

CITY OF ROSWELL
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
2015 - 2024
(Adopted August 22, 2016)

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Introduction

The City of Roswell is located just north of Atlanta in Fulton County. Roswell has gone from a small town to a large suburban part of a metropolitan area of approximately 42 square miles and over 94,000 residents. The City of Roswell has provided solid waste services for its citizens from the beginning with curbside recycling added in 1998 and a new recycling center completed in 2000. Customer Service is a key element to the City and focus has been on maintaining the highest levels possible. To that end, the City of Roswell is pleased to present its Solid Waste Management Update. Focus is on education and service to the residents in Roswell.

Waste Disposal Stream Analysis

There are four types of generators in the City of Roswell: residential, commercial, institutional and governmental. The predominate types of waste generated for each generator are as follows:

- Residential – Corrugated paper, paper, metals, glass, food, yard trimmings, white goods, plastic
- Commercial – Corrugated paper, paper, food, plastic, wood, yard trimmings, metals, glass, white goods, construction debris
- Institutional – Corrugated paper, paper, cafeteria and restroom waste, plastics, metals
- Governmental – Corrugated paper, paper, metals, plastics, yard trimmings

The pounds of waste generated by each type of generator for fiscal year 15/16 are as follows:

- Residential – Solid Waste – 19,932
- Residential Mixed solid waste and compost – 6,957
- Commercial/Institutional/Governmental – Solid Waste – 21,679
- Residential Recycling – 6,753
- Recycling Center – 1,629

Waste Reduction Element

Inventory of Current Waste Reduction and Recycling Programs

The City of Roswell offers two ways for its residents to recycle. Curbside recycling is offered through a City contract with Advanced Disposal, Inc. Collection is once a week and coincides with household garbage pickup. The contract was signed in March of 2015 and will expire on March 1, 2018. There are two (2) one year renewable options. The City plans to continue to provide curbside recycling collection in the future through an outside contractor. The curbside program is available to all Roswell home owners

which is, according to the City of Roswell Financial Services Division, is 26,120.

Advanced Disposal Inc., accepts the following items for curbside recycling collection (See Appendix A): aluminum and metal food and beverage cans; glass bottles and jars; HDPE and PET; newspapers, telephone books, magazines, catalogs, office paper, glossy forms and junk mail removed from envelopes; and corrugated and non-corrugated cardboard (chipboard). New residents are provided with a free 65 gallon recycling container. There is no limit to the number of containers or amount of recycling that can be placed curbside.

The City of Roswell owns and operates a staffed recycling center open 5 days a week. Tours of the facility are given to schools, organizations and other interested parties. Although the Recycling Center is owned and operated by the City of Roswell, it is regional in nature. Customers from any area are allowed to make use of the Recycling Center as long as they have recyclables that the Center accepts. The Center serves the 94,000 residents of Roswell. An unofficial car tag survey showed cars from Fulton, Cobb, Forsyth, DeKalb and Gwinnett.

42 different items are collected and processed at the Recycling Center: PET, HDPE, plastic bags, glass bottles and jars, newspaper, mixed paper, computer paper, magazines, phone books, white paper manuals, corrugated and non-corrugated cardboard, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, aluminum and foil, car tires, batteries (12V or larger), rechargeable batteries, motor oil and anti-freeze, cell phones, printer cartridges, electronics and latex/oil based paint. (See Appendix B) There is a contract with Goodwill Industries to have two trailers on site for reusable household items and clothing.

The City of Roswell has several source reduction programs in place. We encourage recycling as a means of source reduction through regular announcements and reminders on the City of Roswell's website – www.roswellgov.com, Roswell Connections, and the Environmental/Public Works HOA e-newsletter. Educational programs and tours are held at the Recycling Center. Roswell utilizes paperless requisitions. The City of Roswell's Environmental Education Coordinator offers programs on environmental issues such as recycling, solid waste and water quality/conservation to schools, community organizations and the general public.

Recycling facilities and programs

The Roswell Recycling Center is located at 11570 Maxwell Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004. It is owned and operated by the City of Roswell.

Open to the public 5 days a week, the Center accepts over 42 items for recycling as well as offering educational tours and programs. In fiscal year 15/16 the Recycling Center held tours and recycled over 1600 tons of materials. (Appendix D) The Recycling Center also currently offers free recycling pickup to the schools in Roswell as well as the City of Roswell buildings/facilities.

The City of Roswell employs an Environmental Education Coordinator who works with the area schools on environmental issues including recycling. In fiscal year 15/16, 134 programs in the schools and over 4,000 students were reached.

The City of Roswell contracts with Advanced Disposal, Inc., to provide curbside recycling for the residents of Roswell.

Yard trimmings mulching/composting

The City of Roswell contracts with Advanced Disposal for curbside collection of yard waste. The contract is part of the curbside recycling contract and will expire/renew on the same schedule.

The City of Roswell partners with Keep Roswell Beautiful for Bring One for the Chipper. A Christmas tree recycling program, residents may drop off trees at specified locations and the trees are chipped into mulch and offered at no charge to residents, businesses and schools in the Roswell area. In FY16, over 5200 trees were recycled.

Inventory of composting and mulching programs

Bring One for the Chipper is an annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program sponsored by the Department of Community Affairs and Keep Georgia Beautiful. The City of Roswell participates each year with Keep Roswell Beautiful in promoting this program to its citizens. Trees are accepted at two locations both of which are The Home Depots in Roswell. The City has every intention of continuing with this program each year.

Special management programs: tires, lead acid batteries, white goods, HHW and electronics

The Recycling Center accepts tires (\$2.00 off rim - \$15.00 on rim), white goods (\$10.00 for non-Freon containing items and \$20.00 for Freon containing items), electronics (televisions and monitors are \$20.00 each) and lead acid batteries (no charge). The Recycling Center also accepts motor oil and anti-freeze at no charge. Roswell residents do not pay any fees. Fees

listed are for non- residents and businesses. Recently, Roswell businesses have been given the opportunity to recycle up to 10 computer monitors each month at a reduced fee of \$15.00 each.

The City of Roswell has most of the components of a Pay-As-You-Throw program in place even though an official program has not been put into place at this time. Residents may keep their garbage bills lower by recycling more and using the City's standard household garbage plan of no more than three cans or 100 gallons each week. If they wish to use more than the 3 cans they may sign up for Premium service and have 6 cans or 200 gallons each week. As there is no limit on the amount of recycling that can be placed curbside, residents are encouraged to take advantage of the curbside recycling program. (See Appendix G)

Needs and goals section

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for the solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Continue operations of the Recycling Center
 - Looks for ways to promote glass recycling at the Center.
- Continually re-evaluate collection and processing of materials.
- Continue curbside recycling collection program
 - Evaluate materials collected and work with contractor on possible additions/subtractions.
- Education on Recycling as a viable household garbage reduction
 - Create educational promotional publicity plan that will encourage more participation in both the curbside programs and the Recycling Center.
 - Utilize the Recycling Center Facebook page to keep residents updated on Center happenings.
- Continue enforcement of ordinances concerning household garbage and yard waste. This will be combined with an educational program and material that the Environmental Enforcement Officer will take to the residents.

Collection Element

Inventory current solid waste and recyclable collection programs including names, addresses and who manages them

- Curbside household garbage collection, commercial garbage dumpster collection:

City of Roswell
Public Works Division
1810 Hembree Road
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Municipally managed

- Curbside Recycling/Yard Waste collection:
Advanced Disposal
560 Shirlee Industrial Way
Alpharetta, GA 30004
City of Roswell manages contract
- Manned drop-off recycling :
City of Roswell
Recycling Center
11570 Maxwell Road
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Municipally managed

Adequacy of collection programs

The current collection programs are generally adequate and allow the City to reach a 25% reduction in solid waste. However, stronger emphasis on recycling would make household garbage collection easier to maintain because quantities would be smaller. Emphasis on residential recycling would reduce the amount of pickups needed each week.

Frequency of illegal dumping and methods for correcting

In the City of Roswell illegal dumping is reported to the City's Environmental Enforcement Officer. The Officer investigates and when possible, provides an on-site educational opportunity for the party(ies) that were responsible. Cleanup is done by the responsible party(ies) when possible if not, then the City cleans up the area or notifies Keep Roswell Beautiful to see if they can help provide volunteers.

Needs and goals for current and future collection programs which outline strategy for providing effective and affordable collection for ten years

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for the solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Provide effective and affordable collection for residents
 - Re-evaluate annually service and collection costs

- Continue to enforce the limits on weekly collection of household garbage and yard waste
- Continue to provide recycling information as a viable way to reduce costs of collection
- Provide effective and affordable collection for businesses
- Encourage businesses to use the Roswell Recycling Center in order to reduce their quantity of waste and the cost of collection
- Create program where illegal dumping is addressed to the frequent violators and have the Environmental Enforcement Officer provide training and education to those persons.

*Contingency strategy for collection service if primary option is interrupted:
alternative collection options and
estimated length of time to bring contingency plans on line*

The City of Roswell has the ability through the City Administrator's Office to quickly react to an interruption of collection service caused by a natural disaster. Outside contractors will be sought and asked to begin work immediately while City crews will work overtime as necessary to keep collection running as smoothly as possible. Estimated length of time to contract with an outside source is one to two weeks. The City of Roswell maintains a high level of financial reserves and has an AAA bond rating.

Disposal Element

Inventory of disposal practices: type, capacity, ownership, location and types of waste accepted

- Transfer Station – 1802 Hembree Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
 - Owned by City of Roswell
 - Contracted to Advanced Disposal
 - Capacity – 30 truck-loads of material
 - Waste accepted – residential and commercial solid waste
- Chadwick Road Landfill – 13700 Chadwick Farm Blvd, Roswell, GA 30075
 - Owner – Waste Management
 - Waste accepted – construction and demolition debris, yard waste and asbestos
- Eagle Point Landfill – 8880 Old Federal Highway, Ball Ground, GA 30107
 - Owner – Advanced Disposal
 - Waste accepted – residential and commercial solid waste

Assessment of existing facilities

The City of Roswell is comfortable that the existing facilities will be adequate for the next ten years and have received letters of assurance from Advanced Disposal and Waste Management.

Needs and goals

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for their solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Continue to be aware of changes in landfill regulations.
- Contingency strategy for disposal in the event that the primary option becomes interrupted: Other landfills will be utilized. The City of Roswell has the ability through the City Administrator's Office to quickly react to an interruption of collection service caused by a natural disaster. Outside contractors will be sought and asked to begin work immediately while City crews will work overtime as necessary to keep collection running as smoothly as possible. Estimated length of time to contract with an outside source is one to two weeks. The City of Roswell maintains a high level of financial reserves and has an AAA bond rating.

Land Limitation Element

The City of Roswell has a geographic area of approximately 42.02 square miles and a population of approximately 94,000. Largely developed to suburban and residential levels, there is only about of the area undeveloped. Average land value is \$22,000 an acre and there are no more than 129 undeveloped parcels exceeding 1 acre in size.

Because of these factors of land scarcity, high cost and incompatible surrounding land uses, it is deemed very unlikely that any form of composting or solid waste disposal facility would be economically viable in Roswell, nor are they permitted under the Roswell Zoning Ordinance. Recycling and recovery facilities are allowed uses only in Light Industrial Zones. There are no heavy industrial zoning or district land uses permitted in the city limits of Roswell.

Education and Public Involvement

Inventory and assess current education programs and public involvement opportunities

The City of Roswell has and supports many opportunities for education and public involvement of their citizens. The City of Roswell employs an Environmental Education Coordinator who is charged with developing and presenting school programs to the 14 public schools and 10 private schools in Roswell. Examples of programs include Waste in Place from Keep America Beautiful, Projects WET and WILD and Project Learning Tree as well programs on Outdoor Classrooms and recycling. The Environmental Education Coordinator is also the coordinator for Roswell's participation in the EverGreen School program, a joint program with the City of Alpharetta and Keep North Fulton/Johns Creek Beautiful, and The City of Milton. The EverGreen School program promotes environmental stewardship to the schools. A school can earn points based on various Environmental Educational activities they do, and the number of points earned dictates the status they earn for that school year. Schools receive a sign they can display outside their school, and each year they earn evergreen status they get a sticker to add to the sign.

The Environmental Education Coordinator, the Environmental Enforcement Officer and the Environmental Programs Manager are also available to civic organizations, Homeowners' Associations and other organizations looking for presentations on environmental programs.

The City of Roswell supports Keep Roswell Beautiful, a non profit 501 (c) 3 volunteer based organization that is part of the Keep America Beautiful program. The City provides support by providing their Environmental Programs Manager to serve as Executive Director of the organization. Keep Roswell Beautiful currently has a Board of Directors that number 17 and represent the many different areas of Roswell (business, citizen, school, HOA, student). Keep Roswell Beautiful sponsors the following programs and events throughout the year: Rivers Alive, Bring One for the Chipper, Great American Cleanup, America Recycles Day, Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Stream, and Storm Drain Stenciling. (See Appendix K) Over the last year, more than 1,000 volunteers have participated in the above events. Keep Roswell Beautiful includes an educational program with each event and the City's Environmental Education Coordinator usually assists in those programs.

The Roswell Recycling Center offers tours to school groups, civic organizations and citizens in general throughout the year. The tours include a, a tour of the facility and a gift bag with recycling information, coloring books and other recycled items. The Roswell Recycling Center also participates in America Recycles Day usually offering special incentives or collection days. The Center also offers free recycling collection from Roswell area public and private schools.

The City of Roswell has their own website (www.roswellgov.com) that the Public Works/Environmental Department and Keep Roswell Beautiful can use as communication tools to reach the population of Roswell. The City's monthly e-newsletter is also used to announce changes in policy and, Keep Roswell Beautiful events and programs. The Environmental/Public Works Department creates, and sends out, an e-newsletter to Homeowner's Associations.

Adequacy of programs to target the waste generating sectors

In general, the education programs and public involvement opportunities available through the City of Roswell Environmental/Public Works Department and Keep Roswell Beautiful are adequate in reaching the residential generators and teaching them the basics of solid waste management. More direct messages concerning recycling are needed to drive home the message that these are viable ways to reduce costs for the residents, businesses and the City of Roswell. Proactive environmental enforcement rather than reactive enforcement by the Environmental Enforcement Officer could head off potential challenges and keep residents and businesses from having citations written.

The City of Roswell Recycling Center, while owned and operated by the City of Roswell, has the aspects of a regional center. Anyone who would like to bring their recycling to the Roswell Recycling Center is invited to as long as the items are items accepted at the Center and in the condition required by the Center. An informal tag count showed cars from Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, Forsyth, DeKalb and Cherokee are utilizing the Roswell Recycling Center.

The City of Roswell address litter control in its' City Code, Chapter 7, Land Development and Environmental Protection, Article 7.6, Litter Control. The code states that:

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to dump, deposit, throw or leave or to cause or permit the dumping, depositing, placing, throwing or leaving of litter on any public or private property in this City of Roswell or any waters in this City of Roswell unless:

- 1) The property is designated by the State or by any of its agencies or political subdivisions for the disposal of such litter, and such person is authorized by the proper public authority to use such property;*
- 2) The litter is placed into a receptacle or container installed on such property; or,*
- 3) The person is the owner or tenant in lawful possession of such property, or has first obtained consent of the owner or tenant in lawful possession, or*

unless the act is done under the personal direction of the owner or tenant, all in a manner consistent with the public welfare.

The code also addresses enforcement, violations and penalties.

The City of Roswell has determined that the following are needs and goals for the solid waste management program over the next 10 years:

- Continue support of Keep Roswell Beautiful and their programs and events.
- Continue to provide an Environmental Education Coordinator to work with schools and civic organizations.
- Education on Recycling as a viable household garbage reduction
 - Create educational promotional publicity plan that will encourage more participation in both the curbside programs and the Recycling Center.
- Continue enforcement of ordinances concerning household garbage and yard waste. This will be combined with an educational program and material that the Environmental Enforcement Officer will take to the residents.
- Continue to provide recycling information as a viable way to reduce costs of collection
- Create program where illegal dumping is addressed to the frequent violators and have the Environmental Enforcement Officer provide training and education to those persons.