

3. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The preparation of the 1992 Solid Waste Management Plan involved the creation of a set of goals, objectives, and policies. They were devised to provide the policy framework for the successful implementation of the preferred solid waste management plan.

Those goals, objectives, and policies have proved invaluable to the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority. Over the years that the plan has existed, they have guided CVWMA through numerous events, and have provided the foundation for its successful operation. Because of the success of those goals, objectives, and policies, it was decided that the 2004 Solid Waste Management Plan would rely to the greatest extent possible on the earlier goals, objectives and policies, with modifications as deemed necessary to reflect the challenges of the next planning period.

The framework for the Goals, Objectives, and Policies remains the same. The Goal is the general statement that represents the accomplishments that the CVWMA hopes to achieve. It is an overarching statement that provides guidance and a foundation under which the Authority operates.

To achieve the stated goal, a series of Objectives have been developed. Objectives are specific statements defining the means by which progress towards the goal is to be achieved. Objectives are definite and lend themselves to the formulation of measurement devices. Adequate and acceptable measurements provide the Authority with a means to evaluate its success in a practical manner.

The third component is the Policies. These are actions or strategies that are taken to insure that the Objectives are achieved, and that continuous progress towards the overall goal is maintained. Policies assist in resolving the day-to-day issues and courses of action to guide regional, local, and private decision-making.

The development of this framework was guided by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality hierarchy of solid waste management strategies, which are

- Source Reduction
- Reuse
- Recycling
- Resource Recovery (Waste to Energy)
- Incineration
- Landfilling.

As a part of the Plan development Process, the CVWMA Board of Directors, CVWMA Citizen Advisory Committee, CVWMA Technical Advisory Committee, and the SWMP Working Group reviewed these goals, objectives, and policies, and appropriate modifications were made.

3.1 GOALS FOR THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

A comprehensive, integrated system of solid waste management in the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority Service Area that achieves the specific service, health and safety, financial, environmental and institutional objectives for each member, yet balances these public values in a manner that brings maximum benefit and public service to the citizens of the service area as a whole.

3.1.1 OBJECTIVE 1.0: To establish and maintain an ongoing planning and plan implementation process to meet current and future needs for the service area based on the state's adopted hierarchy of waste management strategies.

Policies:

- Develop a Regional Solid Waste Management Plan and planning process for the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority Service Area that meets State regulations, fulfills regional and local needs and priorities, and outlines a schedule of accomplishments and implementation program.
- Continue to designate the CVWMA as the legal implementing entity for the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan and incorporate in the Plan mechanisms to provide the opportunity for regional coordination of local member government solid waste management programs and activities under the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Designate specific responsibilities for the CVWMA and its member governments for implementing programs and activities that meet the waste management needs and requirements of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Support the general principle that the Planning District Commissions (PDCs), as empowered under the Virginia Area Development Act, are primarily responsible for broad, multi-governmental, long-range comprehensive planning and policy development, for their two respective planning Subareas of the CVWMA service area.
- Provide intergovernmental procedures and processes to effectively implement and maintain the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, including delineation of incremental stages toward meeting the regional solid waste management objectives and provisions for major updates that, at a minimum, meet all schedules for completion established by State regulations.
- Provide a standardized and centralized records system for the CVWMA service area as required by state regulations:
 - Receive and record state required information on all closed, active or proposed solid waste disposal, treatment and storage facilities and collection systems;
 - Collect, maintain and report data required to meet state regulations on source reduction activities and on the amount of solid waste of each type (residential,

commercial and industrial, including principal and supplemental recyclable materials) generated, disposed, reused, recycled and exchanged within the service area;

- Provide for coordination among public and private sector solid waste management activities within the regional solid waste management planning process.
- Encourage private sector participation in the planning process through involvement with the CVWMA Technical Advisory Committee and participation in public meetings and other forums.
- Monitor legislative initiatives that would assist in meeting state planning regulations and waste management goals, or further the objectives of the Authority and local governments in regional waste management.
- Provide in the planning process an evaluation of the potential economic impacts on the private and public sectors of various regional solid waste management alternatives.
- Engage in continuous contact with the Solid Waste Management industry in the areas of emerging technology and solid waste management techniques, so that the CVWMA members may have access to new industry developments and standards.
- Recognize the increased urbanization of the Central Virginia area examine opportunities to provide waste management services to member communities as their service level needs are expanded.

3.1.2 OBJECTIVE 2.0: To assist in meeting the solid waste management needs of the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority service area and the individual member localities through the year 2024 in an efficient, cost-effective, reliable and equitable manner, while providing adequate flexibility in meeting unforeseen needs and integrating new and innovative processes.

Policies:

- Support a regional solid waste management planning process, which is based on the state's adopted hierarchy of strategies pursued in the following order of priority: source reduction; reuse; recycling; resource recovery; incineration; and landfill disposal.
- Support mechanisms that coordinate, facilitate and promote local solid waste management efforts and provide leadership in establishing and administering regional recycling and disposal activities.
- Support mechanisms to regularly evaluate and monitor the waste management facilities and systems within the service area, so as to maintain compliance with federal and state regulations and standards, regularly refine the systems and remedy problems, maximize the use of existing facilities, test new options and integrate workable innovations into the regional system.

- Support and encourage public and private partnerships in meeting solid waste management needs.
- Promote private sector participation in meeting waste management needs; incorporate existing private recycling operations into the Plan; and encourage expansion of private operations as practical, consistent with the objectives and policies of the Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Support intergovernmental solutions to meeting the service area's and local jurisdictions' solid waste management needs that are equitable in terms of sharing the costs, risks and benefits among local jurisdictions and private sector waste management interests within the service area.
- Promote regional and local strategies that secure adequate public and private financial resources for meeting local and regional solid waste management needs.
- Provide a forum where member jurisdictions can have contact with adjoining localities, for the purpose of exploring additional opportunities to provide solid waste management programs in the most efficient manner.
- Continue to research and bring forth innovative systems for handling non-routine or emergency solid waste management needs.

3.1.3 OBJECTIVE 3.0: To continue to meet or exceed the state mandated recycling goals for the CVWMA Service Area.

Policies:

- Establish overall recycling objectives for the CVWMA service area, and specific objectives for each local jurisdiction, established by the locality, based on considerations of localities individual preferences.
- Provide cost-effective mechanisms for the disposal or recycling/reuse of residential, commercial, and industrial solid waste and waste from other sources.
- Provide cost-effective mechanisms for the disposal or recycling/reuse of special wastes associated with unique disposal considerations, such as white goods, yard wastes, batteries, used tires, used motor oil, household hazardous wastes, stumps and land-clearing debris, construction debris, mining wastes, agricultural wastes, sludge, ash, inoperable vehicles and spill residues.
- Support local government in-house source reduction and recycling activities, as well as waste collection and disposal programs.
- Provide information on alternative systems and techniques of recycling to reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal by other means.
- Make available additional recycling programs and service areas consistent with the needs of CVWMA members.

- Promote efforts to achieve resource conservation and save landfill space.

3.1.4 OBJECTIVE 4.0: To secure maximum public support for the regional solid waste planning and implementation process through public participation and education programs.

Policies:

- Facilitate and encourage public participation in the regional planning process through use of citizen advisory committees, public meetings, public hearings, and the media.
- Establish effective education and public information programs for schools, businesses and industries, public and private agencies and the general public.
- Coordinate solid waste management education and promotional programs with those of the local, state, other public and private agencies and industry.
- Become a resource for solid waste information for utilization by agencies, businesses, and the general public.
- Enhance the opportunities of CVWMA members to mutually and individually develop programs and systems addressing solid waste management needs of multiple localities.
- Maintain contact with other industries and the public to identify creative mechanisms for converting solid waste materials into goods for productive use.
- Reduce the improper disposal and littering of wastes through education, the involvement of volunteers, local governments, law enforcement, and other efforts.
- Identify alternatives in the planning process that cause the least environmental damage in terms of adverse ecosystem and habitat changes, and negative impacts on natural, historical, cultural, recreational, and aesthetic resources.