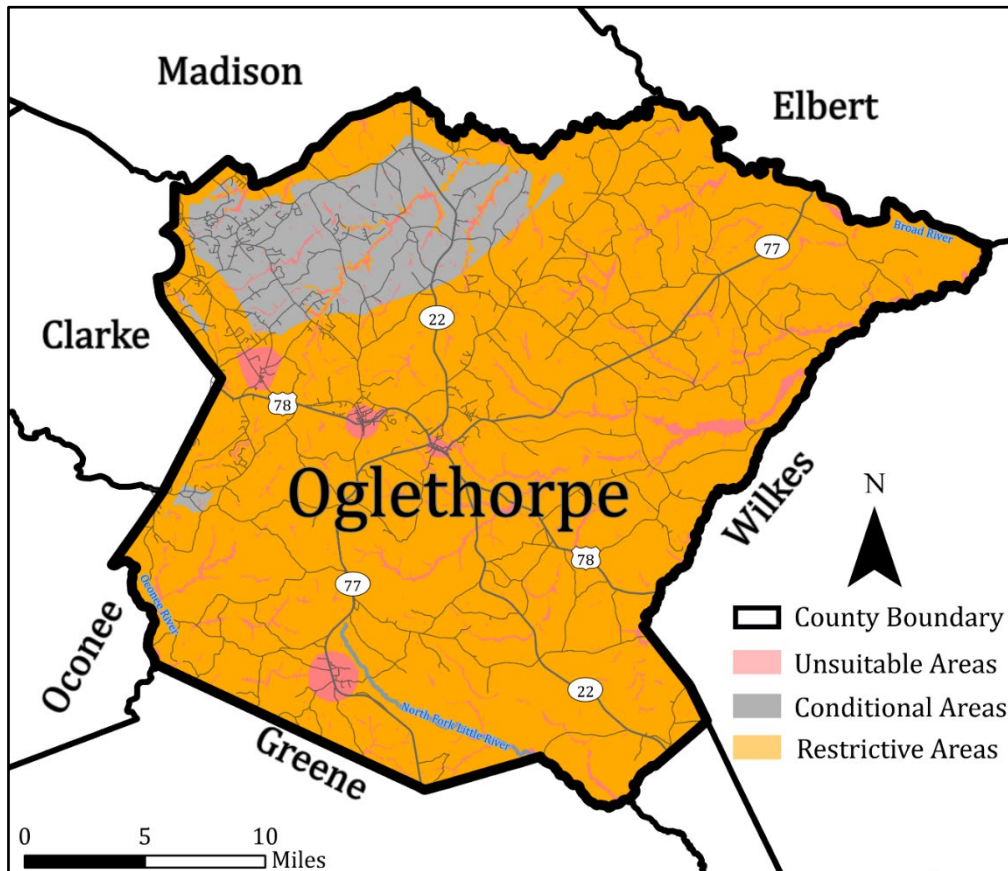
### 13.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The

categories shown in Figure 5.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

**Figure 13.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Oglethorpe County**



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

### 13.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of the County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives the County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented, and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>13.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County.				X	DCA no longer generates waste characterization studies. The County will utilize EPD’s quarterly reporting to monitor waste streams.
<b>13.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
County will operate staffed convenience centers.		X			The County continues to operate staffed convenience centers.
City of Lexington will continue to contract with a private firm for the collection of residential solid waste.		X			The City of Lexington will continue this method of collection.
City of Crawford will continue to contract service for collection of residential and commercial solid waste.		X			The City of Crawford will continue this method of collection.
City of Maxeys will offer curbside collection for its residents on a voluntary basis through open market of private haulers.		X			The City of Maxeys will continue to offer this service.
Explore potential arrangement with Athens-Clarke County for Athens to pick up recyclables from County drop-off sites.				X	The County contracts with a private hauler to transport recyclable materials to the ACC RMPF.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>13.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
Oglethorpe County will operate staffed drop-off sites for recyclables and send recovered materials to the Athens-Clarke County RMPF.		X			Oglethorpe County continues to accept recyclables at all staffed convenience centers and send materials to the ACC RMPF.
The City of Lexington will continue to use a private hauler to collect glass and plastic at curbside.		X			The City of Lexington will continue this method.
Continue to hold once a year Amnesty Days for tires.				X	The County relies on Athens-Clarke County to host amnesty days at the ACC Landfill for Oglethorpe residents.
County and municipalities will encourage commercial recycling programs.			X		The County will reassess how to encourage recycling programs.
<b>13.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
Oglethorpe County will continue to own and operate a C&D landfill.		X			The County continues to own and operate a C&D landfill. The facility is currently undergoing a multi-year expansion.
Private haulers will continue to deliver MSW to landfills of their choice, however; a capacity assurance agreement with Athens-Clarke County will remain in place.		X			This method of disposal will continue.
County will promote education and enforcement programs concerning illegal dumping as long as state grants remain in place to support.				X	The County provides informational material on its website and operates monitoring cameras throughout the county. There are currently no plans for expansion of education or enforcement programs.
Continue agreement with Athens-Clarke County (ACC) where Oglethorpe sends its MSW to ACC MSW Landfill and ACC disposes of C&D in Oglethorpe’s C&D landfill.		X			Oglethorpe County and Athens-Clarke County continue to exercise this agreement.
Establish a work detail of inmates to perform litter pickup.				X	The County will rely on community service designees and volunteers for roadside litter collection.
Explore updating existing wildlife cameras to a digital feed system.				X	This may be discussed when the County
<b>13.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>					
Municipalities will work with the County for coordination of public education activities.			X		The County will work with the NEGRC to determine the most appropriate public education efforts.

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
The County will continue to work with civic groups and schools to encourage awareness of environmental issues.				X	The County has no active programs currently.
Participate and hold Great American Cleanup event with Keep Oglethorpe County Beautiful.				X	Oglethorpe County is not a Keep Georgia Beautiful Affiliate. All KGB related efforts are coordinated with KACCB.
Participate and hold annual Bring one for the Chipper event in associations with KOCB.	X				The County partners with Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful and the ACC Solid Waste Department for the Bring One for the Chipper event. Oglethorpe County is not a Keep Georgia Beautiful Affiliate.
<b>13.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X				
County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.				X	There were no requests for new solid waste handling facilities during the planning period.
Complete and adopt major amendment update for Land Limitation Element.	X				This was completed in 2011.
Obtain site suitability for Phase V landfill expansion in cooperation with Athens-Clarke County.	X				
Construct and operate Phase V landfill in cooperation with Athens-Clarke County.	X				Phase V construction was completed in 2019.
Update and maintain Land Limitations Map as changes occur in the County and cities.	X				The Land Limitations Map (i.e. Land Suitability Map) will be updated with the 2021 SWMP update.
Maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.	X				



**13.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program**

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>13.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County is estimated to increase in population by 8% by 2031. The County will continue to address increases in waste and improvements at convenience centers and the transfer station as necessary.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners	TBD	General Fund
<b>13.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to operate convenience centers throughout the county utilizing the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) and Green Bag Programs for MSW.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept.	N/A	User Fees
The County will continue to operate four (4) convenience centers for collection.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
The County will continue to allow private collection companies to address free market demands.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners	N/A	N/A
City of Lexington will continue to contract with a private firm for the collection of residential solid waste.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Lexington	Dependent on Volume	User Fees

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
City of Crawford will continue to contract service for collection of residential and commercial solid waste.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Crawford	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
City of Maxeys will offer curbside collection for its residents on a voluntary basis through open completion of private haulers.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Maxeys	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
<b>13.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
Oglethorpe County will continue to accept recyclables and send recovered materials to the Athens-Clarke County RMPF.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
The City of Lexington will continue to use a private hauler to collect glass and plastic at curbside.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Lexington	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
The County will continue to partner with the Athens-Clarke County annual tire amnesty event for Oglethorpe County residents to participate.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept. / ACC Solid Waste Dept.	N/A	N/A
County and municipalities will encourage commercial recycling programs.	X	X	X	X	X	All Local Governments	N/A	N/A
The County will continue to rely on community service designees and volunteers for roadside litter collection.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept. / Oglethorpe County Sherriff Dept. / Volunteers	N/A	N/A
The County will hire a local code compliance officer to expand enforcement of roadside litter offenders.	X					Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners	\$50,000	General Fund / Fines
The County will continue to operate cameras to monitor illegal dumping sites throughout the county to assist with code enforcement.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Sherriff Dept.	\$5,000	General Fund / Fines

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>13.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to partner with Athens-Clarke County for disposal of all MSW waste received at convenience centers and transfer stations.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept. / ACC Solid Waste Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
The County will continue to partner with Athens-Clarke County for disposal of construction and development waste at the Oglethorpe County C&D Landfill.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept. / ACC Solid Waste Dept.	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
The County will submit permitting approval to EPD for a Phase 2 expansion of the Oglethorpe County C&D Landfill for a three (3) year lifespan expansion.	X					County Manager / Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners	To Be Determined	General Fund
The County will submit permitting approval to EPD for a Phase 3 expansion of the Oglethorpe County C&D Landfill for a thirty (30) year lifespan expansion.		X				County Manager / Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners	To Be Determined	General Fund
The County will address land application activities through local code ordinance updates in a manner consistent with Georgia Dept. of Agriculture and Environmental Protection Division regulations.	X	X				County Manager / Oglethorpe County Planning & Zoning Dept. / Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners	Staff Time	General Fund
<b>13.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
The County will work with the Board of Education (BOE) to determine appropriate solid waste and recycling education curriculum for public K-12 schools.	X	X				Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept. / County Manager / Board of Education	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will work with the Board of Education (BOE) to expand recycling options at public K-12 schools.	X	X	X			Oglethorpe County Public Works Dept. / County Manager / Board of Education	\$5,000	General Fund / Board of Education
The County will partner with the NEGRSWMA and NEGRC to implement annual outreach and educational opportunities.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners / NEGRSWMA	\$1,000	Annual Dues / General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The County will determine feasibility of becoming a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful Program.			X			Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners	TBD	General Fund
<b>13.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
The County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners / County Manager / Oglethorpe County Planning & Zoning Dept.	N/A	N/A
The County will review all permits requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners / County Manager / Oglethorpe County Planning & Zoning Dept.	N/A	N/A
The County will maintain consistency with EPD and other state regulations with regard to land limitations.	X	X	X	X	X	Oglethorpe County Board of Commissioners / County Manager / Oglethorpe County Planning & Zoning Dept.	N/A	N/A

## 14 WALTON COUNTY

### 14.1 County Description

Walton County covers 330 square miles on the eastern edge of the ten (10)-county planning area. The County has seven municipalities, the largest of which is Monroe, which serves as the county seat. The other municipalities include Between, Good Hope, Jersey, Loganville, Social Circle, and Walnut Grove.

Walton County’s population is estimated to be 96,258 (U.S. Census). The county’s population has grown by approximately 58.6% since 2000, when the population was 60,687. The county does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population. However, the county is expected to continue to grow by 15% by 2031 (Governor’s Office of Planning & Budget).

There are 36,362 housing units in Walton County. Of these housing units, 6.4% are considered vacant (U.S. Census). Owner-occupied housing units account for 66.4% of the housing stock while 27.2% are renter-occupied. As identified by the Georgia Department of Labor (2020), the total number of businesses within the county, private and public, is 1,879.

### 14.2 Waste Stream Analysis

This section provides an analysis of the disposal stream of waste generated within the county. Data is provided by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is based on quarterly reporting of tonnage received at waste disposal facilities throughout Georgia. The table below shows an analysis of the 2020 waste disposal stream for Walton County, including MSW, Construction and Development (C&D) waste, and Industrial waste.

**Table 14.1: Waste Stream Analysis – Tonnage Generated in Walton County 2020**

County of Disposal	Type of Waste	Tonnage Received	Percentage of Total
Banks	MSW	109.36	0.07%
Barrow	MSW	108,222.70	68.92%
Clayton	C&D	6.00	0.001%
Hall	C&D	6.79	0.001%
Meriwether	MSW	931.81	0.59%
Oglethorpe	C&D	26.53	0.02%
Walton	C&D	47,718.77	30.39%
Total Tonnage:	All Types	157,021.96	100%

### 14.3 Enumeration of Facilities

The table below outlines all solid waste handling and disposal facilities within the Walton County jurisdiction.

**Table 14.3: Enumeration of Facilities – Walton County**

Permit Number	Facility Name	Location	Type	Ownership	Size/Capacity
147-012D(C&D)	REPUBLIC – US-78 C&D Landfill	64 US-78 Monroe, GA 30656	C&D Landfill	Private	*12,628,579.00 yd <sup>3</sup>
147-013D(C&D)	Walton C&D Landfill	145 US-78 Monroe, GA 30656	C&D Landfill	Private	*830,904.00 yd <sup>3</sup>
147-014D(C&D)	Caruthers Mill C&D Landfill	75 US-78 Monroe, GA 30656	C&D Landfill	Private	* 7,233,583.00 yd <sup>3</sup>
PBR-147-06IL	Walton County Inert Landfill	33.834246, -83.756671	Inert Waste Landfill	Private	5 Acres
PBR-147-14IL	81 Inert & Disposal	6444 HWY-81 N Loganville, GA 30052	Inert Waste Landfill	Private	40 Acres
PBR-147-35IL	Holder’s Inert Landfill – Good Hope	2370 Preston Road Good Hope, GA 30641	Inert Waste Landfill	Private	N/A
PBR-147-37IL	Holder’s Inert Landfill - Monroe	805 Adamson Road Monroe, GA 30641	Inert Waste Landfill	Private	15 Acres
PBR-147-05IL	Kent Rock Road Inert Landfill	5261 Kent Rock Road Loganville, GA 30052	Inert Waste Landfill (CLOSED)	Private	N/A
PBR-147-25IL	L.C. Criswell Inert Landfill	4235 Center Hill Church Road Loganville, GA 30052	Inert Waste Landfill	Private	25 Acres
PBR-147-26TS / PBR-147-29TS	Walton County Recycling Center and Transfer Station	2051 Leroy Anderson Road Monroe, GA 30655	Transfer Station	Walton County	N/A
PBR-147-39TS	City of Monroe Transfer Station	213 Cherry Hill Road Monroe, GA 30655	Transfer Station	City of Monroe	≈440 Tons/Day
PBR-147-49TS / PBR-147-49COL	Earthwise Industries Biomedical Waste Transfer Station	4766 Guthrie Cemetery Road Loganville, GA 30052	Biomedical Collection and Treatment	Private	N/A
PBR-147-55TS	City of Loganville MSW Transfer Station	690 Albert Sellers Drive Loganville, GA 30052	Transfer Station	City of Loganville	N/A
N/A	Bold Springs Convenience Center	4185 Bold Springs Road Monroe, GA 30656	Convenience Center	Walton County	N/A
N/A	Good Hope Convenience Center	2077 Nunnally Shoals Road Good Hope, GA 30641	Convenience Center	Walton County	N/A
N/A	Gratis Convenience Center	2126 Mount Vernon Road Monroe, GA 30656	Convenience Center	Walton County	N/A
N/A	Jersey Convenience Center	1645 Jersey Social Circle Road Covington, GA 30014	Convenience Center	Walton County	N/A
N/A	Whatley Convenience Center	2620 Whitney Road Between, GA 30655	Convenience Center	Walton County	N/A
N/A	Youth Convenience Center	1764 Hwy-81 Loganville, GA 30052	Convenience Center	Walton County	N/A

\*Indicates most recent available data from Georgia EPD

## 14.4 Collection, Disposal, and Waste Reduction

### Collection

Walton County relies on a mixture of services for collection of MSW. Private hauling services are available for weekly residential curbside collection if preferred, operating under a licensing ordinance. Residents contract directly with the private entity for this service. The County also operates six staffed convenience centers where residents can utilize drop-off service under a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) Green Bag program (see Table 14.3 for list of facilities). All waste disposed at convenience centers must use county approved Green Bags for disposal. These 32 gallon / 2 mil plastic bags carry a Walton County emblem imprinted on the bag and cost \$1.50 each. The bag fee helps to pay the cost of garbage disposal at a state approved landfill. These bags are available at area retailers (grocery and convenience stores).

The Cities of Loganville, Social Circle, and Walnut Grove all contract with private haulers for weekly curbside pick-up. Loganville contracts with a private hauler for commercial dumpster collection while industrial firms contract directly with private haulers. The City of Monroe collects commercial dumpsters and from industrial firms if they can readily accommodate them. Industrial firms that cannot be accommodated by the City can contract directly with a private hauler. Social Circle contracts with a private firm to collect dumpsters and industrial firms can either contract with a private firm or handle their own collection. Walnut Grove has commercial and industrial firms contract directly with a private firm or handle their own collection. The City of Monroe provides its own residential and commercial collection.

Commercial businesses rely on private curbside collection service throughout the county. Businesses contract directly with private hauling companies for weekly service.

Roadside litter is collected through a combination of Keep Walton County Beautiful clean-up efforts, Georgia Department of Corrections inmate community services (on state routes), and community service assignments. The Walton County Sheriff's Department administers the Work Release Program which is used to collect roadside litter on county roads. The Sheriff's Department reports collection amounts to the county.

### *Needs and Goals*

Collection programs for solid waste are sufficient to meet existing community needs. The more populated areas have at the source collection and the convenience centers are available and accept solid waste and recyclables from all citizens. As the population grows, the County will continue to review what is needed to serve community needs.

Walton County's goal for collection is to ensure efficient and effective collection of solid waste in the region over the next ten (10) years.

### Disposal

Three C&D landfills operate in Walton County, all privately owned. Most of the C&D disposed from the county is sent to these landfills; a minor amount also goes to landfills in Clayton, Hall, and Oglethorpe Counties. Refer to Table 14.1 for a 2020 summary of the C&D waste disposal stream. Six inert landfills have also been issued a permit, by rule, in Walton County.

Walton County has a year-to-year contract with the City of Monroe to deliver waste to the Monroe County transfer station. Walton County pays by the ton. The City of Monroe, in turn, contracts with a private hauler for hauling and disposal of all MSW. Most of the waste generated in the county is delivered to the Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill in Barrow County. The Oak Grove Landfill has an estimated airspace capacity of 4.6 million cubic yards as of 2021, providing an approximate lifespan of ten (10) years. If this facility becomes limited in its capacity for disposal during the planning period, Walton County will divert its waste stream to the nearest out-of-county facility, the R&B Landfill in Banks County (see Appendix A).

### *Needs and Goals*

Walton County's goal is to ensure that disposal facilities within its jurisdiction meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs for the next ten (10) years.

## **Waste Reduction**

### *Inert/Yard Waste*

The County owns an inert waste landfill that it uses for disposal of leaf and limb material and residents have access to a number of privately-owned inert landfills where yard trimmings can be disposed. The County also sponsors an annual Christmas tree recycling program, which is available for all county residents.

The Cities of Loganville and Social Circle operate chippers for yard trimmings and make the mulch available to be distributed to residents.

The City of Monroe contracts with a private vendor for grinding vegetation at the inert landfill.

### *Recycling*

Walton County operates staffed convenience centers at six locations where residents can recycle aluminum, #1 and #2 plastics, glass, newspaper, corrugated cardboard, magazines and catalogs, and steel cans. The centers are located at the Youth Fire Station, Bold Springs Fire Station, Gratis Fire Station, Good Hope Fire Station, Whatley Fire Station, and the Walton County Recycling Center. Residents are able to utilize drop-off sites for free disposal of recyclable materials.

The Walton County Recycling Center accepts a greater range of recyclable materials, including:

- Aluminum
- Brown, green and clear glass bottles and jars
- Car Batteries
- Cell phones and chargers
- Computers
- Cooking Oil
- Corrugated cardboard
- Magazines and Newspapers (must be dry)
- Metal and Appliances
- Paper
- Plastic bottles (Number 1 and Number 2)
- Rechargeable batteries
- Tin (steel)
- Used motor oil
- Ink cartridges



Private haulers offer curbside collection of recyclables in some areas of the County under individual contracts with residents. These haulers operate under a licensing ordinance with Walton County. The City of Loganville contracts with a private hauler to provide once a week curbside recycling pickup. The Cities of Walnut Grove, and Social Circle also contract with a private hauler to provide once-a-week curbside recycling services. All three programs accept glass, newspaper, plastic, cardboard, magazines, and aluminum cans. Loganville contracts with a private firm to collect commercial dumpsters. Industrial firms in these cities contract with private haulers on their own. Social Circle allows both commercial and industrial firms to contract with private haulers on their own.

Monroe performs its own curbside collection service for both commercial and residential.

*Needs and Goals*

Walton County’s goals for the next ten (10) years include the following:

- Ensure that the County continues to pursue a 25% reduction in the amount of solid waste received at disposal facilities;
- Increase education and awareness of recycling programs and opportunities for paper and organic waste materials; and
- Sustain waste reduction programs for the next ten (10) years.

**14.5 Education and Public Involvement Program Inventory**

Walton County is a member of the Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB) program via Keep Walton County Beautiful (KWCB). This is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by the County and local donations offering community support and education regarding issues that affect the health and appearance of the environment. The mission of KWCB is to strive to improve Walton County's environmental concerns and recycling initiatives. KWCB is housed in the County Recycling Center. Staff work together to facilitate a number of events and outreach efforts to develop and execute environmental and educational outreach programs, provide supporting educational materials for county programs such as litter abatement, solid waste management, recycling, and beautification.

The table below outlines existing education and public involvement events and programs that are hosted within the county.

**Table 14.5: Inventory of Education and Public Involvement Programs – Walton County**

Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
Adopt-A-Road	A local litter prevention program sponsored by Keep Walton County Beautiful that works to involve community volunteers in local roadside clean-up efforts. The goal of the program is to reduce roadside litter in an effort to keep the community clean and beautiful.	Continuous	6-8 Groups

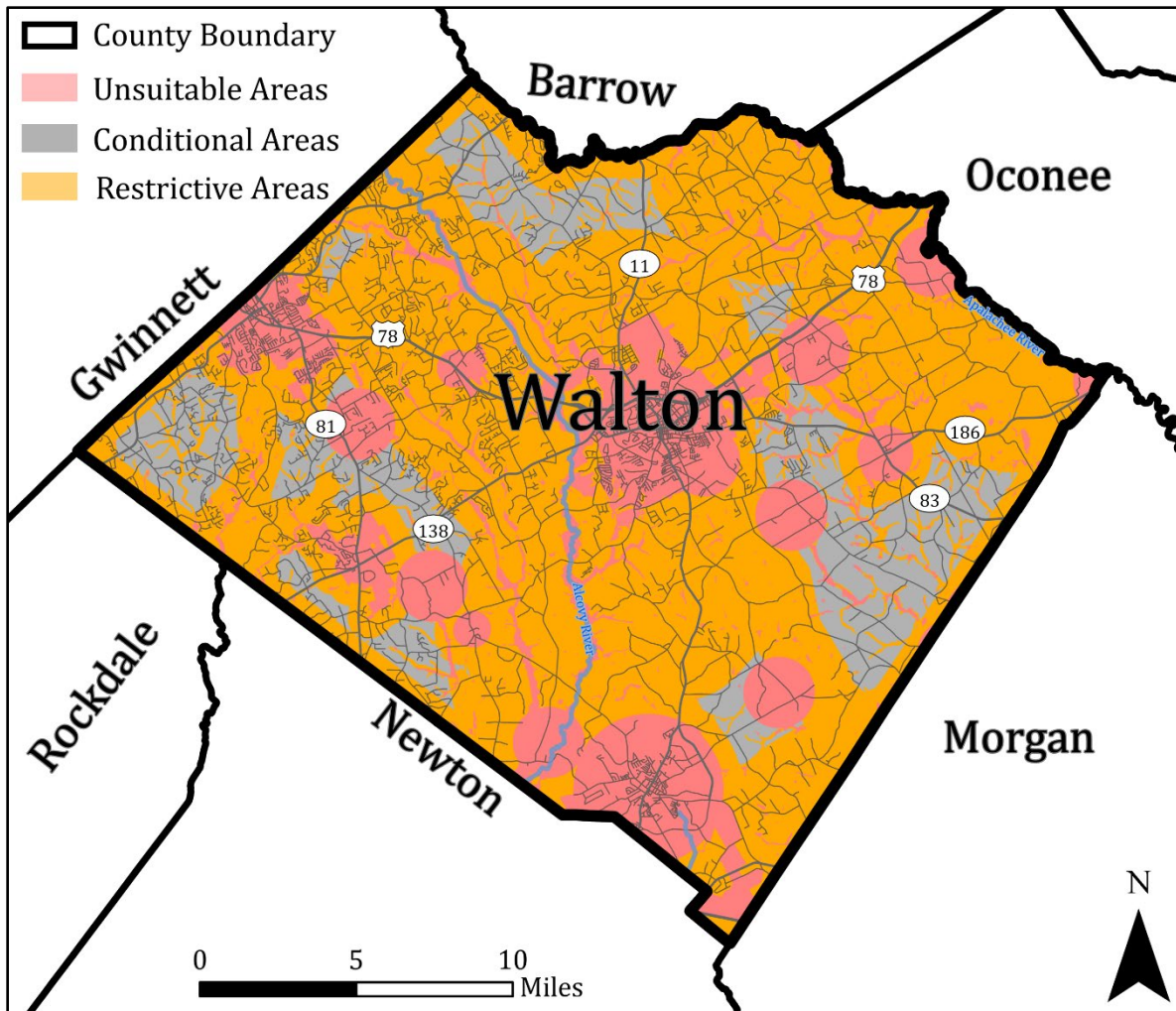
Program Name	Description	Frequency of Program	Attendance Rate, if applicable
	Community organizations and/or volunteers accept the responsibility of regular litter pickups on their “adopted” local roadway.		
Rivers Alive	Annual event hosted by KWCB to collect trash from local waterways.	Annual	200+ Volunteers
School Paper Recycling Awards	The Walton County Recycling Center acknowledges local schools through an Outstanding Achievement Award for Recycling - Paper, Plastic and Aluminum.	Annual	All Local Schools
Bring One for the Chipper	A program for recycling undecorated Christmas trees by shredding and composting the material free of charge to county residents.	Annual	≈90 Trees
The Great American Cleanup	Annual paper shredding event hosted at the Walton County Recycling Center available to all residents.	Annual	Varies

#### 14.6 Land Suitability Analysis

In 1997, the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority conducted a regional landfill site suitability study. As part of that study, the ten (10) counties developed siting criteria and screened all land within the planning area to determine the suitability of site for landfill development. Some counties chose to amend their land suitability analysis in 2011, including Athens-Clarke and Oglethorpe.

As part of the 2021 regional plan update, the NEGRSWMA has updated the regional land suitability analysis for all counties included in the planning area to maintain compliance with current regulatory requirements and environmental considerations at the state and regional level. The categories shown in Figure 14.2 do not include local land use ordinances and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of considerations for siting a waste handling facility. Criteria and responsibilities of the County and any applicants are listed in Section 3 of this plan.

Figure 14.1: Land Suitability Analysis – Walton County



*Note: This map is based on best available data and is not designed to be a comprehensive survey of land suitability. All applicable laws and regulations should be referenced and adhered to when siting a new facility or expansion, including, but not limited to, local ordinances regulating land use and development (not reflected on this map).*

### 14.7 Report of Accomplishments 2009 – 2013

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of the County’s existing Short-Term Work Program (STWP). This requirement gives the County the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented, and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the County to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments shall include the following information about activities listed in the existing STWP:

- Whether or not the activity has been completed or implemented
- Activities currently underway, with an anticipated completion date
- Activities that have been postponed, with justification
- Activities no longer being considered for implementation, with justification

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>14.7.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>					
The County will use EPD’s disposal capacity reports and DCA’s waste characterization data to quantify the amount and type of waste disposed in the County.				X	DCA no longer provides waste characterization data. EPD disposal capacity reports will be accessed when needed.
<b>14.7.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>					
County will continue to operate manned convenience centers using PAYT bag system and free recycling.	X				
County will continue to license private firms to collect MSW.	X				
Explore and implement a “sticker” program for haulers licensed and approved to conduct collection in the County.				X	The County never implemented this program and does not anticipate revisiting the effort.
Loganville will continue to contract with a private firm to collect curbside on a weekly basis and from commercial dumpsters.	X				

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
Monroe will continue to collect waste curbside 1/wk and from commercial dumpsters	X				
Social Circle will continue to contract with a private firm to collect curbside on a weekly basis and collect from commercial dumpsters.	X				
Walnut Grove will continue to contract with a private firm to collect curbside on a weekly basis.	X				
Between, Good Hope and Jersey will continue to rely on the county SWM program.	X				
<b>14.7.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>					
County will continue to operate manned convenience centers using PAYT bag system and free recycling.	X				
County will continue to collect corrugated cardboard from some commercial accounts.	X				
County will continue to operate recyclables processing facility.	X				
County and Monroe will continue expanded joint recycling program (city to collect, county to process and market).				X	The City of Monroe contracts with Pratt Industries for disposal and sorting services of recyclables.
Loganville will contract with private firm licensed by the County for curbside residential recycling. City will continue to operate chipper for yard debris.	X				
Monroe will continue to collect recyclables curbside for delivery to the County facility. Monroe will continue to operate a grinder for yard waste.	X				
Social Circle will continue to contract with a licensed private firm to collect recyclables curbside. Social Circle will continue to operate a chipper for yard waste.	X				

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
Between, Good Hope, and Jersey, will continue to rely on county recycling program.	X				
Walnut Grove will continue to contract with County-licensed private firm to collect recyclables curbside.	X				
County will continue to offer electronics, motor oil, battery and cell phone recycling at the main transfer station. The County will continue to accept scrap metal and white goods.				X	The County discontinued acceptance of household batteries.
County will continue to offer paper recycling for schools, local businesses, and public facilities.	X				
Continue to work with the Clean Community Committee to hold annual cleanups.					Still involved with Social Circle Clean Community Committee
Hold annual cleanup events.	X				
<b>14.7.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>					
County will continue to dispose of waste at the City of Monroe transfer station.	X				
Loganville will continue to rely on private vendor to dispose of yard waste and MSW.	X				
Social Circle will continue to rely on private vendor to dispose of waste.	X				
Walnut Grove will continue to rely on private vendor to dispose of waste.	X				
Monroe will continue to dispose of its waste at the Oak Grove landfill.	X				

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>14.7.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>					
County will continue to enforce anti-dumping ordinances in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department and local courts.	X				
City of Monroe will continue to work with the environmental code officer in the City Marshall's Code Department.	X				
Use inmate labor and community service works to clean up litter along major roads throughout the County.	X				
Continue to use signage to deter illegal dumping.	X				
County will continue to fund Keep Walton Beautiful with full time staff support.	X				
Continue to facilitate school recycling competitions for office paper.	X				
Cities in Walton County will continue to rely on County education programs.	X				
Continue to produce and mail educational brochures to residents, as well as make information available at convenience centers and the transfer station.	X				
Accept and mulch Christmas trees at various drop off locations in the County.	X				
Explore the cost and feasibility of producing a waste reduction video for schools.	X				Video was completed, however it is old and in need updating.
Continue to hold and/or participate in the Rivers Alive Program, Adopt-a-Road, and other cleanup programs.	X				
Run tours of the recycling facility.	X				

Activity	Completed	Underway	Postponed	Tabled	Comments
<b>14.7.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>					
County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X				
County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X				



### 14.8 2021 – 2031 Community Work Program

The following Community Work Program (CWP) serves as the final part of the County’s Solid Waste Management Plan update. The CWP consists of the ten (10) year period of the implementation program (2021-2031). This list encompasses the goals and action items that will ensure the County is moving forward with implementation of the plan and provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity during the plan’s scope. The following categories are included to provide sufficient detail to the goal or action item:

- Description of activity or task
- Timeframe for implementation
- Person responsible for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost of implementing the activity
- Potential funding source (grants, general fund, etc.)

Activity	Year					Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031			
<b>14.8.1 AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>								
The County will address the estimated 15% increase in waste generated over the following ten (10) years as needed with convenience center operations.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Board of Commissioners / Sanitation Department	TBD	User Fees / General Fund
<b>14.8.2 COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>								
County will continue to operate manned convenience centers using PAYT bag system and free recycling.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Sanitation Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
County will continue to license private firms to collect MSW.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Board of Commissioners	Staff Time	General Fund
County will continue to require an annual inspection of private hauler licensees.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Board of Commissioners	Staff Time	Annual Fees
Loganville will continue to contract with a private firm to collect curbside on a weekly basis and from commercial dumpsters.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Loganville	Staff Time	User Fees
Monroe will continue to offer weekly MSW curbside collection and from commercial dumpsters.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Monroe Solid Waste Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
Social Circle will continue to contract with a private firm to collect curbside on a weekly basis and collect from commercial dumpsters.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Social Circle	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
Walnut Grove will continue to contract with a private firm to collect curbside on a weekly basis.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Walnut Grove	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
Between, Good Hope and Jersey will continue to rely on the county convenience center program and optional private hauling services for curbside collection.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Sanitation Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
<b>14.8.3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>								
County will continue to operate manned convenience centers offering free recycling to residents.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Sanitation Department / Keep Walton Beautiful	Dependent on Volume	Material Sales / General Fund
County will continue to collect corrugated cardboard from some commercial accounts.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Dependent on Volume	Material Sales / General Fund
County will continue to operate recyclables processing facility.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	\$494,151 FY21	Material Sales / General Fund
The City of Monroe will continue to offer curbside collection of recyclable materials and contract with a private entity for disposal and sorting.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Monroe Solid Waste Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
Loganville will contract with private firm licensed by the County for curbside residential recycling.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Loganville	Staff Time	User Fees
Social Circle will continue to contract with a licensed private firm to collect recyclables curbside.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Social Circle	Staff Time	User Fees
Between, Good Hope, and Jersey will continue to rely on county recycling program.	X	X	X	X	X	Cities of Between, Good Hope, and Jersey	N/A	N/A
Walnut Grove will continue to contract with County-licensed private firm to collect recyclables	X	X	X	X	X	City of Walnut Grove	Dependent on Volume	User Fees

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
curbside.								
County will continue to offer electronics, motor oil, marine/auto batteries, and cell phone recycling at the main transfer station. The County will also continue to accept scrap metal and white goods.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Dependent on Volume	Material Sales / General Fund
County will continue to support paper recycling for schools, local businesses, and public facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund
Keep Walton County Beautiful will continue to work with the Clean Community Committee to hold annual cleanups with the City of Social Circle.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund
Keep Walton County Beautiful will continue to host annual community cleanup events.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund
<b>14.8.4 WASTE DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>								
County will continue to dispose of waste at the City of Monroe transfer station.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Sanitation Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
Loganville will continue to rely on private vendor to dispose of yard waste and MSW.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Loganville	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
Social Circle will continue to rely on private vendor to dispose of waste.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Social Circle	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
Walnut Grove will continue to rely on private vendor to dispose of waste.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Social Circle	Dependent on Volume	User Fees
Monroe will continue to dispose of its waste at the Oak Grove landfill.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Monroe Solid Waste Department	Dependent on Volume	User Fees / General Fund
<b>14.8.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>								
The County will continue to enforce anti-dumping ordinances in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department and local courts.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Sheriff's Department	Dependent on Violations	Fines / General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
The City of Monroe will continue to work with the environmental code officer in the Code Department for interpretation of local ordinances.	X	X	X	X	X	City of Monroe Code Department	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will utilize inmate labor and community service works to clean up litter along major roads throughout the County.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Sheriff's Department	N/A	N/A
The County will continue to use signage to deter illegal dumping.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Sanitation Department	TBD	General Fund
The County will continue to fund Keep Walton Beautiful with full time staff support.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Board of Commissioners	TBD	General Fund
The County will continue to facilitate school recycling competitions for office paper.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund
Cities in Walton County will continue to rely on County education programs.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will continue to accept and mulch Christmas trees at various drop off locations in the County.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Dependent on Volume	General Fund
Explore the cost and feasibility of updating the local waste reduction video for schools.		X				Walton County Sanitation Department / Keep Walton Beautiful	\$5,000	General Fund
Keep Walton County Beautiful will continue to hold and/or participate in the Rivers Alive Program, Adopt-a-Road, and other cleanup programs.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will continue to offer tours of the recycling facility.	X	X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund
The County will increase local school involvement and facility tours for all grades K-12.		X	X	X	X	Keep Walton Beautiful	Staff Time	General Fund

Activity	2021-2022	2023-2025	2026-2028	2029-2030	2031	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>14.8.6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>								
County will ensure sufficient land use controls are in place.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Board of Commissioners / Walton County Planning & Development	Staff Time	General Fund
County will review all permit requests for new solid waste handling facilities or expansions to determine consistency with SWMP.	X	X	X	X	X	Walton County Board of Commissioners / Walton County Planning & Development	Staff Time	General Fund

## 15 APPENDIX A – LANDFILL ASSURANCES

The Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) has been developed for the ten counties and 47 municipalities that are included within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (NEGRSWMA). As part of the plan, each local government must provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste handling capability and capacity within the planning area for at least ten (10) years from the date of completion of the plan. The structure of each county's disposal preferences during the planning scope are outlined in each respective chapter. This section provides the capacity assurance letters from each of the major landfills that serve the ten member counties of the NEGRSWMA:



3/30/2021

Northeast Georgia Regional  
Solid Waste Management Authority  
305 Research Drive  
Athens, GA 30605-5795

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance at the Waste Management R&B Landfill in Banks County for waste generated by the 10-County Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority from 2021-2031. The Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 006-009D(MSWL). Waste Management is committed to partnering with these counties to meet their disposal needs. This assurance is based upon the 10-County Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority disposing of approximately 4,691,791 tons over the next 10 years.

If you should have any questions or comments, please contact me at (940) 293-3026 or [mholbroo@wm.com](mailto:mholbroo@wm.com).

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Holbrook', is written in a cursive style.

Michael Holbrook  
South Atlantic Public Sector Director



March 23, 2021

Northeast Georgia Regional  
Solid Waste Management Authority  
305 Research Drive  
Athens, GA 30605-5795

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Athens-Clarke County and Oglethorpe County from 2021-2031. The Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 029-012D(SL). This assurance is based upon Athens-Clarke County and Oglethorpe County disposing of approximately 1,280,120 tons over the next 10 years.

If you should have any questions or comments, please contact me at (706) 613-3509 or [Brad.Rickard@accgov.com](mailto:Brad.Rickard@accgov.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Rickard'.

Brad Rickard  
Landfill Administrator, Athens-Clarke County Landfill

SOLID WASTE / LANDFILL

P.O. Box 1868 • Athens, Georgia 30603 • (706) 613-3508 • FAX (706) 613-3511





**16 APPENDIX B – PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT MATERIALS**

**ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY**

NEGRSWMA - Athens-Clarke County Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Update Public Hearing: August 30, 2021   5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Athens-Clarke County Library Auditorium   2025 Baxter Street, Athens GA 30606		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
MARK BEATTY	305 Research Dr. Athens, GA 30605	mbeatty@negrswma.org
BRAD RICKARD		brad.rickard@acc.gov
Suki Janasen		
Susan Lyon		
Joe Dunlop		

**BARROW COUNTY**

<b>NEGRSWMA – Barrow County</b> <b>Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Update</b> Public Hearing: August 24, 2021   3:00 p.m. Barrow County Historic Courthouse   30 N. Broad Street, Winder GA 30680		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
MARCE BEATTY	305 RESEARCH DRIVE ATHENS, GA 30605	mbeatty@negrc.org
Jon McBrayer	↓	JMcBrayer@negrc.org

**ELBERT COUNTY**

NEGRSWMA – Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan Update Public Hearing: August 27, 2021   3:00 p.m. Elbert County Government Complex   45 Forest Avenue, Elberton GA 30635		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
MARK BEATTY	305 Research Drive Athens, GA 30605	mbeatty@negrc.org
Lee Campbell	Elbert Co. Solid Waste	
Bob Thomas	Elbert County	bob.thomas@elbertga.net
Phil Pitts	Elbert County	ppitts@elbertga.us
Meghan Booth	ELBERT COUNTY	mbooth@elbertga.us
Bob Howell	ELBERT CO BOC	bhowell@elbertga.us

**GREENE COUNTY**

<p align="center"><b>NEGRSWMA – Greene County</b>  <b>Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Update</b>                      Public Hearing: August 25, 2021   3:00 p.m.                      Large Meeting Room, County Administrative Building   1034 Silver Drive, Greensboro GA 30642</p>		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
Jon McBrayer	305 Resloch Drive Athens, Ga, 30605	JMcBrayer@negrswma.org
BYRON LOMBARD	1034 Silver Dr, Suite 201 Greensboro, GA 30642	blombard@greene-county.ga.gov

**JACKSON COUNTY**

<b>NEGRSWMA – Jackson County</b> <b>Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Update</b> Public Hearing: August 30, 2021   11:00 a.m. Auditorium, Jackson County Administrative Building   120 Lee Street, Jefferson GA 30549		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
Jon McBrayer	305 research drive, Athens, GA	JMcBrayer@negr.org
Jamie Dove	67 Athens Street, Jefferson	jdove@jacksoncountygov.com



**MORGAN COUNTY**

NEGRSWMA – Morgan County Solid Waste Management Plan Update Public Hearing: September 1, 2021   3:00 p.m. Morgan County Government Building   150 E Washington Street, Madison GA		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
Jon McBayer	305 Research drive, Atlas, GA	JMcBayer@negsc.org
Mark Williams	150 East Washington Madison	mwilliams@morgan-countyga.gov

**OCONEE COUNTY**

<p align="center"><b>NEGRSWMA – Oconee County</b>  <b>Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Update</b>                      Public Hearing: August 31, 2021   3:00 p.m.                      Oconee County Courthouse   23 N. Main Street, Watkinsville GA 30677</p>		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
Mack Beatty	305 Research Drive Athens, GA 30605	mbeatty@gmail.com
Cindy Pritchard	1291 Greensboro Hwy Watkinsville GA 30677	lcochr@ocnee.ga.us
Diane Baggett	Oconee Courthouse 23 N. Main Street, Watkinsville 30677	dbaggett@ocnee.ga.us
Justin Kincaid	Oconee Courthouse 23 N. Main St, Watkinsville 30677	jkinc@ocnee.ga.us
John Daniell	23 N. Main	jdaniell@ocnee.ga.us



**OGLETHORPE COUNTY**

<b>NEGRSWMA – Oglethorpe County</b> <b>Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Update</b> Public Hearing: September 7, 2021   6:00 p.m. Historic Oglethorpe County Courthouse   111 W Main St, Lexington, GA 30648			
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL	
Mike Beatty	305 Research Drive Athens, GA 30605	mbeatty@negrc.org	
Jay Paul, Chairman	105 Union Point Rd Lexington, GA 30648	jaypaul@oglethorpecountyga.gov	
Josh Hawkins		jhawkins@oglethorpecountyga.gov	
Phil Sanders		phil.familyventure@windstream.net	
Andy Saxon		red529@windstream.net	
David Clarke		drclarkdist3@windstream.net	
William Brown		wbrownboc4@gmail.com	
Tracy Norman		commissionertracynorman@gmail.com	
Amy Forrester		boc@oglethorpecountyga.gov	

**WALTON COUNTY**

NEGRSWMA – Walton County Solid Waste Management Plan Update Public Hearing: September 1, 2021   11:00 a.m. Walton County Historic Courthouse   Court Square, Monroe GA 30655		
NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
Mark Beatty	305 Research Drive Athens, GA 30605	mbeatty@negrc.org
Kenny Sargent	1053 Wildwood Lane Monroe, GA 30655	Kenny.Sargent@co.walton.ga.us
Jason David	1516 Isabella Lane Covington Ga 30014	13J.David@gmail.com
David G. Thompson	P.O. Box 49 Monroe GA	Dthom15943@FMail.net

17 APPENDIX C – COUNTY PARTICIPATION RESOLUTIONS

**ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY RESOLUTION TO  
PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Athens-Clarke County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED THIS 5 DAY OF May, 2020.

**Unified Government of Athens-Clarke  
County, Georgia**

By: Kelly Girtz  
Kelly Girtz, Mayor

Attest:

Gloria J. Sprafkin

Gloria J. Sprafkin Clerk of Commission

Name/Title

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**BARROW COUNTY  
RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Barrow County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED THIS 14 DAY OF April, 2020.

**Barrow County  
Board of Commissioners**

By:   
Pat Graham, Chairman

Attest:



Danielle Austin  
County Clerk  
Name/Title



Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**ELBERT COUNTY  
RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

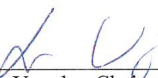
**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Elbert County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF April, 2020.

**Elbert County  
Board of Commissioners**

By:   
Lee Vaughn, Chairman

Attest:



Bob Thomas - County Administrator  
Name/Title

Resolution Number 2020.4.14(a)

**GREENE COUNTY  
RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Greene County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2020.

**Greene County Board of Commissioners**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Gary Usry*  
Gary Usry, Chairman

Attest:

*Sylvia Hill*  
Sylvia Hill, County Clerk

SEAL:



RESOLUTION  
20-007

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**JACKSON COUNTY  
RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Jackson County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF May, 2020.



Attest:

Erica Johnson

ERICA Johnson, Deputy Clerk  
Name/Title

Jackson County  
Board of Commissioners

By: Tom Crow  
Tom Crow, Chairman

RESOLUTION  
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA  
REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
MADISON COUNTY, GEORGIA

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Madison County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regionals Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

Approved by the Madison County Board of Commissioners on the 18<sup>th</sup> day  
of May, 2020

By: John D. Scarborough  
Honorable John D. Scarborough, Chairman, Madison County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rhonda S. Wooten  
Rhonda S. Wooten, Clerk, Madison County Board of Commissioners



2020-RES-003

**RESOLUTION-TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE OF THE NORTHEAST  
GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF MORGAN

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assemble enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE** Morgan County Board of Commissioners that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED, THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2020.

MORGAN COUNTY, GEORGIA,  
Acting by and through its Board of Commissioners



Philipp von Hanstein, Chairman




Ben M. Riden, Jr., Vice-Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew A. Ainslie, Jr., Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donald B. Harris, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald H. Milton, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest: Leslie Brandt, County Clerk



**OCONEE COUNTY, GEORGIA  
RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and,

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and,

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Oconee County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

Adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.



**OCONEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

By: *J. L. Daniell*  
John Daniell, Chairman

Attest: *Kathy Hayes*  
Kathy Hayes, County Clerk

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**OGLETHORPE COUNTY  
RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Oglethorpe County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED THIS 4th DAY OF May, 2020.

**Oglethorpe County  
Board of Commissioners**

By: B. Pittard  
Billy Pittard, Chairman

Attest:  
Amy P. Forrester

Amy P. Forrester, Clerk  
Name/Title

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**WALTON COUNTY  
RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPDATE  
OF THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly enacted the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, which requires county and municipal governments to develop or be included in a comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared on behalf of and includes the solid waste management plans of all municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be prepared in compliance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, as amended in 2011, and the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements will be met or exceeded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Walton County that the recommendation to participate as a member county in the 2020 update of the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is accepted, and furthermore, that the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission shall be notified of said adoption in writing within seven (7) days of the adoption of this resolution.

SO ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF April, 2020.

**Walton County  
Board of Commissioners**

By: Kevin Little  
Kevin Little, Chairman

Attest:

Leta P. Talbira

LETA P. TALBIRA, COUNTY CLERK  
Name/Title

**18 APPENDIX D – ADOPTION RESOLUTIONS**

**TO BE COMPLETED FOLLOWING LOCAL ADOPTION**



19 APPENDIX E – SUPPLEMENTAL COUNTY INFORMATION

2020 ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

**ACC Recycling Division**

Waste Reduction Programs

- Commercial Recycling Ordinance & Policy
- Event Material Management Ordinance Policy and Bin Loaner Program
- Pay-As-You-Throw policy, private hauler education and enforcement
- ACC Government Recycling Policy (quarterly ACC Recycling Coordinator meetings)
- Commercial Organics collection program
- Residential Organics drop-off program
- Glass Bottle Reduction Program
- Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM)
- Recovered Material Recycling Facility (oversight)
- Teacher Reuse Store (partner program)
- Zero Waste Kits
- Recycling Drop-off Sites (eight)
- Local school, Business and Industry Waste Reduction Technical Support
- Multi-Family Dwelling Waste Reduction Education and Technical Support
- Sustainable Industry Roundtables
- Waste Reduction Community Awards
- Partnership with UGA Office of Sustainability
- Backyard composting promotion
- Landfill on-site waste diversion program

Marketing

- Present ACC programs at regional and national conferences
- Distribute green bags and smaller promotional items (cups, recycled content pencils, etc.)
- Maintain Web, Social Media presence
- Design, develop and distribute informational videos, social media posts, brochures and flyers.
- Binny the Recycling Mascot (w/original theme song)
- Submit content for internal ACC publications (Acorn, Accent, Snapshot)

Education

- Green Schools Program (partner program)
- Facility Tours (Recovered Material Processing Facility, Compost Facility, Landfill and CHaRM)
- School and Community Presentations
- Community tabling Events

- Master Composter (partner program)
- Maintain compost demonstration sites (four)
- Waste Reduction Internships (paid and unpaid)
- Individual consultations (phone, e-mail, in-person)

Events

- Scrap Tire Amnesty Weeks (twice per year)
- GreenFest Awards (partner program)
- Bulky Waste Collection Day (twice per year)
- Green School Kick Off (partner program)
- Vulture Festival
- America Recycles Week
- Earth Week (Special events, tours, etc.)
- International Compost Awareness Week (partner program)
- AthFest (tabling and collection)
- Twilight (tabling and collection)
- Marigold Festival (tabling, parade and collection)
- Star Spangled Classic (tabling and collection)
- Holiday Parade of Lights (parade float construction and collection)
- Move Out Day Bulky Donation Collection (Partner program)

Committees:

- Litter Abatement Steering Committee
- Green Schools
- Communications Work Team
- SMART Team
- Georgia Recycling Coalition Board Member and Committee Chairs
- Plans Review Solid Waste Department Representative
- SWANA Board Member and Committee Chair
- North Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority Board Member

Other

- Awards submittals
- Grant submittals
- State reporting requirements
- Continuing education for staff
- Serves as a national model for material management programming
- Provides collection capability and guidance for Northeast Georgia

Coming Soon:

Creative Reuse Programming to include repair cafes



2020 ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

**Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful**

Planting and Beautification

- Loop 10 Daffodil/Median Project
- School Garden Network Program
- Athens Area Toolshed Program
- Adopt Athens Program
- Adopt-A-Highway Program
- Cigarette Litter Receptacles Program (CLR)
- Green Schools Program (partner program)
- Down and Dirty Program
- Litter Hotline Program
- Schoolyard Litter Gitters Program
- Beautiful Business of the Month/Year Program
- Litter Abatement Steering Committee (LAST)
- Compost Bin Program
- KAB Litter Index Annual Reporting Project
- Arbor Day Tree Planting Project
- National Day of Planting/Plant Distribution
- School Garden Champion Awards Project
- Pollinator Garden Installation Project
- UPS/KAB Tree Grant Project(s)
- NEGIC Invasive Removal Project (ALT)
- YUF grant Program (ALT)
- Smart Lunch, Smart Kids Summer Program
- Farm to School Community Project
- Project Wild/Learning Tree Teacher Training (facilitator requirement)
- KACCB Membership Campaign Program

Marketing

- Present KACCB programs at regional and national conferences
- Distribute garbage bags and promotional items at local events
- Maintain KACCB Web and social media presence
- Design, develop and distribute informational videos, brochures and flyers.
- BEE BEE Clean Mascot for school and events
- Submit content for internal ACC publications (Acorn, Accent, Snapshot)
- PSA Campaigns (Seriously, Cig Fairy, Littervention)

Events

- Dirty Dance Party
- MLK Day of Service (partner program)
- GreenFest (partner program)
- Ripple Effect Film Festival (partner program)
- Green School Kick Off (partner program)
- Daffodil Sip and Stroll
- GAC/AAH Challenge project
- ICAW Compost Week

- School /Community Presentations
- Marigold Festival
- TIREd of litter Tire Amnesty Week
- Pocket Ashtrays Athfest Project
- Rivers Alive Event (partner program)
- Tired of Trash Project

Recycling

- Bring One for the Chipper Program
- Cell Phone/Ink Jet Recycling Program
- Compost Bin Sales Program
- Can Flower Sales Program
- International Compost Awareness Week (partner program)
- Teacher Reuse Store (partner program)

Volunteer Projects

- MLK Day of Service
- Rivers Alive
- Freshman College (August)
- Dawg Day of Service
- United Way Day of Caring
- PSO Day of Service
- Loop 10 Daffodil Planting Project

Other

- Awards /grant submittals
- KGBF State reporting requirements
- KAB National Reporting requirements
- AAH Group of Year/BBM of year
- ACC Citizen of the Year awards
- Seriously – T-shirt salea

Committees:

- Litter Abatement Steering Committee (LAST)
- CBD Beautification and Communications Team
- Green Schools Committee
- KGBF State Board
- KGBF Communication Committee
- DNR State Rivers Alive Board
- Rivers Alive Committee
- Community Tree Council
- MLK Steering Committee
- KAB National Awards Judge
- Roll Out the Barrels Committee
- Communications Work Team
- Water Festival Committee
- School Lunch Challenge
- Advanced Training in Environmental Education
- ACC Charity
- AG Science Advisory Board(s)
- Wellness Coordinator



