



# Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance

*Felicia Strong-Whitaker, Interim Director*

Fulton County, GA

May 8, 2015

Re: 15RFP63658C-MT – Landfill Post Closure Services

Dear Bidders:

Attached is one (1) copy of **Addendum 1**, hereby made a part of the above referenced 15RFP63658C-MT – Landfill Post Closure Services

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions in the Bid referenced above remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Sincerely,

*Malcolm Tyson*

Malcolm Tyson  
Assistant Purchasing Agent

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# Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance

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Fulton County, GA

This Addendum forms a part of the contract documents and **modifies** the original ITB documents as noted below:

1. The Scope of Work, Section 3.3, has been revised as follows:

## 3.1 SCOPE OF WORK

The County has completed closure activities at the two (2) municipal solid waste landfills, Merk/Miles Road Landfill located on Merk Road in southwest Fulton County, and Morgan Falls Landfill located on Morgan Falls Road in Sandy Springs, that are permitted by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD). The permits for these landfills prescribe that the landfills receive post-closure care. Post closure care includes erosion repair, vegetation management, environmental monitoring, restoration, and reporting.

The purpose of this contract is to provide for post closure care services for these landfills and the Merk/Miles Citizen Convenience Center. The County's Solid Waste Management Division seeks to establish a contract with a firm to provide all necessary professional services, project management, and administrative support to implement the scope of work as indicated in the following areas:

- A. Project Management, Scheduling, Recordkeeping and Reporting
- B. Implementation of Health and Safety Programs
- C. Landfill Compliance Inspections
- D. Landfill Gas (LFG) Management
- E. Methane Monitoring and Reporting
- F. Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring and Reporting
- G. Merk/Miles Convenience Center Station (Administration/Oversight)
- H. Landfill Maintenance Merk/Miles and Morgan Falls Landfills
- I. Update Fulton County's Solid Waste Plan
- J. South Fulton Community Cleanup Event/Household Hazardous Waste

All work shall be performed in compliance with the guidelines set forth by the Georgia Department of Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD).

## 3.2 PROJECT DELIVERABLES

Proposer shall deliver results as follows:

### A. Project Management, Scheduling, Recordkeeping and Reporting:

Proposer shall ensure that all tasks listed in the scope of work are completed as follows:

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1. Prepare correspondence and other documentation either for, or on behalf of, the County related to post-closure care services of the landfills;
2. Prepare all records necessary and as required by GA EPD to maintain the Operating Records for each landfill. The County will be responsible for maintaining the actual Operating Record in their offices. The complete Operating Record includes, but is not limited to: Solid Waste Handling Permits; Design and Operating Documents, Regulatory Correspondence, Notices of Violations, Notices of Deficiencies, Major and Minor Permit Modifications, regulatory submittals such as Environmental Monitoring Reports, Sampling and Analysis Reports, Operating and Maintenance Manuals, etc... The operating records shall be maintained by the County in a form suitable to serve as the operating record for the facility as required by the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management; and
3. Assist the County with obtaining permits (landfill disturbance, minor and major modification) as necessary to maintain landfill compliance.

## **B. Implementation of Health and Safety Programs**

Proposer shall:

1. Develop and implement a health and safety plan that complies with the County's Safety Program Guidelines and all State and federal laws; and
2. Provide all required Safety Equipment to complete the scope of work.

## **C. Landfill Compliance Inspections**

Proposer shall:

1. Conduct quarterly inspections to identify and prepare maintenance plans or cap repairs, erosion repairs, leachate outbreak repair, spot vegetation seeding, fencing repairs, or other unscheduled maintenance which may need to be performed by the landfill maintenance contractor. Inspection reports are to be submitted to the County; and
2. Perform landfill maintenance inspections and implement any necessary repairs; large scale repairs may be completed under a separate contract under supervision of the consultant.

## **D. Landfill Gas System (LFG) Management**

Both the Morgan Falls and Merk/Miles Landfills have active landfill gas (LFG) extraction systems to control LFG migration and mitigate LFG impacts to groundwater. Each

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system consists of vertical and/or horizontal extraction wells, buried header and lateral gas conveyance lines, condensate collection sumps and associated condensate force mains and air lines, condensate knockout tanks, blowers, and flares (utility flare for Merk/Miles Road Landfill and enclosed flare for Morgan Falls Landfill), and controls for the extraction/flare system.

Proposer shall:

1. Operate both systems 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Both systems are equipped with remote monitoring systems (Omnimetrix) that shall be maintained;
3. Provide monthly tuning and monitoring;
4. Provide preventive maintenance on the flare system, compressor and condensate management systems at both sites; and
5. Recommend and implement gas extraction system modifications as directed by the County; actual improvements may be handle as part of the contingency or by separate contract.

## **E. Methane Monitoring and Reporting**

The landfills have methane monitoring plans approved by the Georgia EPD. These methane monitoring plans require quarterly monitoring for methane to determine if off-site migration of methane is occurring.

Proposer shall:

1. Prepare and monitoring reports on the appropriate EPD form (SWM-19); and
2. Submit the Reports within ten (10 business days) of the date of collection to Fulton County and the Georgia EPD. Morgan Falls has forty-seven (47) monitoring location and includes eight (8) bar-punch locations. Merk/Miles has fifty-six (56) monitoring locations and includes twenty-one (21) bar-punch locations.

## **F. Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring and Reporting**

The landfills have groundwater and surface water monitoring plans approved by GA EPD. These plans include detection monitoring and assessment monitoring activities in groundwater monitoring wells. Assessment monitoring includes the analysis of an expanded list of chemical parameters (40CFR 25 Appendix II) in select wells. Morgan Falls currently has twenty-four (24) monitored wells and Merk/Miles has forty-eight (48) wells. Some of the Merk/Miles Road Landfill wells are monitored for dichloroflouromethane (DCDFM) in addition to Appendix I parameters; other wells are

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monitored for DCDFM and monitored natural attenuation (MNA) parameters (dissolved oxygen, nitrate, ferrous iron, sulfate, sulfide, methane, ethane/ethene, oxidation-reduction potential, total organic carbon (TOC), carbon dioxide, total alkalinity, fluoride, and chloride). Several wells in the approved Merk/Miles Road Landfill monitoring plan currently are used for water levels only. Some wells are monitored only on an annual basis.

All approved network monitoring wells are monitored for full Appendix II parameters. Monitor Natural Attenuation (MNA) parameters include: dissolved oxygen, nitrate, ferrous iron, sulfate, sulfide, methane, ethane/ethene, oxidation reduction potential, total organic carbon, carbon dioxide, alkalinity, fluoride and hydrogen. Seven (7) wells at Morgan Falls Landfill are only used for water level measurements.

Assessment monitoring wells are monitored for full Appendix II parameter list every three (3) years; the next scheduled full Appendix II monitoring event is scheduled for the fall of 2016. Merk/Miles Road Landfill has four (4) and Morgan Falls Road Landfill has three (3) surface water monitoring locations. These surface water monitoring locations are monitored semi-annually for the Georgia Table 1, Parameters.

## **G. Merk/Miles Convenience Center Station (Administration/Oversight)**

The Merk Miles transfer station facility is a solid waste “convenience center” operated for the benefit of the general public. The facility allows residents to dispose of unwanted household municipal solid waste. The facility is operated in accordance with the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management 391-3-4. The facility is manned with 2 employees. The following practices are used at the facility:

- a. The facility is operated fifty (50) hours a week (closed on Sunday, Wednesday, and County holidays);
- b. Waste is removed from the site daily;
- c. Accepts all household municipal solid waste;
- d. Accepts all recyclable household materials;
- e. Does not accept (household hazardous waste);
- f. Does not accept medical waste;
- g. Utilizes 40-yard compacted and non-compacted boxes for waste transport;
- h. Non-compacted boxes are repacked with an excavator;
- i. Routine maintenance of equipment is necessary (scale/compactors, baler);
- j. Residents are not allowed to operate any of the compactor equipment; and
- k. Answer customer calls daily during operating hours

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## **H. Landfill Maintenance at Merk/Miles and Morgan Falls Landfills**

The Merk/Miles Landfill consist of sixty-five (65) acres and Morgan Falls Landfill consist of thirty-nine (39) acres. These landfills are closed municipal solid waste landfill owned by Fulton County. Fulton County's Solid Waste Management Division, routinely inspects the landfill caps at the Merk/Miles Road and Morgan Falls Road Landfill for erosion, settlement, or other condition that require maintenance and repair.

The awarded contractor shall perform maintenance and repair including, but not limited to, periodic installation or repair of erosion control structures and materials, routine mowing of grass, periodic application of seed and fertilizer, repair of landfill covers as needed due to erosion "wash-out's, cracks due to subsidence, cracks which allow landfill gases to escape, and control of leachate outbreaks as needed and periodic removal of sediments for the sedimentation ponds.

Additionally, the awarded contractor shall provide all necessary labor, equipment and materials to perform the services necessary to perform the required landfill maintenance. The requirements for providing materials necessary for landfill maintenance are on an "as needed basis", and the quantities for any specific commodity is based on the maintenance activity.

## **I. Update Fulton County's Solid Waste Plan**

Proposer shall draft a Solid Waste Plan to meet the minimum planning standards as outlined by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Regulations for review and approval by the County. A copy of the current plan and the draft plan are attached for review. The task will involve the completion of the demographic and waste profile information, analyses of data, revenue model for a solid waste franchise, and the preparation of final documents for submittal to the Department of Community Affairs and the Atlanta Regional Commission.

## **J. South Fulton Community Cleanup Event/Household Hazardous Waste**

The South Fulton Community Cleanup Event/Household Hazardous Waste is an annual event called "Amnesty Day". This event is traditionally conducted 2-3 times throughout the year. This event allows residents to dispose of household municipal solid waste, household hazardous waste, bulk and yard waste, appliances, and other types of waste at no charge on the two event days. The event locations are the Merk Miles transfer station (3225 Merk Road, College Park Georgia 30349; Creel Road Park (2775 Creel Road, College Park, Georgia 30349; and South Fulton Service Center (5600 Stonewall Tell Road, College Park, Georgia 30349). The event is conducted with 35-40 FTE

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composed of County staff, contractors, and employees of the company providing the waste disposal. Forty (40) yard containers and garbage (packer) trucks are placed at the three (3) locations for the disposal by the residents. Residents are assisted with the unloading of the discarded materials.

2. Section 9, Exhibits has been revised and attached herein.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDUM NO. 1

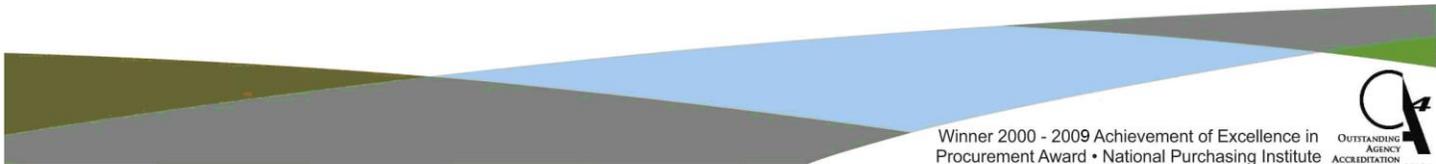
The undersigned proposer acknowledges receipt of this addendum by returning one (1) copy of this form with the proposal package to the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance, Fulton County Public Safety Building, 130 Peachtree Street, Suite 1168, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 by the RFP due date and time of **May 20, 2015**.

This is to acknowledge receipt of Addendum No. 1, \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Name of Bidder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title



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**SECTION 9  
EXHIBITS**

**Exhibit 1: Proposal Submittal Checklist**

**Exhibit 2: Cost Proposal**

**Exhibit 3: Current Solid Waste Management Plan**

**Exhibit 4: Draft Solid Waste Management Plan**

**Exhibit 5: Analysis of Draft Solid Waste Management Plan**

**EXHIBIT 1**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) SUBMITTAL CHECK**

**LANDFILL POST CLOSURE SERVICES**

***The following submittals shall be completed and submitted with each proposal (see table below "Required Proposal Submittal Check List."). Please check to make sure that the required submittals are in the envelope before it is sealed. Failure to submit all required submittals may deem your proposal non-responsive.***

*Submit one (1) Original proposal and five (5) CD's as required in Section 3.1.2 of the RFP.*

Item #	Required Proposal Submittal Check List	Check (✓)
1	One (1) Proposal marked " <b>Original</b> ", five (5) CD's	
2	*Form E: Georgia Security and Immigration Contractor Affidavit(s) and Agreements <i>Note: If prime contractor is a joint venture, partnership, LLC, each member of the entity must submit an affidavit</i>	
3	*Form F: Georgia Security and Immigration Subcontractor Affidavit (s)	
4	Technical Proposal	
5	Cost Proposal (submitted in a separate sealed envelope)	
6	Financial Information (submitted in a separate sealed envelope)	
7	Acknowledgement of each Addendum	
8	Executive Summary Technical Approach/Detailed Work Plan Project Team Qualifications/Qualifications of Key Personnel Relevant Project Experience Proposer Financial Information Availability of Key Personnel Local Preference Disclosure Form and Questionnaire	
9	Purchasing Forms Form A: Certificate Regarding Debarment Form B: Non-Collusion Affidavit of Proposer Form C: Certificate of Acceptance of Request Proposal requirements Form D: Disclosure Form & Questionnaire Form G: Professional License Form H: Local Preference Affidavit of Proposer	

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) SUBMITTAL CHECK LIST FOR  
LANDFILL POST CLOSURE SERVICES  
(continued)**

Item #	Required Proposal Submittal Check List	Check (✓)
10	Contract Compliance Requirements (separate envelope) Exhibit A: Promise of Non-Discrimination Exhibit B: Employment Record Exhibit C: Schedule of Intended Subcontractor Utilization Exhibit D: Letter of Intent to Perform as Subcontractor Exhibit E: Declaration Regarding Subcontractor Practices Exhibit F: Joint Venture Disclosure Affidavit Exhibit G: Prime Contractor/Subcontractor Utilization Report Equal Business Opportunity Plan (EBO Plan) Exhibit H – First Source Jobs Program Information Form 1 Exhibit H – First Source Jobs Program Agreement Form 2	
11	Evidence of Insurability, proposer must submit one (1) of the following: Letter from insurance carrier Certificate of Insurance An umbrella policy in excess of required limits for this project	
12	Verify that Proposer is registered w/Georgia Secretary of State and attach a copy of print out for each	
13	Verify Professional License and attach a copy of the print out for each Proposer (applicable)	

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**EXHIBIT 2  
COST PROPOSAL SUMMARY**

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**PROPOSAL FORM**

Submitted To: Fulton County Government

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

For: **15ITBXXX-XX – Landfill Post Closure Services**

Submitted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

The undersigned, as Proposer, hereby declares that the only person or persons interested in the Proposal as principal or principals is or are named herein and that no other person than herein mentioned has any interest in this Proposal or in the Contract to be entered into; that this Proposal is made without connection with any other person, company or parties making a Proposal; and that it is in all respects fair and in good faith without collusion or fraud.

The Proposer further declares that he has examined the site of the work and informed himself fully in regard to all conditions pertaining to the place where the work is to be done; that he has examined the Drawings and Specifications for the work and contractual documents relative thereto, and has read all instructions to Proposers and General Conditions furnished prior to the openings of Proposals; that he has satisfied himself relative to the work to be performed.

The Proposer proposes and agrees, if this Proposal is accepted, to contract with the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County, Atlanta, Georgia, in the form of contract specified, to furnish all necessary materials, equipment, machinery, tools, apparatus, means of transportation and labor necessary, and to complete the construction of the work in full and complete accordance with the shown, noted, and reasonably intended requirements of the Specifications and Contract Documents to the full and entire satisfaction of the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County, Atlanta, Georgia, with a definite understanding that no money will be allowed for extra work except as set forth in the attached General Conditions and Contract Documents for the following prices.

THE BASE PROPOSAL IS THE AMOUNT UPON WHICH THE PROPOSER WILL BE FORMALLY EVALUATED AND WHICH WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE PROPOSER.

The base Proposal may not be withdrawn or modified for a period of sixty (60) days following the receipt of Proposals.

**BASE PROPOSAL AMOUNT** (Do not include any Proposal Alternates)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Dollar Amount in Numbers)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Dollar Amount in Words)

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The Proposer agrees hereby to commence work under this Contract, with adequate personnel and equipment, on a date to be specified in a written "Notice to Proceed" from the County.

The Proposer declares that he understands that the quantities shown for the unit prices items are subject to either increase or decrease, and that should the quantities of any of the items of work be increased, the Proposer proposes to do the additional work at the unit prices stated herein; and should the quantities be decreased, the Proposer also understands that payment will be made on the basis of actual quantities at the unit price bid and will make no claim for anticipated profits for any decrease in quantities; and that actual quantities will be determined upon completion of work, at which time adjustments will be made to the contract amount by direct increase or decrease.

**BASE PROPOSAL AMOUNT**

Cost associated with providing post closure services as detailed in Section 4, Scope of Work and Technical Specifications.

**PROPOSAL FORM**

Item	Labor Categories (List as many as needed i.e. Project Manager, Scientist, Admin., etc...)	Total Labor Cost	Other Direct Cost	Total Cost
Hourly Rates <i>(Provide a rate sheet for all labor categories)</i>				
Project Management, Scheduling and Reporting				
Quarterly Landfill Inspections				
Groundwater & Surface Water Monitoring (Sampling and Analysis) Semi-Annual				
Quarterly Methane Monitoring				
Flare System Preventative Maintenance				
Unscheduled Flare System Maintenance <i>(Owner Controlled Contingency)</i>				<b>\$100,000.00</b>
Unscheduled Landfill Maintenance Corrective Action <i>(Owner Controlled Contingency)</i>				<b>\$100,000.00</b>
Merk Miles/Community Cleanup Events <i>(Owner Controlled Contingency)</i>				<b>\$50,000.00</b>
<b>Project Totals</b>				<b>\$</b>

*Note: Use an additional sheet if needed to list Labor Categories*

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**ALTERNATE #1**

**Solid Waste Management Plan Update**

This is an optional item and may or may not be funded by the County. Proposers shall submit their proposal cost as a lump sum price to complete the plan and for the Proposer to host three (3) public meeting presenting the various plan options.

ITEM	TOTAL COST
1. Solid Waste Management Plan Update	\$

The Proposer furthermore agrees that, in the case of a failure on his part to execute the Contract Agreement and Bonds within ten days after receipt of conformed contract documents for execution, the Proposal Bond accompanying his Proposal and the monies payable thereon shall be paid into the funds of the Owner as liquidated damages for such failure.



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Note: If the Proposer is a corporation, the Proposal shall be signed by an officer of the corporation; if a partnership, it shall be signed by a partner. If signed by others, authority for signature shall be attached.

The full name and addresses of persons or parties interested in the foregoing Proposal, as principals, are as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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**EXHIBIT 3**  
**CURRENT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**



solid\_waste\_mangement\_plan.pdf

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**EXHIBIT 4**  
**DRAFT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Editor Notes** (will not be included in final document)

**Highlight = County input needed; text to be adjusted accordingly.**

## Table 1.2 Projections of Waste to be Disposed

*We have been in touch with the County demographer and were advised that new population forecasts have not been developed based on the low count reported by the initial 2010 Census data release. As such, the projections contained herein are developed by Jacobs and assume that the County grows by the same percentage increase as provided previously by the County.*

## Section 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Context

Fulton County is required by State of Georgia law to periodically update its Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). These requirements are spelled out in the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), Chapter 110-4-3 Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Fulton County last updated its Plan in 2005 and is required to complete a full update of the Plan by October 31, 2011.

The overarching mission of the State and County solid waste planning objectives is to ensure that solid waste collection, disposal, and management activities are efficient and responsive to the community's unique needs and have a minimal impact on the environment. The SWMP is being updated in coordination with the County's 2030 Comprehensive Plan, thereby ensuring compatibility with population and industry growth projections, the future land use plan, and other community goals and objectives.

In addition to this mission, the County's update addresses the following items:

- *Changes in service area* – The County's solid waste service area has been notably reduced as a result of recent incorporation of multiple areas of Fulton County.
- *Possible alternatives for funding the County's solid waste management system* – Fulton County's solid waste planning and management has traditionally been funded by a Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. The Enterprise fund is formed by allocations from the general fund and other sources. Benchmarking and the identification of feasible funding alternatives are being incorporated as a part of the SWMP update and in reaction to changing economic environment and solid waste planning area.
- *Illegal dumping and tire recycling arrangements* – These efforts will be key talking and discussion points for public outreach meetings with the goal of garnering input on alternatives and ultimately generating buy-in on the desirable funding alternative and other new initiatives.

### 1.2 Person Responsible for Plan

Fulton County's Department of Public Works manages the County's solid waste management program. Anthony Spencer, Director of Solid Waste for Fulton County, is the primary contact for this plan.

**Name:** Anthony Spencer - Solid Waste Manager  
Fulton County Department of Public Works  
**Address:** 141 Pryor Street, Atlanta, GA 30303  
**Phone:** 404-730-4000  
**Email:** Anthony.Spencer@fultoncountyga.gov  
**Website:** <http://www.co.fulton.ga.us/county/dpw/>

### 1.3 Overview of Planning Area

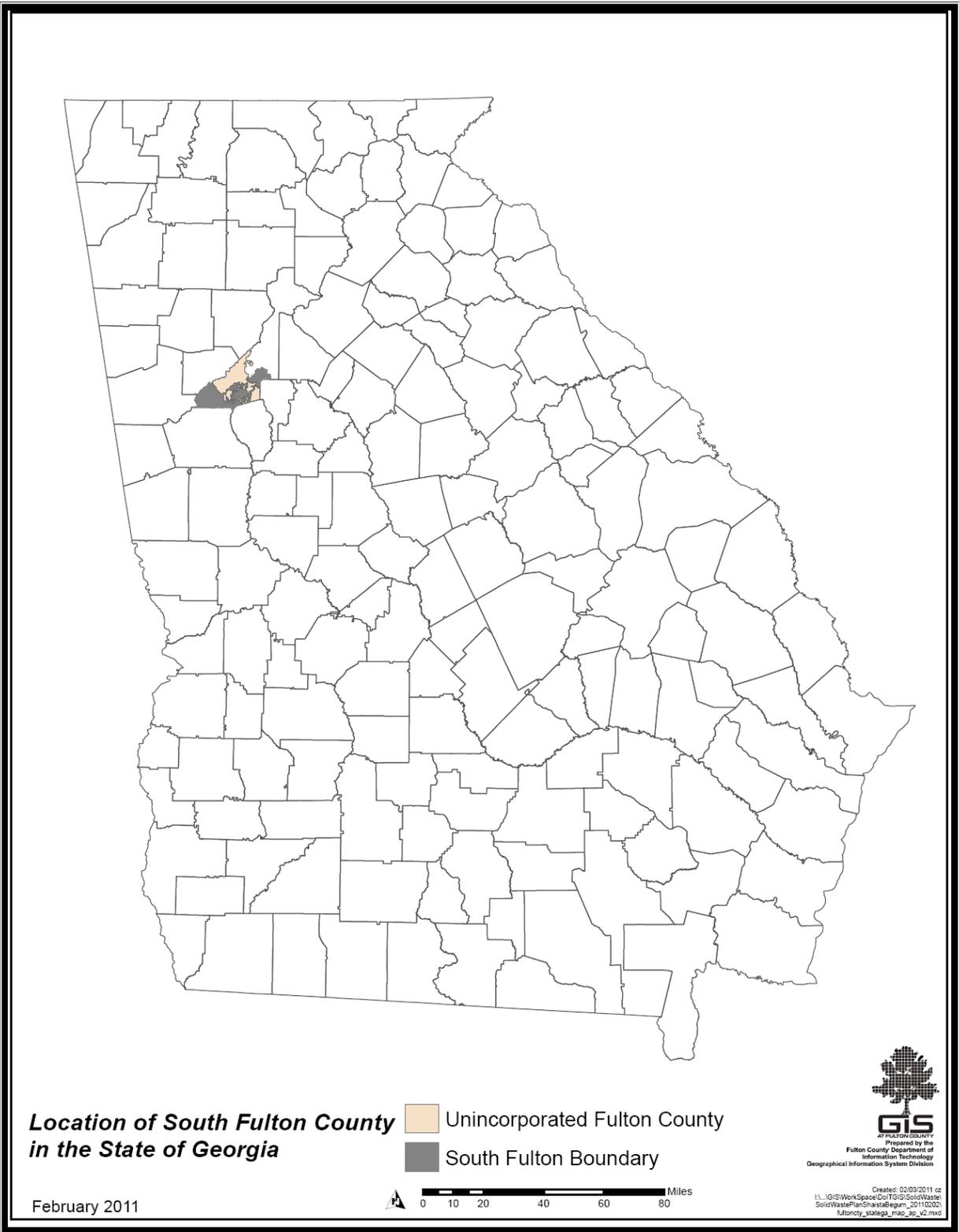
#### 1.3.1 General Description of Planning Area

Fulton County is in the heart of the Atlanta region, located in the northwest quadrant of Georgia, as indicated on **Map 1-1**. Currently, there are 14 municipalities in Fulton County: Atlanta, Alpharetta, Chattahoochee Hills, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Johns Creek, Milton, Mountain Park, Palmetto, Roswell, Sandy Springs, and Union City. Since 2005, the size of the unincorporated Fulton County has shrunk due to the incorporation of Sandy Springs, Milton, Johns Creek, and Chattahoochee Hills. As shown by **Map 1-2**, the unincorporated area includes only the southern portion of the county. This SWMP update applies to the County's solid waste management service area, which includes only the unincorporated areas of Fulton County.

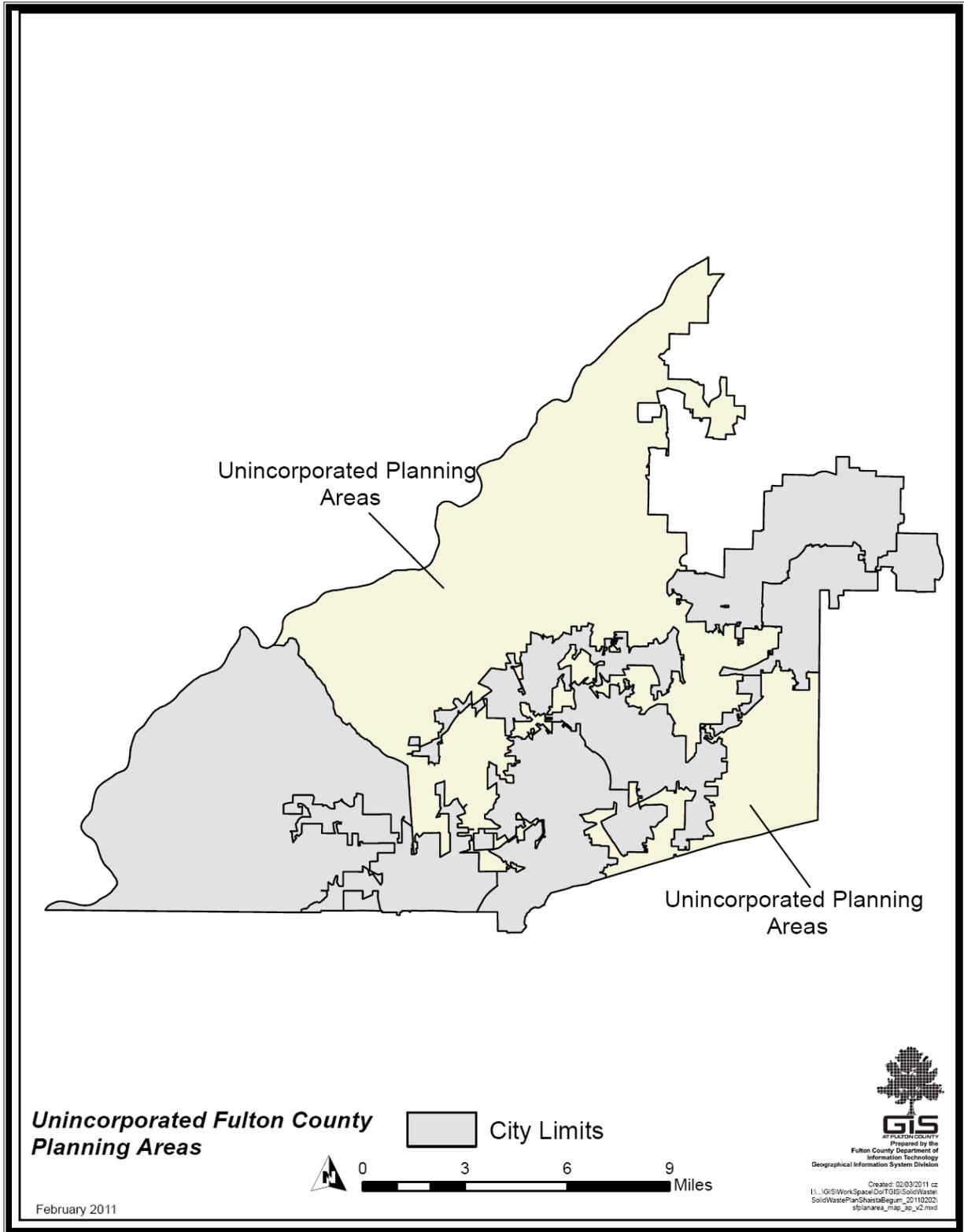
All incorporated areas of Fulton County are planning for solid waste independently from Fulton County. Historically, each municipality has been required to update its solid waste management plan at the same time as the County; however, recent regulatory changes allow some of these cities to update their plan in 2015, at a ten-year rather than five-year interval. Because Fulton County's solid waste planning area has changed significantly from recent incorporations, Fulton County and DCA jointly agreed that the County would update its plan in 2011.

Despite separate solid waste planning and management arrangements, the unincorporated County and municipalities benefit from economies of scale and proximity. As a result, residents and businesses of the County can benefit from the many waste reduction facilities and programs (including recycling, source reduction, composting, etc.) that exist in both incorporated and unincorporated areas. These relationships are highlighted throughout the report.

Map 1-1: Location of Incorporated and Unincorporated Fulton County in State of Georgia



Map 1-2: Solid Waste Management Planning Area for Unincorporated Fulton County



## **Topography & Unique Features**

Fulton County's topography is marked by rolling hills with the county's elevation decreasing from 1,000 feet in the northeast area of the county to 600 feet in the southwest. The county is located in the Greenville Slope District. Fulton County's solid waste management planning area, unincorporated Fulton County, is in the lower elevation areas of the county. The total area of unincorporated Fulton County is 68,160 acres.

The Chattahoochee River runs along the western border of the county, adjacent to Cobb, Douglas, and Carroll counties south of SR 120 in Roswell. The 100-year floodplain overlaps with and is adjacent to many of these areas as well as along streams that intersect with the Chattahoochee. All streams in unincorporated Fulton County eventually drain into the Gulf of Mexico. Relevant water supply watersheds are located in areas adjacent to the southern boundary of the county.

### **1.3.2 Population**

Fulton County has a large and diverse population. It is the largest county in Georgia, accounting for approximately one ninth of Georgia's total population. In 2010, the County's total population count, as reported by the U.S. Census 2010 initial release, was 920,581, with unincorporated Fulton County's population at 87,478, representing 9.5 percent of the county's total population. The unincorporated county's population has decreased notably since the last Plan update due to formation of multiple municipalities in the county. The 2005 population estimate for unincorporated Fulton County was 245,180, nearly three times the current population. The decreased size of the unincorporated area has also led to a notable reduction in the number of residents and businesses falling under Fulton County's jurisdiction for solid waste management.

It is also important to note that the 2010 Census population data had just been released at the time of this report. Fulton County believes that the total population for the county and unincorporated South Fulton is undercounted. The original count will likely be contested and possibly adjusted at a later time.

### **Seasonal Population**

Unincorporated Fulton County has a fairly constant population year round. One measure of seasonal population is the number of housing units that are vacant due to seasonal occupation. In 2000, there were 1,737 vacant housing units for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use in Fulton County, representing 6.3 percent of total vacant housing units and 0.5 percent of the total housing stock. Fluctuations in population are more likely to occur in incorporated areas of the county where seasonal events most often occur. The City of Atlanta, which is located in the county but not in the planning area for this solid waste plan, hosts several seasonal and special events including conferences and festivals. These events will affect solid waste management needs in incorporated areas of the county.

## Households

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that there were 32,131 occupied housing units in unincorporated Fulton County in 2010, which indicates that there were also 32,131 households in the unincorporated area at this time. The 2007-2009 American Community Survey (see **Table 1.1**) shows that approximately 54 percent are family households and 38 percent are nonfamily households with the householder living alone. It can be inferred that similar household ratios of household types exist in unincorporated Fulton County at this times.

**Table 1.1. Characteristics of Households in Fulton County**

	Estimate	% of Total	Margin of Error
<b>Total:</b>	363,426	100%	+/-3,509
Family households:	195,187	54%	+/-2,788
Married-couple family	128,641	35%	+/-2,755
Other family:	66,546	18%	+/-2,413
Male householder, no wife present	12,442	3%	+/-1,077
Female householder, no husband present	54,104	15%	+/-2,073
Nonfamily households:	168,239	46%	+/-3,412
Householder living alone	138,780	38%	+/-3,101
Householder not living alone	29,459	8%	+/-1,826

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2009 American Community Survey.

## Population Projections

**Table 1.2** (next page) shows projected population for the planning period. These projections are consistent with the Fulton County's Comprehensive Plan Update.

To insert additional information here once population projections are confirmed.

### 1.3.3 Economic Activity

**Table 1.3** shows reported economic activity by industry in Fulton County in 2008 as classified by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). There were an estimated 754,994 persons working in Fulton County as of March 2008. The County estimates approximately 43,000 of those employees were working in unincorporated Fulton County based on an acreage-based percent share methodology. These employees represent approximately 1,700 business establishments operated in the unincorporated county at that time. An estimated 5 percent of the County's business establishments are within unincorporated Fulton County.

The ratio of establishments in unincorporated Fulton compared to Fulton County as a whole, suggests that the unincorporated areas have stronger industry strength in manufacturing and transportation and warehousing compared to the rest of the county. These industries are likely to produce greater waste than other industries that appear to have a stronger presence in incorporated areas of the county such as finance and insurance and information.

**Table 1.2. Fulton County Population Projections, 2011 to 2021**

Jurisdiction	2010 Census Count	Base Yr	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
South Fulton Unincorporated	87,478	88,867	90,256	91,646	93,035	94,424	95,813	97,202	98,592	99,981	101,370	102,759
Fulton County Total	920,581	936,197	951,812	967,428	983,043	998,659	1,014,274	1,029,890	1,045,505	1,061,121	1,076,736	1,092,352

Source: U.S Census Bureau 2010 Census Count. Projections created by Jacobs Engineering, based on 17% growth in the unincorporated areas, and 19% growth countywide during the planning period.

**Table 1.3. Economic Activity in Incorporated and Unincorporated Fulton County, 2008**

Industry code	Industry code description	Employees Countywide	% of Total Employees	Establishments Countywide	Establishments Unincorporated Fulton	% of Countywide Establishments in Industry
-----	Total for all sectors	754,994	100.0%	33,766	1,693	5.0%
11----	Forestry, fishing, hunting, and Agriculture Support	NR	NR	7	1	9.7%
21----	Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	54	0.0%	4	1	34.0%
22----	Utilities	NR	NR	55	4	6.9%
23----	Construction	24,562	3.3%	1,424	73	5.1%
31----	Manufacturing	24,190	3.2%	683	135	19.7%
42----	Wholesale trade	37,956	5.0%	2,141	262	12.2%
44----	Retail trade	54,014	7.2%	3,554	194	5.5%
48----	Transportation and warehousing	49,974	6.6%	646	206	32.0%
51----	Information	54,248	7.2%	1,150	23	2.0%
52----	Finance and insurance	56,193	7.4%	2,857	77	2.7%
53----	Real estate and rental and leasing	20,466	2.7%	2,139	70	3.2%
54----	Professional, scientific, and technical services	89,955	11.9%	6,710	87	1.3%
55----	Management of companies and enterprises	60,285	8.0%	505	21	4.2%
56----	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	69,932	9.3%	2,041	72	3.5%
61----	Educational services	18,140	2.4%	504	17	3.5%
62----	Health care and social assistance	69,532	9.2%	3,263	147	4.5%
71----	Arts, entertainment, and recreation	11,696	1.5%	489	14	2.8%
72----	Accommodation and food services	74,679	9.9%	2,927	169	5.8%
81----	Other services (except public administration)	32,856	4.4%	2,628	117	4.5%
99----	Industries not classified	NR	NR	39	1	2.4%

Source: US Census Bureau County Business Patterns. Estimates for unincorporated area based on acreage based share of zip code within unincorporated Fulton County. Methodology and data produced by Fulton County Department of Information Technology, GIS

NR - Not Reported - Census Bureau withheld data to avoid disclosing data of individual companies; data are included in higher level totals

\*Data excludes data on self-employed individuals, employees of private households, railroad employees, agricultural production employees, and most government employees.

### Employment Projections

The Atlanta Regional Commission projects that the employment of Fulton County will continue to grow over the planning period. It is projected that unincorporated Fulton County will see a slight increase in its share of total employment by 2021, with total employment projected at 51,293 (6 percent of total Fulton County employment) and a 19.3 percent increase in total employment in unincorporated areas in 2008. See **Table 1.4**.

**Table 1.4. Employment Projections for Fulton County**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2021</b>
Unincorporated South Fulton Total	42,560	46,648	51,293
% of Total County	5%	5%	6%
Fulton County Total	791,177	859,529	927,943

Source: Atlanta Regional Commission.

**Editor Notes** (will not be included in final document)

Highlight = County input needed; text to be adjusted accordingly.

## 2.4 Projections of Waste to be Disposed

*The per capita projections are based on population projections developed by Jacobs. These numbers will change should the County release revised projections. See notes in Sec. 1.*

## 2.5 Per Capita MSW Disposal Reduction Goal

*The waste reduction goal of the County needs to be discussed. Currently, the text suggests that the per capita disposal rate would remain the same over the planning period. Please see comments in text.*

## Section 2 Waste Disposal Stream Analysis

Waste disposal stream analysis provides important information about the waste that Fulton County produces. The information can help guide the development of education and recycling programs, the planning of future solid waste management facilities, potential inefficiencies in the waste collection system, and identify waste reduction goals for the future. This section reviews the tonnage of waste currently disposed of from the unincorporated County, projected waste to be disposed, and per capita Municipal Solid Waste disposal reduction goal.

For the purposes of this section and the rest of the plan, it is valuable to define Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). The Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs define MSW as the following:

*Any solid waste derived from households, including garbage, trash, and sanitary waste in septic tanks and means solid waste from single family and multifamily residences, hotels and motels, bunkhouses, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and day use recreation areas. The term includes yard trimmings and commercial solid waste but does not include recovered materials, or solid waste from mining, agricultural, or silvicultural operations or industrial processes or operations.*

To summarize, MSW only includes solid waste from residential and commercial sources, including yard trimmings.

### 2.1 Inventory of Waste Disposed

Landfills in Georgia are required to report the amount and source of waste they receive to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD). These reports indicate that Fulton County, inclusive of its cities, disposed of 948,128 tons of waste in 2010 in Georgia. The reported data indicates that the unincorporated County disposed of 682,593 tons and the incorporated areas of the County disposed of 265,535 tons.

It is important to point out that the 2010 EPD data provides municipal data for only 7 of 14 cities in the county. Based on discussion with EPD, the tonnage data may not be identified correctly when it is reported at the landfill and may often be categorized as Fulton County instead of from a city within Fulton County. This appears to skew the waste disposal data from municipalities

in Fulton County to be lower and from unincorporated South Fulton to be higher. It is also likely that waste from transfer stations may also be identified as Fulton County when it actually could be waste generated by both the unincorporated county and cities within the county. Because of this, it can be inferred that tonnage data for Chattahoochee Hills, Johns Creek, Milton, Mountain Park, Sandy Springs, Hapeville, and Union City is, to some extent, included in the tonnage reported for unincorporated South Fulton. As a result, it is important to point out that the amount of waste produced by the unincorporated county is over reported in the tables provided herein.

### 2.1.1 Adjusted MSW Tonnage

A key finding of the 2005 Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization study is that roughly 67 percent of waste accepted at municipal landfills is actually municipal solid waste. Surveys completed as a part of the study indicated that landfills accept construction & demolition, industrial, and sludge/biosolids waste. Because of this, the reported amount of MSW waste is much higher than that which is collected. To account for this, an adjusted MSW tonnage is provided for each of the RDCs. In 2005, the ARC had a reported 4.75 million tons of MSW and 3.16 million tons once the figure was adjusted.

As such, it is important to adjust municipal waste figures for unincorporated Fulton County to account for this tracking error. **Table 2.1** shows the 2010 estimated waste collected at MSW landfills by sector. Total 2010 adjusted MSW (residential and commercial) tonnage is estimated at 454,607.

*In order to maintain consistency with the 2005 update of the County's Solid Waste Management Plan, un-adjusted MSW data is used for the remainder of this report.*

**Table 2.1. Waste Disposed by Sector 2010**

Sector	Estimated % of Waste Composition at GA Landfills*	Tons to MSW Landfill	Tons to C&D Landfill	Total Tons
TOTAL		682,593	529,172	1,211,765
Residential	66.6%	268,218		268,218
Commercial		186,389		186,389
<b>Total MSW</b>	<b>66.6%</b>	<b>454,607</b>		<b>454,607</b>
Industrial	14.0%	95,563		95,563
C&D	12.3%	83,959	529,172	613,131
Sludge and Biosolids	7.1%	48,464		48,464

Source: EPD Solid Waste Tonnage Reports; DCA 2005 Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study for estimated % of waste composition at Georgia MSW landfills.

\*Residential and commercial estimates are based on sampling data from the Statewide Waste Characterization Study.

### 2.1.2 Per Capita MSW Disposal Rate

As discussed previously, the tonnage reported for unincorporated Fulton County is potentially skewed and could include tonnage data from county municipalities. This likely data skew is reinforced by the large discrepancy between the per capita MSW disposal rate for unincorporated and incorporated areas of Fulton County as shown in **Table 2.2**. For example, in 2010 the unincorporated county shows a MSW rate of 42.76 lbs/person/day, whereas the MSW rate for incorporated areas is calculated at 1.75 lbs/person/day.

**Table 2.2. MSW Disposal Rates, Incorporated and Unincorporated Fulton County (2010)**

Area	Tons/Year	Population	lbs/Person/Day
Unincorporated Fulton County	682,593	87,478	42.76
Incorporated Fulton County	265,535	833,103	1.75
All of Fulton County	948,128	920,581	5.64

Source: 2010 EPD MSW Landfill Reported Tonnage Data for Fulton County; 2010 Population from U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census.

To correct this skew and more accurately project tonnage data for Fulton County, the combined “all of Fulton County” MSW rate will be used for Fulton County. This is the same approach used in Fulton County’s 2005 Solid Waste Management Plan update, which confronted the same data reliability issues. In 2010, the per capita MSW rate is estimated at 5.64 lbs/person/day. The later of these two figures is used to calculate tonnage projections for the planning period.

**Table 2.3** shows the construction and demolition (C&D) disposal rates for incorporated and unincorporated Fulton County. The overall figures show a notable decline in the tonnage of C&D waste from Fulton County in 2010 compared to the last plan update in 2005. In 2004, the total tonnage of C&D waste disposed in Fulton County was reported at 1,198,264 tons per year, compared to 556,336 tons in 2010. This notable decrease in total tonnage is attributable to widespread slowdown in the national and local economy in 2010, particularly in the area of construction and development.

This data implies that the same EPD reporting issue for the unincorporated area, as discussed for MSW waste, transcends into the construction and demolition tonnage data. According to the data available, the per capita C&D rate for the unincorporated County in 2010 is 33.15 pounds compared to a per capita rate for incorporated areas of 0.18 pounds. The countywide “All of Fulton County” estimate is 3.31 lbs/person/day in 2010.

**Table 2.3. C&D Disposal Rates, Incorporated and Unincorporated Fulton County (2010)**

Area	Tons/Year	Population	lbs/Person/Day
Unincorporated Fulton County	529,172	87,478	33.15
Incorporated Fulton County	27,164	833,103	0.18
All of Fulton County	556,336	920,581	3.31

Source: 2010 EPD MSW Landfill Reported Tonnage Data for Fulton County; 2010 Population from U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census.

### 2.1.3 Waste Characterization

Waste generation is typically characterized by the source that it comes from: residential, commercial, industrial, and construction & demolition. These sources provide the opportunity to generalize about the waste make-up. Completing a real-time waste composition analysis for unincorporated Fulton County would require many man hours and extensive sampling at area landfills at a costly price. The State identified this as an issue and consequentially commissioned the completion of the Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study in 2005. The study provides a comprehensive look at the constituent parts of Georgia’s MSW landfills. In addition, it provides a breakdown of waste by region, organized by Regional Development Center (RDC).

The State’s 2005 Waste Characterization Study found the following most prevalent materials in Georgia’s and the ARC’s residential and commercial solid waste streams.

#### Georgia Residential Waste

1. Food waste ..... 13.4%
2. Non-recyclable paper ..... 10.7%
3. Firm plastic ..... 7.4%
4. Newspaper..... 6.5%
5. Corrugated cardboard..... 6.0%

#### ARC Residential Waste

1. Food waste ..... 13.6%
2. Non-recyclable paper ..... 10.7%
3. Firm plastic ..... 7.8%
4. Newspaper ..... 6.8%
5. Corrugated cardboard..... 5.6%

#### Georgia Commercial Waste

1. Corrugated cardboard..... 14.0%
2. Food waste ..... 12.4%
3. Non-recyclable paper ..... 10.9%
4. Firm plastic ..... 7.6%
5. Miscellaneous rigid plastic ... 4.3%

#### ARC Commercial Waste

1. Corrugated cardboard..... 15.0%
2. Food waste ..... 13.4%
3. Non-recyclable paper ..... 11.5%
4. Firm plastic ..... 7.3%
5. Office paper ..... 4.5%
6. Miscellaneous rigid plastic ... 4.3%

As a member community of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), it can be assumed that Fulton County has a relatively similar waste make-up as the ARC. The ARC includes Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, and Rockdale counties. **Table 2.4** shows the estimated MSW composition of both the state and ARC. **Table 2.5** shows the ARC MSW composition by sector. It can be assumed that the same make-up exists for unincorporated Fulton County’s MSW.

**Table 2.4: Disposed MSW Composition, ARC & State of Georgia**

Material	% of Stream	
	ARC	State
Paper	40.0%	38.7%
Plastic	15.8%	15.8%
Glass	3.8%	3.7%
Metal	5.6%	5.4%
Organic	26.2%	27.1%
C&D	5.5%	6.0%
Inorganic	3.2%	3.3%

Source: GA DCA. 2005. State of Georgia Solid Waste Characterization Study. Prepared by R.W. Beck.

**Table 2.5: Landfilled ARC MSW Composition\* by Generating Sector**

Material	Residential	Commercial	Transfer Trailer
<b>Paper</b>			
Newspaper	6.8%	3.0%	5.4%
Corrugated Cardboard	5.6%	15.0%	13.9%
Office	3.2%	4.5%	2.1%
Magazine/Glossy	3.4%	1.3%	4.9%
Paperboard	4.8%	2.1%	4.1%
Mixed (Other Recyclable)	3.5%	2.9%	4.4%
Other (Non-recyclable)	10.7%	11.5%	8.4%
<i>Total Paper</i>	<i>37.9%</i>	<i>40.2%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>
<b>Plastic</b>			
#1 PET Bottles	1.6%	1.2%	1.0%
#2 HDPE Bottles	1.4%	1.1%	0.8%
#3-#7 Bottles	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%
Expanded Polystyrene	1.5%	1.2%	1.5%
Film Plastic	7.8%	7.3%	7.4%
Other Rigid Plastic	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%
<i>Total Plastic</i>	<i>17.0%</i>	<i>15.2%</i>	<i>15.1%</i>
<b>Glass</b>			
Clear	2.5%	1.6%	1.1%
Green	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%
Amber	1.3%	1.3%	0.6%
Other	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%
<i>Total Glass</i>	<i>4.8%</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>2.5%</i>
<b>Metal</b>			
Steel Cans	1.7%	0.9%	1.2%
Aluminum Cans	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%
Other Ferrous	1.8%	3.5%	4.2%
Other Non-Ferrous	0.6%	0.6%	0.8%
<i>Total Metal</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>5.5%</i>	<i>6.7%</i>
<b>Organics</b>			
Yard Waste	1.0%	3.4%	2.8%
Wood (non-C&D)	1.5%	1.5%	2.9%
Food Waste	13.6%	13.4%	7.2%
Textiles	5.2%	2.8%	2.9%
Diapers	3.5%	1.6%	1.8%
Fines	2.8%	2.7%	2.6%
Other Organics	1.2%	0.6%	1.6%
<i>Total Organic</i>	<i>28.8%</i>	<i>26.0%</i>	<i>21.9%</i>

Material	Residential	Commercial	Transfer Trailer
<b>C&amp;D</b>			
Drywall	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%
Wood	1.1%	2.3%	3.9%
Inerts	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%
Carpet	1.5%	1.8%	2.2%
Other C&D	0.6%	0.7%	1.3%
<i>Total C&amp;D</i>	<i>3.8%</i>	<i>5.8%</i>	<i>7.9%</i>
<b>Inorganics</b>			
Televisions	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Computers	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Other Electronics	1.6%	2.0%	1.2%
Tires	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%
HHW	0.3%	0.8%	0.1%
Other Inorganics	1.0%	0.5%	0.3%
<i>Total Inorganics</i>	<i>2.9%</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>2.7%</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: GA DCA. 2005. State of Georgia Solid Waste Characterization Study. Prepared by R.W. Beck.

\*Represents an average

## 2.2 Unique Conditions and/or Seasonal Variations

Unincorporated Fulton County sees negligible variations in seasonal population (see **Section 1**), and as such, is not affected by additional population and subsequent waste during peak periods. In addition, most special, waste generating events (such as concerts, festivals, conferences, etc.) occur in incorporated areas of the community. Because the County does not manage waste collection in these incorporated areas, these events have no notable impact on the County's waste collection or disposal needs. Like most communities in Georgia, the County does see some variations in collection and disposal counts due to seasonal changes in vegetation and human behavior. Increased yard trimmings occur in the spring and summer (March – August) due to lawn clippings and other vegetation maintenance, and in the fall months (October-November) there is an uptick in yard trimming collections due to leaf collections.

## 2.3 Waste Generating Disasters

Fulton County is susceptible to minimal waste generating disasters, similar to other communities in the metro Atlanta region. The most plausible risks are tornadoes and flooding. These events are most likely to occur during the spring. Other possible waste generating disasters are unpredictable. Waste reduction, collection, and disposal strategies during times of disaster are discussed in the relevant sections (see **Sections 3** through **5**).

## 2.4 Projections of Waste to be Disposed

In 2004, the per capita MSW tonnage rate was estimate at 6.54 lbs/person/day. As a part of the 2005 plan update, the County established a goal to reduce the amount of MSW per person by 10 percent over the next ten years, which would equal an MSW rate of 5.89 lbs/person/day. The MSW tonnage rate for 2010 of 5.64 lbs/person/day reflects a reduction in the per capita tonnage rate by approximately 13.8 percent – exceeding rate reduction goal of 10 percent by nearly 4 percentage points.

## Waste Disposal Projections for Fulton County

As described in **Section 2.1.2**, this plan estimates that the actual MSW disposal rate for unincorporated Fulton County is 5.64 lbs/person/day. This figure makes adjustments for skewed data reported to EPD and assumes that the unincorporated County's disposal rate is the same the countywide MSW rate. This same methodology was used in the 2005 plan due to the same data issues. See **Table 2.5** for projections of waste tonnage over the planning period, applying a constant 5.64 lbs/person/day rate. Using this methodology, total MSW tonnage for the

unincorporated County in 2021 is projected to be 105,770 tons.

### **2.5 Per Capita MSW Disposal Reduction Goal**

In 2004, the State's MSW disposal rate was estimated at 6.38 lbs/person/day. This rate fell to 5.89 lbs/person/day in 2009, the lowest the statewide MSW rate has been in ten year. The reduction represents 7.7 percent reduction in per-capita waste over the five-year period. The State attributes the reduction in per-capita waste to a combination of factors, including the increasing effectiveness of local recycling programs, more accurate MSW reporting from landfills, and the economic recession.

The overall MSW rate for Fulton County has improved notably, falling by 6.1 percentage points more than the state over a similar five-year period. Because Fulton County is well above its 2015 goal for per capita MSW reduction, the County is choosing to be conservative in reducing its MSW rate over the next ten years that make up the planning period. The County aims to maintain the same MSW rate. This decision takes into account anticipated improvements in the economy in the ten year time period and a projected increase in employment share compared to the region (jumping from 5 percent to 6 percent of regional jobs by 2021 – see **Section 1**). It also assumes that some additional waste will be diverted due to increased educational programs, outreach efforts, and waste reduction efforts that the County plans to develop or pursue as outlined in **Sections 3** and **7**. Under this methodology, the total tonnage created over the ten year planning period would remain the same as shown in **Table 2.5**.

This needs to be discussed. Currently, we are arguing that the County should aim to sustain the same estimated disposal rate over the planning period because of the following factors:

1. Exceeding past plan's MSW reduction rate goal.
2. Economic recovery in the general economy.
3. Anticipated increase in the unincorporated county's share of total employment in the county.

**Table 2-6: Waste Disposal Projections Unincorporated Fulton County, 2011-2021**

	<b>Base Year</b>	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Year 10</b>
Year	2010*	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Estimate or Projection	87,478	88,867	90,256	91,646	93,035	94,424	95,813	97,202	98,592	99,981	101,370	102,759
<b>TOTAL TONS</b>	90,041	91,471	92,901	94,331	95,761	97,191	98,621	100,051	101,480	102,910	104,340	105,770

Source: Projections from Fulton County Department of Information Technology/GIS; adjustments made by Jacobs for years 2011 to 2014 and 2017 to 2019.

Total tons based on assumption of a steady 5.64 lbs/person/day disposal rate, with no reduction in disposal rate.

\*2010 tonnage reflects 5.64 lbs/person/day rather than amount reported by EPD tonnage records.

**Insert Table 2.7 here – reflecting tonnage based on projected per capita waste reduction goals.**

**Editor Notes** (will not be included in final document)

Highlight = County input needed; text to be adjusted accordingly.

## 3.4 Goal Statement and Needs

*Please review and provide feedback. The needs will be transferred to the short-term work program and become part of the implementation program.*

## Section 3 Waste Reduction Element

As the State of Georgia continues to increase in population and developable land becomes scarcer, minimizing waste will increase in importance. Minimizing the amount of waste that the County creates is critical to achieving the State's waste reduction goals and creating a more sustainable, ecologically sound community. In 2005, the State of Georgia Legislature amended its 25 percent waste reduction rate clause to the following: *It is the intent of the General Assembly that every effort be undertaken to reduce on a state-wide per capita basis the amount of municipal solid waste being received at disposal facilities.*

Core strategies to achieve waste reduction are to (1) reduce, (2) reuse, and (3) recycle. This section considers those area programs that contribute to waste reduction, in addition to recommendations for targeted new programs and initiatives to address specific waste reduction needs of unincorporated Fulton County.

There are a handful of agencies (listed below) that facilitate waste reduction in the South Fulton community:

- Fulton County Department of Environment and Community Development  
*Promotes the County's vision, mission, and goals by planning and promoting the orderly growth and development of the county; creating a favorable environment for business activity; providing a healthy and appealing environment for residents; and encouraging the most effective, efficient, and equitable uses of the County's human and fiscal resources.*
- Keep South Fulton Beautiful  
*Mission: Keep South Fulton Beautiful works to achieve our mission through working within the school systems, home schools, supporting a literacy program with an environmental focus, community groups, Rivers Alive, Christmas Tree Recycling, Adopt-a-highway/street/road program, and numerous other volunteer projects.*
- Other Area Keep America Beautiful Affiliates (see **Section 7** for more information)
- Conserve Georgia  
*Georgia's statewide energy, land, water, air, litter & recycling, and wildlife conservation marketing and outreach campaign.*

- Georgia Recycling Coalition  
*Mission: To compliment and coordinate activities relative to recycling, to foster communications among professionals, organizations, government agencies and individuals, and to promote and enhance reduction and recycling programs throughout the state.*

### 3.1 Inventory of Waste Reduction Programs

There are various types of waste reduction programs. The State characterizes these programs into the following groups: source reduction, recycling, composting/mulching, and items requiring special handling. Availability of each of these public and private programs is inventoried in the following subsections.

#### 3.1.1 Source Reduction Programs

Source reduction programs are those programs that reduce the amount of waste coming from waste producers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Administration defines source reduction as, “Altering the design, manufacture, or use of products and materials to reduce the amount and toxicity of what gets thrown away.” Greater efficiency and reuse or selling of “waste materials” to another user – essentially extending the life of goods – will help achieve source reduction. Currently, it is estimated that between two and five percent of the waste stream is potentially reusable.<sup>1</sup> Reusable items do not require reprocessing before they are used.

Many sources of waste are derived from outside the planning area and thereby most influenced by the purchase decisions and reuse decisions of residents and other community members. As such, waste reduction, like other ways of impacting the waste stream, is centered upon educating people on the following:

- Using less
- Reusing materials for another use that might otherwise be thrown out or recycled
- Accepting materials and purchasing products that are minimalistic in packaging or unnecessary parts

Many programs aimed a source reduction originate in area arms of the Keep Georgia Beautiful network, including Keep South Fulton Beautiful. The County, DCA, and EPA provide important educational tools and resources for those interested in source reduction. In addition, the Georgia Recycling Coalition is in the process of developing a comprehensive list of thrift shops where items can be donated and reused. Below are some known programs that exist in unincorporated Fulton County and adjacent areas.

- *Donations* – There are several donation centers that accept materials that can be reused by other community members. Donation centers include Habitat for Humanity South Fulton, Furniture Bank of Atlanta, Goodwill of North Georgia, and American Kidney Services, among others.

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<sup>1</sup> According to studies in Lowell, MA and Berkeley, CA as reported by the EPA  
<<http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserves/rrr/reduce.htm>>.

- *Thrift Stores* – Thrift stores provide an opportunity for goods that community members tire of to be used by another community member. A select list of thrift stores in Fulton County is provided in **Appendix X**.
- *Georgia Industrial Materials Exchange* – Provides an opportunity for industrial businesses to offer their leftover materials to other interested businesses and community members.
- *Appliance Repair* – Companies such as Appliance Doctor, Inc. are available to community members wanting to repair rather than throw out old appliances. Appliance repair is particularly value because of the special handling require

### 3.1.2 Recycling Programs

Recycling programs aim to take materials that would otherwise end up in the landfill and reuse them in another product or serve another use. Curbside recycling is provided to Fulton County’s residential users, and there is also a mix of public and private facilities that accept recycled materials.

Residential haulers in unincorporated Fulton County are required to register with the County and to provide curbside recycling, including recycling containers, and yard trimming collection on an at-minimum, bi-weekly basis. These services are described in greater detail in **Section 4 Collection Element**. The County’s ordinance regulating haulers also encourages registered haulers to offer incentive based pricing to increase participation in recycling. None of the County’s haulers are currently engaged in such programs. Doing so would likely help reduce the number of recycled materials headed to landfills from unincorporated Fulton. In addition, registered haulers are not required to offer recycling service to their commercial customers. The County’s regulations require haulers to document, on a quarterly basis, that the recyclables they collect are being processed materials.

Historically, the Merk Miles Recycling Center and Transfer Station and the Sandy Springs Recycling Center (formally referred to as Morgan Falls) have been important resources for drop off recycling. Table 3.1 shows recycled goods collected by the Sandy Springs Recycling Center in 2010. Paper, household goods, glass, and cardboard make up the bulk of recyclables collected at the facility. The Merk Miles facility offers drop off recycling six days a week and three bulky trash amnesty days. **Table 3.1** shows the tonnage of recyclable materials collected at the Merk Miles facility and other temporary collection facilities utilized by the County for bulk waste amnesty days and other special collection events in 2010. The Stonewall Facility is utilized by the County as a collection location for materials collected along the road and public domain by the Department of Public Works.

Due to incorporation, the Sandy Springs facility likely has limited remaining impact on the Fulton County solid waste planning area, particularly since the incorporation of Sandy Springs. However, the activities of this facility, led by Keep North Fulton Beautiful have an important influence on the overall health and well being of the Fulton community and may be used as a resource from time to time by unincorporated South Fulton residents.

**Table 3.1. Recycled Goods Collected by Sandy Springs Recycling Center, 2010**

Material	Pounds	Tons
Aluminum	10,333	5.1665
Batteries	2,334	1.167

Bicycles	2,375	1.1875
Books	5,500	2.75
Cardboard	306,016	153.008
Computers, TV's, Electronics	140,686	70.343
Glass	307,620	153.81
Goodwill/household goods	475,950	237.975
Household Items Collected at Events	7,180	3.59
Paper (mixed office, phone books, magazines, newspaper)	451,521	225.7605
Paper from remote bins*	154,595	77.2975
Plastic (#1 PET, #2 HDPE, plastic bags)	42,188	21.094
Plastic (#5 -includes caps and CLBs)	3,330	1.665
Printer Cartridges	506	0.253
Shredding Service	7,125	3.5625
Steel	33,803	16.9015
Tires	100	0.05
<b>Total Recycled Goods</b>	<b>1,951,162</b>	<b>975.581</b>

Source: Keep North Fulton Beautiful.

**Table 3.2. Tonnage Report for Merk Miles Transfer Station & Temporary Collection Sites, 2010\***

Facility	Total Tons Diverted from Landfill by Material Type				
	Yard Waste	Metal	Tires	Recyclables	Total
Merk Miles	343.91	99.51	12.14	23.23	478.79
Stonewall	11.23	0	37.82	0	49.05
Total All Temporary Collection Facilities	62.79	-	-	-	62.79
<i>Temple Street</i>	46.74	-	-	-	46.74
<i>Creel</i>	10.55	-	-	-	10.55
<i>Adena Lane</i>	5.5	-	-	-	5.5
<i>Cochran Road</i>	-	-	-	-	0
<b>Total All Facilities</b>	<b>417.93</b>	<b>99.51</b>	<b>49.96</b>	<b>23.23</b>	<b>590.63</b>

Source: Merk Miles Transfer Station 2010 Tonnage Report.

\*MSW waste collected at these facilities in 2010 is not reported here.

A comprehensive list of relevant recycling programs in unincorporated Fulton County and its municipalities is provided in **Table 3.3**. In addition to publicly supported programs, there are several businesses in the state that also accept recycled materials either for free or for a small fee. **Table 3.4** lists all such businesses within Fulton County that have requested that their information be recorded with the state.

**Table 3.3. Recycling Programs in Unincorporated Fulton County & Adjacent Areas**

Facility	Population Served	Location	Materials Accepted	Waste Diverted	Operator
Curbside recycling	Households served by private haulers		As determined by individual haulers	Not available	Private haulers

**Table 3.3. Recycling Programs in Unincorporated Fulton County & Adjacent Areas**

Facility	Population Served	Location	Materials Accepted	Waste Diverted	Operator
Merk Miles Transfer Station and Recycling Center	Open to entire County	3225 Merk Road, College Park	Aluminum cans, plastic bottles (#1 & #2), cardboard, magazines & phone books, office & classroom paper, newspaper, glass bottles & jars, computers & accessories, electronics, televisions/computer monitors (for a fee), steel cans, vehicle batteries, plastic grocery bags, shrink wrap and bubble wrap, inkjet and laser printer cartridges, paint - \$1.50/gallon, household grease	590.63 tons in 2010; figure does not include paint, cooking oil, or electronics	Fulton County
Sandy Springs Recycling Center	Open to entire County	470 Morgan Falls Road Sandy Springs, GA 30350	Aluminum cans, plastic bottles (#1 & #2), cardboard & chipboard, magazines & phone books, books (donated to charity), office & classroom paper, newspaper, glass bottles & jars, computers & accessories (\$10 drop off charge for monitors), electronics, televisions (\$10 drop off charge), steel cans, batteries of all types, cell phones, plastic grocery bags, shrink wrap and bubble wrap, inkjet and laser printer cartridges, shoes (donated to charity), fabric (used for making recycled bags), Goodwill donations	975.81 tons in 2010	Keep North Fulton Beautiful
Multiple drop-off bin locations	Open to entire County				City of College Park
Roswell Recycling Center	Open to entire County; certain fees apply to non-Roswell residents	11570 Maxwell Rd, Alpharetta	Plastics #1- #7, plastic bags, glass bottles and jars, newspaper, mixed paper, computer paper, magazines, telephone books and white paper manuals, corrugated cardboard, drink boxes and milk/juice cartons, hard back novels and paperback books, ferrous metals, non-ferrous metals, aluminum beverage cans, car tires, batteries, certain appliances, cell phones, printer cartridges, televisions, motor oil and anti-freeze		City of Roswell

Source: Fulton County 2005 Solid Waste Management Plan and websites & contacts at facilities.

**Table 3.4. Businesses in Fulton County Accepting Recycled Materials**

<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Materials Accepted</b>
Accucycle, Georgia's E-Waste Recycler	computer equipment
Advantage Laser Products, Inc.	toner cartridges, inkjet cartridges
American Fiber Co. Services	paper, newspaper, Cardboard, other paper, magazines, office paper
American Recycling of Georgia	non ferrous metal, ferrous metal, aluminum cans, paper, newspaper, Cardboard, mixed paper, magazines, office paper, other paper, glass, HDPE, PET
AmeriSouth Recycling & Consulting Inc.	Paper, cardboard, PET, HDPE, film plastic, PP
Atlanta Computer Liquidation Co	computer equipment
Atlanta Computer Systems	computer equipment
Atlanta Pallets & Service	wood pallets
Atlanta Recycling Solutions	computer equipment
Better World Books	books
Bromley Pallet Recyclers	wood pallets
Bryant Textiles	textiles
Cartridge World Lindbergh	ink jet printer cartridges, toner printer cartridges, computer equipment
Computer Recycling by Zentech	computer equipment, televisions, cell phones
Davis Recycling	non-ferrous metal, lead acid batteries, copper, aluminum, brass
Dixie Pulp & Paper	paper, newspapers, Cardboard, mixed paper, magazines, other paper, office paper
Dreamsan, Inc.	newspaper, PET, HDPE, aluminum cans, Cardboard, magazines, glass, office paper
Enviro	yard trimmings, wood, wood pallets, clearing debris, for compost
Five Star Computers, Inc.	computer equipment
Georgia Carpet Recovery	carpet, carpet padding
Georgia Tire Recycling	scrap tires
Georgia-Pacific Corp.	paper, newspaper, Cardboard, mixed paper, magazines, other paper, office paper, PET, HDPE, PS, PP, film plastic, aluminum cans
James Recycling	computer equipment
MDS Services LLC	computer equipment
Metro Alloys, Inc.	ferrous metals, non-ferrous metals
MicroSeconds	computer equipment
Nemo Plastics, Inc.	HDPE, PP, PET, injection grade plastics, film plastic, aluminum, steel cans, OCC
Newell Recycling of Atlanta, Inc.	metals, ferrous metals, metal appliances, autos, non ferrous metals, aluminum cans
Nexis Paper	paper, Cardboard, other paper, phonebooks, office paper
Owens-Brockway, Inc.	glass
Perkins Auto Recycling	autos

**Table 3.4. Businesses in Fulton County Accepting Recycled Materials**

Company Name	Materials Accepted
Pirkle, Inc.	metals, ferrous metals, metal appliances, non ferrous metals, aluminum cans
Polymer Sciences Inc.	PET, HDPE, LLDPE, film plastic, PP, EPS, HIPS, GPPS, PVC
Pratt Industries Recycling Division	mixed paper, Cardboard, office paper, newspaper, telephone books, magazines, other paper, PET, HDPE, PP, PVC, PS, film plastic, clear glass, brown glass, green glass, steel cans, aluminum cans
Recall	paper, other paper, office paper
Recycled Materials Inc.	ABS, HDPE, film plastic, PET, PVC, PP, film plastic
Regency Technologies	computer equipment, televisions
Schnitzer Southeast	ferrous metals
Schnitzer Southeast	non-ferrous metal
Smurfit-Stone Recycling	corrugated cardboard, film plastic
Sonoco Recycling	cardboard, white ledger, mixed paper, ONP, Standard Office Paper, Hard White Shavings, Hard White Envelope, LPSBS, HPSBS, Unprinted SBS, ferrous metal, aluminum cans, PET, HDPE
Southern Refurb/KAL Computers	computer equipment, cell phones
Star Iron & Metal Co.	metals, ferrous metals, metal appliances, non ferrous metals, aluminum cans
Stephens Rock & Dirt, Inc.	Construction and Demolition
Strategic Materials, Inc.	Glass, All Glass Containers, Float & Window Scrap, IG units
United Plastic Recycling, Inc.	PET, PVC, HDPE, TPO-Painted, BOPP, film plastic, LLDPE Film, PP, HDPE-FM, PS

Source: Georgia Recycling Markets Directory. Accessed January 2011 at <http://www.dca.state.ga.us/development/environmentalmanagement/programs/recycling/default.asp>

### 3.1.3 Composting/Mulching Programs

As described in **Section 3.1.2**, the County's permitted solid waste collection haulers are responsible for picking up yard trimmings on a bi-weekly basis. The following organizations and businesses, many of which are documented in **Tables 3.1** and **3.2**, offer composting and mulching programs.

#### Composting and Yard Trimming Resources

- Enviro: yard trimmings, wood, clearing debris, for compost
- Bring One for the Chipper: This is Georgia's annual Christmas tree recycling program, led by Keep Georgia Beautiful. It typically occurs during the first two weeks of January. Private sponsors and community volunteers help the event go off without a hitch throughout the state. Mulch produced by recycled trees is used for playgrounds, local government beautification projects, and individual yards. In 2011, some Fulton County tree recycling locations included the following: Cascade Home Depot, Sandy Springs Home Depot, Johns Creek Home Depot, and the Sandy Springs Recycling Center.

### 3.1.4 Items Requiring Special Handling

Items requiring special handling include those materials that cannot be safely disposed of in a typical MSW or C&D landfill. These unsafe materials include volatile chemicals that can catch fire, may explode, are corrosive, are toxic, or pose other safety hazards. These materials may also pollute the water system and include such products as stains, paints, pesticides, electronics, batteries, and appliances. The County's solid waste collection and disposal ordinance also requires that registered haulers offer curbside pick-up of obsolete household appliances, including refrigerators, stoves, air conditioning units, washing machines, and dryers for a negotiated fee to customers. As indicated by **Tables 3.3 and 3.4**, there are several public and private opportunities in Fulton County for recycling of materials that require special handling. In addition to these resources, Earth 911.org provides an online directory to filter nearby locations that will accept the targeted material requiring special handling.

#### Resources

The following recycling centers in Fulton County accept the listed hazardous materials from Fulton County Residents:

- The Merk Miles Transfer Station in College Park: computer equipment and accessories, electronics, computer monitors and televisions, vehicle batteries, inkjet and laser printer cartridges, paint, and household grease.
- The Sandy Springs Recycling Center: computers and accessories, electronics, televisions, batteries of all types, cell phones, and inkjet and laser printer cartridges.
- The Roswell Recycling Center: car tires, batteries, certain appliances, cell phones, printer cartridges, televisions, motor oil and anti-freeze.

Several private companies located in Fulton County also accept materials requiring special handling:

- Computer equipment: Atlanta Computer Liquidation Co., Atlanta Computer Systems, Atlanta Recycling Solutions, Cartridge World Lindbergh, Computer Recycling by Zentech, Five Star Computers, Inc., James Recycling, MDS Services LLC, MicroSeconds, Regency Technologies, Southern Refurb/KAL Computers
- Batteries: Davis Recycling
- Cell Phones: Computer Recycling by Zentech, Southern Refurb/KAL Computers
- Tires: Georgia Tire Recycling, various tire stores.
- Toner & ink cartridges: Advantage Laser Products, Inc., Cartridge World Lindbergh

Keep South Fulton Beautiful also hosted an Electronic Recycling Event on November 13, 2010 at the Hapeville Charter Career Academy. These events are typical of the Keep Georgia Beautiful network and are readily available to residents of the county.

### 3.2 Disaster Debris Management – Waste Reduction

In the event of a disaster or other situation where regular waste reduction services must be temporarily halted, Fulton County has the opportunity to develop contingency arrangements with the many other public and private haulers or recycling service centers operating in the metropolitan Atlanta area. Part of these arrangements can include the County sharing the processing cost of any recyclables delivered by County residents to the facility, or the facility

charging County residents for the materials they deliver to the facility. Developing such contingency strategies would repair otherwise interrupted recycling services to residents of unincorporated Fulton County. The County would be responsible for making financial arrangements with selected haulers and facilities and for informing local residents and businesses of any new arrangements.

### 3.3 Assessment of Waste Reduction Programs

The County has a broad range of waste reduction programs available to community members, including curbside recycling, recycling centers for basic and hazardous waste, applicable recycling directories, educational resources about source reduction and other items. Despite this the presence of source reduction programs in Fulton County is not readily obvious. In fact, it requires extra effort to identify ways that source reduction can occur. With this in mind, the County may consider developing stronger ties with community agencies to provide programs and information on how to reduce waste at the source level.

In conversations with Keep South Fulton Beautiful and Keep North Fulton Beautiful, it was identified that there was little to no collaboration between these agencies and Fulton County. This lack of collaboration reduces the possible synergies in the community and reduced success in waste reduction programs. This limited collaboration is likely tied to limited funding available at the County to partner with these groups, particularly with KSFB. Many jurisdictions, including East Point, Roswell, and Sandy Springs to name a few, provide funding to the Keep America Beautiful affiliates operating in their community. These needs are also discussed in more detail in **Section 7 Education and Public Involvement**.

### 3.4 Goal Statement and Needs

#### Goal:

- ❖ *Reduce the amount of waste going to landfills and increase the percentage of recycling.*

#### Needs:

- 3-1. Develop a program to enhance the enforcement of the current Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Ordinance requiring anyone that collects or disposes of waste to be registered in Fulton County and report tonnage collected on a quarterly basis.
- 3-2. Better reporting and analysis of waste from unincorporated Fulton County will provide a better understanding of current recycling percentages to understand future recycling options.
- 3-3. Continue to develop partnerships with incorporated cities in Fulton to benefit from shared programs.
- 3-4. Develop partnerships with civic organizations engaged in waste reduction efforts to maximize impact of public and private efforts.
- 3-5. Increase public education in regards to recycling opportunities and illegal dumping problems.
- 3-6. Consider amending the County's ordinance to require persons providing collection services to collect recyclables weekly.
- 3-7. Consider a program to increase the number of residences with collection service to reduce the illegal dumping in the county.

- 3-8. Develop incentives for registered haulers to provide incentive-based pricing to increase residential and commercial recycling of individual users.

*See Section 7 Education and Public Involvement for related needs.*

**Editor Notes** (will not be included in final document)

Highlight = County input needed; text to be adjusted accordingly.

4.4 Assessment of Programs to Address Illegal Disposal/Dumping  
Prevention and Enforcement Strategy

*This section will be adjusted based on ultimate recommendations of the SWMP.*

4.5 Goal Statement and Needs

*Please review and provide feedback. The needs will be transferred to the short-term work program and become part of the implementation program.*

## Section 4 Collection Element

Collection services are available to all residents and businesses in unincorporated Fulton County. While most customer service needs are met by curbside collection programs, customers can also access drop-off centers and private transfer stations to meet most of their waste disposal needs. Collection services include solid waste, recycling, and yard waste/composting materials.

### 4.1 Inventory of Collection Programs

Solid waste collection in unincorporated Fulton County is regulated by different parts of the County's Code of Ordinances, including the Health and Sanitation code and Chapter 70 Solid Waste. The Health and Sanitation code dedicates a section to solid waste collection, which applies to each of the County's permitted haulers. Key requirements include the following:

- Collection equipment shall be designed as to not allow escape of any liquid and must be designed for solid waste equipment or otherwise be approved by the County.
- Garbage should be collected at least every seven days. More frequent collection may be required by the County for rapidly decomposing, odorous, or hazardous wastes.
- A valid permit is required for collection or disposal of waste within the county. Permits may be suspended or revoked as a result of violations to the County's Health and Sanitation code.
- Individual properties, other than individual residential properties, are required to provide information regarding trash compactors, dumpster pads, refuse storage units, and arrangements for collection and disposal of solid wastes prior to obtaining zoning request or seeking construction, building, use and occupancy permits.
- Special event organizers must obtain a permit for solid waste containers from the Health and Wellness Department unless the event meets special exemptions requirements.

#### 4.1.1 Inventory of Existing Programs

The County's 1996 Collection and Disposal Services Ordinance (see **Appendix X**) requires residential and commercial waste haulers operating in the county to register with the Fulton County Department of Public Works. Registration requirements include providing an EPD solid waste handling permit, a Fulton County Health Department Permit, proof of insurance, and a letter providing for indemnification of the County against any legal action that may arise related to collection services. In addition, residential haulers are also required to post a performance bond.

## **Required Collection Services**

### Residential Services

Haulers are required to provide weekly solid waste collection to their residential customers. All registered contractors are also required to provide, at minimum, bi-weekly curbside recycling (along with a recycling container) and yard trimmings pick-up. Fulton County's collection and disposal services ordinance explicitly identifies the mixing of yard trimmings in municipal solid waste as a violation of the County's law. Haulers are also required to provide curbside pick-up large household waste for an agreed upon fee including:

1. Inoperative household appliances, including refrigerators, stoves, air conditioning units, washing machines, and dryers
2. Discarded furniture

### **Recycling Opportunities**

The County offers free recycling of recyclable goods and yard trimmings to residents of Fulton County three times a year via a Bulky Trash Amnesty Day at the Merk Miles Transfer Station. Other opportunities for collection of recycled goods, yard waste, etc. are detailed in Section 3, Waste Reduction.

### Commercial Services

Haulers providing commercial waste collection are not held to any minimum service provisions as required by residential haulers, other than meeting the stipulations of the health code and other relevant County regulations.

### **Termination of Hauling Services & Code Violations**

Registration of residential and commercial haulers can be terminated via a mutual agreement between the County and the hauler. In such circumstances, haulers are required to provide a 30 day notice to both the Director of the Department of Public Works and its customers. The County's ordinance also provides the Director of Public Works with the ability to revoke hauler registration or place the hauler on probation should violations of the Collection and Disposal Services code be violated and not repaired within seven days of notification of the violations.

## **Haulers**

Currently there are two privately owned permitted haulers serving unincorporated south Fulton County:

Waste Industries (CLM)  
6905 Roosevelt Hwy  
Fairburn, Georgia 30213  
770-305-8300

All Terrain Service Company  
P.O. Box 788  
Powder Springs, GA 30127  
770-439-6033

Households may also choose to deliver their own trash to a landfill for a fee. Details for these facilities are provided in **Section 5 Disposal Element**.

### **4.1.2 Contingency Strategy**

Fulton County has the advantage of being located in the Atlanta metropolitan region, which has access to multiple haulers to provide solid waste, recycling, and yard trimmings collections. Should one of the County's registered haulers stop operation or become unable to provide collection services in the unincorporated county for a period of time, the County can pursue the following options.

1. Direct its residents and businesses to the other(s) registered hauler to provide collection services. The cost of those interim services can be negotiated between the individual business and/or resident and the hauler.
2. Should the other registered haulers be unable meet the additional service needs the Department of Public Works can request that additional haulers register in the county. Fulton County can reach out to other jurisdictions in the area to determine possible providers of collection services.

### **4.1.3. Disaster Debris Management**

Should a natural disaster occur, the County would continue to utilize private haulers for solid waste collection. The breadth of these haulers would likely afford them the resources to continue collecting waste in the event of a major disaster. In the case that permitted haulers are indeed unable to collect waste as usual, the County would by-pass its formal Request for Proposal and bidding process and contract with private hauling services as needed. In an extreme case, the County could set up a temporary service route in the unincorporated county, using existing County vehicles to collect waste. Nearby jurisdictions could also be called upon to assist if needed and not equally affected by the disaster.

#### **4.2 Assessment of Collection Programs**

Fulton County's current collection programs meet the basic collection needs of county residents and businesses. As described above, the County's ordinance requires all haulers to provide weekly solid waste collection and a minimum of bi-weekly pick-up of yard trimmings and recyclables. Because residents and businesses can choose their hauler, the collection system is currently not as efficient nor as cost-effective as it might be under a sole-source hauler. In the past, community members have identified the appearance of garbage trucks on their streets more than once a week is distracting and frustrating. It is believed that some non permitted waste haulers are operating in the county, which likely contributes to this environment. In addition, because residents are not required to participate in curbside pick-up, some residents may be illegally dumping waste, as addressed below.

#### **4.3 Illegal Dumping and Littering**

Fulton County has had its existing litter control ordinance in place for the unincorporated county as a part of its Health and Sanitation codes since 1998. The Code identifies illegal dumping and littering on public property and waters and also stipulates standards that must be met on private property. The ordinance identifies the following illegal dumping activities in public activities:

- Dumping, depositing, etc. litter on public property or waters
- Depositing of refuse on streets and sidewalks
- Throwing trash upon streets, sidewalks or public spaces
- Placing nails, tacks, glass on streets or sidewalks
- Spills from vehicles
- Construction debris, including rocks, dirt, trash, etc, left on streets

The ordinance also requires private property owners to maintain, free of debris, the public sidewalk area in front of their property and also to keep their private property free of vegetative overgrowth and junk.

#### Violations and Penalties

Violations of the ordinance are referred to the Fulton County Environmental Court. The Magistrate Court oversees the Environmental Court and handles all littering and illegal dumping violations including hauler violations. The ordinance includes fines and jail time as penalties for actions that violate the ordinance. Penalties for littering on public property or waters include are the following:

- Littering ten pounds or less or 15 cubic feet in volume - fine up to \$500 or up to 30 days in jail for
- Littering more than 10 pounds or 15 cubic feet in volume - fine of \$1000 or no more than 60 days in jail or both, for each occurrence

Separate penalties apply for littering on private properties or waters and are considered a misdemeanor if the accused is found guilty.

To help facilitate enforcement of the County's ordinance, the County maintains a litter hotline, 404.730.TELL. Residents can call anonymously to report illegal dumping on private property.

Calls received via the hotline are forwarded to the County Code enforcement inspectors for further investigation. Community members are asked to call the Public Works Department directly to report illegal dumping on public rights-of-way, roads, or waters. These calls represent reported cases; however, they do not necessarily represent verified instances of violations to the County's illegal dumping ordinance.

Over the last five years (2006 to 2010), there were a total of 1022 calls to the hotline coded as "trash and debris" or "illegal dumping." This total averages out to about 204 calls per year. The 2005 Solid Waste Management Plan indicated that there were an estimated 210 illegal dumping cases in 2004. Because the service area of Fulton County has decreased over this period while illegal dumping calls have remained fairly steady (2004 to 2010), it can be inferred that illegal dumping issues have increased over the last few years.

In addition to calls reported through the hotline, the Fulton County Environmental Court saw 36 cases between 2009 and 2010. The County estimates that these cases are representative of typical yearly cases, with 18 cases per year being the average. The County points out that the number of citations in the Environmental Court is not representative of the scope of the illegal dumping issues in the county. The illegal dumping typically occurs after the illegal dumping has occurred and results. Typically, the owner of the property where illegal dumping has occurred is believed to rarely be connected with the actual dumping, yet is cited as that person is responsible for his or her property.

As identified in **Section 7**, there are several educational programs managed by the County, area Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates, and other state partners, including the State's "You Gotta Be Kidding" anti-littering campaign targeted to 24 to 35-year-olds

#### **4.4 Assessment of Programs that Address Illegal Dumping and Littering**

### **Problem Areas**

#### Illegal Dumping of Waste

Fulton County is currently experiencing illegal dumping in the unincorporated portions of the County particularly in remote areas. Fulton County staff indicate Illegal dumping has increased to become much more of a problem since the last solid waste plan update in 2005. Fulton County is dispatching staff and equipment to pick-up illegally dumped waste on public property and county road right-of-way. There is also illegal dumping occurring on private property creating issues for property owners. Code enforcement is often involved with identifying the guilty parties and enforcement actions to remove the illegal waste. The illegal dumping is creating safety issues in some cases as well as negatively impacting the aesthetics of the County. The citizens of Fulton County are incurring costs for addressing illegal dumping on various levels from collection to enforcement.

The increase in illegal dumping appears to have increased during the economic down-turn over the last 5 years. The increase has been attributed to the households not having collection services and the increase in the number of citizens who may not be able to pay for service. Currently, the Fulton County solid waste ordinance does not require residences to have collection service which potentially increases the likelihood of illegal dumping of waste to avoid paying for collection service. There are a number of residential collection services in the unincorporated

portions of Fulton County but only a few are registered haulers as discussed in this document. Reducing illegal dumping in the unincorporated County may be accomplished through a combination of items that may include mandatory collection services for unincorporated Fulton residences, enhanced registration of collection vendors, and possibly some form of privatized collection by one or more vendors for all residences.

#### Illegal Dumping of Tires

The County currently faces similar issues with illegal dumping of tires on county property and on private property. The County and State EPD continue to find relatively large illegal tire dumps in Fulton County. Based on Fulton County's experience with the tire dumps, it is believed that tires are illegally dumped to avoid paying tire recycling fees at permitted facilities. Many tire disposal vendors are traveling through or into Fulton from an adjacent jurisdiction which makes tracking and policing of the tire disposal difficult. Thus, dumping of tires continues to be an issue Fulton County faces. Enhanced registration, licensing and manifesting of tire disposal could potentially reduce illegally dumped tires in Fulton County. The lack of adequate tracking and enforcement to ensure proper tire disposal needs to be addressed to assist with the control of this issue.

### **Prevention and Enforcement Strategy**

Need to address this section – will depend on ultimate recommendations of the plan.

To combat dumping and littering over the 10 year planning period  
Include implementation strategy

#### Resources

- Adopt a Highway – GDOT
- Keep South Fulton Beautiful – Better collaboration with Keep South Fulton Beautiful would help develop a stronger public outreach message against illegal dumping in the county.

4.5 **Goal Statement and Needs**

**Goal:**

- ❖ *Increase collection service to all residences in unincorporated Fulton County to reduce illegal dumping.*

**Needs:**

- 4-1. Develop a solid waste program to provide cost efficient service to all residences to curb the need to illegal dump. Solid waste program should consider program changes such as mandatory solid waste collection for residences and enforcement of the licensed hauler system
- 4-2. Consider developing a collection system with dedicated vendors or franchises to collect waste in certain areas or the entire unincorporated county.
- 4-3. Correct collection service data on County website to ensure community members have accurate information and contact information for registered collectors. Regularly review website to make sure information is accurate and up-to-date.
- 4-4. Develop stronger relationships with community organizations working in community beautification to devise stronger public outreach messages against illegal dumping in the county.

**Editor Notes** (will not be included in final document)

**Highlight = County input needed; text to be adjusted accordingly.**

## 5.1.3 Assurance of 10-year Capacity

*To be collected once per capita MSW disposal projections are finalized.*

## 5.5 Goal Statement and Needs

*Please review and provide feedback. The needs will be transferred to the short-term work program and become part of the implementation program.*

## Section 5 Disposal Element

This element considers the existing waste disposal environment in Fulton County. Facilities located in unincorporated Fulton but not used for disposing of the unincorporated County's waste are briefly discussed below and addressed in more detail in **Section 6 Land Limitation Element**. The majority of this section focuses on unincorporated Fulton County's disposal needs for the ten-year planning period.

*See Section 2, Waste Disposal Stream Analysis, for projections of waste to be disposed.*

### 5.1 Solid Waste Disposal Facilities

#### 5.1.1 Facilities in Fulton County

According to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Fulton County currently has only three permitted landfills operating within its boundaries (see **Table 5.1**). All three of these are for construction and demolition (C&D) materials.

**Table 5.1. Permitted Solid Waste Disposal Facilities Operating in Fulton County**

Facility Name	Permit Number	Waste Accepted	Contact Information	Address
Chadwick Rd Landfill, Inc.	060-072D(L)	C&D	David Gibbons (404) 799-1047	13700 Chadwick Farm Blvd, Roswell, GA 30075
Safeguard Landfill Management C&D	060-088D(C&D)	C&D	Keven Wickham (770) 969-0084	6895 Roosevelt Highway Fairburn, GA 30213
Willow Oak C&D Landfill	060-089D(C&D)	C&D	David Gibbons (404) 799-1047	7395 Roosevelt Highway Fairburn, GA 30213

Source: Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division, March 2010.

C&D = construction and demolition

According to the EPD 2009 Solid Waste Capacity report, the following capacity remains at these landfills. The Willow Oak C&D landfill has the greatest capacity, with an estimated fill date of May 2030.

<u>Landfill</u>	<u>Remaining Capacity</u>	<u>Estimated Fill Date</u>
Chadwick Rd Landfill, Inc.	2,088,917 CY	2/11/2015
Safeguard Landfill Management C&D	1,278,406 CY	2/6/2011
Willow Oak C&D Landfill	13,131,866 CY	5/3/2030

**Map 5-1** shows the locations of solid waste and recycling facilities in South Fulton County. Fulton County does not operate any disposal facilities at this time. The County does manage two closed landfills, including the Fulton County Morgan Falls Landfill<sup>2</sup> (1988 closure) and the Merk Miles Landfill (closure 1994).

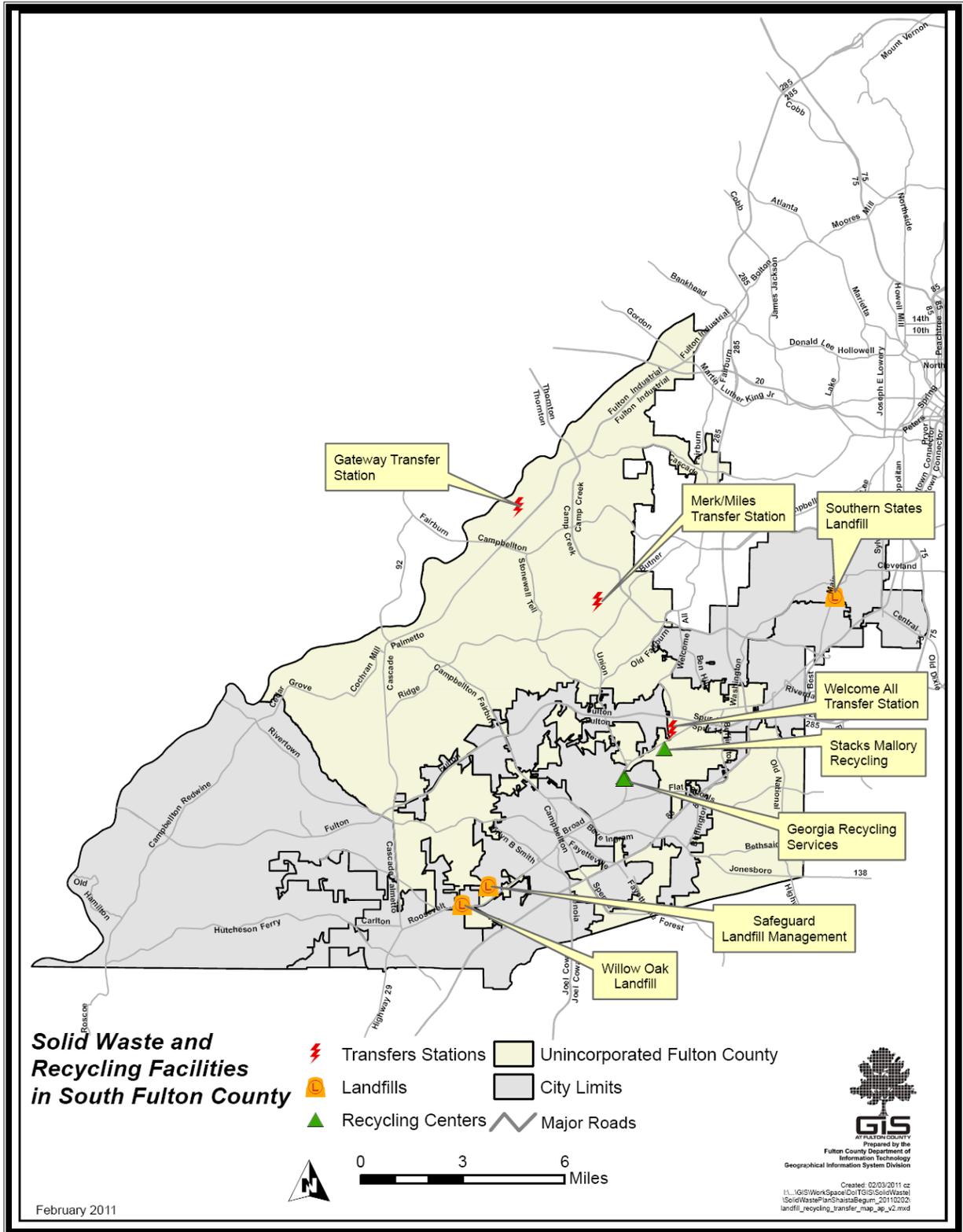
- The Morgan Falls facility covers approximately 128.54 acres with 68.51 acres of the site encompassing the closed landfill. Currently, the County leases space at the site to an operating goal course. In addition, the County provides land for operation of the Sandy Springs Recycling Center, which is operated by Keep North Fulton Beautiful and primarily serves the residents of incorporated areas of North Fulton.
- The Merk Miles facility serves now as a recycling center and transfer station. The County is engaged in post landfill activities at the site, including groundwater and methane monitoring and general maintenance of the landfill (mowing grass, ensuring positive drainage, maintaining environmental monitoring points, maintaining operational records, etc.)

Because there are no municipal solid waste facilities actively collecting waste in Fulton County, most waste materials produced in the county are collected and deposited elsewhere. Fulton County has several waste transfer stations. These facilities are used to temporarily unload collected waste from collection vehicles before the materials are reloaded into larger, long-distance vehicles to ship waste materials to larger regional landfills or other appropriate facilities. Transfer stations located in incorporated and unincorporated Fulton County are identified in **Figure 5.2**. Transfer stations operating in Fulton County must obtain a special use permit from the Fulton County Commission. The County’s Department of Environment and Community Development is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of the use permit are met.

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<sup>2</sup> Please note that the Morgan Falls facility is located in North Fulton County within an incorporated area of the County. As such, it is not shown on **Map 5-1**.

Map 5-1: Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities in South Fulton County



**Table 5.2. Permitted Transfer Stations in Fulton County, 2010**

Facility Name	Permit Number	Facility Address	Facility City	Owner/ Contact Name	Contact Number
City-Wide Recycling, Inc.	Pbr-060-011ts	*	Atlanta	City-Wide Recycling Inc.	404-551-0831
Latham Home Sanitation Co. Inc.	Pbr-060-012ts	3070 Roosevelt Highway	College Park	Latham Home Sanitation Co Inc	770-972-0999
Micro-Med Of Georgia, Inc.	Pbr-060-097ts	720 Great Southwest Parkway	Atlanta		
Biocor, Inc.	Pbr-060-101ts	580 Whitehall Street	Atlanta		
Mindis Treatment Services, Inc.	Pbr-060-105ts	460 Sawtell Avenue	Atlanta		
United Waste Services, Inc. / City Of Roswell Transfer Station	Pbr-060-118ts	1802 Hembree Road	Roswell	Republic Services Of Georgia, Limited Pa	800-966-4363
City Of Roswell Transfer Station	Pbr-060-118ts-A	1802 Hembree Road	Roswell	Mark Allen	770-867-2499
	Pbr-060-118ts-A				
Environmental Remedies, LLC D/B/A Mindis Treatment Ser	Pbr-060-120ts	315 McDonough Blvd, Se	Atlanta	Environmental Remedies, LLC	404-627-5931
Equis Atlanta T&P	Pbr-060-202ts	1470 Great Southwest Parkway	Atlanta	Eq Holding Company, Inc.	734-329-8000
Apps Of GA	Pbr-060-204ts	600 Houze Way, Suite C-2	Roswell	Jim Price	770-642-1195
Gateway Transfer Station	Pbr-060-207ts	1625 Westgate Parkway	Atlanta	Srs, Inc.	770-754-5000
Atlanta Transfer Station	Pbr-060-208ts	1111 Ridge Avenue	Atlanta	Arrow, Inc-Charles Thomson Jr	770-441-3037
Industrial Environmental Technologies Corporation	Pbr-060-210ts	1065 Nine North Drive Suite B	Alpharetta	Michael John Smith	770-329-2175
Philip Services Corp/Allwaste Recovery System	Pbr-060-212ts	8025 Spence Road	Fairburn	Philip Services Corp	713-623-8777
Welcome All Transfer Station	Pbr-060-216ts	5225 Welcome All Road	College Park	Ric Jarvis	770-972-2715
Eq Industrial Services	Pbr-060-221ts	5600 Fulton Industrial Blvd SW	Atlanta	Eq Holding Company, Inc.	734-329-8000
Tall Pines Solid Waste Transfer Station	Pbr-060-222ts	Roosevelt Highway District 7, LI134, Parcel 153	Fairburn	Mark A. Slade	404-918-3187
Soful, LLC Transfer Station	Pbr-060-223ts	5700 Roosevelt Highway, Land Lot 134	Fairburn	Charles G. Bartenfeld	404-760-0067
Alpharetta Transfer Station	Pbr-060-238ts	11465 Maxwell Road	Alpharetta	SRS Holding, LLC	770-447-1154
Big E Environmental (Oakdale Environmental Inc)	Pbr-060-239ts	2250 Sylvan Road	East Point	Ezell Developments, LLC	404-817-0517

**Table 5.2. Permitted Transfer Stations in Fulton County, 2010**

Facility Name	Permit Number	Facility Address	Facility City	Owner/ Contact Name	Contact Number
Quantum Environmental Solutions, LLC	Pbr-060-240col,Ts	5700 Drake Dr	Atlanta	Brett C Hensley	494-696-8225
United Waste Services, Inc./ City Of Roswell Transfer Station	Pbr 060-118ts	1802 Hembree Road	Roswell		
Fulton Co-Evergreen Waste, LLC Biomedical Waste Collection And Transfer Station	Pbr-060-254col,Ts	650 Fairburn Road SW	Atlanta	DNT Environmental Services,Inc	770-739-5600
Fulton Co-Evergreen Waste MSW and Industrial Waste Collection and Transfer Station	Pbr-060-252ts,Col	650 Fairburn Road SW	Atlanta	DNT Environmental Services, Inc	770-739-5600
Walker Transfer and Recycling Facility	PBR 060-250TS	610 Bohannon	Fairburn	Lukas Johnson	770-774-7014

Source: Georgia DNR EPD. List of Solid Waste Transfer Stations. Revised March 2010

There are several nearby drop-off facilities that offer drop-off services to community members. **Table 5.3** highlights these facilities, most of which are already highlighted in **Tables 5.1** and **5.2**.

**Table 5.3: Nearby Facilities Available for Drop-off**

Facility	Materials Accepted	Cost	Hours of Operation
<b>Safeguard Landfill</b> 7200 Bishop Road Fairburn, GA 30213 770-969-0084	Construction debris, yard waste	\$20.00 small pick-up truck	Monday – Friday: 6:30am - 4:30pm Saturday: 7:00am - 12:00pm
<b>Southern States Landfill</b> 3125 Main Street East Point, GA 404-209-9701	Household trash, construction debris, appliances (except refrigerators and air conditioners)	\$38/ton (\$21 minimum)	Monday - Friday: 6:00am-4:30pm Saturday: 6:00am - 12:00pm
<b>Merk Miles Transfer Station</b> 3225 Merk Road College Park, GA 30049 404-629-1700	Household trash, yard, construction debris, tires; paint, recyclables	(1) Garbage of all kinds \$3 for 3 bags or less; (2) HH, C&D, and yard \$10 minimum charge for 460 lbs or less; (3) \$45/ton over 460 lbs; (4) Tires: no rim \$5, with rim \$7, truck no rim \$15, truck with rim \$25	Monday - Saturday: 7:00am - 4:30pm

Facility	Materials Accepted	Cost	Hours of Operation
<b>Welcome All Transfer Station</b> 5225 Welcome All Rd College Park, GA 30349 404-761-9464	Household trash, construction debris and yard waste	\$32.00 per ton	Monday - Friday: 12:00am-4:30pm Saturday: 3:00am-12:00pm
<b>Gateway Transfer Station</b> 1625 Westgate Pkwy Atlanta, GA 30336 404-349-6359		Cost is determined by size of vehicle	Monday - Friday: 3:00am-3:00pm
<b>Willow Oak Landfill</b> 5700 Roosevelt Highway Fairburn, GA 30213 770-969-1363		Cost is determined by size of vehicle	Monday - Friday: 6:00am - 5:00pm Saturday: 7:00am - 12:00pm

Enforcement of disposal and on-site burial of solid waste are the joint responsibility of the Georgia EPD and the Fulton County Department of Public Works.

### 5.1.2 Inventory of Disposal Facilities Used by County for Waste Disposal

All MSW waste collected in Fulton County is disposed of in municipal solid waste landfills. Disposal locations for the unincorporated County's waste are primarily influenced by private hauler decisions. Some individuals choose to bring their waste regularly to drop-off facilities rather than pay a hauler for regular pick-up service.

The EPD maintains records of waste disposed at each landfill in the state by source of waste. Landfills are required to report this information on a quarterly basis. In addition, the state monitors the projected remaining capacity of landfills and the date when they will likely reach capacity. This reporting and monitoring process helps ensure that there are sufficient facilities in the state to accommodate the state's disposal needs and helps localities identify potential need for additional facilities in the future.

**Table 5.4** reports Municipal Solid Waste landfills in Georgia that received waste from unincorporated Fulton County during 2010. The data indicates that the majority of waste from unincorporated Fulton County (approximately 75 percent) is going to either Cherokee County-Pine Buff Landfill in Cherokee County or Eagle Point Landfill in Forsyth County. These landfills are not anticipated to reach capacity until 2034 and 2045, respectively, providing sufficient capacity for the majority of the unincorporated County's waste through the planning period in 2021, assuming haulers and individuals continue to follow the same disposal behavior. As addressed in **Section 4 Collection Element**, Fulton County currently permits haulers to collect waste in the unincorporated county; those haulers then decide where to dispose the waste.

Should Fulton County decide to change its collection process in the future, it may need to reevaluate where waste will be disposed and verify, in that case, that there will be sufficient capacity in the long term to accommodate the County's needs.

**Table 5.4. Municipal Solid Waste Landfills Accepting Waste from Unincorporated Fulton County, 2010**

Facility Name	County	Permit Number	Tons Delivered	% of Total MSW	Date Expected to Reach Capacity
BFI - Richland Creek Road MSWL	Gwinnett	067-032D(SL)	2,019	0.30%	3/23/2028
Chambers R & B Landfill Site #2	Banks	006-009D(MSWL)	4,138	0.61%	1/9/2031
Cherokee Co-Pine Bluff Landfill, Inc.	Cherokee	028-039D(SL)	235,517	34.50%	8/24/2034
Eagle Point Landfill	Forsyth	058-012D(MSWL)	269,090	39.42%	5/3/2045
Gordon Co - Redbone Ridges Rd (SL)	Gordon	064-016D(SL)	9,722	1.42%	9/29/2046
Greenbow, LLC Turkey Run Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	Meriwether	099-019D(MSWL)	44,261	6.48%	5/2/2080
Lamar Co - Cedar Grove Regional MSWL	Lamar	085-007D(MSWL)	32	0.00%	7/8/2067
Pine Ridge Recycling (MSWL)	Butts	018-008D(MSWL)	0	0.00%	8/5/2032
Polk Co - Grady Rd (SL)	Polk	115-008D(SL)	74,407	10.90%	12/27/2011
Republic Waste - Oak Grove SR 324	Barrow	007-020D(SL)	1,237	0.18%	9/5/2034
Swift Creek MSW Landfill	Bibb	011-026D(SL)	310	0.05%	2/6/2013
Veolia ES Pecan Row Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	Lowndes	092-019D(MSWL)	52	0.01%	4/11/2011
Veolia ES Taylor County Landfill, LLC	Taylor	133-003D(SL)	41,808	6.12%	1/23/2076
<b>TOTAL MSW</b>			<b>682,593</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

Source: Georgia EPD List of 2010 Landfill Remaining Capacity Report.

**Table 5.5** lists construction and demolition landfills in Georgia that accepted waste from unincorporated Fulton County in 2010. The majority of construction and demolition waste from unincorporated Fulton County sources (60 percent) is currently going to Safeguard Landfill Management C&D in Fulton County and Stephens MDS, LP, C&D Landfill in Clayton County. Safeguard is anticipated to reach capacity at the end of the planning period (2021), but Stephens is not expected to reach capacity until 2101. It should be noted that Chadwick Rd Landfill in Fulton County is also expected to reach capacity during the planning period in 2018. Currently 19 percent of the unincorporated County's C&D waste goes to this landfill.

**Table 5.5. Construction & Demolition Landfills Accepting Waste from Unincorporated Fulton County, 2010**

Facility Name	County	Permit Number	Tons Delivered	% of Total MSW	Date Expected to Reach Capacity
APAC/GA - Donzi Ln Ph 5A (L)	DeKalb	044-042D(L)	16,105	3.04%	11/3/2012
Caruthers Mill C&D Landfill	Walton	147-014D(C&D)	4	0.00%	3/29/2036
Chadwick Rd Landfill, Inc.	Fulton	060-072D(L)	100,373	18.97%	8/20/2018
EarthResources of Franklin County, LLC, SR51	Franklin	059-012D(C&D)	94	0.02%	8/1/2180
Greenleaf Recycling, LLC	Forsyth	058-013D(C&D)	1,336	0.25%	7/1/2017
K&M, Old Whitestone Road C&D Landfill	Pickens	112-008D(C&D)	39	0.01%	2/20/2071
Oglethorpe Co - US 78 Ph 2 C/D Landfill	Oglethorpe	109-003D(C&D)	0	0.00%	12/7/2027
Reliable Tire Services, Monroe Dr.	Hall	069-014D(C&D)	1,162	0.22%	10/6/2025
Republic - US 78 Construction and Demolition Landfill	Walton	147-012D(C&D)	25	0.00%	7/5/2390
Safeguard Landfill Management C & D	Fulton	060-088D(C&D)	201,047	37.99%	10/3/2021
Stephens MDS, LP, C&D Landfill	Clayton	031-039D(C&D)	118,541	22.40%	12/29/2101
Walton Construction & Demolition Landfill	Walton	147-013D(C&D)	356	0.07%	3/1/2021
Waste Pro of GA, Inc d/b/a Cherokee C&D Landfill	Cherokee	028-043D(C&D)	2,158	0.41%	11/20/2053
Willow Oak C&D Landfill	Fulton	060-089D(C&D)	87,930	16.62%	12/31/2049
<b>TOTAL C&amp;D</b>			<b>529,172</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	

Source: Georgia EPD List of 2010 Landfill Remaining Capacity Report.

It should also be pointed out that because some of the unincorporated County's waste passes through transfer stations, it is possible that some waste is being disposed in other states. Should that be the case, it is likely that the amount of waste being delivered to such locations is negligible.

### 5.1.3 Assurance of 10-year Capacity

Nearly all landfills utilized to dispose of MSW waste from unincorporated Fulton County are not expected to reach capacity until well after the planning period. Three landfills that are anticipated to reach capacity during the ten-year planning period: Polk Co - Grady Rd (SL), Swift Creek MSW Landfill, and Veolia ES Pecan Row Municipal Solid Waste Landfill. Haulers that currently utilize these facilities to dispose of the County's waste will need to identify other places where waste can be disposed. Likely choices are other landfills currently being utilized that have sufficient capacity well into the future.

The County has obtained letters of 10-year capacity insurance from X and Y (see Appendix X). To be added to once projections are finalized. Shaista Begum will obtain needed capacity letter(s).

It is important to point out that haulers are influenced by market conditions, and as new or more affordable disposal locations become available, it is likely that some changes to disposal habits will occur.

### 5.2 Contingency Strategy

Georgia has several operating landfills. According to 2010 remaining capacity reports from Georgia's EPD, there are over 100 landfills in Georgia with disposal capacity. As discussed previously, the unincorporated County's waste is deposited at several landfills. In the event that one of these landfills is no longer available, it will be incumbent upon the County's registered haulers to locate other landfills that will accept the County's waste.

### 5.3 Disaster Debris Management

In the event of a disaster, and should some any of the existing landfills be unable to temporarily accept waste, the County will work with its registered haulers to identify other available facilities to deposit waste until conditions return to normal. Additional resources may be necessary depending on the extent of the disaster. If needed, the County can use its Merk Miles Transfer Station as a staging area for excessive debris collected in the unincorporated area until conditions return to normal. The County would also coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions and the State to address conditions that require additional assistance outside the County's capabilities.

### 5.4 Assessment of Facilities

Based on data maintained by EPD and provided in Tables 5.3 and 5.4, unincorporated Fulton County has access to sufficient facilities for depositing both municipal solid waste and construction and demolition waste through the planning period ending in 2021. The shortening lifespan of two of the County's C&D landfills poses some challenges to the county and its C&D waste producers: (1) waste will have likely travel further before it is disposed of, potentially leading to increased costs, and/or (2) there may be interest in creating another C&D landfill in Fulton County or adjacent communities to help accommodate the need for additional C&D space. Currently, there are several nearby facilities that have sufficient capacity to meet the County's needs well beyond the planning period. Coordination with those facilities will continue to be the responsibility of haulers unless the County adopts a different collection system than that which is currently in place. The County, however, should maintain open dialogue with its haulers to address any potential disposal needs.

In addition, there may be additional need to accommodate waste transfer needs within Fulton

County or adjacent communities as the population in the area continues to grow. As identified in **Table 5.2**, there are several transfer stations currently operating in Fulton County. The Merk Miles Transfer Station and Welcome All Transfer Station are the most accessible facilities in the unincorporated county.

#### 5.5 **Goal Statement and Needs**

Goal:

- ❖ *Ensure that Fulton County has access to sufficient and cost effective waste disposal facilities in the long term.*

Needs:

- 5-1. Monitor landfills that receive waste from Fulton County for available capacity based on the 10 year projections to allow time for needed changes to the plan, as appropriate.
- 5-2. Identify opportunities for additional Construction and Demolition Facilities in the County.
- 5-3. Monitor development of new facilities in nearby communities.
- 5-4. Maintain correspondence with County's haulers regarding any anticipated issues related to waste disposal.
- 5-5. Ensure that all solid waste handling facilities located in the county are operated safely as to protect the public health and welfare and in consistency with the Solid Waste Management Plan.

**Editor Notes** (will not be included in final document)

**Highlight = County input needed; text to be adjusted accordingly.**

## 6.1.1 Areas with Natural Environmental Limitations

*Map 6-1 to be replaced with revised version that does not include acceleration and velocity contours - Fulton County to provide revised map to Jacobs.*

## 6.4 Goal Statements and Needs

*Please review and provide feedback. The needs will be transferred to the short-term work program and become part of the implementation program.*

## Section 6 Land Limitation Element

The siting of solid waste facilities is an important consideration of local governments as facilities have an impact on the health and welfare of the public. Landfills, transfer stations, and other related facilities should not be located in sensitive environmental areas or should be appropriately buffered and setback from adjacent uses to minimize and eliminate impacts on nearby uses. These facilities can also increase traffic on roads and require appropriate transportation planning and infrastructure investment to avoid congestion.

Solid waste facilities are required to meet the requirements of federal, state, and local regulations. Many of the regulations and limitations discussed below limit where facilities can be located often requiring special considerations to mitigate the impacts. Limitations and concerns should be evaluated, considered and mitigated as appropriate when siting or modifying facilities to meet the needs of Fulton County. Prior to any site obtaining a solid waste permit, the site must obtain a Site Acceptability approval from the Georgia EPD.

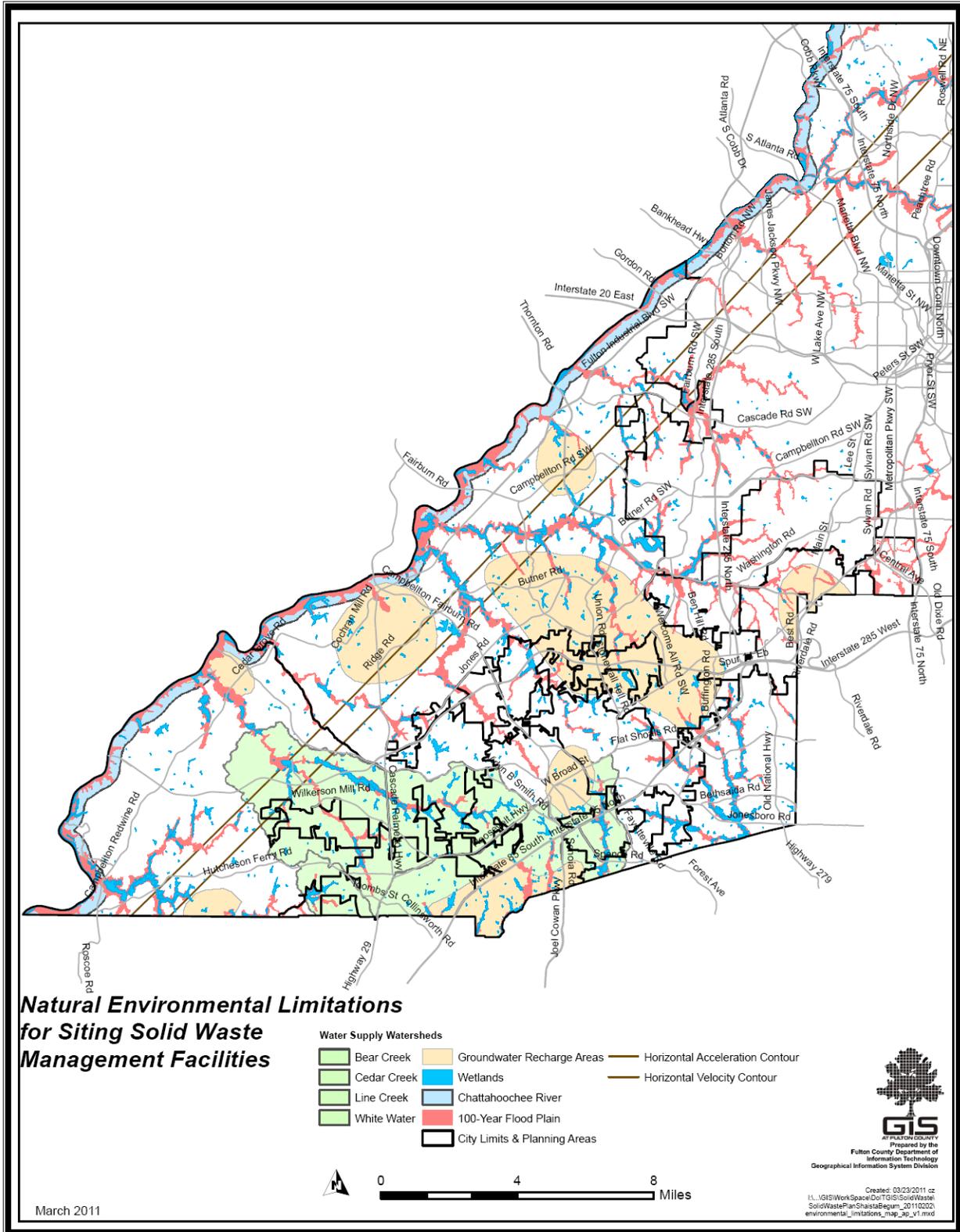
The siting standards for landfill facilities are defined in the Georgia Rules of Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4-.02(4)(c)(8) and as outlined by Chapter 391-3-4-.05 and *Criteria for Performing Site Acceptability Studies for Solid Waste Landfill in Georgia*, Circular 14, Georgia Geological Survey (1997). Landfill sites must also adhere to site requirements defined in the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, OCGA 12-8-20 and to criteria set forth in the Fulton County *Solid Waste Management Plan*.

### 6.1 Overview of Land Areas

#### 6.1.1 Areas with Natural Environmental Limitations

Fulton County GIS developed **Map 6.1**, which indicates natural environmental areas that may limit the siting of solid waste facilities particularly landfills. The map was compiled from a number of sources and illustrates the items discussed below.

Map 6-1. Natural Environmental Limitations for Siting Solid Waste Management Facilities Map



Natural limitations shown on **Map 6.1** above require consideration when an area is being evaluated for a landfill site. These limitations are identified below and are governed by a number of regulatory agencies. Each environmental limitation is subject to change periodically and requires research at the time that any site is considered for a landfill. The primary natural limitations include the following, as described in Georgia DNR Chapter 391-3-4-.05:

- Floodplains – Solid waste handling facilities located within the 100 year floodplain shall not restrict the flow of the 100 year flood, reduce the flood storage, or result in washout that poses a threat to human health. The applicant must demonstrate compliance with all applicable regulations.
- Wetlands – Solid waste handling facilities shall not be located in wetlands unless the use of the wetlands has been properly permitted under all applicable state and federal regulations.
- Water Supply Watersheds – Municipal solid waste landfills shall not be located within two miles of a surface water intake for public drinking water unless engineered with appropriate liner systems and groundwater monitoring systems. Other requirements also will apply such as stream setbacks and local watershed protections.
- Groundwater Recharge Areas – The Solid Waste Management Act (12-8-25) requires new solid waste landfills within two miles of significant groundwater recharge areas to have liner systems. Regional facilities can be located within recharge areas under special conditions as defined in the regulations.
- River Corridors – The Chattahoochee River corridor is protected by the Metropolitan River Protection Act that establishes criteria and limitations within the corridor. The Georgia DNR also provides prohibitions for development of solid waste landfills within the corridor.
- Protected Mountains – Fulton County has no limitations within the county related to this Georgia DNR requirement.
- Fault zones, Seismic Impact Zones, and Unstable Areas – New landfill facilities and lateral expansions require a detailed site analysis to determine the impact of these limitations and feasibility of the site for development. These limitations are described in Chapter 391-3-4-.05 with design criteria for facilities as follows:
  - Landfills and expansions shall not be located within 200 feet of a fault with displacement in Holocene time unless design considerations demonstrate a reduced setback is feasible.
  - Landfills and expansions shall not be located within seismic impact zones unless containment structures are designed for the applicable horizontal acceleration. Fulton County is located in a seismic impact zone with acceleration in the range of 0.15g as shown on the figure above that requires design considerations.
  - Landfill facilities located in unstable areas must demonstrate that engineering measures have been incorporated into design to maintain the integrity of the landfill unit. Unstable areas are areas with poor foundation conditions, susceptible to mass movement, and karst terrain with associated sinkholes. Engineered systems are required in these areas to insure protection of the environment.

### **6.1.2 Areas Limited by Land Use or Zoning Restrictions**

Fulton County's Zoning Resolution identifies zoning districts that are appropriate for siting solid waste management facilities, including MSW landfills, transfer stations, recycling facilities, and composting facilities. None of these uses is classified as a permitted use in any of the County's

zoning district, and because of this, locating these facilities in any applicable zoning district requires that the applicant obtain a use permit, which are administered by Fulton County's Department of Environment and Community Development. These requirements are outlined in Article XIX Administrative Permits and Use Permits of the Zoning Resolution.

#### Zoning Districts that Allow Solid Waste Management Facilities

- *Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfills* - permitted in the M-2 zoning district
- *Inert Landfills* - permitted in the AG-1, M-1, and M-2 zoning districts
- *Transfer Stations* - permitted in the M-2 zoning district
- *Composting Facilities* - permitted only in the AG-1 zoning district
- *Recycling Centers* - permitted in the C-2 and M-1A zoning districts

**Map 6-2** shows areas of unincorporated Fulton County that are currently zoned M-2 (Heavy Industrial Zoning) within which municipal solid waste landfills, inert landfills, and transfer stations are permitted. Siting of facilities in these zones would also require ensuring that the state and federal regulations enumerated below are met.

For a map reflecting existing solid waste management facilities in unincorporated Fulton County, please see **Map 5-1** in **Section 5**.

#### State and Federal Regulations

Various state and federal restrictions also apply to the siting of solid waste facilities. Land use restriction will evolve during the life of this solid waste plan that may add or perhaps reduce the limitations outlined. Current restrictions are discussed below.

- Archaeological sites – No solid waste facility should be located as to negatively impact an area of concentrated or known sites on file with the Georgia Archaeological Site File (GASF) per O.C.G.A. 50-18-72[a][10].
- Surface Water Intake – The rules for Environmental Planning criteria (Chapter 319-3-16-.01) require certain minimum protection criteria for water supply watersheds that require setbacks that depend on the watershed distances and required liner system for the solid waste facility.
- Wellhead Protection – The rules for Safe Drinking Water (Chapter 391-3-5-.40) specify a wellhead protection area around well and springs used as sources for water supply. New permits for solid waste facilities will not be issued for facilities within the management zones for existing wells and springs. *(list continues on page 6-6)*



- Airport Safety – Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c) requires that new municipal landfills or lateral expansions shall not be located within 5,000 feet of any runway of any planned or used for piston aircraft or within 10,000 feet of any runway planned or used by turbojet aircraft. New municipal units or lateral expansions within 5-miles of an airport must notify the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- Co-Located Landfills – The Solid Waste Management Act (12-8-25.4(b)) limits the solid waste disposal facilities in a given geographic area to three within a two-mile radius.
- Political Subdivisions – The Solid Waste Management Act (12-8-25) prohibits the siting of a landfill facility within one-half mile of the borders of another jurisdiction without the approval of the jurisdiction’s governing body.
- Private Recreation Camps - The Solid Waste Management Act (12-8-25) states that no new permits will be issued for solid waste facilities if any part of the premises is within a private recreational camp for persons under 18 years of age.

### **6.2 Local Procedures for Siting Solid Waste Management Facilities**

The siting of solid waste management facilities in Fulton County includes a combination of meeting requirements laid out in the County’s Zoning Map and Code of Ordinances and ensuring compatibility with the Solid Waste Management Plan. Please see **Section 6.1** for a discussion of zoning districts where solid waste management districts are permitted.

The County has identified specific requirements for locating solid waste facilities, including landfills and transfer stations, within the county. Landfills and transfer stations should not be located within a one mile radius of property lines of a residentially zoned or used property nor should any portion of newly proposed residential use or residentially zoned property locate within a one mile radius of an existing landfill or solid waste transfer station. Construction and operation of a landfill or transfer station in Fulton County requires that the following three land use qualifications are met:

1. Pertinent facility (landfill or transfer station) is allowable by use permit in the applicable zoning district
2. Use permit obtained
3. Land disturbance permit obtained

#### **6.2.1 Use Permit Requirements**

##### Obtaining a Use Permit for Landfills

Requirements include provision of applicable Georgia DNR permits, submission of an environmental impact report, limited driveway access, defined buffers between adjacent property owners and along the public rights-of-way, a solid fence or wall, non-location within a three mile radius of another landfill, and limited operating hours between 6am and 6pm, Monday through Thursday. C&D landfills are permitted under the land use requirements for municipal solid waste landfills since C&D landfills are considered a subset of MSW landfills by the state.

##### Obtaining a Use Permit for Transfer Stations

The solid waste transfer station must not be located within a three mile radius of the property lines of another solid waste transfer station. All other requirements for construction and operation of a transfer station in Fulton County as those standards required for landfills.

### Obtaining a Use Permit for Recycling Centers

The County's use permit requirements for recycling centers include compliance with the regulations of County's Department of Public Health and submission of an environmental impact report as well as the following:

- Location not to be located within a three mile radius of the property lines of an existing recycling facility.
- Hours of operation limited to 7am to 8pm, Monday through Saturday
- Required buffers, setbacks, and screening wall or fence
- No stockpiling of recyclable materials outside containers
- Processing of recycled materials must occur within an enclosed building
- Maximum continuous sound level of 60 dBA and maximum peak sound level of 75 dBA

### Obtaining a Use Permit for Composting Facilities

The County's use permit requirements for composting include obtaining required EPD permits and submission of an environmental impact report as well as the following:

- A minimum lot area of five acres
- Hours of operation fall between 7am and 6pm
- Required setback of 100 feet on all property lines and minimum buffers
- Maximum continuous sound level of 60 dBA and maximum peak sound level of 75 dBA

## **6.2.2 Public Notification Requirements**

A public hearing before the Fulton County Board of Commissioners must be held for each use permit applied for in the unincorporated County. As such, each proposal for a landfill or solid waste transfer station is vetted through a public process. The County's public hearing notice standards requires posting a sign on the applicable property and publishing the proposed use in the legal document of the County, available to the public. All property owners within 300 feet of the boundaries of the subject property also receive notice regarding the use permit hearing, location, and time via regular mail.

### 6.2.3 Consistency with Solid Waste Management Plan

In addition to the aforementioned requirements, all entities requesting a renewal or issuance of a solid waste handling permit (or notifying EPD in the case of a permit by rule) for a solid waste management facility must ensure consistency with the County's Solid Waste Management Plan. The County has laid out the following process for ensuring that all new facilities not only meet zoning and land use regulations required above but also are in tune and consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. 3

#### **Required Process for Ensuring Consistency with the Solid Waste Management Plan**

At least 60 days prior to filing for a solid waste handling or C&D permit, or notifying the EPD in the case of a solid waste handling facility that is permitted by rule, the applicant must submit to the Fulton County Commission, copying the Fulton County Director of Public Works, a Written Statement of Consistency documenting the following:

1. How the proposed facility or facility expansion will meet the specific goals and/or needs identified in the Solid Waste Management Plan, including identification of:
  - a. The impact upon the collection capability within the planning area,
  - b. The impact upon disposal capacity identified in the planning area, and
  - c. The impact of the waste reduction and recycling efforts within the planning area.
2. How the proposed facility or facility expansion and its operation will impact the community, including:
  - a. The impact to vehicle traffic and public safety around the proposed facility and throughout the planning area (the Fulton County Zoning Resolution specifically indicates operating hours, type of road access, buffer zones, etc. for each type of solid waste facility that must be adhered to,
  - b. The impact to the financial viability of the existing solid waste management system within the planning area
  - c. The impact to individual and business solid waste management rates,
  - d. The impact of the proposed facility or facility expansion to other natural or cultural resources within the planning area, and
  - e. The impact of the proposed facility or facility expansion to the current solid waste management infrastructure (collection, transfer, and disposal) within the planning area, both public and private.
3. How the owner/operator of the proposed facility (and any subsequent owner/operators if sold) will provide financial assurance to address potential environmental liability.
4. That the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed suitable according to the criteria listed in the plan.
5. That the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with local zoning ordinances.

The Governing Authority shall review the Written Statement of Consistency and hold at least one public hearing on the requested facility development or expansion prior to determining if the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. Within 30 days of making their determination, the Board shall notify the developer whether or not the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the Plan. If the proposed facility is not consistent with the Plan, the developer may address the inconsistencies and resubmit their request for another review. No proposed facility or facility expansion will be sited in the County without a letter from the County Commission stating that the facility is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan.

<sup>3</sup> This procedure is the same procedure outlined in Fulton County's 2005 Solid Waste Management Plan. No changes or additions have been made.

### 6.3 Assessment of Land Limitation

The review of the limitations for both natural and land use requirements provides a challenge for permitting additional solid waste facilities in Fulton County and the unincorporated area. Many factors regulate the permitting of future solid waste sites within the County and will require the consideration by potential solid waste facility applicants. Potential sites may be available with proper detailed evaluation and documentation to address all the limitations.

### 6.4 Goal Statements and Needs

#### Goals:

- ❖ *Protect the health and well-being of the Fulton County community by ensuring that proposed solid waste handling facilities meet the regulations laid out in the Fulton County Zoning Resolution.*
- ❖ *Ensure that solid waste management facilities are compliant with State and local environmental regulations and consistent with Fulton County's Comprehensive Plan and Solid Waste Management Plan.*

#### Needs:

- 3-9. Maintain up-to-date maps that indicate location of existing solid waste management facilities and land inappropriate for solid waste facility development due to environmental, land use, or zoning conditions.
- 3-10. Stay abreast of changes to state and other regulations that address siting of solid waste management facilities and will require changes to the County's policy.
- 3-11. Revise County's policy as needed to ensure solid waste facilities are sited and operated in a manner consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan.
- 3-12. Continue to educate potential developers about the County's solid waste facility siting and operating requirements and goals for siting solid waste management facilities as outlined in the Solid Waste Management Plan.
- 3-13. Ensure regulations guiding solid waste management facility location are enforced.

**Editor Notes** (will not be included in final document)

Highlight = County input needed; text to be adjusted accordingly.

7.3 Goal Statement and Needs

*Please review and provide feedback. The needs will be transferred to the short-term work program and become part of the implementation program.*

## **Section 7 Education and Public Involvement Element**

Education and community participation are essential to Fulton County achieving its waste reduction and management goals. These activities not only provide community members with timely information regarding solid waste management policies and resources but also help establish an entrenched spirit of reducing, reusing, and recycling within the community. The end result should be a clean community that exudes individual responsibility for minimizing waste and protecting Fulton County's environment through proper waste disposal. This section considers educational programs and opportunities for public involvement related to solid waste management in Fulton County.

### **7.1 Public Education Programs and Involvement Opportunities**

Fulton County actively dedicates time and resources for education and public involvement exercises related to solid waste management. The County maintains information on its website regarding registered haulers, recycling opportunities, and the County's solid waste management plan. The County also provides funding for staff in the Fulton County Department of Environment and Community Development (DECD) to implement education and public involvement initiatives related to solid waste management that are available to residents, businesses, and schools. Additional educational programs are provided by Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates in Fulton County and neighboring solid waste management districts, which are oftentimes open to the public and accessible by unincorporated Fulton County residents.

The Office of Environmental Affairs, a division of the County's Department of Environment and Community Development (DECD), provides waste education programs in the unincorporated county. Outreach programs and public involvement activities include Adopt-A-Stream workshops, water quality workshops, water conservation, lawncare and xeriscaping workshops, household hazardous waste programs, clean water campaign workshops, composting workshops, and other special environmental events.

In addition to those initiatives led by County staff, Keep South Fulton Beautiful (KSFB) - see brief discussion in **Section 4** - provides various education and public involvement programs, including the following: Adopt-A-Tree, Adopt-A-Road, Project Wet, and Project Learning Tree. In the past Fulton County provided funding to KSFB. In 1998, that funding was cut. As a result, there is now limited collaboration between the County and this instrumental organization.

Although residents still enjoy the benefits of the KSFB programs, many programs have limited impact because of the inadequate funding of the organization, which comes from community donations. Most Keep America Beautiful affiliates receive some funding assistance from the community in which they operate, including Keep East Point Beautiful, Keep Roswell Beautiful, and Keep North Fulton Beautiful (funding received from cities of Sandy Springs and Johns Creek), to name a few.

The following area Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates do offer a series of “open to the public” programs that unincorporated Fulton County members can benefit from:

- Keep Roswell Beautiful (KRB)
- Keep North Fulton Beautiful (KNFB) – inclusive of Keep Johns Creek Beautiful and Keep Sandy Springs Beautiful
- Keep East Point Beautiful
- Keep Alpharetta Beautiful
- Keep Atlanta Beautiful

**Table 7.1** summarizes the most relevant solid waste, recycling, and environmental education initiatives in unincorporated Fulton County and adjacent jurisdictions. Those programs that are most accessible to Fulton County residents are run by Keep South Fulton Beautiful and the County’s Department of Environment and Community Development (DECD).

**Table 7.1 Existing Environmental Education & Public Involvement Initiatives**

Program/Activity	Jurisdictions Covered	Operated by	Target Audience	Description of Impact
Brochures, special events, tours, presentations, website	North and Unincorporated South Fulton County	Fulton County/KNFB, DECD, KSFB, KRB	Residents	Encourages waste reduction, recycling, beautification, litter prevention
Adopt-A-Road	North and Unincorporated South Fulton County	KNFB, DECD, KSFB, KRB, KEPB	Businesses & Civic Groups	Keeps highways and roads clean
Adopt-A-Tree	Unincorporated South Fulton County	KSFB	Business, Civic and School Groups	Encourages beautification
Adopt-A-Stream	City of Roswell; North Fulton County	KRB, DECD	Residents, business and civic groups	Encourages litter prevention; keeps waterways clean
Project Learning Tree	Unincorporated South Fulton County	KSFB	Teachers and educators	Environmental educational programs
Evergreen Businesses	North Fulton County	KNFB	Businesses	Encourages waste reduction, recycling, beautification, litter prevention

**Table 7.1 Existing Environmental Education & Public Involvement Initiatives**

Program/Activity	Jurisdictions Covered	Operated by	Target Audience	Description of Impact
Evergreen School Program	North Fulton County	KNFB	Public and private school children and teachers/administrators	Environmental education programs & workshops
Graffiti Hurts	North Fulton County	KNFB	Residents, businesses, civic groups, schools	Educates individuals about the consequences of graffiti in the community
Bring One for the Chipper	North Fulton County; City of Roswell	KNFB, KRB, KSFB	Residents	Encourages recycling
Arbor Day	North Fulton County	KNFB	Residents, businesses, civic groups, schools	Encourages beautification
Great American Clean-Up	North Fulton County, City of Roswell	KNFB, KRB	Residents, businesses, civic groups, schools	Encourages litter prevention and beautification
Rivers Alive	North Fulton County, City of Roswell	KNFB, KRB, KSFB	Residents, businesses, civic groups, schools	Encourages litter prevention, beautification and stewardship for water resources
America Recycles Day	North Fulton County Planning Area, City of Roswell	KNFB, KRB	Residents, businesses, civic groups, schools	Encourages recycling and buying recycled
Household Hazardous Waste	Unincorporated Planning Areas	DECD	Residents	Encourages proper management of HHW
Composting Workshop	Unincorporated Planning Areas	DECD	Residents	Encourages management of yard trimmings
Environmental Recognition Program	North Fulton	KNFB	Businesses	Recognizes and encourages environmental stewardship
Waste in the Workplace Program	North Fulton	KNFB	Businesses	Helps establish recycling programs and reduce waste at businesses
Bulky Recycling and Trash Amnesty Day	North Fulton	KNFB	Businesses, residents, civic groups	Facilitate proper disposal of waste; minimize illegal dumping
Computer & electronics collection & drives	North Fulton and Unincorporated South Fulton	KNFB, KSFB	Businesses, residents, civic groups	Facilitate proper disposal of waste; minimize illegal dumping
Document shredding events	North Fulton	KNFB	Residents	Reduce amount of waste going to landfills
Literacy program with an environmental focus	Unincorporated South Fulton	KSFB	Residents	Increases environmental stewardship

Source: Fulton County 2005 Solid Waste Management Plan and Fulton County Department of Public Works.

In addition to these initiatives, the County's Department of Public Works maintains an Education and Outreach section on the County's website under Water Resources. This section includes materials relevant to solid waste management education including

information on composting, household hazardous waste, and recycling education. The information is valuable and helpful to community residents but is not easily located on the website because the information is under water rather than solid waste. The County should consider moving or linking the information to the Solid Waste Management page and otherwise linking to associated sections of the County's website, such as the public health, to ensure information is readily available and accessible by community members.

#### **7.2 Adequacy of Environmental Education Initiatives**

There are a plethora of environmental education and community involvement activities in Fulton County as evidenced by **Table 7.1**. Many of these programs developed prior to the incorporation of areas of North Fulton. Because of this, many programs are concentrated in North Fulton rather than in the unincorporated, southern portion of Fulton County to which this plan applies. The County should evaluate its environmental education programs against issues identified in the Solid Waste Management Plan, and then work with KSFB and other partners to help implement community outreach programs that will work towards resolving those programs.

Currently, there is no speak-able relationship between KSFB and unincorporated Fulton County. Many other communities in the area rely on such affiliates to help achieve their waste reduction and management goals, particularly as it relates to public outreach and education. The lack of a strong relationship between Fulton County and KSFB is likely detracting from potential for strong public education and outreach programs related to solid waste in the county. At minimum, the County could work towards building a stronger partnership with community organizations with similar goals as those outlined in the Solid Waste Management Plan. To truly promote public outreach and education efforts, the County should dedicate County resources to support coordination of these efforts in the South Fulton community.

As identified earlier, the County could also benefit from reorganization of its website to improve communication of solid waste education materials to community members. This situation provides an unclear message to the public about the County's priorities, needs, and goals for managing solid waste. Those seeking education materials may be turned away should it be difficult to find desired information on the website. Similarly, some of the area Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates have websites yet do not obtain up-to-date information. This is one specific area in which the County may be able to provide support should it work to strengthen its relationship with these affiliates.

### **7.3 Goal Statement and Needs**

Goal:

- ❖ *Improve public outreach and education programs for waste reduction in South Fulton County by improving communication channels and partnerships.*

Needs:

- 7-1. Dedicate County resources to support coordination of outreach and public education efforts in the community, including volunteer efforts and coordination of community programs to facilitate waste reduction efforts.
- 7-2. Work to improve partnership with Fulton County Keep Georgia Beautiful affiliates, particularly KSFB, to ensure ongoing availability of programs to residents and businesses located in the unincorporated county.
- 7-3. Develop partnerships with civic organizations engaged in waste reduction efforts to maximize impact of public and private efforts.
- 7-4. Consider developing a special tire “amnesty” day to help limit illegal tire disposal.
- 7-5. Better organize educational materials related to solid waste on County’s website to ensure visibility by community members. Ensure information is regularly updated to reflect changes in County’s system.
- 7-6. Ensure that public education and information focuses on all aspects of solid waste management.

*See Section 3 Waste Reduction for related needs.*

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**EXHIBIT 5  
ANALYSIS OF  
DRAFT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**



DRAFT Fulton County Waste Management Alternatives \_v2.pdf