

INTRODUCTION

The Daviess County Landfill at 7772 KY 815 serves as the primary disposal facility for all solid wastes. There are also public transfer stations or convenience centers in the county (see Exhibit 693-M1 for the location of the landfill and convenience centers). Tires, scrap metal, aluminum can, yard waste, and hazardous chemicals can be disposed at twelve different sites in the area. Except for hazardous chemicals, facilities for the aforesaid are mostly located in and around the urbanized areas of Owensboro. Hazardous chemical disposal is outside of the county.

Either the Owensboro Sanitation Department or fourteen private collectors in Daviess County collect residential, commercial, and industrial solid wastes. The largest collection service is provided by the City of Owensboro on a house-to-house, curbside basis, through customer use of mobile toters. Businesses, schools, and hospitals use large containers for their solid wastes and the frequency of collection is dependent upon the volume of waste. Most rural private collection systems have also gone to the mobile toter system in the last few years.

LOCAL ORDINANCES

Ordinance Number 830.2 regulating solid waste management in **Daviess County** was adopted by the Fiscal Court on April 20, 1994 and became effective July 1, 1994. Storage, collection, transportation, processing and disposal of solid wastes are addressed in the ordinance. Subsequently, the County adopted Ordinance Number 220.12(96) in February 1996 and it became effective on April 1, 1996. This ordinance established the licensing requirements for off-site waste management facilities in Daviess County. The fee was established at 2% of gross receipts and payable on a quarterly basis.

The **City of Owensboro** amended its solid waste ordinance in December 1995 (Ord. #61-95, Municipal Code Ch. 26, Art. 6). The amendment cleaned up several areas of the ordinance and acknowledged the Daviess County Fiscal Court as the principal provider of solid waste disposal for Daviess County. The landfill section of the old ordinance was eliminated. The ordinance is comprehensive, with specifications regarding department organization, containers, collection, special loads, fees, collection techniques, billing, and self-service permits.

The **City of Whitesville** does not have a solid waste ordinance. However, there are several private haulers that provide sanitation service to the residents of Whitesville.

The **Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission** has adopted a Zoning Ordinance that controls the location of private landfills throughout Daviess County. Under Article 8.2 of the Zoning Ordinance, private landfills are prohibited in Urban Agriculture zones and are conditionally permitted in Rural Agriculture zones. Landfills operated by local government are not subject to local zoning regulations.

The **Daviess County Health Department** locally enforces the "general nuisance" and "public health" statutes. In addition, the **State Division of Air Pollution Control** enforces open-burning regulations.

The remainder of this section will summarize Daviess County's *Solid Waste Management Plan for 2003-2007*. The plan was submitted to the Commonwealth's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, Department for Environmental Protection in March 2003 and approved on July 8, 2003. The plan was prepared in conformance with KRS 224.43-340. State law (KRS 224, 109, 67, & 68) provides for the county to be designated as the "solid waste management area." The plan is divided into eight chapters with thirteen appendices. An amendment was filed and approved to allow the burning of tires at Owensboro Municipal Utilities power station in August 1998. It was estimated that annually over one million tires would be removed from the waste stream.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

In 1984, the Daviess County Fiscal Court acted to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan to meet requirements of Kentucky Revised Statute 224.887. The statutes require all Kentucky counties to prepare a plan and submit it for approval to the Division of Waste Management, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. The 2003-2007 plan being summarized is the fourth five-year plan prepared by the County. The purpose of the plan is to provide orderly extension and improvement of solid waste management, to protect public health and the environment, and to minimize the social and economic costs associated with improper solid waste management practices. The plan is consistent with the state's Solid Waste Management Plan enacted in 1980, and seeks to address the procedures for implementing identified short-term, intermediate, and long-term tasks. The Fiscal Court adopted the plan by Resolution 3-2003 on February 4, 2003.

The plan designates the Daviess County Fiscal Court as having the authority and responsibility to implement the plan; as well as, making determinations on applications to construct or expand any solid waste disposal facility in the county. The solid waste coordinator for the county is identified. A six-member Solid Waste Advisory Committee meets quarterly to discuss current solid waste topics. Tipping fees that are deposited in Fiscal Court's Solid Waste account funds the solid waste program.

COLLECTION SYSTEMS – CHAPTER 2

The solid waste collection system in the county is comprised of one public and several private providers. In 2005 the plan estimated that 31,000 of the 33,000 households (94%) in Daviess County were served by a collection service. Monthly collection fees for Owensboro residents was \$12.00 in 2005, while county residents outside the corporate limits paid between \$11.00 and \$17.00 per month.

The County will continue to use this universal collection system until an evaluation of a mandatory collection system is completed. Factors to be considered include:

- ◆ A cost comparison of what the average household and business pays presently versus the costs for the proposed program.
- ◆ User convenience under the current versus the mandatory collection system.
- ◆ The effects each system would have on illegal dumping.
- ◆ The percentage of households served by each system.

WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES – CHAPTER 3

The Daviess County Landfill is the only contained landfill in Daviess County and it is owned and operated by the Daviess County Fiscal Court. Tipping fees range from \$20.00 to \$25.00 a ton for solid waste disposal. No host agreement exists since it is a county owned and operated landfill. There is a separate construction demolition and debris landfill located on the same premises as the Daviess County Landfill. In 2005 the Daviess County Landfill had a remaining permit capacity of 50 years and is expected to serve our needs until 2055. Additionally, Ohio County Landfill agrees to accept our waste should our landfill be unable to accept waste. Evaluating the county's solid waste response during the 1997 Flood will also be accomplished during the plan period.

LITTER AND OPEN DUMPS – CHAPTER 4

In 2005, county personnel identified six open dumps. These dumps were cleaned as of December 2005. Public expenditures totaled \$8,709.88 and range between \$5,000-\$10,000 annually. Cleaning up identified open dumps, public discussion, public education using various mediums and media, as well as exploring opportunities to work with business and industry groups on waste issues will be pursued during the planning period.

RECYCLING / WASTE REDUCTION PROGRAMS – CH. 5

In 2005 there were six recycling centers (4 public) and one composting facility available for public use. The tonnage recycled during 2000-2005 varied greatly (1,000 to 30,000 tons annually). Persons can drop-off recyclable material at the convenience centers or transfer stations. The convenience centers do not accept cardboard or foam rubber while the transfer stations do not take newspaper. There were also four oil drop-off centers in 2005 that collected 4,815 gallons of used oil. Owensboro (August – October 1994) and Daviess County (August 1994 – December 1995) ran a pilot door-to-door recycling program in various test areas. The effort was not financially sustainable. If mandatory collection begins door-to-door, recycling will be re-evaluated.

Future efforts will include maintaining the public recycling centers, using detention center inmates to pull recyclable material from the landfill, in-house recycling, and recycling material from open dumps. Convenience center customers who recycle their waste material will be allowed to dump 375 pounds of waste at no charge. Consideration will be given to an annual recycling day each year.

ENFORCEMENT – CHAPTER 6

The Solid Waste Coordinator is responsible for enforcement of the solid waste ordinance. Discussions among the coordinator, District Judges, Sheriff's Department, and County Attorney are needed to improve the enforcement process. Presently the County Attorney sends notices of violation explaining the procedures and fines to responsible parties.

Issues needing discussion include:

- ◆ Interpretation of the solid waste ordinance.
- ◆ Methods of finding the responsible party.
- ◆ The appropriate agency for each step in the enforcement process; and,
- ◆ Types of evidence needed for enforcement.

Publicizing violations and presenting a list of open dumps to the Fiscal Court annually will also be done through 2002.

SITING OF WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES – CH. 7

Siting conditions are required for landfills, recycling businesses, and composting facilities. Siting issues for publicly owned facilities are the responsibility of Fiscal Court and the appropriate state and federal agencies. Aside from complying with all local, state, and federal requirements and laws, privately owned facilities must be located in an I-2 Heavy Industrial Zone under the provisions of the zoning ordinance. A conditional use permit is also required from the Board of Adjustment for private landfills and recycling facilities. At a minimum, the county shall consider the following when considering facility applications:

- ◆ The impact of the local infrastructure: roads, fire, and emergency services.
- ◆ Traffic impacts on local communities.
- ◆ Benefits to the community by the facility.
- ◆ Environmental hazards of the facility in the community.
- ◆ Whether or not a host agreement has been executed, if from a governing body.

No siting requirements contained in local ordinances or the zoning ordinance are recommended for changes during the planning period.

Public participation and educational efforts for all plan elements will include:

- ◆ The use of handouts, videos, public meetings, newspapers, and the broadcast media detailing services, prices, and alternatives to landfill disposal of solid wastes at each waste facility.
- ◆ Advisory Committee open discussion of all waste management issues.
- ◆ Use of the Environmental Speakers Bureau for presentation to interested groups on these issues.

Any other efforts the plan identified in this area have been summarized under the appropriate section.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE – CHAPTER 8

The implementation schedule consists of a listing of each action plan step, as well as the public participation and educational activities that are contained in the plan. Beside each listed item is a month/year designation indicating when the task will be completed. In some instances the task is on-going and so identified in the plan. All steps or activities identified in the plan are scheduled for completion by 2007. For a complete listing consult pages 17 – 20 of the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Exhibit 693-M1: Solid Waste Disposal

