

SUMMARY CT SOLID WASTE DATA - CURRENT PRACTICES AND POTENTIAL CHANGES

CURRENT PRACTICES

Solid Waste Data Use

- Solid waste projections and related planning and program evaluation to help decision makers plan on all levels –state, municipal, regional
- Measurement of progress (statewide and municipal) towards meeting solid waste management goals
 - Connecticut General Statutes - Section 22a-220(f) -Goal to recycle 25 percent of the solid waste generated in each municipality and to further reduce the weight of such waste by an additional fifteen per cent by source reduction or additional recycling
 - Progress towards meeting the 2006 SWMP recycling target of 58% by FY2024
 - Progress towards meeting the 2006 SWMP target to reduce Connecticut’s per capita disposal rate from 0.8 tons/person/year in FY2005 to 0.6 tons/person/year in FY2024
- Assessing effectiveness of specific recycling/source reduction efforts – on a state and municipal level
- Decisions regarding location in the state or region of solid waste or recycling facilities and manufacturing facilities looking for recycled feedstock
- Assurance of compliance with solid waste statutes, regulations, and permit requirements
- Calculation of environmental benefits associated with achieving increased source reduction and recycling – using environmental calculators such as – NERC, NRC, WARM

Current Data Tracking

Data Entry

- The data entry position has remained unfilled since J.Neary retired about 4-5 years ago. Have had various seasonals entering data- data hasn’t been checked, analyzed or proofed since FY2004. Currently there is no one entering the data.
- A data processing tech position has been requested and will hopefully be posted shortly

Data Analysis

- FY2004 to present has not been analyzed (FY2003 MSW recycling and disposal and FY2004 statewide MSW and bulky waste disposal was analyzed for the SWMP) – see sample recycling package sent to towns back in the early 1990’s

See attachment for a list of solid waste reports received by CT DEP

- **MSW** – generated, recycled, disposed tracked on **a state** level and on **a town-by-town** level – from municipal annual recycling reports and from solid waste facility reports. Also get data on amount of MSW from out-of-state imported and disposed in CT

Problems –

- getting accurate info regarding town of origin of the waste (inaccurate reporting by haulers when delivering MSW to a solid waste facility, facility scale software not set-up to record town(s) of origin of loads delivered (especially when loads come from more than one town);
 - getting info on waste that goes directly from the generator to a non-reporting entity (i.e. out-of-state facility, end market, etc.)
 - no bottle bill recycling info
 - no info regarding commercially recycled scrap metal or waste oil; no info on lead acid storage batteries (though most – 99% recycled through the battery deposit law
 - landfills in Ohio and PA reporting receiving about 200,000 more tons CT MSW annually than is reported transferred to those landfills from CT facilities
- **C&D Waste** – generated, recycled, disposed **on a state level** - tracked only if it passes through a CT permitted reported solid waste facility.
 - Don’t get reported data on clean fill managed by companies which handle only clean fill

- Don't get data on material that goes directly to an end user or out-of-state without first passing through a CT permitted solid waste facility
 - Don't get detailed info from most VRF's on type of material received i.e. construct waste; clean wood construction; etc.
- **Landclearing Data** - Just starting to get more of that info through recycling facilities with a general permit. Don't get info if it doesn't pass through a CT permitted solid waste facility
 - **RRF Ash Residue** – RRF's report amount and destination. If going to a CT disposal facility also getting that info from the LF

DISCUSSION - POTENTIAL CHANGES

Ideas re other options to get the information to track solid waste disposal and recycling and source reduction on a municipal and state-wide basis

Fixing Current System

- Definitions
- Electronic reporting for: facilities; municipalities – Long Term need funding
- Solid waste data posted on the DEP website
- Eliminate duplicative reporting re solid waste facilities and municipalities – will only work if accurate town-by-town data is provided by the solid waste facilities
 - **Facilities** just report tonnage MSW received by town or regional solid waste facility of origin to DEP (no longer require to send to each town as well – **DEP will forward that info to the municipalities**)
 - Facilities will need to provide a way for haulers to split reported town of origin of mixed (from more than one town) loads delivered to the facility.
 - **Municipalities** annual recycling reports to DEP
 - Would no longer need to report tonnages of recyclables or MSW disposed if the MSW or recyclables were delivered to a permitted CT solid waste or recycling facility
 - Will need to report:
 - info re haulers registered in their towns; name & contact info and where those haulers are reporting bringing their solid waste and recyclables;
 - MSW tonnages generated within the borders of the town and delivered to a non-reporting solid waste facility (muni leaf composting, waste oil, recyclables delivered directly to end users, etc.) based on reports submitted to the municipality by municipally contracted haulers and by other haulers hauling solid waste generated within the municipality
 - report info re municipal recycling/source reduction educational and enforcement efforts
 - estimated recycling participation rates re municipal residents, businesses, institutions; etc.
 - **Haulers** will need to:
 - When delivering waste to a regional solid waste facility, hauler must accurately report town of origin or regional solid waste facility of origin of MSW including recyclables of the waste they are delivering
 - If delivering mixed loads (i.e from more than one town) need to estimate percent from each town
 - Report tonnages and destinations to the town in which they haul tonnage of MSW and MSW recyclables delivered directly to an entity other than a CT solid waste facility to the town.