

OKALOOSA COUNTY RECYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 17, 2020

1. Members, Staff and Guests:

Members Present:

Amanda Grandy, Chairman
Sharon McAuliffe, Vice-Chairman
Rip Coleman (Via ZOOM)
Nicolas Hall
Jill Hoglund (Via ZOOM)
Kimberly Hopkins
Freda Meyer-Kuhl
Stephen Wolfrom
Renee Wood

Others Present:

Scott Henson
Jim Reece
Janet Thompson
Brynn Burdge

The meeting was called to order by Amanda Grandy at 1:20 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Motion:	Approve the minutes as submitted.
Made by:	Steve Wolfrom
Seconded by:	Nicolas Hall
Disposition:	Approved unanimously

NOTE: Spelling of Jill's last name was corrected.

3. Scott Henson and Jim Reece: Update on recycling in Okaloosa County

Scott and Jim made a presentation, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

4. Scott Henson: Update on procedure for communicating to BCC

Move forward to a future meeting.

5. RAC Business

a. Vision Statement

Motion:	Approve RAC Vision Statement as follows: The vision of the Okaloosa County Recycling Advisory Committee is to advise the Okaloosa County Commissioners so that they can inspire and challenge Okaloosa County residents to achieve the highest waste reduction, recycling and reuse goals in the state of Florida through innovation and creativity, sound advancements in science and technology, and efficient programs that improve economic vitality and environmental sustainability.
Made by:	Kim Hopkins
Seconded by:	Steve Wolfrom
Disposition:	Approved unanimously

b. Strategic Plan

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next meeting. Members will research and report at the next meeting. Scott will determine how to best make all the information available to Committee members.

6. New Business

7. Public Comment (3 minutes each):

8. Next RAC Meeting:

The next meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on December 15th at the Okaloosa County Administrative Building in Shalimar.

9. Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.



RECYCLING PRESENTATION

Okaloosa County
Waste Resources

November 17, 2020



History of MSW Management in Okaloosa County

1. County began residential curbside recycling in 1989 in response to Florida's Solid Waste Management Act of 1988.
2. In 1991 County began its own yard trash processing operation (still operational today)
3. In 2008 The Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce working with the County established a Green Task Force to promote recycling and sustainability among the business community.
4. In 2008 County's Franchise Hauler went to single-stream recycling
5. Franchise Hauler also instituted a commercial recycling service line for businesses wishing to recycle.
6. County conducted public workshops in 2009 culminating in a solid waste workshop in December. Effort was to garner input on the direction that the public would like to see for future waste and recycling services.
7. In 2010 county began the process of preparing bid specifications concurrently with discussions with its Franchise Hauler.

1. County began residential curbside recycling in 1989 in response to Florida's Solid Waste Management Act of 1988. **Many of the Cities within the county followed suit by implementing curbside recycling. The County also established drop-off recycling locations in rural areas of the county.**

2. In 1991 County began its own yard trash processing operation (still operational today) **to reclaim all yard waste generated for disposal in the county to use in maintenance of three closed landfills. County signed 10 year agreement in 2000 for collection and disposal of residential waste from unincorporated areas.**

4. In 2008 County's Franchise Hauler went to single-stream recycling **which expanded the types of materials collected at the curb.**

History of MSW Management in Okaloosa County

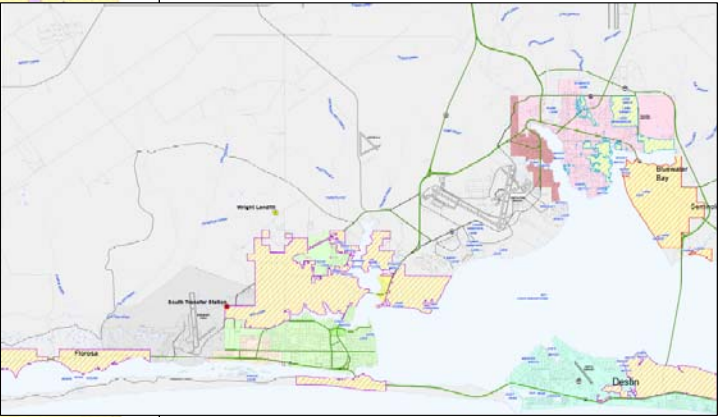
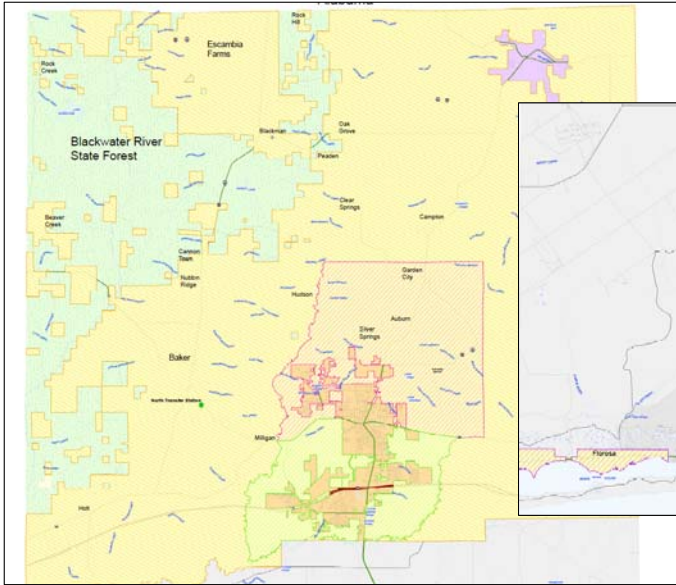
7. Late summer of 2010 Board decided on negotiations with Franchise Hauler
8. Negotiations were successful and realized the following:
 - Yard trash bags opened & removed at curb – no additional charge.
 - Bulk waste amended to include treated lumber, tires, and electronics – no additional charge.
 - Added multi-family recycling rates that were half the cubic yard rate for disposal.
 - Floor rate on recyclables payable to county at \$20 per ton.
 - Rate payable on recyclables from County franchise areas figured at the average market value (AMV) monthly (then current \$30 per ton, but has been as high as \$65 per ton).
 - Provision for modifying collection services to allow for changing twice a week garbage pickup to once a week garbage pickup with upsized container for recycling (commonly called 1-1-1).

7. bid announcement as a backup plan if negotiations did not achieve desired results. Goal was to reduce collection and disposal costs with a rate reduction to residential customers

History of MSW Management in Okaloosa County

7. In December 2012 County approved a proposal from Contractor to mine OCC from the transfer station floor – County and Contractor to 50/50 split of net revenue from sale of recyclables.
8. Pursuant to its contract the County (Dec 2012) directed that a 1-1-1 pilot be conducted for approximately 2,400 homes from Feb thru Jul 2012.
9. Results were successful in reducing waste for disposal and increasing the amount of recyclables collected. A survey conducted near the end of the pilot revealed that 80+ % were in favor of the “enhanced” recycling program” and thought it should be expanded within the county.
10. If expanded throughout County’s five franchise areas it has the potential to generate an additional 2,750 tons of recyclables annually.
11. Negotiations ensued with the Contractor starting in late summer of 2012 culminating in a decision by the Board in December 2012 to delay expanding the service until the end of its current contract in 2016 and bid “enhanced recycling” as part of the bid package.

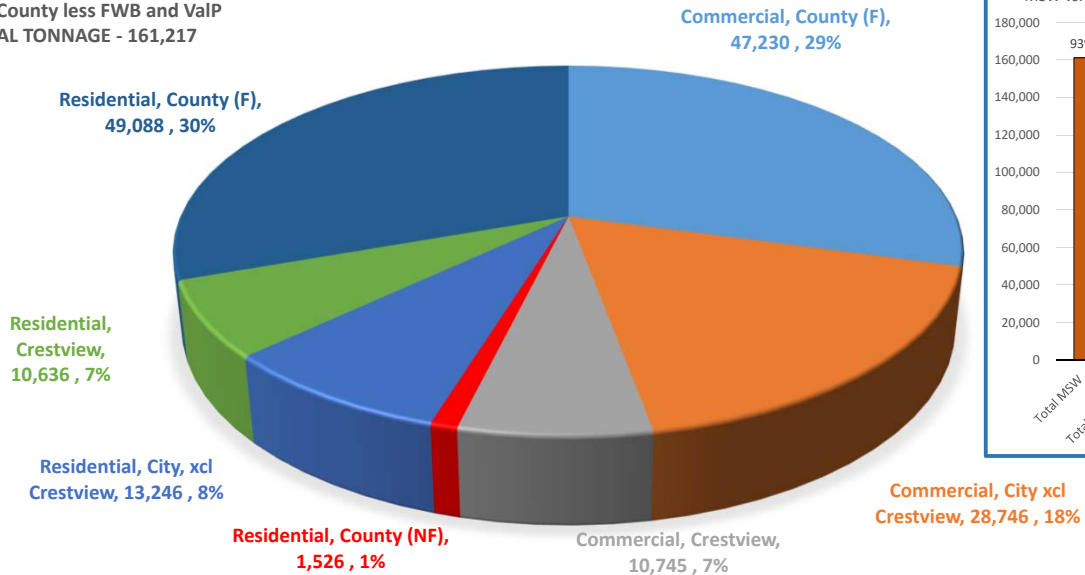
Waste Service Map



Okaloosa County – Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)



MSW TONNAGES COLLECTED
Entire County less FWB and ValP
TOTAL TONNAGE - 161,217



- Residential County – Franchise Areas within unincorporated County, Waste Management
- Residential Crestview – Franchise Area City Limits, Waste Pro
- Residential, City exc Crestview– Niceville, Shalimar, Tri-Cities (Destin, Mary Esther, Cinco Bayou) , Waste Management
- Residential County (NF) – Non-Franchise area of unincorporated County, Open Market
- Commercial Crestview - Franchise Area City Limits, Waste Pro
- Commercial City exc Crestview - Niceville, Shalimar, Tri-Cities (Destin, Mary Esther, Cinco Bayou) , Waste Management
- Commercial County – Non-exclusive commercial franchise for entire unincorporated County
- (F), (NF) – Franchise, Non-Franchise

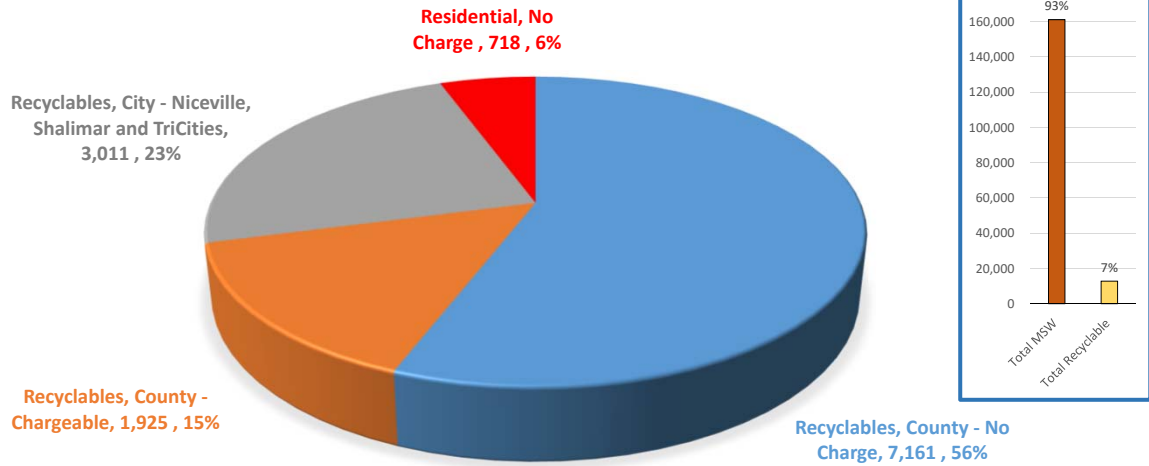
Okaloosa County – Recyclables



RECYCLABLE TONNAGES COLLECTED

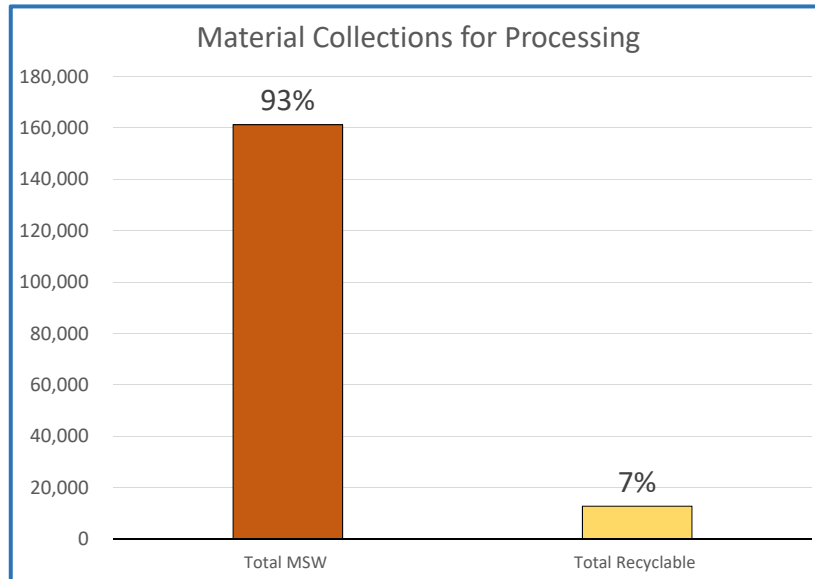
Entire County less FWB and ValP

TOTAL TONNAGE – 12,815



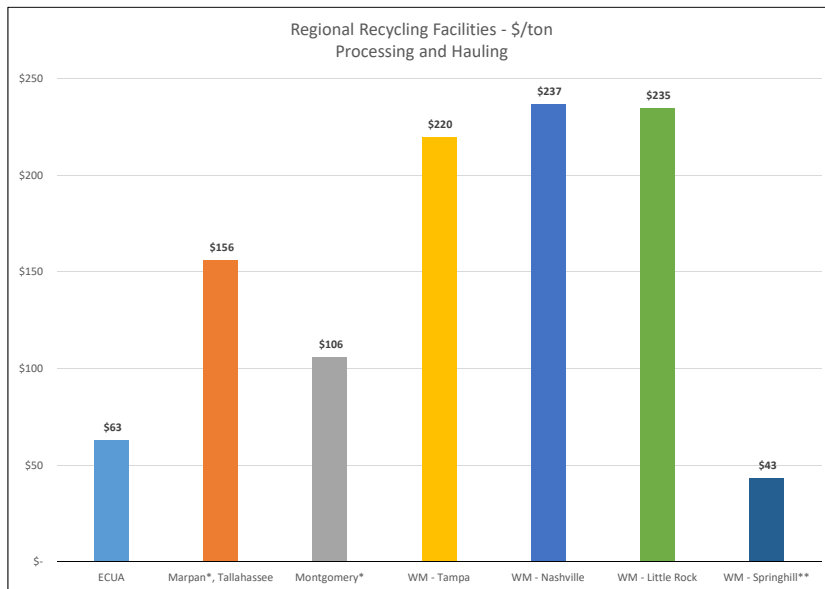
- Residential, No Charge – 718 tons – Scrap Metal collected at 6 locations (BLF,FWBTS public drop-off), (PW Yard North, PW Yard South, Water and Sewer Plant, FM North, in-house), Scrap Metal Contract, minor component of yard trash included, DoD Lease Agreement
- Recyclables, City Niceville Shalimar and Tri-Cities (Destin, Mary Esther, Cinco Bayou) – Franchise Area of Incorporated Cities, Charged at Scalehouse, billed by County, ECUA
- Recyclables, County, Chargeable – Commercial County-wide, ECUA
- Recyclables, County, No Charge – Residential Franchise Area of Unincorporated County, ECUA

Okaloosa County – Waste Disposal



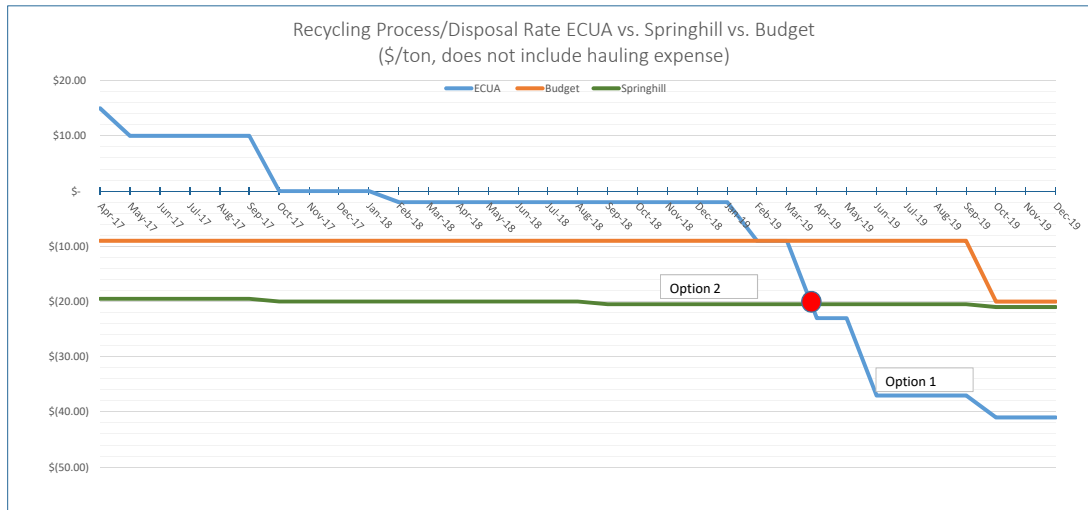
Old Corrugated Cardboard	3500 tons
Mixed Paper	3300 tons
Plastic Bottles	930 tons
All other plastics	357 tons
Aluminum Cans	208 tons
Steel Cans	171 tons
Other ferrous	190 tons
Glass	1,063 tons
Contamination/Residue	3,000 tons

Okaloosa County – Alternative Processing Facilities

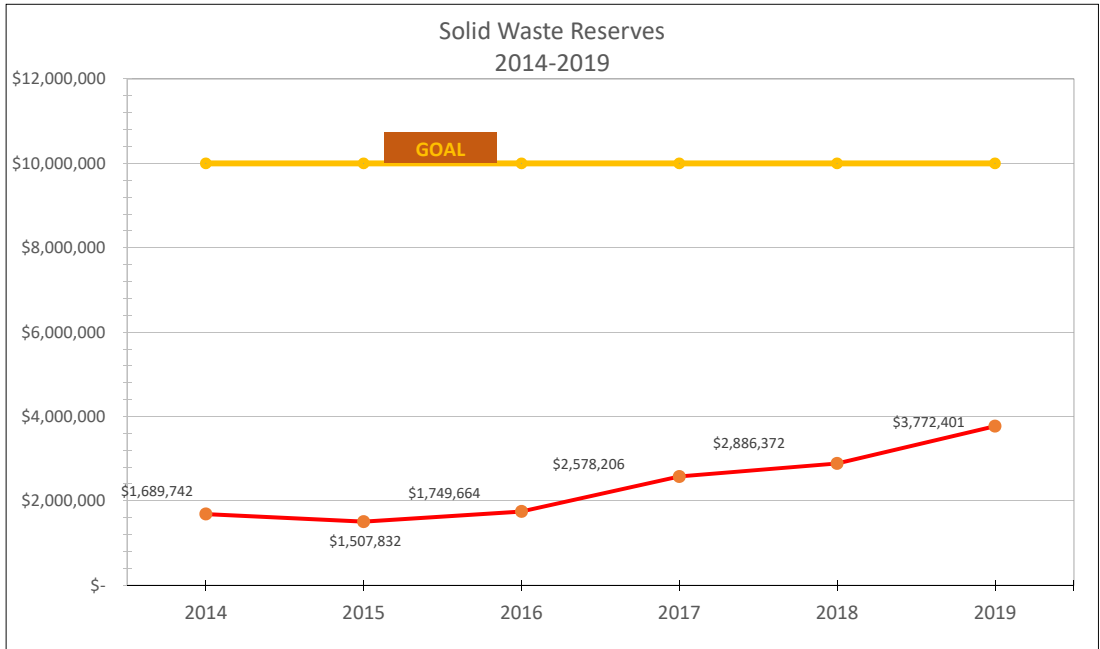


- ECUA rate = \$41/ton., Hauling \$22/ton
- Marpan does not have capacity for our recyclables. Charges city of Tallahassee \$85/ton for processing.
- Montgomery - Does not accept glass or mixed paper. 10% max contamination. Cost of rejects unknown.
- WM-Tampa – Plastic containers, bottles and jugs, glass bottles or jars, steel/aluminum cans, paper and cardboard. 20% contamination rate. Rejects \$150/ton.
- WM-Nashville – #1 or #2 plastic bottles, steel/aluminum cans, paper and cardboard. 10% contamination rate. Rejects \$150/ton.
- WM-Little Rock - #1 or #2 plastic bottles, steel/aluminum cans, paper and cardboard. 10% contamination rate. Rejects \$150/ton.
- Bay County - Incinerator appears to be phasing out in near future - storm damage/age; expanding landfill
- Santa Rosa - Board approved new agreement with ECUA based on latest proposal (Santa Rosa not collecting glass)

Okaloosa County – Disposal vs. Processing



- The blue ECUA line from left to right to right shows the
- An area above the orange line (Budget) and below a rate line indicate positive effect on reserves.
- An area below the orange line (Budget) and above a rate line indicates a negative effect on reserves.
- As expenses to recycling through ECUA increase the more of a hit on reserves.



Okaloosa County – Reserves



Q: What are Solid Waste Program Reserves?

A: Reserves are funds that are realized annually when revenue exceeds expenses at the end of the Fiscal Year.

Q: Why are Reserves important?

A: Reserve funds are typically used to pay for unplanned or unbudgeted expenses like the following:

- Environmental Issues
- Post Storm Debris Removal
- Damaged infrastructure

Or, Capital Improvements

- Transfer Station expansion
- Replace/procure additional weigh scales
- Equipment replacement

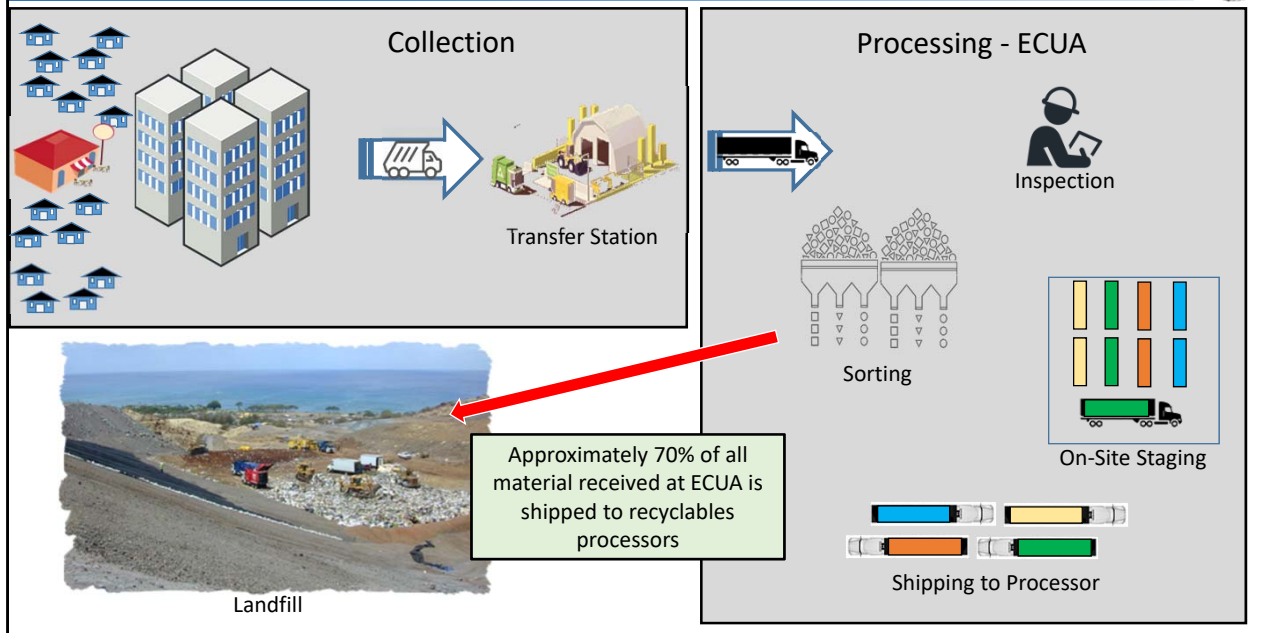
Q: How much should our Reserve be?

A: Example:

- 6-month Operating Expenses - Service related expenses outside of existing contract(s) - \$5M-\$6M
- Share of costs for disaster related recovery expenses

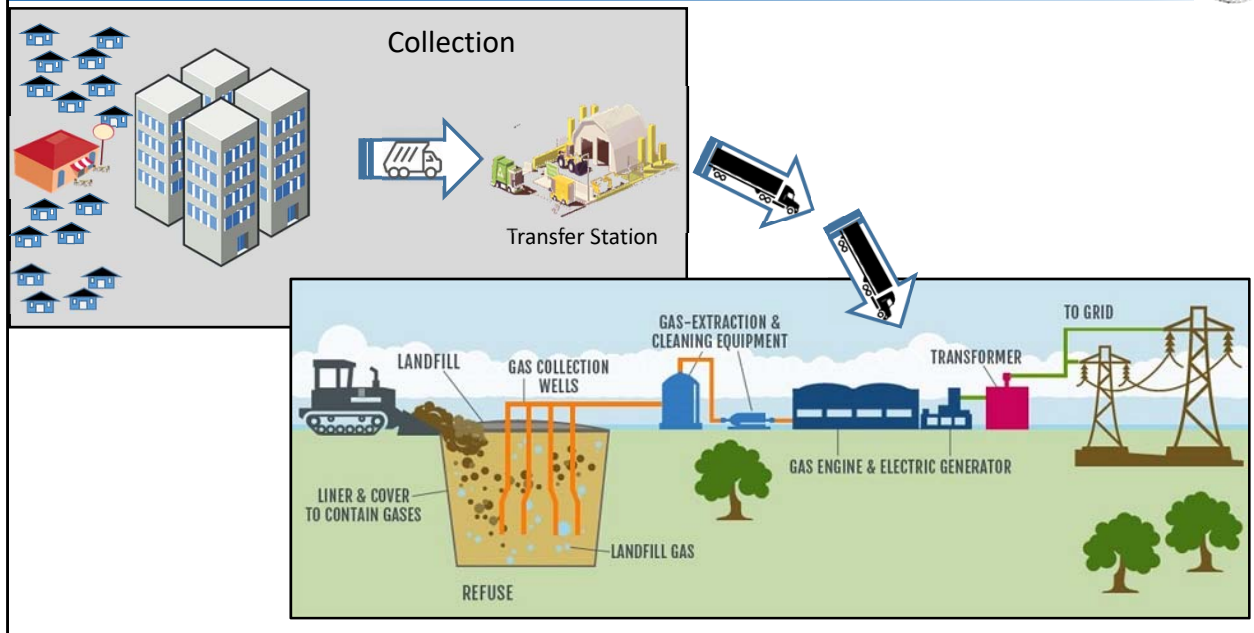
- Environmental Issues – New source of contamination found at landfill, HHW hazardous waste spill, explosion/fire...
- 6-month Operating Expenses – example – Waste Management defaults on contract and new service provider is procured.

Okaloosa County – ECUA Processing



- Recycling Credits are Material Delivered minus contamination/residue
- ECUA accepts some but not all recyclable materials – plastic bottles and containers, food and beverage cans, paper, flattened cardboard and paperboard, food and beverage cartons, glass bottles and jars
- ECUA does not accept food waste, plastic bags and film, Styrofoam cups and containers, metals (other than noted above) or other recyclable materials. These are considered contaminants.
- Inspection – Determination of the percentage contamination. If contamination exceeds 25%, load is refused. Originator contacted to either return load or send to landfill. Only one load from Okaloosa County out of over 1500 loads has been refused. Material was sent to Perdido Landfill \$250 handling fee and \$45/ton tip fee.
- Sorting – Contaminants are removed from material stream and remaining compliant material is segregated into the appropriate type.
- **On-site Staging – Sorted materials are staged at the ECUA facility until an amount suitable for delivery to a processor is completed. ECUA contact the processor to make ready for a load. No excess material is diverted to a landfill.**
- **Shipping to Processor – ECUA loads hauler and delivers to processor.**
- **The Recycling Fee on a water bill was developed to cover the costs of recycling collection only – labor, equipment and materials (carts). No costs of pre-processing, processing or disposal are included in the recycling fee.**
- 2 yr ECUA Agreement contains no Termination for Convenience Clause for the County.
- County must continue its curbside collection of recyclables for the duration of the ECUA Agreement.

Okaloosa County – Springhill Landfill – Landfill Gas to Energy



- **LFGTE Process**

- Decaying rubbish generates methane gas
- Gases are monitored for their oxygen concentration and if whether there is insufficient methane present in the landfill gas for combustion
- Gas extraction well supplies landfill gas to a negative pressure gas collection piping system designed to convey the gas to the LFGTE plant
- Landfill gas is filtered or “scrubbed”, if necessary
- Clean gas is used to run one or more internal combustion engines that have a shaft which is coupled to turn electricity generators to make electricity.
- Electricity which is produced is an alternating current which flows through transformers which raise the voltage up to about 11,000 volts, sometimes higher and through an exported power meter
- The electricity goes into the local power grid and is used by consumers



Emerald Coast Utility Authority

- Single stream – accepts all acceptable materials – paper, glass, plastic, metal cans, etc.
- Facility located in Escambia County
- Material collected at curbside (resident cost), processing at transfer station (County cost), then hauled to ECUA facility (County cost)
- Contamination Rate 25%. Reject loads go to landfill or returned at owners cost.
- Damaged in Hurricane Sally – roof blew off
- Contracted to deliver recyclables to ECUA.



Materials accepted curbside for ECUA recycling

- Glass jars & bottles - any color
- Newspaper & inserts
- Cardboard
- Boxboard (cereal, cake & cracker boxes, etc.)
- Plastic bottles
- Plastics No. 1 & 2
- Plastic milk jugs
- Aluminum cans & lids
- Tin and steel cans & lids

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT

- Many recyclable materials are not accepted at ECUA which means recyclable material can contaminate a recyclable material stream.
- About 30% of all material delivered to ECUA is contamination. This material is removed and sent to a landfill.
- Only 1 load out of 1500+ loads delivered to ECUA in 2.5 years from Okaloosa County has been rejected. However, the Okaloosa contamination rate hovers around 23%

Q: What is “contamination”?

A: When a load of recycled goods contains even a small amount of items not meant to be recycled, it is contaminated. A contaminated load can shut down operations of an entire processing facility and ruin the “good” recyclable material.

Q: What is “Rethink. Reset. Recycle.”?

A: “Reset. Rethink. Recycle.” is a statewide public education campaign dedicated to increasing Florida’s recycling rate to 75 percent by 2020 and decreasing curbside contamination by helping Floridians rethink what they recycle and reset their behavior to focus on the basics.

Q: Should I put plastic bags in my curbside recycling bin?

A: No. Plastic bags are a major contamination problem at recycling centers, clogging machinery and shutting down operations for hours at a time. Instead, recycle your plastic

bags in designated bins at your local retail store!

Q: What CAN I recycle?

A: Focus on 1) aluminum and steel cans, 2) plastic bottles and jugs, and 3) paper and cardboard. Make sure cans, bottles and jugs, and cardboard boxes are clean and dry before going into your curbside recycling bin.

Q: Why does recycling matter?

A: By eliminating the 30 percent of contaminated materials in curbside recycling bins, we could save \$100 million in recycling costs in one year. Tax dollars will be saved, the environment can be preserved for future generations, and scarce natural resources can be stretched to last longer.

Q: Does it even matter if I recycle? Other people will probably continue to contaminate it anyway.

A: Recycling is the one thing we as individuals can control, and by recycling smarter, Floridians can make a big difference. In fact, by eliminating the 30 percent of contaminated materials in curbside recycling bins, we could save \$100 million in recycling costs in one year, and it all starts at the individual level.

Okaloosa County – Recycling Contaminants



Common Curbside Contaminants

- Bulbs, batteries, electronics
- Household hazardous waste
- Scrap metal
- Sharps (needles)
- Medications
- Paint products
- Oil, Gas, petroleum products



NO Recyclables in Plastic Bags



NO Food & liquids
Compost instead! Otherwise, see separate document.



NO Electronics & Small Appliances



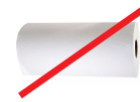
NO Textiles, Bedding, Rugs & Carpet



NO Hoses, Holiday Lights, Hangers & Extension Cords



NO Plastic Bags, Film/Sheeting & Flexible Film Packaging



NO Paper Napkins, Plates, Cups & Tissues



NO Polystyrene Foam



NO Tires, Auto Parts & Scrap Metal



NO Concrete, Wood & Construction Debris



NO Yard Waste & Wood



NO Non-Recyclable Plastic

- The County distributes recycling flyers in their water bills each quarter describing what to and what not to place in the recycling cart.
- The County operates a Household Hazardous Waste facility and drop off locations where County residents can dispose of these materials free of charge. Commercial generators can also drop off their HHW for a small fee.
- Recycling carts have an abbreviated list of acceptable materials on the lid.



Used hoses,
extension cords
and rope belong
in the trash.

rethink. reset. 
recycle.
FloridaRecycles.org



Donate your old
or unused toys to
a local charity.

rethink. reset. 
recycle.
FloridaRecycles.org



Return collected
plastic bags to your
local retail store.

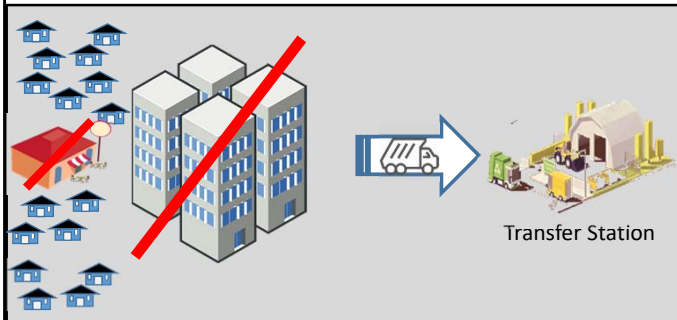
rethink. reset. 
recycle.
FloridaRecycles.org



Donate your old
or unused clothes
and textiles to a
local charity.

rethink. reset. 
recycle.
FloridaRecycles.org

Okaloosa County – Residential Franchise Collection



Collection is:

- Twice a week garbage pickup, Once a week recyclables pickup, Once per week yard trash and Once per week bulk material pickup
- Single-family residential
- 26,500 residents billed by Water and Sewer (5% Admin Fee deducted)
- 6,500 billed by Waste Management

Single Family Unit Rates (\$ per month)	Resident Bill	W&S Fee	Allocation	
Collection (Garbage, Bulk, and Yard Trash)			\$ 13.66	remit to WM
			\$ 0.54	retained by County
Recycling	\$3.70		\$ 3.42	remit to WM
			\$ 0.21	retained by County
Disposal	\$7.18	\$0.36	\$ 6.82	retained by County
	\$26.15	\$1.31	\$ 17.08	Total to WM
			\$ 7.57	Total to County

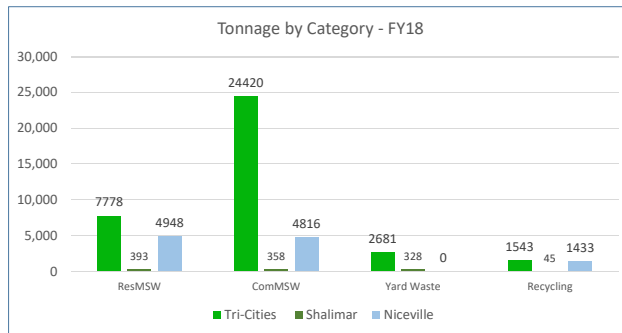
- All of these values are subject to annual CPI

Okaloosa County – Municipal Relationships



Municipality	Contractor	Garbage	Yard Trash	Recycling	Bulk	Commercial Franchise	Recyclable Disposal and Processing
Cinco Bayou	Waste Management	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Okaloosa County Transfer Station
Crestview	Waste Pro	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Santa Rosa County Landfill
Destin	Waste Management	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Okaloosa County Transfer Station
Fort Walton Beach	City	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Republic (Recyclables to ECUA)
Mary Esther	Waste Management	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Okaloosa County Transfer Station
Laurel Hill	Waste Pro	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Baker Transfer Station
Niceville	Waste Management	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Okaloosa County Transfer Station
Shalimar	Waste Management	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Okaloosa County Transfer Station
Valparaiso	City	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No - Open market	Garbage/Bulk - Republic; Drop-off Recycling/Processing; Yard trash - Young's Contracting

Municipality	ResMSW	ComMSW	Yard Waste	Recycling	%
Tri-Cities	7,778	24,420	2,681	1,543	5%
Shalimar	393	358	328	45	6%
Niceville	4,948	4,816	0	1,433	13%



- Municipalities under contract with WM have provisions requiring recycling. WM is looking into hauling municipal recycling to Montgomery.
- None of these contracts are tied to the County’s contract.

Obstacles to increased recycling:

- **Commercial waste is open market and not under control of County (accounts for a significant portion of the waste stream).**
- **Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) (also another significant portion of the waste stream)**
- **Schools are basically autonomous and operate independent of one another**
- **Funding**
- **Politics**



- If not aware the County offers free drop-off of Household Hazardous Waste at two locations: Crestview and Fort Walton Beach
- Some materials are recycled/reused through various techniques – e.g., stale gas and oil based paint disposed in a process called fuels blending
-

Okaloosa County – FDEP Waste Reduction Program



- The FDEP Waste Reduction Section is responsible for promoting and monitoring statewide recycling
- In 2010 the state Legislature set a recycling goal of 75 percent by 2020 for Florida counties. Florida's recycling rate in 2015 was 54 percent
- Florida counties have been given the responsibility of implementing a recycling program within their boundaries under 403.706, Florida Statutes (F.S.).
- Large counties, defined as counties having more than 100,000 in population, are responsible for implementing recycling programs to meet the statewide 75% recycling goal by 2020.
- Their programs shall also be designed to recover a significant portion of at least four of the following materials for recycling: newspaper, aluminum cans, steel cans, glass, plastic bottles, cardboard, office paper, and yard trash.
- If the county no longer has a mechanism for collecting/recycling a significant portion of the materials listed above, then they are not meeting the intent of the law.
- The County participates in the Waste Reduction Program and has for many years

Okaloosa County – FDEP Waste Reduction Program



Some current County program reported elements are as follows:

OCC -3500 tons

- Recycling Credits – the Waste Reduction Program allows recycling credit to recycling programs delivering material to facilities that generate useful products such as energy.
- Springhill Landfill is a LFGTE facility where the County currently receives a credit of 8,400 tons for delivering 161,183 tons of solid waste.
- The temporary addition of 13,000 tons of recycled material from the County would result in an 8% increase in recycling credit (9,075 tons).
- Recycling credit for the 13,000 tons delivered to ECUA would be 13,000 minus contamination of approximately 4,000 tons.

- SRH – used straight ratio equation to calculate increase of recycling credit.
- Contamination and residue lost during sorting.
- OCC – Old Corrugated Containers



QUESTIONS?



Energy Conservation
Raw Material Conservation
Reduces Our Reliance on Mining
Reduces the Need for Landfills
Saves Trees
Reduces Pollution
Conserves natural resources