2009 Landfill Management Excellence
SWANA Awards Program

Old Macon Road Landfill
Dublin, Georgia

Submitted by:

LAURENS COUNTY
Solid Waste Management Authority

April 3, 2009
**2009 LANDFILL MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD**

**NOMINATION FORM**

Program/Facility Nominated:

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Old Macon Road Landfill

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Contact Person Name & Title: Michael D. Snipes, Solid Waste Director

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Address: 1101-L Hillcrest Parkway; PMB #417

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City, State, Zip/ Province, Postal Code: Dublin, Georgia 31021

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Phone #: 478-676-3963  Fax #: 478-676-3965  Email: snipesm@dlecga.com

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Nomination submitted by (if different than information listed above):

Name:  Phone #:  Email:

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If selected for an award, how would you like the name of the organization to read on the award (limit of 50 characters)?

Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority

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**2009 Applications must be submitted to SWANA no later than Friday, April 3, 2009**

***PLEASE NOTE THAT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS HAVE RECENTLY CHANGED***

See the attached Entry & Eligibility Requirements sheet for further information

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Application Checklist (Please make sure the following items are included in your submittal packet):

- Completed nomination form with signed release statement (this page)
- 1 original hard-copy application binder
- 1 copy of your award submittal on a CD-ROM
- Executive Summary of your nomination (NO more than 200 words)
- At least 2 pictures of your operation (may be included in nomination text)
- Check (made payable to SWANA) for nomination fee (in U.S. dollars)

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Please mail all application packages to:

SWANA
ATTN: Technical Programs Department
1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 700
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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Release Statement: I certify that the information provided in this application is accurate and correct to the best of my knowledge. SWANA reserves the right to publish the enclosed information. Nominations become the property of SWANA. My signature gives SWANA the right to reprint or make available for purchase any portion of this submittal.

Signature: [Signature]  Date: 2-25-2009
March 11, 2009

SWANA
Technical Programs Department
1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 700
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Sirs and Madams:

It is with pleasure that I endorse the Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority for submitting the Laurens County Solid Waste Disposal Facility for the SWANA 2009 Landfill Management Excellence Award. In addition to their initiative to create a new composting operation, Laurens County is the recent recipient of the SWANA-Georgia Chapter first place award for Outstanding Landfill Operation and second place award for outstanding recycling operation.

As the manager of the Solid Waste Management Program for the Environmental Protection Division in Georgia, our program monitors over 100 operating landfills in Georgia. There are several reasons I believe this facility is deserving of such a high national honor. Mr. Michael Snipes and his staff have worked diligently to provide a comprehensive approach to solid waste management that includes recycling, composting and a municipal solid waste landfill.

I certainly hold them up as a model to other programs in Georgia and hope that all facilities in the state take pride in their operation, as does Laurens County. I hope the national judging panel will give this facility serious consideration for the Landfill Management Excellence Award. In my opinion, they are certainly worthy and deserving of such an honor.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Cown
Program Manager
Solid Waste Management Program
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SWANA Awards Program

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Dublin, Georgia

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Executive Summary

In the midst of rolling wheat fields sits the Old Macon Road Landfill in Dublin, Georgia surrounded by a buffer of pine trees. The 498-acre landfill owned and managed by the Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) handles MSW; C & D waste; yard waste; metal waste; white goods and tires. The solid waste facility blends in so well that without the aid of small directional signs, the main entrance sign and the garbage hauling trucks, one might not even know that it is there.

A source of pride for the LCSWMA, the landfill exemplifies good management/operations practices, consistent environmental compliance, financial self-sufficiency, and community involvement. They have been pro-active in their multi-tiered approach to re-use and recycling as demonstrated through their efforts to form private/public partnerships for successful programs like the PET bottle and single-stream recycling. They have made trailblazing efforts to develop the first biosolids composting facility in the state. They have made a difference in reducing the waste that ordinarily goes to the landfill, thus prolonging the landfill life. Their actions show that they are good citizens and stewards of the environment and are ready to stand as the model for landfill operations excellence.
The Old Macon Road Landfill in Dublin, Georgia is owned and managed by the Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA). The landfill is comprised of a total of 498 acres of what was formerly farmland. It receives a total of 236 tons of waste a day which includes municipal solid waste (MSW); construction and demolition waste (C & D); yard waste; tires; white goods; and sewage sludge (biosolids).

In 1996, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) permitted 90 acres to receive MSW. The C & D operation covers 15 acres of the permitted 90. The original landfill plan called for three phases of construction. Because funding was available, phase I and phase III were built to accommodate the amount and type of waste that they were receiving from the community. The design of phase I included 60 cells, but only 25 have been constructed to date. Phase II includes space for future cells. As soon as the landfill opened, the need for space to receive C & D waste became evident and the landfill master plan was modified to convert phase III into a C & D landfill.

There are 36 years of remaining capacity on the MSW landfill and only 6 years of remaining capacity on the C & D landfill. Also, situated on the same site is a permit-by-rule inert landfill.
which receives yard waste, trees and other natural debris. Approved in June 2008 by the GA EPD, the Old Macon Road Landfill is the first facility in the state to compost biosolids and yard waste. Previously, over 2,000 tons of biosolids from the City of Dublin Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) were disposed of in the landfill annually. Now the biosolids and chipped yard waste are transported to the landfill where they are mixed in a special compost mixing area and eventually turned into useable compost.

The landfill utilizes the standard Subtitle D regulation liner system that includes a compacted subbase of 24” of clay; 60 mil high density polyethylene liner; a leachate collection piping system and a 24” layer of protective cover.
2) Environmental Controls

The Old Macon Road Landfill has several environmental control features in place to protect the surrounding environment and to assure that they remain in compliance with state regulations. As the waste decomposes over time, a liquid, called leachate, filters through the sand layer and pools in the synthetic liner at the bottom. Natural gravity flow directs it to the drainage piping system in place underground where it is picked up by a sump pump that pumps it into a leachate collection pond. An average of five times a week, the leachate is pumped into a tanker truck where it is hauled to the Dublin WPCP for biological treatment. Approximately 1,598,000 gallons of leachate were transported last year to the WPCP. Because the landfill is not regulated by Title V (Part 70) of the Clean Air Act, there is no gas collection system at the landfill. Bar punch methodology for quarterly methane gas monitoring assures that the facility remains in compliance with explosive gas control requirements. There are 21 methane monitoring wells around the perimeter of the landfill. Stormwater flows through drainage pipes on the embankments to stone-lined drainage ditches around the perimeter. The use of the stone virtually eliminates sedimentation in the detention ponds and is a good example of re-use of a product from a local manufacturer that is not suitable for consumer re-sale. The manufacturer provides it to the landfill at no charge, thus offsetting the cost for expensive granite rip-rap. Stormwater quality is tested annually at five surface water sampling points surrounding the landfill. The sediment from storm events drains to the perimeter ditches and on to four sedimentation ponds. There are 39 groundwater monitoring wells placed around the perimeter of the site where groundwater is sampled semi-annually. All monitoring results are sent to the GA EPD.
Other environmental control efforts include a perimeter fence around the working face of the landfill to catch any stray litter that is wind blown from the area. Silt fence is placed at the bottom of berms and areas where sediment could drain into water channels. During periods of dryness, particularly in the south Georgia summer season, the roads are sprayed regularly to keep the dust down. There are no odor control devices at the landfill since odor is not a problem. The landfill is located in a remote rural area; therefore, odor is not an issue or public concern. Proper covering at the MSW working face and proper mixing at the compost facility keep the odor under control.
The Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority strives for high standards of regulatory compliance when operating the landfill. The GA EPD conducts semi-annual inspections and the Old Macon Road Landfill has stayed in consistent compliance with regulatory requirements for ground and surface water, air and land protection, methane gas monitoring, daily covering of trash and composting. Copies of the last three EPD compliance reports are shown below. The GA EPD monitors over 100 public landfills in Georgia and another 60 that are maintained privately for industrial use. The Compliance Calendar shown in the Supplemental Material section is kept to assure that the required monitoring and reporting is kept on schedule.
4) Planning, Operations & Financial Management

Planning

The original landfill plan which was developed in 1993 for the 498-acre site called for three phases of construction. At that time, funding was available so phases I and III were built immediately to accommodate the amount and type of waste that they were already receiving. The design of phase I included 60 cells, but only 25 have been constructed to date. Phase II includes space for future cells. As soon as the landfill opened, the need for space to receive C & D waste became evident and the landfill master plan was modified to convert phase III into a C & D landfill. There are 36 years of remaining capacity on the MSW landfill and only 6 years of remaining capacity on the C & D landfill. In order to maximize the air space available, management pays close attention to compaction techniques and densities at the working face of the landfill. Also, the LCSWMA supports and is an active participant in an aggressive community-wide waste reduction effort which benefits the landfill by diverting materials, like newsprint, PET bottles and cans out of the landfill and creating a positive image for the Authority as being environmentally sensitive. They work in concert with local industry, civic groups, schools/colleges, retailers and hospitals through an initiative begun in 2007 called the Laurens County Green Team. The new state-approved biosolids composting facility is another effort that will prolong the life of the landfill since over 2,000 tons of
biosolids are now being diverted out of the landfill and turned into marketable compost. By diverting materials out of the landfill, the life of the existing landfill is extended and construction cost for new cells is indefinitely delayed.

The Old Macon Road Landfill has a Wildlife Management Plan which includes planting and timbering 82 acres of loblolly pine trees. Plantings and timbering activities are staggered in order to maintain the 200-foot pine tree buffer that surrounds the landfill site. Recently, 38 acres of seedlings were planted by a private contractor. The trees are thinned about every 7 years and bids are taken for the timber, providing revenue for the landfill operation. Additionally, the Wildlife Management Plan provides a basis for managing the wildlife on the site such as deer, turkey, and quail. Public hunting is not allowed on the site.
Operations

The Old Macon Road Landfill receives waste from 17,083 households—7,079 inside city limits and 10,004 in the county. The waste stream is an average of 236 tons of waste a day; with 112 tons of that being household waste and the remaining wastes comprised of C & D waste; yard waste and inert materials; tires; white goods (appliances); and sewage sludge (biosolids). The metal waste, white goods and tires are loaded and sent to recycling facilities that process the waste for reuse. This provides an additional source of revenue for the landfill operation. The landfill accepts household, yard and recycled waste from all of the residents and businesses in Laurens County, Dublin and East Dublin. No hazardous waste is accepted. Dublin and East Dublin provide collection services for households and businesses. The residents of Laurens County can contract with a private hauler for curbside pick-up; take their waste to one of the 19 collection centers shown on the map in the Supplemental Material section; or take their waste directly to the landfill. In order to protect the county and guarantee a consistent waste stream, flow control measures similar to a recently upheld Supreme Court ruling were adopted to prevent any waste from Dublin, East Dublin and the county from being sent outside the county to adjacent counties’ solid waste handling facilities or to private facilities.
Daily activities at the landfill include receiving the waste, compaction of the waste with landfill compactors, and covering the waste with bulldozers. In the composting area, the biosolids and chipped yard waste are transported to a special mixing area at the landfill where they are mixed by a front-end loader. After the mixing, windrows are constructed by lifting the material with the front-end loader and letting it cascade down to form loose piles. Periodically, the windrows are turned to loosen and fluff the material so it will be more porous, thereby letting the air move more freely throughout the mixture and to accelerate decomposition. The windrows are monitored daily for temperatures and oxygen levels. Finished product is moved to a nearby holding area. Other activities include grass cutting, litter collection and spraying the roads with water for dust control during dry periods. Additionally, leachate is periodically pumped out of the leachate collection pond and transported to the Dublin WPCP for treatment.

Financial Management

Evidence of good budgeting and operations management, the Laurens County landfill operation is a complete enterprise fund served 100 percent by the tipping fees collected. The tipping fee structure is as follows: $34.00/ton for MSW; $25.00/ton for C & D; $15.00/ton for inert waste; $10.00/ton for yard waste; $95.00/ton for scrap tires and no cost for white goods. The fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30 and the operating budget which covers current operations, closure
and post-closure activities, is designed to break even with actual costs. There is no new cell construction currently in the budget for the facility. In FY 2007-2008 the budget was $1.6 million and the facility actually netted almost $15,000. There is almost $4.5 million in cash reserves accumulated over the last 10 years. Cash reserves can be used for closure and post closure activities, as well as new construction in the future. Bethsaida Church Road Landfill is a 128-acre closed landfill around the corner from the active landfill that is still monitored and maintained. The proposed budget for FY 2008-2009 is $1.8 million. Now almost through the third quarter of their fiscal year, the landfill budget is on track; however, there has been slight impact from the current economic situation that grips the nation in terms of the recycled materials collected and reduced C & D waste due to the housing construction downturn. A contract for $39,500 annually with the Georgia Department of Corrections provides an additional workforce of prisoners four days of week for general maintenance of the grounds and the office.

**Employee Health and Safety Training**

Out of the ten employees at the landfill, eight hold state certifications as landfill operators, including Michael Snipes, the Solid Waste Director. According to Mr. Snipes, for a facility of that size, a team management approach works best where all employees pitch in to get whatever needs to be done accomplished. Their certifications are kept up-to-date and they attend SWANA-sponsored training workshops on pertinent topics, such as composting. The landfill employees participate in weekly tailgate safety meetings covering pertinent topics, such as trench safety and accident reporting. They also participate in the SWANA-GA Chapter annual Road-E-O event. Last year their bulldozer operator placed first in the bulldozer division and won first in the overall equipment operator category. This year and future years, the LCSWMA will host the state SWANA Road-E-O at The Southern Pines Agricultural and Expo Center, a huge indoor dirt-floored arena in Dublin.
There is a fully operational vehicle maintenance facility on site and a full time mechanic that services all of the landfill equipment. Below is an equipment maintenance list that outlines the equipment and the service schedule for each piece. Generally, maintenance activities are scheduled so that there is always an operable back-up piece of equipment. In the unlikely event that there is no back-up machinery on-site, comparable equipment can be borrowed from the Laurens County Public Works Department. The compactors are definitely the workhorses of all the heavy equipment. They log over 1,800 hours a year. After logging 15,000 to 20,000 hours of use they are traded, sold or moved to an area of the landfill where they are not as heavily used. When newly purchased equipment is delivered, the operators are trained to use the equipment by the manufacturers’ representative in one-day sessions. Further instruction is available if necessary. The only new equipment purchased this year was a rubber-tired front-end loader for the composting operation.

Vehicle Maintenance Facility

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<tr>
<th>Equipment Maintenance Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cat D6R Landfill Dozer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cat D5M LGP Dozer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cat D5C LGP Dozer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cat 828H Landfill Compactor</td>
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<td>Cat 623G Scraper Pan</td>
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<td>580 Case Super M Backhoe</td>
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<td>Cat 140G Motor Grader</td>
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<td>Kubota M1875 Tractor</td>
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<td>Case 621E Front End Loader</td>
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<td>Ford Dump Truck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ford F250 Service/Lube Truck</td>
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The 498-acre landfill sits in the middle of active farmland surrounded by a 200-foot buffer of beautiful loblolly pine trees. If not for the small directional sign, the large sign at the main entrance and garbage hauling trucks frequenting the road, a driver going by might not even notice that it is there. As you enter the landfill, you will pass a modest, but well-maintained scale house. The grass berms are cut and manicured. Roadways are neatly maintained and, in the dry season, regularly watered to keep down the dust. Even the drainage ditches lined with the manufactured stone look attractive. There is no unsightly clutter or misplaced equipment; everything is in its proper location. The working faces of the MSW and C & D landfills are kept within their regulated boundaries and fences surround them to catch stray litter. Silt fences are in place to catch soil sediment and debris. The pride that Michael Snipes, the Solid Waste Director, and his staff have in the facility is obvious. The prison detail four days a week is tasked with keeping the site in complete order. What is more impressive than the appearance or aesthetics of the site is the public acceptance of the facility as a partner in the community. Their patriotism and community spirit is demonstrated by their enthusiasm over their viable county and city wide recycling program.

“Green is the New Red, White & Blue!” is the theme of the Laurens County (GA) Solid Waste Management Authority’s (LCSWMA) Recycling Program boldly displayed by the stars & stripes on their mobile recycling trailer. The LCSWMA goal is to maintain their high level of service to the community as well as being good stewards of the environment. Their proactive and innovative recycling effort exemplifies public and private partnerships that are imperative for programs such as these to have successful results. The program has several facets which includes a single-stream recycling program; a PET bottle recycling program and a recently GA EPD-approved composting facility at the Laurens County Old Macon Road Landfill. The LCSWMA has a goal of reducing the waste stream coming into the landfill by 7.2 percent by 2010 through a concentrated community recycling effort and an effective re-use of sewage sludge (biosolids) from the City of Dublin WPCP.

A public/private partnership that was conceived in order to conserve natural resources; promote a cleaner and healthier environment; and reduce the waste stream going to the landfill was the Laurens County Green Team formed in September 2007 to promote recycling in Laurens County. The Green Team is comprised of public, private and service organizations that include the LCSWMA; Communities in Schools of Laurens County; Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful; Mohawk Industries; SP Recycling Corporation; Evans Disposal Services; Sullivan Environmental Services; the VA Medical Center of Dublin; Heart of Georgia Technical College; and Best Buy.
A major initiative is a PET bottle recycling program benefiting all of the local schools. Green Team members have assumed important roles. The LCSWMA is managing the collection and shipping of bottles to the SP Recycling facility where they are then shipped on to Mohawk’s Summerville extrusion plant for recycling into yarn fiber for carpet and furniture padding. Communities in Schools is providing education and promotion involvement with the schools’ administrators, teachers and the Green Team student volunteers, called Green Teens, at each school. Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful is providing community education and promotion of recycling; SP Recycling, the baling equipment; and Evans Disposal Services, the containers for special events, transportation and other promotion materials. The revenue from the sale of the bottles to SP Recycling is distributed to each school based on the individual collection. The schools receive 60% of the market value of the bottles with the remainder being used to fund the program. The Green Team actively encourages recycling through promotion, public participation and education. They set up a booth and bring the patriotic stars & stripes recycling trailer to events like the Quail Unlimited Sporting Clays Shooting event and Bike Ride Across Georgia’s base camp. The trailer is manned at the QU event by the Laurens County 4-H Club Project SAFE shotgun team and proceeds go to the team. This year for the second time, seven Green Teen representatives from the high school and middle school competed in the Youth Environmental Symposium at Zoo Atlanta and finished 3rd place. The Green Team understands that the success of their recycling program is only possible with participation and education of the young people who will be the future leaders and decision makers. Recycling will become as natural to them as the buckling up their seat belts that many of us remember was not always a priority.
In early 2008, after two unsuccessful attempts applying for DCA and GEFA grant money, the LCSWMA undaunted in their commitment, formed a partnership with SP Recycling and SP Newsprint to implement a single-stream recycling program. Single-stream recycling is the collection of co-mingled wastes that are transported to a facility where they are sorted into individual recyclable materials for sale or for use as feedstock in their operation. In order to begin a single-stream recycling program it is required to have an enclosed facility in which to house the recycling operation and the equipment. SP Newsprint generously offered the use of a warehouse at their East Dublin location and SP Recycling offered to pay half of the cost of a vertical baler in order to get the program off the ground. The other resource requirements are minimal including one employee trained to coordinate the single-stream program; be the liaison at the SP Mill; load trucks; bale recycled materials; and conduct load inspections, and a skid steer to load the recyclables into a walking floor trailer. One of the most important benefits of a single-stream recycling program is the conservation of air space in the landfill by diverting these materials out of the landfill, thus prolonging the life of the existing cells and reducing future construction costs. Additionally, operation efficiencies are realized when pulls from the 19 collection centers located around the county are scheduled only when the roll-off containers are full, therefore saving on fuel costs. Also, load inspections required by EPD can be performed at the collection centers on other loads while simultaneously checking on the single-stream containers, therefore streamlining operations at the landfill. Approximately 6 to 10 lbs. of recyclables are generated per household per week with 25 to 50% participation by the citizens. The single-stream recycling program handles approximately 936 tons of materials a year from the county resulting in revenues of almost $56,160 annually. Adding approximately 200 tons of corrugated cardboard that is currently collected by the county would
increase the gross revenue by an additional $24,000 making the budgeted gross revenue for the program $80,160. Transportation costs are estimated to be $187.50 per load for a total of $19,485 with the projected net income (before operating expenses) at $60,675 annually. This would more than offset the reduction of tipping fees as a result of the diverted tonnage which averages approximately $34.00 per ton. The diverted materials will result in an annual savings of 1,560 CY of air space which is equivalent to adding one year capacity to the landfill in 29.5 years.

When making the public announcement of the single-stream recycling program, Michael Snipes, the LCSWMA Solid Waste Director, said, “This program will help us keep recyclable materials out of the landfill, saving valuable landfill space and adding life to the landfill.” He further added that it would not have been possible without the support that SP Recycling and SP Newsprint had provided. Recently joined participants in the single-stream program include the VA Medical Center in Dublin, the Heart of Georgia Technical College and Best Buy. The single-stream program has not only had the direct benefit of saving precious landfill space, but has enhanced the public and private partnerships that are critical for the successful implementation of these programs. Supporting articles and letters are found in the Supplemental Material section.
An innovative program and creative approach that demonstrates the LCSWMA commitment to recycling/re-use and waste reduction is their composting facility on the site of the Old Macon Road Landfill. Approved in June 2008 by the GA EPD, the Laurens County landfill is the first facility in the state to compost biosolids (sewage sludge) and yard waste. Over 2,000 tons of biosolids from the Dublin WPCP were being disposed of in the landfill annually. Since the initiation of the program, biosolids and chipped yard waste are transported to the landfill where they are dropped off at designated cells which are lined and have received an initial lift of waste. Diverting the biosolids from the landfill will save 3,333 CY of air space annually. There were no significant start-up costs for the composting operation since they were already accepting the biosolids to the landfill and because existing lined cells and equipment are being used for the new program. At an adjacent mixing area, the feedstock is mixed by a front-end loader. Once these cells reach their lift limit, the drop off point and mixing area will be changed to other cells which have been pre-approved by EPD. Future relocation of the drop-off and mixing areas will require submittal to and approval by EPD of a minor modification to the facility’s Solid Waste Management Permit. After the mixing, windrows are constructed by lifting the material with the front-end loader and letting it cascade down to form loose piles. Periodically, the windrows are turned, moving the mixed materials from the outside to the inside, to loosen and fluff the material so it will be more porous, allow air to move more freely throughout, and accelerate the decomposition process. During the period when the compost is
maintained at 55 degrees Celsius, the windrows are turned a minimum of five times. Stormwater run-off from the active compost area is collected in drainage ditches that drain to detention basins and is used to add moisture to the compost or is discharged from the site. Final product is moved to a final storage area where it will be loaded into trucks or trailers. On-site, the finished compost will be used to assist in the reclamation of borrow areas and to establish vegetation on the landfill. Off-site, the product will be used by local farmers, gardeners, landscapers, and the Laurens County Public Works Department. The compost piles are monitored daily for temperature and levels of oxygen. Materials remain in the active compost area until at least 14 days of 45 degree C temperatures are observed to ensure the control of vectors. The temperature of the compost must be maintained at 55 degrees C for 15 days or longer to further reduce pathogens. Additionally, groundwater and methane gas are monitored in accordance with GA EPD requirements. Odor from the compost facility will be managed by proper control of the carbon to nitrogen ratio and moisture content. To ensure public safety, samples of the finished product are collected per the protocol of the U.S. Composting Council each calendar month and shipped to a laboratory for analysis. A schematic of the composting operation is included in the Supplemental Material section.
March 5, 2009

SWANA
Technical Programs Department
1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 700
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear Sirs and Madams:

It is with great pride that I endorse the Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority in their quest for the 2009 SWANA Landfill Management Excellence Award. The level of professionalism that they bring to the solid waste field is second to none, evidenced by the fact that they were the 2008 recipients of the SWANA – Georgia Chapter first place award for Outstanding Landfill Operations and second place for Outstanding Recycling Program. In addition to their SWANA awards, they were awarded a Distinguished Service Citation by Keep America Beautiful at the 2008 National Awards ceremony for their work in waste reduction.

Michael Snipes, Solid Waste Director, and his staff have worked diligently to introduce innovative recycling programs to the citizens of Laurens County. Working in concert with the Laurens County Executive Planning Committee and the Rural Development Council, they have provided us with sustainable recycling programs that are in compliance with our Solid Waste Plan and our Comprehensive Management Plan. The single-stream recycling program will save one year of capacity in fifteen years when it reaches its planned participation level. The composting operation saves one year of capacity every fifteen years and provides a valuable resource for all of the citizens of the county as the finished compost is used in agriculture, gardening, and as a soil amendment in County road projects.

The landfill has been transformed into a working model of leadership, environmental stewardship, and innovation. I sincerely believe that the staff of the Old Macon Road Landfill are deserving of this award as they have turned their facility into a place of pride for all of Laurens County.

Sincerely,

Bryan Rogers
Laurens County Administrator
April 16, 2008

Ms. Jennifer Vogel
Environmental Engineer
Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Municipal Solid Waste Unite
4244 International Parkway, STE 104
Atlanta, Georgia 30354

RE: Biosolids and Yard Waste Composting Major Modification at the Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority’s Old Macon Road MSW Landfill Permit Number: 087-015D(SL)

Dear Ms. Vogel:

The City of Dublin, Georgia will supply the biosolids from the City’s waste water treatment plant and some of the yard waste to be composted at the Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority’s Old Macon Road MSW Landfill. I certify the City is actively involved in and has a strategy to meet the Georgia statewide goal of waste reduction. The proposed composting operation modification is consistent with our waste reduction strategy and Solid Waste Management Plan.

Please let me know if you require any further documentation of this strategy.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

George P. Roussel
City Manager

GPR/fa

cc: Michael Snipes, LCSWMA
    Murray Griffin, ACC
OUR TAKE:
Success With Recycling a Community Effort

Laurens County and City of Dublin governments have given their full support to recycling and waste reduction efforts to extend the life of the landfill. The public must meet the challenge for this generation — more importantly, for future generations — to benefit from the results.

The single-stream recycling program makes recycling easy for residents. Ease of effort on the part of the consumer is one characteristic that will help this effort be successful.

The county’s 19 convenience centers will have an additional container in which residents can deposit their recyclables such as newspapers, magazines, food boxes, junk mail, cans, steel and certain plastic bottles. The centers already have separate receptacles for each of these items, and many residents have assumed a personal responsibility already by utilizing them. This latest effort should spur those who have not recycled to take on the responsibility to do so.

By providing the additional containers at the center and curbside for city of Dublin residents, local governments have made recycling almost effortless. True recycling, though, takes the effort of every man, woman and child to make a conscious decision to reduce the amount of trash that is dumped in a landfill.

Extending the life of the landfill saves money and the environment. Separation of recyclables is not difficult. Yet separation at the source should be a our ultimate goal. Supporting the single-stream recycling effort is a good step in that direction. Recycle for the landfill, recycle to save money, recycle for the environment, and recycle for yourself.

"Yet, separation at the source should be our ultimate goal."

Letter to the Editor

“This culminates a decade of efforts by many concerned officials and citizens to provide expanded local recycling options.”

The Laurens County Solid Waste Management Authority, SPNewsprint, and its subsidiary SP Recycling are to be commended for the development of an innovative single stream recycling program. This culminates a decade of efforts by many concerned officials and citizens to provide expanded local recycling options. Recycling will extend the life of our landfill and also conserve the energy needed to convert raw materials into usable products and reduce harmful byproducts created during processing. This is a very important and responsible move which will protect our local environment as well as having a global impact by minimizing our carbon footprint.

The City of Dublin has demonstrated its support by considering curbside collection as has the Laurens County Commission by expanding recycling collection in its 19 Recycling/Collection Centers. While single stream is the most convenient system for residents it will require following the necessary guidelines for participation. In the coming months educational promotions will feature the do’s and don’ts of our local program. Please make yourself familiar with them and remember, just because an item is recyclable in another part of the state or nation doesn’t mean it can be recycled in the Laurens County program. Adding additional materials not specified to the single stream effort will only hinder the success of our program. Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful, Inc. looks forward to furthering our mission of assisting and educating residents in the areas of litter prevention, beautification and recycling opportunities!

Again kudos to the local and state agencies, private industry and the organizations which have brought us to this point, making this recycling program possible!

— Patsy Baker,
Executive Director

On the behalf of the Board of Directors for Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful, Inc.
'BRAG'ging About Going Green

Patsy Baker (left) of Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful joined riders from Bicycle Riders Across Georgia (BRAG) as they promote plastic recycling in Georgia. BRAG stopped in Dublin this week to encourage residents to continue to recycle PET plastic drink bottles. Locally the bottles have been collected by area schools and recycled through the Laurens County Green Team, a group of businesses and organizations that recycle plastics. Sixty percent of the funds are then donated to local school programs. During the schools' summer recess, Baker encourages citizens to continue recycling by dropping off the plastics at Communities In Schools (CIS), located at 300 N. Elm Street in Dublin. CIS works to connect community resources with schools to help young people successfully learn, stay in school and prepare for life. (Photo by Joey Wilson)
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| Groundwater Issues | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Semi-Annual Groundwater & Surface Water Sampling | | By end of month | | By end of month | | By end of month | | By end of month | | | | | |

| Surface Water & Stormwater Issues | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NPDES Annual Sampling, SWPPPs, & Training | | By end of month | | By end of month | | By end of month | | By end of month | | | | | |
| LGSWM/AS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual Storm Water Report | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Wastewater Issues | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Permits | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solid Waste Permit No. SW-7-144 (DL) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NPDES Permit CA-8502 (DL) (All # 54206) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Industrial Pretreatment Permit No. WTS-7-200 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |