



Aiming for Zero Waste

Montgomery County Maryland

Baseline Review and Current State Assessment

Technical Memorandum #1

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

APC	Air Pollution Control
BTU	British Thermal Unit
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CMW	County Managed Waste
COMAR	Code of Maryland Regulations
CY	Calendar Year
C&D	Construction and Demolition Debris
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
FY	Fiscal Year
HCl	Hydrogen Chloride
HH	Household
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
lb	Pound
LF	Landfill
LFGE	Landfill Gas to Energy
MCDOT	Montgomery County Department of Transportation
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Services
MF	Multi-family
M-NCPPC	Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission
MRA	Maryland Recycling Act
MRF	Material Recovery Facility
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
MW	Megawatt
NMWDA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOx	Nitrogen Oxides
OCC	Old Corrugated Cardboard
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act
PJM	Regional Electric Grid
PUF	Public Unloading Facility
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCS	SCS Engineers
SLF	Sanitary Landfill



SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
TS	Transfer Station
TRRAC	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
VPP	Voluntary Protection Program
WRF	Waste Recovery Facility



Glossary of Terms Used in this Report

The following presents a glossary of terms used in the Aiming for Zero Waste Plan consistent with definitions contained in Chapter 48 of the Montgomery County Code, The Code of Maryland Regulations, Maryland Recycling Act, or the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan or the meaning in the context of this report.

Aiming for Zero Waste Plan – a master planning study conducted by HDR Engineering, Inc., an on-call consultant of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority, on behalf of Montgomery County, Maryland. The plan will guide the future of responsible solid waste management in the County.

Ash - the solid byproducts of combustion, which are collected from grates or hearths in a furnace where combustion takes place and from filters or separators that process combustion gasses.

Back-End Scrap Metal - ferrous and non-ferrous metal recovered once materials have been incinerated. Back-End Scrap Metal counts towards the MRA rate since it is recycled.

Base Systems Benefit Charge – charges levied by the County to cover the costs of developing and maintaining the basic programs and facilities necessary to fulfill the County's obligation to manage all solid waste generated within the County.

Beneficial Use - the process of turning what would become waste into a valuable commodity. Materials may be reused to substitute a raw material or be used as a fuel.

Biosolids - means treated sewage sludge that meets the standards for Class A or B sewage sludge and are nutrient-rich organic materials resulting from the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment facility. When treated and processed, these residuals can be recycled and applied as fertilizer to improve and maintain productive soils and stimulate plant growth.

Bypass Waste - waste received by the County which is processible at the RRF but is not processed at the RRF and instead sent by the County to its out-of-County landfill.

Bulk Trash – large items that do not fit in a container, set out at the curb for separate collection by appointment. Usually consist of items such as furniture, appliances, mattresses etc. Also known as Bulky Waste.

Collection Contractor - a private company under contract with the County to provide solid waste collection services for dwelling units with less than 7 units within the Solid Waste Collection Districts.

Collector - any person who contracts to collect and provide services for collection and/or transporting the solid waste of others to its disposal site.

Commingled Materials – means acceptable items such as aluminum cans and foil products, steel or tin cans, bi-metal cans, glass bottles, jars and jugs, plastic bottles, tubs, lids, and containers, which are not separated by type, but are mixed (mingled) together in one container.

Combustible – the ability to catch fire and burn easily.

Composting - the biological decomposition of organic material such as food waste into a stable, humus-like product, is a first step in the recycling of food waste.

Compostable Material – non-recyclable paper, food waste, yard waste (grass, leaves, brush/pruning).



COMAR – Code of Maryland Regulations.

Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris - Solid waste from construction, demolition and renovation projects that produce debris including wood, wood products such as fiberboard and particleboard, cardboard, sheetrock and other drywall, plaster, fiberglass, plastic and other polymers, composite materials, glass, stone, steel and other metals, rubber, geotextile, asphalt, concrete, brick and mortar, rock, dirt, rubble, tree stumps, logs and large tree limbs.

County - Montgomery County, Maryland.

County Solid Waste Facilities - all sanitary landfills, refuse transfer facilities, materials recovery facilities, compost production facilities, resource recovery facilities and related facilities wholly operated by, or on behalf, of the County.

Department - the Department of Environmental Protection.

Diversion Rate – In Maryland is the amount of solid waste diverted from disposal by jurisdictions. It is the recycling rate plus credits (up to 5 percentage points) earned for source reduction.

Dwelling Unit - a building or part thereof arranged or designed for occupancy by not more than one family for living purposes and having cooking facilities.

Ferrous Metal – metal items containing iron, such as food cans.

Front-End Scrap Metal - ferrous or non-ferrous materials recovered from the waste stream in a refuse disposal system prior to incineration. Front-end scrap counts towards the MRA rate and should be included in the “Other” section of the “Metals” category.

Generator - the owner or occupant of any dwelling unit where solid waste is generated, and the owner or occupant of any other business, entity or institution at, from, or by which solid waste is generated.

Hauler - any person operating a commercial business or engaged in any enterprise regularly generating solid waste which requires collecting and hauling to an approved point of disposal, when such collecting and hauling is done by the person generating such material in his own vehicles or in vehicles leased for the purpose, in lieu of having a licensed collector perform this service.

Hazardous Waste - Includes listed wastes, and characterized wastes that have one of the following properties: ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity.

Incremental Systems Benefit Charge – charges levied by the County to generating sectors for services not equally available or provided to all sector equally.

Inorganic Material – as defined in the County’s waste composition study, Includes concrete/brick/rock, sheet rock, latex paints, fluorescent lamps, electronics, and miscellaneous inorganic materials.

Integrated Solid Waste Management System - the County's system of managing solid waste as that system is revised from time to time in the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. The system may include all aspects of solid waste management and handling, including any waste reduction program, recycling program or facility, disposal program or facility, and any other program related to the collection, management and disposal of solid waste.



Intermodal - refers to large standardized containers, designed and built to be used across different modes of transport – from rail, to truck to ship. Montgomery County uses intermodal containers to transport materials by rail from Shady Grove Transfer station to other facilities.

Landfill - an engineered facility for disposing of solid wastes on land by spreading, compacting and covering the wastes.

Leachate - any liquid that has percolated through solid waste including sewage sludge and may contain dissolved, miscible, or suspended material from the sewage sludge or solid waste pile.

Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) - in 1987, the Maryland Department of the Environment was created to protect and preserve the state's air, water and land resources and safeguard the environmental health of Maryland's citizens.

Maryland Recycling Act (MRA) - in 1988, the Maryland Recycling Act (MRA) authorized MDE to reduce the disposal of solid waste in Maryland through management, education and regulation. The MRA requires that:

- Each of Maryland's jurisdictions develop and implement recycling programs. Jurisdictions with populations greater than 150,000 are required to recycle 35% of their waste and jurisdictions with populations less than 150,000 are required to recycle 20% of their waste. State agencies must implement a recycling plan with a 30% recycling rate mandate. (2012)
- If a jurisdiction fails to meet the specified reductions, State and local authorities can prohibit the issuance of building permits for all new construction.
- Each jurisdiction selects materials to be recycled and the manner in which materials are to be separated and processed.
- State agencies participate in recycling programs.
- Newsprint and telephone directories distributed in the State have a recycled content, by weight, of 30% in 2001, increasing to 40% by 2005.

MRA Recycling – Maryland Recycling Act (MRA) materials are acceptable recyclable materials found under the Maryland Recycling Act. These materials can be reported as recyclable and counted toward the County's recycling rate. These materials generally include aluminum, glass, paper, and plastic.

MRA Waste and Non-MRA Waste – the list of materials that can be counted as a MRA material or not is constantly evolving. Every year MD counties have to get from MDE the latest guidelines prior to completing the MRA Tonnage Reporting Survey.

Materials Recovery Facility - a facility for separating recyclables from mixed waste or for separating commingled recyclables.

Multi-family Dwellings – buildings comprised of seven or more dwelling units.

Municipal Solid Waste - solid waste generated at residences, commercial establishments and institutions; excludes land clearing, construction and demolition debris.

Municipalities – incorporated cities, towns, villages and municipalities located within Montgomery County that enact their own laws and may provide their own waste management services.



Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA) - the NMWDA is a multi-county agency that provides support for the waste management systems for the eight participating jurisdictions in the state. The goal of the NMWDA is to minimize waste disposal costs.

Non-ferrous Metal – metals that do not contain iron, such as aluminum beverage cans.

Non-processible Waste - a waste material which cannot be processed at the County's Resource Recovery Facility because of its size, bulkiness, composition or regulatory restrictions.

Non-Recyclable Paper - all paper products that are not accepted in the County's recycling program, including all tissues, paper towels, and napkins, carbon paper, and other non-recyclable papers.

PJM or PJM Regional Electric Grid - a regional transmission organization (RTO) that coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity in Maryland and all or parts of 12 other states and the District of Columbia.

Processible Waste – waste that enters the County's waste system and is deemed acceptable for processing at the Resource Recovery Facility.

Recyclables - those materials in the solid waste stream which are collected, separated, processed, and returned to the economic mainstream in the form of raw materials or product for reuse.

Recycling – recyclable materials (paper, paper packaging, glass, metal, plastics) that are collected and processed at a Materials Recovery Facility. They may be either collected together (single-stream) or dual-stream (paper products collected separately from commingled containers).

For Montgomery County means any process by which materials are diverted from the solid waste stream and are collected, separated, processed, and returned to the economic mainstream in the form of raw materials or product for reuse.

Recycling Rate – the recycling rate is calculated by adding the tons of MRA recycling and credits for the resource recovery facility (i.e. the numerator) and dividing by the tons of MRA recycling tonnage and MRA waste (i.e. the denominator).

Recycling Services – County- provided weekly curbside collection of blue bins, paper carts, scrap metal and yard trim.

Recycling Center – the County's Material Recovery Facility.

Refuse Collection Charge – charges levied to households in the County that receive trash collection by County-contracted collectors.

Resource Recovery Facility – a facility that processes solid waste by combustion to produce valuable resources such as steam to create electricity. Metals are also recovered from this process to be further recycled. A facility that processes solid waste to produce valuable resources, including steam, electricity, metals, or refuse-derived fuel; and achieves a volume reduction of at least 50 percent of its solid waste stream.

Scrap Metal – acceptable items consisting of metal and/or predominantly metal materials. These items include washers, dryers, refrigerators, air conditioners, dishwashers, sinks, stoves, freezers, furnaces, hot water heaters, trash compactors, iron furniture, doors, cabinets, humidifiers/dehumidifiers, bikes, swing sets, aluminum lawn chairs, shower stalls, and disassembled metal sheds.



Metal items are collected at the curb or dropped off at the County's transfer station.

Single-family Dwellings – buildings comprised of one to six dwellings.

Solid Waste - all waste materials and debris, including any garbage, sludge, medical/pathological waste, debris from building construction, ashes, junk, industrial waste, dead animal, salvable waste, deal or felled tree, uprooted tree stump, slash, tree limb, bush, plant, leaves, grass, garden trimmings, street refuse, abandoned vehicle, machinery, bottle, can, waste paper, cardboard, sawdust and slash from sawmill operations, and any other waste materials. Solid waste also includes any automobile, truck, box, container, tire, appliance, furniture, or recreational equipment that is in a state of disrepair or disfunction, unless the items is awaiting removal or being repaired or renovated for the personal use of the owner or occupant and the repair, renovation or removal is completed within 30 days. Solid waste also includes any recyclable solid waste.

Solid Waste Charge – the overall charges levied by the County for waste management services. Includes the base systems benefit charge, incremental systems benefit charge, refuse collection charge, and disposal fees. May also include leaf vacuuming charges for residents living within the leaf vacuuming collection district.

Source Reduction Credit – Maryland created a source reduction credit system to help the State meet its annual waste diversion goal. Depending on the type of source reduction activities conducted, a credit of up to 5% can be added to the recycling rate. Examples of source reduction activities include running demonstration sites, outreach and education, and food composting.

Sub-district – the County is divided into Sub-district A and Sub-district B.

Sustainable Materials Management – a systemic approach to using and reusing materials more productively over their entire lifecycles. By examining how materials are used throughout their lifecycle – from materials extraction to end-of-life management, this approach seeks to:

- Use materials in the most productive way with an emphasis on using less
- Reduce toxic chemicals and environmental impacts throughout the material lifecycle
- Assure there are sufficient resources to meet today's needs and those of the future.

This approach means a product could be redesigned so it is manufactured using different, fewer, less toxic, and more durable materials. It could also be designed so that it can be readily disassembled for reuse or recycling of its parts at the end of its useful life.

Systems Benefit Charge - an annual service charge reflecting all or a portion of the cost to the County of providing base and incremental solid waste management services.

Transfer Station - a facility designed to reduce collection and/or transportation costs by the consolidation of solid wastes before transport to a site for final disposal.

Trash – solid waste that is not considered recyclable. Trash may be sent to be disposed of in a landfill or at the RRF.

Waste – materials collected from residences and businesses generally consisting of trash, recyclables, food scraps, yard trim, source separated organics, scrap metal, electronics, household hazardous waste and bulk trash (see solid waste).

Yard Trim - leaves, grass, garden trimmings, and brush. Vegetative materials generated through the normal maintenance of yards, lawns, gardens or other landscaped areas including grass, leaves and brush; excludes soils, tree stumps, logs, large tree limbs, rock and other land clearing debris.



Zero Waste - The concept of Zero Waste is still evolving. However, the concept of Zero Waste is modeled on the biogeochemical and nutrient cycles found in nature, in which elements are continuously cycled in various forms between different compartments of the environment. Likewise, Zero Waste takes a cyclical approach to the vast flow of resources and products manufactured and utilized by human society. This cyclical, whole system approach seeks to minimize the extraction of resources from the earth by minimizing waste, reducing consumption, maximizing recycling, and developing products that are made to be reused, repaired, or recycled back into nature or the marketplace. Zero Waste requires changing the perspective from thinking of discarded materials as wastes to thinking of them as resources with functional value. Many professionals in the field believe that getting to Zero Waste does not mean achieving absolute zero.

1 Introduction

HDR has been retained by the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA) to assist the Montgomery County (County) Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) with developing the “*Aiming for Zero Waste Plan*” (the Plan)¹. There are three key objectives for the project:

- Develop a clear and realistic future vision of the County's solid waste and recycling program and operations with the goal of maximizing waste reduction, reuse/repair, recycling, and sustainable management of materials;
- Develop actionable strategies (with projected costs, timelines, and outcomes) to achieve this goal; and,
- Identify impacts on existing solid waste management programs, facilities and operations, including new investments, initiatives, changes in methods of operations, and retiring or replacement of existing facilities.

This Baseline Review and Current State Assessment is the first of a series of reports developed in support of the project. The purpose of this report is to create a comprehensive description of the County's existing integrated solid waste management system. This will be used as a baseline, the foundation for the Plan to achieve the key objectives stated above. To prepare this Baseline Review and Current State Assessment, HDR has utilized information available from the County and prior reports related to its solid waste and recycling programs, information available on the internet and direct contact with companies/businesses. The result is a detailed and concise overview of the current system, from which future system changes can be evaluated and their potential impact assessed.

2 Waste Composition Studies

Establishing the baseline for the Plan includes evaluating the composition of disposed materials (waste) generated in Montgomery County. Waste composition studies provide information on the County's waste management system that can be used, in conjunction with other key data, to develop a comprehensive picture of the County's waste management system for use in future projections and program analyses.

The County commissions waste composition studies every four years for the disposed material that is received at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station. The two most recent waste composition studies for the County

¹ In this document the following names are used interchangeably: Solid Waste Master Plan, Aiming for Zero Waste Plan and Plan.

were performed by SCS Engineers (SCS) in 2012-2013² and 2016-2017. Both studies were performed at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station, spanned four seasons, and included 300 samples. Both studies sorted the samples into 64 different material categories, which varied slightly between studies. However, the major material component groups remained the same: paper, plastic, organics, yard waste, wood, ferrous metal, non-ferrous metal, glass, inorganic, and household hazardous waste (HHW). The composition study results provide information on the waste received at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station but is not intended to provide data on waste generation or recycled materials. The results of both studies are summarized and compared below.

2.1 2012-2013 Waste Composition Study

The results of the 2012-2013 waste composition study were statistically analyzed and presented in the report, “Montgomery County Waste Composition Study Summary of Results” (SCS Engineers, July 2013). The report provides more detail on the sampling and statistical methods used to determine the results. There were 300 total waste samples collected; 75 samples were collected each season of the year. The waste composition study was reported separately for non-residential (120 samples), single-family (141 samples), and multi-family residential (19 samples) waste. Single-family waste was further divided according to its origin: Sub-district A (60 samples), Sub-district B (31 samples), or Municipal (50 samples). See Section 3.1 for more information on sub-districts. The results were compiled into an overall weighted average waste composition by weighting the results according the actual ratios of waste disposed at the County’s Transfer Station during 2012. The weight ratios were 12.59 percent for Sub-district A, 17.13 percent for Sub-district B, 5.42 percent for municipal, 13.56 percent for multi-family, and 51.31 percent for non-residential waste.

A summary of results divided into the 10 major material component groups is shown in Table 2-1. The waste composition according to major material categories did not vary much across the sectors and sub-districts, except for HHW, which was 0.4 percent of commercial waste but negligible in the residential waste streams. The waste stream was sorted into 64 subcomponents. The three largest subcomponents by weight in the overall waste stream were food waste (22.8 percent), non-recyclable paper (9.5 percent), and film plastic - other (7.9 percent).

² 2012 – 2013 composition-study.pdf



Table 2-1: Summary of 2012-2013 Waste Composition by Sector and Overall

Percentage of the Waste Stream by Weight

Material Components	Non-Residential	Single-family			Multi-family	Overall
		Sub-district A	Sub-district B	Municipal		
Paper	25.7%	25.8%	25.6%	27.3%	24.7%	25.7%
Plastic	18.0%	15.6%	15.3%	15.6%	15.6%	16.8%
Organic	39.3%	42.3%	43.1%	42.6%	40.9%	40.7%
Yard Waste	1.6%	2.3%	2.3%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%
Wood	3.2%	2.2%	2.6%	2.4%	2.0%	2.8%
Ferrous Metal	2.7%	2.3%	2.8%	1.4%	2.4%	2.6%
Non-Ferrous Metal	0.9%	1.2%	0.8%	1.2%	1.4%	1.0%
Glass	2.7%	1.7%	2.7%	1.7%	5.0%	2.9%
Inorganic ^a	5.1%	6.3%	4.7%	6.0%	5.5%	5.3%
Household Hazardous Waste	0.4%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	0.3%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: SCS Engineers. Montgomery County Waste Composition Study Summary of Results, July 26, 2013.

^a The Inorganic category includes concrete/brick/rock, sheet rock, latex paints, fluorescent lamps, electronics, and miscellaneous inorganic materials.

Within the major categories listed above, there are subcomponents of materials that are potentially compostable. The following table presents the composition of the overall waste stream that are potentially compostable by subcomponent based on the results of the 2012-2013 Waste Composition Study, as a percentage of the total waste stream by weight.

Table 2-2: Percent of Potential Compostable Material in Total Waste Stream (2012-2013 Waste Composition) by Sector and Overall

Percentage of the Waste Stream by Weight

Material Components	Material Sub Components	Non-Residential	Single-family			Multi-family	Overall
			Sub-district A	Sub-district B	Municipal		
Paper	Non-Recyclable Paper	9.1%	11.0%	10.2%	11.3%	7.5%	9.5%
Organic	Food waste	24.8%	20.5%	22.8%	19.7%	18.6%	22.8%
Yard Waste	Grass, Leaves, Brush/Pruning	1.6%	2.3%	2.3%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%
Total Compostable Materials		35.5%	33.8%	35.3%	32.7%	27.9%	34.1%

Source: SCS Engineers. Montgomery County Waste Composition Study Summary of Results, July 26, 2013.

2.2 2016-2017 Waste Composition Study

The results of the 2016-2017 waste composition study were statistically analyzed and presented in a summary letter from SCS to the DEP on January 29, 2018. The letter provides more detail on the methods used to determine central tendencies and confidence intervals, as the results for some categories did not follow a normal distribution. As with the previous study in 2012-2013, there were 300 total waste samples collected; 75 samples were collected each season of the year. The waste composition study was reported separately for commercial (120 samples), single-family (140 samples), and multi-family (40 samples) waste. Single-family waste was further divided according to its origin: Sub-district A (60 samples), Sub-district B (60 samples), or Municipal (20 samples). See Section 3.1 for more information on Sub-districts. The results were compiled into an overall weighted average waste composition by weighting the results according to the actual ratios of waste disposed at the County's Transfer Station. The weight ratios were 14.30 percent for Sub-district A, 21.81 percent for Sub-district B, 2.22 percent for municipal, 13.17 percent for multi-family, and 47.5 percent for commercial waste.

A summary of results of the major material component groups is shown below in Table 2-3. The waste composition according to major material categories did not vary much across the sectors and Sub-districts, with the exception of wood waste and inorganic waste. Wood waste was a notably larger portion of commercial waste compared to the residential categories and compared to the previous study. Conversely, inorganic waste was a notably smaller portion of commercial waste compared to the residential categories, which had higher percentages than in the previous study results. There were also 64 subcomponents sorted. The three largest subcomponents by weight in the overall waste stream were similar to the previous study. Food waste – vegetative was the largest subcomponent at 17 percent. Combined with the 3 percent for food waste – non-vegetative, food waste totals 20 percent, which is only slightly lower than the previous study. The next largest subcomponents by weight were non-recyclable paper and miscellaneous organics, both at 8.5 percent. Non-recyclable paper was similar to the previous study, only decreasing by one percent. Miscellaneous organics were up slightly from 7 percent previously. Film plastic – other, which was previously 7.9 percent and the third largest by weight, went down only 0.5 percent to 7.4 percent.



Table 2-3: Summary of 2016-2017 Waste Composition by Sector and Overall (Adjusted) (Percentage of the Waste Stream by Weight)

Material Components	Non-Residential	Single-family			Multi-family	Overall
		Sub-district A	Sub-district B	Municipal		
Paper	22.2%	21.8%	22.3%	25.7%	23.6%	22.4%
Plastic	16.8%	15.0%	15.7%	16.6%	16.0%	16.1%
Organic	41.3%	42.2%	40.6%	38.0%	38.5%	40.7%
Yard Waste	2.2%	3.3%	3.6%	2.2%	2.8%	2.7%
Wood	9.9%	6.1%	4.3%	2.6%	2.8%	7.0%
Ferrous Metal	2.3%	0.7%	0.9%	2.9%	2.9%	1.9%
Non-Ferrous Metal	0.7%	1.9%	0.4%	1.4%	1.4%	0.9%
Glass	1.3%	0.9%	3.5%	4.3%	2.7%	2.0%
Inorganic ^a	3.2%	8.0%	8.6%	6.0%	9.0%	5.9%
Household Hazardous Waste	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: SCS Engineers. Montgomery County Waste Composition Study, Overall Report. January 29, 2018.

^a The Inorganic category includes concrete/brick/rock, sheet rock, latex paints, fluorescent lamps, electronics, and miscellaneous inorganic materials.

Within the major categories listed above, there are subcomponents of materials that are compostable. The following table presents the composition of the overall waste stream that is compostable by subcomponent based on the results of the 2016-2017 Waste Composition Study, as a percentage of the total waste stream by weight.

Table 2-4: Percent Compostable Material in Total Waste Stream (2016-2017 Waste Composition) by Sector and Overall

Percentage of the Waste Stream by Weight

Material Components	Material Sub Components	Non-Residential	Single-family			Multi-family	Overall
			Sub-district A	Sub-district B	Municipal		
Paper	Non-Recyclable Paper	8.3%	7.9%	9.3%	8.0%	8.2%	8.5%
Organic	Food waste	21.0%	21.1	18.2	19.1%	18.9%	20.0%
Yard Waste	Grass, Leaves, Brush/Pruning	2.2%	3.3%	3.6%	2.2%	2.8%	2.7%
	Total Compostable	31.5%	32.3%	31.1%	29.3%	29.9%	31.2%

Source: SCS Engineers. Montgomery County Waste Composition Study Summary of Results, July 26, 2013.



2.3 Trends in Waste Composition

The results of the two most recent waste composition studies were compared to look for trends in waste disposal in the County. As shown in Table 2-5, most of the material components were stable or decreased from the first study. The changes were not large, with the exception of wood, which significantly increased as a portion of the waste stream. The results are not able to indicate whether this is from an increase in the disposal of wood, or a decrease in the disposal tonnage of all other materials while wood tonnage remained constant. However, the comparison of the waste studies provides some insight into possible trends in the County, which can be considered during future planning.

Table 2-5: Comparison of Waste Composition Studies

Percentage of the Waste Stream by Weight

Material Components	2012-2013 Overall	2016-2017 Overall (adjusted)	Trend
Paper	25.7%	22.4%	Decrease
Plastic	16.8%	16.1%	Decrease
Organic	40.7%	40.7%	Stable
Yard Waste	1.8%	2.7%	Increase
Wood	2.8%	7.0%	Significant Increase
Ferrous Metal	2.6%	1.9%	Decrease
Non-Ferrous Metal	1.0%	0.9%	Stable
Glass	2.9%	2.0%	Decrease
Inorganic	5.3%	5.9%	Increase
Household Hazardous Waste	0.3%	<0.1%	Decrease
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	

The following table provides a comparison of the change in composition related to compostable materials in the overall waste stream.

Table 2-6: Comparison of Compostable Portion of Waste Composition Studies

Percentage of the Waste Stream by Weight

Sub-Component	2012-2013 Overall	2016-2017 Overall (adjusted)	Trend
Food waste	22.8%	20.0%	Decrease
Non-recyclable paper	9.5%	8.5%	Decrease
Yard Waste	1.8%	2.7%	Increase

3 County Waste Management Services

The management of municipal solid waste (MSW) generated in Montgomery County is shared between the County and the private sector. Montgomery County's Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) provides curbside solid waste and recyclable materials collection services to single-family homes within certain collection areas. The County's collection areas are known as Sub-districts A and B. Curbside recycling, scrap metal, and yard trim collection service is provided to all 218,000 single-family homes³ in the County, and trash collection is only provided to 92,000 single-family homes in Sub-district A. Incorporated municipalities (e.g. towns, cities) provide their own collection services to residents, predominantly through private service providers. Private sector solid waste collectors provide trash collection services to single-family homes in Sub-district B, multi-family properties with seven or more dwelling units, some incorporated municipalities, and the non-residential sector. Figure 3-1 on the next page shows the flow diagram of materials generated in Montgomery County. A flow diagram of the facilities managing County waste is included in Appendix A.

3.1 Solid Waste Services

The County is divided into two solid waste collection Sub-districts; Sub-district A and Sub-district B⁴, and 19 incorporated municipalities.

- Sub-district A includes approximately 92,000 single-family residences and is made up of Service Areas 1 through 5. The County provides trash, recycling, scrap metal, and yard trim collection in this Sub-district. The County contracts with private service providers for these services.
- Sub-district B includes approximately 126,000 single-family residences and is made up of Service Areas 6 - 13. The County provides recycling, scrap metal, and yard trim collection in this Sub-district. The County contracts with three private service providers for these services. Homeowners must arrange for their own trash collection through private service providers or bring their trash to the County's Transfer Station.
- The 19 incorporated municipalities are responsible for the collection of trash and recyclables from within their jurisdictions.

Contracted haulers must submit semi-annual reports to the DEP that include the amount and type of trash and/or recycling collected, hauled, or transported, as well as origin (sector from which the material was collected), and the destination facilities. DEP uses these reports and reports from the County's transfer station (TS) scale house records as part of the County's solid waste system-wide tonnage accounting.

³ Single-family homes include dwellings having 6 or fewer units

⁴ Details for Changing from Private to County-provided Refuse Collection Service: [Montgomery County Trash Petition](#)



Figure 3-2 shows the boundaries of Sub-districts A and B while Figure 3-3 shows the County-provided services in each Sub-district along with the number of units receiving recycling or trash collection in each service area. Note that the County does not provide any waste collection services to incorporated municipalities.

Figure 3-1: Materials Flow Diagram

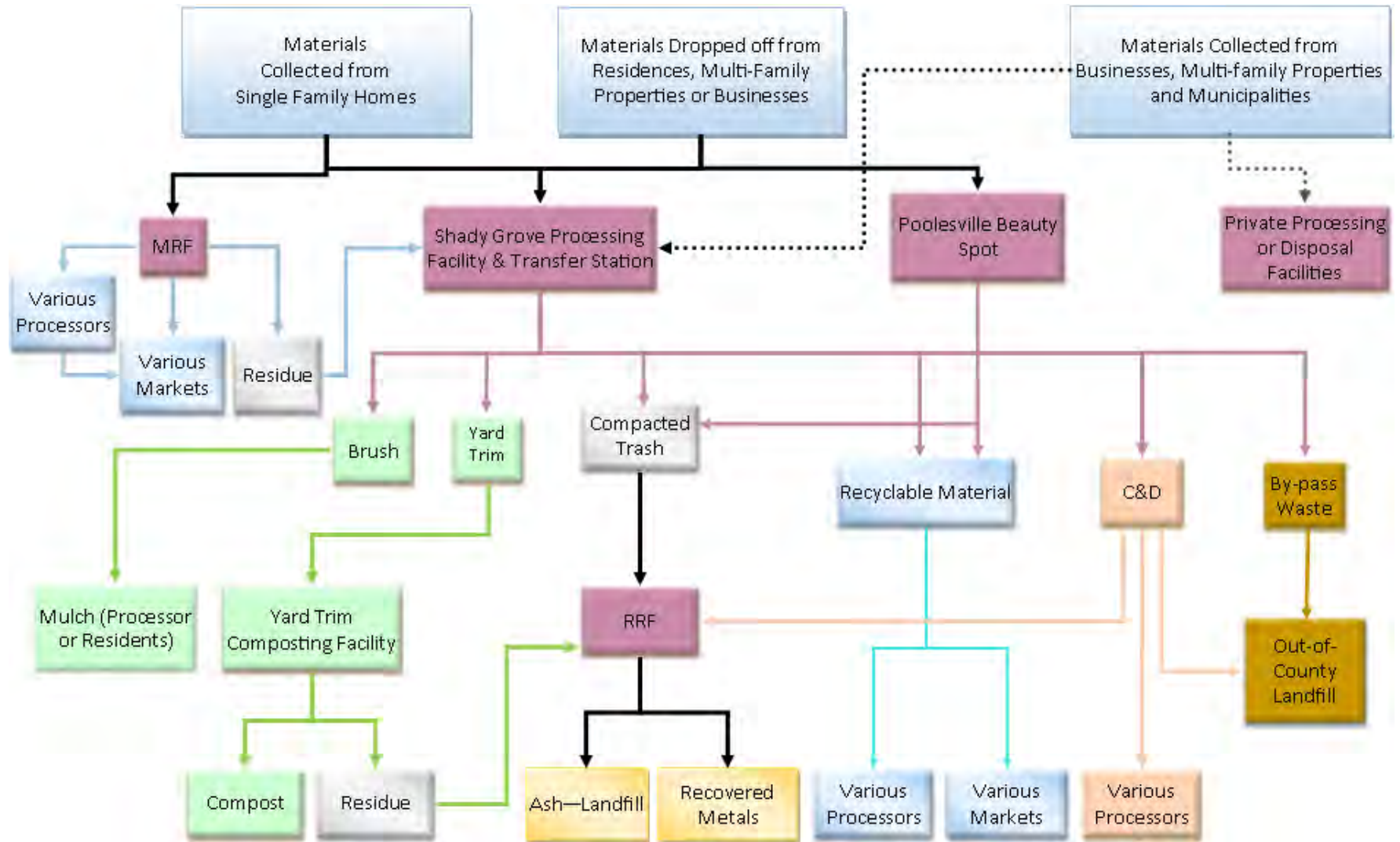
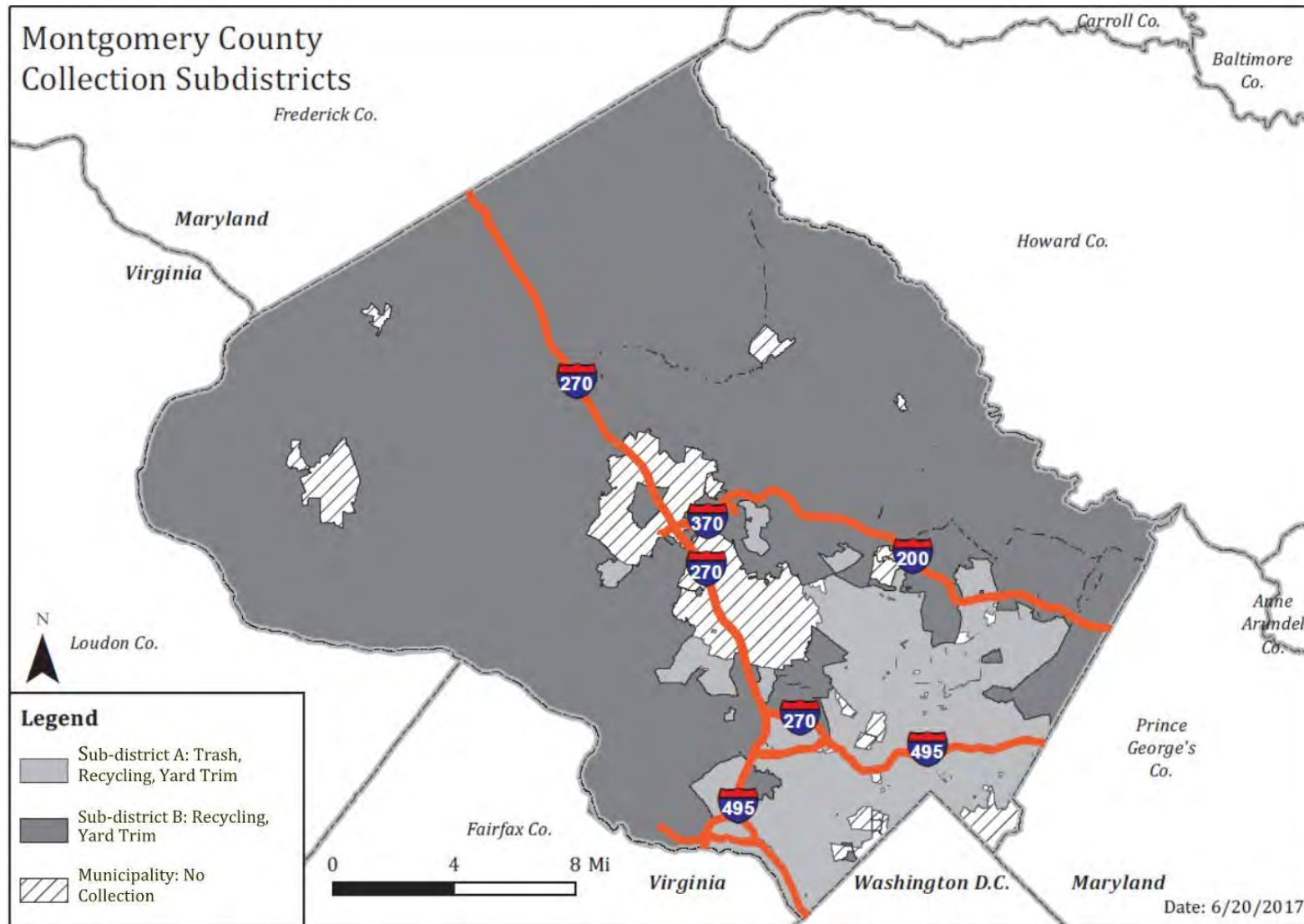
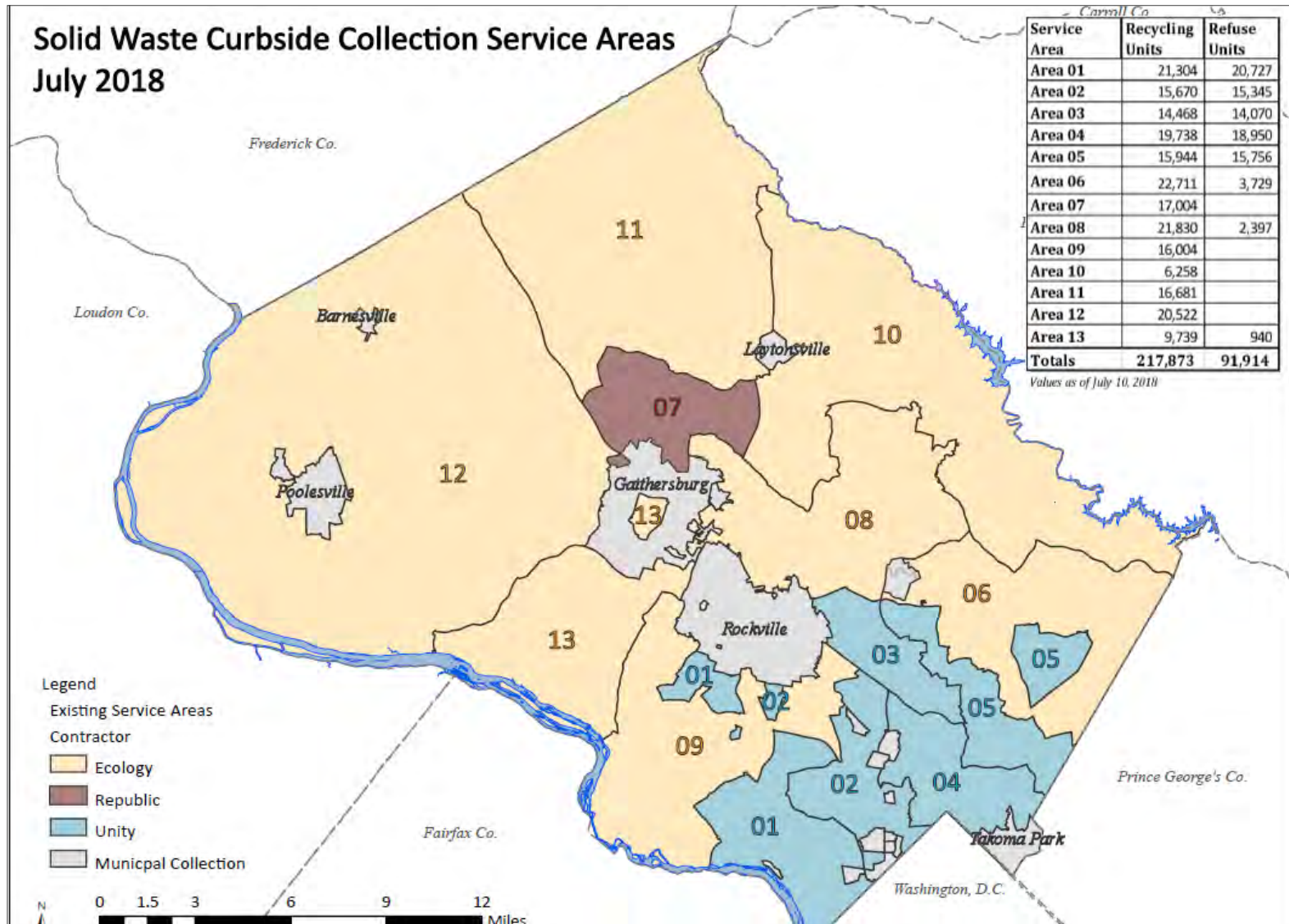


Figure 3-2: Sub-district A and B Collection Districts



Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, 2018

Figure 3-3: Solid Waste Curbside Collection Service Areas



Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, 2018



Table 3-1 below shows the services that are provided to all sectors. The County only provides collection services to single-family homes and townhomes, and dwellings having six or fewer units in Sub-districts A and B. Multi-family properties with seven or more dwelling units, municipalities, and non-residential properties are responsible to contract with their own haulers to provide services. Multi-family properties with seven or more units, incorporated municipalities, and non-residential properties may also use the Shady Grove TS drop-off areas to dispose of acceptable waste.

Table 3-1: County Collection Services Provided

County Services Provided	Single-family (6 or fewer units)	Multi-family (7 or more units)	Incorporated Municipalities	Non-Residential
Trash Collection	Sub-district A (weekly, once per week)	No County Service	No County Service	No County Service
Recycling Collection	Sub-district A & B (weekly, once per week)	No County Service	No County Service	No County Service
Yard Trim Collection	Sub-district A & B (weekly, year-round)	No County Service	non-recycled processible waste delivered No County Service	No County Service
Bulk Trash Collection	Sub-district A (5 scheduled pick ups annually)	No County Service	No County Service	No County Service
Scrap Metal Collection	Sub-district A & B (scheduled pick up)	No County Service	No County Service	No County Service

Table 3-2 below presents the number of routes/week and routes/day by material for the various areas in the County by Contracted Hauler.

Table 3-2: Number of Routes per Week by District (2018)

District	Contracted Hauler	Routes/Week			Average Routes/Day		
		Trash	Recycling	Yard Trim	Trash	Recycling	Yard Trim
Area 1	Unity Disposal & Recycling	29	30	15	5.8	6	3
Area 2	Unity Disposal & Recycling	20	20	10	4	4	2
Area 3	Unity Disposal & Recycling	20	20	10	4	4	2
Area 4	Unity Disposal & Recycling	25	25	15	5	5	3
Area 5	Unity Disposal & Recycling	20	20	10	4	4	2
Area 6	Ecology Services	4	25	10	0.8	5	2
Area 7	Republic Services	0	20	5	0	4	1
Area 8	Ecology Services	3	25	10	0.6	5	2



District	Contracted Hauler	Routes/Week			Average Routes/Day		
		Trash	Recycling	Yard Trim	Trash	Recycling	Yard Trim
Area 9	Ecology Services	0	20	10	0	4	2
Area 10	Ecology Services	0	7	5	0	1.4	1
Area 11	Ecology Services	0	15	5	0	3	1
Area 12	Ecology Services	0	20	5	0	4	1
Area 13	Ecology Services	1	13	5	0.2	2.6	1
TOTAL		122	260	115	24.4	52	23

Source: MSW Consultants, Information provided by Montgomery County (August 2018)

3.1.1 Relevant Regulations

Montgomery County’s solid waste management programs are governed by federal, state, and local regulations. Major federal laws and regulations can be seen in Table 3-3.

Table 3-3: Federal Laws and Regulations Governing Solid Waste Management

Federal Laws	Primary Objective
<i>Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)</i>	Creates the framework for the proper management of hazardous and non-hazardous solid waste from “cradle-to-grave”. Promotes the recycling and reuse of recoverable material.
<i>Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Superfund Law</i>	Identification and remediation of waste disposal sites and assigns liability for contamination.
<i>Clean Water Act</i>	Addresses the discharge of wastewater and runoff from solid waste management facilities into surface waters.
<i>Clean Air Act</i>	Addresses and authorizes regulations for emissions from waste disposal facilities.
<i>Safe Drinking Water Act</i>	Provides and establishes maximum contaminant levels for parameters in ground water.
<i>Federal Emergency Management Act</i>	Prohibits siting of landfills within 100 year flood plain.
<i>Asbestos Control- Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act</i>	Requires control with asbestos materials and requires completion of a training program by those who do asbestos-related work with schools.
<i>Endangered Species Act</i>	Prohibits construction or operation of facilities that would result in the “taking” of an endangered or threatened wildlife species, or in the destruction of their critical habitat.



Federal Laws	Primary Objective
<i>Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Act</i>	Requires the collection and recycling, or proper disposal, of used nickel cadmium batteries, small sealed lead-acid batteries, and certain other batteries.
<i>Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA)</i>	Encourages co-generators and small power producers, such as municipal solid waste combustors, to supplement their existing electrical utility capacity. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is responsible for implementing regulations and setting limits on the power output of these facilities.

Table 3-4 below shows State Laws and Regulations that pertain to Solid Waste Management.

Table 3-4: State Laws and Regulations Governing Solid Waste Management

State Statutes	Primary Objective
Article 9- Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland	This statute contains MDE's authority for the regulation of solid waste.
Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program (1984)	Controls human intervention in the Bay area.
<i>Composting Act (1992)</i>	Includes composting in the definition of recycling. Requires that county recycling plans address composting issues, and bans loads of yard materials collected separately from trash from being landfilled effective in 1994.
Electronics Recycling Program (2007)	Mandates that manufacturers of certain electronics devices (computers, televisions, etc.) contribute payments toward a fund for local government electronics recycling programs or that such manufacturers establish their own electronics recycling collection programs. Authorizes counties to address the subject of electronics recycling in their recycling plans.
Fluorescent and Compact Fluorescent Light Recycling (2011)	An Act requiring a county recycling plan to address the strategy for the collection and recycling of fluorescent and compact fluorescent lights that contain mercury.
Land-Clearing Debris Landfills – Amount of Security (1990)	Addresses the number of bonds required as security for each acre of land-clearing debris landfills.
<i>Maryland Air Quality Control Act (1989)</i>	Allows adoption of rules for air pollution control, sets emission standards and air quality control areas, and requires training for municipal solid waste incinerator operators.
<i>Maryland Environmental Service Act (1970)</i>	Creates the Maryland Environmental Service to manage service regions that were created to deal with issues affecting the state's water supply, wastewater purification, and solid waste management.



State Statutes	Primary Objective
Maryland Landfill Financial Assurance Law (1997)	Sets forth financial assurance requirements for landfills in conformance with the requirements of federal regulations.
Maryland Landfill Siting Law (1994)	Describes the requirements for public hearings regarding landfill siting, and addresses permitting requirements and security requirements. Explains the requirements for submissions of plans and documents necessary to conduct a technical review and to approve proposed facilities.
<i>Maryland Recycling Act (1988)</i>	Requires that by 1994 each jurisdiction with a population greater than 150,000 reduce its solid waste stream by at least 20% through recycling (15% for jurisdictions with lesser populations). The recycling rate calculation includes both residential and commercial waste and recycling tonnages. House Bill 929 (2012) amended the rates to 35% for Counties with a population greater than 150,000 or 20% for a county with less than 150,000. The law requires full implementation by December 31, 2015.
Maryland Senate Joint Resolution 6 (2000)	Sets a voluntary statewide goal of 40% waste diversion by 2005, with a credit of up to 5% for jurisdictions engaged in specified waste prevention activities. "Waste diversion" is defined as recycling rate plus waste prevention credit. Mandatory recycling rates established by the Maryland Recycling Act of 1988 remain in effect.
Maryland State Implementation Plan (SIP) (Ongoing)	Limits emissions from specific pollutant sources to prevent air quality from falling below National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).
Maryland Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Laws (1990-1994)	Allows for the adoption of criteria and procedures by counties and soil conservation districts to implement soil erosion control programs and for counties and municipalities to implement storm water management programs.
<i>Maryland Used Oil Recycling Act (1997)</i>	Requires MDE to develop programs to educate the public on oil recycling and to designate used oil collection facilities. It also prohibits disposal of used oil into sewers, drainage systems, or natural waters.
Maryland Wastewater Treatment Law (1987)	Requires permits prior to installing, altering, or extending a water supply system or refuse disposal system (including a landfill, waste transfer station, incinerator, or other waste processing facility)
Medical Waste Legislation (1988)	Regulates identification, record keeping, treatment, transport and disposal of special medical wastes; infectious wastes are prohibited in solid waste landfills in the state.



State Statutes	Primary Objective
<i>Mercury Oxide Battery Act (1992)</i>	Makes mercury oxide battery manufacturers responsible for collection, transportation and recycling or disposal of batteries sold or offered for promotional purposes in the state.
<i>Natural Wood Waste Recycling Act (1991)</i>	Establishes the requirements for wood waste recycling in Maryland, authorizes the Department of the Environment to adopt additional regulations governing recycling facilities, and requires a permit for operation of these wood waste facilities created after July 1, 1992.
<i>Newsprint Recycled Content Act (1991)</i>	Regulates newsprint recycling by imposing specified recycling content percentage requirements on the Maryland newspaper industry. Amended in 2006 to measure compliance based on a rolling three-year average.
<i>Nickel Cadmium (NICD) Battery Act (1995)</i>	Regulates the storage, transportation, and destination of nickel-cadmium batteries.
Nontidal Wetland Regulations (1990)	Prevents net loss of non-tidal wetlands by establishing a stringent permitting process.
Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (1980)	Creates and establishes the powers of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority.
Plastic Material Code (1991)	Regulates that rigid plastic containers or bottles may not be distributed for sale in the state unless appropriately labeled indicating the plastic resin used to produce them.
Public School Plans (2009)	An Act requiring a county recycling plan to address the strategy for the collection, processing, marketing, and disposition of recyclable materials from county public schools.
Recycling – Apartment Buildings and Condominiums (2012)	An Act requiring a county recycling plan to address the collection and recycling of recyclable materials from residents of apartment buildings and condominiums that contain 10 or more dwelling units by property owners or managers of apartment buildings and councils of unit owners of condominiums. Implements a reporting requirement for recyclable materials generated at apartment buildings and condominiums that contain 10 or more dwelling units when applicable.
<i>Recycling – Composting Facilities Act (2013)</i>	Provides that a person may operate a composting facility only in accordance with specified requirements, regulations, orders, and permits and requires the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations to establish a permit system for composting facilities.



State Statutes	Primary Objective
Recycling – Special Events (2014)	An Act requiring a county recycling plan to address the collection and recycling of recyclable materials from special events by October 1, 2015. Amended in 2017 to require a county government to provide a written statement before issuing a certain permit for a special event after October 1, 2017.
Scrap Tire Law (1992)	Prohibits the disposal of scrap tires in landfills after January 1, 1994, and creates a licensing system for the management of scrap tires. Establishes requirements for implementing a scrap tire recycling system, licensing haulers and collection facilities. Establishes the Tire Clean-Up and Recycling Fund.
Sludge Application (1993)	Regulates land application procedures for sludge to maintain the public health.
<i>Telephone Directory Recycling Act (1991)</i>	Requires telephone directory publishers to meet specified recycling content percentage requirements for telephone directories.
Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery Plan for Maryland (2017)	Creates a policy to minimize environmental impacts of materials management, conserve in-State disposal capacity, make optimal use of resources and create an environmentally and economically sustainable system of materials management.
<i>Water and Sewage Plan Act (1983)</i>	Requires the preparation and submission of solid waste management plans by counties and establishes the minimum requirements of such plans.
<i>Yard Waste Act (1994)</i>	Bans separately collected yard waste from disposal facilities after October 1994.

Table 3-5 below shows County Solid Waste Regulations that pertain to Solid Waste Management.

Table 3-5: County Solid Waste Regulations/ County Code

Executive Regulation/ County Code ⁵	Applicability
County Code: Chapter 48	Solid Waste Regulations
County Code: 11B-56	Procurement of goods containing recycled materials
County Council Bill 28-16	Composting and Food Waste Diversion
Executive Regulation 1-15	Residential and Commercial Recycling
Executive Regulation 5-13AM	Solid Waste Tonnage Reporting
Executive Regulation 6-99AM	Expansion- Leaf Vacuuming Collection District

⁵ [Montgomery County Executive Regulations](#)

[Montgomery County Code Chapter48-Solid-Wastes.pdf](#)

Executive Regulation/ County Code ⁵	Applicability
Executive Regulation 7-12	Solid Waste and Recycling
Executive Regulation 9-99	Systems Benefit Charge-Non-residential
Executive Regulation 18-04	Collection, Transport, and Disposal of Solid Waste
Executive Regulation 18-08	Collection Districts

3.1.2 Trash

The following sections provide an overview of how trash is managed in the County.

Sub-district A

In Sub-district A, the County provides trash and recycling collection services through contracts with private service providers (identified in Section 7.1) for single-family homes and townhomes, and multi-family properties with six or fewer units. Trash is collected curbside once a week and includes five bulky waste pickups annually. Bulky waste pickups must be scheduled by calling the County’s MC 311 call center or online in advance of the regularly scheduled collection day. Residents provide their own trash containers.

Sub-district B

Private collectors known as Independent Collection Contractors, provide the trash collection services in Sub-district B, with authorization by the County. An Independent Collection Contractor must enter into a collection authorization with the County under terms acceptable to the County which allows it to collect solid waste from single-family residences in Sub-district B. Customers contract directly with the Independent Collection Contractors for their services.

Incorporated Municipalities

The 19 incorporated municipalities in the County each have responsibility for collection of trash and recyclables within their jurisdictions. Some choose to contract with or allow customers to contract with private commercial collectors. Municipalities may deliver trash to the County’s Transfer Station and recyclables to the County MRF. The County provides access to its MRF to all County municipalities providing curbside recycling collection services and provides technical support, assistance, education, training, and enforcement within those municipalities that have adopted the County’s recycling regulations for the multi-family and non-residential sectors.

The following Table 3-6 provides an overview of the incorporated municipalities and cities in Montgomery County based on information available on the internet. It should be noted that some of this information may be out-of-date, but provides a high level summary of the provision of services in other areas of the County. The table indicates whether the service is either public (i.e. provided by the municipality), private (i.e. the householder/business contracts directly with a private service



provider for collection) or contracted (i.e. the municipality contracts with a private service provider to collect material).

Multi-family and Non-Residential

Residential properties with seven or more dwelling units are considered multi-family properties. Commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, including non-profit organizations, as well as government facilities at the federal, state and local levels, are categorized as non-residential properties. Trash collection and disposal for both multi-family and industrial properties are the responsibility of the property owners, who often contract with a licensed private collection company or self-haul waste to a waste acceptance facility.

Table 3-6: Materials Management in Incorporated Cities and Municipalities

	Population	No. Hhlds	Trash Collection	Recycling Collection	Yard Trim/ Brush	Bulk Trash	Scrap Metal	Drop-Off	Commercial Collection
Incorporated Cities									
Gaithersburg	68,710	22,000	Private	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Public	No	Private
Rockville	68,401	23,686	Public	Public	Public	Public	Public	No	Private
Takoma Park	17,885	6,569	Public	Public	Public	Public	Public	No	Private
Incorporated Municipalities									
Barnesville (Town)	184	67	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	No	Private
Brookeville (Town)	139	54	Public	Public	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	No	Private
Chevy Chase (Town)	9,545	3,795	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
Chevy Chase (Village)		721	Public	Public	Public	Public	Public	No	Private
Chevy Chase, Section 3 (Village)	797	271	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
Chevy Chase, Section 5 (Village)	717	222	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
Chevy Chase View (Town)	994	298	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
North Chevy Chase (Village)	593	189	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
Drummond (Village)		43	Contracted	Not Specified	Public-seasonal Leaf coll.	Contracted-2x/yr		No	Private
Friendship Heights (Village)	4,698	3,000	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	No	Private

	Population	No. Hhlds	Trash Collection	Recycling Collection	Yard Trim/ Brush	Bulk Trash	Scrap Metal	Drop-Off	Commercial Collection
Garrett Park (Town)	1,055	380	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
Glen Echo (Town)	273	96	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
Kensington (Town)	17,976	6,684	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	No	Private
Laytonsville (Town)	380	127	Public	Public	Public-Seasonal	Public-2x/yr	Not Specified	No	Private
Martin's Additions (Village)	1,004	321	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted-Seasonal	Contracted-4x/yr	Contracted	No	Private
Poolesville (Town)	5,269	1,602	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted-1x/qtr	Contracted	No	Private
Somerset (Town)	1,285	407	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Not Specified	Not Specified	No	Private
Washington Grove (Town)	565	230	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted-Seasonal	Contracted-2x/yr		No	Private

Source: MSW Consultants. US Census, Website Information

Note: Contracted = administered/managed by the City/Town/Village

3.1.3 Recycling

The following sections provide an overview of how recycling⁶ is managed in the County.

Residential – Single-family

The County provides weekly curbside dual stream collection of recyclables for all single-family homes in both Sub-districts A and B through contracts with private service providers. Residents who receive curbside recycling collection from the County also receive scrap metal and yard trim collection. The County provides 22-gallon blue bins for aluminum products, cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastics bottles and containers. 64-gallon wheeled carts are provided for mixed paper and cardboard.

Multi-family and Non-Residential

Recycling collection for multi-family and non-residential properties may be accomplished via self-haul, or may be contracted directly between the owners and privately contracted County-licensed collectors. The same materials are mandated for recycling in the single-family residential recycling program, and the same materials are banned from trash as in the single-family residential program. Collectors are required to formally notify, either electronically or in writing, any generators that are placing unacceptable materials in the recycling collection. Collectors deliver recyclable material to private facilities both within and outside of the County. The County offers and provides recycling containers to multi-family residents, and to businesses at no additional cost.

3.1.4 Leaf and Yard Trim

All single-family residences in both Sub-districts are provided yard trim recycling collection once per week year-round, with a maximum of 45 pounds for each container set-out. Materials may not be set out in plastic bags. Residents can set out yard trimmings in labeled containers, or paper yard trim bags. Limbs that are not in labeled containers must be bundled.

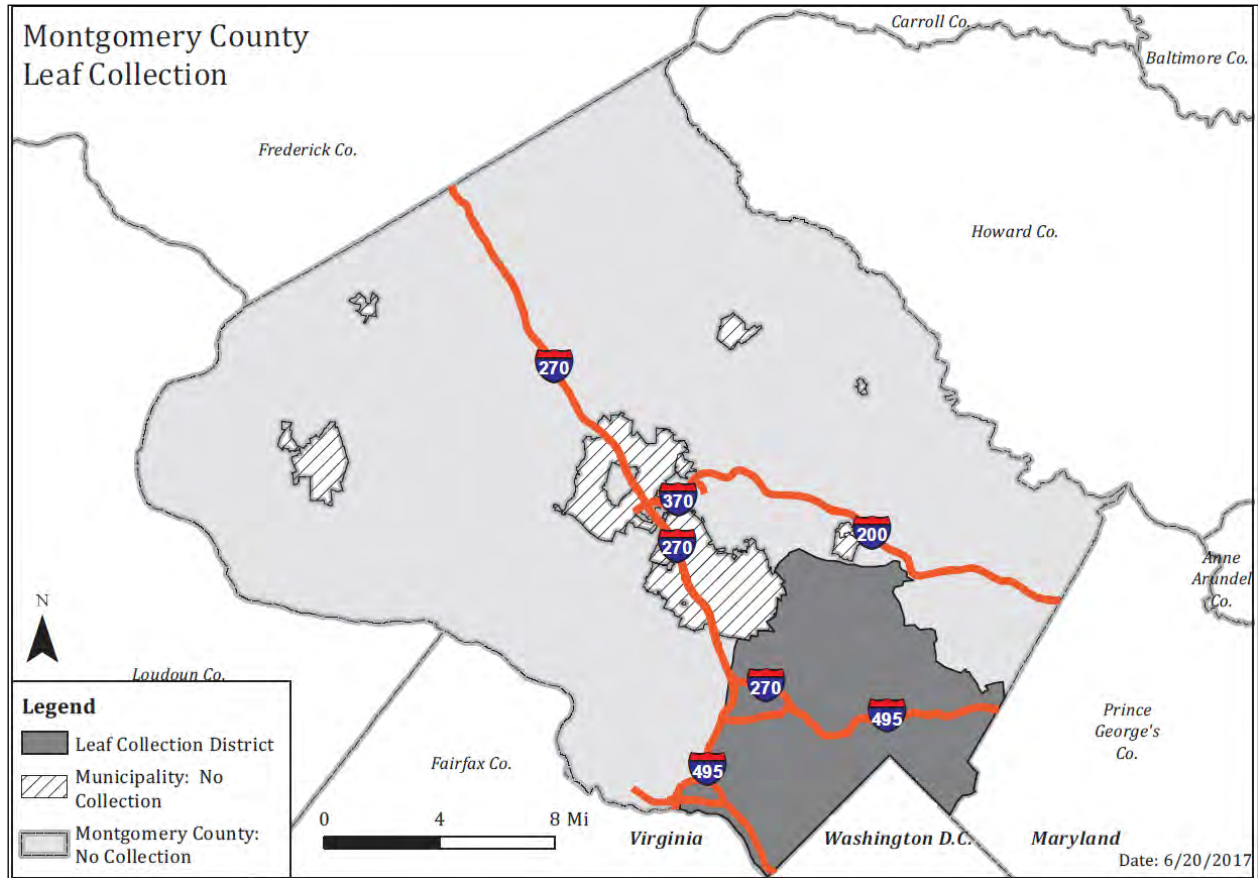
Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) provides seasonal (generally November through January) collection of leaves from within the Leaf Collection District, shown in Figure 3-4. Leaves are vacuumed from public rights-of-way and transported to the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility for composting. The County has developed a procedure that requires the support of not less than 80% of the households in the neighborhood/area before opting in or out of the Leaf Collection District.

The County also promotes grass cycling and backyard composting to further reduce the amount of yard trim requiring recycling collection. Compost bins for backyard

⁶ More information about the materials accepted in the County's curbside collection program can be found at: [County Executive Regulation No. 1 – 15](#).

composting of yard trim are available to residents in Montgomery County at no additional charge.

Figure 3-4: Map of Leaf Collection District



Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, 2018

3.1.5 Bulk Trash

The same private sector collectors under contract with the County collect bulky waste generated by single-family residences in Sub-district A along with the regular household waste collection at the curb. Customers must call or schedule the additional pick-up online. Residents are allowed up to 5 pick-ups per year at no additional charge. There is no limit on the number of items collected as part of each pickup but there is a “rule of thumb” that bulk trash consists of 5 or more bags or cans of trash, large nonmetal items such as furniture, carpets or mattresses. At least one side of the item must be less than 4 feet wide, so it will fit in the collection vehicle. Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste, propane tanks, hazardous materials are not considered bulk trash but may be taken to the Shady Grove Transfer Station or Poolesville Beauty Spot. There is no charge for disposing of loads less than 500 pounds for County residents showing proof of residency.

Those residents living in Sub-district B or in incorporated municipalities must make their own arrangements for collection of bulk trash or take it to the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station or the Poolesville Beauty Spot.

3.1.6 Scrap Metal

Residents that receive recycling collection from the County are also provided curbside scrap metal recycling collection. County-contracted collectors collect scrap metal generated by single-family residences in Sub-districts A and B during the weekly recycling collection route. Customers must call 311 or schedule the additional pickup online. There is no annual limit on scrap metal recycling requests. Scrap metal collected curbside must be too big to fit in a standard trash can or bag (since these items will be captured by the magnets at the RRF) and must be made of more than 50 percent metal. Scrap metal includes large household appliances, bicycles, lawnmowers, and more.

3.1.7 Drop-off

The County provides receptacles for self-hauled recyclables at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station. The Shady Grove Transfer Station only accepts waste that was generated in Montgomery County. Specific information on the Shady Grove Drop-off Center is discussed in Section 4.2.

DEP holds one-day confidential paper shredding and recycling and donation of reusable clothing and household items events at various locations in the Fall and Spring. For residents that cannot make the events, Clean Cut Shredding located in Rockville, MD, offers on-site document shredding for free.⁷

3.2 Tons of Materials Managed

In 2017, 1,378,396 tons of waste was generated in Montgomery, of which 1,103,051 tons were generated by the residential and commercial sectors (not including C&D waste). Table 3-7 presents a breakdown of the materials recycled, recovered and disposed by sector and indicates those materials that are considered recyclable under the *Maryland Recycling Act*⁸ and therefore count towards the recycling rate. See Appendix A for a description of how these materials are managed.

⁷ <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/programs/paper-shredding.html> (accessed August 15, 2018)

⁸ More information can be found: [Maryland Recycling Act \(MRA\) Guidelines Survey 2017](#)



Table 3-7: Tons of Materials Generated in Montgomery County (CY 2017)

	Material Category	Tons
	Total Waste Generated in the County (Residential, Commercial, C&D)	1,378,396
A	C&D Waste (Recycled, Landfilled, Burned)	275,345
B	Residential & Commercial Waste Recycling (counts toward recycling rate)	369,125
C	Residential & Commercial Yard Trim (counts toward recycling rate)	84,489
D	Residential & Commercial MSW Disposed (Burned, Landfilled)	649,437
E	Total Residential and Commercial Waste Generated (not including C&D)	1,103,051
	Recovered Materials	
F	Metal Recovered from RRF attributed to Residential/Commercial (counts toward recycling)	7,039
G	Metal Recovered from RRF attributed to C&D (does not count toward recycling rate)	1,023
H	Ash Recycled from RRF attributed to Residential/Commercial (counts toward recycling rate)	156,080
I	Ash Recycled from RRF attributed to C&D (does not count toward recycling rate)	22,676
J	Total Recycled (Recycling, Yard Trim, Metal, Ash) (B+C+F+H)	616,733
K	Total Generated (E)	1,103,051
L	Recycling Rate (J/K)	55.91%

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, September 2018

3.3 Tons Managed by Service Area

Table 3-8 below presents the households and annual tons collected for the thirteen areas comprising the two Sub-districts.

Table 3-8: Number of Households Served and Tons Managed by District (CY17)

District	Number of Households		Annual Tons (CY2017)				Total
	Trash Collection Service	Recycling & Yard Trim Collection Service	Trash	Recycling ⁽¹⁾	Scrap Metal ⁽²⁾	Yard Trim	
Area 1	20,725	21,303	15,025	4,812	110	4,719	24,666
Area 2	15,346	15,670	10,842	7,790	-	3,629	22,260
Area 3	14,070	14,468	15,466	5,252	56	2,654	23,429
Area 4	18,951	19,738	13,148	11,429	213	5,106	29,896
Area 5	15,757	15,945	12,636	3,071	154	3,770	19,631
Area 6	3,729	22,711	4,288	6,294	13	2,319	12,914
Area 7	-	17,004	-	4,766	-	1,315	6,081
Area 8	2,397	21,830	592	6,532	217	3,516	10,857
Area 9	-	16,004	101	5,959	290	2,167	8,516
Area 10	-	6,258	18	1,992	-	1,015	3,025
Area 11	-	16,681	-	4,752	14	2,136	6,902
Area 12	-	20,522	-	5,433	-	1,454	6,887
Area 13	940	9,739	222	3,452	8	1,054	4,735
TOTAL	91,915	217,873	72,337	71,532	1,075	34,855	179,800

1. Recycling includes commingled material collected (aluminum products, cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastics bottles and containers) in the County provided 22-gallon blue bins and paper products collected in a 64 gallon wheeled cart

2. Scrap metal includes those materials collected at the curb by appointment as described in Section 3.1.6

Source: MSW Consultants, Information provided by Montgomery County (Tonnage information from scale reports for tons managed in 2017 at Shady Grove Transfer Station and Processing Facility)

3.4 Waste Generation Rates

The following table presents a breakdown of the waste generation by the three sectors in the County. Over 50 percent of waste in Montgomery County is generated by the non-residential sector (i.e. businesses) as presented in Table 3-9 below.

Table 3-9: Breakdown of Waste Generated in Montgomery County by Sector (CY 2017)

Sector	Percent of Total Waste Generated
Single-family	35.70%
Multi-family	9.49%
Non-Residential	54.81%

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Capture Model CY17

In 2017, generation rates ranged from 974 lbs/capita per year to 2,168 lbs/employee per year as presented in Table 3-10.

Table 3-10: Residential and Non-Residential Waste Generation Rates (CY2017)

Residential Tons	Population	lbs/capita/day	lbs/capita/year
508,738	1,043,750	2.67	974
Non-Residential Tons	Employees	lbs/employee/day	lbs/employee/year
594,314	548,200	5.94	2,168

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Capture Model CY17

3.5 Community Engagement

Montgomery County has several outreach and educational programs to inform residents of single-family and multi-family properties, businesses, non-profit organizations, government facilities, and schools about proper management of solid waste including reducing waste, reusing items and materials, recycling, and buying recycled. The programs currently in place focus on single-family residential recycling, multi-family recycling, non-residential recycling, yard trim composting and grass cycling, waste reduction, reuse and donation programs, buying recycled items, and HHW reduction.

The following are examples of outreach and engagement activities conducted by the County or available to stakeholders:

- Tours of the County’s facilities: Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station, the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), the Yard Trim Composting Facility, and the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF).
- Brochures, flyers, fact sheets, posters, and videos to provide information on specific programs in English and Spanish (some materials are also available in up to nine additional languages). Specialized handbooks and guides are distributed to single-family residents, multi-family properties and residents, and businesses to better understand current programs and disposal options.

- Video presentations are also available as an educational tool for single-family, multi-family, and commercial waste management.
- Electronic newsletters geared to community and civic leaders and residents, business owners, managers and employees, government facilities managers and employees, non-profit organizations, multi-family property managers, staff and residents.
- Solid Waste Services website (<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/>)
- Social media – DSWS uses Twitter (@TalkingTrashMC), Facebook (MCRecycles), Flickr, YouTube and a blog. DEP utilizes Twitter (@MyGreenMC), Facebook (MyGreenMontgomery), Instagram (MyGreenMC), Pinterest, YouTube, Flickr and a blog.
- Compost bins and training sessions to promote grass cycling and composting.
- Seminars and workshops on reducing waste, reuse, recycling, buying recycled and composting are also available.

The County also has a number of programs in place to promote recycling including:

- The Recycling Volunteer Program which trains volunteer members to increase the knowledge and participation of residents on recycling, composting, waste reduction, and HHW programs. This educational outreach is performed by presentations given by volunteers at solid waste organizations, providing recycling and waste reduction information to residents, and staffing educational recycling booths at County events. In 2016, 1,179 volunteers were a part of the Recycling Volunteer Program.
- The Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons (SORRT) program which promotes and supports business recycling. The County provides technical support, educational materials, and guidance to advance waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and buying recycled efforts through direct support with owners, managers, employees, and customers of businesses, non-profit organizations, and government facilities.
- The Think Reduce and Recycling at Apartments and Condominiums (TRRAC) program which promotes and supports recycling in multi-family apartments and condominiums. The County provides technical support, educational materials, and guidance to advance waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and buying recycled efforts to building owners, managers, on-site staff, and residents.
- The Waste Reduction and Recycling Education in Public and Private Schools program which provides educational outreach to schools upon request on waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and buying recycled. Individual teachers may also request technical support in developing, reviewing, and updating instructional materials on waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and buying recycled.

3.6 Green Procurement

The Office of Procurement and the DEP have taken some efforts to promote recycled material by County agencies. Montgomery County has implemented “green purchasing” which is the purchase of goods that minimize impacts on the environment. The County installed ENERGY STAR® printers and copiers and energy saving vending machines in all County facilities. The County also began using eco-friendly soaps and cleansers, and training staff to use environmentally-friendly cleaning techniques. The County also purchases paper that is 30 percent or higher post-consumer recycled paper. Most of the paper purchased is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified which means the paper is harvested in an environmentally friendly manner. The County’s procurement regulations allow for a 10% pricing preference for materials with recycled content. The total dollar value of identified recycled products purchased during FY17 was \$6,022,374 and included:

- \$4,500,000 for asphalt and bituminous concrete; bituminous concrete may consist of 25% recycled material;
- \$208,473 for recycled paper;
- \$440,299 for recycled office supplies purchased through the County's LSBRP contract with Benjamin Office Supplies;
- \$827,071 for plastic recycling bins/carts, and having a recycled content from 25% up to 50%; and
- \$46,531 for record storage boxes having a recycled content from 10% up to 26%.⁹

3.7 Material Bans

Montgomery County enacted Council Bill 41-14 which places a ban on the use and sale of expanded polystyrene (#6-PS) products such as Styrofoam™ products, including foam containers, bowls, plates, trays, cartons, cups, egg cartons etc. and polystyrene loose fill packaging (e.g. packing peanuts). This legislation includes the following:

- Prohibits food service businesses from using expanded polystyrene (also known as foam or Styrofoam™) food service ware, effective January 1, 2016.
- Prohibits the sale of polystyrene loose fill packaging (also known as packing peanuts) and expanded polystyrene food service products, effective January 1, 2016.

⁹ FY 2017 Report “Procurement of Recycled Paper and other Recycled Materials” by the County’s Office of Procurement –
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/PRO/Resources/Files/Reports/FY17RecycleRpt.pdf> Accessed 9/28/2018

- Requires all county agencies, contractors, and lessees using disposable food service ware to use compostable or recyclable food service ware by January 1, 2016.
- Requires all food service businesses selling or providing food or beverages in disposable food service ware to use compostable or recyclable disposable food service ware by January 1, 2017.

The legislation applies to:

- All food service businesses, including full-service restaurants, limited-service restaurants, fast food restaurants, cafes, delicatessens, coffee shops, supermarkets, grocery stores, vending trucks or carts, food trucks, businesses or institutional cafeterias located in Montgomery County, Maryland. The law also applies to not-for-profit organizations.
- All food service operated by or on behalf of Montgomery County departments and agencies, as well as other businesses selling or providing food or beverages within the County for consumption on or off the premises.
- All retailers in Montgomery County, Maryland.

4 County-Owned Waste Management Facilities

Montgomery County owns several solid waste management facilities as shown in Figure 4-1. These include the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station, the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF), the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility, land reserved for a potential processing/disposal facility (Site 2 Landfill), and the Poolesville Beauty Spot.

Table 4-1 shows the types of waste managed at County owned facilities.

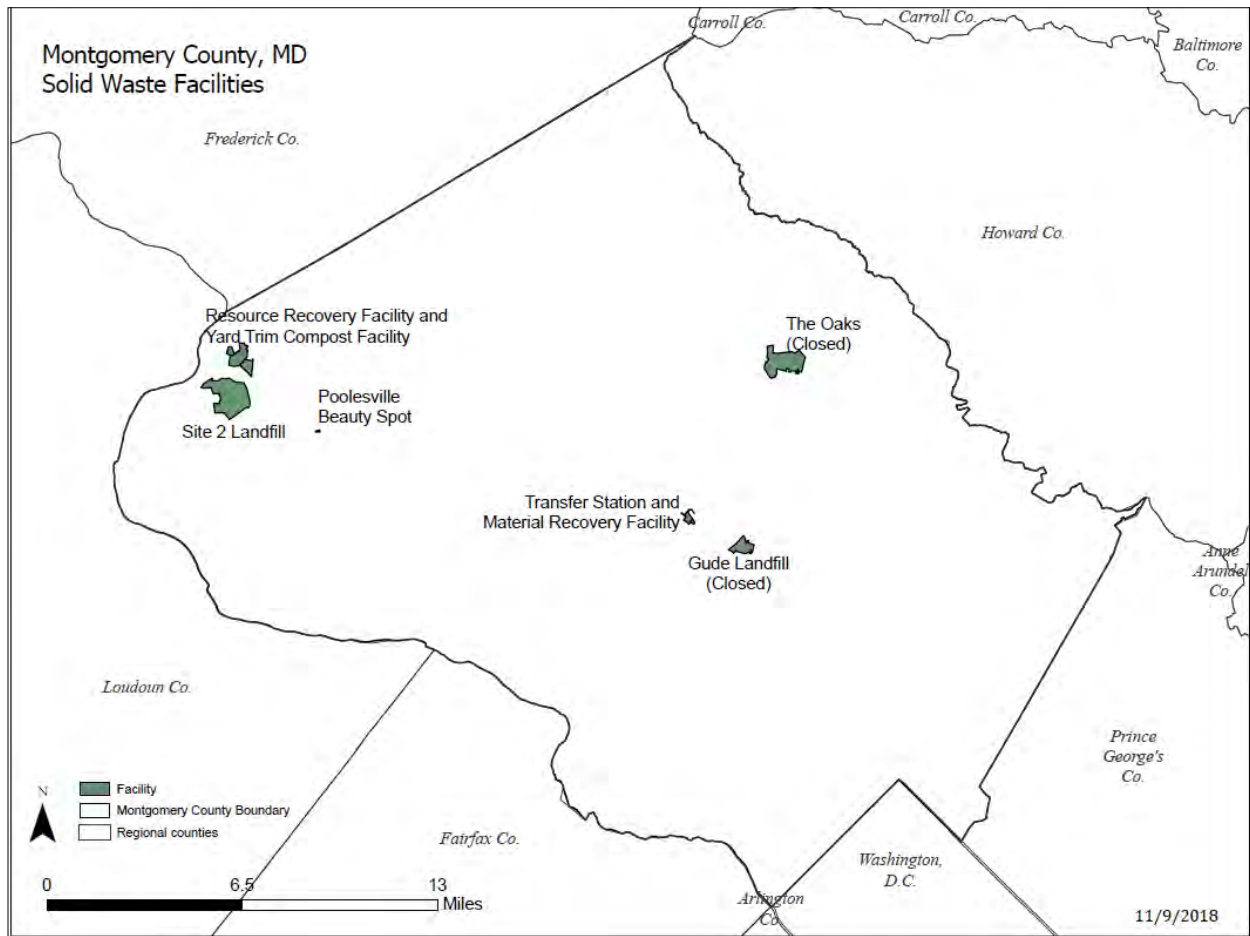


Table 4-1: Description of County Owned Facilities and Types of Materials Managed

Facility Name	Location	Owner	Types of Materials Managed
Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station	16101 Frederick Rd Derwood, MD 20855	Montgomery County	Waste to RRF Non-processible Yard trim Brush to mulch
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	21204 Martinsburg Rd Dickerson, MD 20842	Montgomery County (land) Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (RRF)	Solid Waste
Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility (MCYTCF)	21210 Martinsburg Rd Dickerson, MD 20842	Montgomery County	Leaves and grass
Recycling Center (Materials Recovery Facility)	16105 Frederick Rd Derwood, MD 20855	Montgomery County	Recyclables
Poolesville Beauty Spot	19200 Jerusalem Road Poolesville, MD 20837	Montgomery County	Bulk trash
Site 2 Landfill Site (not constructed)	Near Martinsburg Rd & Wasche Rd Dickerson, MD 20842	Montgomery County	N/A

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Capture Model CY17

Figure 4-1: Montgomery County Solid Waste Facilities



Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, 2018

4.1 Materials Recovery Facility

The Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), also known as the Recycling Center, is in Derwood Maryland, adjacent to the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station. The MRF is owned by the County and operated by Maryland Environmental Service (MES). MES is also responsible for materials marketing. The Recycling Center processes the two streams of recyclables: Commingled Materials and Paper. The MRF processes materials from single-family and multi-family residences, as well as some commercial sources. The materials accepted at the MRF include mixed paper (including writing paper, newspaper, magazines, shredded paper, unwanted mail, boxboard, and corrugated cardboard) and commingled containers (including glass bottles, jars and jugs, plastic bottles, tubs, lids and containers, aluminum cans and foil products, steel or tin cans, bi-metal cans)¹⁰. The MRF receives materials five

¹⁰ More Information about acceptable materials can be found: [Executive Regulation 1-15: Residential and Commercial Recycling](#)

days a week; sorting lines operate four or five days a week depending upon material volumes.

The original Recycling Center building, equipped to accept and process commingled materials only, was constructed in 1991, at a cost of approximately \$9 million. The Recycling Center began processing commingled materials in August 1991. Approximately 80-90 tons of commingled material is processed per 8-hour shift. Mechanical and hand separation is used to sort the commingled containers which are baled for shipping. There are 59 employees and contractors working in the commingled area of the MRF daily. Materials are sorted during one shift per day, four to five days a week depending on the volume of materials received. These materials are then sold to various end markets to be remanufactured into new materials.

In May 2017, a separate paper processing area was built at a cost of approximately \$3.3 million. The paper processing operations are capable of processing 25 tons of mixed paper and cardboard (OCC) per hour. The paper processing facility is operated by nine employees. The Paper Processing Facility operations include separating and baling mixed paper and cardboard (OCC) to sell into the market. The mixed paper is baled from load bunkers and shipped to paper mills to be made into new products. The market destinations of the end users may be domestic and/or international and vary over time, depending on recycling market conditions and circumstances.¹¹

4.2 Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station

The Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station is located at 16101 Frederick Road on a 45-acre parcel of land in Derwood, Maryland. It is located adjacent to the Recycling Center and receives trash and recyclables from permitted solid waste haulers and collectors as well as residents at the public drop-off area. The Transfer Station has been in operation since the spring of 1982. In 1995, a transportation system was set up to facilitate rail haul of processible (i.e. combustible) waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF). In 2004, a fourth compactor was added. In 2008, the tipping floor area and building were expanded, improvements were made to the site roads, additional scales were installed, and an enclosed small vehicle drop-off center (Annex) was added adjoining the surge pit. Figure 4-2 shows an aerial view of the facility.

The Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station has a waste operating permit limit of 821,500 tons per year. On an annual basis, the Shady Grove Facility processes about 550,000 to 625,000 tons of processible (combustible) waste, 40,000 to 60,000 tons of non-processible waste, about 75,000 tons of yard trim, and about 8,000 tons of scrap metal, electronics, and other recyclables. In 2017, 668,243 tons of trash and recyclable material was received and processed at the facility.¹²

¹¹ Montgomery County, Recycling Center Update 2018 (pdf)

¹² Montgomery County, Capture Model CY17

The Transfer Station utilizes two entrances, the Shady Grove truck entrance and the Route 355 Public Unloading Facility (PUF) Entrance. The Shady Grove truck entrance receives about 1,000 trucks (e.g. large collection vehicles carrying more than 500 pounds) per day and the PUF entrance receives about 1,000 to 2,000 smaller trucks (e.g., cube vans, pickup trucks that are carrying less than 500 pounds) per day. Radioactive waste detectors are located at several entrances to safeguard from unacceptable waste. These locations include the entrance to the tipping floor, the public unloading area, the inbound truck scales, and at the contractor's dedicated scale.

The current public unloading area is available for residents to drop-off trash and recyclable materials in passenger vehicles. Residents dropping off less than 500 tons of materials can use the Route 355 Public Unloading Facility (PUF) Entrance at no charge. All materials accepted in the curbside collection program are accepted at the unloading center. If loads of trash and yard trim delivered exceed 500 pounds, the cost is \$60 per ton and \$46 per ton respectively. All materials that are delivered in open top roll-off boxes are charged \$70 per ton.

The four solid waste compactors can compress up to 26 to 27-ton loads of solid waste, which are mechanically discharged into 40-foot intermodal containers. Containers of compacted waste are driven to the rail yard for shipment to the RRF. Processible waste can also be bypassed directly to other permitted disposal sites if necessary. Inspectors also routinely check waste loads for other types of unacceptable materials.

Non-processible waste received at the Transfer Station is transported to the Mountain View Reclamation Landfill near Greencastle, Pennsylvania.

4.2.1 Drop-off Areas at the Transfer Station

Shady Grove accepts a wide variety of materials which can be dropped-off by the residential and non-residential sector. The transfer station has locations for the drop-off of various materials to be properly disposed, recycled, and reused as outlined below and shown in Figure 4-2. Items that may be dropped off at the transfer station include household hazardous waste (HHW), electronics, building materials, textiles, bulky rigid plastics, scrap metal, bikes, and tires.

- The household hazardous waste drop off location is available to residents for proper disposal of home generated HHW. Small businesses may also use the drop off location through the ECOWISE program. Once per month, the ECOWISE Program allows Montgomery County businesses to drop-off up to 220 pounds of hazardous waste on a cost per pound basis.¹³
- The transfer station provides a drop off location for materials such as electronics, textiles, bulky rigid plastics, scrap metal, and tires to be properly recycled. Residents are limited to 15 electronic items per day, scrap metal that weighs less than 60 pounds, and five tires per year that are no larger than 33 inches in

¹³ [Shady Grove Recycling- HHW](#)

diameter. Textiles that are reusable as well as those that are not in a condition to be reused are collected.

- Residents may also drop off materials such as electronics, building materials, textiles, and bikes to be reused. These materials are collected by non-profit organizations under the Internal Revenue Code.
- Through the “Don’t Dump. Donate!” program¹⁴, materials such as appliances, bricks, cabinetry, doors, flooring, roofing, tools etc. that are in good, reusable condition can be brought to the Recycling Area as a donation. The County has a partnership with a non-profit firm for reuse of these materials. Materials that are not considered to be in a reusable condition are disposed of as trash, in the appropriate manner.¹⁵
- The Transfer Station also includes areas to drop-off yard trim (grass, leaves, and brush) for recycling. Residents who receive recycling collection services through the County are provided curbside collection of yard trim year-round; however, yard trim can also be dropped off at the facility by residents and landscapers. The majority of the yard trim (grass, leaves) is hauled to the County’s Yard Trim Composting Facility, located approximately 20 miles away, either by use of the rail haul system or transfer trailer. Brush is ground into mulch and provided at the County’s Mulch Preserve locations. Mulch is available to residents for no charge and sold to commercial mulch vendors.

¹⁴ Information about “Don’t Dump. Donate!” program: [Don't Dump. Donate! Program - Reusable Building Material Recycling](#)

¹⁵ [Shady Grove Recycling- C&D Waste](#)

Figure 4-2: Site Plan of Shady Grove Transfer Station and Processing Facility



Source: Google image, photograph taken 04/2018

4.3 Resource Recovery Facility

The Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) processes waste to recover energy and additional recyclable materials (e.g. ferrous metals).¹⁶ The RRF began operation in August of 1995 in Dickerson with a processing limit of 657,000 tons per year. The County limits the RRF to 95 percent of its capacity to ensure it does not exceed its permitted limit and targets to operate in the range of 85-95 percent. In CY 2017 the RRF accepted 575,162 tons of waste, which is about 87.5 percent of its capacity. Of all non-recyclable processible waste delivered to the County's Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station, some of that material is recycled, some is sent as bypass, and some is sent by rail to the RRF for waste-to-energy.

The County's RRF is located on 34 acres of land adjacent to an electric generating plant owned by NRG Energy. The Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority

¹⁶ [OSHA website- VPP](#)

(NMWDA) markets all net energy and capacity into the PJM¹⁷ daily market and PJM Capacity market, respectively. The energy generated at the RRF is also certified as a renewable energy and the NMWDA markets the Renewable Energy Credits in the spot market. The design, construction, and transportation improvements were financed by NMWDA. Currently NMWDA owns the RRF on behalf of Montgomery County, and contracts operations to Covanta.

The original agreement between NMWDA and Covanta to operate the Transfer Station and the RRF started in April of 1993, with the RRF beginning operations in August of 1995 with an initial term until April of 2016. The agreement includes two automatic 5-year extensions, unless the County acts to not extend. The RRF is currently in the first 5-year extension which ends in April of 2021. The facility property is leased to the NMWDA by the County.

The RRF is made up of three boilers, each burning up to 600 tons per day based on a waste heating value of 5,500 BTU/lb. These boiler units produce high pressure and high temperature steam to generate electricity through the mass burn of waste. After the mass burn process, ferrous materials are recovered from the ash prior to shipping the ash off-site by rail. The ferrous material is sold into the recycling market and recycled. The ash is shipped by rail to the Old Dominion landfill in Virginia where it is processed to recover additional ferrous metals as well as non-ferrous metals for recycling, and aggregate materials. The aggregate materials are used within the lined area of the landfill for road base and as daily cover, which is counted as a beneficial reuse by the State of Virginia and Maryland.

The facility's Title V Air Permit requires stack emissions monitoring to occur during all hours of operation. The Air Pollution Control (APC) system includes processes for removal of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), acid gases (SO₂ and HCl), mercury dioxins and particulate matter. The Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems (CEMS) measures the emission levels of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, hydrogen chloride, temperature, opacity and carbon monoxide to ensure the APC system is operating correctly and that facility is adhering to its air permit. The CEMS data is shared on the County's website at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/facilities/rrf/cem.html>. Additionally, the County has completed several studies that review the health effects of the emissions from the RRF. These studies have concluded that there are "no measurable influences on ambient air concentrations attributable to MCRRF source emissions."¹⁸

¹⁷ PJM or PJM Regional Electric Grid - a regional transmission organization (RTO) that coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity in Maryland and all or parts of 12 other states and the District of Columbia.

¹⁸ From "Fourth Operational Phase Ambient Air Monitoring Program, Winter 2013-2014 and 2014-2015" <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/SWS/Resources/Files/r/f/ambient-air-report-1606/Ambient-Air-Report-1606.pdf> (last accessed 8/24/2018)

This facility, along with many other Covanta operated facilities are in the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) which promotes a safe and healthy work environment.¹⁹

4.4 **Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility**

The Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility is located in Dickerson, Maryland. The County has owned and operated this facility since 1983 when it was converted from a sewage sludge composting facility. The County contracts with the Maryland Environmental Service (MES) for operation of the facility. The facility is located on 118 acres of land adjacent to the RRF. When the facility first opened, initially only leaves were composted; however, in 1989, the County expanded its operations to compost both leaves and grass from single-family homes. The facility mainly manages materials generated by the single-family residential sector. Materials generated by multi-family and non-residential sectors are processed at both the County's facility and private facilities located within and outside of the County. Privately operated composting facilities are discussed in Section 5.5.

The facility processes 77,000 tons of material per year (the maximum allowed as per the agreement with the Sugarloaf Citizens Association). The facility consists of a 49-acre asphalt pad, three stormwater management ponds, 80,000 square foot pavilion for drying and screening finished compost, a scale house, a maintenance and storage building, and a pump house for an onsite well. An open-air windrow operation is used for the composting of the leaves and grass using mobile turning and shredding equipment.

The facility sells a high quality compost called Leafgro™. This compost is sold bagged and in bulk to landscapers and homeowners. Leafgro™ is sold in sustainable packaging made from sugarcane which is helping the County reduce its carbon footprint.²⁰ In accordance with an agreement between the County and the Sugarloaf Citizens Association, the County may produce up to 650,000 bags of Leafgro.²¹

4.5 **Land Reserved for Potential In-County Waste Landfill**

The County currently owns 820 acres of land in Dickerson, Maryland to act as a potential future in-County landfill as a contingency in the event economic conditions change or the law no longer allows out-of-County waste disposal. This location is along Wasche Road and is known as "Site 2". The County continues to allow this site to be used for agriculture purposes until a landfill is needed. It is anticipated that the footprint of the landfill would consist of 125 acres. The County could commence construction of the landfill at any time in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Refuse Disposal Permit issued by MDE for the site.

¹⁹ [Covanta- RRF Operating Data](#)

²⁰ [Montgomery County- Composting Facility](#)

²¹ [Montgomery County- County's Carbon Footprint](#)

4.6 Closed Landfills

The County is responsible for post-closure care of two landfills: the Gude Landfill and the Oaks Landfill. The Gude Landfill is the oldest formal landfill in the County and is located at 600 East Gude Drive, in Rockville, Maryland.

The landfill received approximately 4.8 million tons of municipal solid waste from 1965 until the site was closed in 1982. The Gude Landfill has a waste disposal footprint of approximately 100 acres. The site's infrastructure includes:

- Internal access roads
- Stormwater management/sediment control ponds
- Groundwater/gas monitoring wells
- A former power plant building
- An above ground horizontal landfill gas collection system with vertical extraction wells
- Two enclosed landfill gas ground flares with noise wall
- A 0.8-megawatt (MW) gas-to-energy facility (As of June 1, 2017, the facility was permanently shut down).

The County is also responsible for post-closure care of the Oaks Landfill located on a 545-acre tract near Laytonsville, MD. From 1982 to 1995, the Oaks Landfill managed the County's MSW. From 1995 to 1997, RRF ash and non-processible waste was received until the commencement of a contract to export this waste to a private landfill in Virginia. The landfill was closed in 1997. The Oaks Landfill has a leachate pretreatment facility and a gas management facility that will continue to be operated throughout the 30-year post-closure maintenance period. A 2.4-megawatt (MW) landfill gas-to-energy facility started operation in mid-2009.

4.7 Poolesville Beauty Spot

The Poolesville Beauty spot is a satellite drop-off facility for residents to dispose of bulky waste. Beauty Spots are intended to "beautify" neighborhoods by giving residents a location to drop-off large items that they would otherwise place on the street. The Poolesville Beauty Spot is located at 19200 Jerusalem Road in Poolesville, Maryland. It is only open on Saturdays from 7 am to 3 pm.²² Residents may drop-off up to 499 pounds of bulky waste for free. Some examples of bulky waste accepted at the Beauty Spot include furniture, rugs, and mattresses. The Beauty Spot does not accept commercial waste, residential household trash or recyclables, scrap metal, or yard trim. Covanta, the current contractor, transports the material for disposal at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station.

²² [Montgomery County- Poolesville Beauty Spot](#)

5 Private and Public Facilities that Accept County-Generated Materials

There are several facilities located both inside and outside of the County that are not owned by the County but accept County-generated materials. The majority of the single-family residential sector receives collection services from the County and the majority of these materials are sent to County-owned facilities. The County, however, does send a portion of its materials to public and private facilities within and outside of its borders. The other sectors (multi-family and non-residential) self-haul or contract with licensed collectors independently to take materials wherever contracted.

5.1 C&D Recovery

Construction and demolition debris (C&D) is nonhazardous waste that comes from construction and demolition sites and generally consists of brick, concrete, wood and lumber, roofing, drywall, and other masonry materials. C&D waste generated by the private sector can be brought to the Shady Grove Transfer Station as well as more than 30 public and privately-owned disposal facilities located in and outside of Montgomery County.

In 2017 approximately 275,000 tons of C&D waste generated in the County was recycled and disposed. Of the C&D generated, 49 percent was received by Montgomery County and recycled, combusted in the RRF, or landfilled and 51 percent was handled by the private sector. Table 5-1 below shows the breakdown of how C&D generated in the County was handled, recycled and disposed.

Table 5-1: Tons of Construction and Demolition Debris Recycled and Disposed (CY 2017)

Management of C&D Debris	Tons	% Managed
Total Tons Received by Montgomery County	133,689	49%
Recycled by County (does not count toward recycling rate) ¹	41,584	15%
Disposed by County via its Out-of-County landfill contract	19,142	7%
Burned by County in RRF (remaining ash also disposed in Out-of-County Landfill)	72,963	27%
Total Tons Handled Entirely by the Private Sector	141,656	51%
Recycled (does not count toward recycling rate) ¹	65,950	24%
Disposed	75,706	27%
Total Tons Managed	275,345	100%

¹ Reported as Non-MRA Materials Recycled

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Haulers Report CY 2017

Note: figures may not total due to rounding

The two facilities that receive most of the County’s C&D waste include the Ritchie Land Rubble Landfill and C&D Recovery, LLC a private C&D processing facility. In 2017, these facilities managed 43 percent of the total C&D managed by the private sector. Table 5-2 below shows the private disposal and recycling facilities that accepted C&D waste from private haulers in Montgomery County along with the respective tonnages in 2017 from these haulers. This does not include C&D waste from Montgomery County.

Table 5-2: Private Disposal and Recycling Facilities Used by Private Haulers for C&D Materials (2017)

Facility Name	Tons Managed	% of Total	Disposed (Tons)	% Disposed	Recycled (Tons)	% Recycled
Ritchie Land Rubble LF	34,301	24%	26,505	77%	7,796	23%
C&D Recovery LLC	25,302	18%	16,725	66%	8,577	34%
Sun Recycling	14,630	10%	3,720	25%	10,910	75%
Honey Go Run	14,339	10%	14,339	100%	-	0%
Comus Materials	12,811	9%	-	0%	12,811	100%
The Recycle Center	11,790	8%	-	0%	11,790	100%
Recycle One	4,919	3%	4,919	100%	-	0%
Eyler Rubblefill	4,216	3%	-	0%	4,216	100%
Ameriwaste	4,082	3%	3,261	80%	821	20%
DC Materials Inc.	3,844	3%	-	0%	3,844	100%
Brandywine Sand & Gravel	1,498	1%	1,498	100%	-	0%
Merrifield	935	1%	493	53%	441	47%
Other 25 Private Facilities	8,990	6%	4,246	47%	4,744	53%
Total C&D Managed by Private Sector	141,656	100%	75,706		65,950	

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Haulers Report CY 2017

5.2 Landfills

There are currently no active landfills located within the boundaries of the County. Section 4.5 in this report discusses the 820 acres that the County currently owns to use as a potential landfill site.

Table 5-3 below shows a list of landfills located within a 200-mile driving distance from the County that could accept Montgomery County waste. HDR conducted online research on public and private landfills within 200 driving miles from



Montgomery County²³ with at least 50 years of capacity remaining and able to accept out-of-county waste. This radius represents an approximate 3-hour drive time. HDR followed up with a phone call to the facilities to ask about tipping fees if information was not available online. It should be noted that the fees represent gate rates only and would be subject to negotiation depending on the quantity of waste managed.

²³ Note that the distance from Montgomery County represents the center point of Montgomery County as determined by Google Maps, which is 11596 Game Preserve Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Table 5-3: Landfills within 200 miles of Montgomery County

Landfill Name	Address	County/City	State	Miles from Montgomery County, MD	Public/Private	Owner	Tipping Fee (\$/ton)
Quarantine Road Municipal Landfill	6100 Quarantine Rd	Baltimore	MD	50	Public	Baltimore City Department of Public Works	\$67.50
I-95 Landfill	9850 Furnace Road	Fairfax	VA	40	Public	Fairfax County	\$66.00
Honey-Go-Run Reclamation Landfill	10710 Philadelphia Road	Perry Hall	MD	60	Private	Republic Services	\$65.00
Mountain View Reclamation Landfill	9446 Letzburg Rd.	Greencastle	PA	66	Private	Waste Management	\$66.65
Blue Ridge Landfill	3747 White Church Road	Chambersburg	PA	81	Private	Waste Connections	\$78.53
King George Landfill	10376 Bullock Drive	King George	VA	82	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$45.00
Gloucester County Solid Waste Complex	503 Monroeville Road	Gloucester	NJ	133	Public	Gloucester County Improvement Authority, NJ	\$ 65.00
Old Dominion Landfill	4120 Charles City Rd	Richmond	VA	139	Private	Republic Services	\$101.00
Charles City County Sanitary Landfill	8000 Chambers Road	Charles City	VA	145	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$60.00
Southern Alleghenies Landfill	843 Miller Picking Road	Somerset	PA	152	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$71.04
Laurel Highlands Landfill	260 Laurel Ridge Road	Cambria	PA	160	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$67.81
Middle Peninsula Landfill	3714 Waste Management Way	Gloucester	VA	160	Private	Gloucester County	\$70.00
Maplewood Recycling & Waste Disposal	20221 Maplewood Road	Amelia	VA	167	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$58.39

Landfill Name	Address	County/City	State	Miles from Montgomery County, MD	Public/Private	Owner	Tipping Fee (\$/ton)
Atlantic Waste Disposal Inc.	3474 Atlantic Lane	Sussex	VA	170	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$56.59
Shoosmith Sanitary Landfill	11800 Lewis Road	Chesterfield	VA	180	Private	Shoosmith Bros Inc.	N/A
Bethel Landfill	100 North Park Lane	Hampton City	VA	193	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$53.81
Brunswick Waste Management Facility	107 Mallard Crossing Road	Brunswick	VA	194	Private	Republic Services	\$50.00
Evergreen Landfill	1310 Luciusboro Road off Route 119 S	Indiana	PA	195	Private	Waste Management Inc.	\$67.81

Source: Personal Communication with Facility staff. Additional information obtained from <https://www.epa.gov/lmop/landfill-technical-data> accessed July 12, 2018.

Note: Miles from Montgomery County represents the center point of Montgomery County as determined by Google Maps, 11596 Game Preserve Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

5.3 Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs)

Montgomery County owns a MRF that is located in Derwood, Maryland which is discussed in Section 4.1. The County's MRF is a dual stream facility that separates household recyclables such as plastics, steel, aluminum, mixed paper, and glass. Table 5-4 below presents a list of private MRFs within a 200-mile driving distance (3 hours) from the County that process recyclable materials and could potentially process County materials.

Table 5-4: MRFs within 200 miles of Montgomery County

Name	Address	State	Distance from Montgomery Co. (miles)	Owner	Type or Nature of Materials Accepted
LFF Recycling, Inc.	45752 Woodland Rd # 150, Sterling, VA 20166	VA	13	LFF Recycling, Inc.	Single stream, e-waste
Merrifield	2801 Dorr Avenue	VA	24	Waste Management Inc.	Single stream, tires
WM Recycle America - Elkridge Materials Recovery Facility	7175 Kit Kat Road, Elkridge, MD 21075	MD	26	Waste Management Inc.	Single stream
Chambersburg Waste Paper Co. Inc.	2047 Loop Road Chambersburg PA 17201	PA	57	Chambersburg Waste Paper Co. Inc.	Commingled and source separated
AMRF Incorporated	16232 Brandy Rd, Culpeper, VA 22701	VA	60	Updike Industries, Inc	Recycles aluminum, steel cans, glass, newspaper, cardboard, office paper, plastic, textiles
County Waste MRF – Fredericksburg	10954 Houser Dr, Fredericksburg, VA 22408	VA	64	County Waste	Single stream
RCA – York	4455 Mt. Pisgah Rd York PA 17402	PA	66	Waste Management Inc.	Single stream
Penn Waste, Inc.	85 Brick Yard Rd, Manchester, PA 17345	PA	67	Penn Waste, Inc.	Single stream, commingled and source separated
B.D.S.I. Recycling Center	1600 Chestnut Tree Rd, Honey Brook, PA 19344	PA	99	A. J. Blosenski, Inc.	Dual-stream

Name	Address	State	Distance from Montgomery Co. (miles)	Owner	Type or Nature of Materials Accepted
TotalRecycle, Inc	1270 Lincoln Rd. Birdsboro PA 19508	PA	108	JP Mascaro & Sons	Single and dual stream
County Waste MRF - West Point	7825 Parham Landing Rd, West Point, VA 23181	VA	115	County Waste	Single stream
Cogle's Recycling Inc.	1000 S. 4th St. Hamburg PA 19526	PA	117	Cogle's Reccling, Inc	Conversion to single stream
Allied Waste Recyclery	215 E. Dekalb Pike, King of Prussia PA 19406	PA	120	Republic Services	Single stream
County Waste MRF – Richmond	12230 Deergrove Rd, Midlothian, VA 23112	VA	120	County Waste	Single stream
Philadelphia Transcyclery Co.	3000 East Hedley St, Philadelphia, PA 19137	PA	120	Republic Services	Commingled with fiber source separated
ReCommunity Philadelphia	2904 Ellsworth St Philadelphia, PA 19146	PA	122	Republic Services	Single stream
ReCommunity Upper Dublin	1030 Fitzwatertown Road, Willow Grove, PA 19090	PA	130	Republic Services	Commingled with fiber separated or single stream
Waste Management Philadelphia Recovery Facility	5201 Bleigh Ave Philadelphia PA 19136	PA	133	Waste Management Inc.	Single stream
Republic Bucks Montgomery Recyclery	1510 Swamp Rd. Fountainville, PA 18923	PA	138	Republic Services	Newspaper, cardboard, aluminum cans, plastics 1 & 2
TFC Recycling	12206 Old Stage Road	VA	141	TFC Recycling	Single stream
J.P. Mascaro & Sons Wyoming Valley Division	871 E. Main St. Nanticoke, PA 18634	PA	157	J.P. Mascaro & Sons	Commingled glass, tin, aluminum, and plastics fiber separated
Northeast Cartage and Recycling Solutions	50 Breaker Rd., Hanover Township, PA 18704	PA	159	Northeast Cartage and Recycling Solutions, LLC	Single stream and dual stream
Municipal Recovery	495 Stanton St. Wilkes- Barre, PA 18702	PA	160	Municipal Recovery, Inc	Single stream, commingled and source separated
County Waste MRF – Lynchburg	2410 Mayflower Dr, Lynchburg, VA 24501	VA	161	County Waste	Single stream

Name	Address	State	Distance from Montgomery Co. (miles)	Owner	Type or Nature of Materials Accepted
Bay Disposal Inc. Norfolk MRF	687 Decker St Norfolk VA 23523	VA	169	Bay Disposal	Single stream
TFC Recycling – Chesapeake	1958 Diamond Hill Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23324	VA	172	TFC Recycling	Single stream
Waste Management (GREENSTAR)	4100 Grand Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15225	PA	179	Waste Management Inc.	Single stream

Source: MSW Consultants Research, 2018

Note: The center point of Montgomery County as determined by Google Maps, 11596 Game Preserve Road, Gaithersburg, MD

5.4 Facilities accepting Construction and Demolition Materials

Table 5-5 presents a list of private C&D facilities within 200 driving miles, or a three-hour drive from Montgomery County. Information was obtained through information posted online or provision of information through direct contact with the facilities.

Table 5-5: C&D Facilities within 200 miles of Montgomery County

Name	Address	State	Distance from Montgomery Co. (miles)	Additional Capacity Stated	Posted Gate Fee	Estimated Long-term Fee	Owner	Materials Accepted
C&D Recovery LLC	24120 Fredrick Rd, Clarksburg MD 20871	MD	13	500 tons/day	\$76/ton	Negotiable	Pleasant Construction	N/A
Sun Services	11210 Somerset Ave, Beltsville, MD 20705	MD	20	Confident in ability to accept more	N/A	\$70/ton - 2 ton minimum per delivery (\$140 minimum)	Sun Services	N/A
Merrifield Materials Recovery	2801 Dorr Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22031	VA	24	50 tons/day	N/A		Waste Management Inc.	All C&D
DC Materials, Inc.	3334 Kenilworth Ave # B, Hyattsville, MD 20781	MD	30	25 - 40 loads/day	\$170/ load		DC Materials, Inc.	Concrete, cinder, dirt
Tolson C&D LF	Capitol Raceway Rd, Odenton, MD	MD	30	1000 tons/day	\$73/ ton	Negotiable	Pleasant Construction	N/A
Ritchie Land Reclamation Landfill	2001 Ritchie Marlboro RD, Upper Marlboro MD 20772	MD	35	1000 tons/day	\$73/ ton		Pleasant Construction	C&D waste
Potomac CDD Landfill	3730 Greentree Lane, Dumfries, VA 22026	VA	40	50 tons/day	\$60/ ton		Potomac Recycling	Accepts all C&D

Name	Address	State	Distance from Montgomery Co. (miles)	Additional Capacity Stated	Posted Gate Fee	Estimated Long-term Fee	Owner	Materials Accepted
Gypsum Agri-Cycle Inc.	280 Ore Mine Rd. Mount Joy PA 17552	PA	74	2500 tons/year	\$20-30/ton + transport costs if applicable		Gypsum Agri-Cycle Inc.	Accepted used asphalt and concrete.
Green Earth Materials Recovery Facility	3330 Kratzer Rd, Harrisonburg, VA 22802	VA	98	180 tons/day	N/A		Green Earth LLC	Accepts shingles, organic composting material, wood and brush, asphalt, block and bridge, concrete
Bennett Construction	515 S Camden Ave, Fruitland, MD 21826	MD	104	Depends on the day.	\$53/ ton		Bennet Construction	In addition to the C&D separation also bales cardboard (OCC), mixed paper, carpet padding, vinyl siding and plastics for shipping to mills for reuse.
E.J. Breneman, LP	1117 Snyder Road West Lawn PA 19609	PA	105	300 tons/day	\$66/ ton	\$53/ton	E. J. Breneman	C&D debris and then separate out the recyclables. Asphalt, block, brick and concrete.
Conshohocken Recycling & Rail Transfer LLC	1060 Conshohocken Road Conshohocken PA 19428	PA	121	1,000 tons/day	\$70/ ton	Negotiable	Conshohocken Recycling & Rail Transfer	Lumber and framing materials, siding and plumbing fixtures, windows and doors, furnaces, brick, concrete and asphalt, and wiring and insulation.

Name	Address	State	Distance from Montgomery Co. (miles)	Additional Capacity Stated	Posted Gate Fee	Estimated Long-term Fee	Owner	Materials Accepted
L&S Demolition Recycling Inc	884 Brook Road Conshohocken PA 19428	PA	122	200 tons/day		\$60/ton	AJ Catagnus Group of Companies	Process used asphalt, used concrete, brick and block.
NDV Recycling	3630 North 2nd Street Philadelphia PA 19140	PA	127	500 tons/day	\$75/ ton	Negotiable	NDV Recycling	Deconstruct and salvage materials from buildings. Including metals, brick and stone.
Glasgow, Inc.	104 Willow Grove Avenue Glenside PA 19038	PA	129	Plenty of room for clean concrete and brick	N/A		Glasgow, Inc	Accept clean wood, brick, concrete, asphalt. Also accept railroad ties and utility poles.
Agri-Marketing, Inc dba USA Gypsum (2)	1 Main Street Turbotville PA 17772	PA	137	unspecified additional capacity is available	\$15/ ton		USA Gypsum	Clean construction waste.
Crushcrete, Inc.	1965 Silvēx Road Bethlehem PA 18015	PA	142	100+ tons a day	\$35/ ton		CrushConcrete	Accepts concrete and brick.
Spivey Disposal LLC	228 Salters Creek Rd, Hampton, VA 23661	VA	155	unspecified additional capacity is available	\$52/ ton	47-49 / ton	Spivey Disposal	Accepts C&D debris, concrete, asphalt, clean wood.
Recycling and Disposal Solutions of Virginia (RDS)	3325 Frederick Blvd, Portsmouth, VA 23704	VA	170	unspecified additional capacity is available	\$53/ ton	\$48-50/ ton	Recycling & Disposal Solutions	C&D Waste.

Name	Address	State	Distance from Montgomery Co. (miles)	Additional Capacity Stated	Posted Gate Fee	Estimated Long-term Fee	Owner	Materials Accepted
Military Highway Recycling Center MRF	5304 W Military Hwy, Chesapeake, VA 23321	VA	170	can hold 1400 tons total; can accept 400 tons/day; 300 tons available	\$50/ ton	\$40-45/ ton	Military Highway Recycling	C&D Debris consisting of Wood, Shingles, Drywall, Plastic Buckets, Pallets, Flooring, Metals, Windows, Land Clearing Debris (tree shrubs), Sand, Pallets, Flooring, etc. Clean & Spacious Tipping Area. C&D \$45.00/ton.
Centerville Turnpike CDD Landfill	1613 Centerville Turnpike, Virginia Beach, VA 23464	VA	174	unspecified additional capacity is available	\$55/ ton		Hampton Roads Recovery Center, LLC	C&D Landfill; sorting and diverting recoverable debris to local recyclers and by supporting debris stream landfilling of post-recycled C&D debris.

Source: MSW Consultants Research, 2018

Note: The center point of Montgomery County as determined by Google Maps, 11596 Game Preserve Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

5.5 Compost/Organics Facilities

The County currently owns a composting facility that is discussed in Section 4.4 of this report. The majority of the leaf and yard trim generated by the single-family residential sector is sent to the County’s facility; however, the yard trim generated by multi-family and non-residential sector is sent to private composting facilities located within and outside the County. The County currently does not have an organics processing facility for food waste; therefore, any food waste collected is sent to private facilities.

The County has been conducting a food waste recycling program since November 2011 at the Executive Office Building cafeteria. From November 2011 through August 2018, 140 tons of food waste have been collected and composted. In 2016, the pilot program was expanded to the Council Office Building cafeteria and the Public Safety Headquarters Building.²⁴ The material has been delivered by the contracted licensed collector to a succession of compost facilities since the beginning of the program, namely the Prince William County, Virginia Compost Facility, Recycled Green in Carroll County, Maryland, and now the Prince George’s County Composting Facility at Western Branch. Having consistent access to processing facilities with adequate capacity to compost the materials separated from waste for composting is critical to successful composting efforts and programs.

The following table provides a description of the type of feedstock types and facility tiers²⁵ that are managed by the composting facilities presented in Table 5-7.

Table 5-6: Feedstock Types and Facility Tiers

Feedstock Types	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	NWW
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yard waste (e.g. leaves, grass) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food scraps Non- recyclable paper Animal manure and bedding Industrial food processing materials Animal mortalities Compostable products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sewage Sludge or Biosolids Used diapers Mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) Not covered under the CF permit or composting facility regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree and other natural vegetative refuse Not covered under the CF permit or composting facility regulations

²⁴ [Montgomery County FY2016 Sustainable Government Operations Report](#)

²⁵ MDE, Permitting Guidance for Maryland Composting Facilities, June 2015. <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Documents/Permitting%20Guidance%20-%20Final%206.12.15.pdf> . Accessed September 4, 2018



Facility Tiers	Tier 1 • Accepts only Type 1 feedstocks	Tier 2 Small • Type 1 and Type 2 feedstocks • Produces ≤ 10,000 cubic yards of compost annually	Tier 2 Large • Type 1 and Type 2 feedstocks • Produces > 10,000 cubic yards of compost per year	Tier 3 • Accepts Type 3 feedstocks (regardless of whether other feedstock types are also composted)	NWW Recycling Facility • Accepts only natural wood waste
Permit Required	Tier I and II - General Composting Facility Permit (GCFP) (Unless subject to an exemption)			Tier III - Refuse Disposal Permit or Sewage Sludge Utilization Permit	NWW Recycling Facility Permit

Table 5-7 below provides a list of composting facilities located within 100 driving miles of Montgomery County. Several facilities listed below are small scale and unable to accept a substantial amount of the County’s available food waste, and some do not accept food waste generated from outside of their jurisdiction. Information was gathered through internet research or direct contact with the facility owner/operators.

Table 5-7: Composting Facilities in Maryland and Virginia

County	Composting Facility	Facility / Feedstock Type	Feedstock Capacity (Tons per year)	Ratio of Food Waste/Yard Trim or Other	Able to take material from Montgomery County	Permitting Status & Operational Status
Maryland Facilities						
Anne Arundel	Millersville Landfill and Resource Recovery Facility Composting Pad	Tier I - Yard Trimmings (YT)	35,000	N/A	No	In Operation - GCFP Issued 1/13/2017
Anne Arundel	Tolson & Associates LLC	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	25,000	N/A	Yes	Planned - GCFP Issued 2/20/2018
Anne Arundel	Veteran Compost - Lothian	Tier II Small - Food Waste (FW)/ Manure/ Wood Chips	20,000	40% FW, 60% YT	Yes	Planned - GCFP Issued 3/29/2018
Baltimore	Eastern Sanitary Landfill Solid Waste Management Facility	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	20,000	N/A	No	In Operation - Landfill Permit Modification Issued 11/30/2016



County	Composting Facility	Facility / Feedstock Type	Feedstock Capacity (Tons per year)	Ratio of Food Waste/Yard Trim or Other	Able to take material from Montgomery County	Permitting Status & Operational Status
Caroline	Twin Maples Compost Facility	Tier II Large - Food Waste /Manure	13,000	None at present	Yes	In Operation - GCFP Issued 12/5/2016
Carroll	Harvest RGI (Recycled Green)	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	50,000	N/A	Yes	In Operation - ICFP Issued 7/21/2017
Cecil	Cecil County Central Landfill	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	10,000	N/A	Cannot currently accept out of County waste as per County ordinance but are willing to consider an amendment	In Operation - Landfill Permit Modification Issued 12/7/2016
Cecil	West Coast Mushrooms	Tier II Large - Hay /Straw/ Manure	16,120	N/A	N/A	In Operation - GCFP Issued 12/13/2016
Charles	Calvert Wood Recycling	Tier I - Yard Trimmings/N WW	5,000	N/A	Yes	In Operation - GCFP Issued 3/3/2017
Frederick	Comus Property LLC	Tier II Large - Food Waste /Yard Trimmings	33,000	TBD	Unknown - Not operational	Planned Operation - GCFP Issued 3/28/2017
Frederick	Frederick County Department of Solid Waste Management	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	25,000	N/A	No	In Operation - Landfill Permit Modification Issued 12/8/2016
Harford	Harford Waste Disposal Center Mulch Compost Facility	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	40,000	N/A	TBD	In Operation - GCFP Issued 8/31/2016
Harford	Veteran Compost - Aberdeen	Tier II Small - Food Waste / Manure/ Wood Chips	20,000	40% FW, 60% YT	Yes	In Operation - GCFP Issued 12/14/2016



County	Composting Facility	Facility / Feedstock Type	Feedstock Capacity (Tons per year)	Ratio of Food Waste/Yard Trim or Other	Able to take material from Montgomery County	Permitting Status & Operational Status
Howard	Composting Facility at Alpha Ridge Landfill	Tier II Large - Food Waste /Yard Trimmings/M anure	12,000	40% FW, 60% YT	No	In Operation - GCFP Issued 10/5/2016
Howard	Level Land Lisbon Mulch Yard	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	6,250	N/A	No	In Operation - GCFP Issued 2/21/2017
Montgomery	Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	77,000	N/A	No	In Operation - GCFP Issued 8/5/2016
Montgomery	ACME Biomass Reduction, Inc.	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	19,000	N/A	N/A	In Operation - GCFP Issued 3/10/2017
Montgomery	Aspen Nursery	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	1,250	N/A	N/A	In Operation - GCFP Issued 4/5/2017
Prince George's	Prince George's County Organics Composting Facility	Tier II Large - Food Scraps /Yard Trimmings	69,000	40% FW, 60% YT	Yes- 6,000 tpy	In Operation - GCFP Issued 10/5/2016
Prince George's	City of College Park	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	5,600	N/A	No	In Operation - GCFP Issued 8/31/2016
Prince George's	Cedarville Holdings Composting Facility	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	26,250	N/A	Unknown - Not operational	Planned - GCFP Issued 11/8/2017
Washington	40 West Landfill	Tier I - Yard Trimmings	5,000	N/A	No	In Operation - Landfill Permit Modification Issued 11/30/2016



County	Composting Facility	Facility / Feedstock Type	Feedstock Capacity (Tons per year)	Ratio of Food Waste/Yard Trim or Other	Able to take material from Montgomery County	Permitting Status & Operational Status
Virginia Facilities						
Prince William	Balls Ford Rd Composting Facility	Now - yard trimmings, 2019 - food waste; 2020 - anaerobic digestion	Now - yard trimmings (30K tpy), 2019 - 80k tpy food waste; 2020 - another 80k tpy digestion	40% FW, 60% YT (when complete in 2019)	Yes	Now - Cat. I yard waste composting, operational, 2019 - expansion to Cat. III food waste composting scheduled, 2020 - food waste anaerobic digestion planned
Spotsylvania	Livingston Composting Facility	Now - biosolids, 2019 - yard trimmings	Now - 29,250 tpy biosolids 2019- 5,000 tpy yard trimmings	N/A	No	Now - biosolids operational, 64% capacity; 2019 - yard trimmings to be permitted / operational

Source: Coker Composting (October 2018)

Note: GCFP - General Composting Facility Permit, ICFP - Individual Composting Facility Permit
 TBD indicates that the facility was contacted but information has not yet been received.

6 Funding & Financial Information

The County’s solid waste division has a budget of approximately \$100 million per year. The Annual Operating Budget and the Approved Capital Improvements Program for the DEP are updated each year with basic cost information and fiscal data related to the solid waste program.

Under County law, the charges set by the County for solid waste services must equal expenses (i.e. revenue neutral). The solid waste system is funded from an independent, legislatively established Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, primarily funded by:

- Tipping fees,
- Systems benefit charges,
- Trash collection and leaf vacuuming charges, and
- Revenues and credits from the sale of landfill gas, recyclables, and compost.

Table 6-1 presents the 2018 tipping fees charged at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station.

Table 6-1: Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station Tipping Fees (2018)

Material type	Fee
Trash loads - under 500 pounds	No charge
Trash loads - 500 pounds and over	\$60.00/ton
Materials delivered for disposal in open-top roll-off boxes - all amounts	\$70.00/ton
Yard trim - under 500 pounds	No charge
Yard trim - 500 pounds and over	\$46.00/ton
Recyclables (except HHW from businesses)	No charge

Source: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/dropoff/fees.html> Accessed August 9, 2018

The tipping fees are set to achieve full recovery of County solid waste system costs and are adjusted periodically as needed for cost recovery or to use as incentives to help control the flow of material to the Transfer Station and the RRF. The C&D tipping fee is always set higher than the MSW tipping fee. Tipping fees are charged at the Transfer Station, except for residential tipping fees (from non-municipal, single-family residences and multi-family dwellings in buildings comprised of six or fewer dwelling units), which are collected on the tax bill as “Disposal Fees.”

The Solid Waste Charge is paid by property owners in the County. This charge includes disposal fees, base system benefit charges, incremental systems benefit charges, trash collection charges, and leaf vacuuming charges. Table 6-2 below describes each component to the Solid Waste Charge for the Single-family, Multi-family (MF) and Non-residential properties for FY19.

Table 6-2: Solid Waste Charge Components and Annual Fees by Sector (FY19)

Solid Waste Charge Components	Description	Single-family	Multi-family	Non-Residential Properties
Disposal Fee	<p>A disposal fee acts as a per ton “tipping fee” at Shady Grove Transfer Station. This is charged to either the trash collector or the homeowner.</p> <p>Homeowners who receive trash collection from the County prepay the disposal fee based on County’s per ton tipping fee and an average per ton generation rate for each household.</p> <p>Private collectors for residents that do not receive service from the County are responsible to pay at tipping fee at the Shady Grove Facility.</p>	<p>\$51.48</p> <p>Paid by property owners via tax bill</p> <p>Based on an estimated 0.858 tons per home</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p> <p>If the property's private sector trash collector uses the County's Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station, a "tipping fee" of \$60.00 per ton is paid there based on the amount of waste delivered. This fee may be passed on to the property owner by the private trash collector.</p>	<p>Not applicable to non-residential property owners.</p> <p>The County charges a Tipping Fee to private trash collectors (not to the property owner) depositing trash from nonresidential properties at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station. Private trash collection companies may pass this cost along to their nonresidential customers.</p>
Base Systems Benefit Charge	<p>Base systems benefit charges are used to provide funding for the remaining costs of developing and maintaining basic solid waste programs and facilities needed in the County. The charges cover costs such as system administration, enforcement, waste reduction programs, debt service on existing facilities and the fixed cost of disposal programs and facilities (e.g. the RRF).</p>	<p>\$25.78</p> <p>Paid by property owners via tax bill</p>	<p>\$1.33 per dwelling unit</p> <p>Paid by property owners via the tax bill</p>	<p>Paid by owners of properties with improvements valued over \$5,000. Covers that portion of the County's costs of providing basic solid waste services to manage nonresidential waste, which costs are not covered by Tipping Fees.</p> <p>Assessed by the pounds of waste estimated to be disposed per-square-foot base on the type of land use, and the actual “enclosed” area on the property.</p>

Solid Waste Charge Components	Description	Single-family	Multi-family	Non-Residential Properties
Incremental Benefit Charge	The Incremental Base Charge is based on the services provided to each sector. Covers the cost of certain incremental services provided by the County only to non-municipal single-family households. Covered program costs include the curbside blue bin program, yard trim collection program, operation of the commingled container recycling facility, mixed paper processing, drop-off programs (net of material sales revenue), rate stabilization, HHW programs, development of recycling programs, and single-family recycling education and outreach.	\$127.85 Paid by all non-municipal single-family property owners via the tax bill	\$14.73 per dwelling unit Paid by all property owners via the tax bill	Paid by all properties via tax bill. Based on size of improved floor area and the waste generation characteristics of the property:
Trash Collection Charge	Charged to single-family residences with 6 or fewer units (residents that receives trash collection from the County).	\$77.00 Assessed to those households in the Collection District which receive collection of trash by a collector under contract to the County	Not applicable The County does not currently provide trash collection services to any multi-family properties in buildings of more than 6 dwellings.	Not applicable to non-residential properties.
Leaf Vacuuming Charge	Charged to owners in the Leaf Vacuuming Collection District. This charge covers the cost of leaf vacuuming services.	\$102.93 Assessed to households in the Leaf Vacuuming Service Area assuming SF households account for 97.244% of leaves vacuumed.	\$4.08 per dwelling unit Assessed to owners of multi-family properties in the Leaf Vacuuming Service Area assuming MF households account for 2.76% of leaves vacuumed.	Not applicable to non-residential properties.

Source: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/swc/nr.html>, accessed August 9, 2018.

Single-family residential, multi-family residential and non-residential solid waste generators may be charged a base charge and an incremental charge. Like tip fees, the system benefits charge rates are set by the County Council annually based on anticipated system expenses, but also vary across the different generation sectors (single-family residential, multi-family residential and non-residential) and are dependent on the number and type of units/generators. The base and incremental system benefit charges for the non-residential sector is based on a combination of the property's land use category, improved gross floor area, and results from waste generation studies. Table 6-3 below shows a breakdown of the solid waste fee for single-family, multi-family, and non-residential units for FY18.

Table 6-3: Breakdown of Projected Solid Waste Costs and Revenue (FY18)

	Single-family	Multi-family	Non-Residential
Portion of Total Waste Generation	37.3%	8.9%	53.9%
Base System Benefit Charges			
Base System Cost	\$ 55,315,832	\$ 55,315,832	\$ 55,315,832
Sector Share of Base Costs	\$ 20,630,483	\$ 4,913,665	\$ 29,771,693
Offsets from Tipping Fees	\$ (12,908,758)	\$ (4,816,710)	\$ (17,221,673)
Base Costs to Collect	\$ 7,721,724	\$ 96,956	\$ 12,550,011
HH or Units	256,012	130,937	88,369
\$/HH	\$ 30.16	\$ 0.74	\$ 142.02
Incremental System Benefit Charge			
Recycling	\$ 24,308,266	\$ 1,123,514	\$ 2,483,482
Satellite Sites	\$ 252,779	\$ 5,901	
Organics - Food Waste	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Stabilization	\$ (950,000)	\$ 811,700	\$ 1,818,750
Composting	\$ 3,483,781	\$ 65,112	\$ 1,467,906
Total	\$ 27,094,827	\$ 2,006,227	\$ 5,870,138
HH or Units	217,583	130,937	88,369
\$/HH	\$ 124.53	\$ 15.32	\$ 66.43
Disposal Fees			
Tons of Trash Disposed by Sub-districts A & B	182,851	NA	NA
HH or Units	217,583	NA	NA
Disposal ton/HH	0.84	NA	NA
County Tipping Fee for Trash at TS	\$ 60.00	NA	NA
Disposal Fee Levied on Sub-district A & B HHs on Tax Bill (\$/HH)	\$ 50.42	NA	NA
Total Systems Benefit Charges (\$/HH)	\$ 205.11	\$ 16.06	\$ 208.44

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Rate Table FY 18



Trash collection is funded by a separate revenue stream of charges assessed to single-family residences in Sub-district A. Leaf Vacuuming is funded by a separate revenue stream of charges assessed to single-family and multi-family residences within the Leaf Recycling Service Area of the County.

The County solid waste program also generates a variety of revenues and credits for the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, which offset the amount needed for systems benefit charges. Sources of revenue include the sale of electricity from closed landfills and the RRF, sale of recyclables from the MRF and recovered ferrous metals from the RRF, and the sale of compost and mulch products from the Yard Trim Composting Facility and the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station. Additional revenues are generated from interest on reserves in the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, and other miscellaneous sources.

The total disposal and collection costs for FY 2018 were \$101,936,495. Table 6-4 below presents a detailed itemization of the costs included as part of collection and disposal.

Table 6-4: Disposal and Collection Costs (\$) (FY 2014-2018)

	Cost Center	FY 14 Total Expenditures	FY 15 Total Expenditures	FY 16 Total Expenditures	FY 17 Total Expenditures	FY 18 Total Expenditures
510 - Solid Waste Disposal	81101 - Administration	1,631,304	886,639	1,196,182	1,641,695	2,081,787
	81111 - SWD Automation	386,858	394,502	404,919	394,861	402,882
	81131 - Revenue Analysis And System Eval	501,201	780,010	774,978	23	13
	81141 - Charges From Finance Property Tax Billing	169,780	170,570	171,570	597,353	683,333
	81151 - Charges From Finance -Financial Statement Prep	49,490	48,420	50,030	463,939	502,544
	81161 - Charges From County Attorney	110,688	116,291	125,126	51,120	52,450
	81302 - Multi-family Recycling	783,866	895,453	873,516	129,625	134,935
	81312 - Commercial Recycling	2,075,394	2,481,972	2,075,687	940,539	987,982
	81322 - Recycling Outreach And Education	713,258	938,018	737,545	2,071,565	2,022,426
	81332 - Yard Trim Reduction	105,975	105,165	104,947	848,515	982,432
	81342 - Support for Recycling Volunteers	119,163	120,615	159,694	151,205	123,888
	81402 - Satellite Sites	0	37	-20	145,216	122,740
	81411 - Oaks Landfill	1,399,461	1,484,219	1,421,435	0	651
	81421 - Gude Landfill	414,416	759,480	808,511	1,585,427	1,469,831
	81431 - Transfer Station	3,978,037	4,312,489	4,024,254	981,069	784,651
	81442 - Recycling Center Operations	6,084,076	6,895,176	8,007,877	5,097,127	5,476,707
	81452 - Mixed Paper Recycling	462,465	N/A	3	6,729,230	7,765,029
81461 - Out Of County Haul	8,596,351	8,989,591	8,961,796	11,145,188	12,286,994	

	Cost Center	FY 14 Total Expenditures	FY 15 Total Expenditures	FY 16 Total Expenditures	FY 17 Total Expenditures	FY 18 Total Expenditures
	81471 - Residential Household Hazardous Waste	904,124	869,602	904,147	941,047	1,077,043
	81481 - Waste Detoxification-Commercial	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	81491 - Waste Reduction	507	-354	26	8,487	80
	81501 - Charges From DOT-Satellite Sites	132,316	129,741	128,677	101,106	115,300
	81511 - Charges From DEP-Oaks	135,869	145,247	106,089	90,803	28,923
	81521 - Charges From DEP-Gude	113,497	129,494	94,996	60,540	20,655
	81601 - Waste System Planning	312,825	312,786	348,605	550,679	390,423
	81611 - RRF Program	41,963,867	45,466,077	42,505,356	23,489,956	27,776,488
	81622 - Yard Trim Composting	3,270,320	3,800,522	3,452,836	3,755,543	5,615,645
	81631 - Dickerson Master Plan	41,296	44,776	46,204	51,179	187,803
	81641 - Site 2 Landfill	89,071	57,216	69,741	57,936	50,994
	81651 - Charges From DEP-RRF	6,908	7,036	4,817	0	21,387
	81661 - Charges From DEP-Dickerson	35,310	40,510	33,979	27,021	21,690
	81671 - Charges From DGS-Site 2	15,206	36,689	38,046	8,633	100,000
	81682 - Food Waste Organics	0	0	0	0	58,918
	81702 - Residential Recycling Collection Program	19,637,184	20,021,198	19,577,377	20,382,788	21,270,485
	81713 - Residential Refuse Collection Program	355	189	187	719	218

	Cost Center	FY 14 Total Expenditures	FY 15 Total Expenditures	FY 16 Total Expenditures	FY 17 Total Expenditures	FY 18 Total Expenditures
	81721 - Charges From DEP- Enforcement	341,970	344,196	374,885	398,763	414,878
	81731 - Charges From DHCA- Enforcement	572,783	698,859	713,560	656,779	775,986
	81741 - Charges From Dot - Clean & Lien	7,140	9,418	8,802	9,175	6,278
	81751 - Charges from PIO (MC311)	264,359	315,982	307,781	280,645	297,886
512 - Solid Waste Collection	81101 - Administration	225,015	165,222	151,080	288,649	263,810
	81111 - SWD Automation	56,970	122,769	96,705	106,707	93,446
	81141 - Charges From Finance Property Tax Billing	85,400	85,690	86,000	232,008	250,581
	81151 - Charges From Finance -Financial Statement Prep	5,270	4,920	5,070	5,170	5,350
	81161 - Charges From County Attorney	36,900	38,768	41,713	43,214	44,984
	81713 - Residential Refuse Collection Program	5,451,759	5,561,508	5,461,488	5,894,155	7,153,678
	81751 - Charges from PIO (MC311)	68,534	78,356	78,593	71,555	71,208
Grand Total		101,356,538	107,865,064	104,534,810	90,486,951	101,936,495

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Rate Table FY 18

7 Contract Review

The County has established many contractual relationships with haulers, the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA), Maryland Environmental Services (MES), and other businesses to manage their integrated solid waste system.

7.1 Private Service Providers

Private service providers are contracted to collect trash and recyclable materials from single-family homes in Sub-districts A and B which is made up of 217,000 single-family homes. Ecology Services, Unity Disposal, and Republic Services of Frederick Maryland are contracted to provide curbside trash and recycling to these areas, with specific contracts for specific areas of the County. Table 7-1 below presents the contract terms for the 13 contracts that are in place. As shown, many of these contracts are reaching the end of their base term in 2019, which represents an opportunity to begin implementing changes to the County's solid waste management system. The contracts totaled \$23 million in FY 2018.

Table 7-1: Solid Waste Collection Contracts

Contractor	Service Area	Date Contract Signed	Date Contract Expires	Original Contract Terms (Years)	Optional Terms (Years)	Services Included
Ecology Services	Areas 6 & 8	2011	2020	9	2	Trash and Recycling Collection
Ecology Services	Area 9-13	2010	2019	9	2	Area 9-12: Recycling Collection Area 13: Trash and Recycling Collection
Unity Disposal	Area 1,2,4 & 5	2018	2023	5	1	Trash and Recycling Collection
Unity Disposal	Area 3	2012	2019	7	1	Trash and Recycling Collection
Republic Services	Area 7	2018	2023	5	2	Recycling Collection

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Contract Master List Modified, 2018

7.2 Service Agreements

The County has established many contractual agreements to operate their facilities and manage programs. Table 7-2 below shows the many contracts between the NMWDA for the RRF and Transfer Station, a contract with MES for the operations of the MRF and Yard Trim and Composting Facility, and Clean Harbors Environmental Services for the County's HHW and Ecowise Program.



Table 7-2: Service Agreements

Contractor	Contract Agreement	Date Contract Signed	Date Contract Expires	Original Contract Term (Years)	Optional Terms (Years)
NMWDA	Waste Disposal Agreement (RRF)	1990	2016 (extended to 2021)	23 (Retirement of Bonds)	automatically extends for an additional 5 years unless notice provided 180 days before end of first renewal
NMWDA	Service Agreement (RRF)	1990	2016 (extended to 2021)	23 (Retirement of Bonds)	automatically extends for an additional 5 years unless notice provided 180 days before end of first renewal
NMWDA	Intergovernmental Agreement	2007	2009	1.5	Extended to June 30, 2021
NMWDA	Various agreements including Solar Power and Services (Sun Edison, LLC), LFGE, electronics and other task orders				As required
MES	MRF and Yard Trim and Composting Facility Operations	2016	2019	3	3
Clean Harbors Environmental Services	HHW and Ecowise Program	2012	2015	3	2 plus one
Various contracts for maintenance and operation of landfills, general maintenance and repair, emergency debris management, textile recycling and supply of recycling carts and bins.					
Various contracts for consulting, analytical, engineering and environmental studies.					

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Contract Master List Modified, 2018

7.3 Educational Programs

The County contracts with five competitively selected firms to assist in development of materials to support educational initiatives of the County’s Waste Reduction and Recycling Program. Table 7-3 below presents the current contracts and terms. The education and outreach services support efforts to keep single-family residents, multi-family residents and properties, as well as owners, managers, and employees of businesses, non-profit organizations, and government facilities informed about waste reduction, reuse, recycling, buying recycled, and relevant activities through mail, social media, press releases, educational events, awareness campaigns, and special promotions. Education is provided with the intent of instilling information that will affect behavior in a positive way, to further reduce waste, increase reuse, recycling and buying recycled in the County.



Table 7-3: Contracts for Educational Programs

Contractor	Date Contract Signed	Date Contract Expires	Original Contract Terms (Years)	Optional Terms (Years)
The Media Network	2011	2019	5	3 additional one-year terms
Brotman-Winter-Fried Consulting, Inc.	2011	2019	5	3 additional one-year terms
Technical Resources International Inc.	2011	2019	5	3 additional one-year terms
Opinion Works, LLC	2011	2019	5	3 additional one-year terms
Links Media, LLC	2011	2019	5	3 additional one-year terms

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, Contract Master List Modified, 2018

8 Projections

As part of the methodology for determining the projected waste stream going forward, HDR reviewed population and employment projections for Montgomery County. Increases in residential waste generation often correlate to population growth and increases in employment can be indicators of increases in commercial waste generation. Using assumed recycling and diversion rates, projections were developed to estimate future disposal rates.

8.1 Population Projections

DSWS provided population projections based on data from the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), as presented in Round 8.3 of their Cooperative Forecast. The Cooperative Forecast gives population projections in five-year increments, and yearly estimates were interpolated from the five-year estimates. The following table presents the average annual population growth estimates used by DSWS.

Table 8-1: Average Annual Population Growth (2018 to 2030)

Calendar Year	Estimated County Population*
2018	1,052,888
2019	1,062,214
2020	1,071,540
2021	1,080,062
2022	1,088,584
2023	1,097,106
2024	1,105,628
2025	1,114,150
2026	1,122,160
2027	1,130,170
2028	1,138,180
2029	1,146,190
2030	1,154,200

*Source: MNCPPC, Cooperative Forecast. Round 8.3, five-year increments. Used by DSWS.

8.2 Commercial Sector Growth

DSWS provided employment projections, based on Round 8.3 of the Cooperative Forecast. Each round of the Cooperative Forecast has revised future growth projections to be less than the previous round estimated. Round 8.3 estimates an average growth of 1.03 percent per year from 2018 to 2030 (interpolating between the 5-year increments projected), resulting in a projected employment of 635,000 in the year 2030. The at-place employment projections from Cooperative Forecast Round 8.3 are shown in Table 8-2, based on an average annual growth.

Table 8-2: Average Annual Growth of At-Place Employment (2017-2030)

Calendar Year	Estimated County Employment*
2017	548,280
2018	554,800
2019	561,320
2020	567,840
2021	574,032
2022	580,224
2023	586,416
2024	592,608
2025	598,800
2026	606,040
2027	613,280
2028	620,520
2029	627,760
2030	635,000

Source: MNCPPC, Cooperative Forecast. Round 8.3, five-year increments

8.3 Waste Generation and Recycling Rates

To calculate recycling and waste diversion rates, DEP established as its official methodology, the State's method for Recycling and Diversion Rate Accounting (Executive Regulation 7-12). The recycling rate is calculated by totaling the MRA recycling tonnage including ash tonnages sent for beneficial use credits and dividing that total by the total of MRA recycling tonnage and MRA waste disposed. The recycling rate plus the source reduction credit make up the diversion rate. The State provides jurisdictions the opportunity to earn up to 5 percent waste diversion as a source reduction credit from specific source reduction activities. This is included in the County's goal of 70 percent diversion.

$$\text{Recycling Rate} = \frac{\text{MRA Recycling}}{\text{MRA Recycling} + \text{MRA Waste Disposed}}$$

$$\text{Diversion Rate} = \text{Recycling Rate} + \text{Source Reduction Credit}$$



Montgomery County's current recycling rate goal is 70% by 2020. In CY 2017, Montgomery County generated 616,732 tons of MRA recyclables. The residential sector was responsible for 285,236 tons and the commercial sector was responsible for 331,496 tons. Table 8-3 below shows a breakdown of the MRA materials generated in 2017.



Table 8-3: Tons of MRA Recyclables Generated in Montgomery County (CY 2017)

Category	MRA Recyclables	Residential	Commercial	Total
Compost/Mulch	Brush and Branches	64,592	37,246	101,839
	Grass	16,360	9,434	25,794
	Leaves	18,829	10,857	29,686
Compost/Mulch (Other)	Food Waste	659	5,119	5,778
	Wood Materials (1)	15	3,275	3,290
	Other: Manure		4,996	4,996
Glass	Brown Glass	41	2	43
	Clear Glass	513	25	539
	Mixed Glass	17,365	8,043	25,408
Metals	Aluminum Cans	597	203	799
	Back-End Scrap	3,520	3,520	7,039
	Lead Acid Batteries	94	2,378	2,472
	Tin (Sn)/Steel Cans	2,805	1,819	4,625
	White Goods	7,210	504	7,714
	Other: Aluminum Foil	20	1	21
Paper	Magazines	12	334	345
	Mixed Paper	54,489	25,935	80,424
	Newspaper	603	354	957
	Office/Computer Paper:	4	9,332	9,336
	Old Corrugated Cardboard	1,303	36,563	37,866
Plastic	Mixed Plastic	2,240	3,793	6,034
	Plastic: PET	3,518	175	3,692
	Plastic: HDPE	706	35	741
	Other: Bags/film	0	526	526
Other Materials	Animal Protein/Solid Fat	0	1,086	1,086
	Electronics	1,520	715	2,235
	MSW-to-Energy Ash	83,376	72,704	156,080
	Pallets (2)		410	410
	Textiles	165	5,842	6,007
	Tires (3) (Recycled)	3,600	3,600	7,201
	Other: Paint	296	15	311
Other MRA Recyclables	(e.g. metals, toner cartridges etc.)	783	82,657	83,440
TOTAL MRA		285,237	331,496	616,733

Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, CY17 MRA Report for MDE (Adapted)

- * For more detailed guidelines, refer to the *Maryland Recycling Act Tonnage Reporting System Guidelines*, available under “County Coordinator Resources” on MDE’s recycling web page.
- (1) Includes recycling of wood products (e.g., pallets, crates, barrels, wood furniture, canes, crutches, etc.). Materials must be mulched or composted ONLY. Otherwise, include in “Other Materials” category.
 - (2) Refurbished pallets ONLY. List mulched or composted pallets in “Wood Materials” – “Compost/Mulch (Other)” category.
 - (3) Tires that are recycled into new products containing rubber (e.g., trashcans, storage containers, rubberized asphalt, etc.), and use of whole tires for playground and reef construction.

In 2017, the County’s overall recycling rate was 56 percent and the diversion rate was 61 percent including a 5 percent source reduction credit. Table 8-4 below shows the MRA recycling rate for each of the single-family, multi-family and the nonresidential sectors and the overall recycling and diversion rate.

Table 8-4: Recycling and Diversion Rates for Montgomery County (CY 2017)

Recycling and Diversion Rates (2017)	
Single-family Recycling Rate	62.58%
Multi-family Recycling Rate	28.70%
Non-Residential Recycling Rate	55.82%
Overall Recycling Rate	55.91%
Source Reduction Credit Earned	5.00%
Overall Diversion Rate (including 5% Source Reduction credit)	60.91%

Source: Montgomery County, October 2018

As shown in Figure 8-1, the County has historically been able to increase its recycling rates year over year until approximately 2012, when rates levelled off. Recycling in the County has faced many of the same challenges seen around the nation, including the economic downturn, the continuing trend toward lighter weight recyclable and non-recyclable containers, and reduced use of printed media such as newspapers. The role of markets for recyclable material continues to play a role in the success of recycling programs and has become more important than ever with recent changes to overseas markets.



Figure 8-1: Annual Recycling/Diversion Rates in Montgomery County



Source: Montgomery County, MD Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Solid Waste Services, October, 2018

The County’s solid waste system-wide tonnage accounting tracks MSW generated in the County, independent of the location at which it is ultimately processed. The County has noted that waste generation is increasing both locally and nationally, and continues to monitor trends that may warrant revising their general assumptions for baseline per capita and per employee generation.

The population and employment forecasts discussed above were used in DSWS’ calculations of waste projections, along with actual solid waste generation measurements. The County expects that waste disposal will peak around 2018, and then decline, even as population and employment grow. This is attributed primarily to an increase in recycling, as the total waste generated is still expected to see positive growth as disposal numbers decline. The overall waste generation projections are shown to be at a slightly higher rate of increase than the population and employment projections.

9 Summary

Montgomery County has a robust and well-established waste management system with a number of waste management facilities integrated into the system to provide the County and its customers with a very high level of service. The County has an

extensive suite of services and programs designed to reduce waste, and increase reuse, recycling, and buying recycled, supported by a comprehensive education, technical assistance, and enforcement program.

The County's forward thinking sustainable materials management program has enabled gains in diversion rates. In 2016 with a MRA waste diversion rate of 60 percent, the County had the second highest diversion rate in Maryland, just 0.6 percent from the top-performing county (Prince George's). Montgomery County will be benchmarked against five other communities in North America as part of Task 2.

The County has a goal of reducing waste and recycling 70 percent of all waste generated by 2020. While the County has attained a very respectable diversion rate of over 61 percent (2017), there is still a considerable gap. The 70 percent target was premised on the diversion of additional materials such as food scraps to allow the County to achieve higher diversion rates; however, issues such as a lack of processing capacity has hindered implementation of a food scraps program. The County has taken steps toward diversion of organics, with the development of a Strategic Plan to Advance Composting, Compost Use and Food Scrap Diversion (April 2018) as called for in Bill 28-16. Additional investigation on food scrap diversion will be conducted as part of Task 5.

A well-staffed, very effective education, technical assistance, and enforcement program has been developed that is not seen in many municipalities. A full range of education and technical materials have been developed for all aspects of the County's programs and are available in a variety of forms (print, electronic, in-person visits, tours etc.).

The County has also taken the proactive step of developing regulations to guide their waste management program. Too often, effective ordinances or regulations are not in place to govern waste management programs.

The County does not provide the same level of service to all residents within the County, with those residents in Sub-District B having to contract for their own trash collection services. Additionally, incorporated municipalities in the County provide their own trash and recycling collection services. The County could look at harmonizing levels of service within the County, and aligning contracts to identify efficiencies in service provision, greater levels of control about services provided, encouraging diversion through County-provided services (e.g. provision of weekly trash collection instead of contracting for increased collection frequency), consistency in messaging about waste management, and County-provided collection containers to make it easier for participants. The County may also wish to examine certain policies such as the number of bulk trash pickups, guidelines for scrap metal pickup (e.g. requirement to be larger than a trash can), number of trash containers set out for collection, etc.

The County owns significant waste management infrastructure assets including a Material Recycling Facility (MRF), the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer

Station, the Resource Recovery Facility, the Composting facility, closed landfills, and land designated for future landfill capacity. HDR will be conducting a detailed review of these facilities as part of Task 8 but as part of Task 1, staff conducted site visits of the County's waste management infrastructure. Based on those visits and information provided to HDR by staff, the following preliminary observations are noted:

- Upgrades to the MRF, particularly for the commingled side, are required as the facility relies heavily on manual sorting of materials and the equipment is outdated and not replaceable.
- The Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station is a heavily used facility by both the public and commercial sector. The Transfer Station has very convenient hours, open seven days a week. The tipping floor is particularly busy and County staff have indicated some changes are planned to improve traffic flow. This facility collects a wide variety of divertible material, not typically seen at most transfer stations.
- Increasing residential density near the County's waste management facilities may pose an issue with increased competition for rail line use (for the intermodal containers), and increases in traffic, odor and noise complaints.
- The County relies on some Out-of-County disposal capacity for some materials. It appears that there is good capacity for management of waste (e.g. MSW, recycling etc.) at out-of-County facilities if required. The County has already identified land for future waste processing/disposal as a contingency.
- While County staff have indicated there may be capacity at the Composting facility for management of some food waste, the restrictions on the capacity and material type that could be processed imposed by the community agreement means that a change in agreement would be required, and limiting the possibility for this site to be the main processing facility for a full-scale organics program. HDR will consider other options as an alternative or additional capacity.

In conclusion, the Montgomery County is operating a successful waste management program, evidenced by the current recycling rates. Future tasks in this study will look at options for improving and increasing waste reduction and recycling and how existing facilities can and will be utilized moving forward.

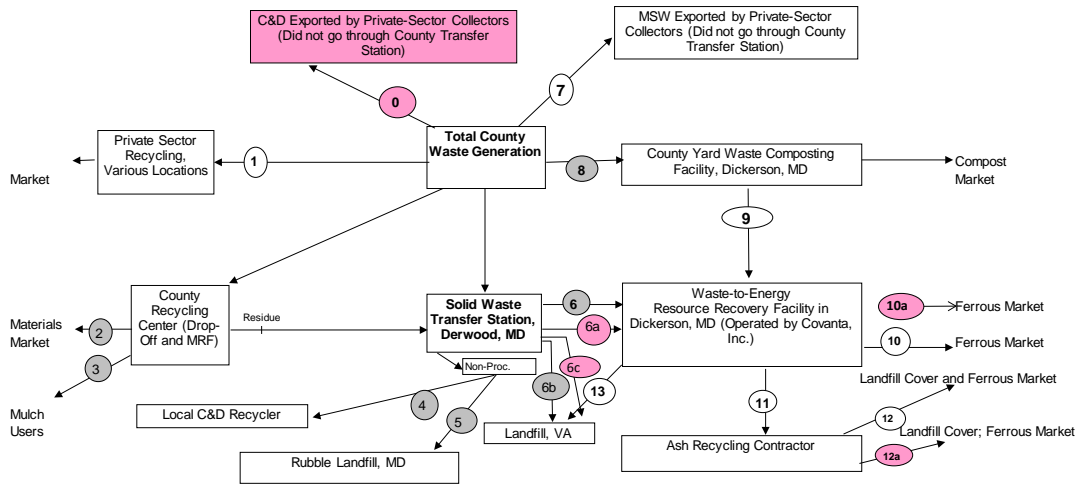
10 References

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2017 Food Diversion Report
- CalRecycle
2015 2014 Generator-Based Characterization of Commercial Sector Disposal and Diversion in California, produced under contract by Cascadia Consulting Group
- CalRecycle
2016 State of Recycling in California Updated 2016 (DRRR-2016-1554)
- Department of Legislative Services
2017 Solid Waste Management and Recycling in Maryland
- Maryland Recycling Act (MRA) Guidelines Survey 2017
- Montgomery County Code Chapter 48 – Solid Wastes
- Montgomery County Executive Regulations
- Montgomery County Don't Dump. Donate! Program – Reusable Building Materials Recycling



APPENDIX A

Materials Flow Diagram Calendar Year 2017



KEY:

1, 7	Audited or otherwise documented. Often based on truck scales of others.
	Data is from State-certified County truck scales Owned by County.
	Data is from State-certified truck scales, privately operated under contract to County.
	This color indicates C&D waste, which is not MSW, not eligible for recycling and is not to be included in recycling rate calculation.*

Total Waste Generation, Including C&D Exported by Private Sector	1,378,396
County-Managed Waste (CMW) = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6a + 6b + 6c + 7 + 8	1,236,740
MSW Generated (above less streams 4, 5 and 6a)	1,103,051

Stream No.	Material Description	Sources of Data	Total (tons/yr)	Comments
0	Construction & Demo Debris Private Export* (R)	Licensed Collector Reports under ER 5-13AM	141,656	Not County-managed, includes both disposed and recycled C & D
1	Recycled via non-County Facilities	Collector, Processor, Business & Self-Hauler Reports	290,633	Filtered to avoid double-counting
2	County Recycling Facility Material Sales	County TS & MRF Scales, Outbound	78,492	Outgoing to market from County Recycling Center & Penn Waste
3	Mulch Loaded Out From TS	County Transfer Station (TS) Scale Records	29,009	Scaled out as taken to County Mulch Contractor & Preserve Locations
4	Non-Processibles Recycled**	County TS Scale Out Records	41,584	Not included in MRA recycling calculation
5	Non-Processibles Landfilled**	County Trans. Stat'n. & Covanta Scale Records	14,937	Not included in MRA recycling calculation
6	Loaded on Rail to RRF (MSW burned)	Covanta Scales as Loaded	502,199	Total tons loaded on rail to RRF Net of 6a
6a	Loaded on Rail to RRF (C&D Burned)	County Transfer Station (TS) Scale Records	72,963	In-Bound C&D less Outbound Non-Processibles Landfilled
6b	By-pass (Accepted Processible Landfilled)	County TS Scale Out Records	28,942	MSW shipped to landfill
6c	By-pass (Accepted Processible Landfilled) C&D	County Transfer Station (TS) Scale Records	4,205	In-Bound C&D less Outbound Non-Processibles Landfilled
7	Refuse Disposed Out of County	Audited 6-Mo. Hauler Reports	118,296	Private Sector MSW Collection not delivered to County TS
8	All Incoming Leaves and Grass	Compost Facility & TS Scale Records	55,480	Includes 0 to Backup Composters
9	Composting Residue to RRF	MES Scale Records	-	Reported by Compost Facility Manager
10	Ferrous recovered at RRF	Covanta Scale Records	7,039	Recovered from ash at County Facility
10a	Ferrous recovered at RRF (C&D Residue)	Internal Calculation	1,023	Not included in MRA recycling calculation
11	Ash Loaded to Ash Recycling Contractor	Republic Monthly Report	178,756	Total ash (includes 12, 12a, and 13)
12	Ash outgoing from Ash Recycler	Republic Monthly Report	156,080	Included in MRA recycling calculation
12a	Ash outgoing from Ash Recycler (C&D Residue)	Internal Calculation	22,676	Not included in MRA recycling calculation
13	All Ash not recycled	Covanta Scale Records	-	

Montgomery County Recycling Rate and Waste Diversion Rate Calculations (MRA Method)		Numerator	Denominator	Rate
Recycling Rate	$(1 + 2 + 3 + 8 - 9 + 10 + 12) / (CMW - 4 - 5 - 6a - 6c)$	616,733	1,103,051	55.91%
Waste Diversion Rate ***	$((1 + 2 + 3 + 8 - 9 + 10 + 12) / (CMW - 4 - 5 - 6a - 6c)) + 5.0\%$	616,733	1,103,051	60.91%

Notes: * Construction and Demolition waste (C&D) is waste identified by place of origin - construction or land clearing sites. C&D is reported on licensed hauler reports, but there may be additional C&D tons not reported and therefore not included in stream 0.
 ** Nonprocessibles are Construction & Demolition-type materials: not eligible for recycling credit, but are County-managed solid waste.
 *** Diversion Rate = Recycle Rate + 5.0% Source Reduction Credit

Nomenclature: "C&D" means "Construction and Demolition" waste, exclusive of MSW, traditionally managed by the private sector, but much now comes to County TS.
 "CMW" means "County Management Waste". It includes all MSW, whether or not exported by private sector collectors, but only C&D delivered to TS.
 "MSW" stands for "Municipal Solid Waste", and represents the waste eligible for recycling under the State recycling law, regulations and guidelines.
 "TS" stands for the County's "Transfer Station", located in Derwood, Maryland, just south of Gaithersburg.
 "MRF" stands for Material Recovery Facility
 "RRF" stands for Resource Recovery Facility