

Solid Solutions

An update from the Coshocton-Fairfield-Licking-Perry Solid Waste District

Summer 2010



District News



SOLID WASTE PLAN UPDATE APPROVED

The Ohio EPA has approved the solid waste management plan update, effective June 26, 2010.

The updated plan continues to offer recycling opportunities through a combination of curbside collection and drop-off sites as well as outreach programs to promote their use. As funds are available, more programs may be funded such as special collection events, enforcement of solid waste laws and regulations, composting, and litter collection along public roadways.

This planning cycle has been especially challenging with the recent economic recession and its ripple effect on the flow of waste to landfills. As less waste is generated, less is disposed, and fewer funds are available for solid waste programs. Our district has been heavily reliant on waste flowing in from other Ohio counties to fund our programs for the past 18 years, but that revenue source is rapidly declining.

Franklin County's decision to enact flow control this year is reducing our revenue significantly. To offset that loss of revenue, we are implementing a \$2 per ton generation fee on all waste we generate for disposal. The burden of financing our programs will shift from other counties to our own shoulders as local haulers pass that fee along to customers. This new generation fee and the increased disposal fee of \$1.25 per ton will be effective January 1, 2011.

Residents and businesses can expect their trash fees to increase accordingly. Each person disposes an average of one ton of trash per year, so each person can expect to pay an additional \$2.25 per year for trash disposal (18 cents per month). A family of four will pay an additional \$9.00 per year, or 75 cents per month. A trash bill that increases more than that will be doing so for reasons other than this fee increase.

This newsletter is a service of the Coshocton-Fairfield-Licking-Perry Solid Waste District.

*For more information call 800-845-5361 or in Newark, call 349-6308
e-mail us at cflpswd@windstream.net or visit us on-line at www.cflpswd.org*

Local news

RECLAMATION OF ABANDONED HIGHWALLS USING COAL COMBUSTION BYPRODUCTS (CCBP)

By: Nelson L. Kidder – Director – Reclamation & Coal Development

BACKGROUND

Within the state of Ohio, there are many miles of abandoned highwalls which remain from the time before laws and regulations required the mining company to reclaim them. Ohio passed their first laws requiring highwalls to be reclaimed after mining in 1972. In 1977, the federal government passed the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, known as SMCRA, which requires mining companies to reclaim areas to the approximate original contour and eliminate all highwalls. However, prior to these laws, the final cut at a surface mine would leave an open highwall, a rough pile of spoil material, and usually, a pond or pit of water adjacent to it. Many of these abandoned highwalls and pits have some degree of "self reclamation" or natural reclamation, as trees and vegetation have grown around them. However, in many cases, these highwalls and pits present a danger to the public, some contain acidic water, and they remain aesthetically unpleasant.

ONE SOLUTION

In 2003, American Electric Power's (AEP) Environmental Department proposed a plan to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mineral Resources Management that oversees mining and reclamation in Ohio, to eliminate one large abandoned highwall located near the Conesville Generating Plant in Coshocton County, by using CCBPs from the flue gas scrubbers installed at Conesville. This particular highwall is about 1800 feet long and up to 140 feet high, and had a pit of acidic water laying at its base. It was near the Conesville Coal Preparation Plant, an AEP facility that washes coal before it is burned at the Conesville Power Plant. AEP worked with ODNR's Abandoned Mine Land (AML) section to prepare the necessary permits to show this project as a Beneficial Use for FGD scrubber material. By placing successive lifts of this CCBP material into the open pit and against the abandoned highwall, this entire area is being reclaimed. The alkaline content of the FGD material neutralizes the acidic water in the mine pit, the coal seam at the base of the highwall is sealed off from air which prevents further acid mine drainage (AMD) from forming, and the dangerous highwall is eliminated. The approved Beneficial Use permit with ODNR requires AEP to cover the CCBP material with soil and to plant an approved mixture of grasses over the entire area when the highwall has been fully reclaimed.

To date, nearly 1.5 million tons of CCBP's generated at the Conesville Plant have been used in this reclamation project. In total, about 1.7 million tons of CCBPs will be needed. Plans are to complete the material placement and vegetate the entire area by June 30 of this year. This will eliminate a dangerous highwall, improve surface water quality, and save space at the Conesville Plant's nearby landfill. The permit required monitoring wells to be installed around this site to monitor any impacts to the groundwater, but no negative impacts are anticipated.

FUTURE PLANS

AEP believes this highwall reclamation project using CCBPs has been quite successful to date. The Ohio State University, in conjunction with the Ohio Coal Development Office, is presently conducting research into the further use of CCBPs to reclaim abandoned mine lands throughout the state. One important demonstration project in this research effort would be the reclamation of another abandoned highwall near the Conesville Power Plant, this time using FGD gypsum that is being generated from the latest generation of scrubber installed on Conesville's Unit 4. This particular highwall is about 1200 feet long and ranges in height from 60 to 100 feet. Water monitoring around this site is currently being done, and permits are being prepared. AEP and OSU hope that this highwall elimination project could begin as early as late summer or early fall of 2010. Design plans indicate the need for about 1.0 million tons of gypsum to reclaim this highwall over a two year period.

The CCBPs generated by the equipment at the power plants to further improve air emissions represent a waste stream that must be handled. But instead of burying all of these materials in a landfill, why not utilize some of them to reclaim abandoned and dangerous highwalls? One sage said, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." That is a wise person, indeed.

RECYCLING news

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS

To make district expenditures more efficient, the four counties have agreed to hold collection events for household hazardous waste every other year, and to alternate so that residents will have someplace to drop off their materials each year. This year, the events will be at the OSU/COTC campus in Newark on August 21 from 8 am to noon, and at the Coshocton Career Center on September 11 from 9 am till 1 pm. Neither event will accept paint, as that material can be safely disposed with regular trash once it is dry. Residents from all four counties may use either event.

Materials that will be accepted are marked flammable, combustible, reactive, poison, toxic, or ignitable. You can also tell by the skull and crossbones icon on the label. Please keep materials in their original containers and do not mix them.

Explosives are no longer collected but each sheriff office will assist residents in disposing of old ammunition or explosives safely.



OHIO MATERIALS EXCHANGE READY TO HELP

Visit the newly remodeled exchange for industrial materials at www.myomex.com.

The ability to post and view photos has been added and accounts can be customized to include e-mail alerts for your preferred material lists. It also now includes advertising opportunities.

Whether you are looking for inexpensive feedstock materials, or looking for a reuse opportunity for byproducts of your company, OMEX is there to help.

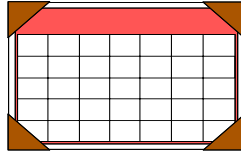
MORE COLLECTION EVENTS

On September 25, from 9 am till noon, Violet Township Maintenance Garage (located at 490 N. Center St. in Pickerington) will host two collection events.

The first is prescription drugs including pills, capsules, liquids, creams, gels, ointments, patches, suppositories, powders, syringes and IV's. Residents are encouraged to black out the information on the labels. No inhalers or aerosols will be accepted. Call 740-653-8154 for more information.

The second will collect electronics including computers, printers, keyboards, mice, cables, electronic clocks, radios, cell phones, VCR's and DVD's. No monitors or TV's will be accepted. Call 740-681-4423 for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



CFLP Board of Directors Meeting, will be held Friday, September 24 at the Donald D. Hill County Administration Building, 22 South Second St., Newark at 9:00 am.

CFLP Solid Waste District
675 Price Road
Newark, OH 43055

Return Service Requested



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