



New Mexico Environment Department
Solid Waste Bureau

Solid Waste Management Plan

2015



New Mexico Environment Department

Solid Waste Bureau

1190 St. Francis Dr.

PO Box 5469

Santa Fe, NM 87502

505-827-0197

<http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swb/>

For more information, contact Joan M. Snider,

JoanM.Snider@state.nm.us

Solid Waste Management Plan 2015

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From the Bureau Chief

I am excited to present to you our updated Solid Waste Management Plan for New Mexico. We at the Solid Waste Bureau are deeply grateful for the participation of our many wonderful partners in the creation and revision of this Plan. Thanks to each of you who provided comments and were so supportive throughout this process.

We believe this updated Plan represents a true planning framework for all of us to use as we move forward to improve solid waste management and recycling efforts in New Mexico. I am pleased and confident that this guide will be of great help as we continue the important work of protecting the environment, health, and quality of life of all New Mexicans.

I have great pride in the collegial working relationship we have with all of our partners in solid waste and recycling in the state. We appreciate the support of the NMED administrative staff and of our wide diversity of stakeholders: local governments, non-profits, federal facilities, tribes, consultants, rural and urban communities, and so many more. We hope to continue to collaborate through stakeholder meetings to flesh out the specifics of implementation of this Plan.

I feel very fortunate to work in a state where people are so willing to cooperate to make positive changes. The Solid Waste Bureau is committed to assisting all of our state's communities as you engage with the many challenges to come, and we hope you will call on us to do so. I am very much looking forward to continuing our successful partnership.

Sincerely,

Auralie Ashley-Marx

Auralie Ashley-Marx

Solid Waste Bureau Chief

Introduction

About the New Mexico Solid Waste Management Plan

The New Mexico Solid Waste Act calls for the creation of a Solid Waste Management Plan (“Plan”) to guide decision making at the state level. The first Plan was created in 1993. In 2007, a new Plan was developed based on input from more than 140 stakeholders who collaborated in working groups over a two-year period.

The 2007 Plan has proved to be helpful, guiding New Mexico to success in several measures: increasing our statewide recycling rate to 16% (2013), increasing access to recycling by 113 percent, improving the annual reporting tools, and implementing environmental justice policies in our permitting process.

Although much of the information and many of the recommendations in the 2007 Plan are still valid, the Solid Waste Bureau (SWB) set out to update the Plan to reflect current conditions, to reorder priorities, and to set goals and objectives for the coming years.

About the Input Process

The Solid Waste Bureau conducted an online survey in March 2013 as a first step in the input process. The survey was announced through a press release, on the SWB website, and through several mailing lists (Solid Waste Association of North America—NM Chapter, New Mexico Recycling Coalition, NM Association of Counties, and NM Municipal League), as well as by direct email to a group of stakeholders who were involved in creation of the 2007 Plan. Although the mailing lists undoubtedly overlap, the Bureau estimates that at least 1000 individuals were invited to take part in the survey.

Response to the survey was low, with 46 people participating. An average of seven people submitted comments to each question with a write-in box. Many of the questions asked participants to rate a recommendation from the 2007 Plan on a 1-to-5 scale, with 1 being very low priority and 5 as very high priority. Nearly all the recommendations were rated 3 or 4 (medium to high priority).

The Solid Waste Bureau interprets the low level of participation, limited number of comments, and evident support for the 2007 recommendations as an indication that stakeholders are generally satisfied with the existing Plan. Rather than creating a new Plan, we therefore have updated background information and translated the Plan content into a goals and objectives format to help communities more easily identify steps they can take to meet the Plan’s intent.

About this Plan

The following chapter, *Background*, offers background information on the current state of solid waste management in New Mexico as well as some historical information. Data obtained from SWB databases and files is included. The most recent data available has been used, typically from calendar year 2013.

The next six chapters (*Waste Characterization, Diversion, Facilities, Education, Funding, and Environmental Justice*) include short- and long-term goals for each topic area identified in the 2007 Plan. These goals were created based on materials in the 2007 Plan, on input from the online survey, and on input gathered informally from stakeholders during the course of creating this document.

Background

The landscape of solid waste management in New Mexico has changed dramatically since the original Solid Waste Management Plan (“Plan”) was published in 1993. At that time, the state was home to more than 100 “dumplings,” unlined landfills that needed to be brought up to standards or closed. Those dumplings are now closed and communities have opened permitted, lined landfills for environmentally safe disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW).

The more stringent requirements for landfills mean the cost of managing solid waste has increased, and communities have responded by increasing the amount of waste that is diverted from the waste stream through recycling and composting, and by developing efficient systems for transporting waste to larger, regional landfills.

This chapter describes some of the progress that has been made in solid waste management since the 2007 Plan was published.

Waste in New Mexico

Facilities in New Mexico managed 3.12 million tons of solid waste in 2013. MSW generated in the state totaled 1.87 million tons, or an average of 4.9 pounds per person per day, based on a population of 2.086 million (2012 Census Bureau estimate). This is slightly higher than the national average of 4.38 pounds of waste generated per person per day (2012 EPA estimate).

Solid Waste Data

All solid waste facilities in New Mexico are required to submit data regarding their waste handling activities annually. Solid Waste Bureau (SWB) staff then compile this data to prepare a statewide annual report for the governor and legislature. SWB created a new annual reporting system in 2007 in order to improve the data collection process.

National waste characterization reports are published periodically by EPA and by *BioCycle Magazine*, in collaboration with the Earth Engineering Center at Columbia University. The most recent EPA figures were published in February 2014 and the most recent *BioCycle* report in October 2010.

The two national reports differ significantly, due to different data sources and collection methodologies used. The EPA study uses a mass balance approach based on Department of Commerce data on annual production of goods, population, and consumption patterns. The result is an estimate of how much would theoretically be disposed in a given year, but is not based on actual disposal data. The *BioCycle* report is based on disposal data reported to the study team by states. Since the way states collect and categorize data is not uniform, these figures also include some inaccuracy.



Figure 1. Solid Waste managed in New Mexico, 2013. (Source: SWB data)

EPA has recognized that its solid waste data is flawed and has undertaken an effort to improve its approach. The agency recently began asking states to supply disposal and diversion data to a centralized database. As more states participate in this effort, the EPA waste characterization data is expected to improve. Questions remain regarding the uniformity of reporting by the various states, however.

Waste Stream Composition

A waste characterization study has not been conducted to accurately determine the composition of the waste stream in New Mexico. EPA publishes national waste stream composition data biannually, and this data can be used to approximate the amounts of various waste materials generated in the state. Certain segments are undoubtedly inaccurate; for example, New Mexico’s arid climate means the proportion of yard trimmings in our waste is likely smaller than the national average.

Figures from the most recent EPA report are shown in Figure 2.

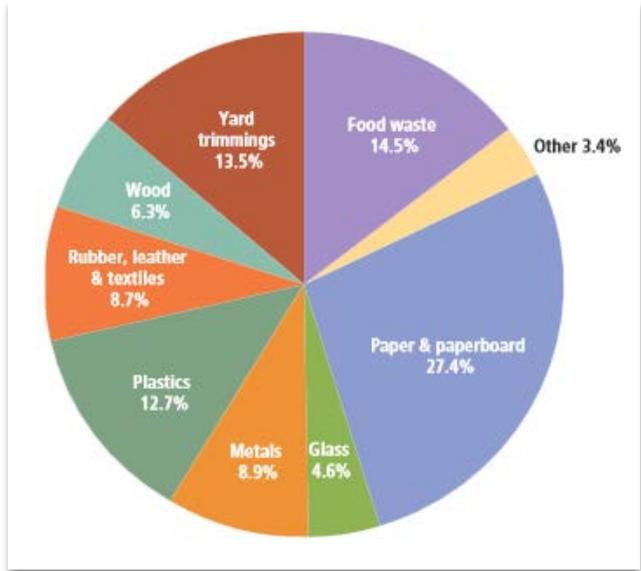


Figure 2. Total MSW generation by material. (Source: “Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in the United States: Facts and Figures,” EPA, 2012)

Waste Management Hierarchy

The New Mexico Solid Waste Act embraces a hierarchical approach to waste management. The Act gives priority to source reduction and recycling, with environmentally safe transformation (also known as energy recovery or waste to energy) a second priority and environmentally safe landfill disposal third. This scheme parallels the EPA Integrated Waste Management Hierarchy, shown in Figure 3.

The hierarchy reflects costs associated with the various approaches to managing waste: reducing waste at the source is most cost-effective, while landfilling is most expensive overall. In New Mexico, transformation does not appear to be economically viable at this time and in practice, landfilling has been a more feasible approach. Current requirements ensure that landfilling is done in an environmentally safe manner.

The hierarchy guides decision making regarding solid waste management for state government as well as local communities.



Figure 3. EPA Waste Management Hierarchy. (Source: EPA)

Facilities

The passage of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act in 1976 and subsequent enhancement of the New Mexico Solid Waste Act have resulted in the creation of solid waste facilities that protect water, land, air, and human health to a much greater degree than did previous facilities. New Mexico communities have made excellent progress closing substandard landfills and opening modern, lined landfills compliant with RCRA Subtitle D and state regulations. Although the initial deadline for closure of noncompliant landfills was April 9, 1997, the closures continued into the 2010s as EPA and NMED allowed extensions to certain communities. Between 2007 and 2014, 12 unlined landfills were closed, and six more are on track to close by 2015. The remaining two will close by 2016.

Siting, design, permitting, construction, and operation of a RCRA-compliant landfill is more expensive than for previous dumps. The benefits, however, greatly outweigh the cost. The 1993 Plan noted that health and environmental problems were prevalent with many of the 240 unlined landfills operating in the state at that time:

Open burning, blowing trash, lack of cover, contaminated groundwater, and methane gas were common. Leachate, which may contain hazardous materials, percolates to the bottom of the landfill and into the soil and groundwater, unless there is a barrier. (Source: 1993 Plan)

This statement makes clear that although residents in the past may have been able to dispose of trash without paying a fee, trash disposal was never free. The protections offered by the liner system required by RCRA and state laws mean communities will spend far less money on remediation, not to mention the decreased cost to human health.

Regionalization

As a result of the increased cost associated with operating an environmentally safe landfill, many communities in the state entered into regional partnerships, such as solid waste authorities, to pool resources and develop larger permitted facilities to be used by many communities in the area. Indeed, the 1990 Solid Waste Act calls for regionalization (74-9-11 NMSA 1978). By 2014, some of the solid waste authorities had dissolved, but nine remain active in managing the waste in their region.

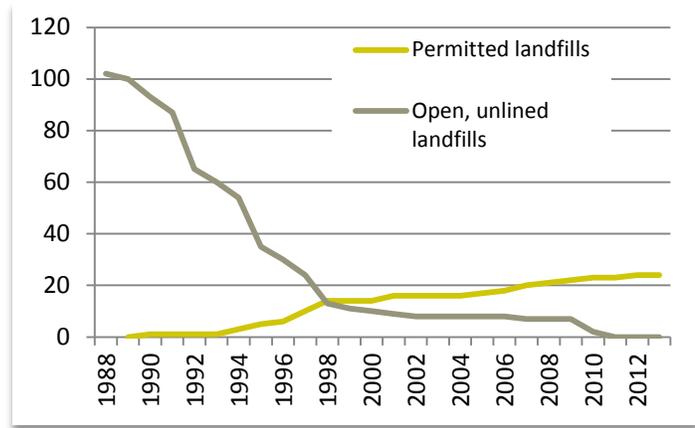


Figure 4. Number of landfills in New Mexico over time. (Source: SWB data)

Active Solid Waste Authorities

NEW MEXICO SOLID WASTE FACILITIES

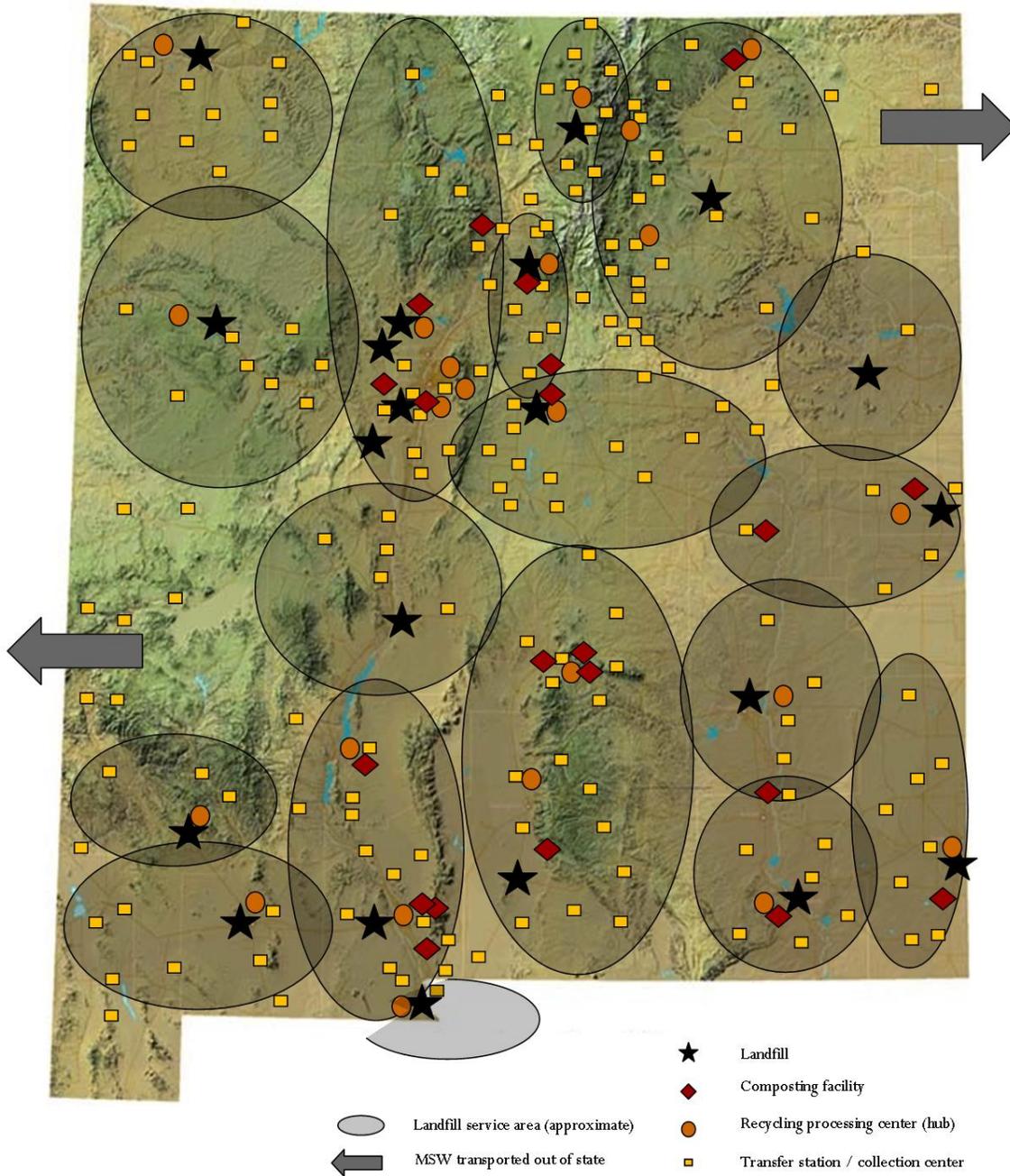


Figure 5. Solid waste facilities and landfill service areas. (Source: SWB data)

Capacity

Data reported to SWB in 2013 shows that most areas of the state have sufficient MSW disposal capacity for 30 to 50 years using currently permitted landfills, with some areas having as much as 150 years remaining. In addition, many of the landfills now operating have the potential to expand when necessary. The NM Solid Waste Rules limit facility size to 500 acres, but this does not appear to pose a barrier to providing sufficient landfill capacity for the state at this time.

While it is true that overall, the state will continue to have plenty of landfill capacity for many years, certain areas have no environmentally safe, permitted landfill and must ship waste out of county or even out of state. For these areas, large, efficient transfer stations have proved to be a more feasible approach for management of solid waste.

Trend toward Transfer Station

When communities choose to use a regional facility, which may be located some distance away, they can try to minimize transportation costs by transferring waste from collection trucks to larger, over-the-road vehicles. Transfer stations provide a practical alternative to the problem of the increased cost of building and operating a landfill. A system of transfer stations and smaller collection centers can improve collection efficiency and also offer residents a place to self-haul trash and recyclables without traveling long distances.

In order to determine which is more cost-effective, operating a local landfill or transferring waste to a more distant landfill, communities must calculate the expenses involved with both options. Similarly, the choice between direct haul (in which collection trucks drive directly to the landfill) and transfer must be calculated as well. The break-even point will be dependent on factors such as tipping fees, distance to disposal site, vehicle maintenance, and fuel costs, which fluctuate. An example of the calculation is shown in Figure 6.

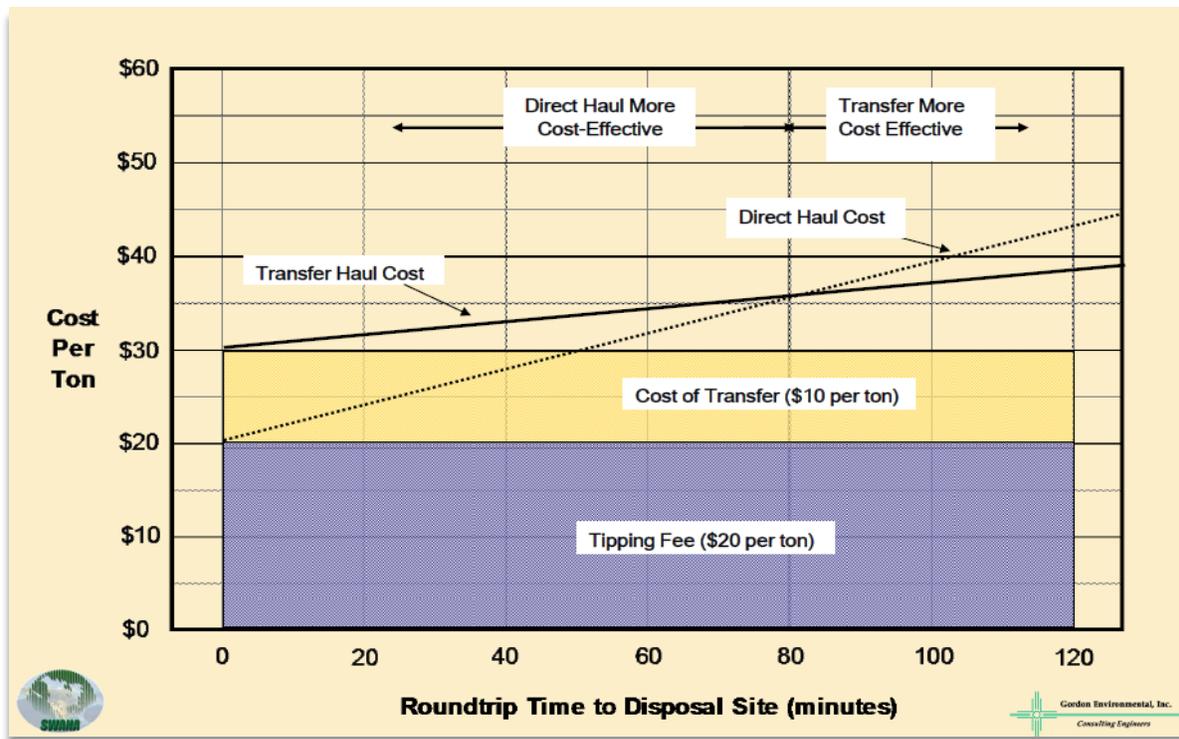


Figure 6. Economic comparison: transfer vs. direct haul. (Source: Gordon Environmental, 2013)

Diversion

Increased landfill costs mean that diverting as many materials as possible is crucial to operating a cost-effective solid waste management system. The 1990 Solid Waste Act called for a 25 percent diversion rate by 1995 and a 50 percent rate by 2000, but did not include strategies for achieving those ambitious goals. Nevertheless, New Mexico's recycling rate has increased significantly since the first Plan. The 2007 Plan focused on creating access to recycling for residents, rather than achieving a certain percentage diversion. That approach has proven successful, with steady growth in the recycling rate since 2007.

To encourage diversion, NMED modified its policy and regulations regarding permitting of facilities and removed recycling and composting facilities from this requirement. The department now requires all landfills and certain other large facilities to be permitted, while smaller facilities such as collection centers, recycling centers, and compost facilities can operate under a less-rigorous registration.

Hub and Spoke

To address the difficulty of collecting recyclable materials in a state with small, rural communities separated by long distances, NMED and New Mexico Recycling Coalition (NMRC) adopted a hub-and-spoke collection model. The hubs are regional recycling centers, located in larger communities, that accept materials from smaller towns and remote collection centers, called spokes. The system demonstrates how a regionalized approach can provide access to recycling for as many residents as possible with limited capital investment.

Funding from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant allowed creation of the hub-and-spoke system. SWB received \$500,000 in 2010 and awarded the funds to three communities for purchase of balers and trailers, while NMRC received \$2.8 million in 2010-12, enabling three new hubs, two improved hubs and nearly 40 new spoke recycling collection drop-off locations.

As a result of these grants and related efforts, all but 16 communities in the state now have a recycling collection or drop-off point within 30 miles, the standard for access to recycling.

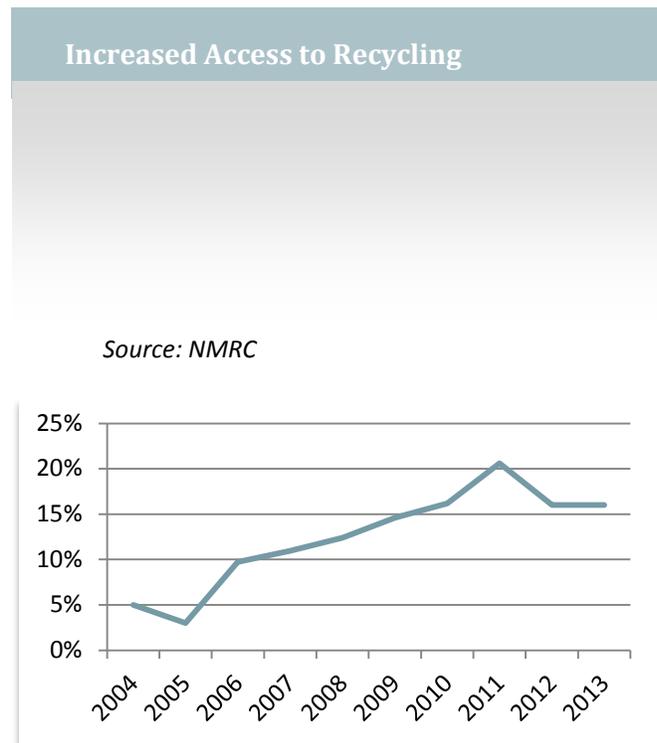


Figure 7. New Mexico recycling rate. (Source: NMED SWB data)

Development of Recycling Programs

Communities with successful recycling programs often start out small and expand the program over time. The 2007 Plan describes a tiered system, with lower tiers representing more readily recyclable materials and easier program elements. The Plan encourages communities to begin a recycling program by targeting items in the lower tiers, and adding those listed in the upper tiers as the program matures. This Plan adds a new, lower level (Tier 0) for materials that are prohibited from landfills: used motor oil and lead acid batteries. The other tiers have also been modified from the 2007 Plan to reflect more accurately the relative difficulty of recycling various materials.

The tiers, shown in Figure 8, are primarily used to assess a community's progress in developing a recycling program, such as when evaluating applications for grant funding.

Single Stream

A number of communities have now moved to single stream recycling, in which recyclable materials are collected in one bin and sorted at a materials recovery facility (MRF). Recently the state's two largest cities adopted this approach: Las Cruces began offering single-stream recycling in 2010, and in 2013, Friedman Recycling opened a \$21 million MRF via a public-private partnership with the City of Albuquerque.

Recycling Rate / HM51

A group of stakeholders met in 2014 as a result of House Memorial 51, introduced by Rep. Jeff Steinborn, D-Las Cruces, and passed by the 2014 New Mexico Legislature. The memorial aims to explore ways to make a significant increase in the state's recycling rate to move toward the 50 percent diversion goal set by the 1990 Solid Waste Act. Recommendations reported to a legislative committee in December 2014 include convening four stakeholder groups during 2015 to address funding, commercial recycling, state agency recycling, and construction and demolition recycling.

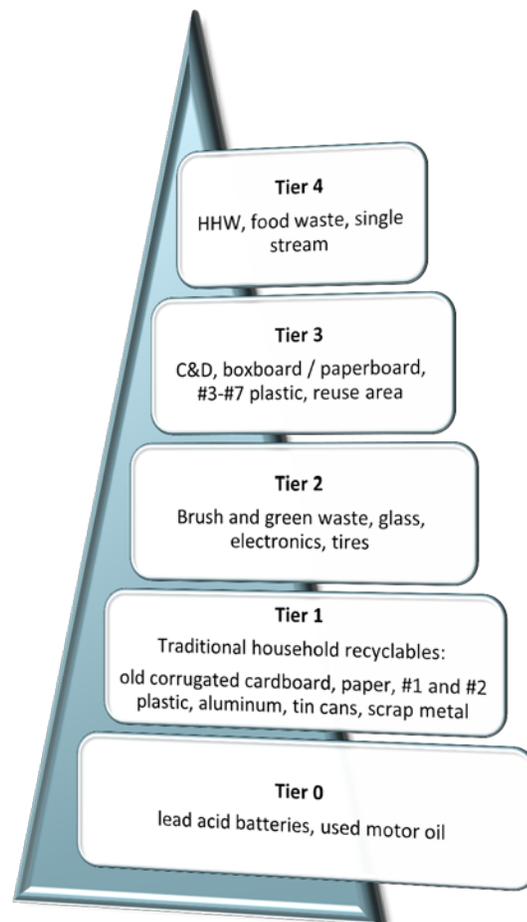


Figure 8. Tier system for recycling programs.

The effort is expected to be a multi-year process and is being spearheaded by NMRC, in partnership with NMED. Preliminary output from the 2014 stakeholder meetings has been incorporated into this Plan.

Product Stewardship

Product Stewardship / HM56

A task force to study the potential for product stewardship programs in the state met in 2013 as a result of House Memorial 56, introduced by Rep. Jeff Steinborn, D-Las Cruces, and passed by the 2013 New Mexico Legislature. The group, which included stakeholders representing solid waste facilities, private businesses, NMRC, and NMED, recommended that NMED pursue efforts toward establishing product stewardship programs in the state and identified three product categories as good candidates based on criteria shown in Figure 9.

In 2014, a Product Stewardship Advisory Group formed to facilitate research, collect stakeholder input, and develop potential programs. The effort is ongoing.

Products as potential candidates for product stewardship programs (ranked by the task force):

	Toxic	Increased materials recovery	Reduce waste management costs	Has success in other states as PS/EPR	Has producer/industry support	Good value of materials	TOTAL SCORE
CFLs*	✓	✓					2
Tires		✓	✓				2
Electronics	✓	✓	**	✓	½ ✓	✓	4 ½
Mattresses		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
Paint	½ ✓	½ ✓	**	✓	✓	✓	4

*CFLs = Compact Fluorescent Lamps

**Management cost breakdown has not been established, though there is some known cost involved.

Figure 9. Potential candidates for product stewardship programs. (Source: House Memorial 56 – Product Stewardship Programs Study, Report to Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Interim Committee, November 2013)

Cost and Funding

The cost of managing solid waste is primarily borne by local governments, which use revenue generated through customer fees, taxes, and other means determined locally.

A limited number of grant awards are available from the state each year through the Solid Waste Facility Grant (SWFG) fund and the Recycling and Illegal Dumping (RAID) Grant fund. These funds are awarded through a competitive process. The SWFG fund provides support for waste management facility construction, landfill

closures, recycling programs, and equipment. The RAID grants are awarded to communities for recycling, illegal dumping, and scrap tire management programs.

In the past, another grant fund was available: the Recycling Grant Fund, administered by the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD), awarded \$3.7 million—matched by \$4.6 million in local funds—to help launch recycling programs from 1990 to 1997. In addition, Infrastructure Capital Improvement Program (ICIP) and state bonds have been available in the past for funding solid waste projects.

Regulatory oversight is provided by the state Solid Waste Bureau, which is supported by the state general fund.

Goals

The following chapters outline goals and action steps for continuing to improve solid waste management in New Mexico in the coming years. The chapters include both short- and long-term goals and specific recommendations for action by NMED, local governmental entities, facilities, and others. The chapters are divided according to topic areas as presented in the 2007 Plan.

Waste Characterization

Understanding the composition of the waste stream enables effective solid waste management. In some cases, however, the costs associated with obtaining detailed waste characterization data may outweigh the benefits. Knowledge of waste stream composition would primarily be used to plan for increased diversion, and in New Mexico, diversion rates for the most readily recyclable materials are still low enough that gains can be made without more accurate waste stream data.

In the longer term, once most of the easily recoverable components of the waste stream are being diverted, a more accurate waste characterization might be useful.

Respondents to the online survey indicated that a statewide waste characterization study is not needed, and prioritized several goals that can be achieved without such a study. Short-term goals include ways to optimize the current data collection system, with a long-term goal to perform a waste characterization study.

Short-term Goal: Continue to improve data collection.

Objective: Provide oversight and training to assist facility operators with corrective measures to resolve data collection problems.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Determine where problems lie
 - Offer one-on-one assistance to correct problems

Objective: Provide technical assistance and include training modules on waste characterization methods in the certification courses.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Teach operators the purpose and importance of collecting waste characterization data and provide programmatic guidance for diversion

Objective: Require all facilities to install scales.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Add requirement for scales to new permit and registration applications and modifications
 - Phase in requirement at permitted and registered facilities
- Action steps for facilities:
 - Apply for grant funding
 - Build expense into budget
 - Purchase mobile loader bucket scales if the cost of full truck scales is prohibitive

Objective: Use ReTrac system statewide.

ReTrac is a commercially available, web-based database system that allows individual facilities to enter annual waste data to be submitted automatically to the Solid Waste Bureau.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Request increased funding to cover subscription cost

- Schedule training for facility operators
- Action steps for facility operators:
 - Budget time for operator training

Objective: Develop a strategy to obtain diversion data from private businesses and state agencies.

Certain private businesses (large retailers, metal scrap dealers, etc.) divert a significant amount of material from the waste stream in New Mexico, but this amount is not included in data SWB compiles because these businesses are not required to report through the annual reporting system. In addition, obtaining waste diversion data from state government agencies could be a first step in improving recycling rates at these organizations.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Ask private businesses to participate in the annual reporting system
 - Require state agencies to report diversion data to SWB
 - Analyze approaches taken in other states to capture similar data

Objective: Participate in EPA's effort to standardize state input to improve national numbers.

EPA is undertaking an effort to gather waste and diversion data from each state, in order to compile more accurate national data. EPA Region 6 is now asking states to voluntarily submit data.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Submit data to EPA as requested

Long-term Goal: Revisit feasibility of a statewide waste characterization study.

When diversion rates in the state rise to a level where fine-tuning is required in order to see further increases, a more accurate view of waste stream composition may be helpful. A statewide waste characterization study might identify materials to target to continue to increase diversion rates. Funding for such a study would need to be addressed at that time.

Diversion

Diverting as much material as possible from the waste stream is crucial in order for communities to cost-effectively manage their waste. Besides saving expensive landfill space, diversion of valuable materials also creates a much-needed revenue stream. Diverting certain materials may also reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills and reduce amounts of toxic materials that could potentially contaminate water, land or air. In addition, a recent study by New Mexico Recycling Coalition indicates that increased diversion would create a significant number of jobs in the state.

In New Mexico, transportation presents a challenge to diversion due to our large area and relatively small, disperse population. Recycling of many materials ultimately means transporting them to a manufacturing facility where they can be used as a feedstock for production of goods (often called “remanufacturing”), which then must be distributed to areas where they can be sold. Since New Mexico is home to neither a significant amount of large-scale manufacturing nor a large consumer base, many steps in the recycling process require transportation over long distances. To address this, this Plan recommends finding local uses for many materials (compost, mulch, C&D debris, glass) and encouraging small-scale manufacturing enterprises for others.

Short-term Goals

Objective: Use the Integrated Waste Management hierarchy to guide decision making regarding solid waste management and diversion.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Adopt a goal-driven, strategic Community Recycling Plan as a resolution
 - Prioritize (1) source reduction and reuse and (2) recycling and composting in Community Recycling Plan
 - Pass a Local Economic Development Act to support public-private partnership endeavors for businesses that wish to remanufacture, collect or otherwise harness the waste stream for diversion
 - Establish and promote reuse areas at solid waste facilities
 - Encourage and publicize reuse opportunities
- Action steps for facilities:
 - Include reuse areas, including household hazardous waste (HHW) reuse areas, in permit or registration operations plan
 - Enact soft bans on readily recyclable materials at landfills

Objective: Create access to recycling and diversion opportunities for all residents.

- Action steps for RAID Alliance:
 - Prioritize funding for communities currently without access to recycling
- Action steps for local entities:
 - Apply for grant funding to enable collection or drop-off of recyclables
 - Aim to make recycling collection be as simple as trash collection for residents
- Action steps for SWB:
 - Provide initiatives for voluntary programs that increase a community’s access to recycling

- Elicit support from partner organizations, such as the New Mexico Municipal League and the New Mexico Association of Counties

Objective: Promote cost-effective, regionalized recycling collection programs.

- Action step for RAID Alliance:
 - Prioritize funding for recycling projects that make use of regional partnerships using the hub-and-spoke model
- Action steps for local entities:
 - Partner with nearby communities to share equipment, collection systems, or other resources

Objective: Target large-volume and readily recyclable materials first.

- Action steps for RAID Alliance:
 - Prioritize funding for communities on higher tiers, as described in the *Background* chapter
- Action steps for local entities:
 - Target first tier of readily recyclable materials when starting a recycling program
 - Describe the community's intention and approach to moving to higher tiers in the Community Recycling Plan

Objective: Increase diversion from businesses and institutions.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Include diversion from local businesses and institutions in Community Recycling Plan
 - Require participation in recycling program for planning and zoning or business license approval
- Action steps for NMED Pollution Prevention Program:
 - Provide technical assistance for businesses and institutions starting a recycling program

Objective: Increase diversion of organics.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Provide technical assistance for community composting operations
 - Encourage landfills and transfer stations to have a brush and yard trimmings diversion program
 - Identify and promote end uses for organic materials
- Action steps for local entities:
 - Apply for grant funding for composting program
 - Identify and implement local uses for mulch and compost
 - Encourage private enterprise, as well as public entities, to manage organic materials for mulch and compost
- Action steps for facilities:
 - Consider a soft ban on brush and yard trimmings at landfills

Objective: Increase reuse and recycling of C&D materials.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Identify and promote C&D material reuse and recycling
 - Provide technical assistance on permitting or registration of C&D recycling facility
- Action steps for local entities:
 - Identify large sources of C&D materials
 - Identify and engage potential markets for reuse of C&D materials

- Apply for grant funding for C&D reuse and recycling activities

Objective: Increase diversion of household hazardous waste (HHW).

- Action steps for facilities:
 - Set up HHW reuse areas
 - Promote and educate on alternatives to hazardous household materials
- Action steps for SWB:
 - Provide technical assistance on proper management of HHW reuse areas

Objective: Develop local markets for recyclable materials.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Partner with NM-DOT to use rubberized asphalt, reuse concrete from C&D debris, and use compost and mulch in local projects
 - Provide incentives for remanufacturing businesses, including small-scale
 - Encourage development of local markets for compost, mulch, and glass
 - Encourage reuse of concrete, asphalt, and other C&D materials

Long-term Goals

Two current efforts will establish long-term diversion goals that can be incorporated into this Plan. A task force established under HM51 is now forming a long-term strategy to increase recycling and diversion in the state and the Product Stewardship Council, established under HM56, is developing an approach to product stewardship legislation.

Facilities

Although the modern solid waste facilities in New Mexico offer much greater environmental protection than the facilities described in the previous Plans, there are still a number of areas in which conditions could be improved. Ensuring that all facilities adopt and follow best management practices will provide optimal protection for land, water, and human health.

Short-term goals include improving environmental, safety, and economic conditions, while long-term goals include ensuring facilities address regional needs.

Short-term Goals

Objective: Improve environmental monitoring at landfills.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Teach operators best management practices for leachate measurement, methane monitoring, and groundwater monitoring
- Action steps for facilities:
 - Adopt best management practices for leachate measurement, methane monitoring, and groundwater monitoring

Objective: Improve safety for all solid waste workers.

The solid waste industry ranks as one of the top 10 industries nationwide in terms of work-related injuries and fatalities. Ensuring the safety of all solid waste workers in New Mexico is of paramount importance.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Continue to include a safety module in all certification training courses
 - Work with NMED-OHSB to offer industry-specific training for all solid waste workers
- Action steps for facilities:
 - Develop effective safety and health programs
 - Offer frequent trainings on safety topics
 - Strictly enforce all safety policies and procedures
 - Request NMED-OHSB consultation

Objective: Improve management of household hazardous waste (HHW) at solid waste facilities.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Conduct training on proper management of HHW collection areas and events.
- Action steps for facilities:
 - Assess local need for HHW collection and design an appropriate collection system
 - Budget for HHW disposal at appropriate intervals

Objective: Assist communities to use full, unsubsidized cost of solid waste management .

- Action steps for SWB:

- Offer training on full-cost accounting
- Action step for RAID Alliance:
 - Prioritize funding awards for applications that include data based on full-cost accounting
- Action steps for facilities:
 - Modify accounting practices to include all direct and indirect costs of solid waste management
- Action steps for local entities:
 - Make decisions based on full, unsubsidized cost

Long-term Goals

Objective: Plan for adequate landfill capacity in all regions.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Create a waste shed map showing all solid waste facilities in the state and the regions they serve, including projected capacity
 - Prioritize permitting new facilities in underserved areas, as indicated by the waste shed map
 - Promote creation of recycling and composting facilities to reduce the need for landfill space, especially in underserved areas

Objective: Plan for regionalized facilities to allow cost-effective waste management .

The 1990 Solid Waste Act requires regionalization for improved efficiency and cost savings.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Assist communities with decision making on transfer vs. landfill
- Action steps for RAID Alliance:
 - Prioritize funding awards for regional efforts

Education

Education is essential to counter the many misunderstandings surrounding solid waste management. Citizens need to understand how their waste is handled and where it goes in order to see the value they receive for their money; elected officials need to know about the many environmental protections offered by modern landfills and related facilities in order to make the best decisions for their constituents; facility operators need to understand how proper management of waste protects the health of their communities in order to remain motivated to keep their facilities running optimally. In addition, knowledge of the real cost of solid waste management can lead to an appreciation for why source reduction and diversion is important, how the recycling and composting processes work, and how each person has a role in that.

Short-term goals address the need for a greater understanding of the existing solid waste management process, while longer-term goals include approaches to diversion.

Short-term Goals

Objective: Help the general public and elected officials understand the benefits of proper solid waste management and the necessary steps in the process.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Prepare short presentations for town council or county commission meetings, local service club meetings (Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.), senior citizen centers, and other community events
 - Promote tours of landfills, transfer stations, recycling centers, and compost facilities for elected officials, civic groups, and others
 - Use local media (radio, newspaper) to inform the community of solid waste management efforts
 - Educate the public and elected officials on the benefits of modern landfills vs. unlined dumps, in order to answer questions such as “Why can’t I dump in the arroyo?” and “Why did our local landfill have to close?”

Objective: Teach the Integrated Waste Management Hierarchy, with source reduction as the top priority.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Promote opportunities for source reduction, reuse, and recycling
 - Publicize the actual, full cost of operating a landfill or transporting waste to a regional facility, in order to show residents the importance of source reduction, reuse and recycling
 - Promote and educate on alternatives to hazardous household materials

Objective: Update SWB website.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Add information on permits and facilities to website

Objective: Educate about illegal dumping.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Provide training for code enforcement officers and judges on illegal dumping

- Publicize the harm to human health and the environment caused by illegal dumping

Long-term Goals

Objective: Educate on the real, unsubsidized cost of managing solid waste.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Educate staff on full-cost accounting methods to calculate all direct and indirect costs involved in each step of the solid waste management process
 - Publicize this cost, including how much is subsidized through taxes or fees other than local solid waste fees

Objective: Develop a statewide message campaign to advance environmentally sound solid waste management, household hazardous waste management and diversion for New Mexico.

- Action steps for partners (NMED, local entities, non-governmental organizations, and others):
 - Create a statewide public message campaign
 - Identify and train on what can be recycled
 - Develop and implement an outreach and technical assistance program to assist local governments and communities with strategies to limit illegal dumping

Funding

Most communities in New Mexico face difficulty covering the cost of solid waste management. The necessary closure of old, unlined landfills and the move toward more expensive, permitted landfills has taken a toll on local government finances, especially in rural areas where transportation to the landfill is also a factor. While state government has long offered grants to help communities develop solid waste and recycling programs, the funding sources for these grants are not large enough to pay for everything that is needed. As a result, an ongoing search for revenue streams is part of every municipal, county, and state agency's operation.

Each community has unique needs, so the following recommendations include a variety of approaches to funding a solid waste and recycling program, with the aim that local entities can choose what works for them. A recent survey of neighboring states showed that, unlike New Mexico, most states now have a small surcharge on solid waste disposal, known as a disposal fee or tipping fee, with the funds earmarked for statewide grant funds, state agency budget, or other solid waste management efforts.

In the short term, goals include mechanisms to cover current costs. Longer term goals target infrastructure development, to ensure each community's waste management needs are met as it grows and changes.

Short-term Goals

Objective: Encourage local entities to adopt funding mechanisms that fully cover solid waste management costs.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Perform cost-of-service analysis to determine full, unsubsidized cost of solid waste management
 - Adjust rates so that the program is self-sustaining
 - Consider unit-based pricing, such as pay-as-you-throw, to distribute costs equitably

Objective: Prioritize funding for rural communities.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Prioritize rural communities for SWFG funding awards
- Action steps for RAID Alliance:
 - Prioritize rural communities for funding awards

Long-term Goals

Objective: Find new funding sources for statewide programs.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Consider one or more of the following mechanisms to request funding from the New Mexico Legislature:
 - Increasing the \$0.50 per vehicle registration fee for the RAID grant fund.

- Enacting a surcharge such as a per-ton fee on waste sent to landfills or on some identified item, such as on plastic retail bags or tires, and dedicating the resulting revenues to a solid waste management / diversion fund.
 - Adding an additional percentage to the environmental services gross receipts tax to fund solid waste management program priorities.
 - Establishing a HHW and CESQG (Conditionally Exempt Small-Quantity Generator) Fund to help government units and generators implement management, collection, and recycling programs for hazardous items.
- Explore mechanisms commonly used in other states for funding state and local solid waste programs, including:
 - Landfill tip fee
 - Pay as you throw (PAYT) / Unit pricing
 - Product stewardship programs / Extended producer responsibility
 - Landfill diversion credits or rebates
 - Increase recycling grant fund
 - Environmental services gross receipts tax
 - Enforcement dedicated to recycling
 - Recycling market development assistance
- Find untapped federal funding sources by linking diversion to water security, energy generation or savings, or sustainability topics

Objective: Consider product stewardship for certain products.

- Action steps for Product Stewardship Advisory Group:
 - Research and propose product stewardship programs to shift financial burden for waste disposal upstream, toward manufacturers, away from local governments

Objective: Pursue economic development incentives to attract and locally develop recycling businesses.

- Action steps for local entities:
 - Consider mechanisms including:
 - Manufacturer's investment tax credit
 - Recycled content price preference
 - Industrial revenue bonds
 - Rural job tax credit
 - Local economic development act

Environmental Justice

The goal of this Plan is to implement a program that allows all persons in New Mexico an equal share of the benefits of environmental amenities, equal protection from burdens of environmental hazards, opportunities for meaningful involvement in decisions that affect health and the local environment, and equal access to information regarding risks and benefits to gain knowledge to equally participate in rulemaking or permitting processes.

NMED is committed to promoting the protection of human health and the environment (where we live, work and play) via consistent management of the program and public involvement. Some methods employed are: implementation of the Solid Waste Management Plan; use of stringent public notice requirements, and community informational meetings; equal and consistent application Solid Waste Rules; and timely enforcement to maintain and, as necessary, obtain compliance of environmental laws by issuing violations and compliance orders; and providing Recycling and Illegal Dumping grants to increase equal access of all New Mexico residents to diversion, recycling and beneficial use programs within 30 miles of their place of residence or business; and clean-up of illegal dumping sites.

Objective: Provide information and assistance fairly to all New Mexicans.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Use a combination of outreach and administrative actions to ensure equal dissemination of information and easy access to the Solid Waste Bureau’s website and staff
 - Deliver high quality technical assistance and information to the public and training of operators related to environmental protection and solid waste management regardless of ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or location
 - Provide assistance to improve program implementation, compliance, and understanding of best management practices
 - Encourage meaningful citizen participation in solid waste programs, permitting and rulemaking processes
 - Encourage reporting of dumping or other violations of environmental laws and rules by all New Mexicans
- Action steps for citizens:
 - Report illegal dumping and other violations to SWB

Objective: Apply principles of process justice.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Provide opportunities for meaningful citizen involvement in decisions that affect environmental health and quality of life
 - Rigorously apply the requirements of the Solid Waste Act for public notice and participation at hearings including: Notice of Application §74-9-22; Hearing Provisions for Nonadjudicatory Actions §74-9-27; and Hearing Provisions for Adjudicatory Actions §74-9-29 NMSA
 - Disseminate public notices of permit actions in English and Spanish and other languages as necessary, via the web, radio, newspapers, mailings, bill inserts and local postings
 - Provide notice of public hearing in non-traditional media, such as radio and television
 - Include distribution to agencies of local and tribal governments, distribution to community, interest group, and trade publications, distribution to public facilities (such as community centers

and libraries) for posting in each county in which the subject of the announcement will have impacts, and distribution to radio and television outlets for use in public service announcements, particularly in communities in which the language or languages used by a significant percentage of the population are not written.

- Provide notice in appropriate languages, including those that are primarily oral
- Respond to inquiries or questions, and provision of Inspection of Public Records Act requests in a timely manner
- Action steps for citizens:
 - Participate in public meetings and hearings

Objective: Increase procedural justice in order to attain equal protection from environmental hazards.

- Action steps for SWB:
 - Complete thorough review of permit and registration applications
 - Allow permitting of facilities as specified in the Solid Waste Rules
 - Undertake timely and comprehensive facility inspections, issuance of violations, compliance orders with penalties
 - Complete facility inspections to address operational issues
 - Investigate illegal dumping complaints, resulting in corrective measures or clean-ups to limit environmental hazards
 - Ensure applicants complete correctly prepared Vulnerable Area assessments for required solid waste facilities by strictly adhering to 20.9.3.8(D) NMAC. This process allows consideration of distributional justice relative to spatial fairness of the physical distribution of environmental benefits and burdens by: preventing unequal siting of landfills and other regulated sites or facilities or known contaminated sites located within a 4-mile radius of the proposed permitted solid waste facility; and if the facility is found to be located in a Vulnerable Area, a community meeting will be held and public comments will be taken for 60 days. If the Secretary determines there is significant community opposition, the Secretary shall require that applicant prepare a Community Impact Assessment for review and dissemination to the public, followed by at least a scoping meeting which will be noticed as specified in supplemental requirements for Public Notices for meetings in 20.9.8. (G) and (H) NMAC.

Appendix

Glossary and List of Acronyms

Act — The New Mexico Solid Waste Act, §§74-9-1 through 74-9-42, NMSA 1978.

Aluminum Can or Aluminum Container — Any food or beverage container that is composed of at least 94 percent aluminum.

Beneficial Use — Use of waste materials as a substitute for a virgin material. Applies to materials that are solid waste before being beneficially used. Includes any activity that provides measurable environmental, economic or other benefits from the alternative use of a municipal solid waste that would otherwise require disposal.

C&D — Construction and Demolition Debris

CESQG — Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator

Clean Fill — Means broken concrete, brick, rock, stone, glass, reclaimed asphalt pavement, or soil that is uncontaminated, meaning the fill has not been mixed with any waste other than the foregoing and has not been subjected to any known spill or release of chemical contaminants, nor treated to remediate such contamination.

Closed Facility — Any solid waste facility that no longer receives solid waste; and for landfills, those closed in accordance with the regulations in effect at the time of closure.

Compost — The end product of a composting process.

Composting — Controlled microbial decomposition of organic wastes, which yields various types of soil amendment products depending on various blends of carbon and nitrogen materials. Carbon, or brown, sources include wood wastes (e.g. brush and tree trimmings) and dried leaves. Nitrogen, or green, sources include grass clippings, food wastes, and manures.

Composting Facility — A solid waste facility at which organic materials are composted to produce a safe, stable, and nuisance-free soil amendment product.

Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG, sometimes referred to as "Cee-Squeegee") — Persons or enterprises which generally produce less than 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month. May include automotive shops, dry cleaners, photographic developers, and many other small businesses.

Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris — Materials generally considered to be not water soluble and non-hazardous in nature, including, but not limited to, steel, glass, brick, concrete, asphalt roofing materials, pipe, gypsum wallboard and lumber from the construction or destruction of a structure or project, and includes rocks, soil, tree remains, trees and other vegetative matter that normally result from land clearing. Does not include asbestos or liquids.

Disposal — The management of solid waste through landfilling, incineration, or transformation at permitted solid waste facilities.

Drop-Off Recycling Center — Means staffed or un-staffed depots where the public can place source-separated materials into designated bins for the purpose of recycling or composting.

EJ — Environmental justice

Electronic Waste — Also called E-Waste or E-Scrap, this term refers to discarded computers, CRTs, TVs, VCRs, faxes, cell phones, and similar electronic products.

Environmental Justice (EJ) — Consistent with the Environmental Justice Executive Order 2005-056, the State of New Mexico is committed to affording all of its residents, including communities of color and low-income communities, fair treatment and meaningful involvement in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies regardless of race, color, ethnicity, religion, income or educational level.

EMNRD — New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department

EPA — U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Environmental Services Gross Receipts Tax (ESGRT) — Pursuant to the Municipal Local Option Gross Receipts Taxes Act, a local option excise tax equal to one-sixteenth of one percent (0.0625%) of the gross receipts reported imposed on any person engaging in business in the municipality. Revenue from the municipal environmental services gross receipts tax must be used for the acquisition, construction, operation and maintenance of solid waste facilities, water facilities, wastewater facilities, sewer systems and related facilities.

Food Waste — All animal and vegetable solid wastes generated by food facilities or residences that result from the storage, sale, preparation, cooking, or handling of food.

Generation — Means the amount (broken down by weight, volume, or percentage) of materials and products discarded into the overall waste stream and available for subsequent recycling, composting, other diversion methods, or disposal.

HHW — Household Hazardous Waste

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) — Wastes from products purchased by the general public for household use that, because of their quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics, may pose a substantial known or potential hazard to human health, or the environment, if improperly treated, disposed, or otherwise managed. Examples are cleaning solvents, sprays, insecticides, herbicides, pharmaceuticals, etc.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection — Refers to a program through which household hazardous wastes are brought to a designated collection point for temporary storage and ultimately, recycling, treatment, or disposal.

Landfill — A solid waste facility that receives solid waste for final disposal.

Locked Facility or Locked Gate or Gated Facility—Any solid waste facility which has permanently stopped receiving solid waste, recyclable materials, or compostable materials, but has not yet met the requirements of 20.9.6 NMAC (closure and post-closure care requirements).

Material Recovery Facility (MRF) — Refers in its original meaning to a specialized facility designed for sorting and processing an input stream largely composed of co-mingled recyclable materials that have been collected separately from compostables and other solid wastes.

MRF — Material Recovery Facility

MSW — Municipal Solid Waste

Mulch — Typically refers to chipped or shredded woody materials used for ground-cover, moisture retention, weed control, and preventing soil erosion.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) — Refers to all solid wastes generated by residential, commercial, and institutional sources, and all solid waste generated at treatment works for water and waste water, which are collected and transported under the authorization of a jurisdiction, or are self-hauled. Municipal solid waste does not include construction and demolition (C&D) wastes, agricultural crop residues, animal manures, mining wastes and fuel extraction waste, forestry wastes, and ash from industrial boilers, furnaces and incinerators.

NM-DOT — New Mexico Department of Transportation

NMED — New Mexico Environment Department

NMED-OHSB — New Mexico Environment Department Occupational Health and Safety Bureau; also known as NM OSHA

NMRC — New Mexico Recycling Coalition, a non-profit organization

OCC — Old Corrugated Cardboard

Old Corrugated Cardboard (OCC) — Corrugated containers recovered and marketed to mills for use in manufacturing new corrugated containers.

Open Landfill — Any landfill that is not in at least a Locked Facility status, is constructed and operating, and is open to the public.

Organic Waste — Solid wastes originating from living organisms and their metabolic waste products, such as yard wastes and food wastes, and which are biologically decomposable by microbial and fungal action into the constituent compounds of water, carbon dioxide, and other simple organic compounds.

PAYT — Pay as you throw, also known as unit pricing or variable-rate pricing. Under PAYT programs, residents are charged for the collection of municipal solid waste based on the amount they throw away. This creates a direct economic incentive to recycle more and to generate less waste.

Plan — The Solid Waste Management Plan of 1993 and revisions of 2007 and 2014, as required by the Solid Waste Act.

RAID — Recycling and Illegal Dumping

RAID Alliance — Reviews and make recommendations for funding grant applications from the recycling and illegal dumping fund. Described in §74-13-7, NMSA 1978.

RCRA — Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

Recycling — Technically, the processes at the end of the recovery sequence in which post-consumer and other post-use materials are converted into new raw materials or manufactured into finished products. In general, recycling has come to have a broader meaning denoting all steps from collection to end-use manufacture.

Recycling and Illegal Dumping Act (RAID Act) — § 74-13-1 to 74-13-20, NMSA 1978.

Recycling Program — A program that enables citizens, businesses, and other entities to set aside targeted materials to be recovered and returned to manufacturing processes as economically valuable commodities, and thus be diverted from landfill disposal. Recycling programs typically include public education to elicit participation; use curbside, alley, drop-off, or buy-back collection, and include processing/shipping of materials to brokers or end-use industries.

Rules — The New Mexico Solid Waste Rules, 20.9.2 through 20.9.10 NMAC.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) — The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, an amendment to the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, was enacted in 1976. RCRA provides, in broad terms, general guidelines for the waste management program envisioned by Congress and the EPA Administrator with the necessary authority to develop specific requirements that implement the law. RCRA also lays out the basic framework for hazardous waste management. [40 CFR Part 257-258 (Solid Waste) and Part 260-279, various sections (Hazardous Waste)]

Reuse — Means the use, in the same or a closely similar form as it was produced, of a material or product which might otherwise be discarded.

Solid Waste — Any garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility and other discarded material including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations and from community activities.

Solid Waste Annual Reports (SWARs) — A report, as required by the Solid Waste Rules, 20.9.5.16 NMAC. Owners or operators of solid waste facilities and operations requiring registration must submit an annual report to the Secretary for each facility or operation, within 45 days from the end of each calendar year describing the operations of the past year.

Special Waste — Solid waste that has unique handling, transportation, or disposal requirements to assure protection of the environment and the public health, welfare and safety. Special waste is described in 20.9.8 NMAC. Facilities that accept special waste must be permitted to do so.

SWANA — Solid Waste Association of North America and/or its New Mexico Roadrunner Chapter.

SWB — Solid Waste Bureau, a division of New Mexico Environment Department .

Solid Waste Facility — Any public or private system, facility, contiguous land and structures, location, improvements on the land, or other appurtenances or methods used for processing, transformation, recycling or disposal of solid waste, including landfill disposal facilities, transfer stations, resource recovery facilities, incinerators and other similar facilities.

Solid Waste Facility Grant Fund (SWFGF) — Created by §74-9-41 NMSA 1978. The purpose of the fund is to make grants to counties and municipalities, individually or jointly, for the establishment or modification of solid waste facilities.

Source Reduction — Any action that causes a net reduction in the generation, volume, or toxicity of solid waste.

Steel Can, Steel Container — Any food, beverage, or other container that is composed of steel with a thin tin coating. Commonly referred to as "Tin can" or "tin container." Depending on markets, steel cans may also include steel aerosol cans.

Tin Can or Tin Container — See Steel Can.

Transfer — The handling and storage of solid waste for reshipment, resale, or disposal, or for waste reduction or resource conservation.

Transfer station — A facility managed for handling and storage of solid waste in large containers or vehicles for transfer to another facility.

Transformation — Incineration, pyrolysis, distillation, gasification or biological conversion other than composting.

Waste Characterization Study — A waste sampling and sorting study that identifies constituent materials that compose solid waste generated in a given population unit, and projects total waste quantities generated over a given period of time.

Waste Diversion — Means to divert solid waste, in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local requirements, from disposal at solid waste landfills for recycling, reuse, composting, or beneficial use.

Waste Generator — Means any person or entity that produces solid waste in the course of routine activities or processes.

Waste Reduction — In contrast to source reduction, which occurs before materials enter the waste management system, waste reduction refers to efforts after materials enter the waste management system to divert them for recovery rather than final disposal in a landfill. Waste reduction includes recycling, composting, and salvaging operations.

Yard Waste — Any wastes generated from the maintenance or alteration of public, commercial or residential landscapes including, but not limited to, grass and yard clippings, leaves, tree trimmings, prunings, brush, and weeds.

Further Reading

Links to the following documents are also available on the Solid Waste Bureau website.

New Mexico Solid Waste Laws

- [Solid Waste Act](#), §74-9-1 to §74-9-43, NMSA 1978
- [Solid Waste Rules](#), 20.9.2 to 20.9.10 NMAC
- [Recycling and Illegal Dumping Act](#), §74-13-1 through §74-13-20, NMSA 1978
- [Recycling, Illegal Dumping and Scrap Tire Management Rules](#), 20.9.20 NMAC

New Mexico Solid Waste Information

- [New Mexico Solid Waste Facilities](#)

Includes a list of all permitted and registered facilities (landfills, transfer stations, collection centers, recycling centers, and composting facilities) in New Mexico, with address and contact information; list of facilities permitted to accept special wastes; and a map of permitted landfills in the state.

- Solid Waste Bureau [Annual Reports](#)

Includes solid waste, recycling and diversion data for New Mexico from 2006 to present. Annual reporting forms and volume-to-weight conversion factors are also available at this link.

New Mexico Solid Waste Management Plan

- [Solid Waste Management Plan survey data](#)

Results of the online survey completed in March 2013 in preparation for this update to the Plan.

- [2007 Solid Waste Management Plan](#)

Diversion Reports

- [“New Mexico Landfill Rate Analysis and Opportunities for Increased Diversion with PAYT and Rate Incentives,”](#) New Mexico Recycling Coalition, 2012.

An analysis of trends across New Mexico landfills and their rates based on a survey of facilities.

- [“Adding 5,000 Jobs to New Mexico’s Economy,”](#) New Mexico Recycling Coalition, 2013.

An analysis of the job potential of New Mexico’s recycling industry.

- Executive Summary, Interim Committee Report on HM51, [“Study Solid Waste Recycling,”](#) December 2014.

A report given to an interim legislative committee on strategies to boost recycling and diversion in the state. Includes recommendations from initial stakeholder group meeting to convene work groups to consider strategies for funding, commercial recycling, state agency recycling, and construction and demolition recycling.

- [House Memorial 56, Product Stewardship Programs Study: Report to Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Interim Committee, November 2013.](#)

Recommendations from the product stewardship task force convened in 2013 include: consider pursuing product stewardship programs for electronics, mattresses and paint; form a Product Stewardship Advisory Group with expanded membership to facilitate product stewardship research, product materials management data, stakeholder input, and program development.

Environmental Justice

- New Mexico [Environmental Justice Executive Order 2005-056.](#)

Mandates implementation of environmental justice policies and procedures in the state.

- [“EPA Plan EJ 2014,”](#) Office of Environmental Justice, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2011.

EPA’s four-year implementation plan for ensuring fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people in developing, implementing, and enforcing environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Funding Reports

- [“Funding Mechanisms in Other States,”](#) NM Solid Waste Bureau, September 2013.

Includes information on fees and other mechanisms used in 10 states to fund solid waste management activities, especially closure of substandard landfills.