Mercer County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan 2020

Of all the data available to municipal solid waste management planners, population is the most significant because it drives waste generation.

An Overview of Municipal Solid Waste

2017 Trends in Generation, Recovery , and Disposal

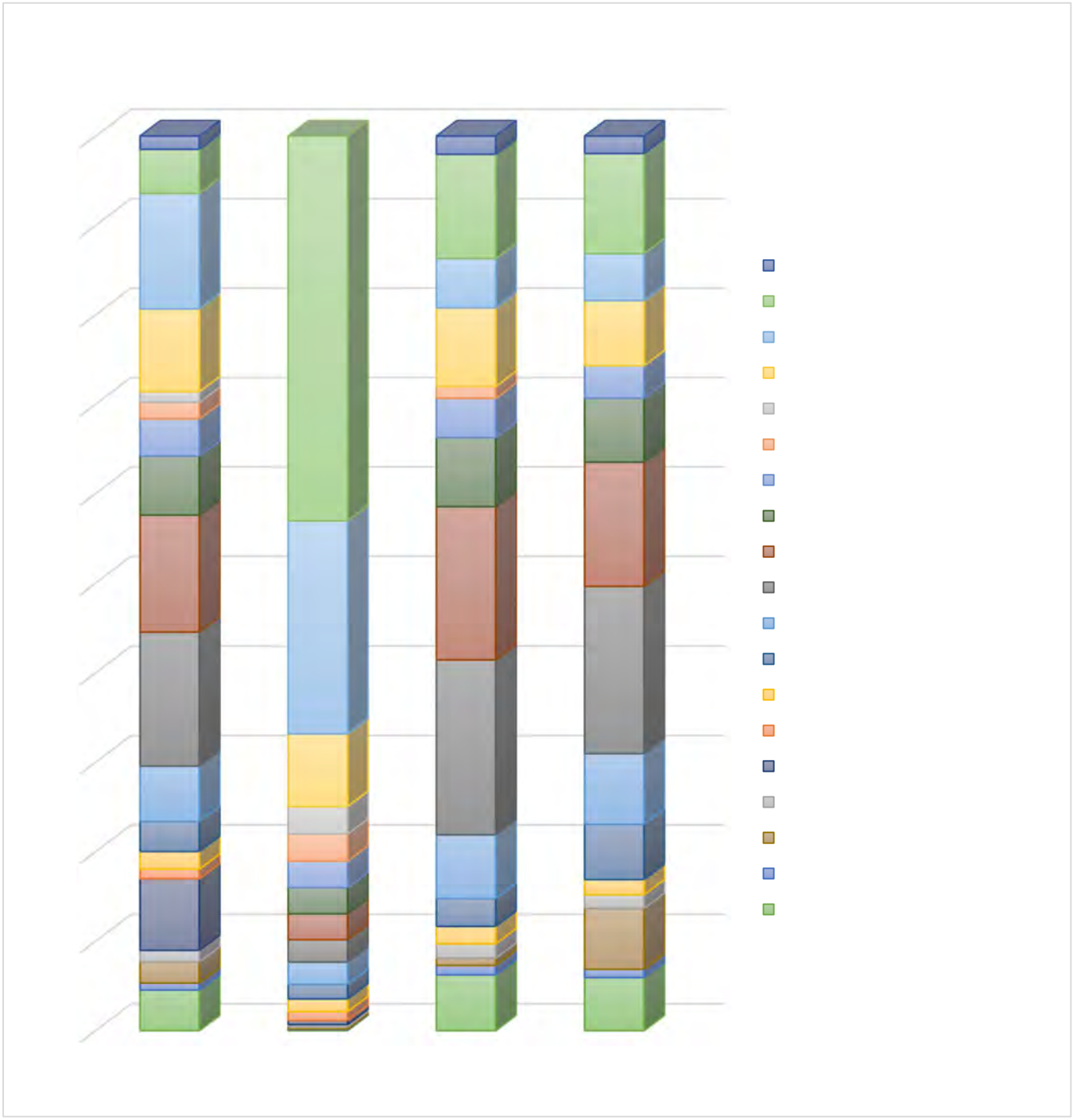
"Advancing Sustainable Materials Management: Facts and Figures 2017"

MANUFACTURING
CONSUMPTION & USE
RECYCLING & REUSE
CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Table 1-1 2017 USA Municipal Waste Composition and Management

	Percentage of Total Generated	Percentage of Total Recovered	Percentage of Total Landfilled	Percentage of Total Combusted
Paper and Paperboard				
Glass				
Total Metals				
Plastics				
Rubber and Leather				
Textiles				
Wood				
Other				
Food				
Yard Trimmings				
Miscellaneous Inorganic Wastes				
Major Appliances				
Small Appliances				
Furniture and Furnishings				
Carpets and Rugs				
Rubber Tires				
Batteries, Lead-Acid				
Selected Consumer Electronics				
Other Miscellaneous Durables				

Figure 1-1 2017 USA Municipal Solid Waste Composition and Management



Defining Solid Waste By Its Source

Components Unique To Pennsylvania

Residential

Commercial

Business Establishments

Other Business Establishments Excluded From The Category

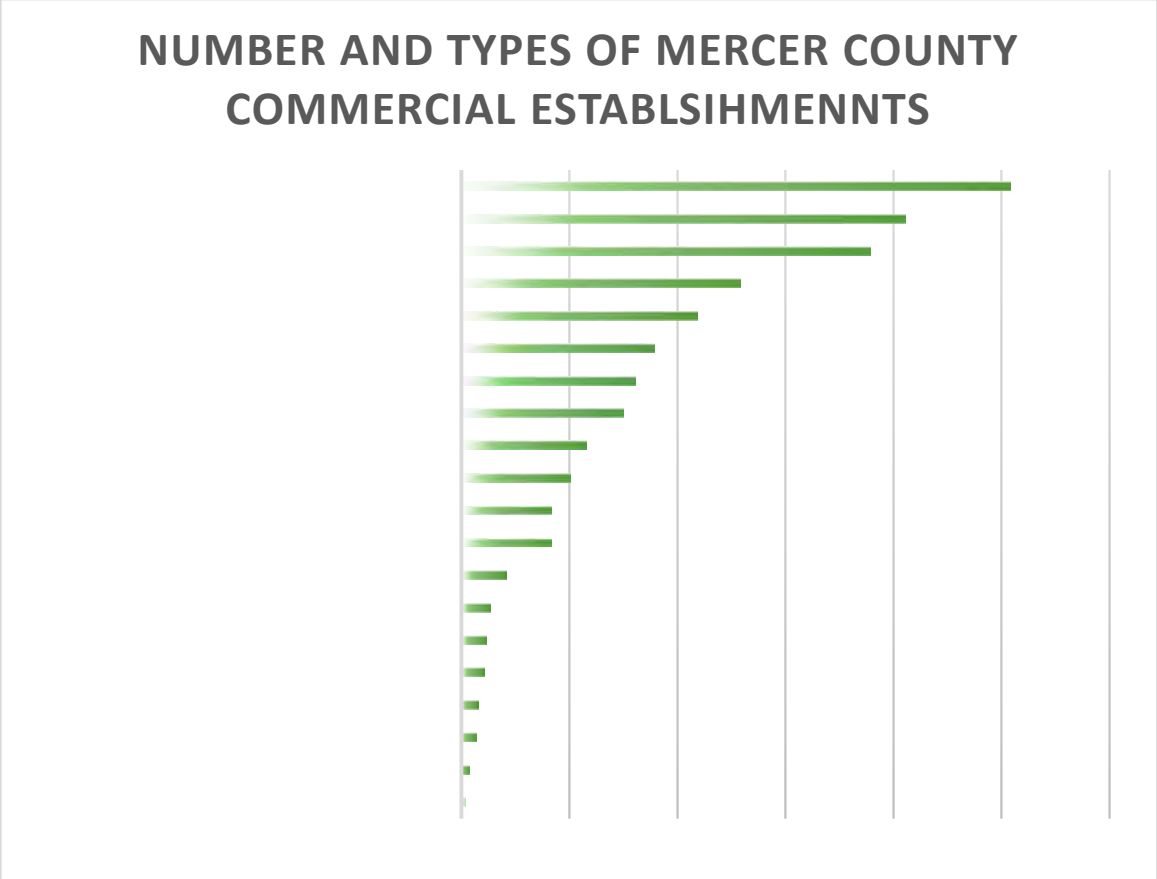
Select Types Of Commercial Municipal Waste Generators

Government Facilities

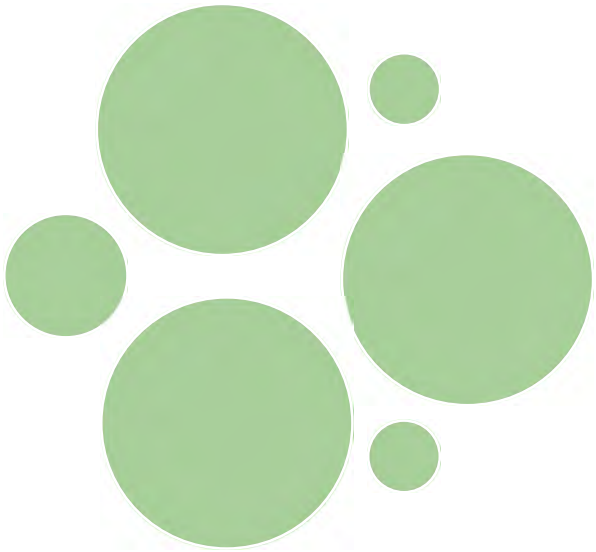
Educational Institutions

Residential Care Facilities

Figure 1-2 Commercial Waste Generators in Mercer County



Community Events



Expected Local Municipal Waste Quantities

Construction Demolition

Overall C&D waste generation is less consistent than municipal waste as a whole. In fact, the amounts of C&D waste can vary from month to month and year to year.

Sewage sludge

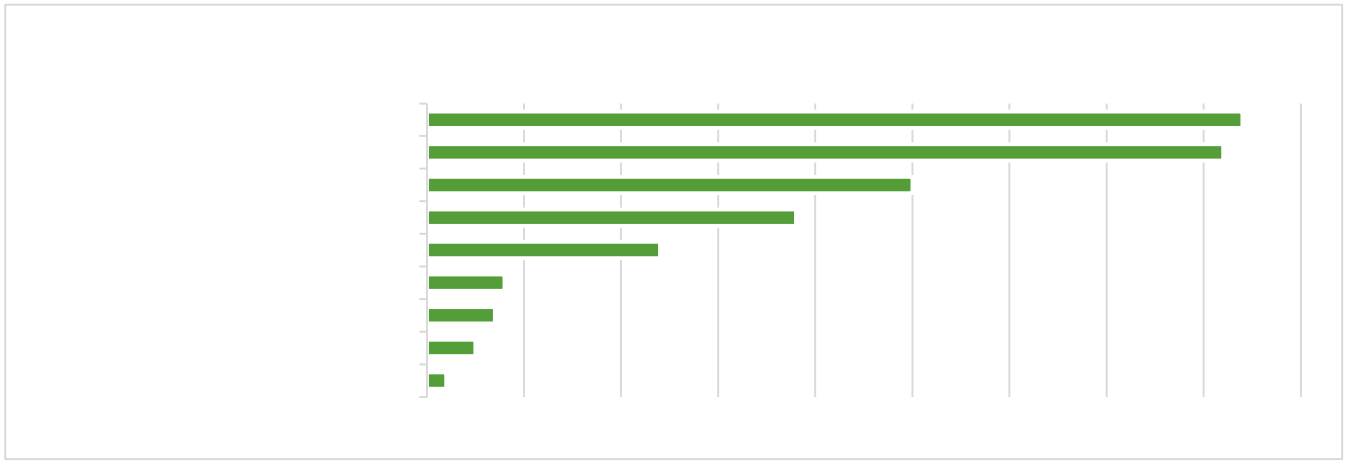
Table 1-2 Estimated Bio-Solids Generation per Municipality with Associated Public Wastewater Treatment Plants

Geography	Served by Wastewater Treatment Facility	
Mercer County	**51,189**	**12797.25**
Clark Borough	244	
Coolspring Township	983	
Deer Creek Township	232	
Delaware Township	939	
East Lackawannock Township	700	
Fairview Township	361	
Farrell City	2,560	
Findley Township	485	
Fredonia Borough	240	
French Creek Township	399	
Greene Township	438	
Greenville Borough	2,505	
Grove City Borough	2,899	
Hempfield Township	1,657	
Hermitage City	7,628	
Jackson Township	595	
Jackson Center Borough	85	
Jamestown Borough	296	
Jefferson Township	867	
Lackawannock Township	1087	
Lake Township	300	
Liberty Township	558	
Mercer Borough	956	

Mill Creek Township	366
New Lebanon Borough	90
New Vernon Township	199
Otter Creek Township	253
Perry Township	674
Pine Township	1,994
Pymatuning Township	1,461
Salem Township	294
Sandy Creek Township	326
Sandy Lake Borough	300
Sandy Lake Township	532
Sharon City	7,559
Sharpsville Borough	2,113
Sheakleyville Borough	63
Shenango Township	1,750
South Pymatuning Township	1,226
Springfield Township	784
Stoneboro Borough	546
Sugar Grove Township	445
West Middlesex Borough	378
West Salem Township	1,494
Wheatland Borough	425
Wilmington Township	543
Wolf Creek Township	360
Worth Township	415

Regulated Medical Waste

Figure1-3 Health Care Facilities and Generators of Regulated Medical Waste



Source US Census Bureau, 2016 County Business Patterns

County Characteristics

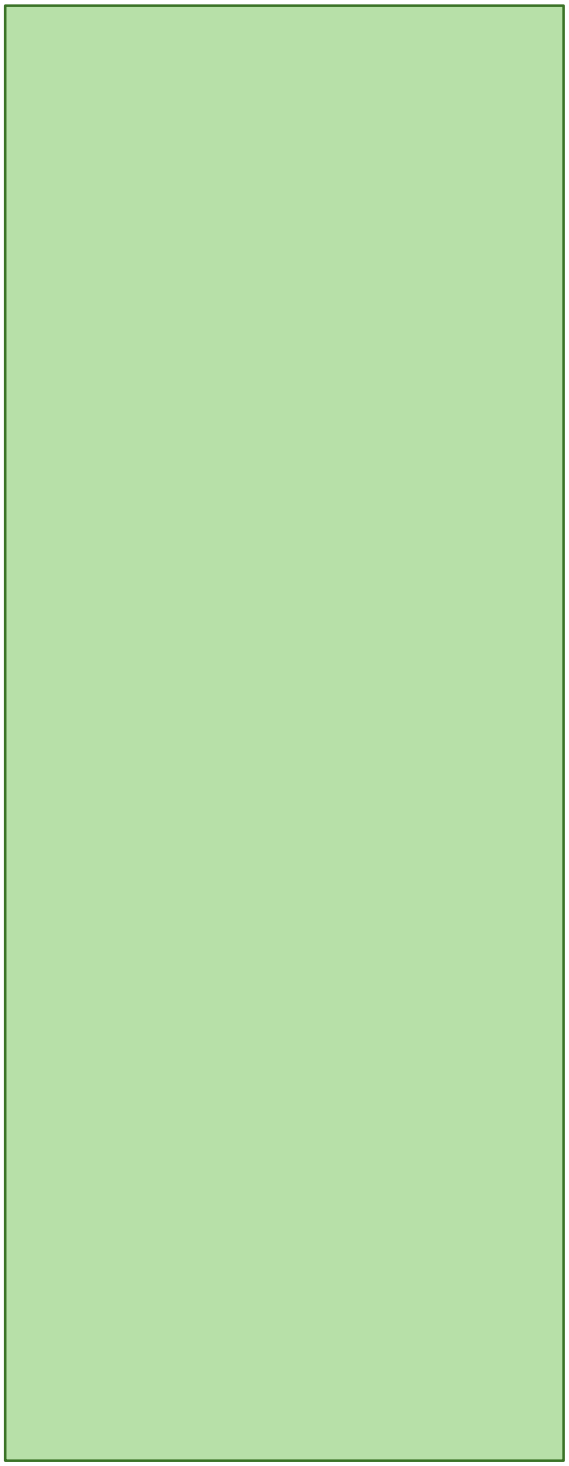


Figure 1-4 Average income by percent of households

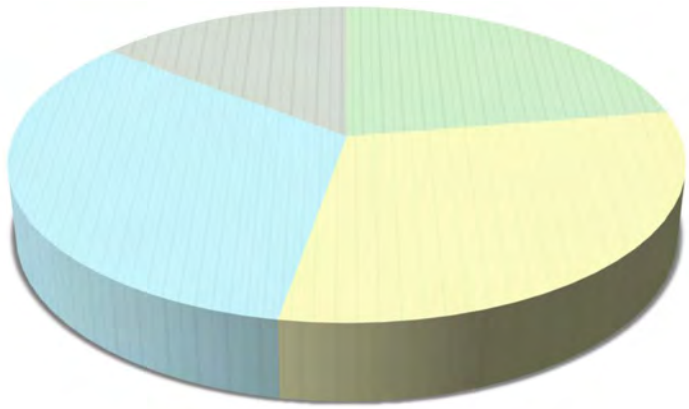


Figure 15 Changes in the Poverty Rate 1980-2016

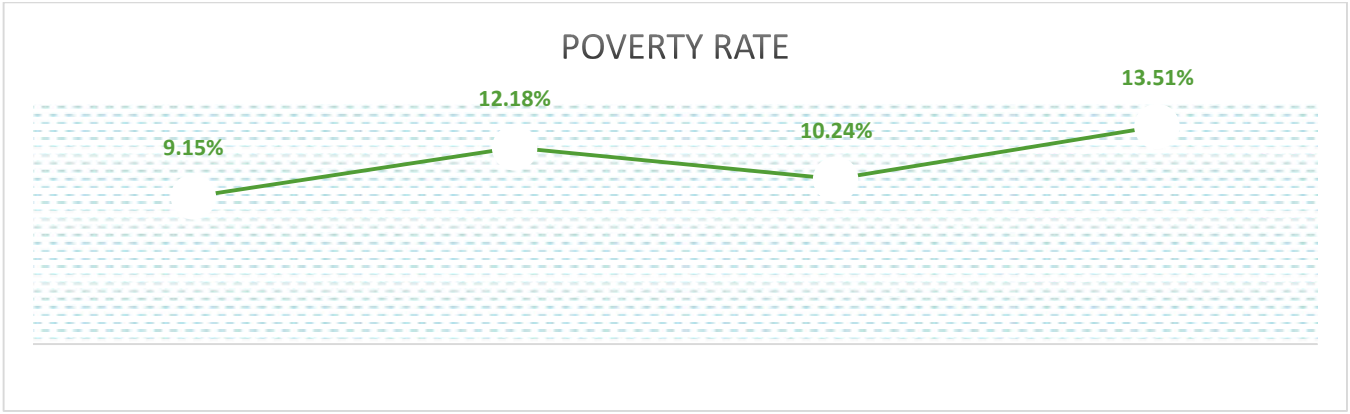


Figure 1-6 Mercer County Historic Population Trends

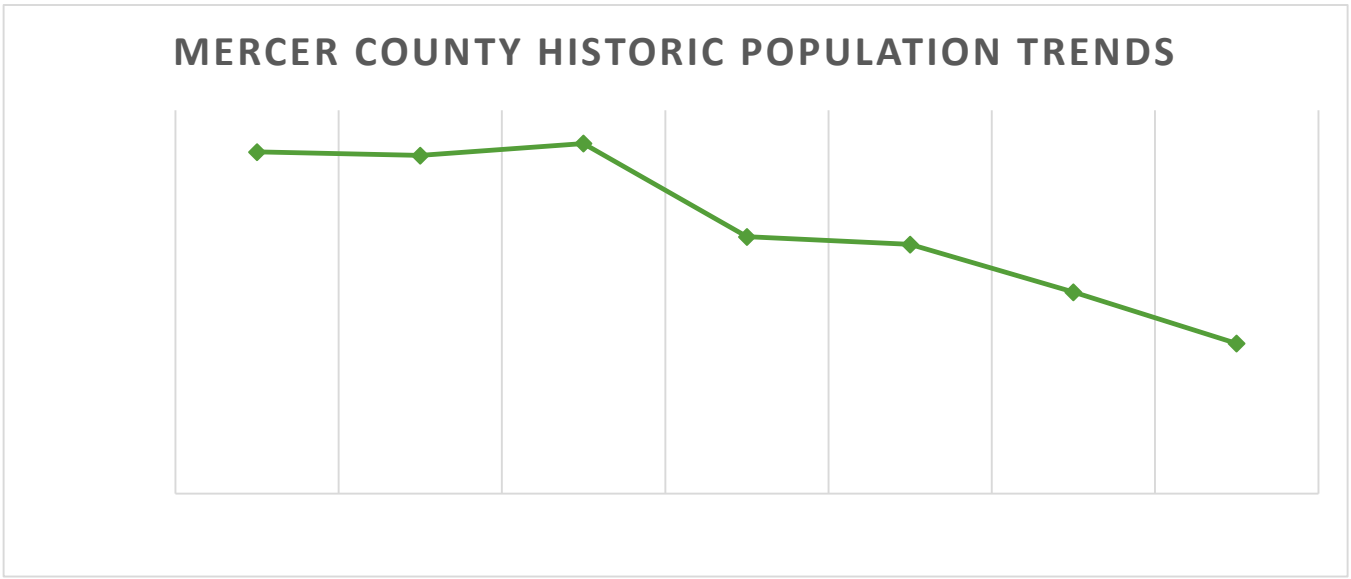


Figure 1-7 Percent Change in Population by Municipalities, 2010-2017

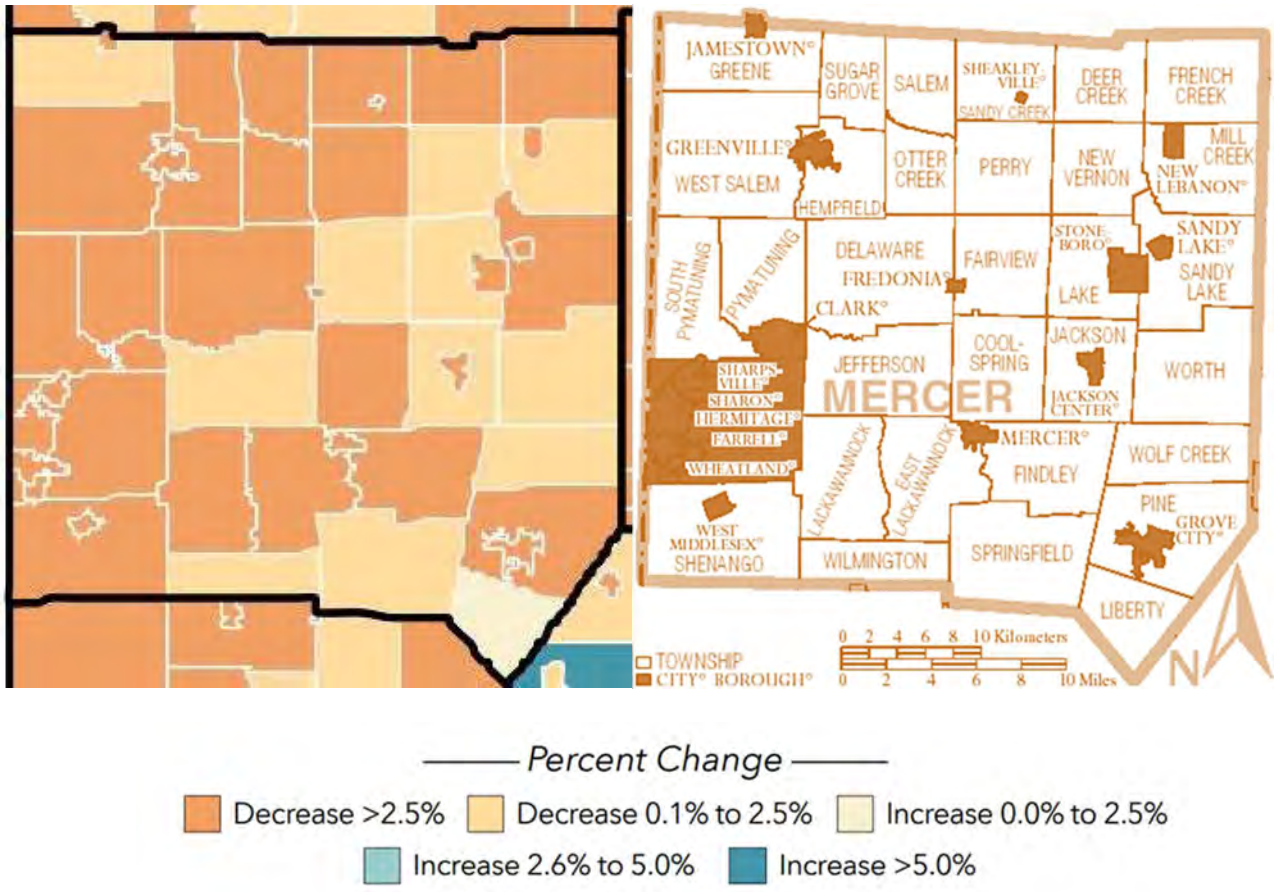
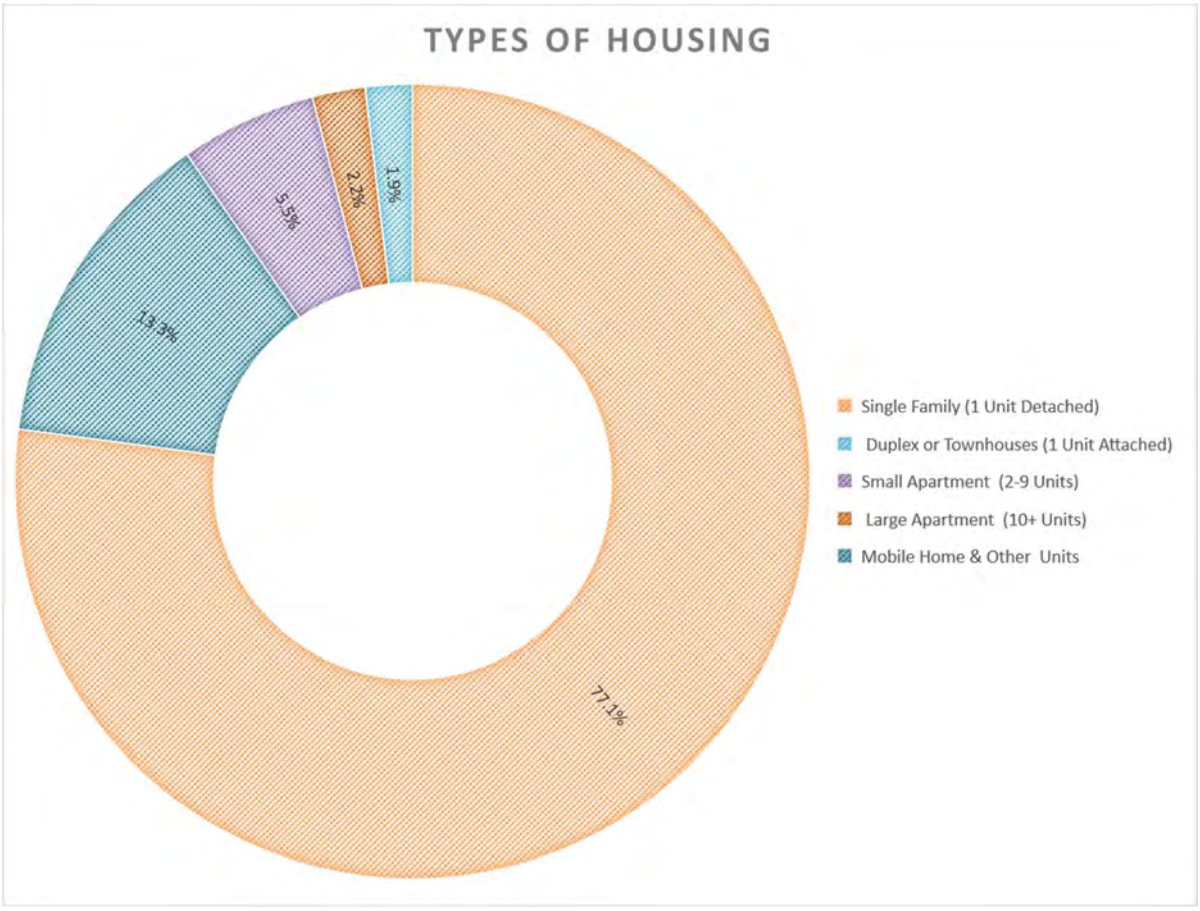
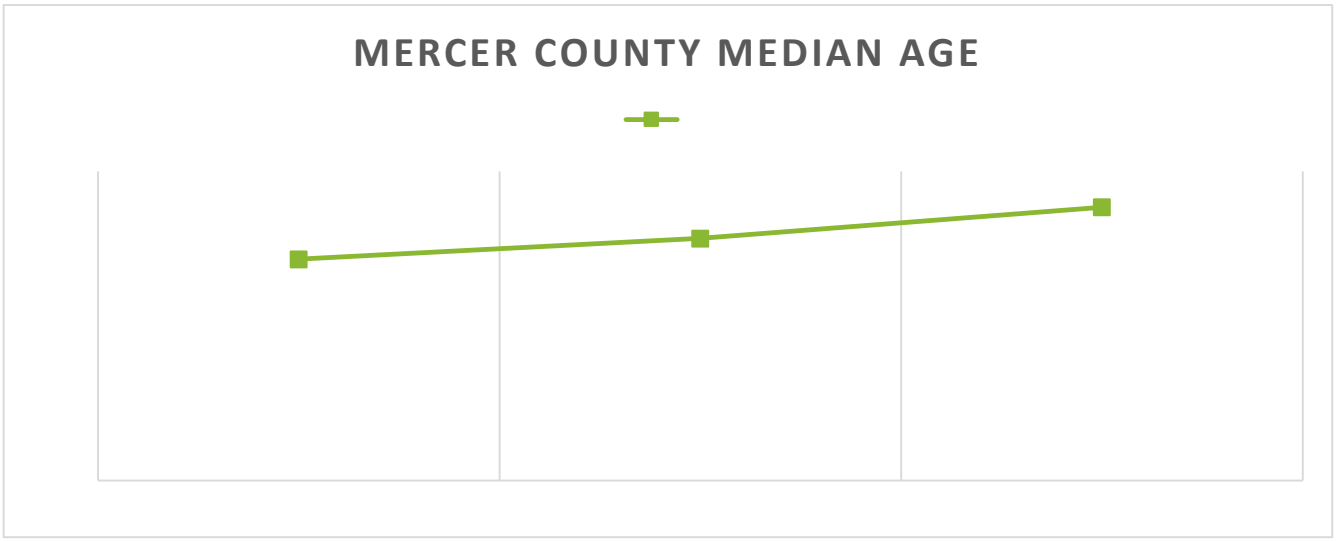


Figure 1-8 Types of Available Housing units



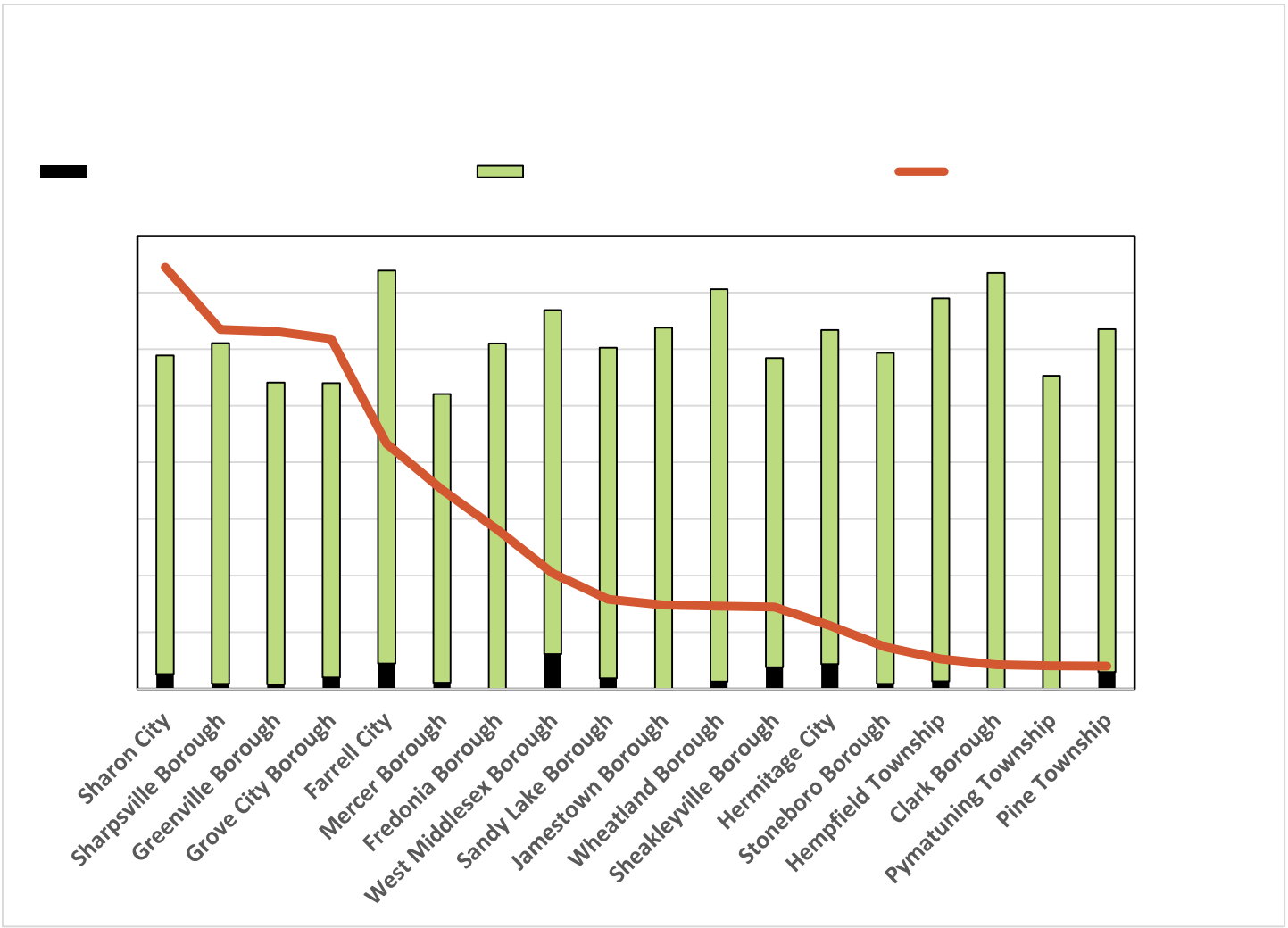
Geography	Population	Housing units	Area in Square Miles	Population per Square Mile
Clark Borough	606	244	3.1	213
Coolspring Township	2,200	983	19.2	121
Deer Creek Township	477	232	14.5	35
Delaware Township	2,203	939	32.5	70
East Lackawannock Township	1,636	700	21.2	79
Fairview Township	1,059	361	18.7	59
Farrell City	4,687	2,560	2.3	2,164
Findley Township	2,826	485	21.1	137
Fredonia Borough	473	240	0.4	1,406
French Creek Township	741	399	20.7	37
Greene Township	1,064	438	21.9	50
Greenville Borough	5,529	2,505	2.0	3,156
Grove City Borough	8,011	2,899	2.7	3,091
Hempfield Township	3,631	1,657	14.2	264
Hermitage City	15,635	7,628	29.5	560
Jackson Township	212	595	17.1	197
Jackson Center Borough	1,262	85	1.1	73
Jamestown Borough	582	296	0.8	741
Jefferson Township	1,835	867	24.5	76
Lackawannock Township	2,587	1,087	20.8	128
Lake Township	765	300	15.9	48
Liberty Township	1,428	558	14.6	96
Mercer Borough	1,891	956	1.2	1,758
Mill Creek Township	712	366	18.9	38
New Lebanon Borough	177	90	1.3	148
New Vernon Township	502	199	15.1	34
Otter Creek Township	573	253	11.8	50
Perry Township	1,382	674	18.0	81
Pine Township	4,993	1,994	25.7	203
Pymatuning Township	3,113	1,461	16.5	203
Salem Township	725	294	13.3	56
Sandy Creek Township	761	326	15.9	50
Sandy Lake Borough	638	300	0.8	792
Sandy Lake Township	1,175	532	24.5	50
Sharon City	13,259	7,559	3.8	3,724
Sharpsville Borough	4,165	2,113	1.4	3,174
Sheakleyville Borough	134	63	0.2	723
Shenango Township	3,745	1,750	29.9	130
South Pymatuning Township	2,570	1,226	19.3	138
Springfield Township	1,933	784	27.2	72
Stoneboro Borough	997	546	2.8	371
Sugar Grove Township	926	445	12.3	78
West Middlesex Borough	821	378	1.0	1,021
West Salem Township	3,420	1,494	37.0	96
Wheatland Borough	597	425	0.9	731
Wilmington Township	1,385	543	13.1	108
Wolf Creek Township	829	360	16.6	49
Worth Township	878	415	24.8	35

Figure 1- 9 Median Age of Mercer County Residents



Socio-economic Influences on Municipal Waste Management

Figure 1-10 Mercer County Municipalities Optimal for Curbside Collection



Economic Impact of Coronavirus Pandemic

In 2019-2020 on-line shopping grew at an unprecedented pace resulting in an increase in corrugated cardboard from residential sources greater ever seen than before the pandemic.

Collecting and Transporting Municipal Waste

Transporter Authorization

Management Of Biosolids And Residential Septage

Septage Transporters

Regulated Medical Waste Management

Municipal Contracts and Ordinances

Procurement of Waste Collection Services

Paying for Waste Collection Services

Variables That Affect Price

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TOYOTA
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Table 2-1 Mercer County Waste Collection Programs and Related Ordinances by Municipality

Classification	Population*	Collection Programs**		Ordinances**						
Municipality			Subscription Service	Garbage	Burning	Yard Waste	Recycling	Junk Yard	None	No Information
CITIES										
Farrell City		x								
Hermitage City		x								
Sharon City*		x								
Number of Cities		3	0	3	2	2	3	0	0	0
Percent of Cities		100%	0%	100%	67%	67%	100%	0%	0%	0%
BOROUGHS										
Clark Borough		x								
Fredonia Borough		x								
Greenville Borough		x								
Grove City Borough		x								
Jackson Center Borough										
Jamestown Borough		x								
Mercer Borough		x								
New Lebanon Borough										
Sandy Lake Borough										
Sharpsville Borough										
Sheakleyville Borough										
Stoneboro Borough										
West Middlesex Borough										
Wheatland Borough										
Number of Boroughs		9	5	5	2	2	3	0	1	7
Percent of Boroughs		64%	36%	35%	14%	14%	21%	0%	7%	50%

Classification	Population*	Collection Programs**		Ordinances**						
Municipality			Subscription Service							
TOWNSHIPS										
Coolspring Township										
Deer Creek Township										
Delaware Township										
East Lackawannock Township										
Fairview Township										
Findley Township										
French Creek Township										
Greene Township										
Hempfield Township										
Jackson Township										
Jefferson Township										
Lackawannock Township										
Lake Township										
Liberty Township										
New Vernon Township										
Mill Creek Township										
Otter Creek Township										
Perry Township										
Pine Township										

Classification	Population*	Collection Programs**		Ordinances**						
Municipality			Subscription Service							
Pymatuning Township										
Salem Township										
Sandy Creek Township										
Sandy Lake Township										
Shenango Township										
South Pymatuning Township										
Springfield Township										
Sugar Grove Township										
West Salem Township										
Wilmington Township										
Wolf Creek Township										
Worth Township										
Number of Townships		11	20	5	5	1	0	2	11	12
Percent of Townships		35%	65%	16%	16%	3%	0	6%	35%	39%
Total										
Percent of Total Municipalities										

*Source US Census Bureau and Pennsylvania State Data Center

** Source LMCRSWD Municipal Survey

Illegal Dumping and Littering

Illegal Dump Site
Maximum penalty $5000

Flow Control of the County's Waste

Table 2-2 Disposal Facilities with Contractual Guarantees for Mercer County Disposal Capacity and Designated to Receive Waste in the 2012 Plan

Landfill				
Brooke County Landfill				
Carbon Limestone Landfill				
Greentree Landfill				
Imperial Landfill				
Lakeview Landfill				
Mostoller Landfill				
Northwest Sanitary Landfill				
Sandy Run Landfill				
Seneca Landfill				
USA Valley Landfill				
Wayne Township Landfill				

Reported Disposal Data

Figure 2-1 Mercer County Reported Disposal in tons 2009-2018.

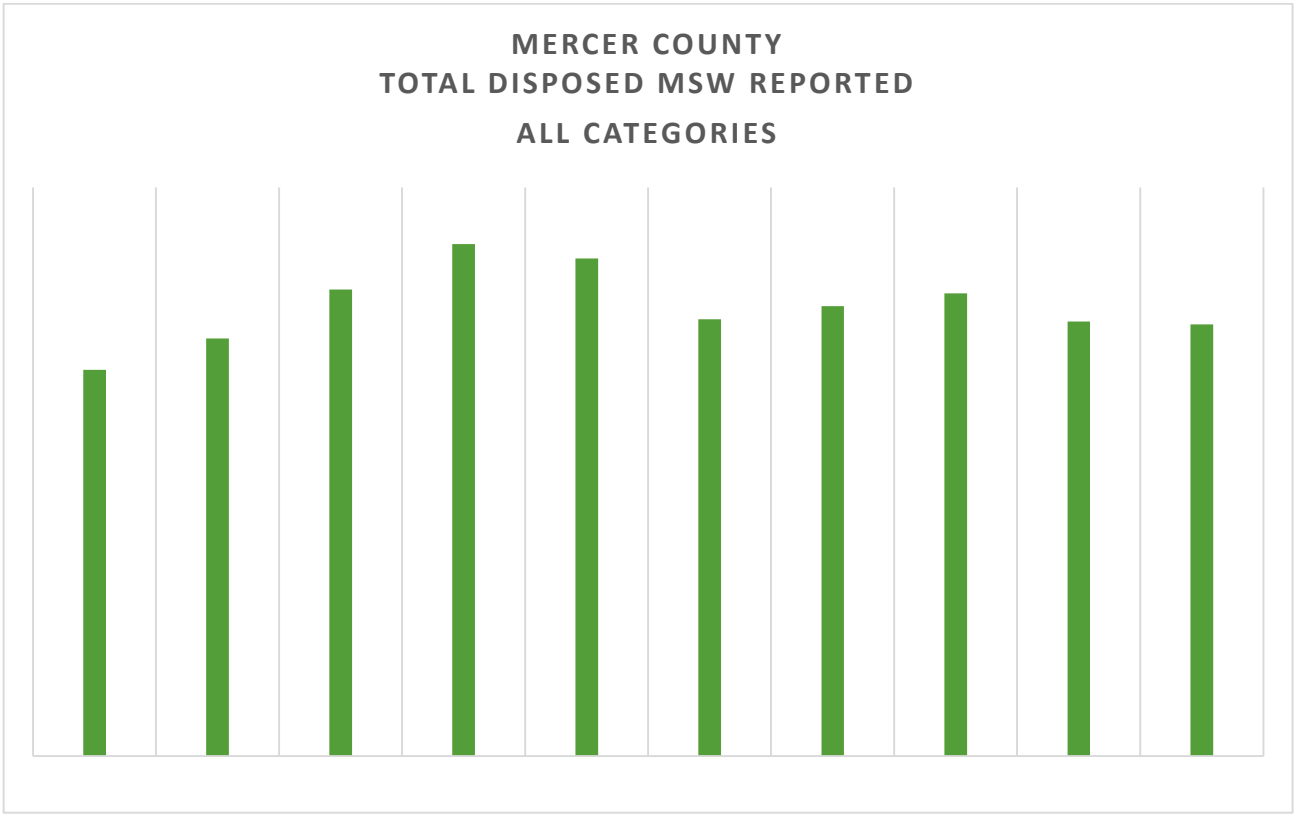


Figure 2-2 Mercer County Population and Waste Disposal Trends

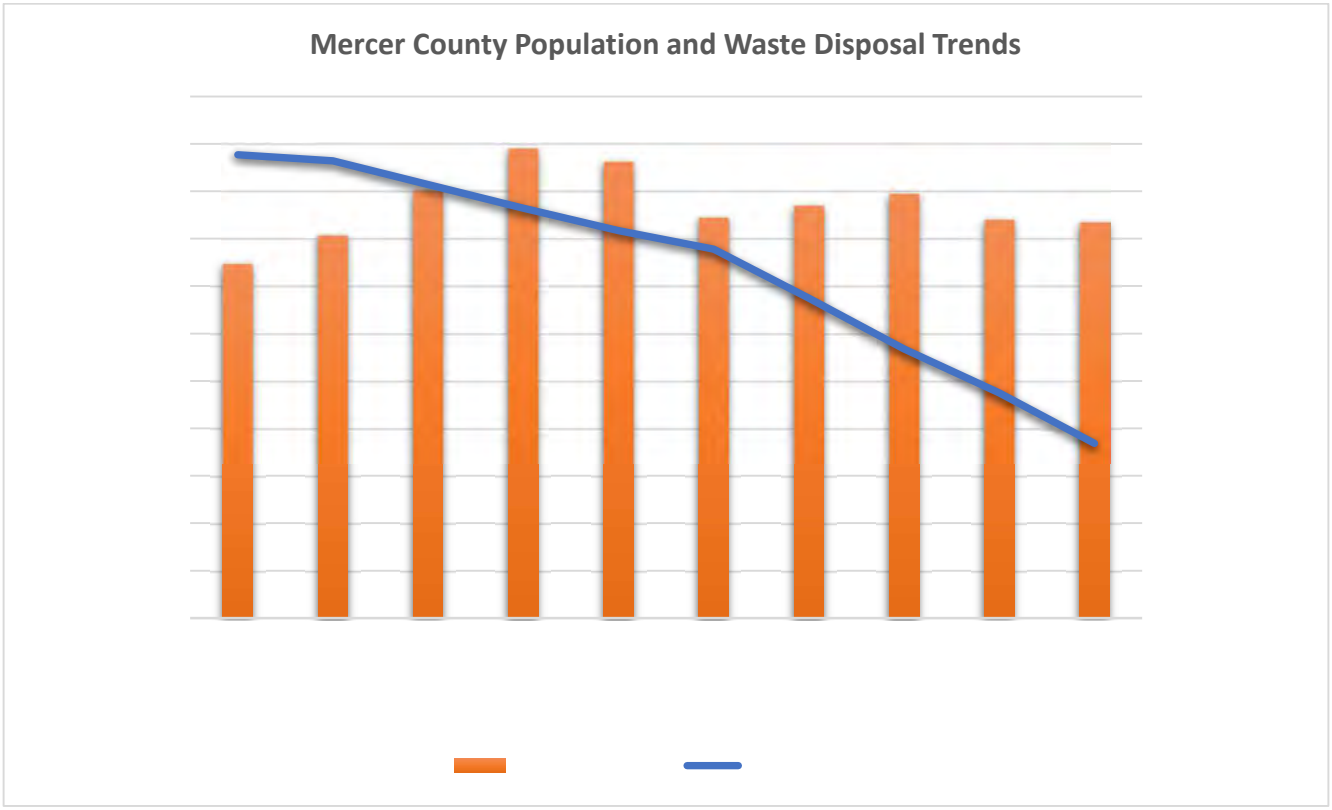


Figure 2-3 Mercer County Reported Disposal Rate per Person versus National Rate

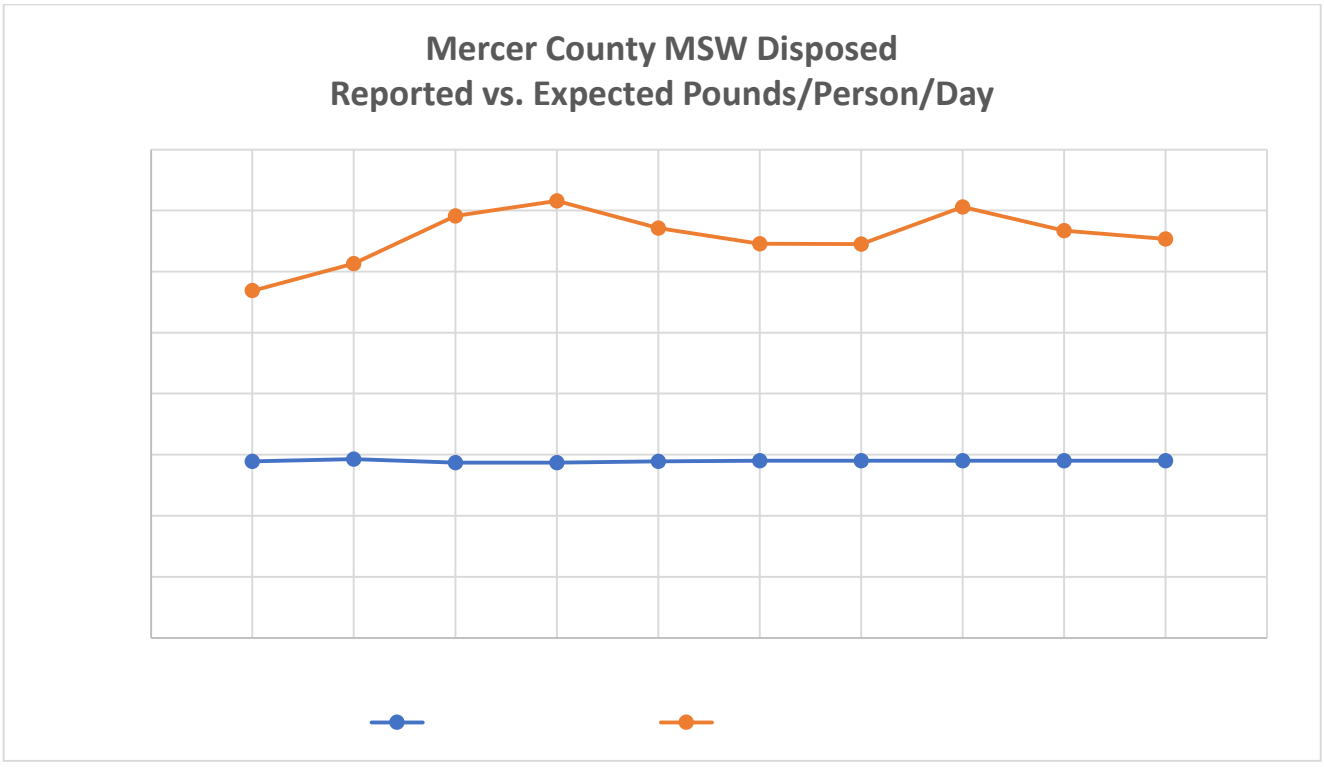
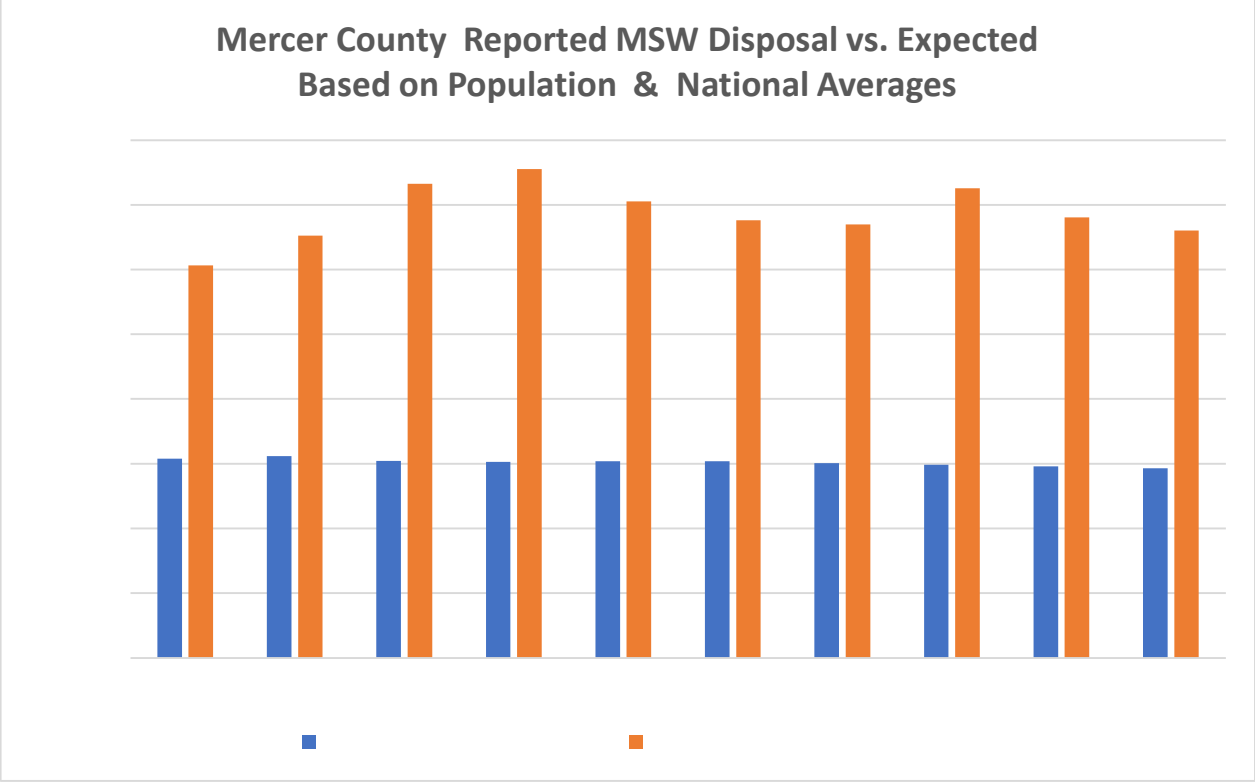


Figure 2-4 Mercer County Reported Waste Disposal vs. Expected



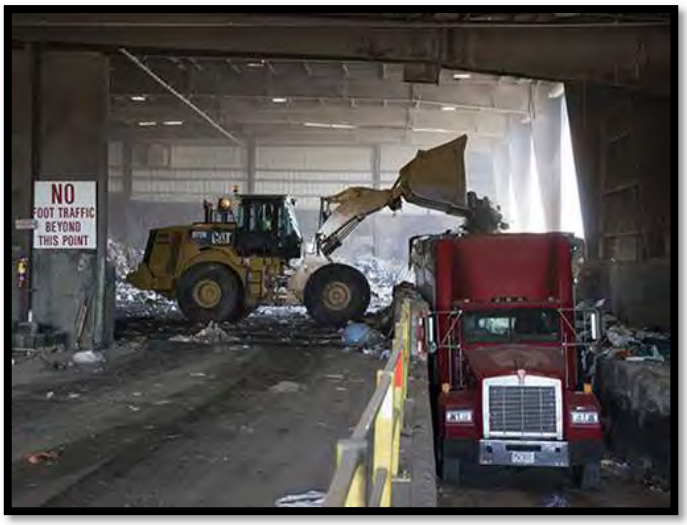
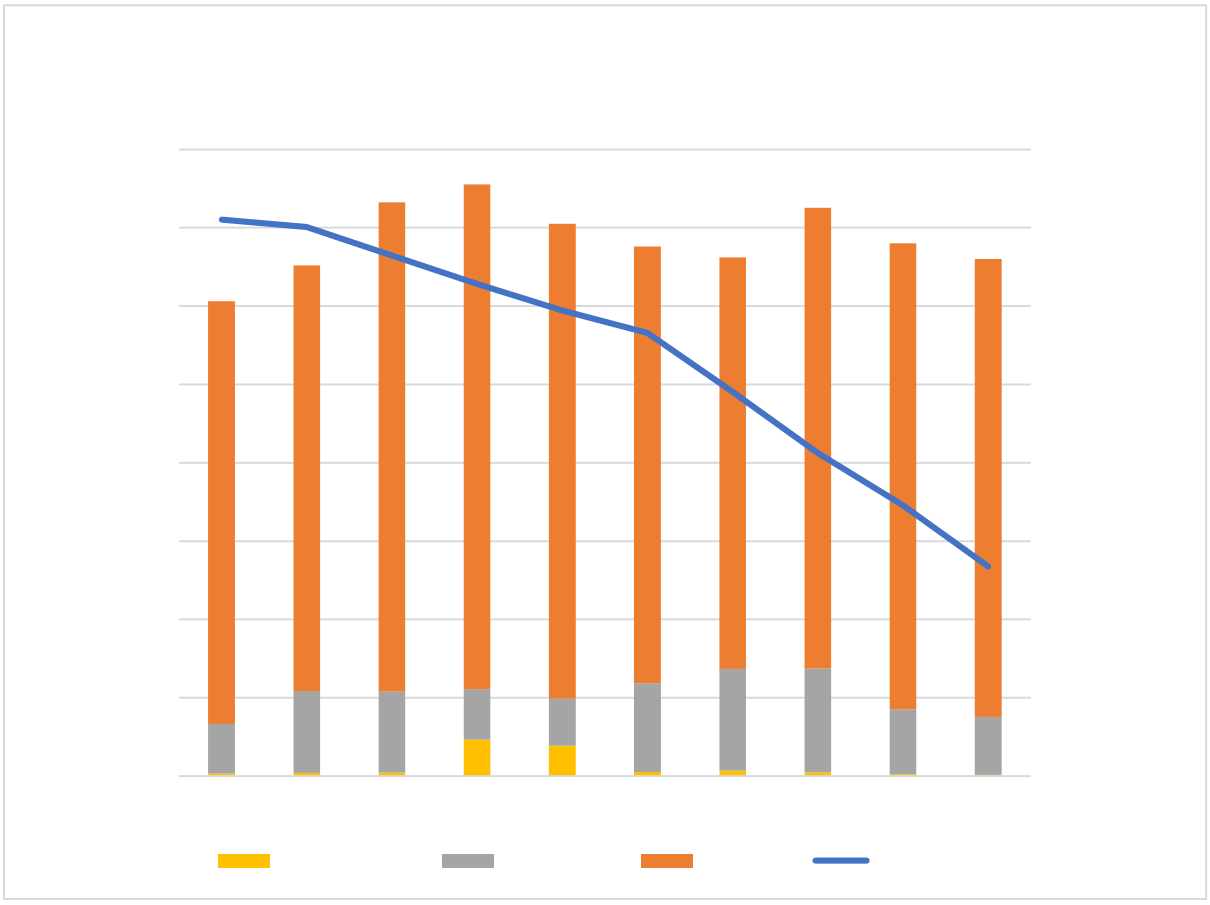

NO
FOOT TRAFFIC
BEYOND
THIS POINT

Table 2-3 Mercer County Population Trends versus Reported Tons Disposed by Site

Figure 2-5 Mercer County Population Trends versus Reported Tons Disposed by Site



Comments and Observations

Projected Landfill Capacity Requirements

Table 3- /. Mercer County Population Projections: 2010-2040

	July 1, 2010 Estimate	July 1, 2020 Projection	July 1, 2030 Projection	July 1, 2040 Projection	Percent Change 2010-2020	Percent Change 2010-2030	Percent Change 2010-2040
Pennsylvania	12,711,308	13,230,170	13,759,594	14,132,588	4.10%	8.20%	11.20%

Table3-2 Mercer County Population Estimates: 2010-2018

Year(s)	July 1, 2010 Estimate	July 1, 2014 Estimate	July 1, 2018 Estimate	Percent Change 2010-2014	Percent Change 2014-2018	Percent Change 2010-2018
Mercer County		114,884	110,683	-1.42%	-3.66%	-5.03%

Year
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
2027
2028
2029
2030

Requesting Future Disposal Or Processing Capacity

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND EXPECTATIONS

Table 4-1 Act 101 Minimum Requirements for Mandated Municipalities

Act 101 Minimum Requirements for Mandated Municipalities	
	An ordinance that requires all residents to have waste and recycling collection service.
	A program for curbside collection of residential recyclables must occur at least once per month.
	An ordinance that requires a commercial recycling program
	Collection of three recyclable materials designated in the Act (glass, aluminum, or bi-metal containers, plastics #1 or #2, newspaper, office paper and cardboard)
	Curbside collection of leaf waste must occur once per month, or alternatively, twice per year collection if a drop-off collection area for leaf waste is accessible between collections.
	Implementation of a residential and business recycling education program.
	Implementation of an enforcement program that monitors participation, receives complaints and issues warnings and provides fines, penalties, or both,
	Participation in a program for the recycling of special materials.
	Sponsors or facilitates a program to prevent illegal dumping and/or littering problems.
	Designation of a person or entity as the recycling coordinator

MUNICIPAL RECYCLING PROGRAMS

	Population Census 2010	Population Estimated 2017	Population Density Persons Per Square Mile
Hermitage City			
Sharon City			
Grove City Borough			
Greenville Borough			
Farrell City			

Table 4-3 Potential Changes to Mercer County Act 101 Mandated Municipalities Based on Proposed Population/Density Criteria

	Population, 2010 *	Population, 2017 (Estimate)	# Persons Per Square Mile, 2010	Currently have solid waste ordinances that mandate collection?	Currently require recycling?	Currently contract for single hauler collection.
Pine Township	5,151	4,993	203	No	No	No
Farrell City**	4,954	4,687	2,164	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sharpsville Borough	4,415	4,165	3,174	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mercer Borough	2,002	1,891	1,758	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fredonia Borough	502	473	1,406	No	No	No
West Middlesex Borough	863	821	1,021	?	No	Yes
Sandy Lake Borough	659	638	792	Yes	No	No
Jamestown Borough	617	582	741	Yes	No	Yes
Wheatland Borough	632	597	731	?	No	Yes
Sheakleyville Borough	142	134	723	No	No	No
Stoneboro Borough	1,051	997	371	Yes	No	No

- July 10, 2010, Census US Census Bureau

**Source US Census Bureau and Pennsylvania State Data Center. 2010 population adjusted based on Count Question Resolution process

Table 4-4 Mercer County Residential Recycling Collection Programs And Ordinances

Cities			
Farrell City (Act 101)			
Hermitage City (Act 101)			
Sharon City (Act 101)			
Boroughs			
Greenville Borough (Act 101)			
Grove City Borough (Act 101)			
Townships			

TRACKING MUNICIPAL RECYCLING PERFORMANCE

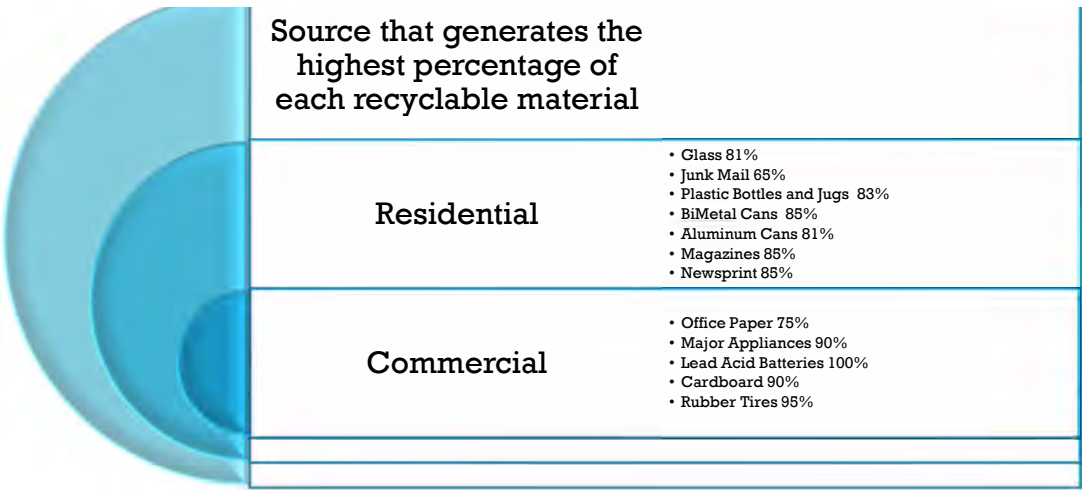
MATERIALS TO INCLUDE

Table 4-5 Reported Residential Recycling Performance 2017

Local Government	SINGLE STREAM	COMMINGLED	Cardboard	High Grade Office Paper	White Goods	Aluminum Cans	Wood Waste	Yard & Leaf Waste	Total Residential
Clark Borough									0
Coolspring Township									0
Deer Creek Township		2							2
Delaware Township			9	1	0				11
East Lackawannock Township									0
Fairview Township									0
Farrell City		95						18	112
Findley Township									0
Fredonia Borough									
French Creek Township		5							5
Greene Township		1							1
Greenville Borough		175						2	177
Grove City Borough		305					207	593	1,105
Hempfield Township		50							50
Hermitage City		1,013			3			932	1,948
Jackson Township		20							20
Jackson Center Borough		2							2
Jamestown Borough		16							16
Jefferson Township			12	5	1				18
Lackawannock Township									
Lake Township		3							3
Liberty Township		92			1			5	98
Mercer Borough		22						16	38
Mill creek Township									
New Lebanon Borough		0							0
New Vernon Township		3							3
Otter Creek Township		2							2
Perry Township		8							8
Pine Township		139							139
Pymatuning Township									0
Salem Township		2							2
Sandy Creek Township		3							3
Sandy Lake Borough		11							11
Sandy Lake Township		12							12
Sharon City		489						31	520
Sharpsville Borough		158						3	161
Sheakleyville Borough		0							0

Local Government	SINGLE STREAM	COMMINGLED	Cardboard	High Grade Office Paper	White Goods	Aluminum Cans	Wood Waste	Yard & Leaf Waste		Total Residential
Shenango Township			12	4	1					16
South Pymatuning Township										0
Springfield Township	32									32
Stoneboro Borough	27									27
Sugar Grove Township	4									4
West Middlesex Borough	22							3		25
West Salem Township	8									8
Wheatland Borough	0							2		2
Wilmington Township										0
Wolf Creek Township	17									17
Worth Township	19									19
Municipal Totals	2,756	34	10	2	4	0	207	1,605	0	4,617
Mercer County (County-Wide Data)	15	305	179	29		64	4			596
Municipal and County Combined	2,771	338	189	31	4	64	211	1,605	0	5,213

Figure 4-5 Sources that Generate Highest Percentage of Each Recyclable Material



Commercial data reported by Mercer County municipalities with some of the lowest populations shows that even small businesses can make the effort to recycle.

Table 4-6 Reported Commercial Recycling Performance 2017

	Commercial																				
Member	**SINGLE STREAM**	**COMMINGLED**	**Mixed Glass**	**Cardboard**	**Gabled / Aseptic Cartons**	**Magazines & Catalogs**	**Mixed Paper Grades**	**High Grade Office Paper**	**#1 Plastic (PET)**	**#2 Plastic**	**#3 Plastic (PVC)**	**#4 Plastic (LDPE)**	**#5 Plastic (PP)**	**Mixed**	**Film Plastic**	**Aluminum Cans**	**Steel & Bimetallic (Tin) Cans**	**White Goods**	**Source Separated Foods**	**Wood Waste**	**Commercial Total Tons**
Clark Borough		1																			1
Coolspring Township				30			0	2													32
Deer Creek Township																					0
Delaware Township																					0
East Lackawannock Township		0		10				2													11
Fairview Township				2			0	0													2
Farrell City	10	0		149			0	1													159
Findley Township				7				1													8
Fredonia Borough																					0
French Creek Township																					0
Greene Township		0		3				0													3
Greenville Borough	19	82		72			0	6						0							179
Grove City Borough		38		227				17							10					3	294
Hempfield Township		0		667			2	2	1	0				2	11	0			85	3	771
Hermitage City	141	32	0	2,390			28	53	2	20		6		27	36	0		91	135	148	3,109
Jackson Township				10				2													12
Jackson Center Borough		5		4			0														9
Jamestown Borough	4			42			0														46

Jefferson Township				2																2
Member	**SINGLE STREAM**	**COMMINGLED**	**Mixed Glass**	**Cardboard**	**Gabled / Aseptic Cartons**	**Magazines & Catalogs**	**Mixed Paper Grades**	**High Grade Office Paper**	**#1 Plastic (PET)**	**#2 Plastic**	**#3 Plastic (PVC)**	**#4 Plastic (LDPE)**	**#5 Plastic (PP)**	**Mixed**	**Film Plastic**	**Aluminum Cans**	**Steel & Bimetallic (Tin) Cans**	**White Goods**	**Source Separated Foods**	**Wood Waste**	**Commercial Total Tons**
Lackawannock Township																				0
Lake Township																				0
Liberty Township		12		18				3												34
Mercer Borough		8		13				2											118	141
Mill creek Township																				0
New Lebanon Borough																				0
New Vernon Township																				0
Otter Creek Township																				0
Perry Township																				0
Pine Township		187		575			2	25	0	0				1	8	0			6		805
Pymatuning Township		0		14				2												72	88
Salem Township																				0
Sandy Creek Township				27			0	0						0							28
Sandy Lake Borough				6				1													7
Sandy Lake Township				44			0	0						0		0					45
Sharon City	46	8		191			0	4							0					3	253
Sharpsville Borough		27		4				1													32
Sheakleyville Borough																					0
Shenango Township																					0
South Pymatuning Township		5		99	4			1	1	32				32	34						206

Member	SINGLE STREAM	COMMINGLED	Mixed Glass	Cardboard	Gabled / Aseptic Cartons	Magazines & Catalogs	Mixed Paper Grades	High Grade Office Paper	#1 Plastic (PET)	#2 Plastic	#3 Plastic (PVC)	#4 Plastic (LDPE)	#5 Plastic (PP)	Mixed	Film Plastic	Aluminum Cans	Steel & Bimetallic (Tin) Cans	White Goods	Source Separated Foods	Wood Waste		Commercial Total Tons
Springfield Township	2			223				36														261
Stoneboro Borough				4				1														4
Sugar Grove Township																				2		2
West Middlesex Borough		11		45			0	0														56
West Salem Township		8																				8
Wheatland Borough		1		1			1	12														14
Wilmington Township			0	42			0							0		0						42
Wolf Creek Township		6																				6
Worth Township																						0
Municipal Totals	**342**	**433**	**0**	**6,180**	**4**	**1**	**221**	**865**	**4**	**60**	**0**	**23**	**2**	**89**	**98**	**0**	**0**	**91**	**226**	**348**		**6,671**
Mercer County (County-Wide Data)	122			1,264		1	184	692		8	0	17	2	27			0			0		2,317
Municipal and County Combined	464	433	0	7,445	4	2	406	1,556	4	68	0	40	4	116	98	0	0	91	226	348	0	8,989

RESULTS RELATED TO TOTAL POPULATION

Table 4-7 Performance Metrics	Population	% of Population	Total Residential	% of Residential Tons	Residential Lbs/Person/day	Commercial Total Tons	% of Commercial Tons	Commercial Lbs/Person/Day	Combined Total Tons	% of Combined Total Tons	Total lbs/person/ay
Clark Borough	606	0.54%	0	0.00%	0.00	1.02	0.01%	0.01	1.02	0.01%	0.01
Coolspring Township	2,200	1.97%	0	0.00%	0.00	31.86	0.35%	0.08	31.86	0.22%	0.08
Deer Creek Township	477	0.43%	2.07	0.00%	0.02	0	0.00%	0.00	2.07	0.01%	0.02
Delaware Township	2,203	1.97%	10.88	0.02%	0.03	0	0.00%	0.00	10.88	0.08%	0.03
East Lackawannock Township	1,636	1.46%	0	0.00%	0.00	11.33	0.13%	0.04	11.33	0.08%	0.04
Fairview Township	1,059	0.95%	0	0.00%	0.00	2.27	0.03%	0.01	2.27	0.02%	0.01
Farrell City	4,687	4.19%	112.47	0.22%	0.13	159.46	1.77%	0.19	271.93	1.91%	0.32
Findley Township	2,826	2.53%	0	0.00%	0.00	8.45	0.09%	0.02	8.45	0.06%	0.02
Fredonia Borough	473	0.42%		0.00%	0.00	0	0.00%	0.00	0	0.00%	0.00
French Creek Township	741	0.66%	4.96	0.01%	0.04	0	0.00%	0.00	4.96	0.03%	0.04
Greene Township	1,064	0.95%	1.27	0.00%	0.01	3.44	0.04%	0.02	4.71	0.03%	0.02
Greenville Borough	5,529	4.95%	177.37	0.34%	0.18	179.2	1.99%	0.18	356.57	2.51%	0.35
Grove City Borough	8,011	7.17%	1104.58	2.12%	0.76	293.94	3.27%	0.20	1398.52	9.85%	0.96
Hempfield Township	3,631	3.25%	49.62	0.10%	0.07	771.4	8.58%	1.16	821.02	5.78%	1.24
Hermitage City	15,635	13.99%	1948.13	3.74%	0.68	3,109.33	34.59%	1.09	5057.46	35.61%	1.77
Jackson Township	212	0.19%	20.17	0.04%	0.52	11.96	0.13%	0.31	32.13	0.23%	0.83
Jackson Center Borough	1262	1.13%	1.79	0.00%	0.01	9.31	0.10%	0.04	11.1	0.08%	0.05
Jamestown Borough	582	0.52%	15.61	0.03%	0.15	46.23	0.51%	0.44	61.84	0.44%	0.58
Jefferson Township	1835	1.64%	18.06	0.03%	0.05	1.51	0.02%	0.00	19.57	0.14%	0.06

Member	Population	% of Population	Total Residential	% of Residential Tons	Residential Lbs/Person/day	Commercial Total Tons	% of Commercial Tons	Commercial Lbs/Person/Day	Combined Total Tons	% of Combined Total Tons	Total lbs/person/ay
Lackawannock Township	2,587	2.31%		0.00%	0.00	0	0.00%	0.00	0	0.00%	0.00
Lake Township	765	0.68%	3.47	0.01%	0.02	0	0.00%	0.00	3.47	0.02%	0.02
Liberty Township	1,428	1.28%	97.82	0.19%	0.38	33.65	0.37%	0.13	131.47	0.93%	0.50
Mercer Borough	1,891	1.69%	37.66	0.07%	0.11	140.65	1.56%	0.41	178.31	1.26%	0.52
Mill creek Township	712	0.64%		0.00%	0.00	0	0.00%	0.00	0	0.00%	0.00
New Lebanon Borough	177	0.16%	0.31	0.00%	0.01	0	0.00%	0.00	0.31	0.00%	0.01
New Vernon Township	502	0.45%	2.55	0.00%	0.03	0	0.00%	0.00	2.55	0.02%	0.03
Otter Creek Township	573	0.51%	1.9	0.00%	0.02	0	0.00%	0.00	1.9	0.01%	0.02
Perry Township	1,382	1.24%	7.57	0.01%	0.03	0	0.00%	0.00	7.57	0.05%	0.03
Pine Township	4,993	4.47%	138.91	0.27%	0.15	805.2	8.96%	0.88	944.11	6.65%	1.04
Pymatuning Township	3,113	2.79%	0	0.00%	0.00	88.01	0.98%	0.15	88.01	0.62%	0.15
Salem Township	725	0.65%	2.09	0.00%	0.02	0	0.00%	0.00	2.09	0.01%	0.02
Sandy Creek Township	761	0.68%	3.18	0.01%	0.02	27.54	0.31%	0.20	30.72	0.22%	0.22
Sandy Lake Borough	638	0.57%	10.7	0.02%	0.09	6.69	0.07%	0.06	17.39	0.12%	0.15
Sandy Lake Township	1,175	1.05%	12.15	0.02%	0.06	44.5	0.50%	0.21	56.65	0.40%	0.26
Sharon City	13,259	11.86%	519.84	1.00%	0.21	252.97	2.81%	0.10	772.81	5.44%	0.32
Sharpsville Borough	4,165	3.73%	160.98	0.31%	0.21	31.63	0.35%	0.04	192.61	1.36%	0.25
Sheakleyville Borough	134	0.12%	0.3	0.00%	0.01	0	0.00%	0.00	0.3	0.00%	0.01
Shenango Township	3,745	3.35%	16.29	0.03%	0.02	0	0.00%	0.00	16.29	0.11%	0.02
South Pymatuning Township	2,570	2.30%	0	0.00%	0.00	206.18	2.29%	0.44	206.18	1.45%	0.44

Member	Population	% of Population	Total Residential	% of Residential Tons	Residential Lbs/Person/day	Commercial Total Tons	% of Commercial Tons	Commercial Lbs/Person/Day	Combined Total Tons	% of Combined Total Tons	Total lbs/person/ay
Springfield Township	1,933	1.73%	31.91	0.06%	0.09	261.03	2.90%	0.74	292.94	2.06%	0.83
Stoneboro Borough	997	0.89%	27.05	0.05%	0.15	4.29	0.05%	0.02	31.34	0.22%	0.17
Sugar Grove Township	926	0.83%	3.76	0.01%	0.02	1.78	0.02%	0.01	5.54	0.04%	0.03
West Middlesex Borough	821	0.73%	25.11	0.05%	0.17	56.47	0.63%	0.38	81.58	0.57%	0.54
West Salem Township	3,420	3.06%	8.14	0.02%	0.01	7.94	0.09%	0.01	16.08	0.11%	0.03
Wheatland Borough	597	0.53%	2.43	0.00%	0.02	14.12	0.16%	0.13	16.55	0.12%	0.15
Wilmington Township	1,385	1.24%	0	0.00%	0.00	42.01	0.47%	0.17	42.01	0.30%	0.17
Wolf Creek Township	829	0.74%	16.96	0.03%	0.11	5.98	0.07%	0.04	22.94	0.16%	0.15
Worth Township	878	0.79%	18.96	0.04%	0.12	0	0.00%	0.00	18.96	0.13%	0.12
Municipal Totals	111,750	100%	4,617.02	8.86%	0.23	6671.35	74.22%	0.33	11,288.37	79.48%	0.55
Mercer County (County-Wide Data)	111,750	100%	595.95	1.14%	0.03	2317.44	25.78%	0.11	2,913.39	20.51%	0.14
Municipal and County Combined	111,750	100.00%	5,212.97	100%	0.26	8988.79	100%	0.44	14,201.76	100%	0.70

County Responsibilities Under Act 101

Operational Basics

Cost and Service Changes

Findings and Conclusions

There is no consistent ratio of users' origin to sites utilized.

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Less than 5 percent of those surveyed admitted they did not have curbside trash collection.

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Despite the convenience of curbside recycling collection, 30 percent of those surveyed do not desire curbside recycling collection.

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There is widespread confusion and misinformation regarding recycling economics.

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Summary

Table 4- 8 Mercer County Special Collection Data

Vehicles									TOTALS
2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
114	49	149	243	170	202	296	250	304	1,777
Households Represented*									
2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
122	54	157	278	207	207	311	272	325	1,933
Tires Collected									
2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
322	45	153	107	134	202	356	115	200	1,634
Appliances Collected									
2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
48	25	32	66	49	70	96	62	74	522
Pounds of Electronics Collected									
2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
5,330	2,690	16,280	49,835	21,797	18,046	24,778	11,903	21,208	171,867
Pounds of Electronics/Vehicle									
2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
47	55	109	205	128	89	84	48	70	97
Pounds of HHW Collected									
2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
					3,469	7,927	6,611	6,772	24,779

Opportunities for Improvement

Figure 4-6 Recoverable Construction/Demolition Material

Figure 4-7 Materials Salvageable from Building Demolition

Salvageable

- **Appliances**
- **Bricks**
- **Doors**
- **Flooring**
- **Light Fixtures**
- **Metal Framing**
- **Pipes**
- **Shelving**
- **Cabinets**
- **Insulation**
- **Paneling**
- **Wood beams**
- **Dimensional lumber**
- **Ceramic Tile**
- **Bathroom Fixtures**
- **Windows**
- **Nails and Screws**
- **Hardware**
- **Mantels**
- **Molding**
- **Railings**

Refundable Deposits For Recycling C&D Debris

Procurement Policies With Preference For Recycling Of C&D Debris

Recognition Programs To Encourage Contractors To Reduce And Recycle

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

HERMITAGE
FOOD WASTE TO ENERGY AND
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

2020 GOVERNOR'S AWARD
FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXCELLENCE

The Hermitage Food Waste To Energy Facility and Wastewater Reclamation Facility, the plant can process food waste into methane gas, which is then converted into electricity.

Hermitage's is currently the only municipal wastewater treatment facility in Pennsylvania to maintain such an operation.

The facility receives commercial food waste from as far as California within the U.S., to waste from South American countries including Chile and Bolivia.

LMCRSWD is working with the facility to .explore the feasibility of collecting local commercial and resi8dential food waste . Hopes are that a drop-off program and eventually a regular collection route can be established.

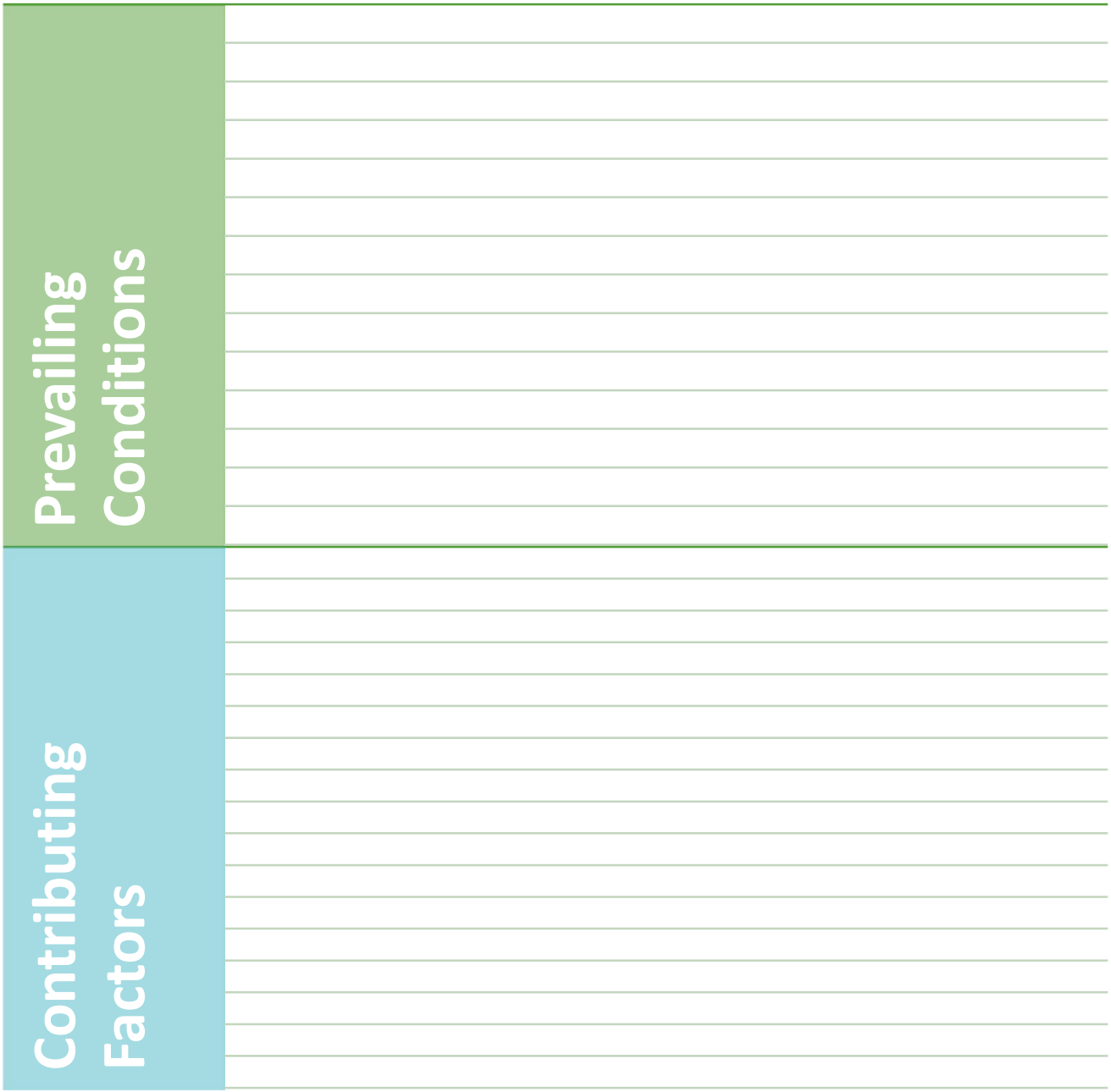
Logistics, proximity, and competing disposal capacity all influence the feasibility of developing a stronger food waste management infrastructure.

Private Sector Contributions

Plan Development

Predominant Issues and Root Causes

Figure 5-1 Municipal Waste and Recycling Issues Reviewed & Evaluated in SWAC Meetings



Timeline for Success

Table 5-1 Implementation Schedule for the 2020 Mercer County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan

Objective	Timeline	Action Item
Ensure universal access to waste and recycling collection and outlets is available throughout the County		Explore the feasibility of establishing a permanent center for countywide collection of hard to recycle/bulky items
		Continue to offer the Big Blue Bin program so that residents in areas without convenient access to curbside programs can recycle, with the goal of reducing the number of sites by making curbside collection available.
		Provide technical assistance to local municipalities to improve existing contract specifications and to expand the network of municipalities that contract for waste and recycling collection services
		Explore opportunities to establish a regional resale center for salvaged building materials similar to "Construction Junction."
Enhance enforcement and accountability throughout the municipal waste and recycling programs.		Provide technical assistance to local municipalities to improve their waste and recycling ordinances
		Coordinate with local magistrates, Fish and Boat Commission, and Game Commission to share tools and resources.

Facilitate the development of programs and infrastructure for the recovery of select components of the waste stream.	*Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of recovering commercial and residential food waste*
	Conduct a pilot program for drop-off collection of residential food waste
	Support the recovery and reuse of C&D Waste
	Promote deconstruction opportunities and services
	Explore the potential of collecting textiles, handbags, mattresses, books, etc.
	Research and pursue grant funding available for these types of projects
Prevent illegal dumping and accelerate the remediation of existing dumping sites.	Support efforts of local nonprofit organizations to continue local clean-ups of existing dump sites.
	Expand camera program
	Expand tire recycling markets and funding
Develop public outreach and communications strategy that strategically informs all levels of diverse stakeholders.	Using a strategic communication matrix outline the issues, stakeholders, information, methods of communication, and timing of outreach
	Develop a curriculum and agenda for a regular and consistent public education program that covers all aspects of waste and recycling management.
	Conduct targeted seminars for specific stakeholder groups
	Explore the potential to develop an Environmental Council of business leaders who can promote and support the mission and programs of the Department.
	Become more proficient at delivering an ongoing positive proactive social media campaign across multiple outlets
	Develop strong relationship with reporters and news media. Prepare press releases about activities on a regular basis.

Providing for Future Disposal Capacity

Recommendations For Site Designation

Table 6-1 Mercer County Designated Disposal Facilities 2020-2029

Execution of the Plan

Lawrence-Mercer

Recycling/Solid Waste Department

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Public Private Cooperation

Future Considerations

Legal Authority

Impact of the Plan's Recommendations and Policies

Access to Shared Resources

Fundamentals of Public Engagement

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Figure 12-1 Mercer County Solid Waste Advisory Committee Members and Affiliations

Committee Activities

Figure 12-2 SWAC Meeting Schedule and Content

Meeting Schedule

October 10, 2018

December 14, 2018

April 16, 2019

August 6, 2019

December 12, 2019

July 22, 2020

September 22, 2020

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL/ PROCESSING CAPACITY AND SUPPORT OF MATERIAL MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,

MERCER, PENNSYLVANIA

Issued by the
Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
on behalf of the
Mercer County Board of Commissioners

Request for Proposals

Municipal Solid Waste Disposal And Processing Capacity and Mechanisms To Support And Complement Materials Management Planning Objectives

2020-2029

Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department

recycling@co.lawrence.pa.us

Project Consultant
Primary Contact for Proposal Related Questions

Introduction

Sealed Proposals in response to this RFP are due on Thursday. September 3 , 2020, by 11:00 AM. To qualify for consideration, the Proposer must submit two (2) hard copies, each executed in blue ink and labeled "original," and one (1) "copy" formatted as MS Word or pdf files each on separate electronic media Flash Drives.

The outside of each sealed envelope must be marked "Proposal-Disposal Capacity."

SUBMIT THE PRINTED MEDIA TO:

Mercer County
Controller Amundsen
2 Mercer County Courthouse,
Mercer, PA 16137

of Mercer (“County”)

Under all alternatives and provisions described herein, the collection and transportation of waste is handled by municipal or private collection firms and is not a consideration in this proposal.

Section 1

Procurement Approach

Purpose of Request for Proposals

County Designation of Facilities and Execution of Contracts

Proposals must be submitted in both print and electronic digital formats.

-
-
- *Mercer County Controller Amundsen, 2 Mercer County Courthouse, Mercer, PA 16137*
- *Proposals must be received September 3, 2020 by 11:00 a.m.*

For Contractors proposing multiple facilities

- **Separate Hard Copies Required for Each Proposed Facility** *separately bound*
- **Shared Electronic Media for All Proposed Facilities**

Emergency Back-up Disposal and Processing

- **Owner/Operated Back-up Facilities.**

- **Third Party Back-up Facilities.**

.

CAREFULLY READ THE DESCRIPTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH OF THE SECTIONS LISTED.
AVOID SUBMITTING MORE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION THAN THE RFP REQUESTS OR REQUIRES.

PLEASE Expedite The Submission/Review Process and Save Yourself Time And Expense By Adhering To The Format.

Each section must be in the order shown below, separated by clearly labeled tabs/dividers

-
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The original forms, the disposal and processing capacity contract, and the cover letter shall be submitted as printed hard copy and signed in "BLUE" ink.

A copy shall be submitted as electronic media, (Flash Drive) in MS Word or pdf format with each file saved to include and clearly identify the name of the facility.

- **counties**
-
-

This section should be limited to 4 pages of text or printed material.

-

facility

PADEP Form HWC, Compliance History, (not Form C-1)

***with the current pending expiration date clearly shown*,**

Do not include the entire narrative from the facility's permit. Pennsylvania Facilities *should not* include the full Form 14 from their permit application. Please provide only short excerpts to demonstrate each point.

Please submit no more than four pages of narrative

All facilities must include in their descriptions:

Do not submit

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓

Requirements unique to the type of facility:

LANDFILL

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓

OTHER TYPES

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓

Additional Onsite Features and Services

FACILITY

- ✓
- ✓

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓

BACK UP FACILITIES

Back-up facilities proposed for the purpose of emergency or temporary service must also submit a complete response to this RFP along with a signed contract. If applicable, the Contractor may clearly indicate that its intent is for the facility to serve solely in a back-up capacity.

If not submitting a multi-facility proposal, the Contractor may fulfill the requirement for an emergency back-up facility by providing an agreement with a third-party facility that has submitted a proposal package.

- ✓ **Pennsylvania landfills should submit Page 1 of the PADEP Annual Operations Report, which requires the facility to calculate the available airspace in cubic yards.**

- ✓ **Resource Recovery Facilities should demonstrate the daily throughput capacity and burner design.**

The organization must submit in the proposal the following proof of sufficient financial responsibility for the operation of the facility:

- ✓ **with the County listed as additional insured**
- ✓

in blue ink

Representations and Certifications Form

Contractor Information Form

Section 2

Facilities without a currently approved permit should not submit a proposal. If and when a permit is issued, those facilities may petition the County at that time for inclusion in the Plan.

Section 3

.

County	July 1, 2010 Estimate	July 1, 2020 Projection	July 1, 2030 Projection	July 1, 2040 Projection	Percent Change 2010-2020	Percent Change 2010-2030	Percent Change 2010-2040
Pennsylvania	12,711,308	13,230,170	13,759,594	14,132,588	4.10%	8.20%	11.20%

County	July 1, 2010 Estimate	July 1, 2014 Estimates	July 1, 2018 Estimates	Percent Change 2010-2014	Percent Change 2014-2018	Percent Change 2010-2018
		114,884	110,683	-1.42%	-3.66%	-5.03%

Current Reported Disposal of MSW.

Estimated Future Generation Rate for MSW.

Section 4

CAPACITY AGREEMENT

_____

and

and

For the County:
Director
Lawrence/Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
430 Court Street
New Castle, PA 16101

For the Contractor:
Notice Address as shown on Form B.

Chief Clerk

Name of Facility_____ **Maximum Tipping Fees Per Ton For Each Category of Waste**

The maximum tipping fee shall not exceed the posted gate rate.

Include all applicable surcharges, fees, taxes from Legislation, Regulation, or Programs of State, Federal, County or Host Municipalities

Show a breakdown of those fees in the following table

Indicate any annual escalators that will apply or attach a separate table demonstrating future rates.

	MSW	Construction Demolition	Sewage Sludge	Other	Other
Base Tipping Fee (without taxes, and other fees)					
List Name of Fee, Tax, Surcharge below.	**List Amount for Each Fees, Taxes, Surcharges that will apply to Mercer County MSW**				
Total Tipping Fee including all fees and surcharges					

FACILITY:_____

Types and Quantities of Municipal Solid Waste Specify tons per day and tons per year

Year	MSW Only	C&D	Sludge	Other	Other	Total
2020-2021						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2022-2023						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2024-2025						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2025-2026						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2026-2027						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2027-2028						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2028-2029						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						

Total Combined Quantities of all Accepted Categories of Municipal Waste

YEAR	***TOTAL MERCER MSW TONS PER YEAR (all categories)***	***PERCENTAGE*** *Reserving Capacity for % of Mercer MSW Annually* ***(all categories)***	***ANNUAL TONS*** *Reserving Capacity for #Tons Mercer MSW Annually* ***(all categories)***	***OPERATING DAYS*** *Estimated Annual Working Days*	***TONS PER DAY*** *Reserving Capacity for #Tons Mercer MSW Daily* ***(all categories)***
2020					
2021					
2022					
2023					
2024					
2025					
2026					
2027					
2028					
2029					

Operating hours from _____to _____Monday through Friday and from _____to _____on Saturdays,

Notices

All notices, demands, requests, and other communications under this contract shall be delivered to:

_____

_____

_____

Name of Facility_____ **Proposed Support** _____										
Brief Description										
	Unrestricted Monetary Donation	**Sponsorship of County Program**		**In-Kind Services Equipment**		**Event**	**Drop-off Collection**	**Curbside/ or At Home Collection**		**None**
Type of Support										
	Illegal Dumping	**HHW**	**E-waste**	**Bulky Waste, White Goods**	**Tires**	**C&D**	**Textiles**	**Glass**	**Paper, Plastic, Cans**	**Organics**
Targeted Materials										

Section 5

REQUIRED PROPOSAL FORMS

Certification of Non-Collusion and Independent Price Determination

Acceptance Period

Ambiguity

Contingent Fee Representation

Equal Employment Opportunity

Executed under penalty of perjury this _____day of 2020,

at _____

*By_* _____ *(name)*

_____ *(title)*

_____ *(company)*

Executed under penalty of perjury this _ _____day of 2020

at___ _____

By___ _____ (name)

_____ _____ (title)

_____ _____ (company)

THE MERCER LAWRENCE-MERCER COUNTIES
RECYCLING/SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT
ON BEHALF OF MERCER COUNTY

Recommendations For Designation Of Disposal and Processing Facilities

MERCER COUNTY MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021-2030

DISPOSAL CAPACITY PROCUREMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND TECHNICAL EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

Based on the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988 (Act 101), the fundamental purpose of the Mercer County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan is to project future waste generation and recovery and to secure adequate capacity for the disposal of the remaining material. Capacity guarantees are to provide for a 10-year span. A variety of mechanisms can be utilized that satisfy this requirement. Each has procedural and legal implications that can be benefits or detractors depending upon local circumstances. Historically, Mercer County directed the flow of municipal waste generated within its borders to a select menu of disposal facilities, which guaranteed disposal capacity to the County. Mercer County has utilized a formal procurement process including a contractual agreement as the preferred guarantee of capacity. The same mechanism was chosen to fulfill the capacity assurance requirement of Act 101 for the 2020 Plan Update.

Waste generation is driven in part by population and other demographic influences. For Mercer County, the sources of relevant demographic information included the U.S. Census Bureau and the Penn State Data Center. For data related to waste generation, disposal and recycling, facility reports submitted to PADEP and records maintained by the County and municipalities were reviewed. National trends in waste generation, recovery, and disposal were also considered. Other information is drawn from professionally recognized and well documented assumptions. Based on these combined factors, the capacity required by the County for the next ten years was calculated.

During the planning process trends in Mercer County's current disposal practices were identified. The utilization of regional transfer stations and their potential for misreporting the origin of waste at destination disposal facilities was identified. The impact of that practice on accurately accounting for Mercer County's municipal waste was reviewed. The consumption of disposal capacity by other counties, states, and industrial generators at the facilities previously designated in the 2021 Plan was evaluated. The degree of which recycling efforts reduced the need for disposal capacity was also factored into the projections. No indication of pending capacity deficits were uncovered in the exercise. However, because current agreements are set to expire within the next year, it was necessary for the County to secure new guarantees.

A Request for Proposals for Disposal Capacity was issued by the Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department. The PADEP, who was notified of the County's intent to solicit for capacity assurances, posted the official solicitation notice in Pennsylvania Bulletin. In addition, the solicitation appeared in the digital online national trade publication, Waste Advantage.

To reach the greatest number of potentially interested parties, in addition to public notification, the County circulated the Request for Proposals through industry trade organizations and to facilities within the region permitted to dispose and/or process municipal solid waste These combined efforts assured that facilities located both within and out of the state would be informed of the County's request.

Proposal submission guidelines specified the format and content required for administrative completeness and technical merit review. Facilities were required to adhere to these instructions. The selection process was non-biased. All facilities and disposal processes were given equal consideration and opportunity. The potential need to make inquiries regarding the content of the proposals, ask for supplemental documentation, or request further clarifications were built into the technical review process. Categorized criteria and established requirements used in the review and selection process are described below. The criteria was accompanied by a point system which was explained in the Request for Proposals. Facilities were required to meet a minimum 94-point threshold to enter capacity agreements with the County.

Contractors will be evaluated on the quality, content, and organization of the proposal in keeping with the submission guidelines and instructions included in the Request for Proposals. Submissions that are complete and succinctly address the requested information will rank higher than those that require added investigation and/or include superfluous attachments and overdocumentation.

Facilities were required to demonstrate the existence of a current operating permit issued by the PADEP or the equivalent state regulatory agency for non-Pennsylvania facilities. The projected life of the facility and its ability to provide available capacity for all or some portion of the County's needs during the period of the Plan was a key indicator of the site's ability to meet the service needs of the County.

Regulatory compliance is a measure of potential liabilities. A review of the compliance history of the facility was included in the assessment. The compliance history for each company and facility was reviewed and condensed as a tabulation of violations, consent orders, penalties, etc.

Documentation of the credit worthiness and financial stability of the operator, along with the levels of public and environmental liability protection were required. Each was considered an important indicator of the potential level of risk to the County and the facility's ability to maintain and provide a financially sound disposal system.

The experience of personnel located at the facility and who were directly responsible for management and operations was reviewed. The depth of waste industry experience was considered as a demonstration of the contractor's ability to provide reliable disposal service. Documented performance in related contractual scenarios was also considered in the evaluation.

The ability to meet Federal, State, and Local standards for the operation of a municipal solid waste disposal facility was required. The technical design of the proposed facility and disposal process were evaluated based on the use of proven and accepted technology, demonstrated and approved

alternatives, and best engineering practices. The effectiveness of design components such as liner composition, leachate treatment, methane gas recovery, combustor units, boiler design was considered. The quality of operational plans for waste acceptance, emergency management, and contingencies for pollution prevention and control, safety, operational efficiency and energy production were important as were add on services such as yard waste composting, and beneficial use of waste materials.

Contractors were evaluated on the quality of the programs, services or other offerings proposed and how they complement the objectives of the Mercer County Municipal Waste Management Plan. Goals considered were unrestricted universal access to services, expansion of services to previously underserved areas of the County, recovery of new materials not previously collected, effectiveness of material recovery, and education to preserve the quality of materials. Support of illegal dumpi8ng prevention and remediation, comprehensive nature of the proposals in addressing multiple material management needs, and the quality and detail of the plans to implement the proposed were other equally important objectives considered. The overall financial and environmental value of the proposed programs, services or other offerings were factored into the evaluation when such information was provided upon request .

Although proposals were invited for new or alternative disposal technologies, none was received in this solicitation process. In addition, no proposal included supposition of County partnerships or investments in the construction and operation of facilities. Based on these factors, no further cost/benefit comparison, life cycle analysis, or evaluation was deemed necessary.

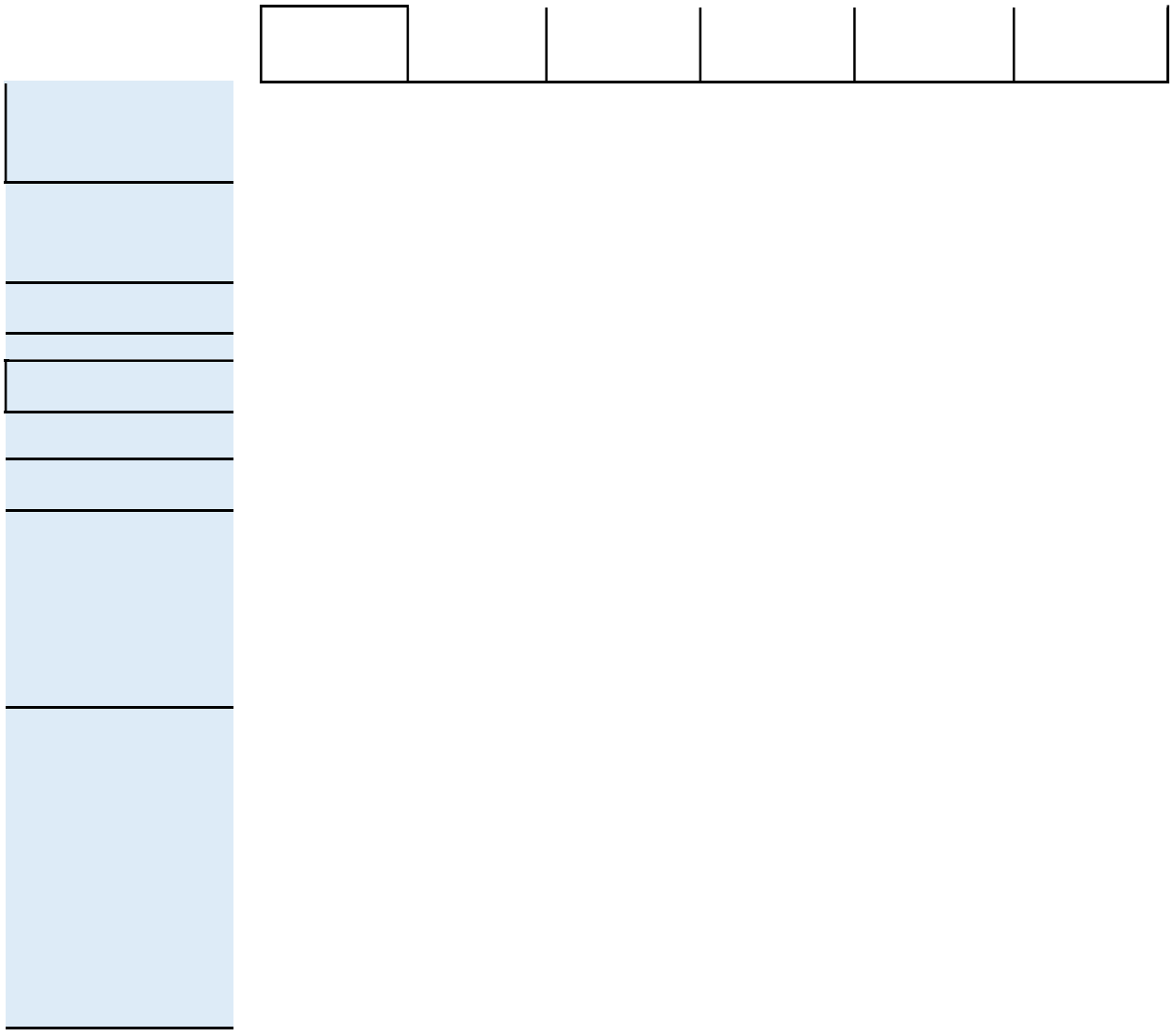
The evaluation included the ability of the facility to accept all or some of the municipal solid waste generated by Mercer County on a daily and annual basis during the ten-year period of the Plan. The criteria made clear that “Put or Pay” disposal guarantees for predetermined quantities of Mercer County waste were considered disincentives to recycling and therefore objectionable to the County.

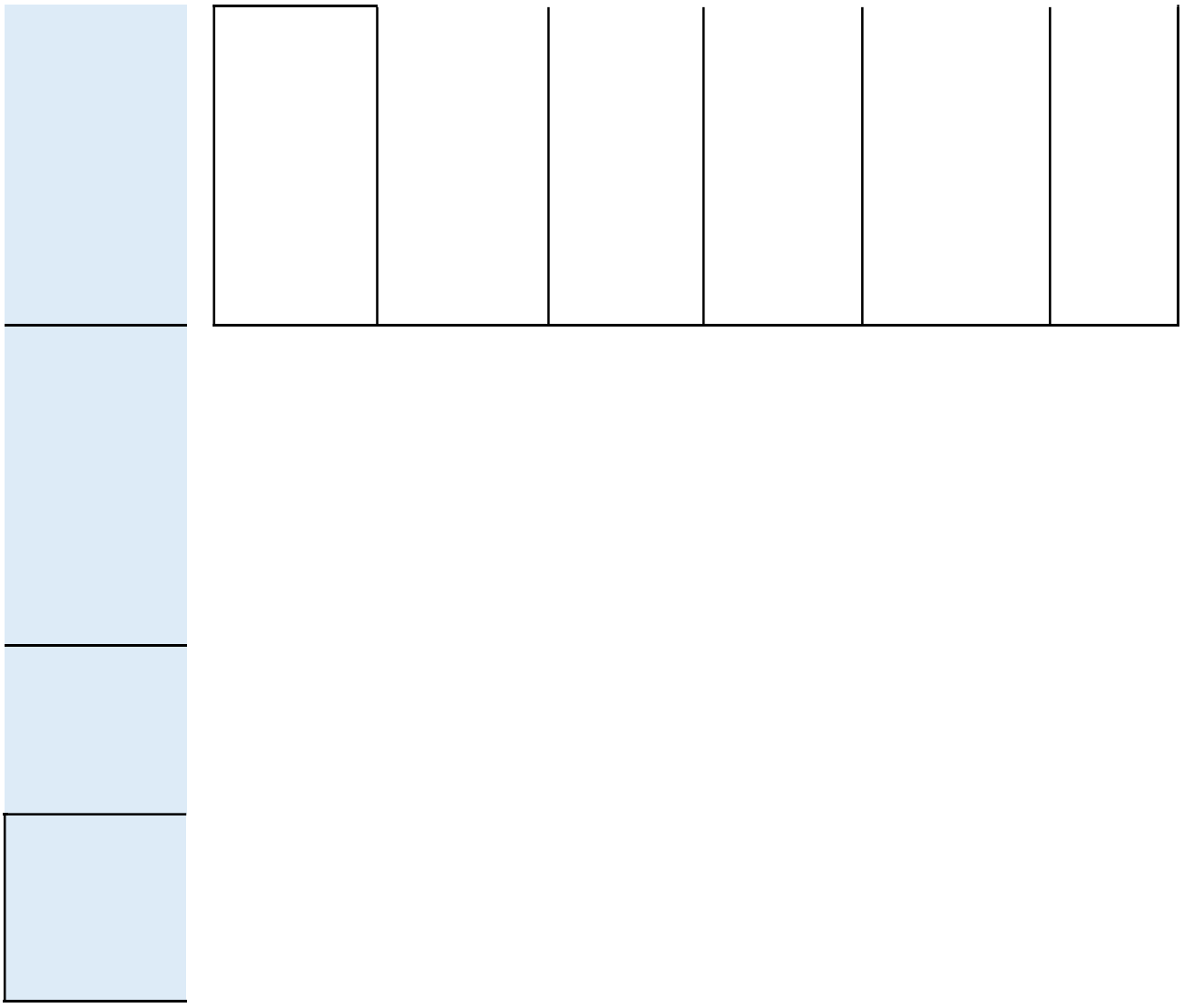
Competitive pricing was not part the sole determining criteria to be included in the Plan. However, because disposal is restricted to the facilities designated in the Plan, it was necessary to offer transporters, municipalities, individuals, and businesses full disclosure of the potential cost of each available disposal option. Therefore, facilities were required to submit a pricing matrix that established ceilings for the maximum fees, which would be charged for the contracted disposal services. Facilities were allowed to submit separate disposal rates for the different categories of municipal waste for which capacity was reserved. All fees and surcharges resulting from Act 101, host municipality or county agreements or other federal, state, and local statutes were to be identified and quantified.

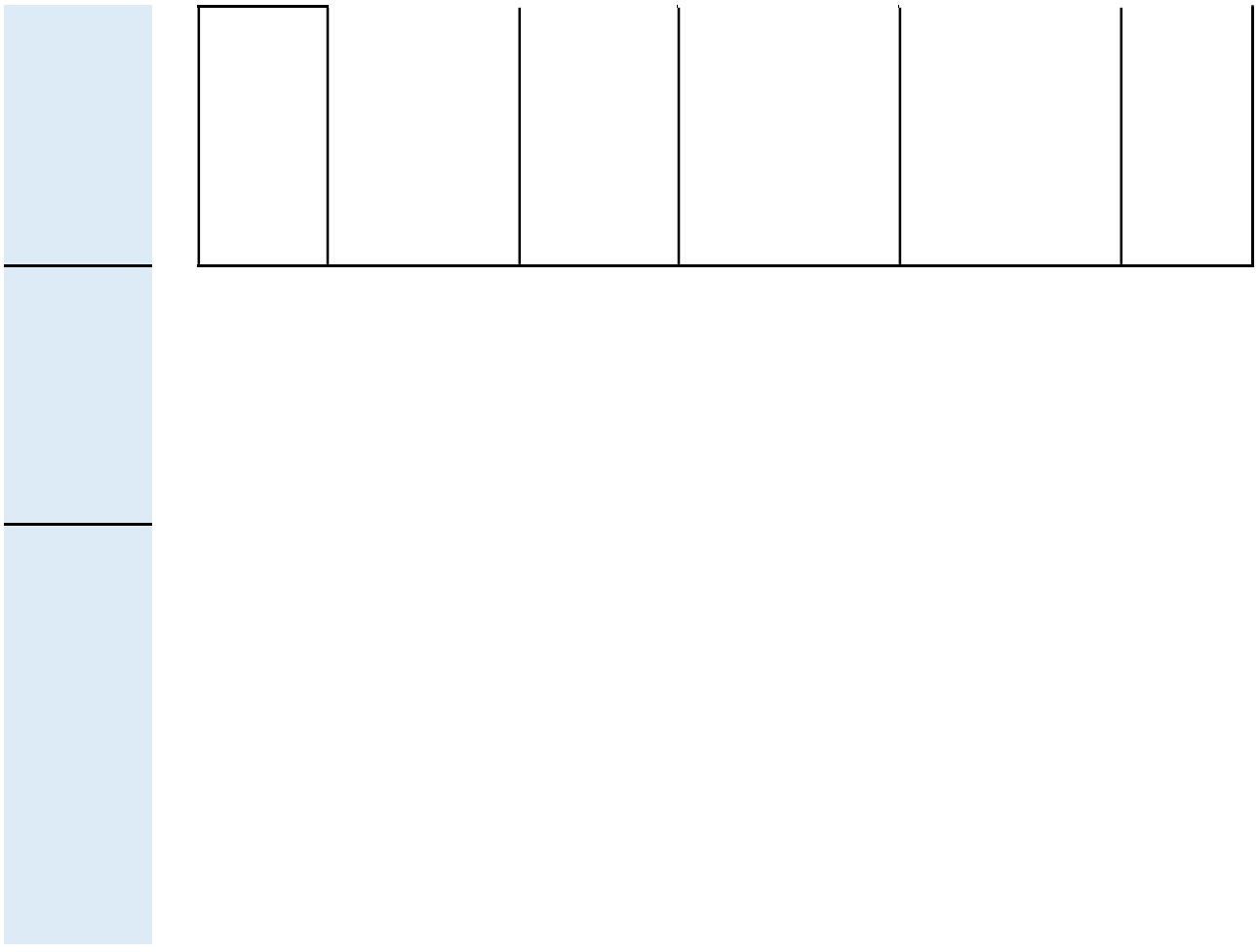
No conditions were imposed on the disposal rate other than the facility-defined cap. The use of one or more of the designated facilities remains a matter of choice. The maximum rates do not preclude the ability of parties to negotiate lower fees based on business relationships and other factors.

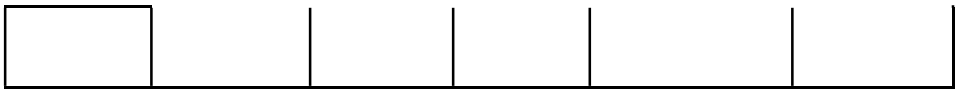
Respondents to the Request for Proposals included: Republic Services, Waste Management, and Vogel Holding. Combined, proposals for a total of six landfills offered daily, annual, or contingency capacity assurances to the County. These were examined and reviewed to determine compliance with the submission criteria and attainment of sufficient points. The facilities that meet both criteria will be officially designated after the final approval of the Plan.

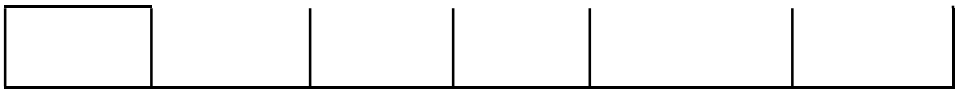
During the review and evaluation process, as minor mistakes were noted, requests were made to eliminate deficiencies. Answers and clarifications were provided and incorporated as received. . The results of the proposal evaluation are presented in nine sections following these narratives. Each section represents a segment of the legal, technical, operational, and financial selection criteria. Tables show the proposed facilities with their responses and demonstrated information condensed for presentation purposes.

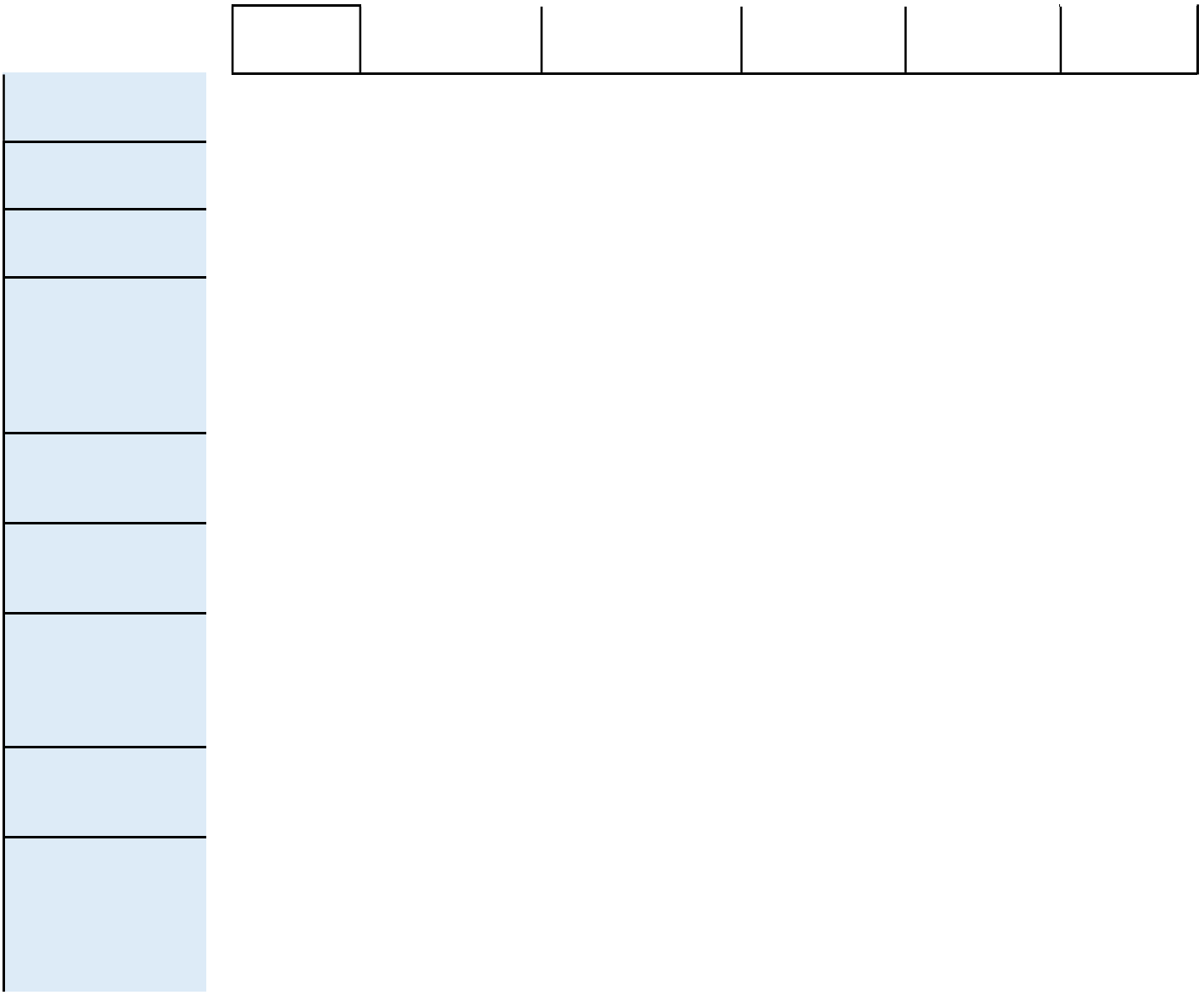




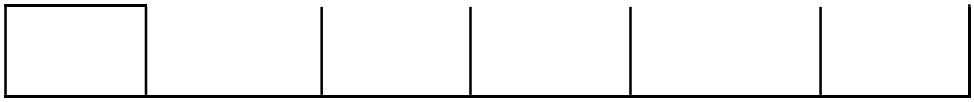








Illegal Dump Clean-Ups	
Disposal	
Transportation	
Special Handling	
HHW	
Curbside	
Drop-off	
Event	
Universal Access	
Fees	



Ewaste

Curbside

Drop-off

Event

Universal Access

Fees

Hard to Recycle

Curbside

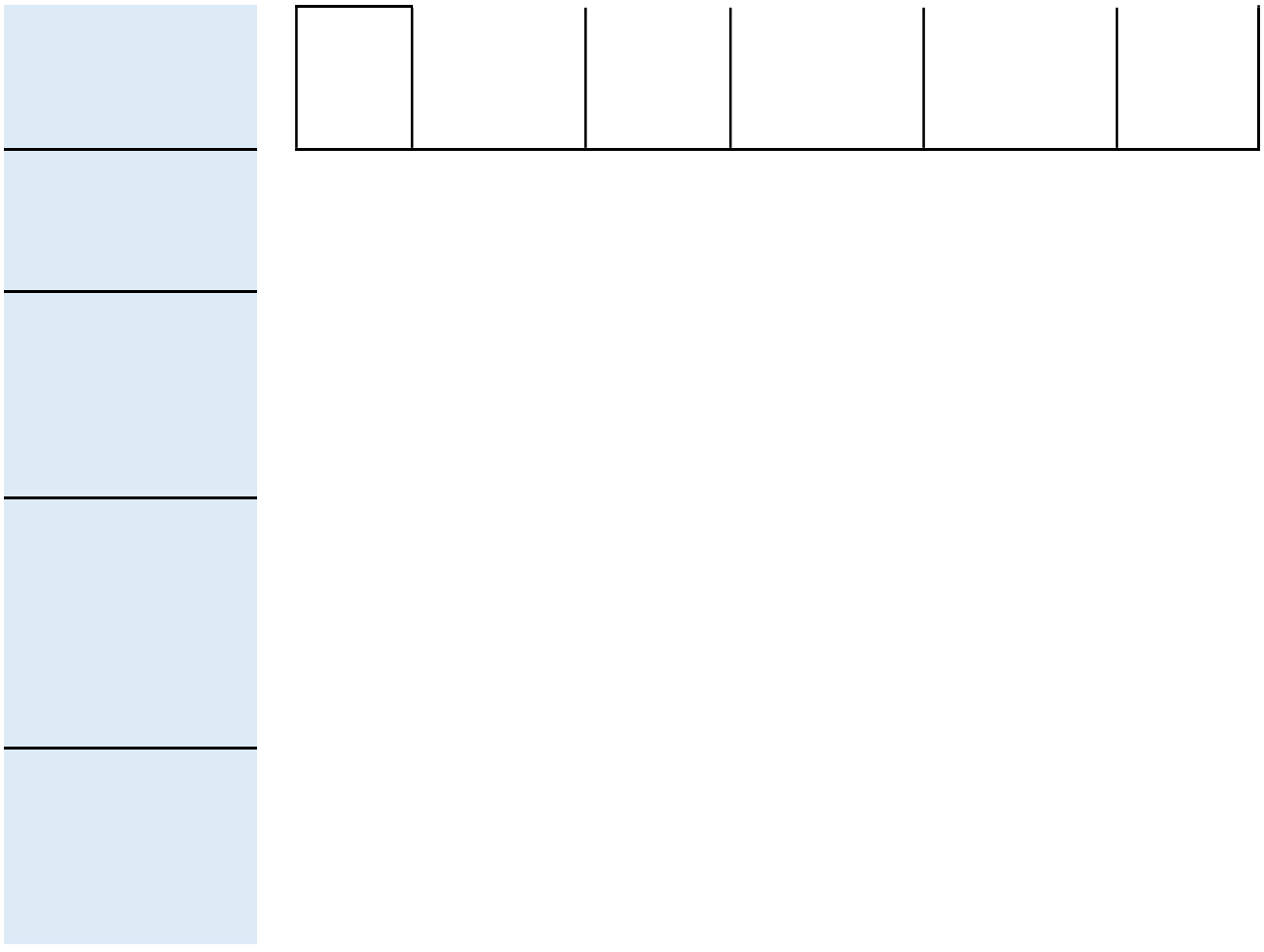
Drop-off

Event

Universal Access

Fees

Recycling						
Curbside						
Drop-off						
Event						
Universal Access						
Fees						
Education Program						
New Material Recovery						
Comprehensive Program						
Service Expansion Compatible with Plan Goals						



The review and evaluation of the proposals determined that all of the facilities meet the established selection criteria. Some of the facilities are operating with permits that will expire before 2025. A few have capacity that could be greatly depleted during the term of the contract but have room for expansion and design modifications. In these instances, actions to modify or renew existing permits are expected to result in approvals. All qualify to become designated disposal facilities in the Mercer County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan. In summary, the Mercer County will execute and enter into disposal capacity agreements with the facilities shown here. The table is arranged in alphabetical order by the owner/operator with each corresponding facility listed below

Republic Services

- **Carbon-Limestone Landfill**

Vogel Holding

- **Seneca Landfill**

Waste Management

- **Evergreen Landfill**
- **LakeView Landfill**
- **Northwest Landfill**
- **Valley Landfill**

Transporters Ordinance

TRANSPORTERS ORDINANCE

COUNTY SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING TRANSPORTERS ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. _2011-02
COUNTY OF MERCER, PENNSYLVANIA

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF MERCER, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING STANDARDS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PERSONS THAT COLLECT AND TRANSPORT MUNICIPAL WASTE AND/OR RECYCLABLES GENERATED FROM SOURCES LOCATED IN MERCER COUNTY; PROVIDING WASTE FLOW CONTROL REQUIREMENTS TO DIRECT WASTE TO DESIGNATED PROCESSING AND/OR DISPOSAL SITES; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

WHEREAS, Act 101 of 1988, the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 101 requires that counties accept responsibilities including the preparation and implementation of municipal waste management plans that provide for the processing and disposal of the municipal waste generated within their boundaries for at least ten years; and ensure maximum feasible waste reduction and recycling of municipal waste or source separated recyclable material.

WHEREAS, it is the position of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection that counties may implement a waste flow control mechanism ensuring that the municipal waste generated within the county is disposed at the disposal sites designated in the county plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has adopted and approved the 1990 Mercer County Municipal Waste Management Plan, amended in 1997 and a non-substantial revision in 2000 in accordance with the requirements of Section 501 of Act 101, and said Plan has been duly ratified by the municipalities of Mercer County; and

WHEREAS, the County adopted the County Ordinance No. 6-1991 on December 5, 1991, which Ordinance is being repealed and replaced by this Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, the County has the power and duty to adopt any such ordinances deemed necessary to implement this Plan and its revisions by the authority vested to the County pursuant to section 303 of Act 101, including requirements that all persons must register to collect and transport municipal waste subject to the plan to a municipal waste processing and/or disposal facility designated by the County pursuant to Subsection 303(3) of Act 101.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Mercer County hereby enact and ordain as follows:

SECTION 1- SHORT TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known and referred to as the "County Solid Waste and Recycling Transporters Ordinance."

SECTION 2- DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases as used in this Ordinance shall have the meaning ascribed to them herein, unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Act 90 -- The Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Safety Program (HB 2044, Act 2002-90, June 29,2002)

Act 97 -- The Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act of 1980 (P.L. 380, No.97, July 7, 1980)

Act 101 -- The Pennsylvania Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988 (SB 528, Act 1988-101, July 28, 1988)

Construction/Demolition Waste — Solid waste resulting from the construction or demolition of buildings and other structures, including, but not limited to, wood, plaster, metals, asphaltic substances, bricks, block and unsegregated concrete. The term does not include the following if they are separate from other waste and are used as clean fill:
(i) Uncontaminated soil, rock, stone, gravel, brick and block, concrete and used asphalt
(ii) Waste from land clearing, grubbing and excavation

County --Mercer County or any agency designated as the County's representative for the purposes of this Ordinance.

Department or DEP --The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Disposal - The deposition, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking or placing of solid waste into or on the land or water in a manner that the solid waste or a constituent of the solid waste enters into the environment, is emitted into the air or is discharged to the waters of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Institutional Establishment Any establishment or facility engaged in services, including, but not limited to, hospitals, nursing homes, schools and universities.

Leaf Waste Leaves, garden residues, shrubbery and tree trimmings, and similar material, but not including grass clippings.

Marketed— The transfer of ownership of recyclable materials for the purpose of recycling the materials into a new product or use.

Municipality --Any local municipal government within Mercer County. A city, borough, incorporated town, township, county or an authority created by any of the foregoing.

Municipal Waste --Any garbage, refuse, industrial lunchroom or office waste and other material including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material resulting from operation of residential, municipal, commercial or institutional establishments and from community activities; and any sludge not meeting the definition of residual or hazardous waste under Act 97 from any municipal, commercial or institutional water supply treatment plant, wastewater treatment plant, or air pollution control facility. The term does not include any source-separated recyclable materials. For the purposes of this Ordinance, the term "Municipal Waste" shall include all types of municipal waste except infectious

and chemotherapeutic waste and septage waste since all haulers of infectious and chemotherapeutic waste are licensed and regulated by the DEP under special regulations.

Municipal Waste Disposal or Processing Facility—A facility using land for disposing or processing of municipal waste. The facility includes land affected during the lifetime of operations, including, but not limited to, areas where disposal or processing activities actually occur, support facilities, borrow areas, offices, equipment sheds, air and water pollution control and treatment systems, access roads, associated onsite or contiguous collection, transportation and storage facilities, closure and postclosure care and maintenance activities and other activities in which the natural land surface has been disturbed as a result of or incidental to operation of the facility

Municipal Waste Landfill – A facility using land for disposing of municipal waste. The facility includes land affected during the lifetime of operations including, but not limited to, areas where disposal or processing activities actually occur, support facilities, borrow areas, offices, equipment sheds, air and water pollution control and treatment systems, access roads, associated onsite and contiguous collection, transportation and storage facilities, closure and postclosure care and maintenance activities and other activities in which the natural land surface has been disturbed as a result of or incidental to operation of the facility. The term does not include a construction/demolition waste landfill or a facility for the land application of sewage sludge.

Municipal Waste Management Plan— A comprehensive plan for an adequate municipal waste management system in accordance with Chapter 272, Subchapter C (relating to municipal waste planning).

Municipal Waste Management Plan Revision — A change that affects the contents, terms or conditions of a Department approved plan under the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act.

Pennsylvania Waste Transporter Authorization – An authorization issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Act 90 of 2002, the Waste Transportation Safety Act.

Person -- Any individual, partnership, corporation, association, institution, cooperative enterprise, municipal authority, municipality, state institution and agency, or any other legal entity recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties. In any provisions of this Ordinance prescribing a fine, penalty or imprisonment, or any combination of the foregoing, the term "person" shall include the officers and directors of any corporation or other legal entity having officers and directors.

Processing - Any technology used for the purpose of reducing the volume or bulk of municipal or residual waste or any technology used to convert part or all of such materials for off-site reuse. Processing facilities include, but are not limited to, transfer stations, composting facilities and resource recovery facilities.
Recyclables – All metals, glass, paper, leaf waste, plastics and other materials, which would otherwise be disposed or processed as municipal waste. that are collected, separated, recovered for sale or reuse.

Recyclables – All metals, glass, paper, leaf waste, plastics and other materials, which would otherwise be disposed or processed as municipal waste, that are collected, separated, recovered for sale or reuse

Recycling --The collection, separation, recovery and sale or reuse of metals, glass, paper, leaf waste, plastics and other materials which would otherwise be disposed or processed as municipal waste,

Recycling Facility—A facility employing a technology that is a process that separates or classifies municipal waste and creates or recovers reusable materials that can be sold to or reused by a manufacturer as a substitute for or a supplement to virgin raw materials. The term does not include transfer facilities, municipal waste landfills, composting facilities or resource recovery facilities.

Sewage Sludge—Liquid or solid sludges and other residues from a municipal sewage collection and treatment system; and liquid or solid sludges and other residues from septic and holding tank pumpings from commercial, institutional or residential establishments. The term includes materials derived from sewage sludge. The term does not include ash generated during the firing of sewage sludge in a sewage sludge incinerator, grit and screenings generated during preliminary treatment of sewage sludge at a municipal sewage collection and treatment system, or grit, screenings and nonorganic objects from septic and holding tank pumpings

Source Separated Recyclable Materials --Materials that are separated from municipal waste at the point of origin or generation for the purpose of recycling.

Street --A strip of land, including the entire right-of-way, intended for use as a means of vehicular and pedestrian circulation, includes street, avenue, boulevard, road, highway, freeway, parkway, lane, alley, viaduct and any other ways used or intended to be used by vehicular traffic or pedestrians whether public or private.

Transfer Facility—A facility which receives and processes or temporarily stores municipal or residual waste at a location other than the generation site, and which facilitates the transportation or transfer of municipal or residual waste to a processing or disposal facility. The term includes a facility that uses a method or technology to convert part or all of the waste materials for offsite reuse. The term does not include a collecting or processing center that is only for source-separated recyclable materials, including clear glass, colored glass, aluminum, steel and bimetallic cans, high-grade office paper, newsprint, corrugated paper and plastics.

Transportation --The off-site removal of any municipal waste and/or recyclables at any time after generation.

Transporter Any person, firm, partnership, corporation or public agency who is engaged in the collection and/or transportation of municipal waste and/or recyclables.

For the purposes of this ordinance, the singular shall include the plural and the masculine shall include the feminine and neuter.

SECTION 3 -STANDARDS FOR COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION

All Transporters operating within the County must comply with the following minimum standards and regulations:

A. All trucks or other vehicles used for collection and transportation of municipal waste must comply with the requirements of Act 97, Act 90, and Act 101 as currently enacted or hereafter amended, and

Department regulations adopted pursuant to Act 97, Act 90 and Act 1O1, including the Title 25, Chapter 285, Subchapter B Regulations for the Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste.

B. All collection and transportation vehicles conveying municipal waste and/or recyclables shall be operated and maintained in a manner that will prevent creation of a nuisance or a hazard to public health, safety and welfare.

C. All collection and transportation vehicles conveying putrescible municipal waste and/or recyclables shall be watertight and suitably enclosed to prevent leakage, roadside littering, attraction of vectors and the creation of odors and other nuisances.

D. All collection and transportation vehicles conveying nonputrescible municipal waste and/or recyclables shall be capable of being enclosed or covered to prevent roadside litter and other nuisances.

E. All collection and or transportation vehicles conveying municipal waste and/or recyclables shall bear signs identifying the name and business address of the person or municipality, which utilize said vehicle in the collection and or transportation of municipal waste and/or recyclables and the specific type of municipal waste and/or recyclables transported by the vehicle. All such signs shall have lettering, which is at least six inches in height as required by Act 101.

SECTION 4- PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to collect and or transport municipal solid waste from any sources within Mercer County in a manner that is not in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and the minimum standards and requirements established in Chapter 285 of the DEP's Municipal Waste Management Regulations, (as amended) or any other applicable state law.

2. It shall be unlawful for any person to transport any municipal waste collected from sources located within Mercer County to any processing or disposal facility other than the facilities that are designated disposal sites under the approved Mercer County Act 101 Municipal Waste Management Plan. Municipal waste collected from sources located within Mercer County may be delivered to a transfer facility provided the transfer facility transports the waste to any processing or disposal facility other than the facilities that are designated disposal sites under the approved Mercer County Act 101 Municipal Waste Management Plan. The following types of municipal waste and materials are exempt from this sub-section:

a. Transporters of infectious/chemotherapeutic waste shall be exempted from use of the designated disposal facilities.
b. Transporters of sewage sludge shall be exempted from use of the designated disposal facilities if proof of an approved land application or composting facility is provided.
c. Transporters of septage shall be exempted from use of the designated disposal facilities but must provide proof of use of a DEP approved land application or permitted wastewater treatment facility for disposal.
d. Transporters of recyclables shall be exempted from use of the designated disposal facilities but must provide proof that the recyclables are taken to a material recovery processing facility or marketed for end use.

3. It shall be unlawful for any person to commingle source separated recyclables and municipal waste, collected from sources located within Mercer County, in the same vehicle compartment.

4. It shall be unlawful for any transporter to dispose of source separated recyclables collected from sources located within Mercer County except at a recycling facility.

SECTION 5- EXEMPTED ACTIVITIES

A. The transportation of less than 500 pounds of municipal waste and/or recyclables collected and/or transported as part of a non-commercial activity occasionally occurring at an individual residence shall not be subject to the provisions of this ordinance with respect to standards for collection and transportation, and reporting requirements.

SECTION 6- REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. All Transporters shall maintain current, up-to-date records of the customers serviced within Mercer County. Such records and customer list shall be subject to inspection by the County or its authorized agents upon request.

2. Each Transporter shall prepare and submit on forms provided by the County, a typewritten or legibly printed quarterly report to the County or its designated agent. The report shall be submitted on or before the last day of the following months: April, July, October, and January. At a minimum, the following information shall be included in each quarterly report

A. The total weight of each type of municipal waste and/or recyclables collected from all sources located in Mercer County during each month of the reporting period;

B. The name of each processing or disposal facility and/or material recovery or end market the hauler used during the reporting period and the total weight of each type of municipal waste and/or recyclable that was delivered to each site during each month of the reporting period;

C. The name of each municipality in Mercer County in which the hauler collected municipal waste and/or recyclables from any source during the reporting period; and

D. A summary for each municipality of the total weight of each type of municipal waste and/or recyclables collected from each municipality during each month of the reporting period;

SECTION 8- PENALTIES

1. Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a summary offense punishable, by a fine of not more than three hundred ($300.00) dollars, or by imprisonment for a period of more than thirty (30) days, or both. “Each violation and each day that a violation continues shall be considered a separate and distinct offense punishable under the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 8- INJUNCTIVE POWERS

The County or its designated agency may petition the Court of Common Pleas of Mercer County for an injunction, either mandatory or prohibitive, in order to enforce any of the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 9 -SEVERABILITY

In the event that any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance, or any part thereof, shall be declared illegal, invalid or unconstitutional for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall not be affected, impaired or invalidated by such action.

SECTION 10 -CONFLICT

Any ordinances or any part of any ordinances, which conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as the same is specifically inconsistent with this Ordinance. This Ordinance specifically repeals and vacates the County Ordinance No. 6-1991 adopted on December 5, 1991.

SECTION 11- EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect on June 30 2011 ORDAINED AND ENACTED into an Ordinance this 30th day of June 2011.

County of Mercer Board of Commissioners

Brian Beader, Chairman

Kenneth R. Ammann, Commissioner

John N. Lechner, Commissioner

Attest:

Timothy M. Hofius, Chief Clerk

Ordinance to Create Intergovernmental Agreement

ORDINANCE 2010-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF MERCER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING ITS PROPER OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO

AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF LAWRENCE TO ADMINISTER MERCER COUNTY'S RECYCLING PROGRAM

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of same, that the Mercer County Board of Commissioners be authorized to enter into aninter-governmental agreement with the County of Lawrence providing as follows:

1. **CONDITJONS OF AGREEMENT:** The agreement shall provide that the County ofLawrence, through its Recycling and Solid Waste Department shall provide all administrativeand operational services for the operation of Mercer County's recycling program. Mercer County will be billed, on a quarterly basis, for Lawrence County staff time spent on Mercer County operations.

2. **TERM OF THE AGREEMENT:** The initial term of the Agreement shall be for two years, and then will continue on an annual calendar year basis until terminated by either party.Either party may terminate at any time and for any reason upon 90 day notice to the other.

3. **PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT:** The agreement will hopefully introduce economies of scale to each counties recycling efforts. Mercer County has delegated dailyoperational responsibilities for recycling activities to Lawrence County.

4. **FINANCING:** Funding of operational activities will be from each county's general fund to the extent that there are activities within that county, and from grant funds that may heobtained from PaDEP.

5. **IMPLEMENTATION:** No new organizational structure will be created to implementthe activities. All activities will be undertaken by the Lawrence County Recycling and Solid Waste Department.

6. **PROPERTY:** Property owned by either County will remain its property. Propertypurchased with grant funds for joint use will be owned equally by both counties, and property purchased for use by just one county shall be paid for by that county and remain its property.

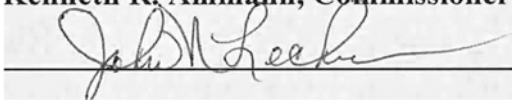
8. **SEVERABILITY: The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable, and,if any of the provisions hereof shall be held unconstitutional, void, or otherwise unenforceable, such shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of saidOrdinance.**

9. **REPEALER: All ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with any of theprovisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this Ordinance.**

10 EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately after final passage.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED finally into law by the County of Mercer, this 13th day of May, 2010

Kenneth R. Ammann, Commissioner



Attest:

Timothy M. Hofius, Chief Clerk

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made this ____1st___ day of _____July_____, 2010 pursuant to the authority set forth in the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of December 19, 1966, 53 Pa. C.S.A. §§ 2301 et seq., by and between the COUNTY OF LAWRENCE, a Fifth Class County of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with its office located at 430 Court Street, New Castle, PA 16101, hereafter called "Lawrence County," and the COUNTY OF MERCER, a Fifth Class County of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with its office located at 104 Courthouse, Mercer, PA 16137, hereafter called "Mercer County."

WHEREAS, Lawrence County has implemented a comprehensive recycling program through the development of the Recycling/Solid Waste Department, and

WHEREAS, the Recycling/Solid Waste Department serves as the implementing entity for its Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan, and

WHEREAS, Mercer County desires to have a similar program, and

WHEREAS, Mercer County is working to update its Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan and needs an entity for its implementation, and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, funding entities, and partners look favorably at Intergovernmental Cooperation, and

WHEREAS, Lawrence County and Mercer County have met and discussed the environmental, community, and financial benefits of utilizing one office to direct solid waste management and recycling activities, planning, programs, and responsibilities, and

WHEREAS, Lawrence County already has such an office established with experienced, professional, and capable staff, and

WHEREAS, Lawrence and Mercer counties desire to share the use and services of the Lawrence County Recycling/Solid Waste Department to provide solid waste management and recycling planning and services for both counties, as described in the sections hereafter.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants set forth, Lawrence County and Mercer County agree as follows:

EFFECTIVE DATE

This agreement shall be effective upon the date of signing by the Board of Commissioners of both Lawrence County and Mercer County subsequent to the adoption of Ordinances as required by 53 PaCSA.2305.

PROVISION OF SERVICE

The Lawrence County Recycling/Solid Waste Department will be contracted to Mercer County by Lawrence County to provide services and shall be deemed to be an independent contractor of Mercer County.

STAFFING

The staff of the Lawrence County Recycling/Solid Waste Department will be employees of Lawrence County and shall exclusively adhere to, comply with and be subject to all personnel and other applicable policies of Lawrence County.

Lawrence County shall be responsible to provide and issue all compensation, benefits, and insurances associated with Lawrence County Recycling/Solid Waste Department staff positions. The initial salaries and staffing levels will be jointly established by Lawrence County and Mercer County with all benefits being those as currently offered by Lawrence County. Thereafter, any "across the board" increase and/or change in salary or change in benefits offered by Lawrence County to its salaried employees is deemed as jointly approved by the Counties as part of this Agreement, to be effective 90 days after notice of same is submitted to the Mercer County Board of Commissioners. For any increases and/or change to the staff positions that are other than "across the board" increases and/or changes as mentioned above, the Counties must jointly approve such increases and/or changes.

Increases or decreases in shared staff and their terms of employment must be mutually agreed upon between both counties.

COST SHARING

For Mercer County's share of staff compensation, Lawrence County will issue itemized requests for reimbursement to Mercer County on a quarterly basis. Said reimbursements to be paid by Mercer County to Lawrence County within thirty (30) days of Mercer County's receipt of said reimbursement requests.

To the greatest extent possible, Lawrence County and Mercer County shall equally share the costs of travel and other related non-salary expenses in accordance to the following guidelines.

- Payment of mileage reimbursement expenses incurred solely within either of the Counties or expenses that plainly pertain to one county and not the other shall be the responsibility of the County in which said travel and/or expenses occurred.
- Mercer County and Lawrence County shall jointly approve all requests associated with attendance at conferences, seminars, training sessions, out of town meetings, and similar travel and shall equally share the costs associated therewith. In the event that Lawrence County and Mercer County do not jointly approve such attendance, then the County which approves such attendance shall be solely responsible for the payment of associated expenses.

Expenses for programs specific to one county and not the other shall be the responsibility of the county for which the program was provided. This includes, but is not limited to, countywide recycling drop-off programs and hard-to-recycle/dispose programs for materials such as electronics, household hazardous wastes, tires, and residential pharmaceutical wastes.

EQUIPMENT

The Lawrence County Recycling/Solid Waste Department is fully furnished with the equipment necessary to provide programming in Lawrence County and Mercer County.

Any equipment provided to the Recycling/Solid Waste Department by either County shall remain the property of the County that purchased it.

GRANTS AND FUNDRAISING

The Recycling/Solid Waste Department will prepare grant proposals for Lawrence County and Mercer County programs and administer awarded grants, with credit therefore being allocated to the appropriate County.

Grant funds received for Mercer County's portion of reimbursed expenses will be forwarded to Mercer County within thirty (30) days of receipt from the grantor.

In the event of the termination of this Agreement, equipment purchased through awarded grants and designated specifically for use in Mercer County will become the property of Mercer County. Joint use of equipment purchased through awarded grants shall be sold and the proceeds divided equally between the Counties.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Recycling/Solid Waste Department will provide quarterly updates to Mercer County, detailed with regard to each program being conducted in Mercer County.

DISPUTES

In the event of a dispute between Lawrence County and Mercer County which the counties are unable to resolve, the Counties agree to arbitration in accords with the rules of the American Arbitration Association with costs thereof to be equally shared by the Counties and the decision resulting there from to be binding upon the Counties.

AMENDMENTS

This agreement may be amended, in writing, by the mutual agreement of the parties.

LENGTH OF AGREEMENT

The initial term of this Agreement shall be two years. Thereafter, unless terminated in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, this Agreement shall automatically renew on an annual basis, through December 31st of any given renewal year.

TERMINATION

Lawrence County or Mercer County may terminate this agreement, whole or in part, at any time upon ninety (90) days prior notice. Said notice shall be in writing and delivered to the Office of the Commissioners for the respective County.

INSURANCE

Lawrence County and Mercer County shall continue to provide applicable insurance coverage for their owned automobiles, equipment, programs, and normal business operations. Each county shall provide the other with a Certificate of Insurance.

INDEMNIFICATION

Lawrence County shall indemnify and hold harmless Mercer County and any person who shall be an officer, employee or agent of Mercer County from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, demands and actions, including reasonable attorney's fees and expenses of defending the same, that may arise or be asserted by a third party against Mercer County or such person by reason of the negligence of Lawrence County, its officers, agents, or employees, or the willful misconduct by Lawrence County, its officers, agents, or employees, in the provision of services or activities under this Agreement.

Mercer County shall indemnify and hold harmless Lawrence County and any person who shall be an officer , employee, or agent of Lawrence County from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, demands and actions, including reasonable attorney's fees and expenses of defending the same, that may arise or be asserted by a third party against Lawrence County or such person by reason of the negligence of Mercer County, its officers, agents, or employees, or the willful misconduct by

Mercer County, its officers, agents, or employees, in the provision of services or activities under this Agreement.

by Lawrence County, its officers, agents, or employees, in the provision of services or activities under this Agreement.

Mercer County shall indemnify and hold harmless Lawrence County and any person who shall be an officer , employee, or agent of Lawrence County from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, demands and actions, including reasonable attorney's fees and expenses of defending the same, that may arise or be asserted by a third party against Lawrence County or such person by reason of the negligence of Mercer County, its officers, agents, or employees, or the willful misconduct by Mercer County, its officers, agents, or employees, in the provision of services or activities under this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF AND INTENDING TO BE LEGALLY BOUND HEREBY, the parties hereto by the hands and seals of their duly empowered officers and/or agents have caused this Agreement to be duly executed the day and year first written above.

Attest:

By: _____
James Gagliano, County Administrator

County of Lawrence

By: _____
Steve Craig, Chairman

By: _____
Richard DeBlasio

By: _____
Daniel Vogler

By: _____
Timothy M. Hofius, Chief Clerk

By: _____
Brian Beader, Chairman

By: _____
Kenneth R. Ammann, Vice-Chairman

By: _____
John Lechner, Secretary

RESOLUTION 2021-230

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Act, Act of July 7, 1980, P.L. 380, No. 97, as amended (Act 97) established a comprehensive planning and regulatory framework for the storage, collection, transportation, processing, and disposal of solid waste, including municipal waste; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act, Act of July 28, 1988, P.L. 528, No. 101 (Act 101) gave the County primary responsibility for planning for municipal waste management within its boundaries and for ensuring sufficient disposal capacity for all municipal waste generated within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Section 303(d) of Act 101 authorizes counties to enter into an agreement with another person, or organization, pursuant to which that person undertakes to fulfill some or all of the County's responsibilities under Act 101 for municipal waste planning and implementation of the approved County Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Lawrence-Mercer Counties Solid Waste Recycling Department was established for the purpose of planning for the effective, efficient, reliable, and environmentally safe storage, collection, transportation, processing, and disposal of solid waste; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners designated the Department as the agency to prepare the revision to its prior Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the request of the County Board of Commissioners, the Department has prepared (as a revision to the prior Plan) the Mercer County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan of 2020 (the 2020 Plan); and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners believes that the 2020 Plan is appropriate and necessary to protect the health and welfare of the residents of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners believes that effecting and carrying forth the 2020 Plan will enable the County and each municipality to continue to realize the benefits of an effective, efficient, reliable and environmentally safe system for the storage, transportation, processing and disposal of solid waste.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Mercer County Board of Commissioners that the 2020 Plan is hereby adopted and that all plans or parts of plans inconsistent therewith are appealed.

ADOPTED this 17th day of June 2021

Attest

Chief Clerk

MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Matthew B. McConnell, Chairman

Scott Boyd, Commissioner

Timothy M. McGonigle, Commissioner

Mercer County SWAC Meeting October 10, 2018 at 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Mercer County Courthouse

Present:

Monica King, Shenango RiverWatchers
Dot Hillman, Mercer County Builders Association
Ginger Fenton, Penn State Extension
Gary King, Perry Township
Jasson Urey, Borough of Greenville
Matt Ceremuga, Joy Cone Company
Jeremy Coxe, City of Hermitage
Jay Russell, Mercer County Conservation District
Kim DiCintio, Mercer County Regional Council of Governments
John Logan, Mercer County Fiscal
Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources, Consultant
Vance Oaks, Grove City Borough
Jerry Zona, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Jerry Bowser, Tri-County Industries
Megan Gahring, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department

The following handouts were distributed:

- Presentation: Overview of MSW Planning, Michele Nestor
- Presentation: Overview of Mercer County MSW Plans - Past, Present and Future, Megan Gahring
- Presentation: Recycling Trends, Jerry Zona

Introductions:

Megan Gahring opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. All those present made introductions.

MSW Plan Overview:

Michele Nestor presented an overview of the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) planning process. Roles and responsibilities of the SWAC, Project Consultant, and County were discussed. Future topics for SWAC meetings were presented.

Megan Gahring then presented an overview of Mercer County's current MSW Plan and the recommendations included. Discussion of accomplishments and efforts still needed.

Current State of Recycling:

Jerry Zona presented information regarding China's National Sword initiative and impacts to our local recycling programs. There are significant changes to recycling markets impacting the cost, transportation, materials, and processing of recyclables. Status of the Big Blue Bin (BBB) program was discussed and its contract expiration in 12/18. Costs of the program have increased significantly, and drastic changes are expected.

Michele discussed Crawford County's current transition from the BBB program and offering Town Hall meetings to communities for open discussion. Many communities are considering contracting recycling services as a result.

Goals and Interests Roundtable:

Jerry Bowser verified that recycling markets are down. TC Recycling made a 3.5-million-dollar investment in their recycling center. The center is suffering from contamination from plastic bags, etc. Manual labor is required to remove plastic bags and contamination, and results in the shutdown of equipment. Jerry would like to see all yard waste collected in paper bags instead of plastic bags. There are concerns with the bidding process in Mercer County. Mandatory participation needs to be a requirement for contracting to assure that service costs can be realistically estimated. An ordinance requiring all households to participate is needed, or else there are problems with being the exclusive contractor in a municipality but not everyone is subscribing. TCI encourages the mandatory offering of recycling service with waste service ... and bundling of cost. Jerry noted most customers want to recycle.

Vance Oaks stated Grove City Borough's concern is cost of the recycling program. Being a mandated community, they are required to provide the service to residents. The Borough has an aging population, and the cost of service is increasing. Outside of borough boundaries, the service is not required and it's discouraging to see many choose not to recycle. The Grove City school district needs some assistance with their recycling program. The Borough is willing to host a future SWAC meeting.

Kim DiCintio discussed recycling in mandated versus non-mandated communities. Having a county-wide recycling program and ordinance would resolve some of the participation issues. The COG is willing to host a meeting. Currently, 32 municipalities participate in the COG.

Ginger Fenton lives in Sandy Lake Borough and stated that creating awareness and public education for opportunities to recycle in the Borough are needed. The Penn State Cooperative Extension Office is willing to host a meeting.

Gary King stated that Perry Township hosts a BBB site. . Abuse of the site is prevalent and public education is needed. Some schools utilize the BBB site in the Township. The township has concerns if the site is removed.

Jeremy Coxe has been involved in the planning process for many years as a County Coordinator, Authority member, and now with the City of Hermitage. The City is mandated and has the collection of waste and recycling for past 9 - 10 years. Hermitage is one of the first communities in the county to mandate collection. Public feedback was prevalent for first several months, as much of the city is rural in nature and there were some very outspoken residents. Currently, the program is very successful. A base fee for each household includes curbside trash, yard waste, and recycling service. Tags are available for bulky items. The cost is about $50 every three months. The contract expires next summer of 2019. Current issues include phone calls to get rid of items. The City would like to have available a laundry list of options. The current "free" recycling of electronics seems to be in jeopardy and there are concerns with keeping the cost of service down. Education on actual services receiving for a very reasonable cost. Exceptions included in their contract exist for low-income households and business owners. Website, social media and newsletters are used for education and outreach. One way to increase recycling rates is to limit trash to the cart/tote size. The City doesn't have a lot of illegal dumping issues. Most often residents are recycling more than they are throwing away.

Michele Nestor encouraged the base fee as a way to decrease costs for existing customers of subscription recycling service. Costs for those not having any service will increase, however, this ensures that all households must participate, and it levels the cost for everyone in the community.

Monica King stated Shenango RiverWatchers receives many calls in office about what to do with hard to get rid of items. They offer public awareness of recycling opportunities and programs available.

Dot Hillman discussed promoting recycling efforts within the household. Consumers trends are to buy and discard. Promoting ways to educate the consumer on waste minimization and excessive consumption is needed. Also, promoting the reuse of household items and donation of useful items as other opportunities to minimize waste.

Jasson Urey discussed the success of Greenville Borough transitioning to mandatory participation. There are concerns with how to educate the public and spread awareness on Recycling Right, despite educational material being available. The Borough implemented curbside Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection in 2012 and found the service to be extremely convenient and beneficial to residents. How does the Borough incentivize recycling in mandated communities? Education to residents on the value of service and reasonable cost is needed.

Jeremy Coxe stated trash collection is a service like any other utility in the household and should not be an option residents.

Michele Nestor encouraged public education on the value of the service in today's society. Disputing the myth that recycling is free, and they are making money on my recyclables is critical.

Michele Nestor discussed that in the next 10 years, how we track and record materials in tonnage and rates will transition to a focus on calculating the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Packaging trends are focusing more on light-weighting versus the recycled content in the packaging material.

Matt Ceremuga promoted educating homeowners, making it convenient, and disseminating information to households on recycling. Recycling efforts at Joy Cone include plastic waste now being bailed in-house with new equipment. Cone batter waste goes into making animal feed. The company removes and recycles paper jackets off the cones.

John Logan stated the number of small appliances and HHW needing disposed of is impressing. Collecting appliances at the annual recycling event is great opportunity to recycle these items. The life expectancy of these appliances has been greatly reduced over the years. The availability of matching funds for grant programs is a growing concern for the County. There are concerns from site sponsors that maintain the areas of BBB's being removed as a result of price increased to the program. How do we address the handling of yard waste and encouraging composting ... both household, on-farm composting, and larger scale composting?

Jay Russell offered cooperation on education and outreach efforts and disseminating information between the R/SW Department and the Mercer County Conservation District.. Composting and organic matter being removed from waste stream is an interest of the Conservation District. The District supports the development of composting sites on agricultural areas and is able to assist with permitting and site development. The District has concerns with illegal dumping on county-owned properties and along roadways. Uniform

accessibility to recycling service, especially in rural areas, is a concern. Jay offered to the Conservation District and Munnell Run Farm to host future meetings.

Michele discussed waste minimization as a part of the planning process. A growing trend is food waste and removal of this material from the waste stream. Other than having curbside organics collection, the region may consider smaller scale efforts to redistribute food waste. Such as collection from restaurants and distribution to those in need, small scale composting sties, and targeting commercial entities for the collection of food waste.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting date will be in December of 2018. Location to be determined. Jerry Zona mentioned the possibility of the Hermitage Waste Water Treatment Plan hosting a tour.

Mercer County SWAC Meeting December 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Tri-County Industries Transfer Station in Grove City

Present:

Scott Boyd, Mercer County Commissioner
Ginger Fenton, Penn State Extension
Gary King, Perry Township
Jasson Urey, Borough of Greenville
Jeremy Coxe, City of Hermitage
Jay Russell, Mercer County Conservation District
John Logan, Mercer County Fiscal
Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources, Consultant
Vance Oaks, Grove City Borough
Jerry Zona, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Jerry Bowser, Tri-County Industries
Megan Gahring, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department

The following handouts were distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- Summary of Recycling Roundtable Discussions, Megan Gahring
- Review of Recycling Roundtable and DEP Act 101 Workgroup, Michele Nestor

Introductions:

Megan Gahring opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. All those present made introductions.

Update on the BBB Program:

Megan Gahring and Jerry Zona discussed the upcoming changes to the County's drop-off recycling program. The contract for the program expires December 31. County officials conducted a request for proposals earlier this year and received one bid from Tri-County Industries at approximately $365 per month per container or $4,380 per year per container. The counties' current cost is $2,400 per year per container.

The County was anticipating increased costs for the Big Blue Bin program and had been brainstorming ideas for worst-case scenarios. Dropping the metal, glass and plastic from the program was determined to be the most logical approach to the challenge. Zona said, this

course of action will result in no increase to the budget and by focusing strictly on papers the counties will not have to pick and choose sites to close.

Eliminating glass, metal and plastic from the program also removes the most problematic materials from the program. Gahring said a view into many of the containers will reveal plastic bags, Styrofoam, clamshell food containers, light bulbs, and a many other trash items that don't belong.

There has been a national trend to eliminate glass from recycling programs over the past several years. Glass has largely been replaced by plastic so there are limited glass recycling options. Additionally, broken glass contaminates the other recycling streams and is expensive to manage. For plastics, there are trends to collect primarily #1 and #2 plastic bottles.

All of the recycling site sponsor are notified of the changes, press releases were issued in local media, and signs are posted on all of the recycling bins. During January 2019, TCI will begin transitioning the sites to cardboard and paper only bins.

Updates from Western PA Recycling Roundtable:

A collaborative meeting with Industry, County Recycling Coordinators, Regulatory, and Local Government representatives was held on December 6th in Franklin, Venango County.

A Roundtable discussion of local impacts as a result of the recycling markets were held. Throughout the region, the phasing out and dropping of glass materials from recycling programs is a common occurrence.

There was agreement by all those present that a consistent message for What Can be Recycled is needed to reduce contamination rates for recycling. In general, the following should not be put in your recycling bin:

- No Junk Mail
- No Cartons
- No Plastic Bags
- No #3-#7 Plastics
- No Glass

If a hauler wants to make changes to materials included in your municipal contract, be sure to check your local ordinance for consistency. For example, your ordinance states "hauler must collect glass." DEP may hold municipalities accountable for the items stated in the ordinance to be eligible for 904 grant funding. If materials in your ordinance need amended, a Resolution can be used.

There was also agreement among those present that the Cost of Recycling needs communicated to consumers. Most customers don't understand the cost involved with providing recycling service ... the collection, transportation, and processing involved before the material has value and can be marketed.

Material is not recycled until it is made into another product. Look at recycling as feedstock for manufacturers, instead of an environmental contribution. Quality feedstock has value.

Michele reported the impact of removing glass from single stream materials, based on 2017 tonnage, is about 623 tons. Estimated glass removed from commingled stream is about 310 tons. Approximate loss of Performance Grant funding (904 monies) is about $5,594.

Updates from PA DEP Act 101 Workgroup:

Michele reported on discussions to Act 101 proposed by the Committee at the DEP workgroup session on December 12th. A final report is due to the DEP Secretary in January. Some Mercer County municipalities could be impacted by changes to density and population requirements for mandated recycling if proposed changes are enacted to Act 101.

Tour of TCI Transfer Station:

Jerry Bowser led a tour of the TCI transfer station for those members that wished to see the operations at their Grove City location.

Mercer County SWAC Meeting April 16, 2019 at 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Hermitage Food Waste to Energy Facility

Present:

Ginger Fenton, Penn State Extension
Tom Darby, Hermitage Food Waste to Energy Facility
Jasson Urey, Borough of Greenville
Lyle Huffman, Borough of Greenville
Monica King, Shenango River Watchers
John Logan, Mercer County Fiscal
Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources, Consultant
Vance Oaks, Grove City Borough
Jerry Zona, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Jerry Bowser, Tri-County Industries
Megan Gahring, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department

The following handouts were distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- December 2018 Meeting Minutes
- Special Drop-Off for Select Materials Fact Sheet
- Recycling and Waste Management Options for Municipalities Fact Sheet
- Developing a Municipal Curbside Recycling Program Fact Sheet

Introductions:

Megan Gahring opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending, and thanked Tom Darby for hosting our meeting. All those present made introductions.

R/SW Fact Sheets and Updates:

Megan discussed the development of the Fact Sheets that were distributed. As per the current MSW plan, one of the recommendations is for municipal outreach on recycling and waste management programs. Over the winter, the RSW addressed this need and drafted two educational documents for municipal officials on options for developing municipal programs. Jerry discussed the Fact Sheets in detail.

Megan also mentioned that the courthouse drop-off recycling station is now rotating throughout Lawrence and Mercer counties for monthly collection events. The flyer details all of the dates, locations, and items accepted for the program. To date, the events have been extremely successful.

The RSW submitted a 902-grant application to DEP for curbside recycling carts to support the transitioning of the BBB sites to curbside recycling programs.

A burning ordinance inventory was also conducted over the winter to assess how many municipalities in Mercer County have an ordinance that addresses the burning of recyclables.

Mercer County Demographics:
Michele discussed the status of recycling markets. Many investors are interested in Pennsylvania for constructing new facilities for paper and plastic processing.

Courts have determined and ruled that Act 101 does not provide administrative fees for counties. In other words, counties are not permitted to include mandatory administrative fees in their contracts for securing landfill capacity, as per MSW plans. However, counties may request in-kind services, dollars, sponsorships, donations, etc. in agreements. The criteria for acceptance must be included in the RFP's for disposal (compliance, quality of offerings from landfills, etc.).

Michele stated that Mercer County has the option to structure an RFP like that. Clearfield County spent a lot of money in court fees, but their case opened the door to create new opportunities for funding county programs. County funding is always needed, and this may present an option in the new plan if the Commissioners wish to do so.

A proposal by the Governor is looking to take 13 million from Recycling Fund to help pay DEP salaries.

Michele presented a series of slides discussing the residential demographic profile for Mercer County.

The average change in population throughout all of PA is up by 8%. Mercer County, however, has lost 3% of its population. Historically in Mercer County, the decline in population is a common trend. The demise of the steel industry around 1980 created a significant decline in people living and working in Mercer. Poverty rates increased at that time, youth moved away, and the county hasn't completely recovered from this.

A map of population change was presented for each municipality within MC. Growth in urban areas is slowly coming to a halt and leveling off. Growth, however, seems to continue around the Grove City area.

Michele explained population is the baseline factor for waste generation. Age brackets for population are from 18 to 64 years old. Generally, there are not a lot of births. The age range including the 25–30-year-olds are working and generating an income. It's during these ages when communities experience a robust economy. In Mercer County, this age bracket is lacking. The mean age in MC is 34. People are staying in their homes; there's not a lot of new construction and people aren't moving into the community. Waste generation rates are low as there aren't as many items being purchased and spending in these communities is at a minimum .

Housing plays a big factor in waste collection. Single family homes lend themselves to curbside collection. Contracts aren't necessarily utilized. MC has mostly single-family homes versus townhomes and condominiums. The best demographic indicators for curbside collection are housing and population density. The population prime for curbside collection is 200 people per square mile.

Vance questioned how owner-occupied homes versus rental properties affect collection programs. Whenever possible, it's suggested the property owners, landlords and absentee owners be billed. If tenants of rental units are billed, they are less likely to pay. Rates can be charged by an annual or quarterly rate. Details for payment and collection are administered in the ordinance

Michele reported the subscription rate in Crawford County was surveyed last year after the county got rid of their drop-off recycling sites. All of the haulers were contacted and asked for housing counts for service. Results showed that townships had about 30% subscription rate. A campaign was started to talk to municipal officials about curbside programs and mandatory recycling. Drop-offs can enable people to avoid paying for the services.

Greenville Borough discussed how they created a landlord committee to address lack of users paying for services. The borough accounted for a $40,000 deficit because of non-payments. The borough requires landlords of rental properties to incorporate language and fees in their leases agreements with tenants. Some type of limited collection for evictions and special circumstances is needed. Evictions also create code enforcement violations and problems. Commercial entities not wanting to pay also need targeted, as well as continued outreach to magistrates about enforcement with evictions and illegal dumping. KPB encourages contact with magistrates.

Michele noted, that under Act 101, counties are required to know how much solid waste is generated, how much landfill capacity is available and under contract, and that there are haulers with sufficient capacity to transport the waste.

Enforcement for mandated municipalities is difficult when surrounding municipalities aren't required to recycle and mandated residents are using drop-off recycling facilities to avoid paying for curbside service.

Jerry discussed the importance of education and outreach programs to schools and other audiences. Haulers are experiencing difficulty with their drop-off facilities receiving a lot of contamination at their bins. Even when working with die hard recyclers and environmentalists, most of the public believes they are doing it right.

Tour of the Hermitage Food Waste to Energy Facility:

Tom Darby provided a tour of the food waste to energy facility.

Mercer County SWAC Meeting August 6, 2019 at 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Joy Cone Cookie Facility

Present:

Scott Boyd, County Commissioner
Matt McConnell, County Commissioner
Timothy McGonigle, County Commissioner
Ginger Fenton, Penn State Extension
Nicki Biles, Mercer County Fiscal
Monica King, Shenango RiverWatchers
Kim DiCintio, Mercer County Regional Council of Governments
Jeremy Coxe, City of Hermitage
Matt Ceremuga, Joy Cone Company
Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources, Consultant
Jerry Zona, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Randy Vogel, Vogel Disposal
Jerry Bowser, Tri-County Industries
Megan Gahring, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department

The following handouts were distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- April 2019 Meeting Minutes
- 2018 Municipal Recycling Performance Chart
- Recycling Right Fact Sheet
- Plastic Bags & Film Plastics Fact Sheet
- Mercer County Landfills & Transfer Stations Fact Sheet
- Regulated Medical Waste Presentation
- 2019 Hard to Recycle Item Event Flier

Introductions:

Megan Gahring of the Lawrence-Mercer Recycling/Solid Waste Department opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. All those present made introductions.

R/SW Updates:

Megan reported the 2018 recycling tonnage for Mercer County as reported by annual reports received by the Department. The data is collected and entered into the RETRAC database

accessible by PA DEP. Total residential recycling tonnage was 19,100 tons and commercial tonnage was 11,158 tons. Compared to population and the total amount of waste generated in Mercer County, the diversion rate for recycling calculated is 32%. This recycling rate includes all single stream, HHW, electronics, and organics recycled by residents and businesses in the 2018 calendar year.

Municipal recycling performance data for Mercer County is compiled annually by the Department to evaluate residential curbside recycling rates for several municipalities. Single stream recycling rates for the mandated municipalities along with two others are evaluated in the spreadsheet.

Fact Sheets:

The Department continues developing Fact Sheets on varying recycling and solid waste topics. Over the winter, three more documents were developed. Recycling Right is an overview of acceptable and unacceptable materials for recycling, along with the problems of contamination. Plastic Bags and Film offers information on where bags and film can be taken for recycling, and the problems with bags at recycling centers. The Landfills and Transfer Station Fact Sheet discusses options for hauling and disposing trash and recycling collection centers at these facilities.

Regulated Medical Waste:

Michele discussed society's growing sources of medical waste which include infectious and chemotherapeutic waste from home health care, outpatient & urgent care centers, the opioid addiction, recreational drug use, mail order pharmacies, and physician samples. Injectable drugs are projected to grow to a $625 billion dollar market by 2022. Industry waste and recycling haulers are continually exposed to the extreme safety and health hazard threat presented by sharps/needles disposed of improperly.

Education on the options for the proper disposal of used sharps is needed. The Federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) offers collection days each April and October for the drop-off of unwanted over-the-counter drugs and prescriptions. The Department also publishes a Fact Sheet on Medications, their proper disposal, and take back locations throughout Mercer County. Discussions also included education and outreach to funeral homes.

HHW & Electronics:

Jerry Zona discussed Special Collection event trends from 2011-2018. Materials collected include tires, appliances, and electronics. In 2016, the event began accepting HHW. Participation rates for Mercer County have steadily increased since 2011 and steadied in

2018. The same is true for the weight of materials collected. In 2017, additional advertising in the region resulted in a record number of participants. To accommodate the increasing amount of traffic, several changes were made in 2018 to expedite the unloading process and wait times.

2019 Hard to Recycle Event:

Megan announced the Hard to Recycle event in Mercer County will be held on September 21, 2019 from 10AM - 1PM at the Jefferson Township Fairgrounds. Fliers are now available and are posted on the Mercer County Government webpage. News ads will be placed in the Record Argus, Sharon Herald, Farm and Dairy and Weekly Bargain Bulletin throughout the month of September.

Tour of the Joy Cone's Cookie Plant:

Matt Ceremuga led the committee members on a tour of the facility's cookie and wafer production lines.

Mercer County SWAC Meeting December 12, 2019 at 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Mercer County Courthouse

Present:

Scott Boyd, County Commissioner
Nicki Biles, Mercer County Fiscal
Jeremy Coxe, City of Hermitage
Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources, Consultant
Jerry Zona, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Jerry Bowser, Tri-County Industries
Gary King, Perry Township
Vance Oaks, Grove City Borough
Megan Gahring, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department

The following handouts were distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- April 2019 Meeting Minutes
- H2R Flyer for 2020 (in progress)
- Mercer County Waste Disposal Trends - Slides

Introductions:

Megan Gahring of the Lawrence-Mercer Recycling/Solid Waste Department opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. All those present made introductions.

R/SW Updates:

Megan discussed the Keep PA Beautiful Litter Summit in Harrisburg on November 14th. The last time a litter study was conducted for PA was in 2009. Visible litter counts were conducted at 180 sampling points. The quantity of litter is relatively the same as 10 years ago however the results showed that the types of litter have changed. Cigarette butts still remain the highest percentage of material found, with plastic and film now the second most found. In 2009, paper items were the second most commonly found litter material. A survey of public attitudes toward litter was also conducted by random phone calls and interviews. Updates from PA DEP, PA DCNR, and PA DOT were also presented by Secretaries of the agencies.

Megan reported that DEP is offering a new grant opportunity for Food Recovery Infrastructure. Non-profit organizations that provide food to the public and partner with retailers or wholesalers of foodstuffs are eligible to apply for equipment such as: refrigerators, stoves, box trucks, dollies, etc. Applications are due April 24, 2020 and pre-application meeting is required with the County Coordinator and DEP.

Megan is scheduling the Hard-to-Recycle monthly events for 2020 and is looking for additional hosts to sponsor the events. The flyer was passed around offering members the chance to sign up for a monthly event.

Megan reported on the Build Reuse annual conference at the Phipps Conservatory in Pittsburgh. Numerous speakers from around the world discussed their efforts and experiences in creating a circular economy with the disassembly, reform, and reuse of building materials. The concepts will reduce the amount of construction and demolition waste entering landfills. DON Services in New Castle is implementing some of the efforts with the revitalization and new construction of home in the lower east side community. A representative from the City of Sharon also attended the conference.

Jerry Z. discussed the ongoing series of Fact Sheets for the Department's education campaign on recycling and waste. An additional 10 Fact Sheets were developed, printed and will be advertised in local newspapers. Minimal disposal options exist for compressed cylinders and propane tanks. Michele mentioned a Penn State project that is researching disposal options for compressed cylinders.

Jerry Z. also discussed the results of the annual Special Collection events this year. 325 cars went through Jefferson Township Fairgrounds with 21,000 pounds of electronics and almost 7,000 pounds of HHW. The majority of the participants were from the Greenville area.

Jerry Z announced that Lawrence County Commissioners hired part-time enforcement officer over the summer. John Kulnis is responsible for the camera surveillance program, obtaining an ORI for the Department, and issuing citations. He is also available to work with municipalities on illegal dumping.

Mercer County plans to update their ordinance during the MSW planning process to mimic the updates made to Lawrence County's Solid Waste Management Ordinance. The Mercer County ordinance is currently a transporter ordinance which doesn't allow for comprehensive waste management and recycling regulations.

Tri-County CleanWays is having their annual meeting and volunteer appreciation dinner this evening at Sonis. A presentation by the New Castle School District's Drastic Plastic project will be included in the program.

Michele discussed new electronic waste discussions being held with legislators in the state. An e-waste recycling coalition of manufacturers such as Sony, Vizio, Apple, and Dell) are proposing the creation of a clearinghouse or nonprofit for the collection and distribution of fees. Retail outlets may not have a choice of their recycler. The nonprofit coalition would have equal stakeholder participation and not just be comprised of OEM's. Potential fees would be included in the cost for new electronic items purchased. Legislation may be proposed in January 2020.

Mercer County Disposal Rates and Trends:

Michele presented visual graphs and statistical data that examined trends in the generation and disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW) over the past 10 years for Mercer County. MSW is about 90% of all the waste reported. Under PA law, MSW doesn't included sewage, C & D waste, infectious waste, and ash. Also, waste disposed out of state is not included. Carbon Limestone landfill waste is not reported, as it is located in Ohio. The industrial climate and decline has changed over the year and impacts residual waste trends. Looking within the past 10 years, MSW in Mercer County peaked during 2012 and 2013.

The main driver of MSW is population. Economics has more of an impact on the C & D waste stream. Mercer County has experienced a significant population decline, yet the quantity of MSW has remained relatively the same. This discrepancy has been consistent over the years.

EPA estimates 60,000 tons of MSW are disposed of annually in Mercer County based on the current population. The reported averages by landfills are much higher and in the 100,000 tons range. The EPA averages 3 pounds of MSW are generated per person per day. However, in Mercer County 6 pounds or more per person per day are reported.

Seneca landfill in Butler County accepts the majority of waste generated in Mercer County. Waste Management owns both the Northwest landfill in Butler County and Lakeview landfill in Erie County. The Lakeview landfill accepts more waste from Mercer County than the Northwest landfill.

Transfer stations also report waste like the landfills. Some of the discrepancies in reporting of MSW for Mercer County might be a result of duplicate reporting. The transfer station located near Grove City sends their waste to Seneca Landfill in Butler County.

As far as recycling trends, 8,661 tons of Act 101 recycling materials were reported in ReTrac for 2018 calendar year. A 34% recycling rate is the national average, however that average rate has dropped to the 20's percentile as a result of the China National Sword Initiative.

Jerry Z. discussed the Municipal Recycling Performance rates for the 2017 calendar year. MRFs report that 20% of their single stream recycling material entering the facility is glass.

Michele reported that curbside textile recycling is a new initiative in urban areas.

Jeremy discussed the results of the City's glass recycling event in November with PRC. He also expressed interest in establishing an ongoing program with the county for the collection and recycling of glass.

Michele discussed the timeline for the remainder of the MSW planning process. In January 2020, the County will release an RFP for landfill disposal capacity. The RFP may include donations or sponsorships for HHW events for the landfill however, fees are not recommended. Responses will be due the end of January. The next SWAC meeting is slated for February.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Mercer County SWAC Meeting July 22, 2020 at 9 AM – 11 AM

Mercer County Conservation District and Munnell Run Farm

Present:

Scott Boyd, County Commissioner
John Logan, Mercer County Fiscal
Jeremy Coxe, City of Hermitage
Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources, Consultant
Jerry Zona, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Jay Russell, Mercer County Conservation District
John Kulnis, Lawrence County Compliance Officer
Vance Oaks, Grove City Borough
Megan Gahring, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Dot Hillman , Mercer County Builders Association
Jerry Bowser, Tri-County Industries

The following handouts were distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- December 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- DRAFT Mercer County MSW Ordinance
- R/SW Fact Sheets: Bulky Waste, Hiring a Hauler, Recycling Myths, Yard Waste, and Document Destruction.

Introductions:

Megan Gahring of the Lawrence-Mercer Recycling/Solid Waste Department opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. All those present made introductions. John Kulnis introduced himself as the part-time compliance offer for Lawrence County. He updated the committee on the activities he has been tasked with since being hired in July 2019. The Department received their ORI (Originating Identifier) number that all allows the Department to directly file citations for illegal dumping, rather than going through the Sheriff's Dept., local police, or state police officers. The BBB camera surveillance program is being enhanced with new equipment and signage. The Lawrence County SWM Ordinance is currently being updated with these provisions for enforcement and will be introduced to the Commissioners for a public notice comment period.

R/SW Updates:

Megan provided an update of activities since the last SWAC meeting in December 2019. Included was the extension of the landfill agreement RFP deadline to September 3rd. This additional time was requested by landfills as a result of COVID.

The monthly H2R events have resumed. The July event was hosted at the Ellwood City public works garage. August will held be held at Grove City, September in Volant, October in Hempfield Township, and November & December at the R/SW Office in New Castle.

A Construction & Reuse Forum is planned for September 16, 2020 in New Castle. The four-hour event is designed to bring together community stakeholders and form partnerships for building deconstruction and reuse economies. More details of the event to follow. The committee will receive an advertising brochure for the event once finalized.

Mercer County Ordinance Revision:

The last SW ordinance update for Mercer County was done in 1992. The current Solid Waste Transporter ordinance is now being modified during this planning process to address the comprehensive management of trash and recycling, with enhancements to rural communities. The Department convened sampled ordinances from across the state for suggested language. The current modifications include provisions for better enforcement of illegal dumping in the county.

After a short review, Michele mentioned that the definitions might need updated for consistency with PA DEP. Those definitions included municipal waste versus medical and residual waste. Standard flow control language used in the ordinance. Also, the ordinance provides language for waste haulers/transporters to provide curbside recycling service to customers that request it. This supports the offering of rural recycling in non-mandated municipalities. Michele recommended with include modified language to address fees and cost relating to rural curbside recycling offerings.

Annual recycling reports are by haulers are required. Mandated municipal recycling is required, as consistent with DEP Act 101. The RSW policy is to refer mandated recycling violations directly to the municipality. However this inclusion also allows the County to support the municipality in their compliance. For example, the County can send a NOV or warning letter to the offender, notifying them that they are in violation of the County Ordinance. Multi-family housing units are a common offender in mandated municipalities.

Jerry Bowser asked for clarification on the definition of “general haulers”. General haulers were clarified as those haulers not being on a regular route. Vance inquired about prohibited

activities for bulky waste that would be complaint driven, which could potentially open the door for a Mercer County compliance officer to be available to address municipal complaints. Jerry Zona commented “Yes” and noted that the Department goal has always been compliance over conviction. The RSW is not actively searching for situations where bulky items are being accumulated by a household but is rather responding to complaints and inquiries. John Kulnis is currently assisting Scott Township with a similar complaint near a Dollar General on Route 108 in Lawrence County.

Mercer County Landfill RFP:

Michele discussed expanding offerings with the RFP process for landfill agreements to address the prohibition of charging administrative fees by PA DEP. The RFP includes evaluation criteria for the donation of services, equipment, sponsorships that support programs implemented by the Department. For example, program offerings supporting the recycling of glass, textiles, or even frequency of collection. Also suggested were making HHW collection for residents more accessible on an ongoing basis. One goal of the Department is to make waste and recycling collection a universal occurrence, meaning you have access to these services independent of which municipality you reside. These goals of the Department were highlighted in the RFP for awareness. The ultimate goal of the landfill agreements is to have the public sector provide services to support the county in achieving their goals. The value of the cost of the service has to be reasonable to obtain criteria points in the evaluation of the RFP. Michele is currently developing the evaluation criteria to substantiate the acceptance landfill agreements and public process. Megan, Jerry, and Michele will evaluate the proposals received, assign points to the services offered, and make a recommendation to SWAC. Standard criteria is used for the completion of forms. Only full and complete proposals are accepted, with the necessary permits. The County does reserve the right to request additional information for incomplete proposals. Sample evaluation criteria includes regulatory compliance, qualifications, compliance history, financial stability, bonding worksheets, operating permit status, available disposal capacity, and environmental and liability insurance. Landfill technical designs and operational plans would address innovate technology, methane recovery, and provide for a backup facility. Landfills will also be evaluated based on other services offered like recycling, acceptance of yard waste, residential tip at the facilities, and/or C &D recycling.,

To evaluate what percent of Mercer County waste they willing to accept, a two-level matrix is used. The matrix asks how much tonnage you are willing take in one year (tonnage on a daily basis) and how will accommodate extra waste during catastrophic events (adopting an emergency plan). For the past 15 years, so much landfill capacity has been available in the northeastern US, partially due to the light-weighting of packaging materials and single stream

recycling. Lately however, landfill capacities are diminishing in the Northeast because surrounding states have been sending their waste to PA landfills.

The RFP's Materials Management Planning section requests mechanisms and support from landfills that compliment county objectives such as: consistency with MSW plan, expansion of materials and collection frequencies, and equipment and collection costs for illegal dumping and litter cleanups.

County-wide services and those that support a greater portion of Mercer County's population will be evaluated. To meet objectives, the County is willing to accept donations if services are not provided. Education is another objective, most recently on how to reduce the contamination of curbside recycling materials. Evaluation will also include locations, curbside versus drop-off collection, on-going or one-time services, and financial worth of service or offering. Michele is confident that this RFP meets the latest court rulings for landfill agreements, including the fair open and competitive process requirements.

New Fact Sheets:

Jerry Z presented the new R/SW fact sheets that were developed. Most of the education stemmed from inquiries and phone calls the department receives in the office. Jerry also presented a chart and comparison of trash and recycling programs for mandated municipalities.

Jeremy reported on a Pennsylvania Resources Council glass recycling event held in Hermitage during July. The weeklong event collected close to 4 tons of glass. The collection containers was 80% full to capacity. The City is considering hosting another event in late fall, 2020. A county program to share in the cost and opportunity for glass collection is desired.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM.

A walking tour of Munnell Run Farm was conducted by Jay Russell, the Mercer County Conservation District Manager.

Mercer County SWAC Meeting September 22, 2020 at 10 AM – 12 PM

Mercer County Courthouse

Present:

John Logan, Mercer County Fiscal
Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources, Consultant
Jerry Zona, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Vance Oaks, Grove City Borough
Megan Gahring, Lawrence-Mercer Counties Recycling/Solid Waste Department
Dot Hillman, Mercer County Builders Association
Jerry Bowser, Tri-County Industries

The following handouts were distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- July 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes

R/SW Updates:

Megan started the meeting providing an update on recent events by the Department. A Construction and Reuse Forum was held on September 16, 2020. The virtual event included a diverse audience of about 40 people, including industry experts, government officials, contractors, arts foundation, historical societies, and trade schools. Speakers included Mike Gable from Construction Junction in Pittsburgh, Joe Connell an experienced consultant from Maine, and local community speakers from New Castle and Sharon. The event's purpose was to gauge interest in the region for a network of professionals to learn more about, and move forward with, the deconstruction and reuse of building materials. Looking at buildings as material banks is one way to encompass the environmental, economic, and social benefits to recycling and reusing building materials to avoid disposal at the landfill. As an outcome, the Department intends to explore Construction and Demolition (C & D) waste, recycling outlets and market development for the region, as one way to move forward with supporting the landfill diversion of building materials.

The annual Mercer County Special Collection Event was held on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at the Jefferson Township Fairgrounds. Over 150 cars went through the event collecting appliances, tires, electronics and HHW. New this year, was the requirement for registration with the contractor for an appointment time to drop off your materials. This allowed for a calm, spaced out, sequencing of cars coming through the event, without traffic

concerns, and a greatly reduced waiting time for participants. We plan to continue with this format and scheduling of appointments going forward with future events. Results are not in yet for the weight of material received. Debbie Fisher with Mercer County IPP provided 14 volunteers for the day. Without support of community service volunteers, the event could not be made possible.

Vance Oaks reported on the Grove City Borough electronics recycling event that took place on Saturday, September 12, 2020. A new contractor was utilized this year for the event. Noble Environmental, a Pittsburgh based company, took in about 130 cars, by appointment only, and approximately 17,000 pounds of electronics and HHW were collected. Vance reported the event went very smoothly and they were pleased with the new contractor.

MSW Plan Update & Comments:

Megan provided a current update on the MSW planning process. On September 3, 2020, landfill Request for Proposals (RFP's) were due to the Courthouse and opened during the Commissioners public meeting at 1 PM. A total of 6 proposals were received. Waste Management submitted proposals for four landfills: Valley, Northwest, Evergreen, and Lakeview. Seneca landfill submitted one, as well as Republic Services for the Carbon Limestone landfill in Ohio. We will evaluate the proposals for completeness, and plan to meet to review the Materials Management offerings received. Generally speaking, the RFP's from landfills offered differing quantities of in-kind disposal for illegal dumping materials.

Megan announced that comments are still being accepted for the draft Chapters of the Plan Update. SWAC has received all of the Chapter to date for review.

We are still on track to wrap up the MSW planning process by the end of the year. Once the landfill agreements are reviewed and recommended, the Commissioners will pass a resolution to accept and execute the agreements. Executed landfill agreements are included in the Plan.

The draft plan will be distributed to all of the Mercer County municipalities. The draft plan will include the updated Mercer County Ordinance once approved by the Solicitor and Commissioners. A Legal Notice for the Ordinance will then be published in the local news media for a 30-day comment period. DEP review and approval of the plan is the final step in the process.

Michele reviewed Chapter 11 of the Plan that discusses the Noninterference of Local Facilities. The intent of this Chapter is to remind the public that any future landfills that receive permits from the State, after the Plan is approved, have the right to petition for inclusion. With no other comments, the meeting adjourned