

Beyond Waste: A Sustainable Materials Management Strategy for New York

**Presentation to SWANA NYS Chapter
June 5, 2008**

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Summary

- Status of the NYS Solid Waste Management Plan
- Stakeholder Feedback to Date
- Preliminary Goals
- Major Recommendations Under Consideration



Status of the State SWMP

We're Working On It!

- Stakeholder meetings held
- Advisory Group convened
- Drafting underway



Stakeholder Feedback

- Overall, strong support for new SWMP and goal of maximum recovery
- Positive feedback on
 - Product/Packaging Stewardship
 - Pay as you throw
- Major issues surrounding
 - Organics diversion goal/disposal ban
 - Tip fee surcharge
 - Waste transporter program expansion/fees
 - Interplay of state plan with local plans
 - Disposal bans
 - Role of Waste-to-Energy
 - Disposal Capacity Needs



DISCLAIMER

Information presented here is:

- preliminary draft
- not yet reviewed/approved by DEC upper management
- developed based on staff brainstorming, stakeholder input and Review of 1987 Plan



Beyond Waste: Goals

- Minimize Waste
- Maximize Reuse
- Maximize Recycling
- Maximize Recovery of Organics
- Minimize the Climate and Energy Impacts of SWM
- Foster Good Local SWM Planning
- Strive for Fairness and Environmental Justice
- Prioritize Investment in Recovery over Disposal
- Maximize Efficiency in Infrastructure Development
- Ensure SWMFs are designed and operated well



Recommendations: Key

GREEN: Can be accomplished (at least to some degree) with existing resources and authority (may need regulatory revisions)

RED: Need new legislative authority

BLUE: Need new resources



Major Recommendations

- New Solid Waste Management Act
- Stewardship Legislation
 - Packaging
 - Products
- Maximize Recycling
- Divert organics (food & yard debris) from disposal
- Develop New Funding Source
- Strengthen Local Solid Waste Management Plans



New Solid Waste Management Act

- Set new recovery goals (TBD)
- Allocate resources for LSWMPs & other priorities
- Clarify commercial/industrial and public space recycling requirements
- Replace economic markets clause with list or more workable “test”
- Increase DEC's enforcement authority



New Solid Waste Management Act (cont)

- Develop mechanism to ensure SWMF permitting decisions do not undermine investments in reduction & recovery
- Update procurement and SWM requirements for state facilities
- Enact disposal bans (organics, etc)
- Revisit definitions of solid waste, recyclable material, etc.



Stewardship - Packaging

- Based on Canadian models
- Producers pay into a fund for recycling
- Fees related to cost of recycling a material or package
- Funds redistributed to municipalities to cover the costs of community recycling programs



Stewardship - Products

- Bottle Bill Expansion
- Framework Legislation
 - Provides DEC authority to develop a framework for stewardship and add products as necessary
- Electronics
- Pharmaceuticals
- Automobiles
- Carpets



Maximize Recycling

- Improve the efficiency of collection and processing systems
 - Perform an infrastructure analysis to identify necessary upgrades to MRFs in the state
- Ban Source Separated Recyclables from disposal (Part 360 revision)
- Ensure disposal capacity decisions do not undermine goal of maximizing recycling
 - SWMF permit application “needs assessment” (Part 360 revision)
- Develop State-wide education campaign



Maximize Recycling (Cont)

- Expand market development initiatives and target:
 - Glass; 3-7 plastic; film plastic; agricultural plastic; food waste/organic products; tires; construction & demolition materials
- Work with ESD to develop local/regional markets
- Perform Waste Characterization Study
- Evaluate Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Incentives, including:
 - Developing standard bid specifications for government projects with OGS and ESD



Maximize Recycling (Cont)

- Encourage public space recycling
 - State operations, agencies & authorities
 - Public events
- Improve data collected on recycling diversion and program performance
 - ReTrac or similar on-line system
 - Expand Waste Transporter program (Part 364 revision)



Divert Organics From Disposal

- Options:
 - **Phased in disposal ban (Part 360 Revision)**
 - Yard debris on enactment
 - Food processing waste first
 - Institutional food waste second
 - Residential food waste last
 - **Goal in Solid Waste Management Plan**
 - Audit existing organics recovery capacity
 - Identify infrastructure needs
 - Develop financing strategy
 - Develop infrastructure for recovery
 - **Combination**



Develop New Funding Source

- Options:
 - Tip Fee Surcharge
 - \$/ton fee at first point of disposal (transfer station, WTE, landfill)
 - Beyond Waste Bond Act
 - Sales Tax
- Use:
 - Dedicated fund for waste prevention & recovery education, planning and recovery infrastructure



Strengthen Local SWMPs

- Encourage PUs to focus on:
 - Waste prevention (outreach and education)
 - Reuse (materials exchanges, building materials reuse, reuse depots, etc)
 - Recycling
 - Improve program efficiency
 - Education & Enforcement
 - Incentives/disincentives to maximize participation
 - Target additional materials
 - Develop commercial, public space and special event programs
 - Develop incentives for C&D recycling through building permit process
 - Organics Recovery
 - Pay As You Throw (or other incentive programs)
 - Public/Private partnerships



Strengthen Local SWMPs (cont)

- Develop “best practices” documents on key issues (waste prevention, PAYT, organics recovery, etc.)
- Encourage PUs to evaluate options for greater oversight of collection and solid waste management
 - Flow Control where appropriate
 - Contracting/Special Districts
 - Permitting
 - Registration



Contact Us

- Comments, questions and suggestions to:
 - nysswmp@gw.dec.state.ny.us
 - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/41831.html>

