

Venango County Regional Planning Commission

Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan Update 2024



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	7
History and Background	7
Previous Planning Efforts	7
Statutory and Regulatory Authority	8
Responsibility for Municipal Solid Waste Planning	8
Notable Impact	9
TANGIBLE BENEFITS	9
Environmental Impact	10
Table 0-1 Environmental Benefits	11
Plan Organization	12
Chapter 1	13
Venango County Municipal Waste	13
Types, Sources, Quantities	13
Data Driven Decisions	14
Venango County Highlights	15
Figure 1-1 Venango County and Municipalities	16
The People of Venango County	17
Economic Influences	17
Housing Structures and Population Density	18
Figure 1-2 Types and Numbers of Housing Units	18
Figure 1-3 Population Density Ranked by Municipality	19
MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE BASICS	20
IDENTIFYING MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE	20
Defining Solid Waste By Its Source	21
Sources of Municipal Solid Waste	22
Residential	22
Commercial	22
Select Types Of Commercial Municipal Waste Generators	23
Other Business Establishments Excluded From The Category	24
Figure 1-4 Commercial Waste Generators	24
Table 1-5 Federal State and Local Government Offices	25
Community Events	26
Materials or Products – What’s the Difference?	27
Figure 1-5 Products in Municipal Waste	28
Local Data	29
Figure 1-6 Materials Reported in ReTrac Similar to USEPA MSW	29
Figure 1-7 Composition of Municipal Solid Waste Generated	30

Quantifying Venango County's Municipal Solid Waste	31
Figure I-8 2022 Reported, Adjusted and Expected Generation, Disposal and	32
Other Types and Amounts of Municipal Solid Waste Regulated in Pennsylvania	33
Solid Waste from Construction and Demolition Activities.....	33
Venango County C&D Waste.....	34
Regulated Medical Waste in Venango County	35
Figure I-9 Sources of Regulated Medical Waste.....	36
Sewage Sludge	37
Summary.....	38
Municipal Waste Infrastructure	39
Transporters, Facilities, Trends	39
Chapter 2.....	39
Local Accountability	40
Evaluating Existing Conditions	40
Illegal Dumping.....	40
Theft of Service	41
Misuse of Recycling Drop-off Sites	41
Accumulation of Waste	42
Open Burning.....	42
Reacting to the Problem	43
A Proactive Solution	44
Preventing Accumulation of Waste.....	45
Dealing With Burning.....	46
Commercial Waste Issues	46
Transporter Network.....	46
State Requirements For Transporters Of Municipal Waste.....	47
Transporters Located in Venango County.....	47
Local Requirements for Municipal Solid Waste Transporters.....	48
Transporters of Special Handling Waste	48
Septage Transporters.....	48
Table 2-1 Septage Transporters Located in Venango County	49
Securing and Managing Disposal Capacity	49
Table 2-2 Sites Guaranteeing Disposal Capacity and Designated as Disposal Facilities in	50
Disposal and Processing Infrastructure	50
Disposal Data Reported During 2014-2022.....	51
IMPACT OF RESIDUAL WASTE DISPOSAL	57
Figure 2-1 Municipal and Residual Waste Trends.....	57
Comments and Observations	58
Disposal & Processing Needs.....	59

Future Projections	59
Chapter 3.....	59
FUTURE DISPOSAL CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS	60
Using Historical Trends and Data to Establish a Baseline	60
Projections.....	61
Population.	62
Table 2-1 Venango County Population Projections 2020-2050	62
Determining Generation, Recovery, and Disposal Rates.....	62
Table 2-2 Projected Disposal Capacity Needs 2024-2035	63
Procurement Process	63
Review and Evaluation.....	64
Venango County Recycling.....	65
Programs and Performance.....	65
Chapter 4.....	65
Recent Recycling Performance.....	66
Table 4-1 Total Reported Tons per Year by Source	66
What Are We Recycling?.....	67
What Could We Be Recycling?	68
REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND EXPECTATIONS	72
Figure 4-1 Act 101 Requirements for Mandated Municipalities.....	73
Mandated Municipalities	74
Mandated Commercial Recycling.....	75
Voluntary Municipal Recycling	75
Nonmandated Commercial Recycling	76
County Sponsored Recycling Programs	76
Development of the Venango County Community Recycling Center.....	77
Site Selection.....	78
Figure 4-3 Storage Capacity for Recycled Commodities	79
Size and Volume	79
Looking to the Future	80
Chapter 5.....	81
Future Goals and Objectives	81
Proposed Actions and Justifications.....	81
Targeted Course of Action	82
Growing the Community Recycling Center.....	82
Funding Opportunities.....	83
Supplement and Diversify the Workforce	83

Organizational Restructuring	84
Cultivate Private Hauler and Business Use of the Center	85
Elementary and Secondary School Participation	86
Summary.....	87
Capacity Assurances	89
Procurement and Designation Process	89
Chapter 6.....	89
VIEWS ON FLOW CONTROL	90
FAIR, OPEN, AND COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT PROCESS	91
SELECTION CRITERIA	92
Operational Status And Remaining Capacity.....	92
Financial Strength And Risk Assessment	92
Facility Design And Operation.....	92
Industry Qualifications And Experience.....	93
Regulatory Compliance.....	93
Minimum And Maximum Allowable Disposal Requirements.....	93
Maximum Gate Rates And Potential Cost To County	93
REVIEW AND EVALUATION.....	94
Figure 6-1 Facilities with Executed capacity Agreements Designated to Accept Venango County	
Municipal Waste 2024-2035.....	102
Facility Designation.....	102
Evolving Opportunities and Circumstances.....	103
Mechanism to Add Facilities	103
Chapter 7	105
Implementation and Enforcement.....	105
Delegated Roles and Responsibilities.....	105
Overall Responsibilities	106
Personnel Resources and Roles	107
Direct Responsibility for Plan Implementation	107
Administrative Duties	107
Data Management	107
Community Ambassador.....	108
Public Relations and Education.....	108
Technical Assistance.....	108
Professional Development.....	109
Management of the Community Recycling Center	110
Public Sector Operations.....	111

County and Local Government Contribution.....	111
Chapter 8.....	111
Venango County Community Recycling Center	112
Chapter 9.....	113
Ordinances, Resolutions, Agreements	113
Legal Support Mechanisms	113
Municipal Waste Disposal Capacity Agreement.....	114
Petition To Add Facilities To The Plan	114
Venango County Solid Waste Transporters Ordinance	115
Resolution To Adopt The Plan Revisions	116
Chapter 10.....	117
Transition.....	117
Phased Approach to Implementation	117
Implementation.....	118
Chapter 11	119
Shared Access to Capacity	119
Protecting the Rights of Other Counties and Facilities.....	119
Private Sector Perspective.....	120
Regional Resources	120
Mutual Respect For Resources And Commitments.....	121
Chapter 12.....	123
Stakeholder Participation.....	123
Solid Waste Advisory Committee	123
The Solid Waste Advisory Committee	124
Committee Activities	125
Figure 12-1 Solid Waste Advisory Committee Members and Affiliations.....	125
Figure 12-2 SWAC Meeting Schedule	126
Meeting Schedule	126
Appendix A	127
Capacity Procurement Process	127
Solicitation, Request for Proposals, Capacity Agreement	127
Appendix B	175
Petition to Add a Designated Facility.....	175

Forms and Process.....	175
<i>Appendix C</i>	<i>181</i>
<i>Ordinances</i>	<i>181</i>
County Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Transporters Ordinance.....	181
<i>Appendix D</i>	<i>193</i>
<i>Resolution to Adopt the Plan</i>	<i>193</i>
Executed by Board of Commissioners.....	193
<i>Meeting Minutes and Public Comments</i>	<i>198</i>
Input from Stakeholders	198
<i>Appendix E</i>	<i>198</i>
Solid Waste Advisory Committee	198

Introduction

History and Background

Previous Planning Efforts

This project is part of an ongoing regulatory requirement for Pennsylvania counties to review existing waste management practices within their borders every ten years. The document outlines the stepwise process from fact finding through analyses to final recommendations. It also includes supporting documents vital to implementation of the Plan.



The 2024 Update and Revision represents the fifth iteration of Venango County's Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan drafted in accordance with the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988 (Act 101). The first version was drafted in 1990 and was subsequently ratified by the municipalities, adopted by the Board of Commissioners, and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

The original efforts and the revisions in 2000 and 2004 were developed in conjunction with Forest and Clarion counties. In 2014, conditions pointed to a need for a more specific, comprehensive, and integrated approach to solid waste management and recycling in Venango County. Therefore, a stand-alone Plan for Venango County was the result. The 2024 Plan is a reaffirmation of many of the goals and objectives sought in the previous Plan along with relevant and in part modified solutions.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

The Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988 (Act 101) is considered a landmark piece of legislation. Planning for municipal waste management in Pennsylvania had occurred to some extent since 1960, however, it was the responsibility of the municipalities. The plans were rarely implemented or enforced. Consequently, certain places within the Commonwealth witnessed their town dumps filling to capacity without taking alternative actions. To avoid the disposal crisis that ensued, this new law dictated that plans have more tangible results. Act 101, for the first time, shifted the authority for Municipal Waste Management to the County. This transfer of authority away from the municipalities was intended to give the County the ability to implement the recommendations developed in the planning process.

The primary responsibility delegated to a county by Act 101 is to secure sufficient disposal capacity for its waste. Contractual agreements with landfills or other processing facilities are most frequently used to attain this goal. In limited instances, counties decided to build and operate their own disposal and processing facilities to fulfill this objective. In addition to the disposal concerns, Act 101 required a county to demonstrate to what extent it could feasibly attain the state's recycling initiative.

Responsibility for Municipal Solid Waste Planning

The responsibility to carry out the provisions of Act 101 falls to the Venango County Board of Commissioners. Recognizing the volume of issues the Commissioners are confronted with each day, Act 101 provides for the delegation of these duties to another entity. In Venango County, these responsibilities were transferred to the Venango County Regional Planning Commission. The original Act 101 Plan, the updates and revisions, as well as the supporting studies and reports were all developed under the supervision of the Planning Commission. These efforts were supported by a Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) formed to provide valuable input during the planning process. Members of the SWAC represented all levels of local government as well as private sector stakeholder interests in municipal waste and recycling.

Notable Impact

Venango County's independent planning efforts under the provisions of the Act established more specific goals and objectives than the previous joint ventures. The 2014 Plan Update attained many of these and while other, more substantial in nature, will require continuing efforts throughout the next planning period.

By securing contractual agreements providing guaranteed disposal outlets for Venango County municipal solid waste the County avoided the potential for a disposal crisis previously experienced throughout the Commonwealth.

An important decision of past planning efforts was to provide outlets for recycling throughout the County. Residents and local businesses delivered their materials directly to these sites.

The County's current focus is to collect these materials at one central location and process them for resale, thus saving the cost of transporting materials from remote locations. The Venango County Recycling Center is in its infant development stages, but with a permanent location it can grow to meet a variety of material recovery needs.

The 2014 Plan Update also fostered the concept of haulers offering affordable

curbside waste and recycling collection service to all residents in the County.

TANGIBLE BENEFITS

Recovering recyclable materials from the municipal solid waste stream has important advantages, which are often overlooked when only immediate financial payback is considered. In addition, campaigns to collect Household Hazardous Waste, Electronic Waste, and other hard to manage materials have reduced the occurrence of illegal dumping in the County and kept hazardous materials out of the landfills, thus enhancing public health and safety and protecting property values.

Venango County reports its recycling activity to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) through the ReTrac system. According to the data in ReTrac, Venango County's residents and commercial businesses recycled an average of 5,687 tons of material in 2022. This includes paper and cardboard, plastic bottles and jugs, aluminum bottles and cans, glass bottles and jars, bimetal cans, and organic materials like yard waste and food waste..

Environmental Impact

Measuring and quantifying the environmental effects of recycling materials at the local level is complicated. Nevertheless, sharing this information with the community in an easy to understand fashion is an effective way to demonstrate the value of their recycling efforts.

WARM is a life-cycle greenhouse gas accounting tool. It evaluates and reports the full lifecycle GHG emissions associated with the raw materials extraction, manufacturing or processing, transportation, use, and end-of-life management of a good or service. WARM accounts for all emissions connected to the good or service, regardless of which industrial or economic activities or sectors produce these emissions (e.g., energy, mining, manufacturing, or waste sectors) and when these benefits occur over time. In WARM, the recycling emission factors reflect the difference between making a product with virgin inputs and making a product with recycled raw material inputs. This means that the virgin inputs that would have been necessary to create the specific material are no longer required because this material is being recycled. The emission factors represent the GHG emissions savings associated with recycling one short ton (2000 lbs) of MSW.

Using WARM and the reported data found in ReTrac for material types commonly found in municipal solid waste in Venango County, the environmental benefits of recycling in Venango County were calculated for emissions in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂E), and domestic equivalents of energy useage. The calculation determines the amount of GHG savings or the resource conserved by comparing the emissions associated with landfilling versus recycling specific materials found in local programs during 2022. These include electronic waste, mixed scrap metals, cardboard, aluminum and bi-metal cans, mixed plastics, newspapers, office papers, wood waste and tires.

Table 0-1 shows the environmental benfits derived from the recycling efforts in Venango County in 2022.

Table 0-1 Environmental Benefits

Recycled materials	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Equivalent to				
Tons	CO2(metric tons)	Passenger vehicles taken off the road for one year	Homes worth of electricity use per year saved	U.S. households' annual energy use conserved	Gallons of Gasoline Preserved	Propane BBQ Cylinders Preserved
5,687	12,891	2,871	2,508	1,626	1,577,266	635,925

Plan Organization

This Plan is divided into twelve chapters, the content of which is dictated by PA Title 25 Section 221: Following is a brief description of the scope of each chapter. Supporting data and related documents are provided in a series of appendices.

Chapter 1: An overview of demographic, socio-economic, and municipal waste definitions and sources, as well as a waste generation, disposal and recovery profile.

Chapter 2: An inventory of the transportation and disposal infrastructure with historic disposal data from the last planning period.

Chapter 3: Projections for disposal capacity requirements for the future planning period.

Chapter 4: An inventory of the recycling infrastructure and overall performance of programs.

Chapter 5: An outline of the actions required over the ensuing 10-year period for the County to achieve its solid waste management goals and objectives established during the planning process.

Chapter 6: Results of the procurement process for disposal capacity and designation of facilities under the menu flow control plan.

Chapter 7: Public sector programs and operations.

Chapter 8: The role and responsibility delegated to the Venango County regional Planning Commission.

Chapter 9: A description of all legal documents and related mechanisms designed to implement and enforce the Plan.

Chapter 10: An explanation of how any changes resulting from the Plan will be phased into implementation.

Chapter 11: A narrative describing the County's relationship with the disposal facilities.

Chapter 12: A description of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and its activities.

Chapter I

Venango County Municipal Waste

Types, Sources, Quantities

Chapter I provides the foundation upon which meaningful analysis and subsequent recommendations made during the planning process are based. It offers a snapshot of the people, businesses, and institutions that generate municipal solid waste. It examines the physical and socio-economic characteristics of Venango County within the context that they affect waste management and overall environmental views and practices.



The planning process is a valuable exercise that helps local leaders determine the adequacy of current waste and recycling services. Additionally, plan development evaluates the appropriateness of local municipal waste management behaviors and practices. Finally, it addresses future needs and the resources, that will be required to handle them responsibly.

Although waste management concepts are relatively universal, it is the unique characteristics of each community that influences the best practices to implement locally. Therefore, during the planning process, care is taken to identify important factors about the county and municipalities related to waste management, which could determine the types of services appropriate to deliver to local residents and businesses.

Data Driven Decisions

Having reliable data coupled with the knowledge and experience to interpret it are critical components of the overall planning process. Municipal and county leaders are expected to follow certain industry standards and assumptions to assess local conditions. Research beyond the locally recorded waste disposal and recovery figures offers planners and program managers a platform for comparison.

Data sources on economic conditions, history, heritage, the people, and their environment can point to unique circumstances influencing local practices. Atypical trends may require special attention and creative solutions. Understanding the lifestyles, education, housing, employment, of the area can contribute important insight into the ease or difficulty in implementing potential changes.

The federal government tracks and monitors statistics and trends vital to the planning process. The Pennsylvania State Data Center located in Harrisburg, PA, works in conjunction with the US Census Bureau to gather and compile state, county, and municipal demographic data within the Commonwealth. The Center also issues estimates and projections on population, housing, employment, and related issues. Gathering and compiling accurate and useful information is a daunting task for these agencies. Therefore, certain data is processed periodically, while other statistics are estimated annually. In addition, specific topics may be reported solely at the state level. Some are available on a countywide basis, while others are provided in more detail by municipality.

Planners prefer to establish a baseline year to assure that data and statistics from national, regional, and local sources reflect certain common assumptions. Certain allowances are always necessary, due to the timeliness and availability of data from government agencies. The Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan utilizes the consistent reference year 2022 for all comparative analysis. However, due to circumstances beyond the control of the County, some statistics were adjusted based on local and historical trends, and recognized reporting abnormalities. Others, which are strictly relevant to the content of the plan, are from years within reasonable proximity to the baseline. For instance, although the EPA has always released this data more frequently, often annually, the most recent data available at the national level for waste generation, composition, and disposition is from 2018. It is used along with

Venango County's estimated 2022 population, 49,777 (U.S. Census Bureau Vintage Estimates Modified March 30, 2023)

The estimates and thirty-year projections from the Data Center suggest that during the period of this plan the annual fluctuations in Venango County's population are expected to be miniscule. Likewise, unlike the previous planning period, recent activity shows negligible change in the overall demographic profile.

Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that using Venango County's 2022 estimated population with the 2022 adjusted and reported waste and recycling data in a comparative analysis with the national data is reasonable to establish baselines, assess performance, and project future needs. Additionally, this data represents more accurately the current state of recycling in the County than in previous years due to the introduction of the County's Recycling Center.

A detailed description of the modification of the disposal data and adjusted figures which were used in capacity projections are found in Chapters 2 and 3. The detailed analysis of recycling is found in Chapter 4.

Venango County Highlights

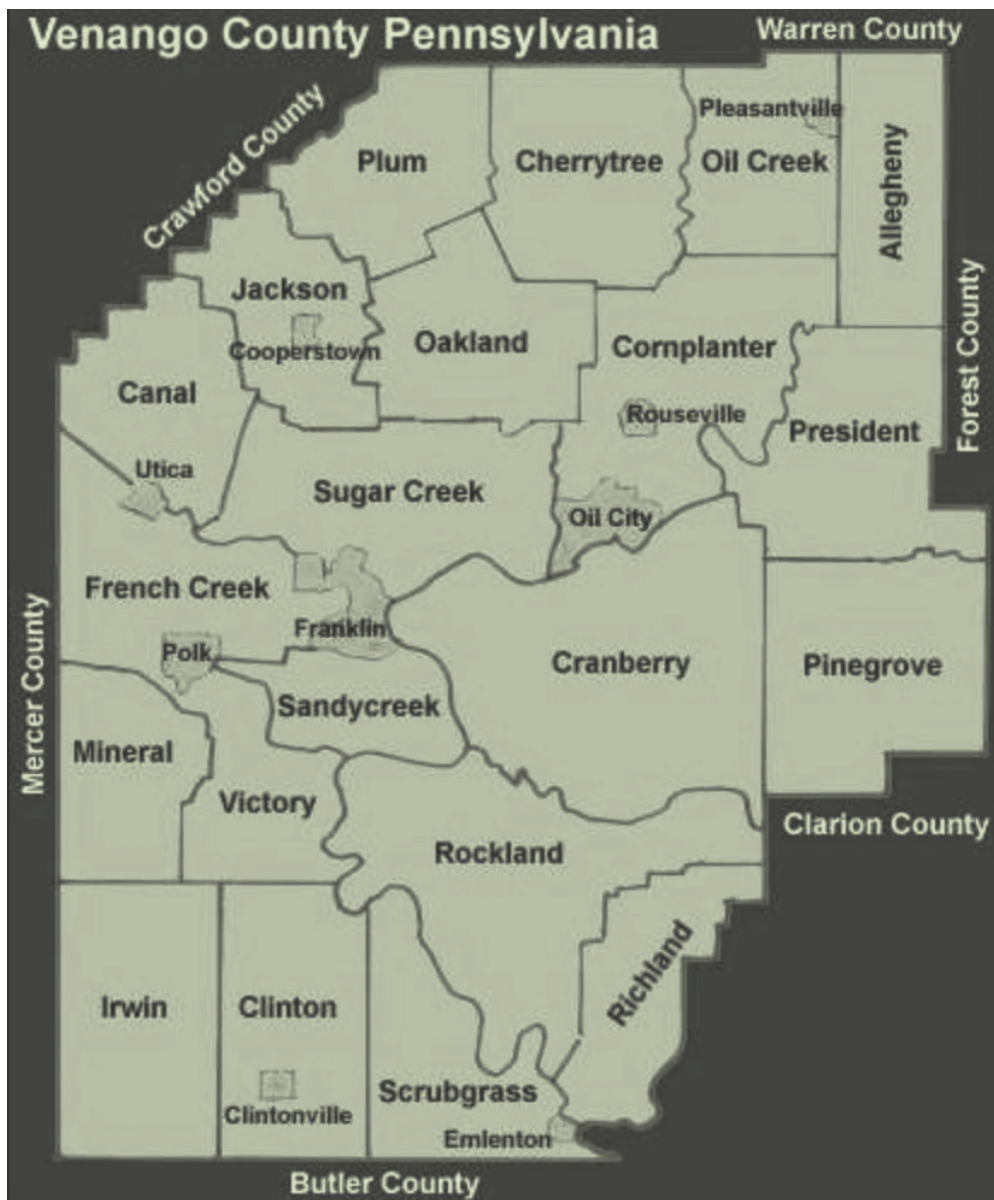
Venango County is physically located in northwestern Pennsylvania approximately 60 miles from the New York border to the north and 55 miles from the Ohio border to the west. Contiguous Pennsylvania counties include Butler (south), Mercer (west), Crawford and Warren (north) and Forest and Clarion (east).

There are 31 municipalities which include two cities, nine boroughs, and twenty townships. Figure I-1 shows a map of the County and the municipalities. The City of Franklin is the county seat. A three member Board of Commissioners represents the highest elected officials in the County.

With an estimated population of 49,777 in 2022, Venango County falls within the sixth legislated class of counties based on population. Sixth class counties range in population from 45,000 to 89,000. Sixth class counties are primarily rural. Other sixth class counties in western Pennsylvania include Armstrong, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Crawford, Elk, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, McKean, Somerset, and Warren. There are

others throughout the state. Because of general demographic similarities, the county classification system is often useful in comparing policies and programs common to county and local governments, such as waste management and recycling.

Figure I-1 Venango County and Municipalities



The People of Venango County

The number of people in a location has a direct correlation to the amount of waste produced. The greater the number of people, the more waste there is to manage. Therefore, population is a key indicator in planning for waste management.

The population of Venango County continues to decline. Although the loss of residents is at a somewhat slower pace than experienced in previous decades, the decrease was slightly more than predicted in the 2014 Plan. According to the US Census Bureau, Venango County's population 49,777 in 2022 shrank 8.1% from the 54,185 people who lived there in 2012, or approximately 0.8% per year. For comparison, the population in Pennsylvania grew 1.6% during that period. The most significant change occurred between 2016 and 2017. Moving forwards the decline is expected to slow to approximately 0.25% per year.

Although the overall population is decreasing, there is distinct growth in the over 65 age bracket. Residents in this category increased by 21.9% since 2012. All other age distributions showed losses.

Venango County continues to have a rather homogenous racial/ethnic profile with residents who identify as White representing nearly 96% of the population. Blacks, Hispanics, and Multi-Racial non-Hispanics each represent slightly more than 1% of the remaining population.

Economic Influences

While population affects how much waste is produced, employment and income are significant contributing factors in the choices one makes to manage this waste. Unwillingness to pay for waste management services is a serious hurdle to overcome in most communities. Designing affordable service programs is critical in attaining higher participation rates in lower income areas.

In 2022, more than 13% of the population in Venango County had incomes below the poverty level compared to 2012 when it was 16% of the population. During this same period, the unemployment rate hovered around 4%. Annual per capita income increased from \$35,426 in 2012 to \$48,663 in 2022. It should be noted that this increase represents a growing disparity in the ratio between the mean income of the highest earners and that of the lowest earners. An even more important reason to consider program costs.

Housing Structures and Population Density

The types of buildings in which we live and their proximity to one another can determine the ease at which our waste and recycling services can be provided and at what cost. It is important to understand how these differ from municipality to municipality. Time, distance, and labor all affect the cost of collecting and transporting materials for disposal and/or processing.

Single family detached housing units are advantageous because they are easily accessed and therefore most commonly serviced at the curb. In cities and boroughs where people live closer together, curbside collection is very cost effective. However, in rural areas where people reside farther apart, unless there is full participation, curbside collection can be cost prohibitive. In these scenarios, centralized drop-off collection points often make more sense.

Multi-family homes where two or more living units are connected in one structure may require container or dumpster collection service. Providing optimal recycling services in these complexes can be challenging due to space constraints for the containers. Since there are multiple users, the source of contamination is more difficult to monitor and deter in this environment as well.

By far the greatest number of housing units are single-family detached and single family attached housing units combined. Approximately 79% of the residential housing units in the County fall within this category. Similar to single family detached housing, but categorized separately, mobile homes represent nearly 11%. The other 10% of Venango County units include various types of multi-family dwellings. Figure 1-2 shows the types and numbers of housing units in the County.

Figure 1-2 Types and Numbers of Housing Units

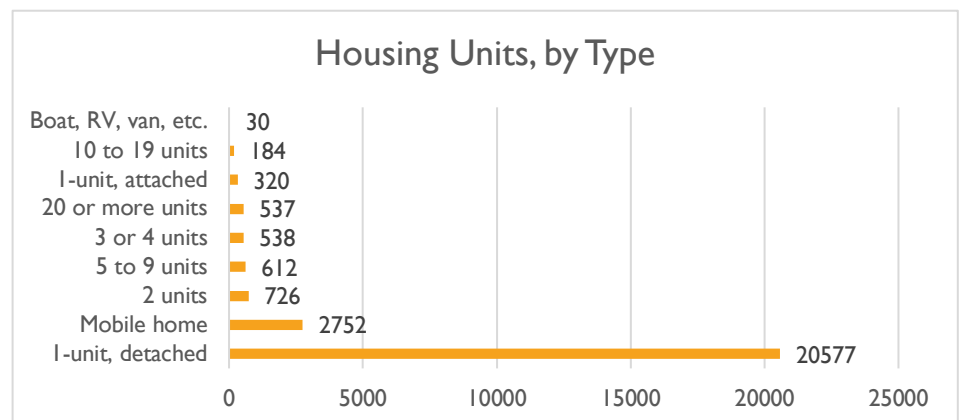
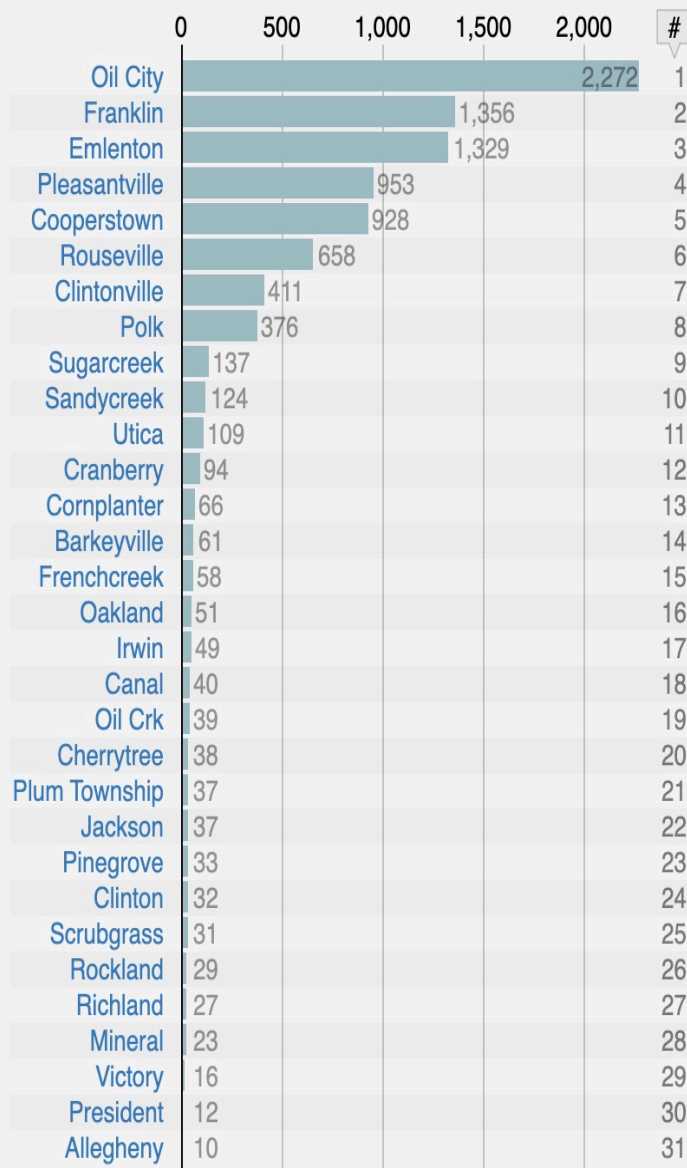


Figure I-3 Population Density Ranked by Municipality

People per square mile (excluding waters).

Scope: population of selected county subdivisions in Venango County



rank of county subdivision out of 31 by population density

Figure I-3 shows the population density of each municipality ranked from highest to lowest. Although waste collection is available throughout Venango County, communities with the highest population density are most suited for curbside recycling collection. Understanding this principle can help elected officials select the best option for their residents.

MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE BASICS

Nothing is more common and at the same time more complex than solid waste. There are a number of categories and subsets of solid waste. In general, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) considers discards from residential, commercial, and institutional establishments to be the “municipal” category of solid waste. Ensuring that adequate services are available for the collection, transportation, and disposal of municipal waste is a vital function of local governments. Seeing that materials are diverted from disposal and recovered for recycling or energy production is equally an important responsibility.

IDENTIFYING MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE

For the most part, municipal waste is recognizable and readily familiar. It's this simple. When we purchase something and no longer have a use for it, or it becomes damaged or dangerous to consume we discard it. At that point, it becomes municipal solid waste. We produce it where we live, where we work, where we shop, in our schools, in our medical facilities and in a host of other community

activities. Municipal waste consists of everyday items such as product packaging, grass clippings, furniture, clothing, bottles, food scraps, newspapers, appliances, and batteries. However, if not managed properly, municipal solid waste can pose public health and safety issues and pollute the environment. Therefore, an extensive set of laws and regulations exist at the national and state level to ensure proper management of solid waste.

The full scope of materials and categories considered municipal waste can become rather complex due to inconsistent definitions and regulatory requirements throughout the nation. Equally complicated is the ability to identify and understand the various sources where it is generated.

Municipal solid waste includes materials discarded by residents, commercial businesses, offices, and institutions.

It excludes materials generated by manufacturing processes, mining, agricultural, and industrial activities.

Defining Solid Waste By Its Source

Defining a waste by who generates it or by where it was generated, rather than by its chemical or physical characteristics or environmental impact is often a more practical way for regulatory agencies to monitor and enforce proper waste management practices. Therefore, there are items commonly found in industries and households alike that are regulated differently and require different disposal methods for each source.

The USEPA definition of municipal solid waste encompasses the materials discarded by residents, commercial businesses, offices, and institutions. It excludes materials generated by manufacturing processes and industrial activities. A further distinction is made in planning for and managing municipal waste based on whether the source is commercial or residential.

It is important to understand the regulatory and practical basis for categorizing the sources of municipal waste because, while the overall contents of the waste stream remain the same, the proportion of the materials differs in each category. This becomes a major consideration in developing recycling and other waste management technologies and diversion programs.

There are some subsets of the solid waste stream with unique characteristics or which require special handling. USEPA along with many states do not factor these particular types of materials into the overall quantities used to determine the generation, recovery, or disposal rates for municipal solid waste.

In Pennsylvania, however, waste from construction and demolition activities, medical waste from health care facilities, biosolids, and sludges from wastewater treatment all fall within the regulatory framework of municipal solid waste. In the planning process, Pennsylvania counties must address how each of these subsets is managed.

Therefore, within the Plan, for consistency in comparative analysis with national data, any discussions of, and projections for residential and commercial/institutional municipal waste generation, disposal and recycling, do not include materials designated as construction and demolition, regulated medical waste, sewage sludges, or ash from resource recovery facilities. Estimates for these special handling wastes are provided separately.

Sources of Municipal Solid Waste

Every household, commercial establishment, government facility, and institution produces municipal solid waste each day. Although similar materials are found in the municipal solid waste generated by all of these entities, the proportion that each material represents in the total waste stream changes based on which of these sources produces it.

Residential

The greatest quantities of municipal solid waste are generated in private residences. Houses, condominiums, trailers, and apartment high-rises are locations where residential municipal solid waste is generated. According to the USEPA at least 54 percent of municipal waste is generated by the individuals who reside within a community. Municipal waste from these sources is categorized as “residential.” In rural areas like Venango County the ratio of residential municipal solid waste can be as much as 72 percent.

Commercial

Retailers, wholesalers, and a wide variety of service industries are considered commercial generators of municipal waste. Office complexes, government facilities, schools, and institutions also fall within this category. Based on national trends, commercial establishments typically generate 46% of the municipal waste stream but it can be as low as 28% in rural areas.

Although commercial sources are more varied than residential generators, materials in the commercial waste stream remain similar to those found in residential municipal solid waste. What fluctuates is the proportional mix of the materials by weight and volume. The inconsistencies are driven by a variety of factors. The nature of the operation, the volume of sales, and the number of employees ultimately affect the composition of the municipal waste each generator produces.

Following is a brief description of the various segments that comprise the commercial category of municipal waste generation.

Business Establishments

A broad spectrum of businesses generates commercial municipal solid waste. Banks, office complexes, restaurants, hotels, hair salons, plumbers, department stores, and other similar operations fall within this category.

Select Types Of Commercial Municipal Waste Generators

Aside from retailers, office buildings, and other service-oriented businesses, Act 101 specifically mentions three commercial municipal solid waste generators. Following is a brief description of each.

Government Facilities

The functions of the federal, state, and local government are conducted in offices and facilities throughout Venango County. Agencies and organizations representing social services, economic development, the military, the environment, and agriculture are all housed here. The day-to-day operations of township, borough, and county government are located in offices and other facilities throughout the County. Police and fire departments, municipal authorities, libraries, recreational facilities and even prisons are included.

Educational Institutions

By far the largest segment of educational institutions in Venango County are the four major public school districts. Each has facilities from primary through secondary education levels. Other learning centers also exist. These include a technical and vocational school, and numerous private schools.

Residential Care Facilities

Another group of institutional facilities include skilled nursing, personal care, and assisted living facilities. All are considered commercial municipal waste generators. Overall, these facilities produce municipal waste with a composition similarly found in most residences. Residential care facilities also generate materials that require special handling. Due to the nature of their operations, a portion of the municipal waste generated in these facilities falls into a special category of regulated medical waste, previously known as infectious chemotherapeutic waste. These and another special handling wastes are discussed later in a dedicated section of Chapter One.

Other Business Establishments Excluded From The Category

Employers in the categories of agriculture, mining, manufacturing, utilities, and other industrial related operations are not considered commercial waste generators under the federal or state municipal solid waste regulations. Therefore, they have been excluded from consideration in the planning process.

Figure I-4 shows the types and numbers of commercial establishments operating in Venango County based on data reported by the US Census Bureau, Economic Survey, County Business Patterns for 2022.

Figure I-4 Commercial Waste Generators

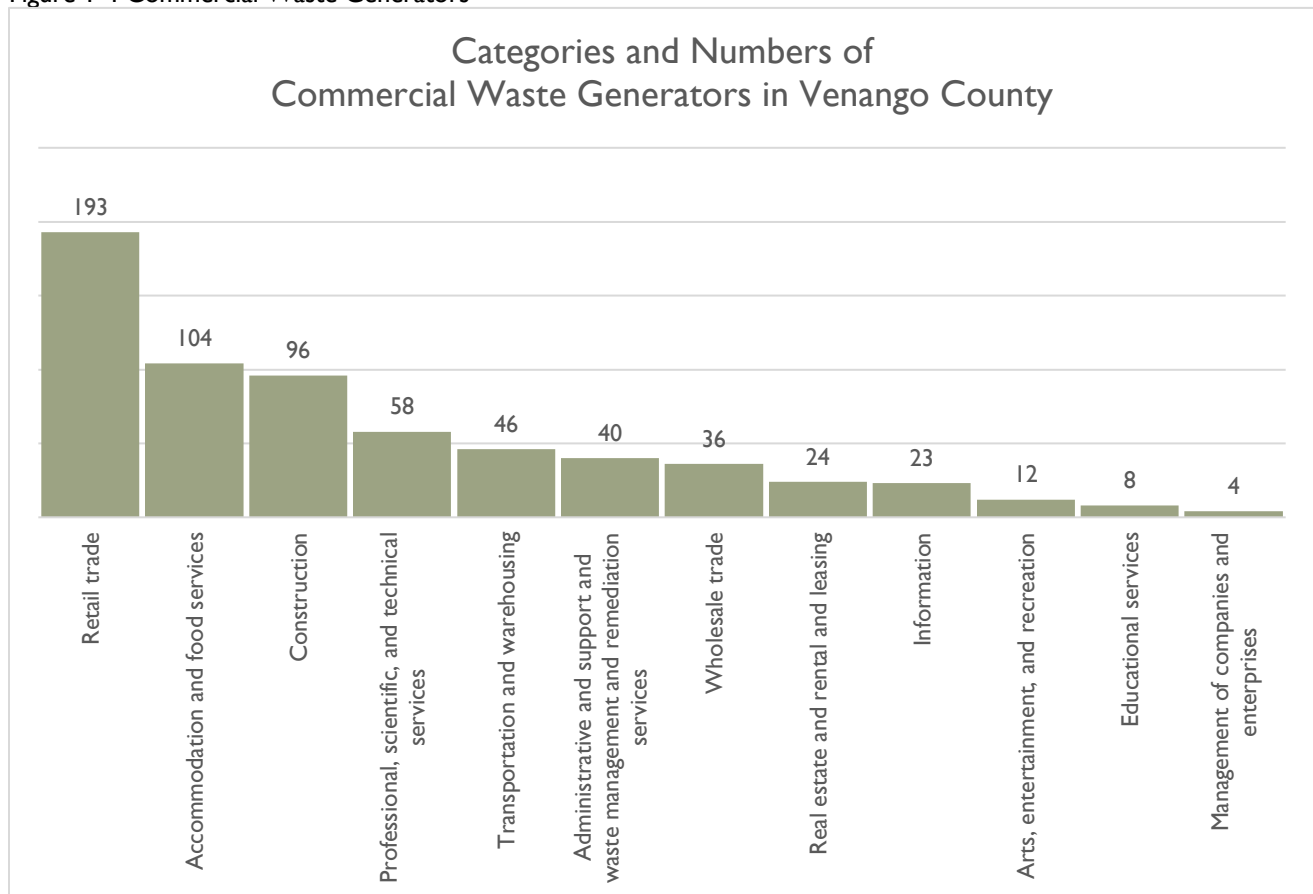


Table I-5 Federal State and Local Government Offices

Federal •United States Post Offices •Congressional Representatives	State •Department Of Labor & Industry •Department of Public Welfare •Driver's License Center •PA National Guard Armory •Pennsylvania State Police •Pennsylvania Department of Transportation •State Parks and Recreation Areas •State Congressional Representatives •State Liquor Stores	County and Local •Venango County Government Agencies •Venango County Courthouse •Venango County Prison •Venango County Economic Development Authority •Venango County Fairgrounds •District Magistrates and Justices •Township and Borough Offices •Municipal Authority Offices •Police and Fire Departments •Public Libraries
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Community Events

Communities commonly come together to socialize and celebrate long standing traditions. These occasions may occur in conjunction with holidays of national importance or those of local cultural heritage. Sometimes the events are focused on the activities of local sports teams. Venango County communities host several fairs, festivals, and other events during the year. Each draws a large volume of people that can tax the capabilities of local services and significantly increases the amount of waste and recyclable materials generated. Most notable are the Annual Oil Heritage Festival, the Cranberry Festival, the Annual Applefest, and of course, the Venango County Fair.

Recovering recyclables and organic waste from events held in Oil City and Franklin is mandated by Act 101. Much of the event waste is organic and a considerable portion of the materials generated can be recycled or composted.

Informational flyers, food scraps, packaging, beverage containers, etc. are some of the potential discarded materials. Leaves and manure are also common at fairs and other events that include livestock and other animals.



Materials or Products – What's the Difference?

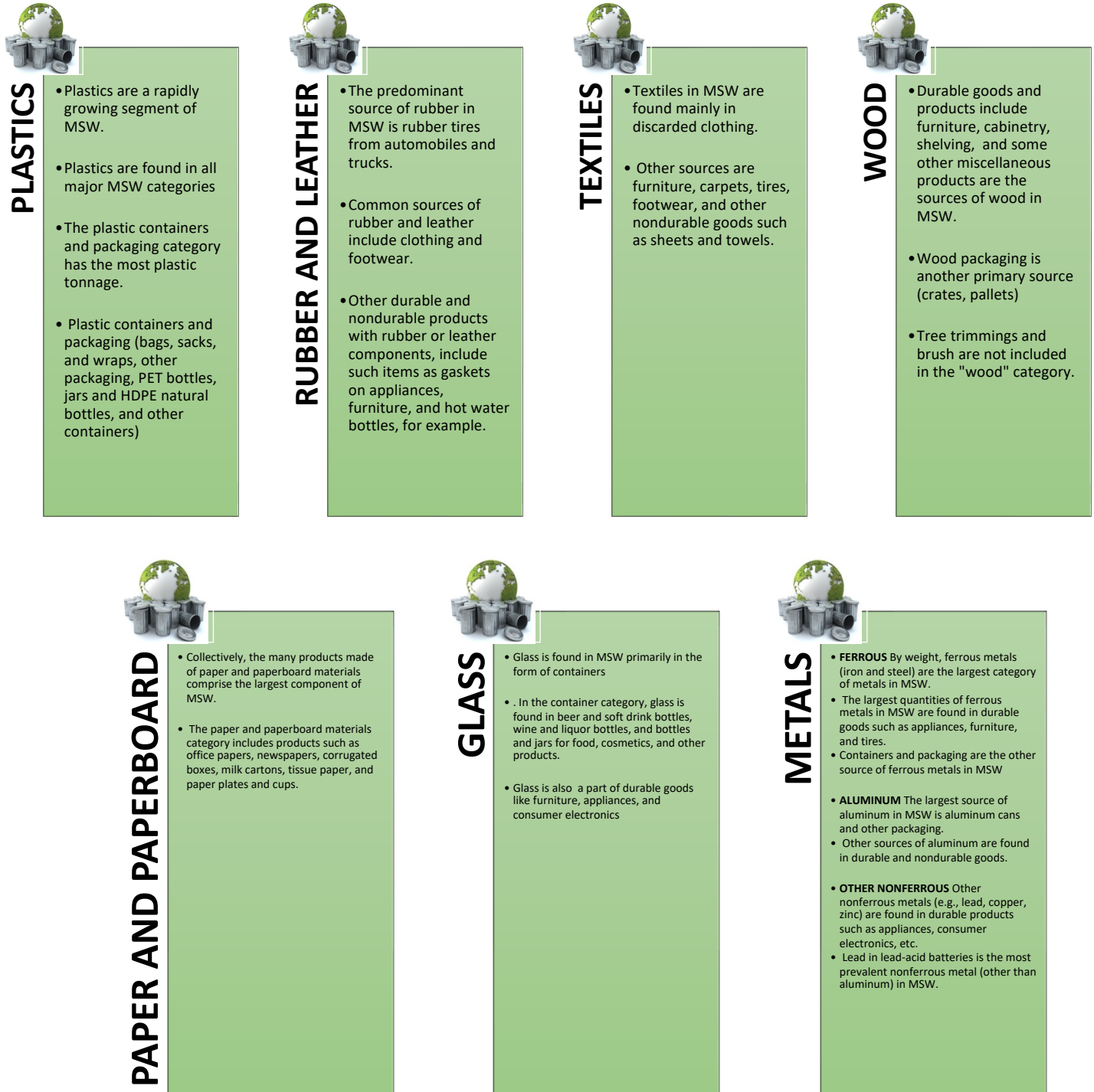
Understanding what is in the waste stream is the first step in determining the best methods for handling and processing various materials, and targeting those that can be recovered for recycling, composting, or to produce energy. Knowing the components of the waste stream also serves to identify how waste might be minimized through product and packaging design, purchasing habits, and greater consideration for reuse and repurposing.

USEPA tracks MSW by materials and products. A material is a raw item from which products are made. For instance, plastic resin is a material before it is shaped into something else, such as a bottle or jug or yogurt container. Glass is a material until it becomes a mirror, or bottle, or window. The distinction between products and materials is that products are manufactured out of materials. Also, products are what people buy and handle, such as newspapers, bottles and cans.

The Agency tracks specific products to learn how people are consuming, using and discarding materials. This information allows the USEPA to target activities that will ultimately maximize source reduction, recycling and composting of materials. Figure 1-5 illustrates the specific products USEPA includes in its metrics. These products are further categorized as durable and nondurable goods. For the most part, nondurable goods include disposable paper and other packaging materials. These items have rapidly increased in waste generation since 1960. Durable goods have a useful life of about three years. They contain many of the same materials, such as plastics, however, because they last longer, as waste they have increased gradually. Finally, it provides insight into prevailing trends and evolving conditions that could affect future solid waste management capacity needs and the development of treatment and processing methodologies.

USEPA has recovery statistics for durable and nondurable goods, as well as organics. Together they make up the overall national recycling rate familiar to most people. Each product or material is recovered at a different rate. Overall, combined the nation recycles approximately 37% of all of the products discarded in each year. When food waste management is considered the recovery rate is slightly over 38%.

Figure I-5 Products in Municipal Waste



The findings of the USEPA over the past 50 years present a reliable snapshot of the average waste generation, recycling and disposal trends in the United States. It is reasonable to expect that from region to region a number of demographic variables could cause local statistics to differ somewhat from those reported by USEPA.

The source of the material can also influence locally reported results. For instance, waste from strictly residential settings tends to differ slightly in composition from waste generated only by commercial establishments. These variables are identified in the national study to help program managers better interpret their data.

Comparing the USEPA information to a jurisdiction's reported data, can prompt a thorough investigation of previously held assumptions used to develop local programs.

Local Data

Because PADEP requires counties to record recycling activities into the ReTrac database, it's possible to extract this data for comparative analyses with national trends. Caution must be used however,

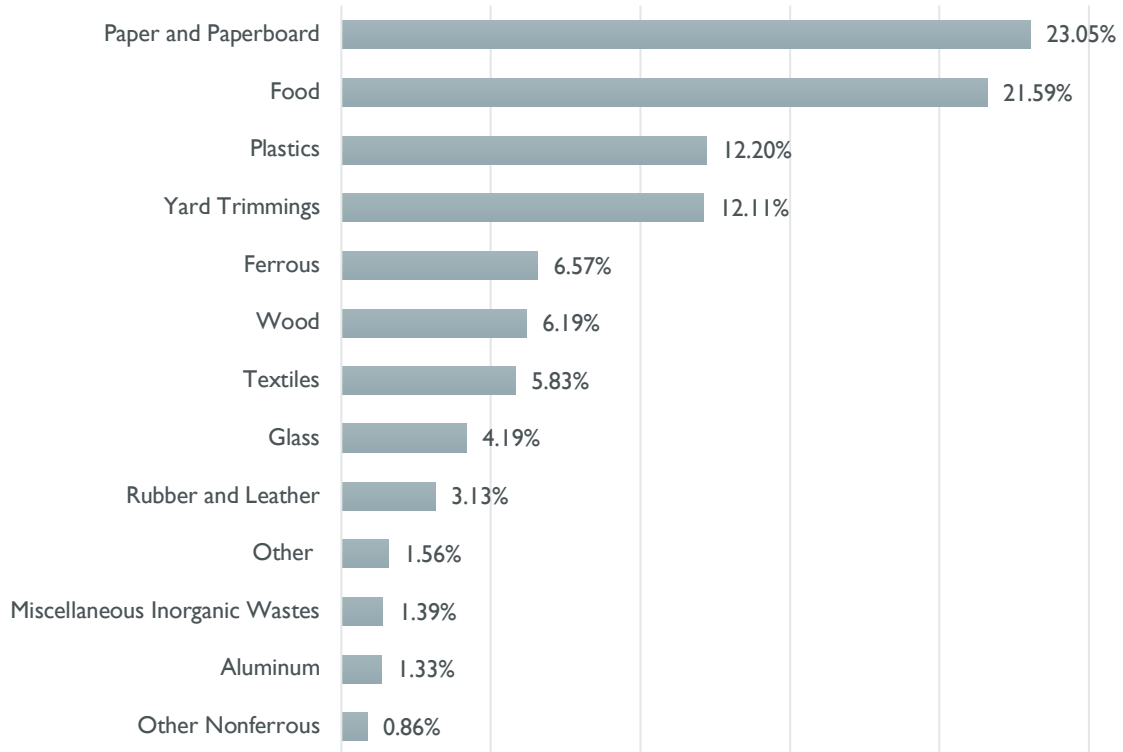
because counties often report materials that are not considered municipal waste either because it doesn't match the product categories or because it comes from a manufacturing or industrial source. Figure I-6 shows the categories of materials in Re-Trac that would facilitate a compatible analysis with USEPA's durable and nondurable goods. Figure I-7 shows the percentage of each material in the total waste that is generated before materials are removed for recycling.

Figure I-6 Materials Reported in ReTrac Similar to USEPA MSW



Figure I-7 Composition of Municipal Solid Waste Generated

Composition of MSW Generated in USA 2018 Source USEPA



Quantifying Venango County's Municipal Solid Waste

In addition to the recycling data, PADEP also requires landfills to report disposal activity on a quarterly basis. This information is recorded by type of waste, weight, and county/state of origin. The disposal data has been recorded since 1988 and is useful in establishing trends and conducting comparative analyses with other national, state and regional disposal information. Much like the recycling figures, one needs to scrutinize the disposal information for accuracy and obvious reporting discrepancies that could skew the results.

Overall, however, both tools provide a means to determine disposal, recycling, and generation statistics sufficient enough to use for planning purposes. Even when anomalies are present, the data in its rawest form may provide a roadmap to issues that might otherwise have gone unnoticed or unmanaged. Historic disposal reports are provided in Chapter 2 for the years 2014 through 2022. Chapter 3 also provides a detailed analysis of the market conditions and reporting practices which contributed to ongoing inaccuracies shown in these reports along with adjustments made to compensate for the anomalies. Those professional assumptive modifiers were used to calculate the generation, disposal, and recovery rate for Venango County.

Figure I-8 shows the reported disposal and recycling data for Venango County. The reported recycling data is assumed to be correct. The disposal data, however, is known to be inaccurate. The figure shows how the reported disposal figures were adjusted and the reported generation rate was recalculated using the adjusted disposal data. Figure I-8 also illustrates the expected generation, disposal, and recovery rates if Venango County were to perform like the national norms.

Historic disposal reports are provided in Chapter 2.

A detailed analysis of factors that contributed to ongoing inaccuracies shown in these reports is shown in Chapter 3.

Included are professional assumptive modifiers used to compensate for the anomalies in the reported data. These modifiers are used to calculate the generation, disposal, and recovery rate for Venango County.

Figure I-8 2022 Reported, Adjusted and Expected Generation, Disposal and Recovery

Reported & Adjusted Tonnage	Generated 7,027 tons (Calculated from reported data) @0.77 pounds per person per day
	Adjusted to 42,963 @ 4.90 pounds per person per day
	Recovered 5,682 tons @ 0.51 pounds per person per day Recycled 0.49 pounds per person per day = 4,410 tons Composted 0.02 pounds per person per day = 1231 tons Food Waste 0.01 pounds per person per day = 109 tons
Expected Tonnage	Disposed 2,345.2 tons @0.26 lbs per person per day
	Adjusted to 38,280 @ 4.21 pounds per person per day
	Generated 42,963 @ 4.90 pounds per person per day
	Recovered 17,078 tons @ 1.88 pounds per person per day Recycled 1.16 pounds per person per day = 10, 538 tons Composted 0.42 pounds per person per day = 3,815 tons Food Waste 0.30 pounds per person per day = 2,725 tons
	Disposed 25,884 tons @3.02 lbs per person per day

Other Types and Amounts of Municipal Solid Waste Regulated in Pennsylvania

Four types of waste are regulated as municipal solid waste in Pennsylvania that are not managed as such by USEPA and many other states. These waste streams are reviewed and considered during the planning process. They include waste from construction and demolition activities, biosolids and sewage sludge, regulated medical waste, and ash from resource recovery facilities. Because Venango County does not utilize a resource recovery facility in its selection of disposal options, incinerator ash is not included in the Plan's narratives.

Solid Waste from Construction and Demolition Activities

Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste is a perfect example of a waste stream that is defined and regulated as municipal waste in Pennsylvania, but viewed differently by USEPA and in other states. Construction and Demolition projects in residential, commercial, and industrial establishments generate a highly variable composite waste stream. The name itself suggests the different activities that can occur depending on the specific project or job site. Work may include construction, renovation, and/or demolition, and any or all of a number of related activities.

On a load-by-load basis, C&D waste can vary dramatically in its mix of materials and physical characteristics. Demolition projects tend to generate asphalt, concrete, earth, sand, trees, steel, brick, lumber, roofing materials, flooring, plaster, dry wall, and other similar materials. Typically, unless the project requires piece-by-piece deconstruction of a building, demolition loads contain larger quantities of these materials since essentially entire structures are being discarded.

Alternatively, new construction projects generally are comprised of trimmings from dry wall, framing, carpet remnants, etc. Efficient builders have very little trimming waste, as they measure and purchase accordingly. Loads bound for disposal resulting from new construction activities might also include packaging materials such as cardboard boxes, Styrofoam, nylon or plastic strapping, pallets, etc.

Unlike municipal solid waste which has been shown to be fluctuate due to population but barely at all per capita, C&D waste generation and disposal rates are subject to

Avoiding the cost of disposal is a primary motivator in the mismanagement of construction and demolition waste.

An alarming amount of construction and demolition waste, most of which originates from commercial sources, is found in illegal dump sites.



numerous variables. Construction and demolition projects are subject to seasonal weather conditions and catastrophic storm events. Swings in the economy can stimulate or deter new development and construction. The amounts of C&D waste from month to month and year to year are less consistent than municipal waste as a whole. When all these variables are considered, it is easy to understand the difficulties in projecting C&D quantities for the long term.

Two recent studies of the Northeastern United States, provide a model for characterizing the C&D waste stream and calculating a generation rate. The Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) conducted the first study, and The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection commissioned the second study.

The studies revealed a wide difference in C&D generation rates from the survey's participating states. These ranged from 0.19 tons per person per year to 0.42 tons per person per year. When variables such as definitions of C&D and materials included were filtered, a generation rate of 0.31 tons per person per year emerged as a reasonable median.

Both studies' generation rate calculations include asphalt, brick, and concrete (ABC) wastes generated from road and bridge projects. These wastes are disproportionately heavier than many of the other C&D components. In addition, much of the material from road and bridge projects is used as clean fill on site. Trees and rocks from land clearing and grubbing were excluded because they also are managed on site.

Venango County C&D Waste

Using the median generation rate of 0.31 tons per person per year derived from the two studies, and a population in 2022 of 49,777 Venango County would be expected

to generate approximately 15,431 tons of C&D waste per year. Another measure to gauge the amount of C&D waste generated in Venango County is the ratio of C&D waste compared to the total amount of municipal waste disposed. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, 17.5% of the material disposed in Pennsylvania landfills can be categorized as C&D waste. Using this method the estimated amount of Venango County C&D waste disposed would be 4,393 tons.

Both methods indicate that Venango County should generate and dispose significantly more C&D waste than reported in 2022. According to facility reports, Venango County disposed 947 tons of C&D waste in Pennsylvania landfills. This represents less than one percent of all Venango County municipal waste reportedly disposed in Pennsylvania facilities. No data was available for C&D waste that might have been disposed in out-of-state facilities.

There are several explainable reasons for at least a portion of the discrepancy. First, much of the brick and concrete and other masonry materials become clean fill, similar to the manner in which state highway projects manage this material. Contractors also reuse doors, windows, hardware, etc. in other project applications. One major demolition contractor owns a C&D landfill where material from the company's projects is self-hauled for disposal. Because C&D landfills are not required to report their activities, the amount of material managed at the site is unknown.

Cost also plays a role in the mismanagement of C&D waste. Much of C&D waste is handled by construction/demolition contractors, or homeowners and businesses that generate the waste. Whether due to lack of awareness, weak regulations, and/or enforcement, the material does not always make its way to a proper disposal facility. Some of the material is burned on construction sites and is never accounted. Surveys of illegal dumping sites Pennsylvania as a whole revealed an alarming amount of C&D waste, most of which originated from commercial sources.

Regulated Medical Waste in Venango County

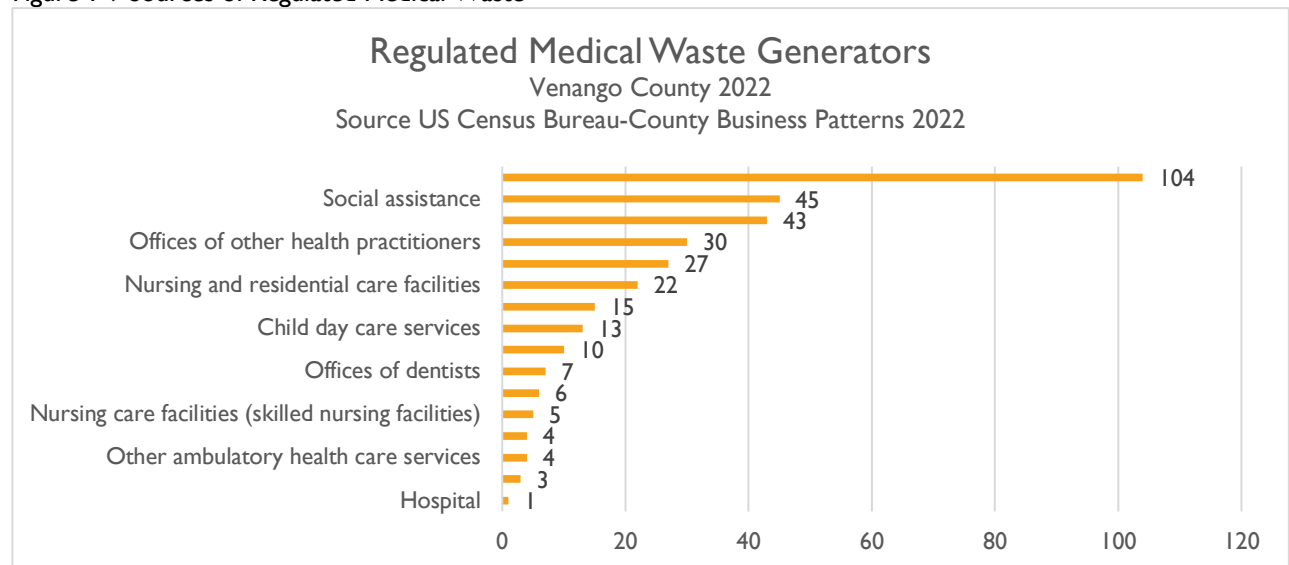
Similar to other institutional settings hospitals and resident care facilities generate significant quantities of municipal waste. Much of the material resembles waste found in the hospitality industry, where people are temporarily housed and fed.

Consequently, hospitals and other residential care facilities present promising opportunities to recover material for recycling, particularly cardboard and metal and plastic food containers.

Due to the nature of their operations, however, hospitals and other health care facilities also produce waste, which is required by federal and state regulations to be treated and handled separately from other materials. This waste is identified in Pennsylvania as “regulated medical waste,” and is a direct result of medical procedures, treatments, and other activities. Regulated medical waste generated in Venango County is typically transported to commercial treatment facilities.

Venango County has one small community hospital with an 126 bed capacity. UPMC Northwest is located at 100 Fairfield Drive, Seneca, PA in Cranberry Township and also serves as an outpatient resource for a multitude of services. Hospitals generate the bulk of the regulated medical waste, with outpatient care facilities also among the largest sources. However, given an ever-increasing aging population, the County should anticipate a growing demand for skilled nursing and resident rehabilitation centers. This in turn will increase the amount of waste generated in these facilities. Figure I- 9 shows the number and types of health care facilities that generate regulated municipal waste.

Figure I-9 Sources of Regulated Medical Waste



Sewage Sludge

Wastewater generated in our homes and businesses is known as sewage or septage depending upon how it is managed. Sewage typically flows through a network of pipelines to wastewater treatment plants (WWTP). These facilities and the infrastructure which connects the source of the wastewater to the treatment plant can be costly to construct. Therefore, facilities are typically built to service households in more densely populated municipalities to reduce the cost per mile of the extensive network of pipelines. Where the cost of connecting wastewater pipelines is prohibitive, on-lot treatment systems must be installed by private homeowners. This wastewater is referred to as septage. Septic systems must be periodically pumped by special service companies. The septage is either land applied or transported to a WWTP for treatment. Multi-family dwellings, such as mobile home parks and residential care facilities, as well as industrial operations may operate private pre-treatment systems, with the sewage being transported for final treatment. Wastewater that is treated at Venango County WWTP's is dewatered sufficiently to become sewage sludge, which is typically disposed in landfills.

From 2014 through 2022 Pennsylvania landfills reported an average annual disposal of approximately 1963 tons of Venango County sewage sludge. The fluctuations from year to year are due to differences in plant design and operation which dictate how often they need to transport sludge. No reporting of septage is required. Therefore, the quantities are unknown. However, the companies that transport septage within Venango County are regulated and monitored by PADEP. Thus, it is assumed that these materials are managed adequately. These transporters along with the landfills that manage Venango County sewage sludge are addressed in Chapter 2.

Seven wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) service the needs of Venango County communities. The facilities were constructed initially to service the needs of the municipality that is the owner and operator. However, some of the facilities currently have a broader service area that includes portions of surrounding communities and, in some cases, septage transporters. Table I-1 lists the wastewater treatment plants in Venango County and the municipalities which are serviced by each.

Table 1-1 Venango County Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Municipal Wastewater Treatment Agencies	Service Area
Clintonville Wastewater Treatment Plant	Clintonville
Emlenton Area Municipal Authority	Emlenton Richland Township
City of Franklin Wastewater Treatment Plant	City of Franklin Sandycreek Township Sugarcreek Borough Septage Transporters
City of Oil City Wastewater Treatment Plant	Oil City Cranberry Township Cornplanter Township
Pleasantville Borough	Pleasantville Borough Oil Creek Township
Frenchcreek Township Wastewater Treatment Plant	Frenchcreek Township Polk Borough
Rouseville Borough	Rouseville Borough

Summary

The various types and sources of municipal solid waste along with the anticipated quantities were presented in Chapter I. In addition, a variety of factors that influence the generation of these wastes and those which cause these wastes to fluctuate were discussed. This basic information will serve as the foundation for many assumptions and decisions resulting from the planning process.

Chapter 2

Municipal Waste Infrastructure

Transporters, Facilities, Trends

Chapter 2 begins with a review of key indicators which can be useful in evaluating the effectiveness of local municipal solid waste management policies. It focuses on the broad infrastructure of transporters and disposal/processing facilities that have developed to meet the needs of Venango County. It discusses how and where those services are utilized and points to issues that require added attention and/or improvements. Legal issues related to flow control and capacity assurances are covered as well.



A vital part of the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan is to ensure sufficient services are available for the collection, transportation, and disposition of all the various municipal waste streams. Additionally, the Plan explores how these services are utilized to facilitate the implementation of proper waste management practices throughout the County.

Failure to manage municipal waste properly not only harms the environment, but also jeopardizes public health, safety, and the overall quality of life in Venango County. Many components of the waste stream provide opportunities to capture and conserve natural resources.

Local Accountability

Municipal waste management is considered a local issue in the United States. There are no federal or statewide programs for waste and recycling collection. And although Pennsylvania counties must ensure there is adequate disposal space for the municipal solid waste generated within their boundaries, local municipal officials are directly responsible for waste storage, collection, and transportation in their jurisdictions. Because municipal solid waste is an ordinary and ongoing result of our daily activities, stricter enforcement of proper waste management practices should be a priority for Venango County municipalities.

Evaluating Existing Conditions

While a comprehensive survey could provide an accurate picture of the number of homes and businesses that utilize the services of commercial waste and recycling haulers, it is not always a practical option. There are, however, a number of other indicators that officials can use to determine if their local waste management policies are insufficient or ineffective. When present, these factors suggest that significant portions of the population practice undesirable methods of managing their household waste. The primary reason is typically to avoid the cost of disposal.

These conditions include illegal dumping, open burning, and accumulation of waste in and around structures. In addition, within the realm of illegal dumping there are other actions that fall that are often overlooked. These types of behavior are just as common and just as harmful as the illegal dumpsites found in remote locations.

Illegal Dumping

A study conducted by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful in each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties found that illegal dumping was most pervasive in areas like Venango County. The root causes were municipalities that lacked ordinances which mandate participation in waste

collection, did not perform the collection service, nor did they procure it through a competitive bidding process. In other words, policies that allow for voluntary subscription to waste collection most often fail at preventing illegal dumping.

Theft of Service

A unique form of illegal dumping is theft of service. Often, responsible individuals and businesses that do pay for collection and proper disposal are victimized by this behavior. When unauthorized users place material in another's waste receptacle for disposal, it is considered theft of service. Not only do the offenders avoid payment, but their waste can also result in price increases for the paying customer due to the need for more frequent service or larger containers.

Misuse of Recycling Drop-off Sites

Blatant occurrences of illegal dumping plague recycling drop-off sites located throughout the Commonwealth. Although mild forms of contamination routinely happen in any recycling program, a common problem for county and municipal programs is the intentional use of unmanned drop-off sites as disposal outlets. Venango County's drop-off collection sites were victimized by this phenomenon.

Offenders are typically those who avoid paying for waste collection but are just barely environmentally conscientious enough to prevent them from disposing on other's properties. Because the midnight dumpers associate the recycling containers with waste collection, they feel free to shift the cost and responsibility for managing the material to the program, minus the guilt associated with hillside or waterway dumping.

Over time, the volume of contamination from intentional dumping at unmanned recycling drop-off sites has increased dramatically. Disposing of these unwanted materials is costly and detracts from the quality of the material and the ability to market it to end users. The problem is pervasive enough to cause the closure of specific sites and in many counties.

Accumulation of Waste

A quick way to devalue properties and promote at least the appearance of blight is for a municipality to tolerate prolonged storage of discarded furniture, appliances, automotive parts and bagged trash in and around a property. Not only is this an unsightly condition, but it also creates an inviting shelter and source of food for rodents, insects and other vermin. For vacant or abandoned homes accumulated waste is often a sign the structure has fallen prey to squatters. In those situations, the already high threat of fire posed by trespassers trying to stay warm is accelerated by the mass of flammable trash strewn about and large items obstructing entry ways.

Like other undesirable practices accumulating waste is frequently caused by an unwillingness to pay for collection and disposal. However, it can also simply be that haulers do not collect bulky items. Additionally, it could be the lack of a convenient outlet which accepts these items and/or a means to transport them to such an outlet.

Open Burning

After years of regulatory advancements in municipal solid waste management and clean air policies, it's disappointing that the tolerance for open burning is still ingrained as a tradition in Western Pennsylvania. No other undesirable waste management practice is defended by individuals at all levels of the socio-economic spectrum more than open burning.

Where camps and campgrounds are prevalent, it is hard for some to distinguish the line between campfires and burning trash. People burn waste for a variety of reasons. Convenience, habit, and the avoided cost of trash collection rank high on the list. This makes burning bans commonly contentious issues. These same reasons prompt illegal dumping.

The public in general has little to no awareness of the dangers of open burning. Smoke from any fire can affect the health of a community. The smoke from backyard burning is released close to the ground where people can easily breathe it. Smoke can trigger asthma attacks. People with heart and lung conditions are vulnerable, as are those with

other chronic health problems. The increasing volume of plastics and other synthetics in the waste stream release dangerous carcinogenic emissions when combusted. In fact, the toxic emissions released from open burning of trash exceed those for large scale commercial municipal waste incinerators where proper containment and filters are installed.

An often-overlooked consequence of backyard burning should be of particular concern in Venango County. Unattended burn barrels and pits can cause accidental fires, which could easily ignite a forest. The loss of property and life along with valuable natural resources poses an immediate as well as a long-term risk to the public health and welfare.

Reacting to the Problem

Remediation of illegal dump sites is costly and time consuming. Because volunteer clean-ups draw positive public attention, often overlooked is the reality that local municipalities bear the ongoing cost for cleaning up illegal dumpsites. Although some of the landfills which have entered capacity agreements with Venango County have donated free disposal for a limited number of tons of waste removed from illegal dump sites in the county, it doesn't begin to cover the full expense.

A survey of Pennsylvania's municipalities shows that clean-ups can cost more than \$700 per ton. That is more than ten times the cost had the individuals disposed of the waste properly. For municipalities, this does not include the value of other projects that should be addressed by their public works crews who instead must deal with the problem of illegal dumping. More distressing is that the taxpayers must foot the cost to clean-up for somebody trying to avoid the cost of managing their own waste.

Remediation does have unintended consequences. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has shown that cleaning up dumpsites does not serve to deter illegal dumping. In fact, it signals to dumpers that somebody will take care of the mess left behind, which serves

to justify their actions. The result is that remediated sites return to dumping grounds and new sites appear.

A Proactive Solution

One of the most important findings and recommendations of the report was that illegal dumping can be reduced significantly when all residents, regardless of the county or municipality in which they live have universal access to affordable waste and recycling collection services. The same applies to businesses. The concept has become widely supported by environmental groups, regulatory agencies, and the waste and recycling industry.

Unlike previous approaches, the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful study does not suggest a mandate for curbside waste and recycling collection in every municipality. Instead, the report offers alternatives that are more appropriate and cost effective in rural areas. These include small rural transfer stations, commonly called convenience centers, where residents can bring their household waste and recyclables. Regulations for the operation of the rural transfer stations have been adopted. A convenience center can be operated by local governments or the private sector.

The cost of waste disposal at convenience centers is often managed on a “pay per bag” scenario which includes the cost of transporting the waste to the disposal facility. The disposal fees also help to offset the cost of collecting, transporting, and processing the recyclables to sell to end users.

Another approach is for each property owner to be issued an annual permit to use the facility. The permit cost is established by the operating cost of the convenience center. The permit could dictate the amount of bagged waste allowable per user and charge extra for items like furniture, mattresses, and appliances. Some municipalities simply incorporate the cost of operating the center into the General Fund tax base.

Although the drop-off approach to waste collection is not as user friendly as placing one's garbage cans or bags at the end of the driveway, it is a viable solution where housing and population densities are low. As shown in Chapter I, many of the townships in Venango County have extremely low population densities.

What is clear in rural Pennsylvania is that voluntary subscription for waste collection service does not represent a legitimate program or solution to municipal solid waste management. Ultimately, whether a municipality opts for a curbside or drop-off waste and recycling collection program, the decision should be based on whatever is most appropriate and affordable for the taxpayers. Whichever choice is made, mandatory participation is the key to success.

Preventing Accumulation of Waste

A significant amount of the waste catalogued by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful in illegal dump sites consisted of bulky items such as tires, automotive parts, furniture, and appliances. These are the same types of items that are commonly found on blighted properties. Local ordinances should include provisions to prevent property owners from storing waste on their land and in their buildings. These ordinances often allow the municipality to remediate the site and lien the property for the costs.

Unwillingness to pay for collection and disposal services is undeniably a significant reason for people to accumulate waste. However, often a more compelling issue is simply the lack of reasonable and convenient disposal outlets. This can be true where normal household waste is collected, but bulk waste and white goods are not. Community clean-up days can be helpful in reducing the number of items stored on properties. However, people often lack the ability to transport large items. Curbside collection programs that include regularly scheduled collection of bulky items provides the best solution.

Dealing With Burning

Open burning remains a common occurrence in Venango County. The adoption and enforcement of burning ordinances is a step to control burning by local citizens. Some communities kick off the implementation of the ordinance with buy-back programs for the barrels. Just as with illegal dumping, mandating, and enforcing waste collection could effectively eliminate the practice. The Recycling Center presents an alternative outlet since recyclable materials are those which are most commonly combustible.

Commercial Waste Issues

Waste generated by commercial generators differs from the more toxic materials commonly produced by manufacturing processes in industrial settings. If, however, commercial generators do not manage this waste properly environmental consequences can occur.

Regardless of the municipality in which they are located, commercial businesses in Venango County can contract directly with the service provider of their choice. This includes the option to self-haul waste generated on-site. As in most areas of the Commonwealth, local municipalities do not exercise any control or limitations over this choice through an exclusive franchise or by other means.

Local ordinances should ensure that business owners are accountable for proper storage and removal of waste generated on site. Minimum standards for service frequency and storage capacity help to prevent environmental pollution and protect public health and safety.

Transporter Network

Despite the lack of multiple municipality sponsored and organized waste collection programs, a diverse network of service providers operates within Venango County. Each operates in distinct service areas with unique service offerings. Traditional curbside collection and commercial dumpster service and roll-off containers for large

volumes are readily available to residents and businesses throughout the County. Some transporters also provide dump trucks and/or trailers for construction demolition and remediation projects. Specialty services are also available for materials that are difficult or potentially dangerous to handle. These include liquid wastes like septage or fluids from oil and gas exploration, unprocessed regulated medical waste, and large construction and demolition and remediation projects.

State Requirements For Transporters Of Municipal Waste

In Pennsylvania, certain transporters of municipal and residual waste must obtain Waste Transporter Authorization. Since 2002, all waste transportation vehicles (trucks and truck tractors with a registered gross vehicle weight greater than 17,000 lbs., and trailers with a registered gross vehicle weight greater than 10,000 lbs.) transporting municipal or residual waste to waste processing or disposal facilities in Pennsylvania have been regulated by the Waste Transportation Safety (Act 90). Some exemptions apply. Additionally, certain processing and/or disposal facilities may accept material from transporters without the Act 90 Authorization.

Transporters Located in Venango County

It is important to note that not only those who collect municipal waste from residences and businesses are required to be licensed, but also those who haul

EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN ACT 90 AUTHORIZATION ARE:

Transporters that collect waste in Pennsylvania but utilize an out of state disposal facility

Transport vehicles with a registered gross vehicle weight less than 17,000 lbs.

Transport trailers with a registered gross vehicle weight less than 10,000 lbs.

FACILITIES THAT MAY ACCEPT WASTE FROM TRANSPORTERS WITHOUT ACT 90 AUTHORIZATION

Facilities where municipal or residual waste is being land applied through agricultural utilization or land reclamation.

Facilities that operate under a permit-by-rule.

Facilities that are not required to obtain a permit under §271.101 (relating to permit requirement).

Cement kilns burning waste tires as fuel.

Facilities that process electronic waste and components by sorting, disassembling or mechanical processing for beneficial use.

Composting facilities.

Facilities that process municipal or residual waste for beneficial use under an individual or general permit.

construction demolition debris and significant quantities of materials from their own operations. Therefore, commercial businesses, builders, developers, roofers, and remodeling contractors fall into this category. A comprehensive and up-to-date list of transporters located in Venango County with Act 90 Authorization can be found at [Waste Trans Safety Auths - Report Viewer \(pa.gov\)](http://cedatareporting.pa.gov/Reportserver/Pages/ReportViewer.aspx?/Public/DEP/WM/SSRS/Waste_Trans_Safety_Auths) .

Actual URL

http://cedatareporting.pa.gov/Reportserver/Pages/ReportViewer.aspx?/Public/DEP/WM/SSRS/Waste_Trans_Safety_Auths

The list is sortable by name, zip code, address, status, and authorization id number.

The list is updated daily and therefore has more accurate information than providing a version from a specific date within this Plan.

Local Requirements for Municipal Solid Waste Transporters

During the 2014 planning process, members of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee recommended that one way to ensure universal access to recycling services was to require local transporters to include recycling as part of their service offerings to their customers. To accomplish this, the County adopted Ordinance No 2015-01. The Ordinance required Venango County transporters to provide accurate information regarding disposal and recycling activities. There have been some challenges to the recycling provisions. It is unclear how well the Ordinance can be enforced and implemented given the limited staffing. The opening of the Recycling Center may provide the outlet the previous SWAC was hoping to offer with less conflict.

Transporters of Special Handling Waste

The Waste Safety Transportation Program does not regulate those who manage special handling wastes, such as septage and regulated medical waste. These transporters operate under separate requirements and conditions.

Septage Transporters

In Pennsylvania, transporters of residential septage must register with the PADEP. Information for each load of septage that is collected and transported is recorded by each transporter. Although there are no requirements for the report to be submitted to the state agency, the information must be made available upon request to PADEP

inspectors. Haulers register with PADEP based on the location of their business, not on their service area. It is common for transporters to cross county lines to provide such services. Therefore, in spite of the PADEP registration, many counties also require septage transporters to register with the county and report on the activities conducted within their borders. Venango County does not currently require special reports from septage haulers.

Table 2-1 lists the known septage transporters who are located in Venango County

Table 2-1 Septage Transporters Located in Venango County

Company	Address
Heffern Septic Tank Service	668 Buttermilk Hill Road Franklin, PA 16323
Kaiser's Septic Tank Cleaning	1278 Elk St, Franklin, PA 16323
Landscaping Connections	1321 15 th S, Franklin, PA 16323
Machokas Trucking	RD# 2 Box 327F Oil City, PA 16301
W A Martz Excavating	1512 Cranberry Rockland Rd Kennerdell, PA 16374
Weaver Septic Cleaning	224 Valley Church Rd Emlenton, PA 16373
Zacherl Septic Service	RD#1, Box 142 Venus, PA 16364

Securing and Managing Disposal Capacity

Ensuring that residents and businesses have outlets able to manage the volume and weight of municipal waste generated is the primary responsibility assigned to counties by Act 101. To meet that requirement, Venango County has always used a fair, open and competitive solicitation and procurement process resulting in the execution of capacity agreements with multiple facilities. In 2014, five companies representing ten landfills entered capacity agreements with Venango County. The County did not guarantee any prearranged volume of tons to be delivered to each of the facilities.

However, by ordinance it did limit haulers to the use of only these facilities for the disposal of all categories of municipal waste that they collect and transport. The agreements covered a period of ten years. The contracts that were executed during the last Plan update in 2014 are set to expire during this planning process.

Table 2-2 lists the facilities which guaranteed disposal capacity through contractual agreements in 2014.

Table 2-2 Sites Guaranteeing Disposal Capacity and Designated as Disposal Facilities in the 2014 Venango MSW Plan

Advanced Disposal Services	Greentree Landfill
	Chestnut Valley Landfill Back-up Facility
Casella Waste Management	McKean County Landfill
	Hyland Landfill Back-up Facility:
Republic Services	Carbon Limestone
	Imperial
Vogel Holding	Seneca Landfill
Waste Management	LakeView Landfill
	Mahoning Landfill
	Northwest Landfill

Disposal and Processing Infrastructure

The geography and rural nature of Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio, and Western New York provided large tracts of affordable land suitable for the development of land disposal facilities. Additionally, a once strong industrial manufacturing presence, which generated large volumes of waste, created a demand for disposal outlets near their operations. Consequently, landfills have and continue to be the primary method of managing waste in this region.

Distance factors into the cost and efficiency of transporting waste for disposal. Because there are no disposal sites located within Venango County remote facilities are used. To compensate for the time and miles local transporters would otherwise have to travel to these facilities transfer stations provide an alternative. Transfer stations accommodate small collection vehicles that cannot cost effectively deliver long distance loads. Instead, at the transfer station, these small loads can be consolidated into larger trailers and delivered to remote facilities at a lower cost. Thus, cost effective access to a greater number of potential disposal sites is possible.

Two transfer stations are known to manage waste originating in Venango County. Clarion and Mercer Counties have transfer stations which accept Venango County waste. The Clarion facility is owned by Waste Management Tri County Industries in Mercer County is owned by Vogel Holdings. These two operations have a major influence on how and where Venango County waste is ultimately disposed.

Disposal Data Reported During 2014-2022

Pennsylvania requires disposal and processing facilities to submit quarterly and annual reports to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. These reports document the amount of each category of waste managed at the site along with the county and/or state of origin. Although there are subsets in each waste stream, the two major reported categories are municipal and residual waste. In addition to regular household trash, municipal waste includes sewage sludge, construction & demolition waste, regulated medical waste and incinerator ash. Residual waste comes primarily from industrial and manufacturing processes and includes asbestos.

Act 101 does not provide counties with the jurisdiction to regulate the collection, transportation, and disposal of residual waste. Nevertheless, residual waste factors into the development of the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan, because it consumes disposal capacity that otherwise could be available for Venango County municipal waste. For the same reason, municipal and residual waste generated in other counties and other states must be considered.

From 2014 thru 2022, eleven different facilities reported they received some type of municipal or residual waste that was generated in Venango County. Many of the sites reported random and negligible amounts of the County's waste. Often disposal at a facility occurred only once during the nine-year period. Depending on the type of waste, these reported tons could simply be stray loads or those from other counties, which were accidentally misidentified as Venango County waste. At the other end of the spectrum, several sites show consistent periods when waste from Venango County is disposed there.

What is certain and consistent in reviewing this data is that based on population and the national disposal rate significant quantities of Venango County waste are either misreported, disposed out of state, or illegally disposed. This phenomenon was identified in the 2014 Plan, and persists currently. At the root of the problem, are the two transfer stations which receive waste from the County and transport it to remote facilities. Both Clarion and Mercer counties continually show escalated disposal rates, often nearly twice the national average, while Venango County barely registers. Therefore, it is suspected that much of Venango County's waste is attributed to those counties in which the facilities are located when it is transferred to the landfill. Further evidence to support this theory is that expected amounts of residual waste which does not enter a transfer station, is reported from Venango County , particularly at Greentree Landfill.

Table 2-3 shows the reported quantities of Venango County municipal and/or residual waste received at each facility from 2014 thru 2022.

Table 2-3 Venango County Reported Disposal Destinations 2014 -2022

2014								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total	TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Greentree Landfill	0.0	5,408.3	436.5	0.0	0.5	5,845.3	436.5	5,408.8
Imperial Landfill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.1	23.1	0.0	23.1
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	3,299.2	4,853.4	0.0	284.6	0.0	8,437.2	3,583.8	4,853.4
Seneca Landfill	70.9	3,297.5	1,373.2	1,724.2	0.0	6,465.8	3,168.3	3,297.5
	3,370.1	13,559.2	1,809.7	2,008.8	23.6	20,771.4	7,188.6	13,582.8
2015								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total	TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Greentree Landfill	2.8	348.0	496.4	0.0	6.4	853.6	499.2	354.4
McKean Landfill	0.0	104.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	104.4	0.0	104.4
Wayne Township Landfill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2
Lake View Landfill	0.0	2,667.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2,667.2	0.0	2,667.2
MODERN LANDFILL	0.0	405.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	405.9	0.0	405.9
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	3,130.3	2,789.1	0.0	245.0	1.2	6,165.6	3,375.3	2,790.3
Seneca Landfill	43.2	2,508.8	1,627.6	2,397.0	0.0	6,576.6	4,067.8	2,508.8
	3,176.3	8,823.4	2,124.0	2,642.0	7.8	16,773.5	7,942.3	8,831.2
2016								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total	TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Greentree Landfill	0.9	465.8	559.2	0.0	0.1	1,026.0	560.1	465.9
Imperial Landfill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	6.6	0.0	6.6
Lake View Landfill	0.0	658.5	0.0	0.0	4.2	662.7	0.0	662.7
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	3,411.1	4,605.2	0.0	104.6	0.8	8,121.7	3,515.7	4,606.0
Seneca Landfill	56.1	1,396.4	1,484.1	2,213.7	0.0	5,150.3	3,753.9	1,396.4
	3,468.1	7,125.9	2,043.3	2,318.3	11.7	14,967.3	7,829.7	7,137.6

2017							TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total		
Greentree Landfill	2.1	387.9	283.8	0.0	0.0	673.8	285.9	387.9
Imperial Landfill	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.0	8.9	8.9	0.0
McKean Landfill	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	3.2
Lake View Landfill	0.0	535.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	535.1	0.0	535.1
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	3,432.7	2,729.6	0.0	219.1	0.9	6,382.3	3,651.8	2,730.5
Seneca Landfill	26.9	1,406.6	1,877.3	1,790.9	0.0	5,101.7	3,695.1	1,406.6
	3,461.7	5,062.4	2,161.1	2,018.9	0.9	12,705.0	7,641.7	5,063.3
2018								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total	TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Greentree Landfill	0.0	349.8	233.4	0.0	0.0	583.2	233.4	349.8
McKean Landfill	0.0	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.0	5.8
Lake View Landfill	0.0	1,750.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,750.0	0.0	1,750.0
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	3,493.9	2,457.6	0.0	218.3	517.5	6,687.3	3,712.2	2,975.1
Seneca Landfill	66.2	1,315.4	1,343.9	1,406.5	0.0	4,132.0	2,816.6	1,315.4
	3,560.1	5,878.6	1,577.3	1,624.8	517.5	13,158.3	6,762.2	6,396.1

2019								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total	TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Greentree Landfill	0.0	370.5	210.4	0.0	0.0	580.9	210.4	370.5
Imperial Landfill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.8	9.8	0.0	9.8
Lake View Landfill	0.0	619.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	619.6	0.0	619.6
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	3,421.5	2,396.9	42.8	229.4	0.0	6,090.6	3,693.7	2,396.9
Seneca Landfill	94.5	1,395.4	1,515.1	1,477.0	0.0	4,482.0	3,086.6	1,395.4
	3,516.0	4,782.4	1,768.3	1,706.4	9.8	11,782.9	6,990.7	4,792.2
2020								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total	TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Greentree Landfill	0.0	7,021.5	257.5	86.9	34.6	7,400.5	344.4	7,056.1
Imperial Landfill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	56.8	56.8	0.0	56.8
Joseph J Brunner Inc	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.2	0.0	2.2
Lake View Landfill	0.0	27.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.6	0.0	27.6
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	2,998.9	3,129.4	0.0	200.8	0.0	6,329.1	3,199.7	3,129.4
Seneca Landfill	7.9	937.9	1,398.1	374.2	0.0	2,718.1	1,780.2	937.9
	3,006.8	11,116.4	1,655.6	661.9	93.6	16,534.3	5,324.3	11,210.0

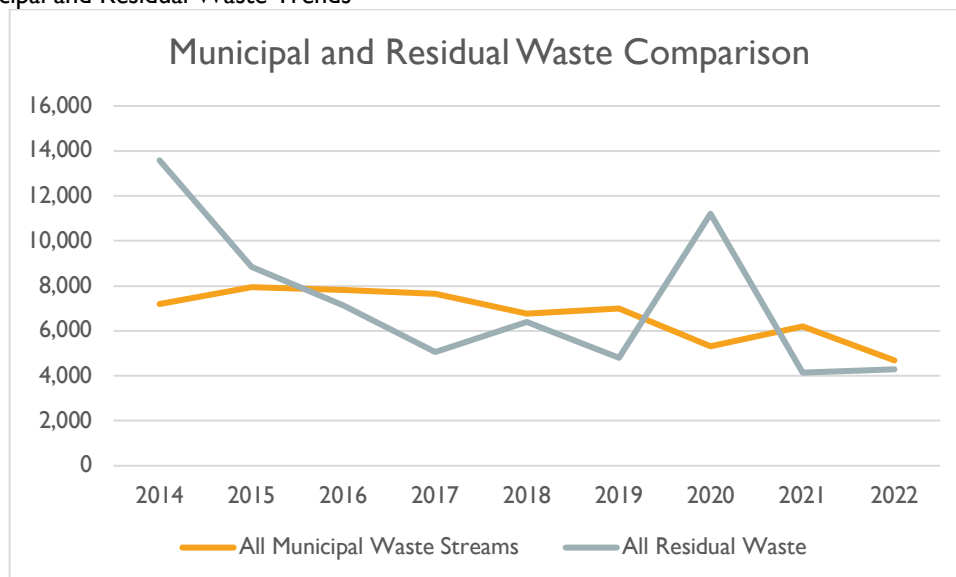
2021								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total	TOTAL MSW	TOTAL RESIDUAL
Greentree Landfill	5.2	487.9	180.5	0.0	0.0	673.6	185.7	487.9
Imperial Landfill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1	8.1	0.0	8.1
McKean Landfill	0.0	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.6	0.0	10.6
LCSWMA Resource Facility	0.0	11.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.6	0.0	11.6
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	2,758.3	2,779.3	1,719.1	164.8	0.0	7,421.5	4,642.2	2,779.3
Seneca Landfill	13.2	844.6	1,235.4	130.5	0.0	2,223.7	1,379.1	844.6
	2,776.7	4,134.0	3,135.0	295.3	8.1	10,349.1	6,207.0	4,142.1
2022								
Disposal Facility	Municipal	Residual	Sewage Sludge	Construction	Asbestos	Total		
Greentree Landfill	0.0	342.5	93.2	0.0	0.0	435.7	93.2	342.5
Imperial Landfill	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	3.7	0.0
Wayne Township Landfill	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
LCSWMA Resource Facility	0.0	80.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	80.0	0.0	80.0
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	2,306.9	2,553.1	193.9	263.5	468.0	5,785.4	2,764.3	3,021.1
Seneca Landfill	34.6	848.9	1,106.0	684.2	0.0	2,673.7	1,824.8	848.9
Valley Landfill	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
	2,345.2	3,824.8	1,393.1	947.7	468.0	8,978.8	4,686.0	4,292.8

IMPACT OF RESIDUAL WASTE DISPOSAL

In addition to municipal waste generated in homes, institutions, and other commercial establishments, manufacturers and other industrial concerns in Venango County generate residual waste. Although the County's industrial economic base is not as robust as in the past, a number of fabricators and other metal manufacturers operate there. More landfills manage Venango County's residual waste than report accepting its municipal. The manner in which it is transported and the regulatory requirements that dictate whether the residual waste is acceptable for disposal in a municipal waste landfill largely affect that decision.

Figure 2- I illustrates the ratio of all types of reported residual to and all categories of municipal waste in Venango County. Of course, the reporting has skewed the results to some degree. Nevertheless, one can see that municipal waste tends to be more consistent and stable impacted mostly by population. On the other hand, residual waste is subject to peaks and valleys influenced by market demands and other economic circumstances.

Figure 2-I Municipal and Residual Waste Trends



Comments and Observations

The majority of Venango County residents and businesses respect the environment and strive to handle their waste properly. The number of waste collection and disposal companies, which successfully operate within the boundaries of the County, provide strong evidence there is a need and demand for their services. In accordance with the Transporters Ordinance, some private sector contractors have expanded their service offerings to make curbside collection of waste, bulk items, and recycling more convenient and affordable.

Unfortunately, there are still some significant gaps in the system. In spite of an adequate network for collection, transportation, and disposal, some citizens of Venango County remain reluctant to utilize (i.e. pay for) these services. There is still illegal dumping, burning, and accumulation of waste. Evidence of the root cause of these undesirable behaviors exists along with preventative measures which can be enlisted to thwart them. Enforcement is hampered by lack of staffing, resources, and the willingness of local magistrates to prosecute infractions.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) agreed that the County and municipalities must do more than react to illegal dumping. Local municipalities have the statutory authority and responsibility to monitor and address waste management and recycling issues in their jurisdictions. Emphasis was placed on the need for municipalities to revisit local ordinances governing property maintenance, zoning, solid waste, and open burning to ensure that their requirements in all of the laws and regulations are consistent and that deterrents to non-compliance are substantial.

Throughout the planning process the validity of certain figures and reported data were questioned. The concern was that in the past misinformation may have hampered the County in making the best decisions for its solid waste and recycling programs. Revisions to the reported data based on historical evidence and national trends are discussed in Chapter 3. The revised figures are utilized to project future needs.

Chapter 3

Disposal & Processing Needs

Future Projections

Projecting future disposal needs for Venango County is the next step in the planning process. Estimates are based on the County's disposal trends established from the historic data, possible future changes in the rate of municipal solid waste generated per capita, and projected changes in population. This chapter presents Venango County's decision and justification to solicit for added capacity and includes a discussion of how municipal waste generation, recovery and disposal rates were determined and used to project the capacity requirement for the County through the next decade.



The Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act (Act 101 of 1988) requires Pennsylvania counties to secure disposal capacity for waste generated within their jurisdictional boundaries. Capacity guarantees are to provide for a 10-year span.

During the last update and revision to the Plan, Venango County entered into disposal capacity agreements with numerous disposal facilities. These contracts are set to expire beginning in 2024.

FUTURE DISPOSAL CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS

A review of Venango County's current and historical disposal practices was conducted in 2023. Deficiencies and abnormalities were discovered in the reported information. Based on the modified disposal data, along with published population projections, and national surveys the capacity required by the County for the next ten years was calculated. The impact of recycling efforts was also factored into the projections. The capacity projections were compared to current market conditions and issues that could affect the consumption and availability of capacity. Disposal of residual and/or out-of-state waste at the facilities used by Venango County was reviewed. The process showed no immediate capacity deficits. The pending expiration of the existing agreements in 2024, however, along with recent closures and public opposition to permit renewals for landfills in other areas of the state were sufficient reasons to solicit for capacity as part of the current planning process.

Using Historical Trends and Data to Establish a Baseline

Generally speaking, the bulk of Venango County's municipal waste historically has been disposed of at three landfills. These include County Landfill in Clarion County (currently closed), Northwest Sanitary Landfill and Seneca Landfill both in Butler County. Historic landfill reports show that MSW disposal peaked in 2000 at approximately, 38,000 tons. County Landfill reported the highest tonnage received from Venango County at approximately 24,000 tons, followed by Seneca Landfill at approximately 9,400 tons and Northwest at 5,000 tons. Waste was transported directly to County Landfill and Northwest for disposal. Waste disposed at Seneca Landfill was managed through a transfer station.

The proportionate distribution of waste amongst the landfills until 2008 remained relatively constant although the total tons fluctuated. The shifts in tons seem to follow market conditions at the time and were influenced by which transporter had contractual arrangements with municipalities. The reported tonnages varied with 32,000 tons per year being the approximate mid-range.

Venango's disposal rate exceeded the USEPA disposal rate, which at the time was .50 tons per person per year. However, based on the contemporary population and

considering there were minimal recycling opportunities, the higher than average data rate of disposal would be considered perfectly normal.

Beginning in 2000, and occurring rapidly in the years following, circumstances changed for Venango County. First the Pennzoil Refinery along with its affiliate businesses closed leaving thousands of people unemployed. As if this blow was not catastrophic enough, shortly thereafter, the Joy Mining Manufacturing plant also closed. During this same time frame, County Landfill accepted lesser and lesser amounts of waste until final closure. With the two major employers gone, the support businesses to these industries began failing. The mass exodus of unemployed families was unprecedented. People throughout the region were affected by the local economic conditions. Therefore, people literally abandoned their homes because there were no buyers.

The population decreased by 13% since 2000. Consequently, one would expect the amount of waste disposed to decrease too. While this did occur, the decrease in the reported tons of Venango County waste disposed exceeds the impact of the population decline. The waste previously reported by County Landfill was never incorporated into the reports of the other two landfills as one might expect. Northwest Landfill's reported tonnage remained relatively constant. On the other hand, Seneca Landfill has reported fewer and fewer tons since 2008. Today the combined total reported for Venango County is approximately 2,300 tons per year.

Because the current data for MSW is obviously inaccurate it cannot be averaged to determine a disposal rate. However, because the County's previously reported data did resemble the national disposal data combined with the lack of recycling, it is logical to fall back on the national expectations to calculate Venango County's baseline and future projections.

Projections

This section presents the estimated future disposal capacity required for Venango County. It is based on current reported disposal quantities with some adjustments made to correct for suspected reporting errors. The projections allow for possible future changes in the rate of MSW generated per capita, and projected changes in population.

Population.

The Pennsylvania State Data Center at the Pennsylvania State University recently released State and county population projections for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Presented below in Table 2-1 are county totals from the 2020 Census and projections for 2020 to 2050. Population was extrapolated based on the projected rate of change from 2020 to 2035.

Table 2-1 Venango County Population Projections 2020-2050

		Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	% Change	% Change	% Change
	Census 2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2020- 2025	2025- 2030	2030- 2035
Venango County	50,354	49,781	49,092	48,223	47,158	46,008	45,041	-1.14	-1.38	-1.77

Source: Pennsylvania State Data Center

Determining Generation, Recovery, and Disposal Rates

Using the 2022 population, 49,777 (U.S. Census Bureau Vintage Estimates Modified March 30, 2023) and the USEPA rate of 4.9 pounds per person per day, Venango would be expected to generate 42,963 tons per year. At 1.88 pounds per person per day, it would be expected to recover 17,078 tons per year. Venango only recovered 4,682 tons, 0.09 tons per person per year or 0.51 pounds per person per day. Since Venango has good reporting cooperation from recyclers, one could assume that the remaining 12,396 tons are not missing from the reported data but were disposed. That would make the baseline MSW disposal capacity tonnage 38,280, which is 0.76 tons per person per year or 4.21 pounds per person per day. Subsequently, the estimated MSW generation rate for Venango County would be 0.85 tons per person per year or 4.72 pounds per person per day.

The reported data for sewage sludge and construction demolition waste did not indicate the obvious discrepancies seen in the reported MSW. Therefore, the projections for these waste streams were calculated using the average reported disposal for sewage sludge (1,963) and construction demolition (1,580), and for consistency, the average

population for the years 2014 through 2022 (51,391) for a rate for sewage sludge of 0.04 tons per person per year and for construction demolition, 0.03 tons per person per year.

Table 2-2 shows the projected capacity requirements 2024-2035.

Table 2-2 Projected Disposal Capacity Needs 2024-2035

	Population	MSW	Sludge	C&D	TOTAL
2024	49,894	37,919	1,996	1,497	41,412
2025	49,781	37,834	1,991	1,493	41,318
2026	49,644	37,729	1,986	1,489	41,205
2027	49,507	37,625	1,980	1,485	41,091
2028	49,370	37,521	1,975	1,481	40,977
2029	49,234	37,418	1,969	1,477	40,864
2030	49,092	37,310	1,964	1,473	40,746
2031	48,918	37,178	1,957	1,468	40,602
2032	48,745	37,046	1,950	1,462	40,458
2033	48,572	36,915	1,943	1,457	40,315
2034	48,400	36,784	1,936	1,452	40,172
2035	48,223	36,649	1,929	1,447	40,025

Procurement Process

Solicitation of Proposals

Venango County issued a formal Request for Proposals for Disposal Capacity. The request was posted in the Pennsylvania Bulletin and published in the digital version of Waste Advantage Magazine, a national trade journal. Industry trade organizations were asked to distribute the solicitation to their membership. Organizations with facilities that have historically accepted waste from Venango County were alerted regarding the issuance of the RFP. These combined efforts assured facilities located both within and out of the state would be informed of the County's request. The Solicitation and the actual Request for Proposals are included in Appendix A.

Review and Evaluation

The proposals were examined and reviewed to determine compliance with the submission criteria. Any minor deficiencies and/or questions in a proposal that may have been noted during the review have been resolved. The results of the review and the recommendations are included in Chapter 6.

Chapter 4

Venango County Recycling

Programs and Performance

In Venango County, efforts at the county and municipal government levels are necessary to achieve the desired recycling goals of the state. In addition, private sector investments ensure the availability of services to residents and businesses. Chapter 4 provides a record of the collective recycling achievements. It includes a description of various programs and a snapshot of recent performance. In addition, it suggests improvements and enhancements to current practices. Based on discussions and investigations that occurred during the planning process, the progression of programs and phasing in the recovery of additional materials are also presented.



The Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act (Act 101 of 1988) was a milestone piece of legislation that established a framework for residential, commercial, and institutional recycling in Pennsylvania. To facilitate the growth and development of a recycling infrastructure, the Act also provided a source of funding to local governments which although limited, is still essential to rural areas with lesser resources.

Both Venango County and various municipalities have benefited from Act 101 grant funding for equipment and to subsidize special collection programs. This chapter highlights the different roles of local government. It also illustrates the need for cooperation with the private sector to advance the long term sustainability of programs and services beyond the capabilities of local government.

Recent Recycling Performance

Despite its rural nature, Venango County has experienced both curbside and drop-off recycling opportunities for decades. Transporters in Venango County are required to make recycling available to their customers. However, there is no requirement for the customer to participate. Drop-off recycling collection is an alternative. These outlets are not available in every municipality, however, because the major collection point is located near the greatest population clusters and along a major roadway, it is safe to conclude that dedicated recyclers have access to legitimate recycling depositories.

Table 4-1 shows the total tons of municipal solid waste materials reported as recycled from residential and commercial sources from 2020 through 2024. It also shows the five year average for each source and combined.

Table 4-1 Total Reported Tons per Year by Source

SOURCES	YEAR	TONS PER YEAR
RESIDENTIAL	2020	2,203
	2021	2,598
	2022	2,035
	2023	2,386
	2024	2,262
FIVE YEAR AVERAGE		2,299
COMMERCIAL	2020	3,303
	2021	3,451
	2022	3,646
	2023	4,036
	2024	4,041
FIVE YEAR AVERAGE		4,027
COMBINED FIVE YEAR AVERAGE		6,326

As discussed in Chapter 1, the reported per capita rate of recovery in Venango County is lower than the national norm. Therefore, when one looks at the total reported activity for each year the expectation is that there is room for improvement. In fact, based on population alone, and taking no other constraints into consideration, if Venango County were to recover material at the same pace as the national norm, an additional 13,000 might be recycled. In reality, there are constraints, such as low housing density, distance to the commodity markets and of course, financial support. Nevertheless, the comparative data shows us that material remains in the Venango County municipal waste stream that could be recycled even if the improved recovery rate would remain lower than the national expectations.

What Are We Recycling?

Table 4-2 illustrates the annual tonnages of specific Act 101 designated recycled materials reported in Venango County from residential and commercial sources. Because much of the recycling in the County is managed in the single stream method in which all items (bottles, cans, plastics, paper and cardboard) are collected and transported mixed together, it is difficult to isolate precise weights of specific items. However, the proportions of materials from the national estimates could be used for projection purposes. Alternatively, a waste composition study could be conducted, but at considerable expense.

Table 4-3 shows the remainder of materials recovered from the municipal waste stream. Many of these recycled materials are recovered through special outlets and collection events rather than curbside or commercial containerized collection

Like most rural counties, Venango County falls short of the 35% statewide recycling goal established by PADEP. However, as illustrated in this Chapter, the County has undertaken recent efforts to boost its performance and expand recycling opportunities. More importantly, the County seeks to do this in a sustainable fashion, which will take time to fully flourish .

It should be noted that many other items are recycled in Venango County. These include scrap metals, automotive parts, and manufacturing residuals. They are not shown here because they come from industrial sources and are not recovered from municipal waste. Therefore, they are not considered part of the County's program or collection system.

What Could We Be Recycling?

If Venango County is to improve its recycling performance, it's crucial to understand not only what materials it already recovers, but also how much of those materials are currently recovered compared to what is available. For instance, based on national norms Venango County is expected to generate 42,963 tons of municipal waste per year using the population and the rate of 4.90 pounds per person per day. Also using national statistics, approximately 23%, roughly 10,000 tons of the material generated would be paper and paper board. Overall, the nation recovers approximately 68 percent of all of the paper and paperboard generated. In Venango County, that would mean there is a potential to collect an estimated 6,800 tons per year.

Cardboard has traditionally been recovered at a much higher rate from commercial sources, well over 80 percent. However, due to the popularity of online shopping, cardboard is generated by residential sources in much greater quantities than ever before. In fact, if it hasn't already, cardboard from residences is expected to exceed the tons from commercial establishments. Unfortunately, residential recycling programs are not always set up to deal with cardboard. Additionally, in rural areas, many find it more convenient to manage cardboard by burning it. Therefore, large quantities of cardboard, which were once recycled, are likely being disposed. It's reasonable to suspect that these same conditions exist in Venango County.



Cardboard and paper were selected as the best materials to launch collections at the Community Recycling Center due to their availability and resale value.

However, even if one were to assume that 68 percent of the single stream material is paper and paperboard, and then combine that with the source separated tonnages of these materials, the overall reported data falls significantly short of what is expected to be in the municipal waste generated in the County.

The Venango County Community Recycling Center was established on the premise of targeting select materials. These included materials easiest to separate and render clean processed bales. Additionally, materials with traditionally well-known resale values were also considered. Based on the available quantities and the market value, Cardboard and paper in general, were selected as the best options to launch collection operations. By segregating cardboard from single stream collection, the material provides the Center with revenue to support the operation and conduct other services.

Since none of the items reported meet or exceed the anticipated tonnages, this same approach could be applied to any of the reported materials using the known and anticipated quantities in a comparative analysis. As the facility grows and more space is constructed, this exercise could be beneficial in determining how to phase in the collection of each item and make the best use of space.

Table 4-2 Reported Data for Common Act 101 Recycled Materials

		SINGLE STREAM	COMMINGLED	Mixed Glass	Cardboard	Mixed Paper	High Grade Office Paper	Plastics	Aluminum Cans	Steel and Bimetallic (Tin) Cans
<i>RESIDENTIAL</i>										
	2020	778	5						1	1
	2021	986	5						1	1
	2022	928	5						1	1
	2023	881	9		22					
	2024	866	10		22					
	<i>AVERAGE PER YEAR</i>	888	7	448	22				1	1
<i>COMMERCIAL</i>										
	2020	143	192		1,797	7	152	31	0	3
	2021	136	681		1,769	4	341	35	0	1
	2022	379	235		2,073	218	344	45	0	0
	2023	415	65		2,158	311	638	69	0	
	2024	159	68	1	1,957	863	513	75	10	0
	<i>AVERAGE PER YEAR</i>	246	248	1	1,951	281	398	51	2	1
	<i>COMBINED AVERAGE</i>	1,134	255	448	1,973	281	398	51	3	2

Table 4-3 Reported Data for Other Materials Commonly Recycled from Municipal Waste

		White goods	Consumer Electronics	Rubber Tires	Source Separated Foods	Donated Food	Wood Waste	Yard and Leaf Waste
RESIDENTIAL								
	2020							1,419
	2021		21	5				1,579
	2022		13	20				1,068
	2023		24	18				1,432
	2024		22	23				1,320
AVERAGE PER YEAR			20	16				1,364
COMMERCIAL								
	2020	13	5		95		729	115
	2021	12	0		126		346	
	2022		14	57	109		163	9
	2023		24	58	129		162	7
	2024		16	59	111	1	208	
AVERAGE PER YEAR		12	12	58	114	1	322	43
COMBINED AVERAGE		12	32	74	114	1	322	1,407

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND EXPECTATIONS

In Pennsylvania, in many aspects of local government, the roles and responsibilities for counties and municipalities differ significantly. The same is true when it comes municipal waste management.. Both the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act (Act 101) and Pennsylvania Municipal Code provide varying degrees of statutory authority for each level of government.

The Act directs counties to develop local ordinances and enforcement policies for proper waste management, which can include recycling at the county's discretion. On the other hand, the law specifically includes mandates for recycling that fall upon municipalities with populations of 10,000 or more, and those with populations of 5,000 or more with a population density of greater than 300 people per square mile. The Act requires these communities to implement mandatory residential curbside collection programs for recyclables and leaf waste. The municipality must also have mechanisms to ensure that commercial, institutional, and government establishments recycle and manage leaf waste accordingly. In addition to the original requirements, mandated communities are subject to recent amendments to the Act resulting from the provisions of Act 140.

To ensure compliance by residents and businesses, municipalities meeting the criteria are required to pass ordinances that mandate waste and recycling collection. Certain services and standards for collection frequency are required. Figure 4-1 lists the requirements for Act 101 mandated municipalities.

The Act allows municipalities choices in how these services can be provided. Municipal employees and equipment can be used to perform the collections or communities can enter into contracts with an outside service provider for these functions. To meet the Act 101 requirements, the PADEP has condoned private subscription service in which homeowner's contract directly with the service provider of their choice, provided that the municipality has a strong monitoring and enforcement program in place.

Provisions of the Act are inclusive of commercial, institutional, and municipal establishments, which are located in mandated municipalities. These entities must recycle and separate leaf waste for composting. The municipality is not required to

ensure the service to commercial establishments; however, they are expected to enforce the mandate.

Figure 4-1 Act 101 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.

Mandated Municipalities

PADEP uses the initial population data reported by the USA Census Bureau for the 2020 decennial census. Based on that data only two Venango County communities meet the Act 101 population and density criteria, triggering the mandates of the law shown previously in Table 4-1. They are the Cities of Franklin and Oil City.

Through a competitive bidding process, each city secures a contract with a private service provider. Curbside recycling is provided in conjunction with the contractor's waste collection services. Participation (i.e. payment for services) by local residents is mandatory.

In the City of Franklin, residents are permitted to put up to one 96 gallon container of waste at the curb each week for collection and disposal or use carts available from the service provider. There are limited restrictions on the number of bulk items.

Recyclables are collected in what is commonly called a single stream system. Carts are provided to each residence. All glass, aluminum, bi-metal, food and beverage containers, and all types of

plastic, magazines, newspapers, and cardboard are placed together in the carts. Recycling is provided weekly, however, not on the same day as waste collection.

Oil City also limits waste collection and disposal to two containers per home per week, or the volume equivalent of 90 gallons or 12 32-gallon bags. Each home is also permitted to dispose of one large/bulky item per week. Like Franklin, Oil City utilizes a single stream recycling collection system in which all recyclables are placed together in one single container. Residents must recycle glass, aluminum, bi-metal, and #1 & 2 plastic containers, high grade office paper, cardboard, and newsprint. In Oil City recycling is collected the same day as



waste every week.

Public works crews in each municipality provide seasonal leaf waste collection to residential housing units. Leaves may be raked to the curb or placed in biodegradable bags for collection.

Mandated Commercial Recycling

In addition to residential recycling collection, Franklin and Oil City require commercial establishments by ordinance to source separate recyclables from municipal waste. These businesses must provide for the collection and processing of the material with the service provider of their choice.

Space constraints for outside recycling containers can be limited in urban settings. Likewise, businesses are often resistance to the added cost of the recycling service. Therefore, enforcement can be an ongoing challenge.



Voluntary Municipal Recycling

In the remainder of the County's municipalities, recycling is voluntary. Prior to the development of the 2014 Venango County Municipal Solid Waste

Management Plan, there were numerous municipal recycling drop-off collection sites throughout the County. As municipalities' closed these locations, residents were given the opportunity to subscribe to a curbside recycling program. Based on recommendations made by the 2014 SWAC the County adopted the County Municipal Solid Waste And Recycling Transporters Ordinance.

The ordinance requires all transporters who collect municipal waste from residential sources to offer to their customers the collection of recyclables included and bundled in the price of the municipal waste collection service. No discounts or rebates are offered to customers who do not use the recycling collection services. Transporters are also required to register and submit reports to the County on these recycling activities. A copy of the ordinance is included in Appendix C

Because waste collection is not arranged for by the nonmandated municipalities residents may voluntarily contract with the waste hauler of their choice. Consequently, many have no service provider at all. So, while transporters make recycling collection available, there is no requirement for residents to participate.

Nonmandated Commercial Recycling

The ordinance does not require transporters to offer recycling collection to their commercial accounts. This is because many commercial establishments utilize separate waste and recycling service providers. It is not unusual for large commercial establishments to process and sell their recycling commodities directly to brokers. Although services are available in more remote locations of the County, due to the lack of route density, the costs are higher than in urban areas. When recycling is a voluntary option, the immediate costs may be considered prohibitive by some business owners. Ironically, if more businesses opted to recycle in a geographic area, prices would be lower.

Despite the voluntary nature, reports show that commercial establishments in Venango County municipalities, which are not mandated by Act 101, do recycle. These include retail stores, restaurants, offices, schools, institutions, and government facilities. It is suspected that more commercial recycling occurs than what has been reported. The County intends to improve its implementation of the Transporter Registration process in hopes of capturing better data in the future.

County Sponsored Recycling Programs

Unlike municipalities, under the provisions of Act 101, counties have a more indirect responsibility for recycling. Rather, counties are largely responsible for ensuring that proper waste management policies and practices are developed and implemented. Consequently, the development of a municipal solid waste management plan is focused on providing for sufficient disposal capacity for the municipal solid waste generated in the jurisdiction.

There are no directives in the Act for counties to implement recycling programs. Collection and processing operations conducted by counties are done so on a purely voluntary basis. Counties, however, do have administrative assignments for reporting recycling activities. Additionally, counties are to assess the available recycling opportunities to determine if and how the county will contribute towards the state's

recycling goal. Act 101 provides counties with grant funding to support in part the salary and expenses of an individual to perform these duties and to facilitate the growth of recycling through the collective efforts of public and private sector stakeholders.

On behalf of Venango County, the Regional Planning Commission currently oversees a variety of services to local municipalities, businesses, and residents. These programs are all dependent on the availability of grants, user fees, and local taxes. The uncertainty in funding can make the ability to plan for and sustain such services difficult. However, Venango County has been able to offer quality programs that complement the efforts of the municipalities and leverage the resources of the private sector.

Development of the Venango County Community Recycling Center

One of the key components of the 2014 Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan was the *Recycling and Special Collections Initiative*. It targeted three goals: 1) Minimize the incidents of illegal dumping, 2) Provide a convenient outlet for electronic discards, bulky items, appliances, and HHW, 3) Reduce

77

VenangoWorks!

VENANGO AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 17 ISSUE 8
AUGUST 2021

County Opens New Recycling Center

In June of 2019, we included an article in *VenangoWorks!* about the search for a location in Venango County for a recycling center. On Friday, July 16, we were excited to join local officials, county employees and a representative from the Department of Environmental Protection for an open house and ribbon cutting for the new Venango County Community Recycling Center at the Venango Regional Airport, hosted by the County and the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Recycling Center is located at the site which served as the CATA bus garage. CATA has moved its fleet to the new multimodal transportation hub in downtown Oil City.

"This recycling center is a great addition to the community and a great service to residents of Venango County, especially to people moving back to the area who are used to having recycling available," said Erik Johnson, the county's recycling coordinator.

Johnson has been working on this project for six years, a center that will provide a drop off for household recycling items such as plastic, paper, cans and cardboard. Glass is accepted at the center, but it will be used for landfill cover and not recycled at this point in time.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronic are accepted every Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment only. This includes paints, household cleaners/chemicals, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, tv's, computers, dehumidifiers, etc. For more information or to register for drop of this material, go to ECSR.net or call 814-425-7773.

The center will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for special collections, Johnson said. He added that HHW/Electronic collections will also be held once a month on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pre-registration is required for these events as well.

For additional information on materials accepted, schedule for monthly collection events or the Recycling Center in general, please visit co.venango.pa.us/278/Recycling or call (814) 432-9684.



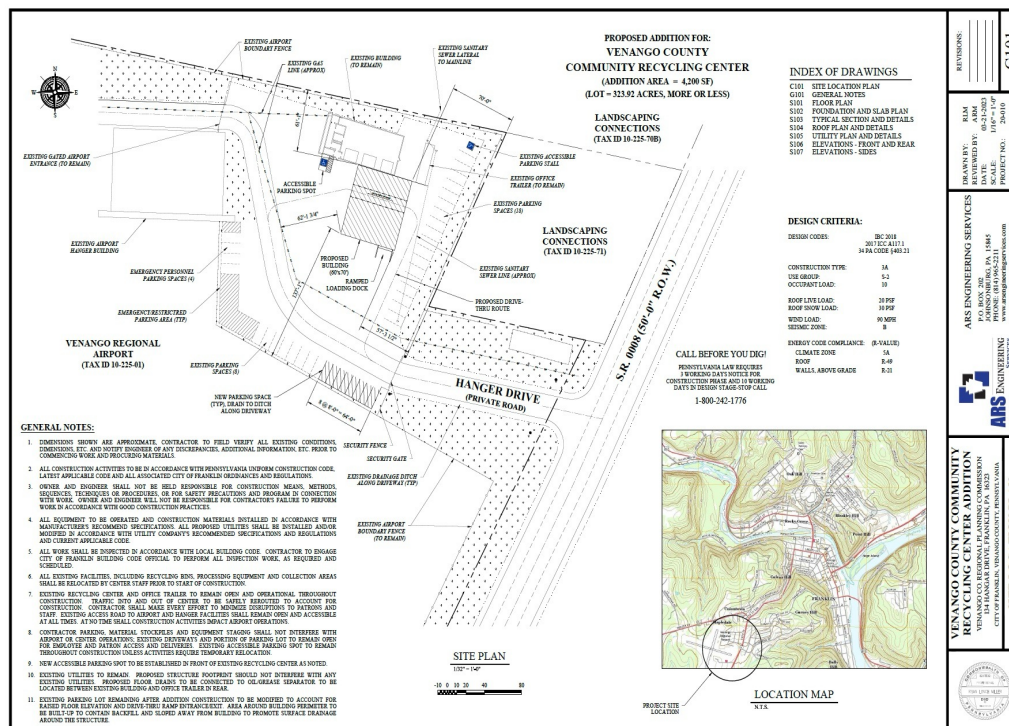

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contamination in drop-off recycling materials. Part of the recommendation was to provide a permanent and consumer friendly outlet for discarded electronics, tires, bulky waste and appliances. More importantly, the purpose was to shift away from unmanned drop-off collection points to reduce contamination and improve the quality of materials.

Site Selection

In 2019 the Regional Planning Commission and Nestor Resources, Inc. began to explore the suitability of available properties within the County to establish a Recycling Center. Numerous properties were evaluated. Local municipal waste and recycling ordinances, along with zoning requirements were key factors considered in the selection process. Each site was assessed based on professional experience with other operations and commonly known features that promote safety, participation, and productivity. Public access and convenience were key considerations.

Figure 4-2 Community Recycling Center Site Plan



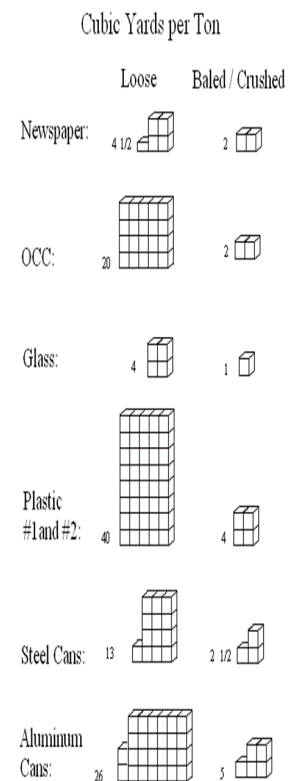
Most of the candidate properties were Brownfield Industrial sites. One was a former retail operation and one was publicly owned. After weighing the positive features and potential concerns, the former Airport Bus Depot, a public facility was chosen. Although the property required several

modifications, it had many immediate attractions. First, utilizing publicly owned land and/or buildings avoids having to establish host agreements and costly leases. In addition, any improvements to the property benefit the local government. Second, the property sits along a locally well-traveled roadway with convenient access to Interstate 80 to facilitate marketing and shipment of commodities. Figure 4-2 shows the site plan of the Center once the expansion is completed.

Figure 4-3 Storage Capacity for Recycled Commodities

Storage Space by Material for Full Truckload Shipped

Material	Row Width*	Row Length**	Number of Stacked Bales per Footprint	Number of Bales per Full Truckload
Newspaper	12 feet	21 feet	10 bales/4 high	40
Corrugated Cardboard	15 feet	21 feet	15 bales/4 high	60
Office Paper	12 feet	21 feet	10 bales/4 high	40
Magazines	12 feet	21 feet	15 bales/2 high	30
Books	24 feet	21 feet	20 Gaylords/2 high	40
Mixed Paper	9 feet	21 feet	10 bales/4 high	40
#1 Plastic (PET)	6 feet	15 feet	8 bales/4 high	32
#2 Plastic Colored	3 feet	15 feet	4 bales/4 high	16
#2 Plastic Natural	3 feet	15 feet	4 bales/4 high	16
	*Allow approximately 4 feet between materials	**Allow approximately 12 feet wide corridor for loading equipment		



Size and Volume

The location was not without complications. As the facility sits adjacent to the Regional Airport, additional clearances were necessary prior to commencing construction of a planned expansion. Despite obtaining grant funding for the project, delays in attaining the required documents thwarted the scheduled construction plans in 2023-2024. In addition, post COVID pricing exceeded the original cost estimates making the available grant funds insufficient to support construction. Those funds were subsequently used

for processing equipment which will be used in the operation. The County intends to submit a new funding request in the next grant round in which they are eligible.

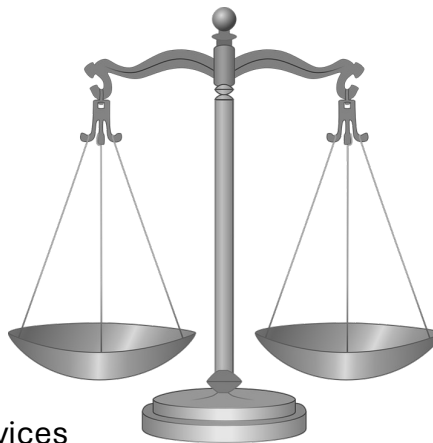
Ironically, low volume recycling operations often require a larger facility due to logistical constraints. Brokers can be unwilling to transport materials that do not constitute a full load. Therefore, greater storage capacity is required for holding materials until a sufficient number of bales have been accumulated to meet the criteria. Figure 4-3 illustrates the capacity required for unprocessed and processed materials.

Looking to the Future

The proposed modifications to the existing structure are crucial to allow for growth of the program. They will provide added receiving and storage. Additionally, it will offer the Center the ability to collect and process a greater variety of commodities. Finally, added space will offer opportunities for educational programs and special collections.

Moving Forward

- Track Processing Capabilities
- Available Manpower
- Equipment
- Types of material
- Volume of material
- Storage Space
- Commodity Prices
- Special handling collections/services



Chapter 5

Future Goals and Objectives

Proposed Actions and Justifications

Chapter 5 presents a summary of the priority municipal solid waste management issues identified by the Venango County Regional Planning Commission, the consultant, and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. It includes an action plan to address the issues, which incorporates efforts by the County, municipalities, other organizations, and the private sector.



The planning process for this version of the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan reviewed the goals and objectives and subsequent accomplishments of the previous update. Committee members, staff and consultant shared a combination of research findings, professional observations, and personal experience in presentations and conversations during the SWAC meetings. Priorities and approaches from the previous Plan were adjusted.

The same phenomenon could occur when the 2024 Plan Update is reviewed in future years.

Therefore, the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan is meant to be a fluid and dynamic policy document. It allows for shifts in the implementation timeline. Further investigations and studies to determine the feasibility of some of the suggestions could be warranted before definitive action is taken.

Targeted Course of Action

During the planning process, the SWAC evaluated the hurdles and opportunities available to sustain the County sponsored recycling programs. Following is a summary of the outcome of those discussions.

Growing the Community Recycling Center

Continued expansion and growth of the Venango County Community Recycling Center remains the number one priority in the 2024 Plan Update. A number of factors are needed to facilitate this objective. Although storage and processing space are essential, the structural improvements must be accompanied by other essential components. The most important of those are a sufficient workforce and reliable and consistent sources of materials.



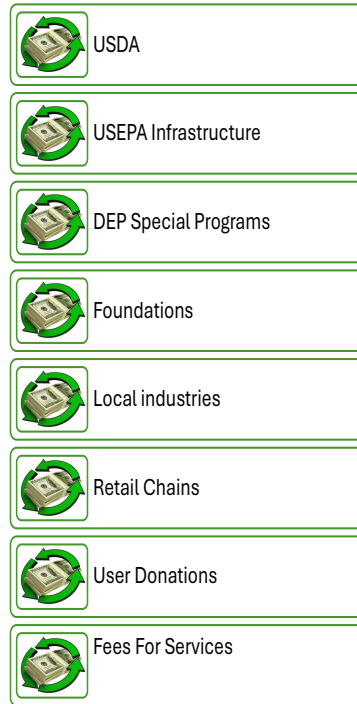
Top Priority Building Recycling Center Capacity

- Storage Space
- Loading Capabilities
- Volunteers & Workforce
- Processing Capabilities
- Reliable Sources of Acceptable Material
- Ability to Introduce New Materials
- Financial Support

Funding Opportunities

Proactively
Research
Availability of
Funding
Opportunities

Be Prepared with
An Inventory of
Needs and
Written
Justifications



Because the value of recycled commodities rarely cover the full costs of operating a recycling program, it will be important to seek outside sources of revenue. Additionally, to acquire the essential equipment and maintain the structure, the operation must stay aware of and be prepared to take advantage of grant and funding opportunities.

Supplement and Diversify the Workforce

Paid staff is normally one of the greatest expenditures for any operation. To survive, labor will need to include volunteers along with paid staff of full and part time employees.

Recruiting and maintaining volunteers is challenging. Therefore, it is important to actively create interest and support from within the community. Training

Launch a Master Recyclers Certification Program

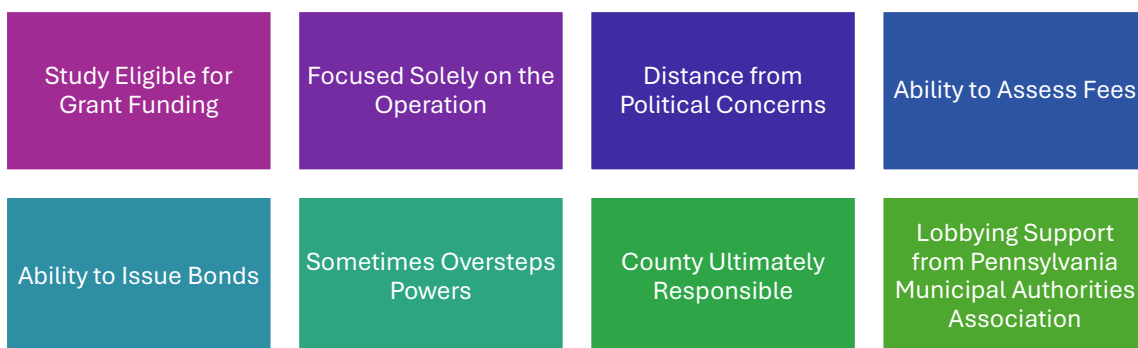


programs that include recognition and rewards can be highly effective. Participants can be encouraged to become ambassadors for the program and to assist with special events.

Organizational Restructuring

Changing administrations and other immediate expenditures of county government can present obstacles in long term financial planning for a recycling center. Therefore, many counties create a municipal solid waste authority to oversee the fiscal and physical operations. Establishing a municipal authority requires careful examination of the benefits and potential drawbacks. Because politics can often skew important decisions regarding municipal waste management, counties sometimes favor creation of an authority to allow for independent actions such as financial management and assessment of fees. During the period of the Plan Update, the County should consider a feasibility study to determine if the municipal solid waste and recycling program could be better managed and improved by creating a municipal solid waste authority and delegating to it the County's responsibilities under Act 101.

Determine Feasibility of a Solid Waste Authority



Cultivate Private Hauler and Business Use of the Center

Commercial haulers in Venango County are required to offer recycling to their residential customers. Although it has limited capacity presently, the Community Recycling Center will eventually provide a convenient and logical outlet for the materials collected by haulers who do not operate their own recycling operations. It also offers commercial businesses and industries who have difficulty with limited space for recycling containers, or no access to commercial collection, a place to recycle cardboard. The extra material provides much needed revenue to fund the operation. Upon expansion, the Center will also be able to accept other paper and plastics.

The Center will need to conduct ongoing outreach campaigns to make the business community aware of this service.



Public/Private Partnerships

- Incentivize small private transporters to bring clean materials to the center
- Provides justification for transporter ordinance
- Continue to utilize private sector vendors for collection services
- Inform local industries of service capabilities

Elementary and Secondary School Participation

Enhance school recycling programs and education.

Launch with Internal Materials

Could Expand to Allow for Student Family Use

Focus on One Material Initially

Coordinate Acquisition of Equipment

Schools Cover Collection Costs

Assist in material diversion as capacity and center expands.



Schools serve as a solid training ground to promote good environmental behaviors. Lessons learned can last a lifetime. One of the best ways to instill a conservation and recycling mindset is through hands on recovery of material in the school setting. Whether this be in the classroom, lunchroom, or during school ,related activities, children see the results of their efforts. Competitions between classrooms, grades, or different districts can enhance the experience. Collections can also be expanded to families by locating drop-off containers on school properties which can only be accessed during controlled hours and conditions.

The Recycling Center could benefit from the cardboard and paper available from educational institutions. The County could help facilitate the acquisition of grant funded collection equipment.

Special Collections

Venango County already hosts periodic collection events for special handling materials. These events draw good participation, but the Recycling Center's staff and resources are limited. The outreach and services could be greater if, in conjunction with the County, municipal officials also hosted

Expand Collections for Special Handling Materials

Engage municipalities to consider hosting satellite events, etc.

Explore DEP's new battery education grant

Tires

Household Hazardous Waste

E-Waste

Lithium-Ion Batteries

Textiles

events in their local jurisdictions. Alternatively, municipalities with collection contracts can include residential HHW at your door services included in their bid specifications.

Collectively, to avoid fires and explosions, greater efforts need to be made to capture lithium ion batteries before they enter the waste and recycling containers.

Summary

Five distinct goals were established for the 2024 Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan Update and Revision. These recommendations were determined by examining the current status and performance of programs and services within the County. The actions suggested to attain the goals are straightforward and practical. Each allows for flexible approaches based on the availability of funding and other resources.

To the credit of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission the most significant recommendation of the previous Plan, establishment of the Community

Recycling Center, was accomplished. A few pertinent items remain unfinished. These have been retained and are incorporated into the current Plan Update along with new issues identified during the current planning process.

Considering that the Plan covers a ten-year period, the recommended actions will not all occur immediately, but will be staged to launch over several years. Priorities can be modified based on needs and other opportunities and unforeseen events. Some suggestions may require further study or consideration to determine feasibility and a reasonable course of action based on local resources.

Chapter 6

Capacity Assurances

Procurement and Designation Process

This chapter describes the process Venango County used to procure disposal and processing capacity. It outlines the criteria used to evaluate the proposals submitted from disposal and processing facilities. It identifies those designated to contract with Venango County for future capacity. Lastly, it discusses the factors impacting waste flow control and the County's decision regarding this policy.



The need for counties to secure sufficient disposal capacity to directly manage the volumes of municipal waste generated within their jurisdictions can be a concern. Places like Venango County, where no county owned disposal or processing facility currently operates, are more vulnerable to market fluctuations. Guaranteeing the availability of and access to future disposal outlets outweighs all other responsibilities delegated to counties by the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act

Capacity assurances are a primary component of Venango County's Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan. The process to acquire these agreements was designed to provide equal opportunities to Pennsylvania disposal and processing facilities as well as those located beyond the borders of the Commonwealth. In addition, the selection criteria were established to prevent discrimination against or favoritism to any facility or organization.

VIEWS ON FLOW CONTROL

Venango County traditionally utilizes some form of flow control as part of its overall municipal solid waste management scheme. During previous planning exercises the idea of the County owning and operating a disposal facility has been consistently rejected. Allowing for multiple disposal options continues to be considered more favorable. Some constraints are still imposed on haulers collecting Venango County municipal waste. A menu plan restricts haulers to use those sites that met the selection criteria and entered disposal agreements with Venango County.

Although government controls of any kind are rarely welcomed by businesses, tolerance for the menu system continues in Venango County because it has yet to conflict with the natural choices made by local transporters. Flow control to a sole facility, exclusive of all others, dictates the destination and the cost of disposal. In contrast, with numerous disposal options normal market conditions could prevail in Venango County. Factors such as price, proximity, convenience, access, and site conditions all influenced the flow of waste. In the menu plan, haulers could opt to use some of the facilities for economic reasons and others for convenience. In addition, vertical integration of collection and disposal operations, creation of new ventures, and expansion of business relationships could develop.

Waste management is an industry in constant change. Mergers and acquisitions are common for hauling operations and disposal facilities. Just as some companies disappear, other small independent operations enter the market. The desire of companies with an investment in both collection and disposal operations to direct waste to their own facilities is understandable. Equally within reason, is for an independent transporter to seek out the disposal option that provides the best competitive advantage. Therefore, at any given time a noticeable, but explainable shift in waste flow can occur. In the menu system, as companies grow, there is freedom to redistribute and redirect routes to new disposal sites.

Venango County continues to favor a modified waste flow control scheme. The reasons to maintain the system seem equally justifiable in 2024, as in 1990. The scheme utilizes an ordinance and reporting process to ensure compliance. Disposal options are limited, to those qualified facilities that have accepted the terms and conditions of the disposal capacity agreement. An adequate array of disposal destinations is within reach by direct, transfer and long-haul transport. To accommodate future needs, provisions and mechanisms were devised to add more facilities when appropriate during implementation of the Plan.

FAIR, OPEN, AND COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Act 101 requires counties to conduct a fair, open, and competitive process to secure disposal capacity guarantees. Based on guidance from PADEP and references from numerous court rulings, a variety of methods to secure disposal capacity are available for counties to satisfy the requirement. Venango County concluded that a Request for Proposals was the most prudent way to ensure all facilities and disposal processes were given equal consideration and opportunity.

To alert facilities located both within and out of the state, the request was posted in the Pennsylvania Bulletin and published in Waste Advantage, a national trade journal. Industry trade organizations were asked to distribute the solicitation to their membership. Finally, organizations with facilities that have historically accepted waste from Venango County were made aware of the RFP.

The solicitation and the Request for Proposals make it clear that the Venango Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan uses a modified flow control mechanism to limit disposal of Venango County municipal solid waste to designated landfills. Venango implements a Menu Plan in which waste generated within the County may be disposed at any landfill entering an agreement that guarantees disposal capacity. Therefore, the capacity agreement comes with specific rights and privileges to accept the County's municipal solid waste under the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Request for Proposals established clearly defined proposal submission guidelines and content, to which all facilities were expected to adhere. Proposals were reviewed for administrative completeness and technical merit. The technical review process built in allowances for the County to request supplemental documentation or further clarifications as needed. The criteria represented a series of categories, each with established requirements. A description of each category, in no order of value or importance follows.

Operational Status And Remaining Capacity

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.

Financial Strength And Risk Assessment

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.

Facility Design And Operation

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 review considered the role of design components in the proposed facility and disposal process for pollution prevention and control, safety, operational efficiency, and energy production. These included but were not limited to; liner composition, leachate treatment, methane gas recovery, combustor units, boiler design, and capacity. The effectiveness of operational plans for waste acceptance, emergency management, and contingencies were also considered.

Industry Qualifications And Experience

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.

Regulatory Compliance

A review of the compliance history of the facility and its parent organization, when applicable, was included in the assessment. The severity and consistency of violations was noted. However, most important was the ability of the facility or operator to achieve resolution and disposition of any such incidents to the satisfaction of the prevailing regulatory agency.

Minimum And Maximum Allowable Disposal Requirements

The evaluation included the ability of the facility to accept all or some of the municipal solid waste generated by Venango 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 Venango County waste were considered disincentives to recycling and therefore objectionable to the County. It also clarifies that there are modified flow control mechanisms in the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Plan and that landfills entering capacity agreements are the only facilities designated with rights or privileges to dispose of Venango County municipal waste.

Maximum Gate Rates And Potential Cost To County

Competitive pricing, as a form of elimination or inclusion to enter capacity agreements was not part of the procurement criteria. However, transporters, municipalities, individuals, and businesses are provided with full disclosure of the potential cost of each available guaranteed disposal option. Facilities were required to submit a pricing matrix that established ceilings for the maximum fees, which would be charged for the contracted disposal capacity. 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 permitted facilities with capacity agreements remains a matter of choice for haulers throughout the 10-year period of the Plan. The maximum rates do not preclude the ability of parties to negotiate lower fees based on business relationships and other factors.

Proposals were invited for new or alternative disposal methods or technologies. A preliminary inquiry that would have required local government investment was received early in this solicitation process. No qualified 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.

REVIEW AND EVALUATION

The procurement process prompted responses from four organizations with ownership of one or more of the proposed facilities. The facilities that met the criteria will officially enter capacity agreements with Venango County.

During the review and evaluation process, any deficiencies and questions noted in the proposals were addressed with the facility. The results of the proposal evaluation are presented in five 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.

SECTION 1 CONTRACTORS, PROPOSED FACILITIES, LEGAL FORMALITIES

Site Name	Facility		Contacts		Administrative		Capacity Agreement	
	Owner	Site Location	Technical	Business	Organized and Formatted according to RFP Instructions	All Required Forms and Signatures	Agreed to Contract Terms and Conditions Exceptions or Comments	Requires Put or Pay or Minimum Tonnage
Arden Landfill	Waste Management	100 Ranges Lane Washington, PA 15301	Tom Pullett	Al Pasquarelli	YES	YES	YES	NO
Greentree Landfill	Noble Environmental, Inc.	635 Toby Road Kersey, PA 15846	Don Henrichs	Don Henrichs	YES	YES	YES	NO
Lakeview Landfill	Waste Management	851 Robison Road East Erie, PA 16509	Craig Hahlen	Al Pasquarelli	YES	YES	YES	NO
Laurel Highlands Landfill	Waste Management	260 Laurel Ridge Road, Johnstown, PA 15909	Ryan Czarnota	Al Pasquarelli	NO	YES	YES	NO
McKean Landfill	Casella Waste	19 Ness Lane Kane, PA 16735	Don Shontz	Larry Shilling	NO	YES	YES	NO
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	Waste Management	1436 West Sunbury Road West Sunbury, PA 16061	Craig Hahlen	Al Pasquarelli	NO	YES	YES	NO
Seneca Landfill	Vogel Holdings, Inc	421 Hartman Road, Evans city, PA 16033	Edward R. Vogel	Edward R. Vogel	YES	YES	YES	NO
Tri-County Landfill	Vogel Holdings, Inc	159 TCI Park Drive Grove City, PA 16127	Edward R. Vogel	Edward R. Vogel	YES	YES	YES	NO
Valley Landfill	Waste Management	6015 Pleasant Valley Road, Irwin, PA 15642	Tom Paulett	Al Pasquarelli	NO	YES	YES	NO
Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill	Noble Environmental, Inc.	900 Tyrol Blvd., Belle Vernon, PA 15012	Brad Minemeyer	Brad Minemeyer	YES	YES	YES	NO

SECTION 2 STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS, PERMIT STATUS AND CONDITIONS OF OPERATIONS

Facility	Local	Other Capacity Commitments	Permitted		Accessibility and Terms of Use		
Site Name	Host Agreements	County and Municipal Agreements	Permit # Issuing State Expiration Date	Remaining Permitted Capacity 2022	Current Constraints or Limitations	Operating Days Per Year	Operating Hours
Arden Landfill	Chartiers Township	Provided	PADEP #100172 5/12/2027	26,155,118 cyds	NONE	309	5:00am -4:30pm Monday-Friday 6:00am- noon Saturday
Greentree Landfill	Fox Township Elk County	Provided	PADEP 1013297 12/5/2028	27,736,410 cyds	NONE	265.5	7:00am -4:00pm Monday-Friday 7:00am- 11:00am Saturday
Lakeview Landfill	Summit Township Erie County	Provided	PADEP #100329 3/16/2030	14,534,106 cyds	NONE	260	7:00am -3:00pm Monday-Friday
Laurel Highlands	Jackson Township Cambria County	Provided	PADEP 101534 1/19/2028	24,826,789 cyds	NONE	254	7:00am -3:00pm Monday-Friday
McKean Landfill	Sergeant Township	Provided	PADEP #100361 1/20/2031	31.8 million cyds	NONE		5:00am -5:00pm Monday-Saturday 8:00am- 4:00a.m. Sunday

Northwest Sanitary Landfill	Clay Township Butler County	Provided	PADEP# 100585 3/26/2026	127,373 cyds	CLOSURE WITHIN TWO YEARS	260	6:00am -6:00 pm Monday-Friday 6:00am- noon Saturday
Seneca Landfill	Jackson Township Lancaster Township Butler County	Provided	PADEP 100403 1/8/2030	27,381,750 cyds	NONE	313	8:00am -3:00pm Monday-Friday 8:00am- 11:00am Saturday
Tri County Landfill	Pine & Liberty Townships In negotiations	None Yet	PADEP #101678 12/28/2030	5,725,000 cyds	CURRENTLY NOT IN FULL OPERATION	313	7:30 am -3:00pm Monday-Friday 7:30 am- 11:00am Saturday
Valley Landfill	Penn Township	Provided	PADEP 100280 4/6/2026	6,401,665 cyds	NONE	263	6:00am -3:00pm Monday-Friday
Westmoreland Sanitary	Rostraver Township	Provided	PADEP #100277 7/30/2024				4:00am -8:00pm Monday-Friday

SECTION 3 FACILITY DESIGN, REGULATORY COMPLIANCE, AND FINANCIAL ASSURANCES

Facility		Design and Contingencies			Regulatory Compliance	Financial Assurance	
Site Name	Design, Leachate Treatment	Waste Plan for Emergency Disasters	Waste Plan for Facility Emergencies	Unresolved Allegations or Violations	Financial Disclosure	Public Liability Protection	Environment Pollution & Liability Protection
Arden	Dual composite & geomembrane liner Leachate ?? narrative was for Lakeview	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES Lakeview, Laurel Highlands , Valley Landfills, MAHONING but did not submit a proposal	None	Publicly Traded Corporation	\$1 million per incident with \$2 million aggregate	\$15 million Surety Bond
Greentree Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner On-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES- Westmoreland Sanitary	None	Privately Held Company/ Provided upon request	\$5 million with a \$5 million aggregate	\$22.7 million Surety Bond
Lakeview Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner Off-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES Arden Laurel Highlands , Valley Landfills, MAHONING but did not submit a proposal	None	Publicly Traded Corporation	missing	\$19.8 million Surety Bond
Laurel Highlands	Dual composite & geomembrane liner Off-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES Arden, Lakeview, Valley Landfills, MAHONING but did not submit a proposal	None	Publicly Traded Corporation	\$1 million with \$1 million aggregate	\$17.1 million Surety Bond

McKean Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner Off-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES, Hyland NY but did not submit a proposal for the back-ups	None	Publicly Traded Corporation	\$5 million with a \$4 million aggregate	????
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner On-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES Arden, Lakeview, Valley Landfills, MAHONING but did not submit a proposal	None	Publicly Traded Corporation	\$1 million with \$1 million aggregate	\$12.7 million Surety Bond
Seneca Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner On-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES on-site transfer station would haul to other County designated facilities or Tri County when in operation	None	Privately Held Company/ Provided upon request	\$5 million	\$15 million Surety Bond
Tri County Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner Off-site treatment facility temporarily	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES on-site transfer station would haul to other County designated facilities or Seneca	None	Privately Held Company/ Provided upon request	\$5 million	\$4.3 million
Valley Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner On-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES – Arden, Lakeview, and Laurel Highlands Landfills. MAHONING but did not submit a proposal	None	Publicly Traded Corporation	\$1 million with \$1 million aggregate	\$13.9 million
Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill	Dual composite & geomembrane liner On-site treatment facility	YES- Petition PADEP for increased operating hours and volume	YES- says Chestnut Valley, but submitted with Greentree	None	Publicly Traded Corporation	\$1 million with \$1 million aggregate	\$21.5 million Surety Bond



100

SECTION 4 DAILY AND ANNUAL CAPACITY GUARANTEES

Facility		Guarantees for Venango Waste Volumes		Daily Tons Reserved Capacity for Types of Waste				
Site Name	Owner	Maximum Annual Volume in Tons	% Venango Waste will accept	MSW	C&D	Sludge	Other	Donated Tons
Arden Landfill	Waste Management	67	50%	47	20	No guarantee		100
Greentree Landfill	Noble Environmental	26,000	63%	19,500	6,500	No guarantee		50
Lakeview Landfill	Waste Management	41,412	100%	158	Included in MSW			0
Laurel Highlands Landfill	Waste Management	26,000	50%	80	20	10% of actual MSW received		50
McKean Landfill	Casella Waste	41,412	100%	69	22	20		0
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	Waste Management	4,141	10%	16	0	0		0
Seneca Landfill	Vogel Holdings	6,211.9	15%	14.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1
Tri-County Landfill	Vogel Holdings	4,1412	10%	9.9	1.3	1.3	0.7	1
Valley Landfill	Waste Management	30,060	38.6%	61	20	No guarantee		100
Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill	Noble Environmental	26,000	63%	75	25	No guarantee		50

SECTION 5 SCHEDULE OF MAXIMUM CHARGES

Facility	Maximum Base Disposal Rate 1st Year					Add-on Costs	Total Maximum Disposal Rate with Fees 1st Year				
Site Name	MSW	C&D	SEWAGE SLUDGE	ICW	OTHER	Fees, Taxes, Surcharges	MSW	C&D	SEWAGE SLUDGE	ICW	OTHER
Arden	65.00	134.44	101.91	N/A	N/A	7.96	82.96	142.4	109.87	N/A	N/A
Greentree Landfill	102.51	102.51	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.49	110	110	No guarantee	N/A	N/A
Lakeview Landfill	158.46	150.92	158.45	N/A	N/A	7.73	166.19	158.65	166.19	N/A	N/A
Laurel Highlands	117.08	139.54	139.54	N/A	N/A	8.68	125.76	148.22	148.22	N/A	N/A
McKean Landfill	32.00	32.00	65.00	N/A	N/A	??				N/A	N/A
Northwest Sanitary Landfill	126.86	124.44	126.86	N/A	N/A	7.78	134.64	132.22	134.64	N/A	N/A
Seneca Landfill	141.70	141.70	141.70	166.70	N/A	8.30	150.00	150.00	150.00	175.00	N/A
Tri-County Landfill	142.75	142.75	142.75	167.75	N/A	7.25	150.00	150.00	150.00	175.00	
Valley Landfill	140.45	140.45	140.45	N/A	N/A	6.79	147.24	147.24	147.24	N/A	N/A
Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill	102.75	102.75	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.25	110.00	110.00	N/A	N/A	

Figure 6-I Facilities with Executed capacity Agreements Designated to Accept Venango County Municipal Waste 2024-2035

Casella Waste • McKean Landfill • 19 Ness Lane, Kane, PA 16735
Noble Environmental • Greentree Landfill • 635 Toby Road, Kersey, PA 15846 • Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill • 900 Tyrol Blvd., Belle Vernon, PA 15012
Vogel Holdings • Seneca Landfill • 421 Hartman Road, Evans City, PA 16033 • Tri-County Landfill. (upon completion of site construction) • 159 TCI Park Drive, Grove City, PA 16127
Waste Management • Arden • 100 Ranges Lane, Washington, PA 15301 • Lakeview Landfill • 851 Robison Road East, Erie, PA 16509 • Laurel Highlands • 260 Laurel Ridge Road, Johnstown, PA 15909 • Northwest Sanitary Landfill • 1436 West Sunbury Road, West Sunbury, PA 16061 • Valley Landfill • 6015 Pleasant Valley Road, Irwin, PA 15642

Facility Designation

The review and evaluation of the proposals found that all of the sites were qualified to become designated disposal facilities in the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan. Each provided adequate documentation of professional experience,

state of the art design standards, financial backing, and the necessary regulatory permits and approvals. In summary, the Venango County Board of Commissioners will execute and enter into disposal capacity agreements with the facilities shown in Figure 6-1. The figure is arranged in alphabetical order by the owner/operator with each corresponding facility listed below. Transporters may select one or more of the Designated Facilities listed as the disposal destination for the waste they have collected in Venango County.

Evolving Opportunities and Circumstances

The basic concept of a Plan is to provide for known and anticipated needs while remaining flexible enough to allow and adjust for unpredictable changes and events. Venango County currently has secured sufficient disposal capacity. However, it is not beyond reason to consider a future need to utilize a disposal or processing facility that is not presently included in the Plan. New opportunities and/or technologies could result in the development of facilities that did not exist during Plan development. The dynamics of consolidation and acquisition cause shifts in disposal facility utilization. The waste industry attracts a breed of entrepreneurs who are known to periodically enter and exit the business. This influences the number and identities of local market participants. It is prudent to consider that landfills, transfer stations, and hauling companies currently identified in the revised Plan may cease to exist either by reaching capacity or from unforeseen market conditions.

Mechanism to Add Facilities

The Venango County Planning Commission in conjunction with the Venango County Recycling Coordinator will manage the process of incorporating any additional disposal/processing facilities into the Plan. A simple and direct process will expedite the processing and determination of approval for facility inclusion requests. Adding one or more facilities to a plan is not considered a substantial Plan revision. Therefore, it does not require review and ratification by each of the municipalities.

This allows the County to respond to requests quickly and with lower costs than with a full-scale revision.

To maintain the same fair, open, and competitive process used to select the initial disposal sites, all facilities must meet the same criteria as those responding to the initial Request for Proposals for Disposal Capacity. Without exception, these include the technical qualifications, compliance history, managerial experience, and permitted status. A copy of the Request for Proposals is in Appendix A. It includes the contractual agreement, for the facility to review and execute.

Haulers, transfer stations, disposal facilities, and municipalities may initiate the petitioning process. Requests must be submitted on official forms made available by the Venango County Planning Commission. The Processing/Disposal Facility Petition for Designation in the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan can be found in Appendix B. Once the petitioner submits the form, the County will notify the PADEP that a Plan revision may be forthcoming.

It will be the responsibility of the Petitioner or the Facility to cover any costs that the County may incur by to revise the Plan. The costs shall be established by the County based on but not limited to the following expenses: staff, legal and consulting time, reproduction, postage, distribution to municipalities, and other related items.

Implementation and Enforcement

Delegated Roles and Responsibilities

Act 101 assigns the accountability for implementing the elements of the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan falls to the Venango County Board of Commissioners. However, recognizing that these individuals have myriad other responsibilities, Act 101 does offer the County the authority to delegate those powers to another entity on its behalf. Chapter 7 identifies the administrator and enforcer of the 2024 Plan Revisions and Updates. It also outlines the associated responsibilities.



The Venango County Regional Planning Commission is an extension of County government. It also provides planning services, on a subscription basis, to local municipal governments. These relationships make the Regional Planning Commission an ideal candidate to act as the implementing agent of the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan.

Therefore, the Board of Commissioners looks to the Commission to comply with the administrative and regulatory requirements of Act 101 on behalf of the County. The commission already possesses an understanding of the demographics and political foundation of each municipality.

Overall Responsibilities

The Regional Planning Commission will be responsible for ensuring that the recommendations resulting from the planning process are put into action and in turn, enforced. Communication with and education of local municipal officials is a key factor in attaining those goals.

To succeed, County programs and services must be designed to complement and support local efforts. The direct networking environment with municipal officials developed by the Commission can facilitate the exchange of vital information and viewpoints. This interaction creates an environment where local needs are easily identified. Where similarities exist, a common force such as the Planning Commission can assist local governments in pooling their resources transporters, disposal and processing facilities.

The depth of awareness of local issues and how they relate to County programs is highly beneficial in fostering support and cooperation for the growth of integrated waste management policies throughout Venango County.



In addition to its role with municipal governments, the Regional Planning Commission maintains a good working relationship with private sector providers of waste and recycling related services. By engaging these companies in a productive dialogue, the Commission will expedite the growth of new technologies and services in Venango County.

Open communication is also important to obtain reports and the valuable data generated by the to maximize grant opportunities and potentially create resource sharing programs.

Personnel Resources and Roles

Direct responsibility for the operation of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission is that of the Executive Director. The Director is responsible for the staff and oversees the day-to-day services and operations, including all administrative and financial activities. Regular communication between the Director, the Board of Directors of the Planning Commission, and with the Board of County Commissioners is expected. The Director delegates various assignments, and projects to the staff.

Direct Responsibility for Plan Implementation

A staff member is assigned as Recycling Coordinator to ensure that the guidelines and recommendations set forth in the Plan are implemented according to schedule. The Recycling Coordinator serves as the official liaison with the PADEP and maintains communications with the Department's Northwest Regional Office. It is important for the Recycling Coordinator to follow and report on pending legislative initiatives and PADEP policy changes that could affect the County, the municipalities and local businesses.

Administrative Duties

Data Management

Tracking and monitoring of waste and recycling related activities, and reporting to PADEP is another important function of this individual. Compiling the necessary data to submit for grant applications also falls to the Recycling Coordinator. Organization and attention to detail are necessary for the Coordinator to maximize grant opportunities.

Community Ambassador

Public Relations and Education

Community outreach and communication regarding solid waste and recycling issues is an important aspect of the Recycling Coordinator's duties, along with program development. Essentially, the Recycling Coordinator is seen as the face of the County's recycling and waste management related efforts on all public outreach and

awareness related issues. Therefore, the Recycling Coordinator handles inquiries and the resolution of complaints from outside sources. The Recycling Coordinator is also available to civic groups, youth organizations, schools, local municipalities, and attends community events and functions.



Technical Assistance

Similar to the services provided to the municipalities by the Regional Planning Commission on storm water, sewage, zoning, and other related issues, the Recycling Coordinator offers professional support for municipal solid waste and recycling concerns. From establishing a local drop-off collection program, promoting backyard composting, or to developing a municipal contract for curbside recycling, the

Recycling Coordinator serves as a valuable source of information and guidance to elected officials.

Professional Development

Because the Recycling Coordinator serves as the conduit for regulatory and industry information to the Commission, the County and the municipalities, it is important for this individual to continually broaden their knowledge base. Therefore, the Recycling Coordinator should attend and participate in professional development seminars, webinars, and trade association meetings.

Reading and reviewing industry related articles and publications are also useful. Periodically, training should go beyond industry topics and focus on leadership, fiscal responsibility, fundraising and strategic planning. Networking with regional peers and colleagues to exchange notes on successful

endeavors or to provide support to one another in solving common issues should be encouraged. The Recycling Coordinator should be expected to participate in trade organizations such as the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania, the Keystone Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America, Keep Pennsylvania



Beautiful, and others. Attendance at conferences allow the Recycling Coordinator to discover new trends and issues that could impact local programs.

Management of the Community Recycling Center

In addition to implementing and enforcing the recommendations of the Plan, the Recycling Coordinator is also directly responsible for the operation of the Community Recycling Center which is described in more detail in Chapter 8.

Chapter 8

III

Public Sector Operations

County and Local Government Contribution

The waste and recycling infrastructure in Venango County is the result of both public and private sector investment. Without a doubt, the private sector is the predominate provider of waste collection and disposal. For recycling, the private sector does provide collection to both residential and commercial customers. However, the number of companies that participate are lesser than those which collect waste. Therefore, Venango County has attempted to fill that void throughout the years.

This chapter summarizes the operational role of local government in municipal solid waste management. It describes the functions and assets of both County and municipal entities. Future plans are also discussed.



The Venango County Regional Planning Commission was delegated with the authority and responsibility to implement the Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan. In addition to the administrative and enforcement duties described in Chapter 7, the Commission plays a vital service role by overseeing the County's recycling operation.

For a number of years, Venango County offered a recycling drop-off collection program. Collection points were situated in select municipalities and also at a local park. Like many drop-off collection systems, the program was plagued by contamination caused by poorly informed users and those trying to avoid the cost of disposal.

Unfortunately, the program faced the same fate as other county recycling drop-off systems and but one of the sites were eventually abandoned. During the previous planning process, the County sought a better solution.

Because unmanned sites proved difficult to supervise, the focus was shifted to a manned facility that might also be able to process material. After a cost analysis of various options, it was determined that a collection/processing center was feasible, provided it was developed in phases. An extensive search of available industrial and government properties finally resulted in a suitable location with convenient public access and room for growth. In all, the feasibility study, research, and planning took six years.

Venango County Community Recycling Center

In the summer of 2021, the Venango County Community Recycling Center became a reality. Located within the City of Franklin, the Center occupies the site which formerly served as the CATA bus garage. Although the structure wasn't

ideal, the location had other advantages such as convenient access for the public and proximity to Interstate 80 for shipping recycling commodities for resale.

The Center currently collects and processes cardboard. For now, while commingled bottles and cans and paper are collected, they are processed by an outside contractor. Space constraints limit the volume of material that can be stored to meet the load requirements for shipping.

Plans to expand the building include installing loading docks and expanding the storage and processing areas. Future investments will also include equipment for sorting and processing a variety of recyclable materials. These improvements are amongst the top priorities recommended for implementation of the 2024 plan. They are crucial for the Center to generate sufficient revenue to sustain the operation.

The Center's site plan, which illustrates the areas intended for expansion is shown in Chapter 4, Figure 4-5.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Agreements

Legal Support Mechanisms

The Venango County Municipal Waste Management Plan outlines the roles, and guidelines of residents, municipalities, businesses and service providers. Ordinances, contracts and other procedures clarify the County's power to implement the Plan. These documents also serve as a direct means of enforcement. Chapter 9 provides a brief description of each document. Copies are provided in the Appendices.



Although Act 101 provides counties with broad powers to develop their municipal solid waste management plans, it is prudent to have local mechanisms designed to enable those charged with implementing the plans to do so with full authority.

Venango County has a series of legal mechanisms that deal with specific aspects of the Plan.

Each document is described individually in this chapter and provided in a separate section of the Appendices, with its specific location noted below.

New documents may be developed over time and others abandoned to simplify and improve the procedures associated with implementation. However, these changes will not alter the legal or contractual content of the Plan.

Municipal Waste Disposal Capacity Agreement

The Municipal Waste Disposal Capacity Agreement (Appendix A) is the contract, which assures that disposal capacity is available throughout the period of the Plan for municipal waste generated in Venango County. The agreement establishes the types and volumes of waste; the maximum tipping fees; and the reporting requirements for each site. Each and every facility currently included in the Plan, as well as any in the future, must agree to the provisions of this Agreement. This ensures consistent and non-discriminatory terms, conditions and standards among all facilities that are to be used for disposal/processing of Venango County municipal waste.

Petition To Add Facilities To The Plan

The County recognizes that new facilities or technical processing opportunities may become available. To accommodate such opportunities, the Plan provides a mechanism to add facilities in the future. Appendix B includes the Petition to add a Processing/Disposal Facility in the Plan. The requirements for completing that process are also described. Each facility petitioning the County will be subject to the same criteria set forth in the original Request for Proposals met by the currently designated facilities. The inclusion of the facility must be approved by PADEP as a non-substantial plan revision.

Venango County Solid Waste Transporters Ordinance

The County is required to report to the PADEP each year the destination of all municipal waste collected and disposed at landfills, as well as the tons of material recycled from residential and commercial sources. Municipal licensing had always been the sole method of recording collection and disposal activity in the County.

On June 29, 2002, the Waste Transportation and Safety Act (Act 90) was signed into law. The law requires vehicles transporting municipal or residual waste to waste processing or disposal facilities in Pennsylvania to have a valid Waste Transporter Authorization issued by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Act 90 preempts the ability of local governments to license waste haulers and PADEP does not condone this practice. Nevertheless, the PADEP still requires the County to monitor and report the collection, disposal and recycling information. As municipal licensing was the one way the County was able to demonstrate to PADEP the source of information on waste and recycling activities, the new law presented some challenges at the County level.

In response to the enactment of Act 90 and to enable the County to fulfill the PADEP annual reporting requirements the County drafted the Solid Waste and Recycling Transporters Ordinance 2015-01. This ordinance ensures that those engaged in the activity of collecting and transporting municipal waste and recyclables in Venango County must register with and report their activities



to the County. It reinforces the flow control elements of the Plan. The ordinance does not interfere with decision making at the municipal level regarding waste collection. It is simply a mechanism for Venango County to obtain the data it needs to comply with state laws and regulations. A copy of the ordinance adopted in 2015 is included in Appendix C.

Resolution To Adopt The Plan Revisions

Upon completion of this Plan revision, the Venango County Board of Commissioners adopted the revised Plan in the form of a resolution contained in Appendix D.

Transition

Phased Approach to Implementation

This chapter clarifies how the County intends to implement each of the suggestions made during the planning process to ensure they occur in an orderly and nondisruptive manner.



The planning process for the 2024 Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan included a review of previous decisions and philosophies. The goals, objectives and recommendations of the previous iteration of the Plan were scrutinized to determine if they remained appropriate based on current circumstances, anticipated resources, and future expectations.

Past efforts were applauded. Although County leadership supports the eventual expansion of the recycling infrastructure beyond its existing capacity, there was consensus that current limited financial resources and space constraints must be considered. These conditions and circumstances dictate a slow and methodical approach.

Implementation

Before new service offerings are introduced, or additional materials accepted for processing, the County will assess the feasibility of making such changes. Decisions will consider the funds required, equipment and staffing, storage, and the possible sources of revenue to support such operations.

This informed and phased approach in implementing any of the anticipated improvements provides for a smooth transition for all stakeholders

Increasing the volume and quality of recycled materials will directly result in greater revenue to operate the County Recycling center. It would also provide a much needed outlet for such materials throughout the County. Since these options would provide choices that are not currently available no disruption of service is anticipated for residents.

Shared Access to Capacity

Protecting the Rights of Other Counties and Facilities

This chapter highlights the municipal solid waste management needs of Venango County as they impact other counties and the private sector. It establishes the County's commitment to refrain from unduly interfering in the normal operations of waste disposal, processing and recycling facilities.



The need to secure disposal capacity is not unique to Pennsylvania. Local jurisdictions throughout the nation share the same requirements for developing municipal solid waste management plans. Act 101 and similar laws throughout the nation were enacted in part to address the concerns of state and federal agencies that disposal needs of local governments were in jeopardy.

Rural counties often lack a sufficient and sustainable volume of waste needed to justify the considerable investment required to meet the strict operating regulations and design criteria of current state of the art disposal facilities. Owning and operating such facilities is beyond the scope of most rural county budgetary capabilities. To compensate, they rely on private sector investments.

Private Sector Perspective

To manage the same obstacles faced by local governments, private sector waste management concerns opt for fewer but much larger capacity facilities. While this reduces development costs, these facilities are reliant on the economies of scale to cover the total expenditures. Unless they are designed to serve highly concentrated population areas, the intent of the operation is to draw the necessary volumes of waste from a regional waste shed. In extreme circumstances, where a facility is necessary to address the needs of surrounding rural counties, it is often necessary to attract waste from remote counties and other states to maintain a financially sustainable operation.



Regional Resources

Because favorable market conditions are dependent on the cooperation of all participants, it is prudent for Venango County to protect its need for municipal solid waste capacity, without interfering with the needs of other counties. Currently, there



are no municipal waste disposal facilities located within Venango County. To meet its disposal capacity needs, the County is reliant on the availability of facilities in other jurisdictions.

Other Pennsylvania counties experience these same circumstances. Therefore, many forms of waste flow naturally through a network of transporters and facilities with no local, state, or national boundaries. Each facility has entered into long term agreements, which share a secured portion of their capacity with one or more counties or businesses.

As part of the process to develop the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan, a variety of facilities made similar contractual commitments guaranteeing disposal capacity to the County. These facilities are located primarily in northwestern Pennsylvania.

Mutual Respect For Resources And Commitments

The lack of interference by other counties and states in the normal operation of disposal facilities located within their jurisdictions is vital to the disposal needs of Venango County. Likewise, it is important for Venango County to understand and respect that these facilities must honor their contractual obligations with other parties.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP



Therefore, the County supports the need for facility operators to design, finance, and construct reasonable expansions to meet these various capacity commitments.

The County will not interfere with the normal operational and regulatory process involved with such expansions, nor prevent it from generating the necessary profits to support those projects, provided the facility complies with the provisions of the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan.

Stakeholder Participation

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

One of the benefits of stakeholder engagement is the ability to compare hard data with public perception and local practices. Another is to assess public awareness of issues, to measure the acceptance of new policies and programs and to gauge the willingness to change. The development of the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan relied on input from a broad spectrum of stakeholders with different perspectives on common issues. Chapter 12 outlines the opportunities for public input and acknowledges those who participated,



Effective public participation is functional when it leads to better decisions and a locally appropriate plan. Public participation must also be meaningful by providing participants with opportunities to influence the outcome and a sense of ownership for the ultimate plan.

Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan relied on input from a broad spectrum of stakeholders with different perspectives on common issues. General consensus was attained on each topic; the recommendations and implementation plan reflect the general comments and views offered throughout the process.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee

To ensure that the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan is representative of the needs and concerns of all stakeholders, the Board of County Commissioners appointed a committee to participate in the planning process. The appointees to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) are inclusive of all classes of municipal government within the County. Additionally, members represent the waste and recycling industry, civic/environmental organizations, manufacturers, and the County. The make-up of the Venango County SWAC is consistent with the membership criteria established by Act 101.

Figure 12-1 lists the SWAC members and their affiliations.

Committee Activities

SWAC members participated at various levels. Many attended all of the in-person functions, while others simply reviewed and commented on the Plan's content and recommendations. Informational and project status meetings were convened at the County courthouse annex.

Figure 12-2 shows the schedule of meetings and the topics discussed at each. For a more detailed record of the discussions, the minutes for each meeting are provided in Appendix E.

Figure 12-1 Solid Waste Advisory Committee Members and Affiliations

Ms. Amanda Power Community Development City of Franklin	Ms. Terri Felmlee Utility Supervisor City of Oil City	Mr. Jerry Bowser Tri County Industries Waste Transporter
Ms. Susan Williams Venango Chamber of Commerce Civic Organization	Mel Kirkwood Tri County Industries Recycling Industry	Mr. Greg Miller Irwin Township Supervisor
Ms. Emily Lewis Venango Co. Economic Development Authority Industry	Mr. Edward Vogel Seneca Landfill Disposal Industry	Erik Johnson County Recycling Coordinator

Figure 12-2 SWAC Meeting Schedule

Meeting Schedule

August 12, 2023

Introduction to planning process. Review of past recommendations and initiative

December 5, 2023

Comparative analysis of national and local waste generation, recovery and disposal. Explanation of reporting discrepancies and corrective adjustments to the data. Preview of disposal capacity procurement process

March 19, 2024

Status update on the capacity procurement process. Review of preliminary recommendations and objectives of the Plan Update.

July 2, 2024

Presentation of the technical review of the disposal capacity proposals. Explanation of how capacity projections were calculated.

October 15, 2024,

Open discussion on recommendations for future consideration. Progress on Recycling Center expansion. Options for organizational structure, including a municipal waste authority to oversee the recycling and waste programs.

Capacity Procurement Process

Solicitation, Request for Proposals, Capacity Agreement

REQUESTS PROPOSALS FOR MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND/OR

PROCESSING CAPACITY VENANGO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, FRANKLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

In accordance with Pennsylvania Code Title 25. Environmental Protection. Chapter 272.225 Municipal Waste Planning Recycling and Waste Reduction (as amended December 22, 2000), the Venango County Board of Commissioners has determined that additional waste disposal or processing capacity for municipal solid waste (MSW). including construction/demolition (C/D) waste and sewage sludge generated within the County is required for a period covering the next ten years. The Venango County Regional Planning Commission, on behalf of the Venango County Board of Commissioners is hereby soliciting proposals for disposal capacity for MSW generated in Venango County Pennsylvania With contract approval and execution anticipated by May 2024.

The Request for Proposals (R.F.P.) will be available from the Venango County Regional Planning Commission, on or after February 12, 2024. There is a \$50 fee for printed copies. All proposals must be made on and inclusive of the required Proposal Forms and be in accordance With the Requirements for Submitting Proposals contained In the Request for Proposals. Proposers may withdraw their proposal at any time prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals. The Venango County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any irregularities and/or More information in any proposal and to make an award in any manner, consistent with applicable laws, which is deemed to be In the best interest of the County

The Venango County Regional Planning Commission will receive sealed proposals until 3:00 p.m., Prevailing Time on Tuesday, March 26, 2024. The Proposer is required to submit two (2) hard copies, each executed In blue ink and labeled "original," and two (2) "copies" formatted as MS Word or pdf files each on separate electronic media. CD-ROMs or Flash Drives. The proposals must be packaged, sealed, and clearly labeled to show the statement "proposal Disposal Capacity" and the name and address of the Proposer

Proposals should be submitted and be addressed to: the Venango County Regional Planning Commission | 168 Liberty St., P.O. Box 831 , Franklin, Pa. 16323 Attention: Mr. Erik Johnson, Recycling Coordinator, Planner II

[Click here for submissions](#)

Issued February 12, 2024

Proposals Due Tuesday, March 26, 2024, by 3:00 p.m.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MUNICIPAL
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND
PROCESSING CAPACITY
2024-2033

**Venango County Regional Planning
Commission**

On behalf of the

Venango County Board of Commissioners

**Venango County Regional Planning
Commission**

Erik Johnson
Deputy Director of Planning/Recycling
Coordinator.
VCRPC
1168 Liberty St.
P.O. Box 831
Franklin, Pa. 16323
814.432.9684

Project Consultant
Primary Contact for Proposal Related
Questions
Michele Nestor
Nestor Resources, Inc.
Valencia, PA 16059

Phone: (724) 898-3489
Mobile: (724) 612-7675
Email: michele@nestorresources.com

INTRODUCTION

The Venango County Regional Planning Commission on behalf of the Venango County Board of Commissioners is accepting proposals for the disposal and processing of Municipal Waste generated within the County of Venango. Through this Request for Proposal, the County will select the disposal and processing methods and facilities to ensure disposal and processing capacity in accordance with the provisions of Act 101, the Pennsylvania Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act of 1988. Act 101 mandates that each County must have secured disposal and processing capacity for the Municipal Waste generated within its boundary for a period of ten years. Those facilities entering into agreement with the County for secured capacity will be designated in the Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan of Venango County.

This document, which comprises the request for proposal, includes five sections:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Procurement Approach and Purpose | 4. Contract Provisions |
| 2. Evaluation Criteria | 5. Required Forms for Submission of Proposal |
| 3. History and Background | |

Sealed Proposals in response to this RFP are due on Tuesday, MARCH 26, 2024, by 3:00 PM. To qualify for consideration, the Proposer must submit two (2) hard copies, each executed in blue ink and labeled "original," and two (2) "copies" formatted as MS Word or pdf files each on separate electronic media, CD-ROMs or Flash Drives. :

**Venango County Regional Planning Commission
1168 Liberty St., P.O. Box 831, Franklin, Pa. 16323
Attention: Mr. Erik Johnson, Deputy Director of Planning/Recycling Coordinator.**

The outside of each sealed envelope must be marked "Proposal-Disposal Capacity." The Regional Planning Commission intends to review and evaluate all proposals to determine which contractor(s) submitting proposals are deemed to serve the best interests of the County in meeting its needs for disposal and processing capacity in accordance with Act 101. The Regional Planning Commission will consider only those facilities which have submitted qualified proposals. After the evaluation of the proposals is complete and based on the recommendations, which result from it, the Venango County Board of Commissioners will execute the disposal and processing contract(s) with the selected contractor(s).

A contractor responding to this RFP shall be prepared to enter into a contract with the County to provide up to ten (10) years disposal and processing capacity for Municipal Waste generated within the County and to perform disposal and processing service in accordance with the conditions set forth in Section 4, Contract Provisions, of this RFP. The contractor shall operate a fully permitted disposal and processing facility which meets at a minimum the federal guidelines of Title 40--Protection of Environment CHAPTER I--ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY PART 257--CRITERIA FOR CLASSIFICATION OF SOLID WASTE

DISPOSAL FACILITIES AND PRACTICES and PART 258--CRITERIA FOR MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS as well as any design or operating criteria exceeding these standards required by the state and local governments in which the facility is located.

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

The Venango County Board of Commissioners intends to comply with the specifications set forth in Act 101, the Pennsylvania Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act of 1988, by securing sufficient disposal and processing capacity, which is both economically feasible and environmentally sound, for the Municipal Waste generated within the County's borders for a minimum period of ten years.

COUNTY DESIGNATION OF FACILITIES AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS

If the proposal is accepted by the County, one of the originals will be returned to the contractor once it is executed by the Venango County Board of Commissioners. The County anticipates that the proposals will be reviewed, accepted and contracts executed in May 2024. The contract term will commence immediately upon execution by the Venango County Board of Commissioners.

PENNSYLVANIA RIGHT-TO-KNOW LAW

If supporting information contained in the proposal is considered confidential, that information should be submitted under separate cover and clearly labeled "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION" on the cover along with the applicable law and/or regulation that supports the treatment of such information as confidential. The Proposal is subject to the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law ("RTKL") and therefore the County can make no guarantee that any material will remain confidential. The provisions set forth in the proposed Municipal Waste Disposal Service Contract attached hereto shall apply to this Proposal.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

To be considered as a response qualified for review, proposals must meet the requirements set forth in this Section.

Proposals must be received by the date and time specified in the Introduction. Proposals received after the specified date and time will not be considered as a response qualified for review and will be returned unopened. The Venango County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to request additional information or clarifications, to waive any irregularities and/or information in any proposal and to make an award in any manner, consistent with applicable laws, which is deemed to be in the best interest of the County

Packages containing the proposals must be sealed and clearly labeled to show the name and address of the Proposer, the statement "Proposal-Disposal Capacity" and be addressed to: ***Venango County Regional***

Planning Commission, 1168 Liberty St., P.O. Box 831, Franklin, Pa. 16323 Attention: Mr. Erik Johnson, Deputy Director of Planning/Recycling Coordinator.

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

- Two printed and separately bound hard copies must be clearly marked "ORIGINAL" and contain the forms, contract and certifications as indicated and be executed with original signatures in blue ink.
- Two (2) CD-ROMs or Flash Drives with each containing a copy of the proposal formatted as a pdf file. Each "copy" must contain all of the required information, forms, contract and certifications. The electronic file must be saved to clearly identify the facility by name.

For Contractors proposing multiple facilities

- **Separate Hard Copies Required for Each Proposed Facility** the Contractor must submit two printed and separately bound hard copies clearly marked "ORIGINAL" which contain the forms, contract and certifications as indicated and be executed with original signatures in blue ink.
- **Shared Electronic Media for All Proposed Facilities** Two (2) CD-ROMs or Flash Drives with each containing a copy of the proposal for each facility formatted as an MS Word or a pdf file. Each "copy" must contain all of the required information, forms, contract and certifications for each facility. An electronic file must be created for each facility, must be saved to clearly identify the facility by name. However, the CD-ROM or Flash Drive may contain the files for all of the facilities submitted by the contractor.

Emergency Back-up Disposal and Processing

Contractors are required to identify a back-up facility(ies) in the event the proposed site exceeds its daily volume and/or for emergency closures.

- **Owner/Operated Back-up Facilities.** Intercompany facilities may not be identified simply by name to serve as back-ups for one another. Each facility must also submit a complete response to this RFP along with a signed contract.
- **Third Party Back-up Facilities.** A 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.

CAREFULLY READ THE DESCRIPTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH OF THE SECTIONS LISTED.

AVOID SUBMITTING MORE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION THAN THE RFP REQUESTS OR REQUIRES

ORGANIZATION OF THE PROPOSAL

The proposal must consist of the following information organized into sections. **Each section must be in the order shown below, separated by clearly labeled tabs/dividers:**

1. Cover Letter
2. Statement of Qualifications
3. Experience and Qualifications of Managers and Supervisors
4. Compliance History
5. Certificate of Permit
6. Facility Design and Operational Plan
7. Permitted Volumes in Tons, Operating Hours and Performance Guarantee
8. Current Available Permitted Capacity in Cubic Yards
9. Financial Assurances
10. Completed and Signed Contract
 - a. Cost of Processing and Disposal
 - b. Reserved Capacity
11. Representations and Certifications
12. Contractor Information

COVER LETTER AND SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

A cover letter, which is addressed to Mr. Erik Johnson, Venango County Recycling Coordinator, Planner II, must accompany each proposal. The cover letter shall commit the contractor, if selected, to carry out all of the provisions of the proposal. It shall state that all information submitted and represented both in the proposal and in support of the proposal is accurate and factual. The letter shall designate by name and title

the key technical and business representatives who, if the contractor is selected, will negotiate with the County.

An officer of the organization submitting the proposal empowered and authorized to sign such documents shall sign the cover letter. The same individual signing the cover letter shall sign the disposal and processing capacity contract and all forms in the proposal requiring signatures. Two copies of the proposal document must be clearly marked as the original and contain the original forms, the disposal and processing capacity contract and cover letter. **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.**

The other copies shall be submitted as electronic media, (CD-ROMs or Flash Drives) in MS Word or pdf format with each file saved to include and clearly identify the name of the facility.

STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION'S QUALIFICATIONS

The organization submitting the proposal shall provide sufficient information to demonstrate and prove experience, skill, management, and resources required to provide consistent, reliable, and legal disposal and processing facilities to Venango County. A list of the counties currently contracting with the facility for disposal and processing capacity shall be included. A list of the municipalities with which the facility has secured host agreements shall be included. Experience in the successful operation of disposal and processing facilities shall be documented. **This section should be limited to 5 pages of text or printed material.**

EXPERIENCE OF MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS

Experience and qualifications of the management team directly responsible for the day-to-day operation of the facility proposed to accept waste shall be documented. This section should include a list of the site's management personnel and for each a detailed description of their industry experience, training, and responsibilities.

FACILITY COMPLIANCE HISTORY

A compliance history shall be provided for the facility submitting the proposal, which covers the most recent ten-year period, or if in operation less than ten years, for the length of its operating term. The history must be inclusive of Federal, State and Local Environmental Protection Acts and Regulations including but not limited to those concerning Solid Waste Management, Air Quality, Water Quality, Water Supply, Surface Mining, Oil and Gas Management, Dam Safety and Encroachment, Conservation and Reclamation.

The compliance history must list any permit or license denial, suspensions, or revocations; any notices of violations; any administrative orders, consent agreements or adjudications issued or civil penalties assessed by Federal State or Local Regulatory Agencies. The dates and resolutions for each item listed must be included. The organization submitting the proposal must describe any summary, misdemeanor, or felony convictions and pleas of guilty and no contest obtained against the organization both within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and also outside of its borders. The description shall include the date, location nature, and disposition of each stated action.

Organizations may submit a copy of **PADEP Form HWC, Compliance History, (not Form C-1)** in lieu of a written description of the compliance history. Facilities located in other states that require completion of a similar document may submit it in lieu of a written description provided that document includes all of the information required in this section.

CERTIFICATE OF PERMIT

A copy of the approved current operating permit, ***with the current pending expiration date clearly shown,*** shall be submitted for the organization's facility proposing to accept waste. Copies of approvals for any addendums or revisions approved since its issuance by the State Regulatory Agency with direct oversight for the facilities operation.

FACILITY DESIGN AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

The organization submitting the proposal shall provide a short description of the disposal and processing facility it intends to utilize in response to this RFP.

Responses should be clear and informative without being encyclopedic. Please submit no more than four pages of narrative to describe the design, its components and the operations plan .

Pennsylvania Facilities should not include the full Form14 from their permit application. Please provide only short excerpts to demonstrate each point.

All facilities must include in their descriptions: (a paragraph or two describing the general procedural mechanism will be sufficient to address each item. It is not necessary, or desirable, to have the complete description from the facility's permit included)

- ✓ the name and location of the facility (including the names of the municipalities in which it is physically located),
- ✓ a brief outline of its operating plan for the life of the facility including post closure care,
- ✓ a brief description of the daily record keeping procedures and measurement of waste,
- ✓ a brief outline of its waste acceptance and monitoring program, and also
- ✓ its environmental emergency response plan.

Requirements unique to the type of facility:

- ✓ a landfill shall submit a brief description of its liner system, methane recovery and utilization and method of leachate control, monitoring, and treatment, , (on-site/off-site).
- ✓ Other types of disposal and processing facilities shall include a detailed description of the technology and equipment utilized to process Municipal Waste, the byproducts of the process and methods of handling the byproducts.

Design drawings are not required in the proposal, but the County reserves the right to request such information during the review and/or selection process.

PERMITTED VOLUMES AND OPERATING HOURS AND PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

The current permitted average and maximum daily, yearly, and life-of-permit tonnage limits shall be listed for the organization's disposal and processing facility utilized in response to this RFP.

The hours that facility is permitted to accept waste shall be listed.

The organization submitting the proposal shall also outline the preferred procedures for accepting an excessive amount of waste resulting from a natural disaster or other emergency in the County at the facility it intends to utilize in response to this RFP.

In addition, a contingency plan for accepting waste outside of the normal operating hours or during emergency or temporary closure of the disposal and processing facility shall be included. The method by which uninterrupted disposal and processing service will be provided to Venango County in the event that an emergency or other uncontrollable circumstance precludes the use of the facility shall be included. **Back-up facilities for this purpose must also submit a response to this RFP along with a signed contract. 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.**

AVAILABLE CAPACITY (AIRSPACE OR BURNER CAPACITY)

The facility proposing to accept waste must prove and document both its most current annual and also its most current quarterly airspace usage and available capacity in cubic yards based on its existing permitted status. **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.**

Should the facility's current available permitted capacity be less than ten years, the organization submitting the proposal shall include narrative detailing provisions for providing disposal and processing capacity beyond the fixed terms of the permit. Options for expanding capacity shall be consistent with the current Federal, State and Local laws and regulations.

FINANCIAL ASSURANCES

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

- ✓ a certificate of pollution liability and public liability insurance; and
- ✓ the closure/post closure bonding requirements /worksheets of the facility with the type of security, dollar amount, terms, conditions, and limits stated.

The following information would be provided later, and only upon request:

Upon request, the organization must also demonstrate sufficient financial resources to carry out the responsibilities as outlined in this RFP and to back up the contractual obligations. Proof of financial resources must be provided upon request either at the time the contractor is selected or at the time that the disposal and processing capacity contract is executed.

Proof of sufficient financial resources will be in the form of complete audited financial statements for the most recent three years of continuing operation. If the organization submitting the proposal is a joint venture, subsidiary, or partnership, the financial information must be supplied for the parent company and the parent company must state its willingness to guarantee such joint venture, subsidiary, or partnership throughout the term of the disposal and processing services contract.

SIGNED CONTRACT

The organization submitting the proposal shall complete and submit the signed Contract guaranteeing disposal and processing capacity. The same person authorized to submit the proposal shall sign the contract **in blue ink**.

Contract Form A-Cost of Processing and Disposal

The organization submitting the proposal shall submit a Form A as provided in the Contract Agreement. The same individual signing the cover letter shall sign the completed form, which must be included with the signed contract with the proposal. The method of price adjustment, if any, over the contract period must be explained and demonstrated with the Form. The tipping fee must include any and all Act 101 or host municipality fees or surcharges, which should also be outlined and described.

Contract Form B- Reserved Capacity

The organization submitting the proposal shall submit a Form B as provided in the Contract Agreement. The same individual signing the cover letter shall sign the completed form, which must be included with the signed contract with the proposal. The capacity reserved shall be specified in tons, and percentage on an annual basis and by tons on a daily basis. The number of operating days each year the facility is available to accept waste must be specified.

*ADDITIONAL REQUIRED FORMS***Form C- Representations and Certifications**

The organization submitting the proposal shall submit a Form C as provided in this RFP. The same individual signing the cover letter shall sign the completed form, which must be included with the proposal.

Form D -Contractor Information

The organization submitting the proposal shall submit a Form D as provided in this RFP. The same individual signing the cover letter shall sign the completed form, which must be included with the proposal.

Section 2

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The County will utilize the following criteria in evaluating and ranking proposals submitted in response to this RFP. There is no significance or correlation to the order in which the items are listed and the value or importance each has in the selection criteria

Financial Stability

Contractors will be evaluated on the basis of their overall financial strength and credit worthiness as well as their public and environmental liability protection as an indication of their ability to establish and maintain a financially sound disposal and processing system. Financial assurances for closer and post closure care are important.

Regulatory Compliance

Contractors will be evaluated on their overall compliance history with attention given toward severity of violations, consistency of violations and most importantly, the demonstrated resolution and disposition of any such incidents.

Operating Permit Status and Capacity

Contractors will be evaluated on the current status, terms, and conditions of the facility's operating permit as well as the life expectancy of the facility and its available capacity as an indication of its ability to provide adequate disposal and processing service for the needs outlined by the County in this RFP. **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.**

Technical Design and Operational Plan

Contractors will be evaluated on the effectiveness of the facility's design and overall operation to provide a sound and reliable environmental solution to the County's disposal and processing needs as well as its ability to meet Federal, State and Local regulatory standards for municipal solid waste management. Issues such as leachate collection and treatment, methane recovery and utilization, ash management, ground water monitoring systems, waste acceptance plans and radiation monitoring are considered important.

Solid Waste Management Experience

Contractors will be evaluated on their demonstrated management experience in the successful operation of the proposed disposal and processing technology or process and their demonstrated successful performance in providing disposal and processing services through other county and municipal contractual.

Minimum and Maximum Waste Volume Expectation

Contractors will be evaluated on their ability to accept all or some of the municipal solid waste generated by Venango County on a daily and annual basis for a period covering ten years along with no minimum guarantees of waste required from the County. Facilities need not commit to 100% of the County's capacity needs. However, the facilities must be capable of providing the capacity which they propose. "Put or Pay" (as defined below) contract requirements will be objectionable to the County as they are viewed as providing disincentives to recycling.

Tipping Fees and Annual Costs

Contractors will be evaluated based on their compliance with providing a maximum cost charged per ton for the disposal and processing service including any and all fees and surcharges resulting from Act 101, host municipality agreements or other federal or state statutes, and local ordinances and resolutions. The maximum cost per ton may not exceed the facility's published gate rates. The total annual cost to the County, if any, to construct, operate or otherwise invest in a proposed processing and disposal facility must be provided in detail and will also be a critical part of the evaluation.

Based upon these criteria, the contractor(s) will be selected. The Venango County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to enter into agreements with any or all of the parties that submitted complete responses on the date and time required by the RFP.

Section 3

VENANGO COUNTY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

LOCATION AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Venango County is a sixth class county located in the northwest portion of Pennsylvania. The County has 31 municipalities which include the cities of Oil City and Franklin, nine boroughs and 20 townships. In 2022, Venango County had an estimated population of 49,777 but with a land mass of approximately 645 square miles the population density is quite low.

Two Interstate highways and several other major state arteries provide easy access to the County. The southern boundary of the County intersects with Interstate 80 which runs east to west. To the west is Interstate 79, which runs north and south. Other major arteries include State Route 8, which is the primary southern gateway connecting the County to Interstate 80 and Butler County. State Route 322 links the County with Crawford and Clarion counties and State Route 62 connects the County to Mercer, Warren and Forest counties. Venango County is primarily rural except for the cities of Franklin and Oil City and their contiguous municipalities.

CURRENT PROCESSING AND DISPOSAL PRACTICES

Venango County secured its existing processing and disposal agreements on or around February 1, 2014. Consequently, they are near expiration. It is anticipated that new contracts will be executed with qualified facilities, based on the content of this RFP, for a term of ten years.

Venango County has utilized a menu plan flow control. While disposal is limited to those sites designated in the Plan, the County included a full menu of options to local haulers, businesses and municipalities. The County intends to follow this same approach. A vast majority of the Municipal Waste generated in Venango County has traditionally been disposed in landfills located outside of the County. Haulers tend to utilize two transfer stations that consolidate the waste for transport to an end disposal facility. These include Tri-County located in Mercer County and the Warren County Transfer Station in Pittsfield, and to lesser degree the Clarion County Transfer Station. Some waste from Venango County is still direct hauled. Use of interim handling facilities often distorts the actual origin of the reported waste. Therefore, that factor was considered for Venango County.

Through the waste flow control ordinance, haulers and transfer stations are required to use any of the facilities with current agreements in place. No guarantees, or put or pay provisions, were made by Venango County for minimum waste volumes to be delivered for processing and disposal as part of any of the existing agreements. Proximity and competitive tipping fees have the greatest competitive impact. It is anticipated that similar circumstances will prevail during the term of the new agreements.

PROJECTED LANDFILL CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS

This section presents the estimated future disposal capacity required for Venango County. It is based on current reported disposal quantities with some adjustments made to correct for suspected reporting errors. The projections allow for possible future changes in the rate of MSW generated per capita, and projected changes in population.

Population. The Pennsylvania State Data Center at the Pennsylvania State University recently released State and county population projections for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Presented below in Table 1 are county totals from the 2020 Census and projections for 2020 to 2050. Population was extrapolated 4 based on the projected rate of change from 2020 to 2035.

Table 1. Pennsylvania Population Projections: 2020-2050

		Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	Projection	% Change	% Change	% Change
	Census 2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2020- 2025	2025- 2030	2030- 2035
Venango County	50,354	49,781	49,092	48,223	47,158	46,008	45,041	-1.14	-1.38	-1.77

Estimated Future Generation Rate for MSW. The USEPA reports on national MSW generation and disposal rates. In recent years, the generation rate per capita has been about 0.85 tons/person/year with little variation. Likewise, the disposal rate has remained at approximately 0.55 tons/person/year. Thus, for projection purposes, it was assumed that per capita disposal rates will remain unchanged.

Table 2 presents projected disposal capacity requirements for the years 2024 through 2035. The figures are based on a constant annual per capita generation rate. A review of the reported data for Venango County's MSW shows that it is obviously inaccurate based on the current population and historic trends. Therefore, it is not useful in calculating projected needs. However, because the County's historic reported data resembled the national disposal data along with the lack of recycling locally, it is logical to fall back on the national

expectations to calculate Venango County's baseline and future projections, or 0.76 tons per year. The reported data for sewage sludge and construction demolition waste did not indicate the obvious discrepancies seen in the reported MSW. Therefore, the projections for these waste streams were calculated using the average reported disposal for sewage sludge and construction demolition rate and the average population for the years 2014 through 2022. For Venango County, the quantity is calculated beginning with 2022 as the baseline population extrapolated per the change in population projected by the Penn State Data center.

*Table 2. Projected Landfill Capacity Requirements Venango County
2024 through 2035 in Tons*

	Population	MSW	Sludge	C&D	TOTAL
2024	49,894	37,919	1,996	1,497	41,412
2025	49,781	37,834	1,991	1,493	41,318
2026	49,644	37,729	1,986	1,489	41,205
2027	49,507	37,625	1,980	1,485	41,091
2028	49,370	37,521	1,975	1,481	40,977
2029	49,234	37,418	1,969	1,477	40,864
2030	49,092	37,310	1,964	1,473	40,746
2031	48,918	37,178	1,957	1,468	40,602
2032	48,745	37,046	1,950	1,462	40,458
2033	48,572	36,915	1,943	1,457	40,315
2034	48,400	36,784	1,936	1,452	40,172
2035	48,223	36,649	1,929	1,447	40,025

Section 4

CAPACITY AGREEMENT

The following Contract/Agreement shall be executed between the County and the Contractor. The contract signed in BLUE ink must be included in the Contractor's two ORIGINAL proposals with reproductions in the remaining three electronically formatted copies. The contract shall become effective on the date the agreement is signed by the Venango County Board of Commissioners.

MUNICIPAL WASTE PROCESSING AND DISPOSAL SERVICE CONTRACT

THIS MUNICIPAL WASTE PROCESSING AND DISPOSAL SERVICE CONTRACT (hereinafter referred to as the "Contract") entered this ____ day of _____, by and between

THE COUNTY OF VENANGO, Franklin, Pennsylvania, hereinafter jointly referred to as the "County" AND _____ hereinafter referred to as the

(Name of Facility/Parent Company)

"Contractor" whose permitted processing and disposal facility Permit No _____ issued by _____ is located in

_____ (Municipality)(ies),

_____ County, _____ State.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Venango County Board of Commissioners, acting through the Venango County Regional Planning Commission, have developed and adopted the 1991 Tri-County Municipal Waste Management Plan and its revisions in 2000 and the 2014 Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan for Venango County and its revisions in 2024 in accordance with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988 ("Act 101"); and,

WHEREAS, the municipalities in Venango County have duly approved and ratified the 1991 Tri-County Municipal Waste Management Plan pursuant to the requirements of section 501 of Act 101; and,

WHEREAS, this 1991 Tri-County Municipal Waste Management Plan and its revisions in 2000 and the 2014 Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan and its revisions in 2024 requires that all Municipal Waste generated within Venango County must be disposed only at a Municipal Waste processing and disposal facility that is designated by the County pursuant to this plan to insure the availability of adequate permitted processing and disposal capacity for the Municipal Waste generated in Venango County; and

WHEREAS, Act 101, requires the County, as part of its plan, to provide for assurance for capacity or the processing and disposal of all Municipal Waste expected to be generated within the County for a period of at least the next ten (10) years, and further requires the County to execute and submit to the Department, contracts evidencing the implementation of its approved Plan and insuring sufficient available processing or disposal capacity; and,

WHEREAS, the Contractor wishes to be designated by the County as one of the Municipal Waste processing or disposal facilities where the Municipal Waste generated within Venango County must be disposed; and,

WHEREAS, the Contractor is willing to guarantee the availability of adequate, permitted processing or disposal capacity for such waste and the costs for such services for a ten-year contract period in exchange for such designation by the County; and,

WHEREAS, the County and the Contractor now desire to enter into this Contract in order to effectuate the goals of the Municipal Waste Management Plan for Venango County and to further set forth the agreements between the parties with respect thereto;

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and pursuant to the parties' intent to be legally bound under the Uniform Written Obligations Act, 33 Pa.C.S. § 6, the undersigned hereby agrees as follows:

I. DEFINITIONS

Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following words and terms, as used in this Contract, shall have the following meanings:

Acceptable Waste -Waste that Contractor is permitted to manage, process, store and/or dispose at the Landfill, in accordance with its Permit for a Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Facility, which was issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") or the equivalent regulatory agency in the state where the facility is located and under applicable Pennsylvania law or that in which the facility is located, including, but not limited to, the Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder; and waste which is not inconsistent with the Facility's Waste Acceptance Policy as defined herein.

Act 101 - The Pennsylvania Municipal Waste Planning Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988.

Affiliate Any individual or entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with a party to this Contract, or in the case of a sole proprietor, any blood relative or employee of the contractor, as designated by this Contract.

Bulky Waste (White Goods) -Large items of Refuse, including, but not limited to, appliances, furniture, auto parts, trees, branches or stumps which may require special handling due to their size, shape or weight.

Venango County- a sixth class county located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Commercial Waste -All solid waste originating from commercial establishments engaged in non-manufacturing or non-processing business, including, but not limited to, stores, markets, office buildings, restaurants, shopping centers and theaters.

Construction Demolition Waste – Municipal 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.

Contract -The Municipal Waste Processing and Disposal Service Contract, between the County and the Contractor.

Contractor-The Facility and Parent Company identified as such on the first page of this contract or any permitted successors, assigns, or affiliates.

County -The County of Venango, Pennsylvania, acting by and through the Venango County Board of Commissioners and the Regional Planning Commission or their designated representative.

Regional Planning Commission - An agency of Venango County Government delegated with the responsibility of developing and implementing the Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Act and associated programs and services.

Department or DEP The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Domestic or Residential Waste -Solid waste comprised of Garbage and Rubbish, which normally originates from residential private households or apartment houses.

Facility—Land, structures and other appurtenances or improvements where municipal waste processing and disposal is approved and permitted to occur under Federal and state law. A Facility includes a landfill, a resource recovery facility, a waste-to-energy facility, a digester and/or other municipal solid waste processing and disposal technologies operating under the provisions of a permit approved and issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection or the state regulatory agency in which the operation is located.

Garbage -Putrescible animal or vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking, serving or consumption of food and food containers.

Hauler and Waste Collector -Any person, firm partnership, association or corporation, including any municipality, engaged in the business of collecting and transporting municipal solid waste to processing or disposal facilities.

Hazardous Waste -A solid waste or combination of solid wastes which, because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics may: (1) cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in morbidity in either an individual or the total population; or (2) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported or disposed or otherwise managed; or (3) is otherwise defined as "hazardous" by any Federal or State statute or regulation.

Industrial Waste -Solid waste resulting from manufacturing and industrial processes, including, but not limited to, those carried out in factories, foundries, mills, processing plants, refineries, mines and slaughterhouses.

Institutional Waste Solid waste originating from institutions including, but not limited to, public buildings, hospitals, nursing homes, orphanages, schools and universities.

Landfill -The Contractor's permitted landfill identified on the first page of this contract.

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

Municipal Recycling Program A source separation and collection program for recycling Municipal Waste, or a program of designated drop-off points or collection centers for recycling Municipal Waste, that is operated by or on behalf of a municipality .The term shall include any source separation and collection program for composting

leaf waste that is operated by or on behalf of a municipality. The term does not include any program for recycling construction and demolition waste or sludge from sewage treatment plants or water supply treatment plants.

Municipality -Any city, borough, incorporated town, township or county or any municipal authority- created by any of the foregoing.

Municipal Waste or Solid Waste -Garbage, Refuse, industrial lunchroom or office waste and other material, including solid, liquid, semi-solid or contained gaseous material, (but excluding Hazardous Waste) resulting from operation of residential, municipal, commercial or institutional establishments or from community activities; and any sludge not meeting the definition of residual or hazardous waste from a municipal, commercial or institutional water supply treatment plant, wastewater treatment plant or air pollution control facility. The term does not include source separated recyclable materials or material approved by DEP for beneficial use.

Operator Any person or municipality that operates a municipal solid waste processing or disposal facility.

Owner - The person or municipality who is the owner of record of a solid waste processing or disposal facility.

Permit -A permit issued by the Pennsylvania DEP to operate a Municipal Waste disposal, processing or transfer station facility.

Permit Area -The area of land and water within the boundaries of the permit, which is designated on the permit application maps as approved by the Pennsylvania DEP, or equivalent regulatory agency in the state in which the facility is located.

Proposal – Complete response to the Request for Proposals for Municipal Waste Processing and Disposal Services that was submitted by Contractor to the County.

“Put or Pay” - A requirement to guarantee delivery of predetermined quantities of waste to a facility which also requires payment to the facility regardless of whether or not the waste was delivered for processing and disposal.

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.

Refuse -Discarded waste materials in a solid or semi-liquid state, consisting of Garbage, Rubbish or a combination thereof.

Remaining Permitted Capacity -At any time the remaining weight or volume of Municipal Waste that can be disposed at a permitted Municipal Waste disposal or processing facility. The term shall only include the weight or volume capacity for which the Pennsylvania DEP (or the equivalent regulatory agency in state which the facility is located) has issued a permit.

Residual Waste -Any Garbage, Refuse, other discarded material or other waste, including solid, liquid, semi-solid or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, mining and agricultural operations and any sludge from an industrial, mining or agricultural water supply treatment facility, wastewater treatment facility or air pollution control facility, if it is not hazardous.

Resource Recovery Facility -A facility that provides for the extraction and utilization of materials or energy from Municipal Waste that is generated off-site, including, but not limited to, a facility that mechanically extracts materials from Municipal Waste, a combustion facility that converts the organic fraction of Municipal Waste to usable energy and any chemical or biological process that converts Municipal Waste into a fuel product or other usable material. The term does not include methane gas extraction from a Municipal Waste landfill, nor any separation and collection center, drop-off point or collection center for recycling Municipal Waste, or any source separation or collection center for composting leaf waste.

Rubbish -Non-putrescible solid wastes consisting of combustible and non-combustible materials including leaf wastes.

Sewage Sludge -The coarse screenings, grit and dewatered or air-dried sludges, septic and holding tank pumpings and other residues from municipal and residential sewage collection and treatment systems.

Stabilized Sewage Sludge -Sewage sludge that has been treated to reduce odor potential and the number of pathogenic organisms. Treatment methods include anaerobic and aerobic digestion, composting, lime stabilization and chlorine stabilization.

Tipping Fee -The schedule of fees established by the owner or operator of a transfer station, sanitary landfill, processing and/or resource recovery facility for accepting various types of solid waste for processing or disposal.

Unacceptable Waste -Any material that by reason of its composition, characteristics or quality, is ineligible for disposal at the processing and disposal facility pursuant to the provisions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. S2605 (e), the Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act, 35 P.S. S6018.101, et seq., or other applicable Federal, State or local law; or any other material that the Contractor concludes would require special handling or present an endangerment to the landfill, the public health or safety, or the environment.

II. SCOPE OF CONTRACT

1. Designation as Processing and Disposal Site

In consideration of Operator's Covenants and this Agreement, the County hereby agrees to include operator's Facility in its Plan as a designated non-exclusive processing or disposal facility for Municipal Waste generated in the County.

2. Effective Date

This Contract shall become effective and the contractor shall begin providing Municipal Waste processing and disposal, service for the County under the terms and conditions of this Contract on the date the Contract is duly executed by the Board of Commissioners.

3. Term of contract

The term of this Contract shall commence on the effective date, and shall terminate on the earlier of (a) any event, the effect of which is to permanently terminate the validity of the DEP Permit for the Facility (or the equivalent regulatory agency in state which the facility is located) or (b) Ten (10) years, or (c) terminated in writing by consent of both parties.

4. Compliance with Applicable Laws

The parties to the Contract agree that the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall govern the validity, construction, interpretation and effect of the Contract. The Contractor shall conduct the service of Municipal Waste processing and disposal as provided by for by the Contract in compliance with all applicable federal and state regulations and laws. The contract and the work to be performed as described herein is also subject to the provisions of all pertinent municipal ordinances which shall be made a part thereof with the same force and effect as if specifically set out therein.

The Contractor certifies that it is not currently under suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the Federal Government. The Contractor shall not enter into any subcontract for any work under this contract with any subcontractor who is currently suspended or debarred by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the Federal Government. A list of suspended and debarred contractors may be obtained by contacting the following: Department of General Services, Office of Chief Counsel, 603 North Office Building, Harrisburg, PA 17125; Phone: 717-763-6472, Fax: 717-787-9138.

5. Breach of Contract

If the Contractor fails to materially perform in a satisfactory manner in accordance with applicable Permit requirements or regulations the County shall have the right to demand in writing adequate assurances from the Contractor that steps have been or are being taken to rectify the situation. Within ten (10) days of receipt of any such demand the Contractor must submit to the County a written statement that explains the reasons for the non-performance or delayed, partial or substandard performance during that period and any continuance thereof. The Contractor shall also have the option to appear before the County to present any such explanation. Upon the failure of the contractor to submit a statement or failure of the Contractor to correct any such condition within fifteen (15) days after responding to the demand by the County, unless the County has agreed to a longer period (which agreement will not be unreasonably withheld), the County may, except under the conditions of force majeure, as defined herein, assess liquidated damages to the Contractor in accordance with the provisions stated herein and/or to terminate the Contract, and as a remedy make demands under any remedy available to the County as provided by law.

6. Penalties and Actual Damages

A. It is hereby understood and mutually agreed by and between the Contractor and the County that the Municipal Waste processing and disposal services to be performed under this Contract are vital for the protection of public health and welfare *and* it is further understood and agreed that the services to be performed under this Contract will be commenced on the date specified in this Contract.

B. It is hereby understood and mutually agreed by and between the Contractor and the County that reporting of complete and accurate data in the format required by this Contract is vital to evidence the implementation of Venango County's approved Plan and the continued availability of sufficient processing or disposal capacity *and* it is further understood and agreed that the reports to be submitted under this Contract in the format required will be received by the County on the dates specified in this Contract.

1. A Contractor that operates, or whose parent company operates, a transfer station that receives Venango County municipal waste for transport to one of the designated facilities shall also submit a report from the transfer station in accordance with Section IV.

C. If the Contractor neglects, fails or refuses to provide the Municipal Waste processing and disposal services in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Contract, and as a result thereof there is a disruption or termination of the Municipal Waste processing and disposal services to be performed by Contractor under this Contract, then the Contractor does hereby agree, as a partial consideration for the awarding of the Contract, to pay to the County an amount to be determined as hereinafter set forth as actual damages for such breach of Contract for each and every calendar day that such service is disrupted or terminated.

D. The amount of actual damages shall be equal to any additional total waste processing and disposal cost (i.e., any processing and disposal cost in excess of the amount that haulers normally would have paid for processing and disposal of the same amount of waste at the Contractors' Facility under the contract), if any, plus any additional total waste transportation costs (i.e., any transportation cost in excess of the amount that haulers normally would have paid for transporting the same amount of waste to the Contractors' Facility) if any, that the haulers have incurred for transportation and processing and disposal of the Municipal Waste to an alternative processing or disposal facility or transfer station.

E. The Contractor shall not be responsible for the payment of any actual damages whenever the County determines that the Contractor was without fault and the Contractor's reasons for the breach of Contract are acceptable. Furthermore, the Contractor shall not be responsible for any actual damages under the conditions of force majeure as defined herein.

F. If the Contractor neglects, fails or refuses to provide the complete and accurate reports. in the format required by the County in accordance with the terms and provisions of Section IV of the Contract, then the Contractor does hereby agree, as a partial consideration for the awarding of the Contract, to pay to the County an amount to be determined as hereinafter set forth as penalties for such breach of Contract for each and every calendar day that such reports in the format required by the County are late, incomplete, inaccurate or insufficient.

G. The amount of penalties shall be calculated at the rate of \$300 per day for each and every calendar day past the required date for submission. If more than one report required in Section IV of the Contract is to be submitted on the same calendar day then the amount of penalties shall be calculated separately for each and every report that is late, incomplete, inaccurate or insufficient or improperly formatted.

7. Force Majeure

Neither the Contractor nor the County shall be liable for the failure to perform their duties and obligations under the Contract or for any resultant damages, loss or expense, if such failure was the result of an act of God, riot, insurrection, war, catastrophe, natural disaster or any other cause which was beyond reasonable control of the Contractor or the County and which the contractor or County was unable to avoid by exercise of reasonable diligence.

8. Assignment of Contract

No transfer or assignment of the Contract or any right accruing under the Contract shall be made in whole or in part by the Contractor without prior express written approval by the County (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld). The delegation of any Contract duties will require the written consent of the surety for the Contractor's performance bond, since such delegation will not relieve the Contractor or his surety of any liability and/or obligation to perform. In the event of any delegation of a duty, the delegate shall assume full responsibility and liability for performance of that duty without affecting the Contractor's liability, and shall be responsible for compliance with and performance of all terms and conditions of this contract including but not limited to provisions for sureties and assurances of availability of 10-year service.

9. Change of Ownership

In the event of any change of control or ownership of the Contractor's Facilities the County shall maintain the right to hold the original owner solely liable. However, the County, at its option may determine that the new ownership can adequately and faithfully perform the duties and obligations of the Contract for the remaining term of the Contract, and elect to execute a novation, which will allow the new ownership to assume the rights and duties of the Contract and release the former ownership of all obligations and liabilities. The new ownership would then be solely liable for the performance of the Contract and any claims or liabilities under the Contract.

10. Waivers

A waiver by either party of any breach of any provisions of the Contract shall not be taken or held to be a waiver of any succeeding breach of such provisions or as a waiver of any provision itself. No payment or acceptance of compensation for any period subsequent to any breach shall be deemed a waiver of any right or acceptance of defective performance.

11. County's Obligations

County shall not be obligated by the terms of this Contract to guarantee the delivery to Contractor's Facility of any minimum quantities of Municipal Waste or payment for any services provided by Contractor to any hauler.

12. Illegal and Invalid Provisions:

In the event any term, provision or other part of the Contract should be declared illegal, inoperative, invalid or unenforceable such term or provision shall be amended to conform to the appropriate laws or regulations. In the case of illegal or invalid provisions, the remainder of the Contract shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

13. Joint and Severable Liability

If, after the date hereof, the Contractor is comprised of more than one individual, corporation or other entity, each of the entities comprising the Contractor shall be jointly and severally liable.

14. Binding Effect

The provisions, covenants and conditions of the Contract shall apply to and bind the parties, their legal heirs, representatives, successors and assigns.

15. Entire Agreement /Amendments to the Contract

The provisions of this Contract, together with the Agreements and exhibits incorporated by reference, shall constitute the entire Municipal Waste Processing and Disposal Capacity Contract between the County and the Contractor, superseding all prior processing and disposal capacity agreements or contracts, if any, except as otherwise provided in this Contract. No amendment or modifications of the terms and conditions of the Contract shall be made prior to the date the Contract is duly executed by the Venango County Board of Commissioners. Once the Contract is duly executed by the Venango County Board of Commissioners, no amendment or modifications of the terms and conditions of the Contract shall be effective unless such amendment or modification is in writing and signed by authorized representatives of all parties entitled to receive a right or obligated or perform a duty under the Contract. A signed original amendment to the Contract shall be furnished to all parties to be attached to the original Contract. The County and the Contractor agree that any existing Municipal Waste processing and disposal contracts between them are hereby rendered null and void and superseded by this Contract. Any existing Host County Fee Agreements between the parties shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding any provisions of this Contract.

16. Merger Clause

The Contract shall constitute the final and complete agreement and understanding between the parties. All prior and contemporaneous agreements and understandings, whether oral or written, including, without limitation, the Request For Proposals (RFP) submitted by Contractor, shall be without effect on the construction of any provisions or terms of the final contract if they alter, vary or contradict the Contract.

17. Notices

All notices, demands, requests and other communications under this contract shall be deemed sufficient and properly given if in writing and delivered in person, or by recognized carrier service to the following addresses, or sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, with return receipt requested, at such addresses. Provided, if such notices, demands, requests or other communications are sent by mail, they shall be deemed as given on the third day following such mailing, which is not a Saturday, Sunday or day on which United States mail is not delivered:

**County: The Venango County Regional Planning Commission,
1168 Liberty St., P.O. Box 831
Franklin, Pa. 16323**

Attention: Mr. Erik Johnson, Deputy Director of Planning/Recycling Coordinator.

Contractor Notice Address as shown on Form B.

Either party may, by like notice, designate any further or different addresses to which subsequent notices shall be sent. Any notice under this Contract signed on behalf of the notifying party by a duly authorized attorney at law shall be valid and effective to the same extent as if signed on behalf of such party by duly authorized officer or employee.

III. SERVICE, OPERATIONS, AND PERFORMANCE

1. Services of the Contractor

The Contractor agrees to accept , process and dispose specified quantities and types of Municipal Waste originating from sources located in Venango County, in accordance with all applicable Federal, state and local regulations. Nothing herein shall prohibit any Contractor from entering into any separate contract with another person or municipality to provide such waste collection and/or transportation services.

2. Types and Quantities of Municipal Waste

The specific types and quantities of Municipal Waste that will be accepted at the Contractor's Facility under this contract shall be those as listed in Form B:

Annual adjustments to the maximum Municipal Waste quantities may be permitted if the request for adjustments is made in writing at least sixty (60) days in advance of the anniversary of the effective date of the Contract . Any quantity adjustment request will be mailed to the County by United States Postal Service, Certified Mail. If an authorization is approved, it will be considered an amendment to this Contract and the adjusted quantities will supersede those previously in effect.

3. Maximum Tipping Fees or Rate Schedule

The maximum rate or tipping fee to accept the various types of Municipal Waste shall be as listed on Form A.

4. Delivery of Wastes

The Municipal Waste to be accepted at the Contractor's Facility under this Contract will be delivered to the Contractor's Facility by municipal and/or private waste haulers. The waste haulers responsible for delivering the Municipal Waste that will be accepted under the contract will be those required to be authorized by the Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Safety Act 90 as well as those regularly engaged in the business of waste transportation but are exempt. Only Municipal Waste materials delivered to the Contractor's Facility by authorized and such exempt waste haulers shall count towards any maximum waste quantity limits under the Contract. Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining a current list of the authorized waste haulers from the appropriate State agency.

5. Minimum Hours of Operation

Unless mutually agreed upon otherwise by the Contractor and the County, the Contractor will accept delivery of Municipal Waste from waste haulers authorized by the Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Safety Act 90 during

the hours shown on Form B, excluding generally recognized business holidays, including without limitation (President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New year's Day). In the event of any lengthy travel time from sources in the County to an out-of-county processing and disposal facility, the Contractor will be required to exhibit flexibility in the operating hours for accepting wastes from Venango County. The Contractor shall have complete discretion to make additional arrangements for accepting waste at any earlier or later hours and/or on Sundays.

6. Complaints

The Contractor shall receive and respond to all complaints from waste transporters authorized by the Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Safety Act 90 as well as those regularly engaged in the business of waste collection and transportation in Venango County regarding the acceptance of waste materials at his Facility. Any complaints received by the County will be directed to the Contractor. In the event the Contractor cannot satisfactorily resolve a complaint within five (5) days after receipt of the complaint, the County shall have the right to demand a written explanation or satisfactory resolution of the complaint pursuant to the breach of contract provisions herein.

7. Municipal Recycling Programs

The County and individual municipalities in Venango County shall have the right to establish and operate any municipal recycling programs, including drop-off recycling centers and curbside collection programs, to source separate and remove recyclable materials from the Municipal Waste stream prior to the delivery of the waste to the Contractor's facility. The Contractor shall notify the County in the event Contractor becomes aware that materials that are being collected in the County and/or municipal recycling programs are being routinely delivered to Contractor for waste processing and disposal. The Contractor shall cooperate with the County in reaching the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Recycling goals.

8. Title to Solid Waste

Except in the case where any unacceptable waste or Hazardous Waste is delivered to the Contractor's Facility, the title to the Municipal Waste and any benefits of marketing any materials or energy recovered from the Municipal Waste shall pass to the Contractor upon delivery of the waste to the Contractor's Facility and acceptance of the waste by the Contractor.

9. Unacceptable or Hazardous Waste

The Contractor shall have the right and discretion to inspect and reject any such Hazardous and/or Unacceptable waste delivered to the Facility by the haulers servicing the county. The waste haulers authorized by the Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Safety Act 90, as well as those regularly engaged in the business of waste transportation but are exempt from Act 90, shall be responsible for the prompt removal and processing and disposal of any such unacceptable waste and shall bear all costs associated with the subsequent removal, transportation and processing and disposal of such Hazardous and/or Unacceptable waste.

10. Basis and Method of Payment

A. The County shall not be responsible for the direct payment of any tipping fees to the Contractor under the Contract. All tipping fees shall be paid directly by the municipal and/or private waste haulers, which deliver the waste to the Contractor's Facility.

B. The Contractor shall be responsible for the billing and collection of all tipping fees from the waste haulers. The method of billing and collection arrangements between the waste haulers and the Contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal and State laws governing such commerce and business activities.

C. The County shall not be responsible for failure of any waste hauler, authorized or otherwise, to pay the Contractor's tipping fees and no such fees will be paid by the County. In the event County is notified of repeated delinquency or non-payment by any waste hauler of Contractor's tipping fees, County may enforce any remedies, which may be available to the County.

D. The Contractor shall not charge a tipping fee to any waste hauler authorized by the Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Safety Act 90, as well as those regularly engaged in the business of waste transportation but are exempt, that is greater than the maximum rates established by this Contract for each type of waste. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to prevent or preclude the Contractor from negotiating alternate tipping fees with any waste hauler provided such fees do not exceed the maximum rates under this Contract.

11. Rate Escalation and Adjustments

A. If Contractor desires to adjust the maximum rate or tipping fee for processing and disposal of each type of Municipal Waste under the Contract in excess of the amount provided in Form A in the RFP submitted by Contractor to the County, the Contractor may request the consent of the County for such increase by providing the County with at least 60 days advance written notice of the proposed increase. Consent to any proposed increase shall be at the sole discretion of the County. The notice of proposed increase to the County shall be delivered to the County by United States Postal Service, Certified Mail on or before October 1 of the year prior to the proposed effective date of the increase.

B. Unless the County and Contractor mutually agree to an alternate date, all annual rate adjustments shall become effective on January 1st of each year of the Contract to be consistent with the starting dates and new contract periods of most Municipal Waste collection contracts.

C. The Contractor may also request consent of the County at any time for additional rate or fee adjustments on the basis of unforeseen changes in operating costs resulting from any new or revised federal, state or local laws, ordinances, regulations or permit requirements, which were not in effect at the time when the original Contract was awarded. The Contractor shall have the burden of preparing and submitting any necessary information to support and document any such rate adjustments. The County shall have the right to inspect, by itself or by an independent auditor, any pertinent financial records that document the need for a rate adjustment using audit standards similar to the Federal procurement regulations. The County shall also have the right to modify the amount of a rate increase requested, modify the effective date of a rate adjustment or to reject a rate increase petition for lack of justification.

D. In the event that any one rate adjustment petition for unforeseen changes in the operating costs of the processing or disposal facility, as set forth in paragraph C above, or the cumulative impact of several such rate adjustment petitions, results in a rate increase greater than 25 percent of the base tipping fee under this contract, the County at its discretion shall have the right to solicit new Municipal Waste, processing and disposal service proposals and the right to terminate this Contract, if in the judgment of the County, more favorable processing and disposal contracts can be secured from other facilities.

E. All annual rate adjustments shall be calculated on only the actual operating cost for the Contractor's processing and disposal facility. All annual rate adjustments as set forth in , demonstrated and included with Form A represent the total tipping fee including any and all fees, taxes, and surcharges as described. Any fixed pass-through or add-on surcharges or costs, such as the surcharge for the recycling fund, post-closure trust fund and County or host municipality benefit fee imposed on Pennsylvania Facilities by Act 101 or any other surcharge or pass-through cost imposed by any host county or municipality, will be deducted from the maximum rate or tipping fee prior to calculating any annual rate adjustment.

12. RESERVED County Administration/Recycling Surcharge

In the event that legislation should be enacted during the period of this contract authorizing the County to assess fees or surcharges for the administration and implementation of its solid waste and recycling programs the County reserves all such rights and privileges to negotiate and collect such fees from the Contractor.

IV. RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING REGULATED WASTE

1. The Contractor will be required to install and maintain a scale to weigh all incoming waste to the contractor's Municipal Waste processing or disposal facility or, in the case of a transfer station, to weigh all Municipal Waste delivered to the County designated processing or disposal facility by the transfer station. The scale used to weigh Municipal Waste shall conform to the Weights and Measurement Act of 1965 (73 P.S. sections 1651- 1692) and applicable regulations thereunder; the operator of the scale shall be a licensed public weighmaster under the Public Weighmasters Act (13 P.S. sections 1771-1796) and any regulations.

2. Daily Operational Records

The Contractor shall make and maintain an operational log for each day that Municipal Waste is received, processed or disposed. At a minimum, the following information shall be recorded in the daily operational log:

- A. The total weight of each type of Municipal Waste received at the Facility from all sources;
- B. The County from which the Solid Waste originated, or if the waste originated from outside the state, the state from which the waste originated; and
- C. The name of each waste hauler or transporter delivering Municipal Waste to the Facility.
 - 1. Loads from transfer facilities should be made distinguishable from those directly hauled.

3. Quarterly Operation Reports

The Contractor shall prepare and submit on forms approved by the County a quarterly operation report. The quarterly operation reports shall be submitted to the County on or before the 20th day of April, July, October and January of each year for the preceding three (3) month calendar period ending on the last day of March, June, September and December, respectively. At a minimum, the following information shall be included in each quarterly operation report:

- A. The total weight of each type of Municipal Waste received from all sources within the County during each month of the quarterly reporting period;
- B. The names of the waste haulers or transporters and self-haulers that delivered waste originating from sources in Venango County.
- C. A summary of the total weight of each type of Municipal Waste received each month from each waste hauler or transporter and self-hauler delivering waste originating from sources in Venango County;
- D. A summary of the total weight of each type of Municipal Waste received each month from all waste haulers and self-haulers delivering waste originating from sources in Venango County. Loads from transfer facilities should be made distinguishable from those directly hauled; and
- E. A Contractor that operates, or whose parent company operates, a transfer station that receives Venango County municipal waste for transport to one of the designated facilities shall also submit a report from the transfer station showing:
 - 1. The names of the waste haulers or transporters and self-haulers that delivered Municipal Waste originating from sources in Venango County.
 - 2. A summary of the total weight of each type of Municipal Waste received each month from each waste hauler or transporter and self-hauler delivering waste originating from sources in Venango County.
 - 3. The total amount of tons of Venango County Municipal Waste transported from the transfer station to each disposal facility designated in the Plan to receive waste from Venango County.

The inbound and outbound tons of Venango County waste must reconcile.

4. Annual Operation Report

The Contractor shall prepare and submit on forms approved by the County an annual operation report for each calendar year or other fiscal year approved by the County. The annual operation report shall be submitted to the County on or before June 30th of each year unless an alternate submission date is approved by the County. At a minimum, the following information shall be included in the annual operational report:

- A. For Municipal Waste landfills, a description of the capacity or volume used during the past year and the remaining permitted capacity based upon the annual topographic survey information;
- B. A current Certificate of Insurance as evidence of continuing insurance coverage for public liability insurance as required under the Contract;

C. For resource recovery or other Municipal Waste processing facilities, the name and the location of the landfill disposal facilities where any bypassed wastes, unprocessable waste and waste by-products, such as incinerator ash, were ultimately disposed;

D. Copies of all notices of violation, civil penalty assessments and/or administrative orders issued by federal, state or county regulatory authorities to the owner and/or operator of the Facility during the year; and

E. If available to the Contractor, Certificate of good standing- from its bonding company.

F. The annual operating reports that must be prepared and submitted to the DEP by Pennsylvania processing and disposal facilities (or equivalent regulatory agency in the state in which the facility is located) may constitute acceptable information for portions of the annual operating report for the purposes of the Contract, provided they are accompanied by completed and accurate forms approved by the County along with any required supporting information.

5. Administrative Inspections

Upon reasonable notice, and during regular business hours, the County and its authorized representatives shall have access to Contractors' logs and records pertaining to the quantities and sources of Municipal Waste for the purpose of verifying compliance with the terms and conditions of this Contract.

6. Special Reporting Requirements

The Contractor shall provide written notification to the County of any permit modification applications for the following types of permit changes, on the same date the application is first submitted to the Pennsylvania DEP (or equivalent regulatory agency in the state in which the facility is located):

- A. Changes in the permitted site volume or capacity,
- B. Changes in the permitted average and/or maximum daily waste volume or loading rates,
- C. Changes in the excavation contours or final contours, including the final elevations and slopes,
- D. Changes in the permitted acreage, and
- E. Changes in ownership.

V. PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Insurance Requirement

The Contractor shall be required to maintain in full force and effect throughout the term of the Contract, and any renewal or extension thereof a general liability insurance policy to provide continuous coverage against third party claims for property damage and personal injury, as specified in Chapter 271 of the DEP's Municipal Waste Management Regulations (Pennsylvania Bulletin, Vol. 18, No. 15, April 9, 1988) and the following section. The effective date of the required insurance policy shall be prior to the initiation of any waste processing and disposal services under this Contract. Contractor shall cause County to be added as an additional insured on all policies of insurance required under the terms of this Contract.

2. Proof of Insurance Coverage

The Contractor shall be required to submit to the County proof of insurance coverage upon execution of the Contract. At a minimum, the proof of insurance shall consist of a certificate of insurance which:

- A. States the name of the insurance company, the insured owner and facility covered by the policy.
- B. Identifies the kinds of coverage provided by the policy and the amounts of coverage, exclusive of legal costs.
- C. Identifies the beginning and ending dates for the policy.
- D. Specifies that a minimum 60-day period written notice shall be given by the insurer to the County and the Owner, by certified mail, before any cancellation or other termination of the policy becomes effective.
- E. States that the insurer is liable for payment on the policy without regard for the bankruptcy or insolvency of the insured.
- F. Be signed by an authorized agent of the insurance company.

3. Maintenance of Insurance Coverage

The Contractor shall be required to submit to the County a current certificate of insurance as evidence of continuous insurance coverage as part of the annual operation report required under the Contract. The annual certificate of insurance shall contain the same information and provisions as specified in the original proof of insurance certificate under the requirements of the preceding paragraph. Failure to submit the required proof of insurance or to maintain the required minimum insurance coverages would be considered a default by the Contractor in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

VI. NONDISCRIMINATION

Neither the Contractor nor any subcontractor nor any person(s) acting on his behalf shall discriminate against any person because of race, sex, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or any other protected category.

VII. INDEMNIFICATION

The Contractor or its successors and assigns shall indemnify and save harmless the County, their officers, agents, servants and employees from and against any and all suits, actions, legal proceedings, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses and attorney fees resulting from any willful or negligent act or omission of the Contractor or its successors or assigns, its officers, agents, servants and employees in the performance of this Contract; provided however, that the Contractor or its successors and assigns shall not be liable for any suits, actions, legal proceedings, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses and other attorney fees arising out of the award of this Contract or the willful or negligent act or omission of the County, their officers, agents, servants and employees.

VIII. PERMITS

The Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining any and all permits necessary for the construction and operation of the Municipal Waste processing and disposal facilities required to comply with the terms and

conditions of the Contract, and any and all costs or expenses of obtaining such permits. Failure to obtain and maintain permits shall constitute a breach of this Contract.

IX. Right-to-Know Law

The Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law, 65 P.S. § 67.101-3104, applies to this Contract.

Unless the Contractor provides the County in writing, with the name and contact information of another person, the County shall notify the Contractor's Project Coordinator using the Contractor information provided by the Contractor in the legal contact information provided in this Contract, if the County needs the Contractor's assistance in any matter arising out of the Right-to-Know LAW ("RTKL"). The Contractor shall notify the County in writing of any change in the name or the contact information within a reasonable time prior to the change.

Upon notification from the County that the County requires the Contractor's assistance in responding to a RTKL request for records in the Contractor's possession, the Contractor shall provide the County within 14 calendar days after receipt of such notification, access to, and copies of, any document or information in the Contractor's possession which arises out of the Contract that the County requests ("Requested Information") and provide such other assistance as the County may request in order to comply with the RTKL. If the Contractor fails to provide the Requested Information within 14 calendar days after receipt of such request, the Contractor shall indemnify and hold the County harmless for any damages, penalties, detriment or harm that the County may incur under the RTKL as a result of the Contractor's failure, including any statutory damages assessed against the County.

The County's determination as to whether the Requested Information is a public record is dispositive of the question as between the parties. The Contractor agrees not to challenge the County's decision to deem the Requested Information as Public Record. If the Contractor considers the Requested Information to include a request for a Trade Secret or Confidential Proprietary Information, as those terms are defined by the RTKL, the Contractor will immediately notify the County, and will provide a written statement signed by a representative of the Contractor explaining why the requested material is exempt from public disclosure under the RTKL within seven (7) calendar days of receiving the request. If, upon review of the Contractor's written statement, the County still decides to provide the Requested Information, the Contractor will not challenge or in any way hold the County liable for such a decision.

The County will reimburse the Contractor for any costs associated with complying with this provision only to the extent allowed under the fee schedule established by the Office of Open Records or as otherwise provided by the RTKL if the fee schedule is inapplicable.

The Contractor agrees to abide by any decision to release a record to the public made by the Office of Open Records, or by the Pennsylvania Courts. The Contractor agrees to waive all rights or remedies that may be available to it as a result of the County's disclosure of Requested Information pursuant to the RTKL. The Contractor's duties relating to the RTKL are continuing duties that survive the expiration of this Contract and shall continue as long as the Contractor has Requested Information in its possession.

WITNESS the execution hereof, the parties expressly intending to be legally bound pursuant to the Uniform Written Obligations Act, 33 Pa. C.S. § 6, Contractor and County have caused this contract to be executed by their respective duly authorized agents, as of the date and year first written.

COUNTY OF VENANGO,

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHAIR DATE _____

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

(SEAL)

ATTEST: _____

Chief Clerk,

CONTRACTOR

CONTRACTOR: _____

WITNESS: _____

TITLE: _____

Form A – Cost of Processing and Disposal

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	Approved ICW	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 Venango County MSW					

Total Tipping Fee including all fees and surcharges						

Form B -Reserved Capacity

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
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						
2029-2030						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2030-2031						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2031-2032						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						
2032-2033						
Tons Per Day						
Tons Per Year						

Form B - Part II Reserved Capacity

Total Combined Quantities of all Accepted Categories of Municipal Waste

YEAR	TOTAL VENANGO MSW TONS PER YEAR * (all categories)	PERCENTAGE Reserving Capacity for % of Venango MSW Annually (all categories)	ANNUAL TONS Reserving Capacity for #Tons Venango MSW Annually (all categories)	OPERATING DAYS Estimated Annual Working Days	TONS PER DAY Reserving Capacity for #Tons Venango MSW Daily (all categories)
	41,412				
	41,318				
	41,205				
	41,091				
	40,977				
	40,864				
	40,746				
	40,602				
	40,458				
	40,315				
	40,172				
	40,025				

Operating hours from _____ to _____ Monday through Friday and
from _____ to _____ on Saturdays,

Indicate tons of Venango County Municipal Waste donated by Contractor per year for non-profit activities including but not limited to road adoptions and open dump clean-ups: _____ tons

Notices

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

Contractor: _____

Address: _____

Attention: _____

*Projections were adjusted to account for known discrepancies in PADEP annual facility reports

Section 5

REQUIRED FORMS

The following forms shall be completed, signed by an official authorized to bind the Offeror, and attached to the proposal.

1. Form C- Representations and Certifications
2. Form D- Contractor Information

FORM C- REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Company _____

Facility _____

Authorized Official _____

An officer of the organization submitting the proposal empowered and authorized to sign such documents makes the following representations and certifications as part of this proposal:

1. Certification of Non Collusion and Independent Price Determination

I certify that as an officer of _____, I have lawful authority and have thus been empowered to submit and execute the proposal contained herein; that neither have I nor any representative of _____ has either directly or indirectly entered into any agreement, express or implied with any representative or representatives of other companies or individuals submitting such proposals for the object of controlling of price, the limiting of proposals submitted, the parceling out of any part of the resulting contract or subject matter of the proposal or proposals or any profits thereof; and that I nor any representatives of _____ have not nor will not divulge the sealed proposal to any person or persons except those having a partnership or other financial interest with him or her in the proposal or proposals until after the said sealed proposal or proposals are opened.

I further certify that neither I nor any representative of _____, have been a party to collusion among proposers in restraint of the freedom of competition by agreement to make a proposal at a fixed price or to refrain from submitting a proposal or with any state official or employee as to quantity, quality, or price in any discussions between proposers and any County official concerning exchange of money or other things of value for special consideration in the letting of the contract and that neither I nor any representative of _____ have paid, given, donated or agreed to pay give or donate to any official, officer, or employee of Venango County any money or other thing of value either directly or indirectly.

2. Acceptance Period

I agree to allow 180 days from the date of this proposal for acceptance thereof by the Commissioners of Venango County.

3. Ambiguity

I recognize and accept that in the case of any ambiguity or lack of clarity in stating fees, prices or other information and conditions in the proposal, the County shall have the right to construe

such prices or information and conditions in a manner most advantageous to the County or to reject the proposal.

4. Contingent Fee Representation

I certify that _____ has not employed or retained any company or person other than a full time bona fide employee working solely for _____ to solicit or secure this contract nor has it paid or agreed to pay any company or person other than a full time bona fide employee working solely for _____ any fee commission, percentage or brokerage fee contingent upon or resulting from the award of this contract. I agree to furnish any information relating to both conditions as requested by Venango County.

5. Equal Employment Opportunity

I assure that neither the employees, applicants for employment, nor those of any labor organization, subcontractor or employment agency in either referring or furnishing employee applicants are discriminated against by _ _____.

Executed under penalty of perjury this _____ day of 2024, at _____

By_ _____ (name)

_____ (title)

SEAL _____ (company)

Date:_____

On _ _____, 2024, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for _ _____, personally appeared_ _____, known to me to be the _ _____ of Company that executed the within instrument on behalf of the Proposer therein named, and acknowledged to me that such Proposer executed the same.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County of _____, this _____ day of _ _____ 2024.

Notary _____

My Commission expires_____ Notary Public

FORM D- CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company__ _____

Address _____

Phone __ _____ Fax _ _____

Owner/President__ _____

Type of organization (corporation, joint venture, partnership, individual)

- _____

For joint ventures, indicate role and ownership share of each participant. Providing information for each. List any and all subcontractors.

Proposed Processing and Disposal Facility _ _____

Permit #/ State /Date Issued/Expiration _ _____

Physical Location

(County/Municipalities)_ _____

Have you or any officer of the company or facility ever failed to complete any contract awarded in your own name or that of the company or facility?

If yes, explain who, where and why__ _____

Have you or any officer of the company or facility ever failed to complete any contract awarded in your own name or that of any other company or facility?

If yes, explain who, where and why__ _____

Are you or any officer of the company or facility engaged in any contracts for services similar to those contained in the proposal herein?

If yes, explain who, where and when _____

Have you or any officer of the company or facility your partners or joint ventures been party to a lawsuit issued within the past three years that might impact your ability to perform the obligations of this contract?

If yes, explain who, where and why _____

Have you submitted a complete and accurate compliance history outlining any and all judicial actions, convictions, consent orders or agreements, violations, and resolutions for any environmental, or public health and safety laws and regulations?

Explain or comment on any desired actions _____

Executed under penalty of perjury this _____ *day of 2024 at* _____

By _____ *(name)*

_____ *(title)*

SEAL _____ *(company)*

Date: _____

On _____, 2024, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for _____, personally appeared _____, known to me to be the _____ of Company that executed the within instrument on behalf of the Proposer therein named, and acknowledged to me that such Proposer executed the same.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County of _____, this _____ day of _____ 2024.

My Commission expires _____ Notary Public

Petition to Add a Designated Facility

Forms and Process

Venango County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan Petition for Designation as Processing/Disposal Facility

Venango County has secured Disposal Capacity Agreements for a sufficient amount of disposal capacity for all municipal waste generated within the County. However, the County recognizes that new disposal and processing opportunities may present themselves from time to time. Therefore, Venango County has established guidelines to include added facilities during the ten-year period of its current Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan. Municipalities, haulers, and/or transfer stations must use this form to notify the County of a party's interest in using another facility. Information provided in this form will be used by the County to contact a facility representative and send the requirements necessary to qualify the facility as a participant in the Plan. The facility must meet all of the same criteria required in the original Request for Proposals for Disposal Capacity, including execution of the Contract as presented. Any and all costs associated with the Plan revision to add a facility shall be the responsibility of either the Petitioner or the Facility as indicated and authorized by a signature on this form.

Please complete and submit the form to:
Venango County Regional Planning Commission
1168 Liberty St.
P.O. Box 831
Franklin, Pa. 16323
814.432.9684

Petitioner Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Name of Facility: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Explain the need to have this facility included in the Plan: (Attach Additional Sheets if Necessary)

Party responsible for total costs of Plan Revision to add facility:

Name _____ **Title** _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Procedures and Instructions to Petitioner

A disposal/processing facility, a hauler, a municipality or a business must complete and submit the petition form to the Venango County Regional Planning Commission. Within 15 working days of the receipt of a petition, the Venango County Regional Planning Commission will send to the petitioner or the facility, a request for proposal for disposal capacity outlining the same requirements and format for submission as the original document utilized in the selection of those facilities currently designated in the Plan.

Upon receipt of the completed proposal from the petitioning facility, the Venango County Regional Planning Commission will notify the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection of its intentions to add a facility.

The Venango County Regional Planning Commission will review and respond to the information in the proposal within 45 working days.

If information in the submitted proposal is complete, accurate and meets the accepted criteria, , the Venango County Regional Planning Commission will notify by letter all municipalities within the County of the intent to add a facility to the Plan. The County will accept comments for a period of thirty days. After the thirty day comment period, Lawrence-Mercer County Recycling/Solid Waste will formally submit the addition of the facility to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for approval.

Upon approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Venango County Regional Planning Commission will notify by letter all County municipalities that a facility has been added to the Plan.

At that time the requesting facility, hauler, municipality, or business will also be notified that the facility is formally designated in the Plan for disposal of Venango County generated municipal waste.

Ordinances

County Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Transporters Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-01

COUNTY OF VENANGO, PENNSYLVANIA

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF VENANGO, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING A HAULER REGISTRATION PROGRAM TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE VENANGO COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR ALL PERSONS THAT COLLECT AND TRANSPORT MUNICIPAL WASTE AND/OR RECYCLABLES GENERATED FROM SOURCES LOCATED IN VENANGO COUNTY; PROVIDING WASTE FLOW CONTROL REQUIREMENTS TO DIRECT WASTE TO DESIGNATED PROCESSING AND/OR DISPOSAL SITES; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES TO BE INCLUSIVE OF CURBSIDE RECYCLING; 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 can 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 1991 Municipal Waste Management Plan and non-substantial revisions in 2000, 2004, and 2014 in accordance with the requirements of Section 501 of Act 101, and said Plan has been duly ratified by the municipalities of Venango County; 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 Venango County hereby enact and ordain as follows:

SECTION 1- SHORT TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known and referred to as the "County Municipal 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)

Commercial Establishment - Any establishment engaged in nonmanufacturing or nonprocessing business, including, but not limited to, stores, markets, offices, restaurants, shopping centers, and theaters.

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

County Authorization – An authorization from Venango County issued to any transporter of municipal waste and recyclables that is not required by Act 90 to obtain Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Authorization.

County Registered Transporter - Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or public agency who is engaged in the collection and/or transportation of municipal waste and/or recyclables currently registered with the County pursuant to 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

Industrial Establishment Any establishment engaged in manufacturing or production activities, including, but not limited to, factories, foundries, mills, processing plants, refineries, mines, and slaughterhouses.

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 Venango 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).

Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Authorization – An authorization issued to municipal and residual waste transporters pursuant to Act 90.

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.

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.

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.

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

1. 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 101, including the Title 25, Chapter 285, Subchapter B Regulations for the Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste as currently worded or hereafter amended.
 - 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.

F. All Transporters who collect municipal waste from residential sources must offer to their customers the collection of recyclables included and bundled in the price of the municipal waste collection service. No discounts or rebates shall be offered to customers who do not use the recycling collection services.

2. All collection and transportation vehicles and equipment used by Transporters, shall be subject to inspection by the County or its authorized agents to determine compliance with the regulations in this section at any reasonable hour without prior notification.

SECTION 4 - REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

1. No person shall collect, remove, haul or transport any municipal waste and/or recyclables originating in Venango County through or upon the streets, alleys, highways, by-ways, township roads and any other public easement through any of the various municipalities within Venango County without first registering with the County of Venango in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

2. Any person who desires to collect, haul or transport municipal waste and/or recyclables within Venango County shall register for the first time at least thirty (30) days before beginning collection and/or transporting of municipal waste in the County.

3. Any person who desires to collect, haul or transport municipal waste and/or recyclables within Venango County shall submit a copy of its Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Authorization application and a copy of the proof of Authorization to the County at the time of registration.

4. In lieu of submitting the Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Authorization application and the proof of Authorization, any person who desires to collect, haul or transport municipal waste and/or recyclables within Venango County that is not required by Act 90 to obtain Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Authorization, must complete the full registration form. At the time of registration all information required by the registration form must be provided to obtain an authorization from the County. The County shall have a minimum period of thirty (30) calendar days to review any authorization application and take approval or denial action.

5. The County shall designate specific processing and disposal facilities where Transporters must transport and dispose of any municipal solid waste collected from sources within Venango County. No person shall dispose of municipal waste collected within Venango County, except at an approved processing and disposal facility. The County shall not designate specific facilities for the processing and/or marketing of recyclables.

6. There shall be no registration or authorization fee.

7. The registration form, which will be supplied by the County, shall state the processing and disposal facilities that the applicant intends to use for the purpose of disposal of Venango County Municipal Waste as well as the recycling facilities or end use facilities where Venango County recyclables are marketed and shall set forth the minimum

information required to establish the applicant's qualifications to collect and transport municipal waste and/or recyclables, including, but not necessarily limited to:

- A. Name together with actual mailing address of business location of the applicant,
- B. Name and telephone number of contact person,
- C. List of all collection vehicles to be used for the collection and transport of solid waste and recyclables and the Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Authorization identification number for each.
- D. List of collection vehicles to be used for the collection and transport of solid waste and recyclables and to be covered under the County authorization rather than Pennsylvania Waste Transportation Authorization. The vehicle identification information and the vehicle license number for each vehicle. The company tax identification number; certificate(s) of insurance to present evidence that the applicant has valid liability, automobile and workmen's compensation insurance.
- E. Type of municipal waste and/or recyclables collected and transported,

8. Any person who desires to collect, haul or transport municipal waste and/or recyclables within Venango County and who is currently registered shall submit a registration renewal application and if applicable an authorization renewal to the County at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of their existing registration if renewal of the registration and authorization is desired.

9. No new authorization or authorization renewal shall be approved and issued by the County to any person who fails to satisfy the minimum standards and requirements of this Ordinance

10. Written complaints filed by residents or county designated facilities may result in the delay or denial of authorization renewal.

11. Any applicant aggrieved by a denial of a new authorization or an authorization renewal may request a hearing before the Board of Commissioners of the County of Venango in accordance with the Pennsylvania Local Agency Law.

SECTION 5- PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to collect and or transport municipal solid waste from any sources within Venango 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 Venango County to any processing and disposal facility other than the facilities that are designated disposal sites under the approved Venango County Act 101 Municipal Waste Management Plan. The

following types of municipal waste and materials are exempt from this subsection:

- 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.

SECTION 6- EXEMPTED ACTIVITIES

A. Municipalities and municipally owned vehicles participating in municipally sponsored clean-up days shall not be subject to the provisions of this ordinance with respect to standards for collection and transportation, licensing, prohibited activities, reporting requirements or penalties during the time that such vehicles or municipalities are engaged in those municipally sponsored clean-up activities.

B. Municipalities and municipally owned vehicles participating in county or municipally sponsored recycling collection shall not be subject to the provisions of this ordinance with respect to standards for collection and transportation, licensing, prohibited activities, reporting requirements or penalties during the time that such vehicles or municipalities are engaged in those county or municipally sponsored recycling activities.

C. 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.

SECTION 7- REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. All Transporters shall promptly report any significant changes in the collection vehicles or equipment covered under the authorization and insurance coverage changes to the County.

2. All County Registered Transporters shall maintain current, up-to-date records of the customers serviced within Venango County. Such records and customer list shall be subject to inspection and must be made available for view to the County or its authorized agents upon request.

3. Each Transporter shall prepare and submit on forms provided by the County, a typewritten or legibly printed quarterly report to the Venango County Regional Planning Commission. 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 Venango 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 Venango 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 not more than thirty (30) days, or both. Each incident shall be considered a separate and distinct offense punishable under the provisions of this Ordinance.
2. The County shall have the right at any time, after a hearing before the Board of County Commissioners to suspend or revoke the County issued authorization of any County Registered Transporter for any of the following causes:

- A. Falsification or misrepresentation of any statements in any authorization application;
- B. Lapse or cancellation of any required insurance coverages;
- C. Collection and/or transportation of any municipal waste and/or recyclables in a careless or negligent manner or any other manner that does not comply with the requirements of this Ordinance;
- D. Transportation and disposal of any municipal waste collected from sources within Venango County at any site other than those processing or disposal facilities designated by the County; and
- E. Failure to meet the specific reporting requirements outlined in this Ordinance
- F. Violation of any part of this Ordinance, any other applicable county ordinances or other applicable Pennsylvania laws or regulations.

SECTION 9- INJUNCTIVE POWERS

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

SECTION 10 -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 11 -CONFLICT

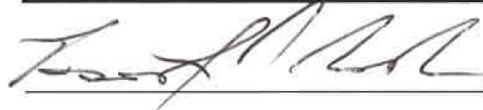
Any ordinances or any part of any ordinances, which conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as the same is specifically inconsistent with this Ordinance.

SECTION 12- EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect on January ORDAINED AND ENACTED into an Ordinance this 13th day of 2014.5

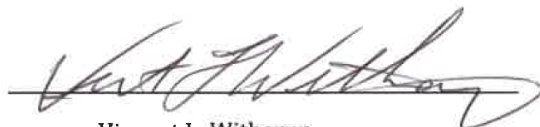
COUNTY OF VENANGO,

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

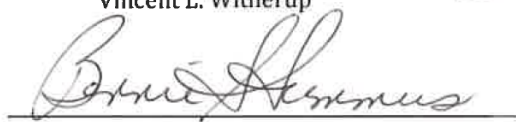
 CHAIR

DATE 1/13/15

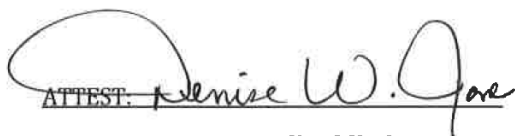
Timothy S. Brooks Chairman



Vincent L. Witherup



Bonnie S. Summers

ATTEST: 

Denise Jones, Chief Clerk,

(SEAL)

Resolution to Adopt the Plan

Executed by Board of Commissioners

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02

RESOLUTION BY THE VENANGO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADOPTING THE VENANGO COUNTY
2024 MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the Venango County Board of Commissioners have undertaken the development of a Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan for Venango County in accordance with the requirements of the Solid Waste Management Act of 1980 (Act 97) and the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988 (Act 101) ; and

WHEREAS, this revised Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan for Venango County will be financed by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and local funds and services provided by the Venango County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendations of the Venango County Solid Waste Advisory Committee, the Venango County Regional Planning Committee , and the Venango County Board of Commissioners have reviewed and approved the recommendations of this proposed plan to insure the availability of adequate permitted processing and disposal capacity for the municipal waste generated within Venango County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Venango County Board of Commissioners do hereby approve and adopt the 2024 Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan for Venango County pursuant to the requirements of Section 501 of the Pennsylvania Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988 (Act 101).

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 13th day of January 2026
COUNTY OF VENANGO,
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: [Signature]
Chief Clerk, Chief Clerk,

(SEAL)

[Signature: Samuel H. Breune]
Chairman

[Signature]
Commissioner

[Signature]
Commissioner

Meeting Minutes and Public Comments

Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Input from Stakeholders

Venango County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes from August 1st, 2023

1174 Elk St., Courthouse Annex, Franklin, Pa. 16323. Room 100 – 5PM

Committee Members and Guests in Attendance:

Greg Miller

Jerry Bowser

Terri Felmlee

Emily Lewis

Hilary Buchanan

Jason Dillion

Michele Nestor

Erik Johnson

- i. Introductions – Erik Johnson welcomed all the new members of the SWAC committee and everyone went around the table to introduce themselves to the committee.
- ii. Committee Roles and Responsibilities - Michele N. explained to the committee members why they were chosen for the SWAC. She explained representation from all 3 municipal classes (Borough, Township, City) as well as sectors of business and waste industry are requirements for committee composition. Each person's point of view is important in updating the plan to move the County's solid waste/recycling program forward.
- iii. ACT 101, Planning Process and Intro to Municipal Solid Waste – Michele N. explained the committee will meet a total of at least 4 times; but, may possibly have more (6 total) if needed to refine the plan. She explained the tasks involved with the plan should: ensure compliance with DEP guidelines, gather data of local demographics, evaluate local commercial and institutional programs/compliance, consider local government policies, explore reasonable methods to

enhance the process/programs, provide tools to ensure implementation of the plan, and establish realistic sources of revenue to sustain programs. Once the committee has evaluated the existing program/plan and provided input to move the County forward, a draft of the updated plan will be put out for public comment and then final approval will be granted by DEP and County Commissioners. Additionally, an explanation on the specifics of Municipal Waste were presented and discussed.

- iv. Strengths and Weaknesses of the current Plan – Michele Nestor and Erik Johnson discussed aspects of the existing plan that were successful as well as goals that may have fell short. The main initiatives that were successful included the creation of the Venango County Community Recycling Center, enhancement of special collections programs, and public education on recycling. However, efforts to establish additional uniformity with municipal ordinances, codes and enforcement were left unfulfilled. In general, efforts to move recycling and material diversion forward in the County were successful with the previous plan. The committee discussed possible enhancements to curbside collection of electronics for a possible initiative moving forward. Erik Johnson discussed hurdles for the recycling center – addressing capacity limitations onsite at the moment and down markets for moving material and generating revenue.
- v. What to expect in the follow-up meetings – Michele N. explained that future SWAC meetings will involve discussion on waste practices and recycling performance in the County. Also, results from the Request for disposal capacity will be reviewed along the way. Recommendations from committee sessions will be reviewed and utilized to draft goals and initiatives for the plan update.
- vi. Open Discussion – The committee has a brief open discussion at the end which mainly decided on the next meeting date of Dec. 5th, 2023. Erik Johnson advised he would check with the Chief Clerk's office for availability of Room 100 for that day.

Venango County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes from Dec. 5th, 2023

1174 Elk St., Courthouse Annex, Franklin, Pa. 16323. Room 100 – 3PM

Committee Members and Guests in Attendance:

Greg Miller

Jerry Bowser

Terri Felmlee

Mel Kirkwood

Susan Williams

TJ Parks

Jason Dillion

Michele Nestor

Erik Johnson

- i. Introductions – Erik Johnson welcomed all the members of the SWAC committee and everyone went around the table to introduce themselves to the committee.
- ii. Review of Aug. 1st minutes – Erik Johnson reviewed the minutes from the last SWAC meeting with the committee members and guests present. Some additional discussion regarding the County's last plan initiatives and the hauler ordinance were discussed briefly. One particular query regarding who dictates a municipality to be required to have a contracted hauler was discussed as well.
- iii. County Solid Waste and Recycling Data – Michele N. presented historical Venango Co. solid waste and recycling data to the committee. She cited a particular discrepancy in the amount of residential solid waste being reported by the landfills/haulers in the County. Since the closure of County Landfill in Leeper around 2008, the County's reported municipal waste numbers have decreased substantially in the past 15+ years. She advised this poses an issue with regards to landfill capacity requests moving forward with future plans, etc.

- iv. EPA Statistics and Expectations – Michele Nestor presented data regarding nationwide EPA averages for household waste generation. She then compared the national average to Venango County's numbers to reinforce the deficit discussed previously with regards to skewed reporting numbers the County may be receiving during the annual report process. All these data points were part of the attached Power Point presentation contained as an attachment to these minutes.
- v. County RFP for Landfill Capacity – Michele N. explained the process for the upcoming RFP for landfill capacity. The committee discussed the next meeting timeframe for March. This being the case, Michele N. advised that she would start the RFP process in January to be completed by the next SWAC meeting. Additionally, she explained the next meeting would tackle any initiatives and goals the committee may slate for the Recycling Program going forward and that a plan draft should follow in subsequent meetings.
- vi. Open Discussion – The committee briefly decided on mid-March for the next SWAC meeting. Nothing additional was discussed.

Venango County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes from March 19, 2024

1174 Elk St., Courthouse Annex, Franklin, Pa. 16323. Room 100 – 3PM

Committee Members and Guests in Attendance:

Greg Miller
Jerry Bowser
Terri Felmlee
Mel Kirkwood
Susan Williams
Emily Lewis
TJ Parks(OBO of Amanda Power)
Jason Dillion
Michele Nestor
Erik Johnson

- i. Introductions – Erik Johnson welcomed all the members of the SWAC committee and everyone went around the table to introduce themselves to the committee.
- ii. Review of Dec. 5th, 2023 minutes – Erik Johnson reviewed the minutes from the last SWAC meeting with the committee members and guests present.
- iii. Status Update on Landfill RFP – Michele Nestor advised the committee that Landfill Capacity RFP has been posted and that March 26th is the due date for these to be delivered to the County. Erik Johnson advised that he had received 2 RFP's from Seneca Landfill and Tri County currently; but, expects additional RFP's to be submitted. He estimated that nine had been submitted to the County during the last 10 year plan update. Michele Nestor reviewed with the committee why this RFP is a requirement and what to expect going forward.
- iv. Potential Goals/Initiatives for Plan – Michele Nestor presented information on the previous plan update's goals and initiatives and how these played out during the course of the last ten years. The main goal discussed was the creation of the Venango County Recycling Center which was a central initiative for the county to rebuild drop-off capacity for rural municipalities that had lost their programs – mostly due to increased illegal dumping at their sites after the passage of Act 108. Michele discussed how the county has managed to complete this task; but, that the County has room to build capacity at the center to possibly add more material to its processing schedule. Erik Johnson advised at this point the Center is only processing Cardboard as it has limited storage and floor space at the facility. He anticipates building capacity in the future with a 4200 sq/ft addition to be constructed off the existing facility which would add more room and a loading dock. With this additional processing/floor space, he would like to add paper to the baling schedule to offset one of the bins currently picked up by the hauler (who handles 5 commingle bins onsite) and

generate additional revenue for the program. Additionally, there was some discussion about increasing programmatic awareness and Education. Erik Johnson explained the center currently prints brochures, advertises special collection events regularly and hosts information to the public on the County website, as well as, conducts an Earth Day event at the center to answer any questions residents may have on Recycling. Susan Williams mentioned that the Venango Chamber of Commerce would be willing to include any promotional/educational information their monthly newsletters. Erik also stated that he intends to reach out the school districts once the Recycling Center has additional capacity to help divert materials there and help kickstart some programs at those schools. Finally, Erik J. mentioned the need to expand the County's public/private partnerships possibly with haulers/vendors of recycled materials to potentially offset addition costs of a growing recycling program at the Center.

- v. What to Expect in follow-up meetings – Michele Nestor explained that the next few months would encompass reviewing the RFP's and starting to draft the plan for committee consideration. She advised that one to two more meetings would most likely have to take place to finalize this process.
- vi. Open Discussion – The committee briefly discussed July for the next SWAC meeting. Erik Johnson will send out requests for potential date confirmation. Nothing additional was discussed.

Venango County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes from July 2, 2024

1174 Elk St., Courthouse Annex, Franklin, Pa. 16323. Room 100 – 3PM

Committee Members and Guests in Attendance:

Greg Miller
Terri Felmlee
Mel Kirkwood
Susan Williams
Emily Lewis
Jason Dillion
Michele Nestor
Erik Johnson
Sam Breene
Ken Bryan

- i. Introductions – Erik Johnson welcomed all the members of the SWAC committee and everyone went around the table to introduce themselves to the committee.
- ii. Review of March 19th, 2024 minutes – Erik Johnson reviewed the minutes from the last SWAC meeting with the committee members and guests present.
- iii. Status Update on Landfill RFP – Michele Nestor advised the committee that Landfill Capacity RFP has been complete with a total of 10 responses from Landfills. She reiterated the disparities that exist in reported disposal tonnages for the County and that this would be taken into account when drafting the plan.
- iv. Projecting Capacity Needs – Michele Nestor presented information to illustrate the disparity in the historical Solid Waste tonnages in the County compared to the national averages based on EPA data. These “expected tonnages” provide a more realistic model for what is being disposed of in the county; however, due to the rural demographics of the region this average may be a bit on the higher end of spectrum. As a snapshot though, this model is most likely the only benchmark the County can use to determine capacity needs. Additionally, she extrapolated population projection data moving forward to further justify what capacity may entail over the course of the Plan.
- v. Responses to the RFP – Michele Nestor presented data on the 10 Landfills that responded to the Request for Proposals. This information entailed a detail of landfill capacity guarantees and schedule of maximum rates. There was discussion and interest in how these rates affected the County in terms of costs in the long term. It was explained that this is part of the reason the RFP

goes out in the first place – so that County's have a guarantee of capacity and that the maximum tipping fees are established and locked in with each submission.

- vi. Open Discussion – The committee briefly discussed July for the next SWAC meeting. Erik Johnson will send out confirmation on the next date slated for Sept/Oct. timeframe. Nothing additional was discussed.

Venango County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes from Oct. 15th, 2024

1174 Elk St., Courthouse Annex, Franklin, Pa. 16323. Room 100 – 3PM

Committee Members and Guests in Attendance:

Greg Miller
Terri Felmlee
Jerry Bowser
Mel Kirkwood
TJ Parks(Amanda Power)
Jason Dillion
Michele Nestor
Erik Johnson

- i. Introductions – Erik Johnson welcomed all the members of the SWAC committee and everyone went around the table to introduce themselves to the committee.
- ii. Review of July 2nd, 2024 minutes – Erik Johnson reviewed the minutes from the last SWAC meeting with the committee members and guests present.
- iii. Recommendations for Future Consideration to the Recycling Program – Michele Nestor presented a PowerPoint of topics touched upon throughout the course of the SWAC process. At the top of these considerations were: (1) Building capacity at the Recycling Center, (2) Researching additional funding sources/revenues, (3) Volunteer and enhanced school educational programs, (4) cultivating public/private partnerships, (5) Determining the feasibility of a Solid Waste Authority, and (6) Expanding special collections and handling of certain(volatile) materials such as lithium/ion batteries.
- iv. Building Recycling Center Capacity– Michele Nestor presented information to illustrate the need to build capacity at the Recycling Center in order to have the ability to process and store additional materials. At the moment, the recycling center only processes cardboard. With additional space, more materials may be added in the future to offset costs of the program through revenues generated and not having to pay a hauler to handle said material. The group discussed the need for additional financial support through larger grant allocations to be able to accomplish a build out in a compressed encumbrance timeline.
- v. Enhance Volunteer and School Educational Programs – Michele Nestor presented information of the need for a possible Master Recyclers Certification Program to entice local volunteers to the Recycling Center's endeavors. This would serve to build capacity for day to day operations at the center as well as provide a core advocacy group of well-informed citizens who could cultivate additional interest in the program throughout the community. Additionally, the group discussed enhancing local elementary and high school programs to not only educate students on recycling;

but, also assist in recycling material diversion at these institutions once the Center has capacity to handle additional intake.

- vi. Public/Private Partnerships – SWAC discussed the possibilities of incentivizing transporters/commercial businesses to bring materials to the center for processing. Erik Johnson clarified this process would definitely need to be scaled up with the Centers ability to handle additional material; but, that the County believes this is an important component to long term sustainability of the program.
- vii. Solid Waste Authority and Expanding Special Materials Collection – The SWAC briefly discussed the topic of County Recycling Program vs. Solid Waste Authority. Michele Nestor presented a list of pros/cons for both cases. The committee ended the meeting talking about special collections and expanding the existing programs. Erik Johnson advised the County would like to add additional Tire Recycling access in the near future and will be discussing this with DEP regarding the HHW grant reimbursement program. Additional discussion on the need for more engagement/education on proper disposal of Lithium/ion batteries.
- viii. Open Discussion – The committee briefly discussed moving forward with these initiatives for the plan and was advised draft chapters are to be sent to DEP for review. Once these chapters are reviewed a Draft Plan will be presented to the SWAC for comment – and, then go through the process of public comment/commissioner approval. The timeline for this was slated for early to late spring 2025.