



Greener Solid Waste Practices – September 17&18, 2007



Best Practice Area	1	2	3	4	5 / High
Conversion Technology	Our community does not utilize solid waste combustion / incineration	Our community is considering solid waste combustion.	We rely on some combustion / incineration technology to manage solid waste.	We utilize solid waste combustion / incineration in our SWM program. We also generate energy from the combustion process and recover recyclables.	Our solid waste incinerators use refuse-derived fuel and recover recyclables. We reduce greenhouse gas emissions through scrubbers and / or filters. Residual ash is re-used.
Landfill Gas-to-Energy	We do not have a landfill gas collection system in place.	Our community is considering installing a landfill gas collection system.	We collect and flare gas and looking into a gas-to-energy project.	We have a landfill gas-to-energy project; however we continue to flare excess gas.	We have a successful landfill-gas-to-energy system. We effectively recover & utilize landfill gas to fullest potential. We market Renewable Energy Credits (REC.)
Greenhouse Gas Emission Mitigation	We have no policies to promote greenhouse gas emission mitigation.	We have pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as according to U.S. Conference of Mayors, Kyoto Protocol, or similar agreement.	We have achieved preliminary reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and are looking into selling carbon credits. We are considering a long-term plan to reduce emissions levels to 7% below 1990 levels by 2012.	We market & sell greenhouse gas carbon-credits. We have implemented a plan of action to reduce GHG emissions to 7% below that of 1990 by 2012.	Our management practices fully implements best practices in greenhouse gas mitigation for SWM. Our community has policies to promote source reduction and recycling. Our community is carbon-neutral and our emissions are at the benchmark of 7% less than 1990 levels.
Alternative Solid Waste Management & Practices	We are not familiar with alternative solid waste management practices.	We are exploring alternative solid waste management practices.	We have put into practice a yard waste composting program and use all of the compost produced.	We have incorporated waste diversion techniques including composting yard waste and anaerobic digestion of food waste.	Our integrated waste management plan includes waste diversion and collection. We utilize conversion technology as well. Zero waste policies include producer responsibility, reuse, & community exchange.





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Waste reduction & recycling	No waste reduction or recycling policy in place.	Have put into place several programs to reduce waste generation. Curbside-recycling program (glass, cans, paper) and community drop-off recycling centers.	Comprehensive waste reduction & recycling policy in place that includes recycling, electronics, reusable goods, construction & demolition, other household waste. Divert 25% or more waste from landfill through waste diversion strategy.	Divert 50% of waste from landfill through waste reduction & recycling strategy. We promote producer responsibility policies.	Divert more than 50% of waste from landfills – have implemented a “pay as you throw” rate structure to encourage recycling & discourage landfilling. We have fully incorporated producer responsibility policies and have adopted zero waste policies.
Socially responsible solid waste practices	We do not have policies for community interaction when deciding on solid waste issues. Our solid waste collection, transfer, and disposal areas tend to be located in economically depressed areas.	We are considering implementing policies to involve the community in solid waste planning. We have some public outreach and educational programs.	We take into account community response and environmental justice issues when doing solid waste management planning. We are considering new zoning and permitting policies.	We actively solicit community response and incorporate best practices from National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. We have adopted ordinances for a buffer zone & for land-use planning to protect citizens from solid waste hazards.	We work with an inclusive group of citizens from various socio-economic classes when we formulate decisions with regards to solid waste management. We follow environmental justice guidelines for solid waste planning.
Partnerships	Our organization does not maintain partnerships with other organizations, either private sector, public sector or non-profit.	We are interested in forming partnerships with other organizations.	We have entered into preliminary discussions with other organizations about the possibility of working together.	We work on an informal, ad-hoc basis with any of the following organizations: public, private, educational, non-profit. We have limited public-private partnerships for our solid waste management; less than 40% of our services are through these partnerships.	We have successful, long-term or programmatic partnerships with any of the following organizations: public, private, educational, non-profit. Greater than 40% of services are through public-private partnerships. We continue to seek additional partnerships.
Sustainability	We do not consider sustainability issues in our policy-making.	We are interested in incorporating sustainability principles into our policies. We have signed US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, Kyoto Protocol, or similar measure.	Our community has a commitment to achieving LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification standards with a particular focus on using recycled materials & on diverting waste from landfills.	We incorporate social, environmental, and economic sustainability issues into our overall policy decisions. We work with diverse citizen groups to ensure all perspectives are incorporated.	We are carbon-neutral; we have fully implemented LEED standards; we actively implement Best Available Control Technology for reducing diesel PM for solid waste vehicles; maximize conservation & energy conservation from waste.

