

## SECTION 6.0 – GOALS, POLICIES, STRATEGIES, AND BARRIERS

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### 6.1 Reduction

In June 2000, the solid waste management goals outlined in the Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 were revised as follows:

“It is the goal of this State to reduce, on a statewide per capita basis, the amount of MSW being received at municipal solid waste landfills to 3.5 pounds per day not later than June 30, 2005.”

In addition, the following definition was amended stating:

“MSW includes, but is not limited to, wastes that are durable goods, nondurable goods, containers and packaging, food scraps, yard trimmings, and miscellaneous inorganic wastes from residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial sources including, but not limited to, appliances, automobile tires, old newspapers, clothing, disposable tableware, office and classroom paper, wood pallets, and cafeteria wastes. MSW does not include solid wastes from other sources including, but not limited to, construction and demolition debris, auto bodies, municipal sludges, combustion ash, and industrial process wastes that also might be disposed of in municipal waste landfills or incinerators.”

For FY10, citizens of the County disposed of 4.1 p/p/d of defined MSW compared to the statewide average of 3.7 pounds per day. These numbers are skewed upward because of the increase in tourist and visitor population during portions of the year. Never the less, in order for Beaufort County to meet the 3.5 p/p/d reduction goal, County residents in conjunction with businesses and organizations must reduce the amount of defined MSW generated within the County for disposal. Methods that will be used to promote source reduction include speaking engagements, tours of solid waste and recycling facilities, newspaper articles, radio and TV commercials, and displays. A continued educational effort in source reduction is anticipated to decrease the amount of waste transported for disposal in landfills. The public must become better informed of the benefits of recycling and the various ways in which residents can help in this endeavor.

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By separating out a greater percentage of recyclable aluminum, paper, cardboard, plastic, and E-Waste, Beaufort County's waste stream can be greatly reduced. Because of the large influx of tourist and visitors during portions of the year, special consideration will be given to hotels and resorts in an effort to disseminate information on recycling and reduction opportunities.

### **6.2 Recycling**

The South Carolina Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 mandated a 25% recycling goal, calculated by weight, based on a per capita waste generation rate. In June 2000, the solid waste management goals were revised as follows:

“It is the goal of this State to recycle, on a statewide basis, at least thirty-five percent (35%), calculated by weight, of the MSW stream generated in this State no later than June 30, 2005.”

For Fiscal Year 2011 the County recycled 23.7% of the defined Class Three waste generated in the County compared to the statewide average of 27.7%. Markets drive recycling efforts and too often adversely impact those efforts. To meet the 35% goal, public education will be utilized to inform residents of recycling programs being implemented within Beaufort County and the best way for each resident to participate. An informed public is more likely to recycle than an uneducated public. Beaufort County will place a larger emphasis on recycling with commercial businesses, retailers, etc. in an effort to increase the County's overall recycling rate. Transition to curbside pick up will also be implemented and will increase the recycling rate by making recycling more convenient for the public. Convenience centers will be consolidated and closed as necessary in conjunction with curbside implementation is rolled out across the County.

### **6.3 Educational Programs**

A public education program is to inform the public, students, key decision makers and community representatives about current solid waste management practices, the need for waste reduction and recycling activities and future solid waste management plans in order to institute positive changes as needed. The program should modify and change habits regarding solid waste with a continuous ongoing campaign.

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All educational efforts will target the residents of Beaufort County with an emphasis on the collection service area residents and drop-off/recycling center customers. The method of educational delivery will be through local media, radio and newspaper, small group presentations, exhibits, displays, and demonstrations. Educational leaflets will be distributed where applicable (such as convenience stations, public buildings, and through curbside collection companies). In addition, information regarding Beaufort County's solid waste recycling program can be obtained from the County's website:

<http://www.bcgov.net/departments/Engineering-and-Infrastructure/solid-waste-and-recycle/>

All educational programs will be evaluated and revised according to the change in residents' behavior as indicated by the Class Three waste stream reduction and increase in the collection of recyclable material. Recycling and source reduction for businesses and industries will be conducted and promoted through the overall education program.

The South Carolina Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling was created by the Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 and is part of the Division of Mining and Solid Waste Management. The Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling, in accordance with the Act, provides educational, technical, and grant assistance to local governments, schools, colleges, and universities and the public regarding solid waste management issues. Beaufort County has and will continue to work with the Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling to obtain assistance with their public education campaign and grant program.

### 6.4 Technical Assistance

Contacts for information concerning solid waste management, recycling, and source reduction in Beaufort County are as follows:

**Mr. Jim Minor, Solid Waste Manager**  
Beaufort County

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