

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

March 13, 2007

DESCRIPTION OF REGIONAL PLAN

COG Name: North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

COG Number 4

Document: Volume I - Regional Plan

Request: To adopt a regional solid waste management plan Volume I for NCTCOG.

Authority: Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 363.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt plan as requested.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

General: The plan applies to Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties in the state of Texas. The goals of the plan are specific to the NCTCOG region and they pertain to recycling, illegal dumping, and municipal solid waste disposal capacity. Objectives for each goal are included. The plan contains a description and assessment of efforts to minimize, reuse, and recycle waste, and commitments to participate in the management of municipal solid waste facilities as the planning entity. A commitment to complete and maintain an inventory of closed municipal solid waste landfill units in the region is included. A commitment to develop a guidance document with which to review municipal solid waste registration and permit applications to determine conformance with regional goals and objectives is included in the plan. The plan meets the requirements of the Commission's rules and addresses the proper management of solid waste in the planning area.

Standard

Provisions: Standard provisions are set forth in the final regional plan. Detailed information about the regional plan is contained in Volume II – Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Guideline. Volume II is currently in Final Draft form to be approved by the TCEQ Executive Director after the Commission adopts Volume I.

COMPLIANCE HISTORY

Not applicable.

CONTACT Diane Goss (512) 239-5731
Environmental Law Division

Teres Jimenez (512) 239-1480
MSW Permits Section



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VOLUME I: REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
adopted under provisions of Texas
Health & Safety Code Ann.
Chapter 363 (Vernon)

Name of Council of Governments:

North Central Texas Council of Governments
P.O. Box 5888
Arlington, TX, 76005

The contents of regional solid waste management plans are specified in and shall conform to the requirements of the Texas Health & Safety Code §363.064; the plans provide the general structure to implement a regional or local program.

This plan is adopted subject to the rules and orders of the Commission and laws of the State of Texas and it replaces any previously approved plan. Nothing in this plan exempts the Council of Governments from compliance with other applicable rules and regulations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This plan is valid until canceled, amended, or revoked by the Commission.

Pursuant to Title 30 Texas Administrative Code §330.647(a); this plan is adopted by reference into Chapter 330, Subchapter O.

ADOPTED in accordance with Title 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 330.

ADOPTION DATE:

MAY 31 2007

Handwritten signature of Kathleen H. White in cursive script.
For the Commission

VOLUME I: REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SECTION I – NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

- A. This Regional Plan pertains to North Central Texas Council of Governments (hereafter called NCTCOG). The counties covered under this plan include Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise.
- B. This Regional Plan is based on the materials dated June 27, 2002, as revised on April 14, 2006. These materials are incorporated into this Regional Plan as if fully set out herein.

SECTION II – REGIONAL PLAN

A. Regional Goals

Goal #1: TIME TO RECYCLE: Purchased materials are reused and recycled wherever possible.

Objective #1A: Increase citizen participation in reuse and recycling of residential waste through innovative programs.

Objective #1B: Create and expand multifamily housing recycling programs throughout the region.

Objective #1C: Benchmark and track the effectiveness of regional and local residential waste reduction efforts.

Objective #1D: Expand commercial recycling efforts in business and governments across the region.

Objective #1E: Promote source reduction, deconstruction, and construction and demolition material reuse.

Objective #1F: Benchmark and track the effectiveness of regional and local commercial waste reduction efforts.

Objective #1G: Use outreach and education programs to facilitate long-term changes in attitudes about source reduction, reuse, and recycling.

Objective #1H: Promote innovative technologies to reduce waste.

Objective #1I: Expand collection and management of special wastes.

Goal #2: STOP ILLEGAL DUMPING: Illegal dumping is significantly reduced.

Objective #2A: Facilitate public awareness and education opportunities to reduce illegal dumping.

Objective #2B: Increase coordination between cities and counties through enforcement groups as well as political and organizational entities to reduce illegal dumping.

Objective #2C: Reduce the number of illegal dump-sites and expand clean-up events through public and private partnerships.

Objective #2D: Promote increased enforcement against illegal dumping crimes.

Goal #3: ASSURING CAPACITY FOR TRASH: The remaining waste is handled in a safe manner at permitted facilities.

Objective #3A: Facilitate the development and implementation of local and sub-regional integrated solid waste management plans.

Objective #3B: Evaluate the need for disposal capacity on an ongoing basis for every area of the region.

Objective #3C: Promote integrated waste management practices and provide ample and convenient collection and disposal options in rural and under served areas.

Objective #3D: Review state permit applications for compliance with the adopted regional solid waste plan.

Objective #3E: Coordinate local, regional, and state partnerships for the Closed and Abandoned Landfill Inventory (CLI).

B. Waste Minimization, Waste Reuse, Recycling & Education

- (1) Waste minimization efforts in this region include curbside and drop-off recycling programs, household composting initiatives and yard waste diversion. Many area municipalities provide curbside recycling collection for residential customers. There are also composting or mulching programs that make use of discarded brush and lawn-litter for ecologically beneficial reuse. Additionally, classes are offered in some communities on how to implement yard and food waste composting.

There are facilities in the region that either accept or pick up automotive wastes. The types of wastes vary but may include used oil, motor oil, oil filters, tires, antifreeze and batteries.

A material recovery facility (MRF) is a processing center for recyclable materials. Since 1990, a number of public and private MRFs have been sited throughout the region. Each accepts materials from a particular geographic area. The types of items accepted for recycling vary from facility to facility but typically include aluminum cans, newspaper, glass, cardboard and plastics.

The chart "Other Solid Waste Services: Material Recovery Facilities in North Central Texas" found in Appendix 10 of *Volume II: Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Guidelines* provides information regarding the design and operating capacity of each identified facility.

Approximately eight million tons of wet sludge from municipal water and wastewater treatment plants and septic tanks is generated each year in Texas, according to TCEQ. Within the region, there are liquid waste and sludge transporters. Some composting facilities integrate sewage sludge into the final product.

Although there have been major strides in the attempt to minimize the amount of waste being generated through better reuse efforts and recycling programs in the region, much more remains to be accomplished. Further, the region should develop waste management options of materials such as tires, sludge, and other special wastes.

- (2) NCTCOG is anticipating an increase of waste generation due to the region's expected population increase.

There are several objectives in the plan that focus on a greater degree of waste minimization, reuse and recycling in the region. They include, but are not limited to the following.

- a. Increase citizen participation in reuse and recycling of residential waste through innovative programs.
- b. Create and expand multifamily housing recycling programs throughout the region.
- c. Benchmark and track the effectiveness of regional and local *residential* waste reduction efforts.
- d. Benchmark and track the effectiveness of regional and local *commercial* waste reduction efforts.
- e. Expand commercial recycling efforts in businesses and governments across the region.
- f. Promote source reduction, deconstruction and construction and demolition material reuse.

- g. Use outreach and education programs to facilitate long-term changes in attitudes about source reduction, reuse, and recycling.
 - h. Promote innovative technologies to reduce wastes.
- (3) Collection programs for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) products have been established throughout parts of the region. There are at least two permanent facilities that accept HHW such as paints, pesticides, and petroleum products, and a few HHW reuse facilities. However, programs need to be made available to all cities in the region.
- (4) NCTCOG will establish a recycling rate goal appropriate to the region.
- (5) NCTCOG recommends composting programs for yard waste and related organic wastes that may include:
- (a.) Creation and use of community composting centers;
 - (b.) Adoption of the "Don't Bag It" program for lawn clippings developed by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service; and
 - (c.) Development and promotion of education programs on home composting, community composting, and the separation of yard waste for use as mulch.
- (6) NCTCOG's solid waste program includes a public education/outreach component.

C. Municipal Solid Waste Facilities - NCTCOG will:

- (1) encourage cooperative efforts between local governments in the siting of landfills for the disposal of solid waste;
- (2) assess the need for new waste disposal capacity;
- (3) consider the need to transport waste between municipalities, from a municipality to an area in the jurisdiction of a county, or between counties, particularly if a technically suitable site for a landfill does not exist in a particular area;
- (4) allow a local government to justify the need for a landfill in its jurisdiction to dispose of the solid waste generated in the jurisdiction of another local government that does not have a technically suitable site for a landfill in its jurisdiction;
- (5) complete and maintain an inventory of closed municipal solid waste landfill units and update it as needed; provide one copy to the TCEQ and to the chief planning official of each municipality and county in which a unit is located; and
- (6) develop a guidance document to review municipal solid waste registration and permit applications to determine conformance as outlined in *Volume II: Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Guideline*.