Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink!

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City of Fort Worth
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We cannot keep losing our nation’s valuable resources by using them once and burying them in a landfill forever. Fort Worth has to do its part by finding our own solution.”  - Kim Mote 2014

“It is better to do one thing today, instead of ten things tomorrow, which may never come. If not now, when? It is up to each and everyone of you to make a difference today and tomorrow.”  - Robert Smouse 2017
Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

• Passed unanimously by the City Council in September of 2017

• Addresses the problems of the City’s waste

• Sets goals and makes recommendations for improvements
Overall Diversion Goals

Increase the diversion of material away from the Southeast Landfill:

• Curbside Residential to 30% by 2021
• Total Diversion*
  • 40% by 2023
  • 50% by 2030
  • 60% or above by 2037
  • 80% by 2045

(* Total Diversion includes the Residential, and the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional sectors of the municipal solid waste)
Current Model of Consumption and Disposal Based on Doubly Fatally Flawed Assumptions:

• The linear model of harvesting raw materials, production of goods, single use, and final disposition assumes:
  ➢ Infinite amounts of resources
  ➢ Infinite space for disposal
• Both, however, are finite commodities
The New Model – Circular Economy

The Re-thinking of the very notion of waste:

• What is waste?
• Why waste?
• What is a resource and what are the sustainable management opportunities?
• What resources can be captured efficiently and economically?

“The City of Fort Worth's new 2017 – 2037 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management is a purposeful effort to re-think and re-evaluate the very notion of ‘waste’ and advances plans to turn today's 'waste' into resources for tomorrow.”
Fort Worth Southeast Landfill

• It is projected that the landfill has an anticipated remaining capacity of 19 to 33 years (2038-2052).
Distribution of the City’s Total Waste Stream

66.7% of volume is ICI
- Serviced by the private sector
- The city can influence the ICI (Industrial, Commercial and Institutional) sector but has limited authority over it

33.3% of volume is Residential
- This segment is controlled by the city

- 258,820 Tons
- 525,188 Tons
What is going to the Landfill?

FORT WORTH 2014 MSW COMPOSITION (AFTER RECYCLING)

- Food, 30%
- Other, 26%
- Paper, 17%
- Plastics, 11%
- Yard Trimmings, 5%
- Metals, 4%
- Textiles, 4%
- Glass, 3%

235,202 Tons
What are the best ways to manage food waste?
Composting Efforts
Yard Trimmings

• Residential yard trimmings and bulky brush are taken to the a composting facility where they are mulched/composted by a third party (Living Earth) *The Living Earth facility operates out of the Southeast Landfill.

• The Parks Departments’ materials are also currently processed by a third party
Residential Pilot Program

• Will have several drop off locations throughout town

• Residents can sign up for nominal fee and will receive two (2) composting buckets. One for the kitchen, the other for storage.

• Buckets can be emptied at the drop off locations.

• Master Composters will be available once per month to answer questions and educate.
Master Composter Program

• Partnership with Solid Waste and the Botanic Garden

• Fifteen (15) hour class held twice per year

• Available to residents as well as non-residents.

• Composting 101 class taught monthly

• Texas Master Composter certification
Magnolia Avenue Pilot Program

• Restaurant food waste composting pilot

• Working with several restaurants (7-10) and a local composting operation

• Goal is to get more restaurants and businesses composting their food scraps instead of landfills them.
Future Needs and Initiatives

• The City of Fort Worth has a broader need for expanded organic composting infrastructure for both collection services and composting facilities.

• The City of Fort Worth will seek to implement a commercial scale composting operation capable of processing organic material as well as bio-solids, as promoted in the CSWMP.
Material Management Program

- We reach out to businesses, apartment complexes, schools, industry and institutions to help them divert materials from the landfill.

- Offer free and customized technical assistance.

- Conduct site visits, perform waste assessment, and create personalized waste diversion plans.
Additional Resources

• 2017 – 2037 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (CSWMP)
  • [http://fortworthtexas.gov/swplan/](http://fortworthtexas.gov/swplan/)

• EPA Food Recovery Hierarchy
  • [https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-hierarchy](https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-hierarchy)

• Master Composter Program
  • [http://fortworthtexas.gov/compostoutpost/master/](http://fortworthtexas.gov/compostoutpost/master/)

• Keep Fort Worth Beautiful
  • [http://fortworthtexas.gov/KFWB/](http://fortworthtexas.gov/KFWB/)
THANK YOU!

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