

**SOUTH GEORGIA**  
**Solid Waste Mgmt. Plan**  
**Multi-Jurisdictional**

**Ben Hill County/Fitzgerald**

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**SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**1997 Update of The Short-Term Work Program  
For  
The South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional  
Solid Waste Management Plan**

**Adopted September 18, 1992**

**Work Program Reviewed: DECEMBER, 1997**

***So. GA Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Mgmt. Plan- Ben Hill Co./City of Fitzgerald***

**RDC SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
REVIEW CHECKLIST COVER SHEET**

Name of Government(s): Ben Hill County & City of Fitzgerald

Date: December 10, 1997

**Type of Solid Waste Management Plan Submittal:**

- New Solid Waste Management Plan
- Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment
- Solid Waste Management Plan Update
- Short Term Work Program Update

**Materials Forwarded to DCA:**

- Copy of Solid Waste Management Plan
- Copy of Solid Waste Management Plan Review Checklist
- Copy of RDC Findings and Recommendations

**RDC Recommendation:**

- Solid Waste Management Plan is in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management
- Solid Waste Management Plan is not in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management

Reviewing RDC: South Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC)

Authorized RDC Representative: Buford W. McRae

Signature:



# South Georgia

## Regional Development Center

P. O. Box 1223 • 327 W. Savannah Ave. • Valdosta, Georgia • 31603 • Phone: (912) 333-5277 • GIST: 349-5277 • FAX (912) 333-5312

November 24, 1997

I hereby certify that the Regional Public Hearing on the mid-term update of The Short-Term Work Program contained in the South Georgia Multi Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan approved by The Department of Community Affairs on September 18, 1992, was held at the location on the date and at the time given in the foregoing notice.



Buford W. McRae  
Special Projects Director  
South Georgia Regional Development Center

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**Mid-Term Status Projected to 2002**

**SOUTH GEORGIA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**BEN HILL COUNTY COMPONENT**

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See Tables 5 and 6 for projected changes in costs as reflected in the plan in 1992.

See Table 7 for program changes.

A. Amount of Waste: Item A, Table 7, Page 10.

Waste stream analysis conducted as planned in 1993 is reviewed periodically by Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald.

B. Collection: See Item B, Table 7, Page 10.

B1. Ben Hill County collects MSW and recyclables from 100 green boxes in the rural area. Wastes are transported to and deposited at the Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Landfill.

B2. The City of Fitzgerald collects MSW and recyclables curbside and deposits wastes at the Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Landfill. Current and extended budgets provide for expanded mechanization of collection equipment and practices, beginning in 1998. A volume-based collection fee based on varying sizes of collection containers is anticipated.

C. Disposal: See Item C., Table 7, Page 11.

C1. The landfill in use in 1992 was closed in 1995.

C2. A new Subtitle D Landfill has been constructed and began operations under the administration of the City of Fitzgerald in 1995.

C3. See Item C1, above.

D. Waste Reduction: See Item D, Table 7, Page 11.

D1. Multiple drop off-recycling centers planned in 1992 was not feasible and recycling was incorporated in the operation of the new landfill opened in 1995. Both city and county use the single recycling center located at the landfill.

D2. See D1, above.

D3. Continuing as planned.

D4. A new C & D landfill, serving all users, is currently under construction and will be operation in November, 1997.

D5. Yard wastes were barred from MSW and from MSW landfills in September, 1996 and are deposited in inert landfill, stockpiled to convert into mulch and cover materials.

D6. Continuing as planned in 1992.

D7. Continuing as planned in 1992.

D8. Continuing as planned in 1992.

D9. Continuing as planned in 1992.

E. Educational and Public Involvement: See Item E, Table 7, Page 14.

E1. Items (a) through (i) are to be carried forward as set forth in the original plan in 1992.

F. Land Limitations: See Item F, Table 7, Page 16.

F1. Land limitations mapping is used and followed in all waste management operations.

F2. Comprehensive plans and zoning are in effect in Ben Hill County and Fitzgerald since 1994.

**TABLE 5**

**COUNTY: BEN HILL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
COST PROJECTIONS**

Mid-Term Update of Table: 5

	Collection		Disposal		Waste Reduction		Education and Public Involvement
	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	
1998	\$180,000	\$25,000	\$240,000	\$65,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$1,800
1999	\$183,000	\$25,000	\$244,000	\$67,000	\$4,000	--	\$2,000
2000	\$186,000	\$27,000	\$280,000	\$69,000	\$4,000	--	\$2,000
2001	\$192,000	\$30,000	\$286,000	\$71,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,000
2002	\$196,000	\$30,000	\$292,000	\$75,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,000

Source: Ben Hill County, 1997

**TABLE 5**  
**BEN HILL COUNTY**  
**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**COST PROJECTIONS**

	Collection		Disposal		Waste Reduction		Education and Public Involvement
	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	
1992	\$300,000	\$22,000	\$50,000	\$35,000	\$3,000	\$25,000	\$1,500
1993	\$300,000	\$22,000	\$75,000	\$35,000	\$3,500	--	\$1,500
1994	\$300,000	\$22,000	\$75,000	\$62,500	\$3,800	--	\$1,500
1995	\$330,000	\$25,000	\$75,000	\$60,000	\$4,000	--	\$1,800
1996	\$330,000	\$25,000	\$90,000	\$250,000	\$4,000	--	\$1,800
1997	\$330,000	\$25,000	\$90,000	\$35,000	\$4,000	--	\$1,800
1998	\$340,000	\$25,000	\$95,000	\$35,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$1,800
1999	\$340,000	\$27,000	\$95,000	\$35,000	\$4,000	--	\$2,000
2000	\$340,000	\$27,000	\$95,000	\$35,000	\$4,000	--	\$2,000
2001	\$350,000	\$27,000	\$100,000	\$35,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,000
2002	\$350,000	\$27,000	\$312,200	--	\$5,000	--	\$2,000

Source: Ben Hill County, 1992.

**TABLE 6**

**CITY OF: FITZGERALD  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
COST PROJECTIONS**

Mid-Term Update of Table: 6

	Collection		Disposal		Waste Reduction		Education and Public Involvement
	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	
1998	\$523,000	\$133,000	\$158,000	\$169,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,500
1999	\$503,000	\$167,000	\$163,000	\$174,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$2,000
2000	\$540,000	\$100,000	\$168,000	\$178,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,000
2001	\$554,000	\$85,000	\$172,000	\$182,000	\$5,000	--	\$1,500
2002	\$568,000	\$35,000	\$176,000	\$186,000	\$5,000	--	\$500

Source: City of Fitzgerald, 1997

**TABLE 6**  
**CITY OF: FITZGERALD**  
**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**COST PROJECTIONS**

	Collection		Disposal		Waste Reduction		Education and Public Involvement
	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	O & M	Capital	
1992	\$372,000	\$14,000	\$50,000	\$35,000	\$4,500	\$25,000	\$2,000
1993	\$372,000	\$14,600	\$75,000	\$35,000	\$4,500	--	\$2,000
1994	\$372,000	\$15,500	\$75,000	\$62,500	\$4,750	--	\$2,000
1995	\$380,000	\$16,000	\$75,000	\$60,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,000
1996	\$380,000	\$16,000	\$90,000	\$250,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,500
1997	\$380,000	\$16,500	\$90,000	\$35,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,500
1998	\$395,000	\$20,000	\$90,000	\$35,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$2,700
1999	\$395,000	\$20,000	\$95,000	\$35,000	\$5,000	--	\$2,700
2000	\$410,000	\$22,000	\$95,000	\$35,000	\$6,000	--	\$2,950
2001	\$420,000	\$25,000	\$95,000	\$35,000	\$6,000	--	\$2,950
2002	\$450,000	\$25,000	\$100,000	\$35,000	\$6,000	--	\$3,000

Source: City of Fitzgerald, 1992. Mayes, Sudderth & Etheredge, Inc., 1992.

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## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Table 7 outlines the overall work program which Ben Hill County and Fitzgerald will follow through the year 2002 to achieve the 25 percent per capita reduction goal, the ten year solid waste handling capability and capacity goal and other local solid waste management goals. Specific actions and program are listed, by year, along with implementation responsibilities, estimated costs, and potential funding sources.

**TABLE 7**  
**BEN HILL COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**TEN YEAR WORK PROGRAM**  
**1992 - 2002**

Element	Responsibility										Funding Source			
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	County	City	Grant	Private Sector Volunteer
<b>A. Amount of Waste</b>														
A1. Contact waste stream analysis (\$5K).	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	X			
<b>B. Collection</b>														
B1. Continue collecting trash from the existing greenbox sy. stem.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
B2. Continue existing collection practices and make modifications as necessary to support countywide waste reduction and recycling.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
B3. Monitor effectiveness of collection practices on an on-going basis.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

**TABLE 7 (continued)**  
**BEN HILL COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**TEN YEAR WORK PROGRAM**  
**1992 - 2002**

Element	Responsibility										Funding Source						
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	County	City	Grant	Private Sector Volunteer			
	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9							
<b>C. Disposal</b>	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	9	9	0	1	2				
C1. Continue using existing landfill for disposal.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
C2. Complete EPD permitting process, construct and use new municipal solid waste landfill (50K/ac).			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
C3. Close Ben Hill County			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
<b>D. Waste Reduction</b>																	
D1. Implement and encourage the use of a system of drop-off recycling centers throughout the county. (Estimated Reduction 5%/Yr.) Revised to use single recycling center. 1995.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X

TABLE 7 (continued)

BEN HILL COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
TEN YEAR WORK PROGRAM  
1992 - 2002

Element	1992 - 2002										Responsibility				Funding Source					
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	County				City		Grant		Private Sector Volunteer	
	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	County	County	County	County	City	City	Grant	Grant		
D. Waste Reduction (cont.)																				
D2. Implement curbside recycling. (Est. Reduction 5%/Yr.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1										
	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9										
	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9										
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	9	9										
D3. Coordinate county-wide waste reduction efforts on an on-going basis.																				
D4. Develop and begin use of C & D landfill for waste disposal. (\$35K) (Est. Reduc.: 5%/Yr.)																				
D5. Identify and implement incentives to encourage source reduction.																				

**TABLE 7 (continued)**  
**BEN HILL COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**TEN YEAR WORK PROGRAM**  
**1992 - 2002**

Element											Responsibility				Funding Source			
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	County		City	Grant	Private Sector Volunteer			
	1	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	County	City	Grant	Private Sector	Volunteer			
<b>D. Waste Reduction (cont.)</b>																		
D6. Establish on-going market identification program.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
D7. Seek the assistance of the South Georgia RDC in developing regional markets for recyclables.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
D8. Monitor the effectiveness of waste reduction programs on an on-going basis.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
D9. Participate in solid waste related seminars and workshops on an on-going basis.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						

TABLE 7 (continued)

BEN HILL COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
TEN YEAR WORK PROGRAM  
1992 - 2002

Element											Responsibility	Funding Source					
	1 9 9 2	1 9 9 3	1 9 9 4	1 9 9 5	1 9 9 6	1 9 9 7	1 9 9 8	1 9 9 9	2 0 0 1	2 0 0 1		2 0 0 2	County	City	Grant	Private Sector Volunteer	
<b>E. Educ. &amp; Public Involvement</b>																	
E1. Implement a countywide public relations effort.	X													X			X
(a) Support educational programs in school system.	X													X			X
(b) Hold special events, activities and contests on an annual basis.	X													X			X
(c) Encourage source reduction, household composting and participation in local recycling programs.	X													X			X

**TABLE 7 (continued)**  
**BEN HILL COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**TEN YEAR WORK PROGRAM**  
**1992 - 2002**

Element	Responsibility										Funding Source				
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	County	City	Grant	Private Sector Volunteer
E. Educ. & Public Invol. (cont)															
(d) Encourage local community groups to take the lead in countywide educ./ public involvement efforts.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
(e) Work with local/regional media regarding public education.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
(f) Actively enforce anti-littering laws.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
(g) Develop local recycling directory and update on an on-going basis.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X



## Resolution

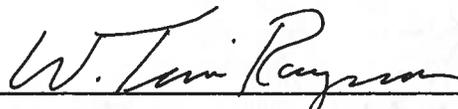
Whereas Ben Hill County is a member of The South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan, and

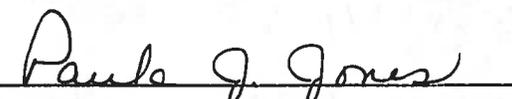
Whereas provisions of the states' minimum planning standards and procedures for solid waste management require an up-date of The Short Term Work Program, and

Whereas Ben Hill County has published two notices of public hearings on this matter and has made the required up-dates of The Short-Term Work Program,

Now, Therefore, Be It Enacted by the Board of the Commissioners of Ben Hill County, Georgia, and the same is hereby enacted in resolution form, transmitting said approved up-dated Short-Term Work Program to South Georgia Regional Development Center for an additional hearing, review, compliance certification and processing to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

This the 4th day of November, 1997.

  
(Chairman\Mayor)

  
(Clerk)



## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PUBLIC NOTICE

The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires all local governments to publish the information contained in the following Press Release. This information must be published in a newspaper of general circulation within 30 days of returning the Solid Waste Management Survey and Full Cost Report to the Department of Community Affairs. A copy of the newspaper notice must be maintained by the local government as part of its official files as proof of publication.

Some governments may wish to include additional information in their press release, such as fund sources other than operating revenues (e.g., ad valorem, local option sales, and insurance premium taxes). Others may wish to provide information on the solid waste activities provided by the private sector. This form includes what is required at a minimum. Local governments are free to add any additional information to the press release they feel will be helpful in educating their citizens.

### PRESS RELEASE

The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires (name of local government) to develop a strategy for reducing the amount of solid waste going into landfills and other disposal facilities. This reduction may be accomplished by many techniques, including recycling materials such as plastic, newspaper, and aluminum cans. It can also be accomplished by diverting yard waste from disposal facilities into backyard or other composting operations. Many other innovative methods for reducing our local waste stream are also available. Most of these

methods involve your cooperation and effort. If you are interested in information about what you can do to help, please contact [name of solid waste coordinator] at [telephone number].

The Act also requires (name of local government) to disclose its actual cost of providing solid waste management services. This and other required information is provided in the notice below.

### Solid Waste Management Public Notice

Name of Government BEN HILL COUNTY

Type of Service	Operating Revenues	Full Cost
Collection	32,328	226,148
Recycling*		2,500
Disposal		247,325
Public Education		
Total	32,328	475,973

Fiscal Year From 07 / 01 / 96  
To 06 / 30 / 97

Estimated Population 9000

Tons of Waste Disposed 6612.52

Total Cost Per Ton 39.00

Total Cost Per Person 27.48

For Grover Dade Prescott Contact:

Grover Dade Prescott  
401 E Central Ave.  
Fitzgerald GA 31750  
426-5100

\* Includes composting and mulching

## Resolution

**Whereas** The City of Fitzgerald is a member of The South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan, and

**Whereas** provisions of the states' minimum planning standards and procedures for solid waste management require an up-date of The Short Term Work Program, and

**Whereas** The City of Fitzgerald has published two notices of public hearings on this matter and has made the required up-dates of The Short-Term Work Program,

**Now, Therefore,** Be It Enacted by Mayor and Council of the City of Fitzgerald Georgia, and the same is hereby enacted in resolution form, transmitting said approved up-dated Short-Term Work Program to South Georgia Regional Development Center for an additional hearing, review, compliance certification and processing to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

This the 28th day of July, 1997.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

CERTIFIED COPY OF ORIGINAL

Linda I. Saunders

covery of the ironclad USS  
 Monitor, sunk in 1862 by the  
 Confederate Merrimac, and in  
 the discovery of the Titanic.  
 The Tifton museum of Arts  
 and Heritage is located on  
 the Avenue in downtown  
 Tifton adjacent to the library.

**USDA office closed  
 for meetings**

The United States Depart-  
 ment of Agriculture (USDA)  
 regional development office,  
 located in Ocilla, will be closed  
 today and tomorrow so that  
 employees may attend a meet-

Sheriffs' Association annual  
 training conference held in  
 Braselton.

Ellis joined 110 of his fellow  
 law enforcement officers at  
 the three-day conference. The  
 sheriffs participated in train-  
 ing seminars, the election of  
 1997-98 officers and various  
 association business meet-  
 ings.

The conference was devoted  
 to training sessions to update  
 the sheriffs on issues affecting  
 the field of law enforcement.  
 Expert speakers provided  
 training to conference partici-

The General Educational  
 Development Test will be  
 given Friday, Aug. 29, at Abra-  
 ham Baldwin College. The  
 eight-hour test will begin at 8  
 a.m.

A fee of \$35 is charged.  
 Applicants must bring the fee  
 and their driver's license — or  
 other photo-bearing identifi-  
 cation — to the test site.

pants on infrared video sys-  
 tems, tuberculosis in county  
 jails, fair labor standards act,  
 jail issues and sexual harass-  
 ment in the workplace.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires the City of Fitzgerald to develop a strategy for reducing the amount of solid waste going into landfills and other disposal facilities. This reduction may be accomplished by many techniques, including recycling materials such as plastic, newspaper, and aluminum cans. It can also be accomplished by diverting yard waste from disposal facilities into backyard or other composting operations. Many other innovative methods for reducing our local waste stream are also available. Most of these methods involve your cooperation and effort. If you are interested in information about what you can do to help, please contact Alvie L. Dorminy, City Administrator, at 426-5060.

The Act also requires the City of Fitzgerald to disclose its actual cost of providing solid waste management services. This and other required information is provided in the notice below.

**Solid Waste Management Public Notice**

**City of Fitzgerald**

Type of Service	Operation Revenues	Full Cost
Collection	\$711,345.00	\$531,978.00
Recycling*	\$0.00	\$2,398.00
Disposal	\$0.00	\$295,810.00
Public Education	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$711,345.00</b>	<b>\$833,686.00</b>

Fiscal Year: From 01/01/96 to 12/31/96

Estimated Population: 9500

Tons of Waste Disposed: 8556

Total Cost Per Ton: \$97.44

Total Cost Per Person: \$87.76

\* Includes composting and mulching

For further information about this notice,  
 please contact:  
**Alvie L. Dorminy, City Administrator**  
**116 North Johnston Street**  
**(912) 426-5060**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

File

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Commissioner Larry E. Davis                      Mayor Gerald H. Thompson  
Ben Hill County                                              City of Fitzgerald

**FROM:** Rick Brooks, *R Brooks* Director Planning and Environmental Management Division

**CC:** South Georgia Regional Development Center

**DATE:** May 3, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Adjustment of 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Updates

A decade ago, solid waste management planning was a top priority for local officials across the state. Georgia had less than five years of disposal capacity and many parts of the state were struggling to provide adequate solid waste collection services. In 1990, the Solid Waste Management Act was adopted, requiring all local governments to prepare a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan that demonstrated:

- a minimum of 10 years of solid waste disposal capacity,
- identified an environmentally sound solid waste collection system, and
- set forth a strategy that would help the state achieve it's goal of a 25% per capita reduction in the disposal of municipal solid waste.

While the urgency to prepare and implement solid waste management plans has diminished, the need to have an up-to-date Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is as strong as ever. Georgia's population continues to grow, and while over 550 local governments have implemented recycling programs, the state has fallen short of meeting its 25% waste disposal reduction goal. Many of the solid waste management services provided by the public sector have been privatized over the past decade, changing the level and type of solid waste management services available throughout the state. And while the amount of disposal capacity in the state has risen sharply over the last decade, this capacity is found in fewer, larger regional facilities.

With all of these changes and the changes to come over the next decade, it is critical that we continue to monitor and plan for the proper management of the solid waste generated within our state. In order to help eliminate duplicative planning efforts and to better coordinate local government planning responsibilities, DCA has consolidated local Solid Waste Management and Comprehensive planning due dates. Thus, the SWMP due date for Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald has been changed to coincide with the established deadline for your Comprehensive Plan.

MEMORANDUM

Page 2

May 3, 2002

The 12/31/02 due date for completion of the Solid Waste Management Plan update by Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald has been changed to 2/28/06. However, in lieu of a full plan update, your local government must prepare a "transitional" Short Term Work Program (STWP) due by 12/31/2002.

As a key component of the solid waste management plan, the STWP update provides local governments an opportunity to assess solid waste management and planning activities for the final years of the planning period. The update must include a list of accomplishments enacted since your last STWP update through 12/31/2002 and a program update of planned activities from 12/31/2002 through 2/28/06.

**To remain in compliance with State law and remain eligible for solid waste loans, grants, and permits, Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald must prepare a transitional STWP update, have it approved by DCA, and be locally adopted by 12/31/2002.**

Based on experience, the STWP update process can take as little as 70 days or as long as 190 days to complete. Please remember that this schedule also includes the time necessary for the South Georgia RDC and DCA to review and approve the STWP. Assistance and guidance documents on preparing the STWP update are available from your RDC Office or by contacting Mary Harrington of my staff at (404) 679-3144 or [mharring@dca.state.ga.us](mailto:mharring@dca.state.ga.us).

We hope this one time change in your solid waste management plan update schedule does not create any undue inconveniences and that it presents an opportunity to enhance the coordination of your local planning efforts. We believe that the local governments that are affected by these changes will benefit from this decision.

RB/meh

RECEIVED

AUG 02 2010

NOTICE OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUBMITTAL  
AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Submitting**

**Local Governments:** Ben Hill County  
City of Fitzgerald

**Date Received:** July 26, 2010

**Local Contacts:** Paula Jones County Manager/ Clerk, Ben Hill County

**Phone:** 229-426-5100

**Address:** 402-A Pine Street, Fitzgerald Georgia 31750

**New Local Plan:**

**Plan Amendment:**

**Plan Update:**

**Short Term Work Program Update: X**

**Description of General Nature of Plan**

Ben Hill County and City of Fitzgerald have submitted an update to their Short Term Work Program to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission for review. Included in the update is a Report of Accomplishments for all existing Short Term Work Program activities, a new Short Term Work Program covering the next five-year planning period and a new disposal capacity assurance letter.

Comments from interested parties should be submitted to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission by August 6, 2010.

**Reviewing Regional Commission:** Southern Georgia RC

**Contact Person:** Janice McKinnon

**Address:** 327 West Savannah Avenue, Valdosta Georgia 31601

**Phone:** (229) 333-5277

**Fax:** (229) 333-5312

**E-mail:** [jrmckinnon@sgrc.us](mailto:jrmckinnon@sgrc.us)

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**South Georgia**  
**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

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Post Office Box 1223 • 327 West Savannah Avenue • Valdosta, GA 31603  
Phone (229) 333-5277 • Fax (229) 333-5312 • www.sgrdc.com

December 16, 2005

Mr. Randy Hartmann, Director  
Office of Waste Management  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

RE: Transmittal of 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan

Dear Mr. Hartmann:

The South Georgia RDC received the draft 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan on December 16, 2005.

At this time, the regional/state review process has been initiated. Please find enclosed the "yellow sheet" notification form, the transmittal resolutions, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing minutes, and the 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan. A regional review public hearing will be conducted on January 5, 2006.

Thank your staff for their continuing support of our local and regional planning programs. Should you have any questions, please advise.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael F. Morgan".

Michael F. Morgan  
Principal Planner

Enclosures

TRANSMITTAL RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, BEN HILL COUNTY, TO TRANSMIT THE 2016 BEN HILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND SUBMIT NOTIFICATION TO THE SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, Ben Hill County recognizes the need to update their Solid Waste Management Plan and their Ten-Year Implementation Strategy; and

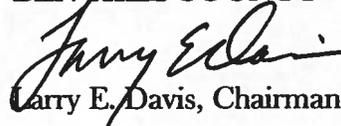
WHEREAS, the 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared for the County of Ben Hill by the Fitzgerald/Ben Hill County Planning Advisory Commission in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management; and

WHEREAS, THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS of the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management were met with one public hearing held June 20, 2005 prior to the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan, and a second public hearing held December 6, 2005 to receive input on the Solid Waste Management Plan.

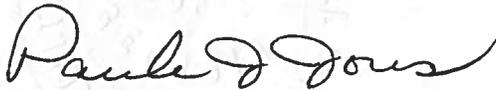
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan be accepted by the Ben Hill County Board of Commissioners, and that this Plan be transmitted to the South Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review as required by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.

DULY RESOLVED: THIS 6 DAY OF December, 2005.

BEN HILL COUNTY

  
Larry E. Davis, Chairman

ATTEST:



Paula Jones, County Clerk

TRANSMITTAL RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE FITZGERALD CITY COUNCIL, BEN HILL COUNTY, TO TRANSMIT THE 2016 BEN HILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND SUBMIT NOTIFICATION TO THE SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, the City of Fitzgerald recognizes the need to update their Solid Waste Management Plan and their Ten-Year Implementation Strategy; and

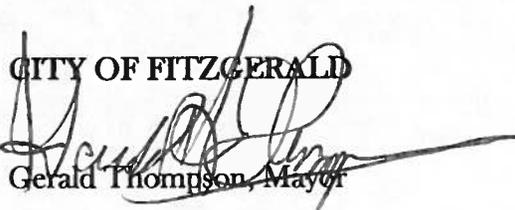
WHEREAS, the City of Fitzgerald agreed, through the adoption of joint resolutions, to develop a county-wide plan solid waste management plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared for the City of Fitzgerald by the Fitzgerald/Ben Hill County Planning Advisory Commission in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management; and

WHEREAS, THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS of the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management were met with one public hearing held June 20, 2005 prior to the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan, and a second public hearing held December 12, 2005 to receive input on the Solid Waste Management Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan be accepted by the Fitzgerald City Council, and that this Plan be transmitted to the South Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review as required by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.

DULY RESOLVED: THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF Dec, 2005.

CITY OF FITZGERALD  
  
Gerald Thompson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Linda Rineair, City Clerk

# *Fitzgerald / Ben Hill County Planning Commission*

## FIRST PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

June 20, 2005 Conference Room, Fitzgerald City Hall, Fitzgerald, GA 5:30PM

### TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS

- (1) Ten Year Update of "2010 Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Comprehensive Plan", and
- (2) Ten Year Update of Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan

Persons in attendance: Buck Anderson, Chairman; John Ed Smith, Secretary; Jim Turner; David King; Trey Luckie; Toni Sawyer, County Attorney; Clay Pelham, County Planning & Zoning; Jim Turner; Carroll Roberts; and Henry Tyson.

Chairman Buck Anderson called the Public Hearings to order and requested Michael Morgan, Planning Coordinator to explain the update process for the local comprehensive plan and the solid waste management plan. Mr. Morgan gave everyone the re-certification timetable and copies of the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning and the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Planning.

General discussion concerned the need for infrastructure improvements within the Urban Service Area to set the foundation for long-range future growth and development.

General discussion concerning solid waste management addressed the current need to amend the plan for a vertical expansion at the county landfill and continue to utilize the transfer station and develop recycling programs to meet state and local goals of reducing the amount of waste by twenty-five percent in the next ten years.

The Public Hearings were closed at 6:10PM.

# ***Ben Hill County Commission***

## **SECOND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

December 6, 2005 Commission Meeting Room, 324 East Pine Street, Fitzgerald, GA  
6:00PM

### **TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- (1) Proposed "2025 Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Comprehensive Plan", and
- (2) Proposed 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan

Persons in attendance: (See attached attendance sheet)

Sherry Davidson, Regional Planning Director for SGRDC opened the Public Hearings and requested Michael Morgan, Planning Coordinator to explain the purpose and the process. Mr. Morgan explained that every ten years the comprehensive plan and the solid waste management plan had to be updated to maintain "qualified local government" status. The Fitzgerald/Ben Hill County Planning Commission, County staff and City staff have all provided input and reviewed the two plans.

General discussion addressed the Ben Hill County Report of Accomplishments and the 2006-2010 Short-Term Work. The Rural Service Area and the Urban Service Area set the foundation for long-range future growth and development.

General discussion concerning solid waste management endorsed the transfer station and recycling programs to meet state and local goals of reducing the amount of waste by twenty-five percent in the next ten years. There was concern for more public education to stop the illegal dumping of waste along right-of-ways and in streams.

The Public Hearings were closed at 6:25 PM.



# *Fitzgerald City Council*

## SECOND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

December 12, 2005 Conference Center, 115 South Main Street, Fitzgerald, GA 6:00PM

### TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS

- (1) Proposed "2025 Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Comprehensive Plan", and
- (2) Proposed 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan

Persons in attendance for December 12<sup>th</sup> Hearing: Gerald Thompson, Mayor; Vernie Horton, John Fletcher, I. B. Harmon, Jason Holt, James Sowell, John Hageman, Albert Webb, Frederick Jones, and Calvin Wilcox.

Henry Tyson, Fitzgerald City Administrator opened the Public Hearings and explained the purpose and the process. Mr. Tyson said that every ten years the comprehensive plan and the solid waste management plan had to be updated to maintain "qualified local government" status. The Fitzgerald/Ben Hill County Planning Commission, County and City staff have all provided input and reviewed the two plans. Mr. Tyson said the City Council needed to show by resolution that it accepted the plans for State/Regional review for sixty days, and then adopt in mid-February 2006.

General discussion addressed the Ben Hill County Report of Accomplishments and the 2006-2010 Short-Term Work. The Rural Service Area and the Urban Service Area set the foundation for long-range future growth and development.

General discussion concerning solid waste management endorsed the transfer station and recycling programs to meet state and local goals of reducing the amount of waste by twenty-five percent in the next ten years. .

The Public Hearings were closed at 6:25 PM.



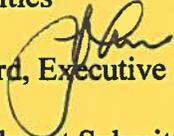
# South Georgia

## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Post Office Box 1223 • 327 West Savannah Avenue • Valdosta, GA 31603  
Phone (229) 333-5277 • Fax (229) 333-5312 • www.sgrdc.com

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Potentially affected local governments, federal and state agencies, and local authorities

**FROM:** John Leonard, Executive Director 

**RE:** Plan Amendment Submittal and Hearing/Comment Opportunity

A draft update for re-certification of the 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan has been prepared and transmitted to the South Georgia Regional Development Center for local plan review pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989.

Pursuant to the Act, the attached notice is being mailed to potentially affected governments, Regional Development Centers, federal agencies, state agencies, local authorities, and the Governor's Development Council and invites any interested representatives to attend a hearing scheduled for 10:00 A.M. on January 5, 2006 at:

**SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
327 WEST SAVANNAH AVENUE  
VALDOSTA, GEORGIA**

The purpose of the hearing is to provide an opportunity to review the draft plan amendments and to solicit comments. Written comments on the draft-updated plan will be accepted by the South Georgia Regional Development Center through the time of the hearing.

The chief elected official of the potentially affected local government is requested to place a copy of this notification of Local Plan Update submittal on file and post one copy on the government's official notice board.

Copies of the draft update are available for review at the Ben Hill County Courthouse Annex Building, and the Fitzgerald/Ben Hill Conference Center; and the South Georgia Regional Development Center.

**NOTIFICATION OF LOCAL PLAN AMENDMENT SUBMITTAL  
AND PUBLIC HEARING/COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**DATE OF SUBMITTAL: December 13, 2005**

**SUBMITTING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:** Ben Hill County  
City of Fitzgerald

**ADDRESSES/PHONE NUMBERS:** *See Attached Listing*

**CONTACT PERSONS:** *See Attached Listing*

New Local Plan  
Local Plan Amendment Short-Term Work Programs  
**X Solid Waste Management Plan Update**

**REGIONAL PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND TIME:** January 5, 2006 at 10:00 A.M.

**PLACE OF PUBLIC HEARING:** South Georgia Regional  
Development Center  
Conference Room  
327 West Savannah Avenue  
Valdosta, Georgia

**DESCRIPTION OF PLAN AMENDMENT:**

The update brings the 2000 census and current generation into the document and is prepared in accordance with the 2004 Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Planning. This update includes 2006 - 2016 short-term work program for Ben Hill County and the City of: Fitzgerald.

**REVIEWING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER:** SOUTH GEORGIA

**CONTACT PERSON:** Sherry Davidson, Regional  
Planning Director

**ADDRESS:** South Georgia Regional  
Development Center  
327 West Savannah Avenue  
Valdosta, Georgia 31601

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (229) 333-5277

**FAX NUMBER:** (229) 333-5312

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** [sdavidson@sgrdc.com](mailto:sdavidson@sgrdc.com)

**ATTACHMENT**

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**ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS:**

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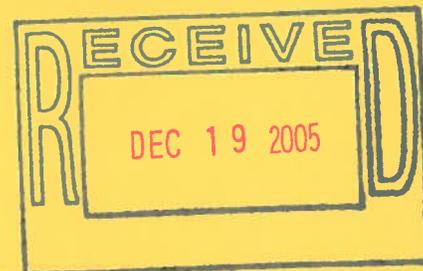
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Mr. Gerald Thompson, Mayor



# South Georgia

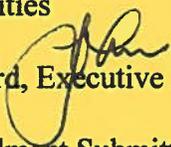
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Mr. Larry E. Davis, Chairman  
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# South Georgia

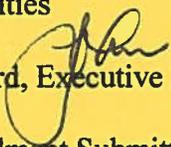
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2005 DEC 20 AM 8:19

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**PLACE OF PUBLIC HEARING:** South Georgia Regional  
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327 West Savannah Avenue  
Valdosta, Georgia

**DESCRIPTION OF PLAN AMENDMENT:**

The update brings the 2000 census and current generation into the document and is prepared in accordance with the 2004 Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Planning. This update includes 2006 - 2016 short-term work program for Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald.

**REVIEWING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER:** SOUTH GEORGIA

**CONTACT PERSON:** Sherry Davidson, Regional  
Planning Director

**ADDRESS:** South Georgia Regional  
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**CONTACT PERSONS:**

Ben Hill County  
City of Fitzgerald

- Mr. Larry E. Davis, Chairman  
Mr. Gerald Thompson, Mayor



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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Potentially affected local governments, federal and state agencies, and local authorities

**FROM:** John Leonard, Executive Director

**RE:** Plan Amendment Submittal and Hearing/Comment Opportunity

A draft update for re-certification of the 2025 Fitzgerald / Ben Hill County Comprehensive Plan has been prepared and transmitted to the South Georgia Regional Development Center for local plan review pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989.

Pursuant to the Act, the attached notice is being mailed to potentially affected governments, Regional Development Centers, federal agencies, state agencies, local authorities, and the Governor's Development Council and invites any interested representatives to attend a hearing scheduled for 10:00 A.M. on January 5, 2006 at:

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VALDOSTA, GEORGIA**

The purpose of the hearing is to provide an opportunity to review the draft plan amendments and to solicit comments. Written comments on the draft-updated plan will be accepted by the South Georgia Regional Development Center through the time of the hearing.

The chief elected official of the potentially affected local government is requested to place a copy of this notification of Local Plan Update submittal on file and post one copy on the government's official notice board.

Copies of the draft update are available for review at the Ben Hill County Courthouse Annex Building, and the Fitzgerald/Ben Hill Conference Center; and the South Georgia Regional Development Center.

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**PLACE OF PUBLIC HEARING:** South Georgia Regional  
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Conference Room  
327 West Savannah Avenue  
Valdosta, Georgia

**DESCRIPTION OF PLAN AMENDMENT:**

The update brings the 2000 census into the document and is prepared in accordance with the 2004 Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning. This update includes five-year short-term work programs for Ben Hill County and the City of: Fitzgerald.

**REVIEWING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER:** SOUTH GEORGIA

**CONTACT PERSON:** Sherry Davidson, Regional  
Planning Director

**ADDRESS:** South Georgia Regional  
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2006 JAN -9 PM 2:33

January 6, 2006

Mr. Randy Hartmann, Director  
Office of Waste Management  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

RE: Regional Review of 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan

Dear Mr. Hartmann:

Please find enclosed the South Georgia RDC Regional Review Public Hearing Minutes conducted on January 5, 2006, and the regional review for each unit of government. We have also enclosed page 2 with corrections to Table 3.

The sixty-day State/Regional review period began on December 11, 2005, and is scheduled to be completed February 11, 2006. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in completion of this review and will work to expedite the resolution of any questions.

Thank your staff for their continuing support of our local and regional planning programs. Should you have any questions, please advise.

Sincerely yours,

Michael F. Morgan  
Principal Planner

Enclosures

An Equal Opportunity Employer / Program

Persons with speech or hearing disabilities can contact the Georgia Telephone Relay Service at 1-800-255-0056 (TDD/TTY) or 1-800-255-0135 (Voice)

REGIONAL REVIEW PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

FOR

Update of the 2016 BEN HILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHERE: South Georgia Regional Development Center  
Conference Room  
327 West Savannah Avenue  
Valdosta, Georgia

TIME/DATE: 10:00 AM, JANUARY 5, 2006

PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE: Michael Morgan, Principal Planner South Georgia RDC.

Michael Morgan, Principal Planner South Georgia RDC, called the Regional Review Public Hearing to order at 10:00 AM. Mr. Morgan explained the intent and purpose of the regional public hearing.

Discussions and meetings with Fitzgerald and Ben Hill County have led to revisions to the "accepted for review" proposed solid waste management plan.

Mr. Morgan closed the regional review public hearing at 10:15 AM.

**SOUTH GEORGIA RDC'S REPORT  
REGARDING REGIONAL REVIEW  
FOR  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE  
AND  
RE-CERTIFICATION  
OF  
"2016 BEN HILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN"**

1) **Internal consistency of the Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan.**

The updated 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan is found to be internally consistent with the following respects:

- a) Population projections indicate steady growth and are reflected by maintaining the current collection and disposal system, utilizing door-to-door collection in Fitzgerald and drop off sites in the county. Fitzgerald/Ben Hill County must expand waste reduction and educational programs to meet the state goal for waste reduction.
- b) Land areas identified as environmentally sensitive, including the Ocmulgee, and Alapaha River corridors and lands having significant development limitations (wetlands, groundwater recharge areas and floodplains) have been shown in the future land use plan in the Rural Service Area. On-going Plan implementation programs building codes, zoning and other land development codes and ordinances are consistent with Part V "environmental criteria" of the Georgia Planning Act.
- c) Future solid waste management goals and policies are consistent with the South Georgia Regional Agenda, and neighboring counties' goals and policies.
- d) Woven within the Short-Term Work Program amount of waste, collection and disposal, waste reduction facilities and services, education and public involvement strategies, is the intent to continue to a countywide solid waste advisory body to advise the county commission on the implementation of the solid waste management plan. These and other projects and programs open the door to meet/exceed Georgia solid waste management goals.
- e) The plan's short-term work program includes the major program actions and new facilities to adequately implement the needs identified in the plan.

**TABLE 2: WASTE SOURCES AS A % OF TOTAL WASTE GENERATED  
2004 BEN HILL COUNTY**

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial /Industrial</u>
Ben Hill County	55	45
Fitzgerald	50	50

Source: Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald, 2005.

Table 3 provides waste composition estimates and projections for selected years through the year 2016. State averages for waste amounts and composition were utilized in calculating the estimates and projections presented in Table 3. To date contract haulers and county/city officials have begun taking a closer look at the total waste stream. No unusual or difficult to handle waste types have been observed, except for plastic. Assuming that Ben Hill County's waste composition is similar to that of the state as a whole, local officials will need to target reductions in: (1) paper/paperboard; (2) yard waste; (3) glass; and (4) other recyclable material. In addition, future waste reduction and public education efforts will need to focus on these waste types. The projections shown in Table 3 represent the amount and composition of solid waste, which will be generated within Ben Hill County by continuing to reduce waste and regenerate recycling efforts. As Table 3 indicates, total annual tonnage is projected to increase by 10.2 percent over the period.

**TABLE 3: BEN HILL COUNTY 2005– 2016 PROJECTED WASTE COMPOSITION**

<u>Waste Type</u>	<u>(Tons per year)</u>			
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2016</u>
Paper/Paperboard	9,454	9,686	10,037	10,416
C&D	1,567	1,606	1,585	1,645
Glass	1,020	1,045	1,056	1,096
Metals	1,443	1,478	1,585	1,645
Inorganics	796	816	792	822
Organic	6,668	6,831	7,131	7,401
Plastic	<u>3,956</u>	<u>4,053</u>	<u>4,226</u>	<u>4,386</u>
<b>Total Tons</b>	24,880	25,489	26,413	27,410

Source: Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2002. Georgia Environmental Protection Division, 2004. Analysis: South Georgia Regional Development Center, 2005.

Using 1.36 tons per person per year as a base amount, Table 4 illustrates the projected amounts of solid waste which would likely be generated with a 25



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

COPY

Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

January 23, 2006

Mr. John L. Leonard  
Executive Director, South Georgia RDC  
Post Office Box 1223  
Valdosta, Georgia 31603

Dear John,

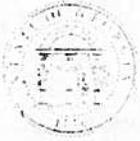
Our staff has reviewed the 2007 – 2016 Solid Waste Management Plan for Ben Hill County and the city of Fitzgerald. We find the Plan to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management.

To remain eligible for solid waste permits, grants, and loans, Ben Hill County and the city of Fitzgerald must adopt the SWMP before February 28, 2006 and forward a copy of the adoption resolutions to our office. When we receive notification that the County and City have adopted the 2007 – 2016 SWMP, we will send official notification of their continued eligibility to receive solid waste permits, grants, and loans.

Sincerely,

Mike Gleaton, Director  
Planning and Environmental Management Division

MG/meh



Copy

**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

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**Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER**

**Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR**

March 22, 2006

Honorable Larry E. Davis  
Chair, Ben Hill County Commission  
402 A East Pine Street  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750

Dear Chairman Davis:

We have received notification that **Ben Hill County** and the City of Fitzgerald have adopted the 2006 - 2015 Solid Waste Management Plan that meets the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Accordingly, it is my pleasure to notify you that Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald have regained eligibility for solid waste permits, grants and loans.

As you have experienced, in addition to proper and thorough long-range planning, effective solid waste management requires the ability to adapt when circumstances indicate that such action is necessary. Through continued review, and revision when necessary, solid waste planning provides your local government with more control over its destiny and assists you in dealing more effectively with both short-term and long-term management decisions.

We commend you for your hard work and dedication. If you have any questions regarding your solid waste management plan, please call Mary Harrington in our Office of Environmental Management at (404) 679-3144.

Sincerely,

  
Mike Beatty  
Commissioner

MB/meh

cc: John L. Leonard, Executive Director, South Georgia RDC

Copy



# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

March 22, 2006

Honorable Gerald Thompson  
Mayor, City of Fitzgerald  
Municipal Building  
116 North Johnston Street  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750

Dear Mayor Thompson:

We have received notification that Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald have adopted the 2006 - 2015 Solid Waste Management Plan that meets the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Accordingly, it is my pleasure to notify you that Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald have regained eligibility for solid waste permits, grants and loans.

As you have experienced, in addition to proper and thorough long-range planning, effective solid waste management requires the ability to adapt when circumstances indicate that such action is necessary. Through continued review, and revision when necessary, solid waste planning provides your local government with more control over its destiny and assists you in dealing more effectively with both short-term and long-term management decisions.

We commend you for your hard work and dedication. If you have any questions regarding your solid waste management plan, please call Mary Harrington in our Office of Environmental Management at (404) 679-3144.

Sincerely,

  
Mike Beatty  
Commissioner

MB/meh

cc: John L. Leonard, Executive Director, South Georgia RDC

ADOPTION RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FITZGERALD, GEORGIA TO ADOPT THE 2016 BEN HILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE SOUTH GEORGIA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND SUBMIT NOTIFICATION TO THE SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, the City of Fitzgerald recognizes the need to amend their solid waste management plan; and

WHEREAS, the Transmittal Resolution was submitted to the South Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, and the proposed solid waste management plan was reviewed by them and found to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures and consistent with adopted regional plans and policies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Fitzgerald Mayor and City Council do hereby adopt the 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan and amend the South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan and transmit notification to the South Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for certification of completion.

DULY RESOLVED: THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2006.

CITY OF FITZGERALD

  
Gerald Thompson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Rineair, City Clerk

**ADOPTION RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION OF BEN HILL COUNTY COMMISSION, GEORGIA TO ADOPT THE 2016 BEN HILL COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE SOUTH GEORGIA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND SUBMIT NOTIFICATION TO THE SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

WHEREAS, Ben Hill County recognizes the need to update their solid waste management plan and their Short-Term Work Program; and

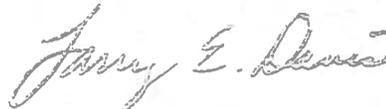
WHEREAS, the proposed updates to the <sup>Ben Hill</sup> ~~Lanier~~ County STWP have been prepared depicting federal fiscal years 2006 through 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Transmittal Resolution was submitted to the South Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, and the updated solid waste management plan was reviewed by them and found to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures and consistent with adopted regional plans and policies.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ben Hill County Chairman and County Commissioners do hereby adopt the 2016 Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan amendment to the South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan and transmit notification to the South Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for certification of completion.

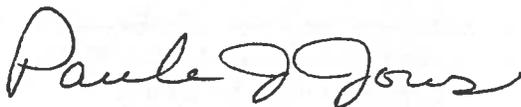
DULY RESOLVED: THIS <sup>14th</sup> DAY OF February, 2006.

**BEN HILL COUNTY**



Larry E. Davis, Chairman

ATTEST:



Paula Jones, ~~Acting~~ County Clerk

on database

Recd 12/19/05

2016 BEN HILL COUNTY & City of Fitzgerald  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## INTRODUCTION

Ben Hill County is located in south-central Georgia and has a land area of 163,200 acres, or about 255 square miles. There is one city namely, Fitzgerald and the total population is 18,294 persons. The urban/ rural split in population is 48 percent urban and 52 percent rural. Most of the land is well drained and most of the county is well suited for agriculture and forestry uses. The physical landscape is fairly homogenous with no outstanding physical features. Ninety-seven percent of the unincorporated area of Ben Hill County is used as cropland, pasture, orchard, and commercial timber. Eighty-one percent of the 12,121 employment base in Ben Hill County is in the following economic sectors: Manufacturing, 41.3%; State and Local Government, 14.6%; Services, 13.2%; and Retail Trade, 12.5%.

## INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

### Amount of Waste

The amount of waste generated on an annual basis within Ben Hill County was 24,722 tons in FY04. Per capita waste generation in Ben Hill County can be determined by dividing the annual waste amount of 24,722 tons by Ben Hill County's 2004-estimated population of 18,134. This results in a per capita generation rate of 1.36 tons per year, or 6.47 pounds per person per day (Table 1). In 1992, the estimated per capita generation rate was 0.82 tons per year and 4.50 pounds per persons per day. This estimated tonnage and per capita rates utilized the national average of 0.82 tons per person per year and applied it to the 1991 population of Ben Hill County. Obviously this national rate was a little low for Ben Hill County, so comparisons are possible.

Unincorporated Ben Hill County generates 4,064 tons per year; the City of Fitzgerald generates 9,031 tons per year; and private business/individual 11,482 tons per year with a breakdown of residential=13,095 tons and commercial/industrial=11,627 tons. Sources of solid waste generated within Ben Hill County are estimated in Table 2. As Table 2 indicates, the majority of waste generated in unincorporated Ben Hill County can be described as residential, but overall there is a nearly 50/50 split between residential and commercial/industrial. There are unaccounted for tons of MSW disposed by individuals on their own property within unincorporated Ben Hill County.

**TABLE 1: BEN HILL COUNTY 2004 ESTIMATED WASTE AMOUNT**

<u>Population</u>	<u>Per Capita Rate (Tons Per Year)</u>	<u>Total Tons Per Year</u>
18,134	1.36	24,722

Source: City of Fitzgerald, 2004. Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2002; South Georgia Regional Development Center, 2005 and Georgia Environmental Protection Division, 2004.

**TABLE 2: WASTE SOURCES AS A % OF TOTAL WASTE GENERATED  
2004 BEN HILL COUNTY**

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial /Industrial</u>
Ben Hill County	55	45
Fitzgerald	50	50

Source: Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald, 2005.

Table 3 provides waste composition estimates and projections for selected years through the year 2016. State averages for waste amounts and composition were utilized in calculating the estimates and projections presented in Table 3. To date contract haulers and county/city officials have begun taking a closer look at the total waste stream. No unusual or difficult to handle waste types have been observed, except for plastic. Assuming that Ben Hill County's waste composition is similar to that of the state as a whole, local officials will need to target reductions in: (1) paper/paperboard; (2) yard waste; (3) glass; and (4) other recyclable material. In addition, future waste reduction and public education efforts will need to focus on these waste types. The projections shown in Table 3 represent the amount and composition of solid waste, which will be generated within Ben Hill County by continuing to reduce waste and regenerate recycling efforts. As Table 3 indicates, total annual tonnage is projected to increase by 10.2 percent over the period.

**TABLE 3: BEN HILL COUNTY 2005- 2016 PROJECTED WASTE COMPOSITION**

<u>Waste Type</u>	<u>(Tons per year)</u>			
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2016</u>
Paper/Paperboard	9,454	9,686	1,299	10,037
C&D	1,567	1,606	1,572	1,727
Glass	1,020	1,045	1,003	1,124
Metals	1,443	1,478	1,419	1,590
Inorganics	796	816	783	877
Organic	6,668	6,831	6,558	7,346
Plastic	<u>3,956</u>	<u>4,053</u>	<u>3,891</u>	<u>4,358</u>
<b>Total Tons</b>	<b>24,880</b>	<b>25,489</b>	<b>26,413</b>	<b>27,410</b>

Source: Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2002. Georgia Environmental Protection Division, 2004. Analysis: South Georgia Regional Development Center, 2005.

Using 1.36 tons per person per year as a base amount, Table 4 illustrates the projected amounts of solid waste which would likely be generated with a 25

percent per capita reduction countywide. As Table 4 illustrates, annual tonnage (with recycling) is projected to decrease from 24,722 tons in 2004 to 18,542 tons by 2016. Given the rate of population and economic growth projected for Ben Hill County, local officials are confident that this reduction can be met, providing the recycling programs are successful and C/D wastes can be reduced by fifty percent.

**TABLE 4: 2004 – 2015 PROJECTED WASTE AMOUNTS  
BEN HILL COUNTY, GEORGIA**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Per Capita Rate (Tons Per Year)</u>	<u>Total Per Year</u>	<u>TonsPer Day</u>
2005	18,294	1.36		
2006	18,443	1.33	24,880	68.2
2007	18,592	1.30	24,529	67.2
2008	18,742	1.27	24,170	66.2
2009	18,891	1.24	23,802	65.2
2010	19,041	1.21	23,425	64.2
2011	19,231	1.18	23,040	63.1
2012	19,421	1.15	22,692	62.2
2013	19,611	1.11	22,334	61.2
2014	19,801	1.08	21,768	59.6
2015	19,993	1.05	21,385	58.5
2016	20,154	1.02	20,992	57.5
			20,557	56.3

Source: Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2002. South Georgia Regional Development Center, 2005.

According to local officials, minor amounts of business/industrial waste is imported into Ben Hill County from other jurisdictions.

### Collection

Ben Hill County operates five manned collection sites and services two green box sites to serve the unincorporated portion of the county. All waste is transported to the Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County transfer station and then to Pecan Row Landfill in Lowndes County for disposal. Collection service is generally considered adequate and will meet the county's needs throughout the planning period.

The City of Fitzgerald Public Works Department provides door-to-door collection service. Ben Hill County pays for residential collection and disposal from the general fund. Commercial/industrial clients pay user fees for collection and disposal. The City of Fitzgerald assesses \$18.00 for

residential and \$50-60.00 for commercial and industrial. Annual operating costs for all units of government are estimated to be \$1,520,173. City/County officials indicate that the existing solid waste program is self-sustaining. Collection service is generally considered good and will adequately meet the county's needs over the planning period.

### **Waste Reduction**

There is a voluntary recycling program of white and brown goods stored at the county landfill and an annual spring citywide cleanup day, and a recycling center operated in Fitzgerald. Each year after Christmas the trees are ground up and the mulch is given away. Corrugated cardboard is collected and baled and sold to recycling companies. Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald will need to continue efforts regarding waste reduction and recycling in order to meet state and local reduction goals by 2016. Special emphasis needs to be placed on C/D wastes as it constitutes nearly 37 percent of the annual waste generated. Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald will need to increase education and public awareness efforts regarding solid waste management in order to meet state and local goals.

### **Disposal**

Since 1993, the Ben Hill County Landfill has opened a Sub-Title D landfill in accordance with Georgia EPD and US EPA regulations. In 2003-4 a transfer station was constructed at the landfill. All MSW generated in Greater Ben Hill County are transported for disposal to Pecan Row Landfill (Lowndes County), which is a permitted Sub-Title D landfill.

### **Land Limitation**

Figure 1 illustrates those areas within Ben Hill County, which are considered unsuitable for locating solid waste handling facilities. The environmental limitations shown in Figure 1 are those identified and mapped on Hydrologic Atlas 20, Ground-water Pollution Susceptibility maps prepared by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and Georgia Geologic Survey. These maps are available for inspection at the offices of the South Georgia RDC. Limitations include floodplains, wetlands, groundwater recharge areas, water supply watersheds, steep slopes, and areas having poor soil characteristics. Department of Natural Resources maps also identify local land use and regulatory limitations, such as built-up areas (municipalities), proximity to airports, proximity to National Historic sites, and jurisdictional boundaries.

Ben Hill County is located in the Southern Coastal Plain physiographic province of Georgia. The county's land surface is characterized by gently rolling topography. Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald have mapped floodplains. Flood hazards typically occur in late winter and early spring. In

addition to floodplains, wetlands are also located throughout Ben Hill County. A draft wetlands inventory prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service depicts the general location of wetland areas within Ben Hill County. Developing parcels that are within those depicted areas, or suspected of having wetlands, should have detailed wetlands delineation survey performed and follow all applicable requirements under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act and the Ben Hill County Land Development Ordinance-Water Protection regulations.

Typical of coastal plain areas, the majority of Ben Hill County water is derived from the Floridan aquifer. This aquifer consists of confined limestone, dolostone, and calcareous sand. Underlying the Floridan are the Claiborne and Clayton aquifers. The Floridan aquifer is principally recharged immediately south of the Fall Line, which stretches across central Georgia from Columbus to Augusta. Most sedimentary rock formations of the Coastal Plain begin at the ground surface just south of the Fall Line. As a result this is where most aquifer water originates. Recharge can also occur at other points where the aquifer up dips to become closer to the surface allowing water from streams, sink holes, and ponds to permeate through more shallow ground into the aquifer. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Geological Survey have mapped the generalized location of groundwater recharge areas within Ben Hill County. These maps are available for inspection at the offices of the South Georgia RDC. Because pollutants can spread uncontrollably throughout the aquifer, development of any kind in recharge areas should be limited.

Greater Ben Hill (Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald) adopted a joint long-range comprehensive plan in 1994. The ten-year update of this comprehensive plan will be completed and adopted in February 2006. All units of government have zoning ordinances, land subdivision ordinances and enforce the State Construction Codes. Built-up areas in Ben Hill County consists of the City of Fitzgerald. National Historic Districts exist in the City of Fitzgerald, and one airport exists in Ben Hill County.

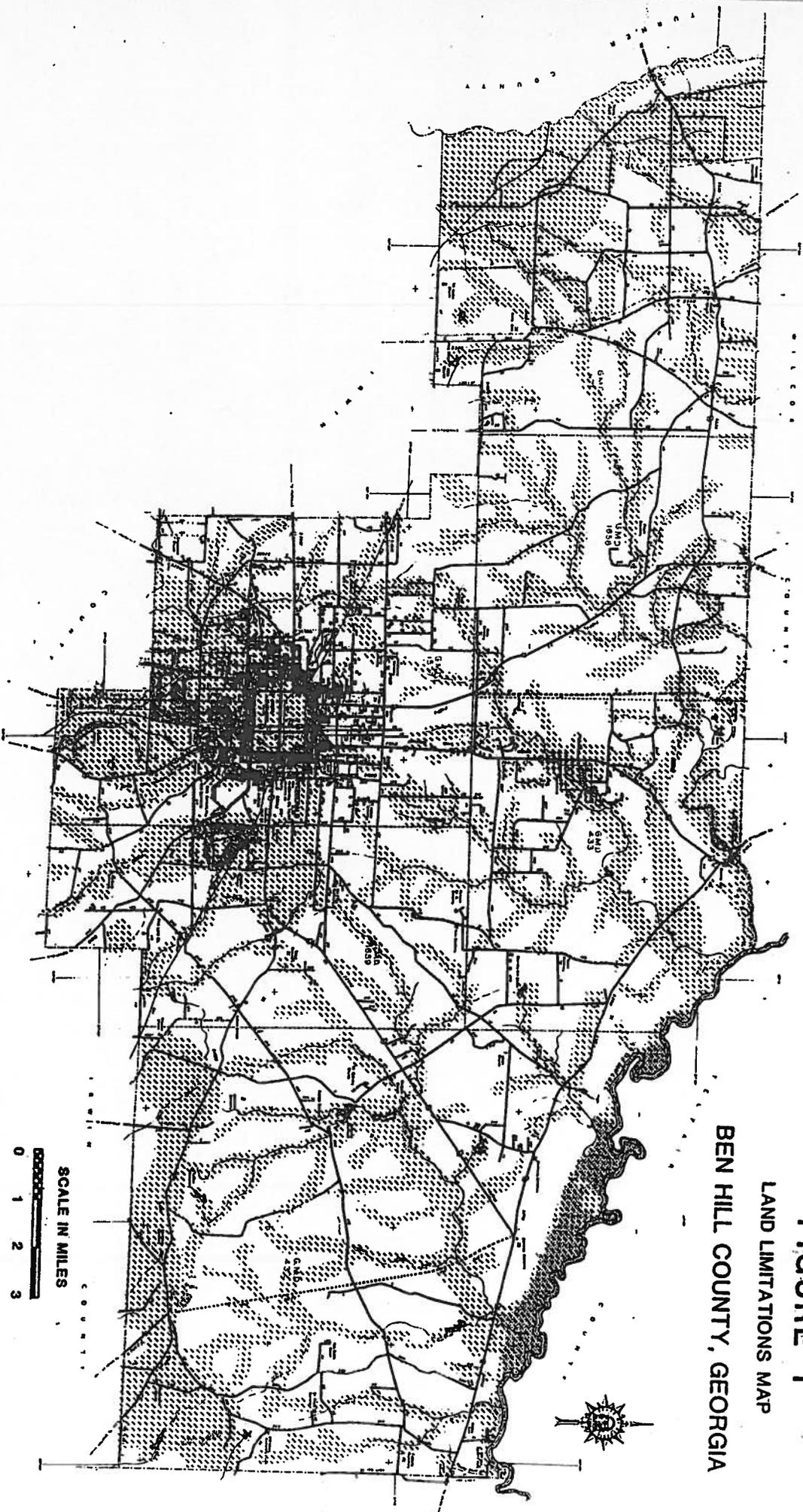
### **Education and Public Involvement**

An on-going public relations program to create an awareness of solid waste issues and encourage maximum participation in countywide waste reduction and recycling efforts has been undertaken by Ben Hill County. Public information and education are the keys to any successful waste reduction program. The county has supported the Ben Hill County school system in the environmental education programs. The county has continued to enforce anti-littering laws and supports local beautification programs. The county and city annually publicize the full cost of providing solid waste management services.

### **Existing Financing**

Ben Hill County finance solid waste services with general funds and user fees and Fitzgerald currently finance solid waste services through user charges assessed for collection and disposal. County/City officials have indicated that existing solid waste management practices are adjusted to cover costs.

Ben Hill County's estimated annual cost of providing solid waste services operating- collection/disposal- \$573,509. Fitzgerald's estimated annual cost of providing solid waste services is \$946,664. Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald have not historically funded waste reduction or public education programs. Volunteers have undertaken efforts in these areas.



**FIGURE 1**  
**LAND LIMITATIONS MAP**  
**BEN HILL COUNTY, GEORGIA**

 **GEOLOGICAL LIMITATIONS**  
 **SANITARY LANDFILLS**

SOURCE: Georgia Department of Natural Resources and  
 the United States Geological Survey, 1990.

## **GOALS AND STRATEGIES**

The following goal statements represent the future direction for Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald in addressing solid waste management. A series of strategy statements is identified under each goal. The strategy statements address more specific issues and suggest courses of action for dealing with these issues. Accompanying each strategy statement is narrative, which further explains the purpose of the objective statement and, in some instances, provides examples. Local officials are confident that all the strategies outlined will allow each local government to successfully achieve the stated goals.

### **AMOUNT OF WASTE**

**GOAL I: TO DETERMINE THE AMOUNT AND COMPOSITION OF THE SOLID WASTE GENERATED WITHIN THE COUNTY IN ORDER TO HAVE A SOUND INFORMATION BASE UPON WHICH TO BASE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS AND TO DETERMINE IF STATEWIDE AND LOCAL GOALS HAVE BEEN MET.**

Strategy I-1: Implement an on-going program of waste measurement and analysis.

In accordance with the Solid Waste Management Act of 1990, as amended, Greater Ben Hill weighs waste amounts collected and disposed. With waste amounts (in tons) being documented, fiscal year 2004 will serve as the base year for countywide waste reduction efforts.

### **COLLECTION**

**GOAL II: TO ENSURE THE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS WITHIN GREATER BEN HILL.**

Strategy II-1: Continue existing collection practices and make modifications as necessary to support additional waste reduction and recycling programs. For the duration of the planning period, Fitzgerald will continue collecting solid waste via a door-to-door collection service and Ben Hill County will utilize their six greenbox collection sites. Throughout the planning period, Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald will closely monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of each collection system.

Strategy II-2: The County is developing a contingency strategy for alternative collection on an interim basis. Two other collection companies Browning-Ferris, Inc. and Waste Management, Inc. are being considered. These alternates will be on-line within thirty days.

Strategy II-3: The County and City in cooperation with the local and state Emergency Management Agency have prepared a “pre-disaster mitigation plan” to deal with wastes generated from natural disasters (floods, fires, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, etc.) The pre-disaster mitigation plan was completed in June of 2005 and will be updated every five years thereafter.

## **WASTE REDUCTION**

**GOAL III: TO ENSURE, AT A MINIMUM, A 25 PERCENT PER CAPITA REDUCTION BY 2016 OF THE AMOUNT OF SOLID WASTE BEING RECEIVED AT DISPOSAL FACILITIES, BY PROMOTION OF SOURCE REDUCTION, REUSE, COMPOSTING, RECYCLING AND OTHER WASTE REDUCTION PROGRAMS TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE, THEREBY MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE CITIZENS OF GREATER BEN HILL.**

Strategy III-1: Implement local recycling programs to reduce the amount of: (1) paper/paperboard; (2) yard waste; (3) glass; and (4) other recyclable materials.

As mentioned previously, Greater Ben Hill, through recycling agreements will develop recycling programs in an effort to exceed the 25 percent per capita reduction goal. Drop-off sites and compartmentalized collection trailers could be utilized for the following recyclables:

- Newspaper and magazines
- Bi-metal cans
- Aluminum cans
- Glass
- Plastic

Fitzgerald has established a voluntary recycling program to collect recyclables such as paper, aluminum, glass, plastic and yard waste. In addition, Fitzgerald will continue collecting corrugated cardboard from several of the city's commercial and industrial establishments. Ben Hill County has diverted plastic chemical (agricultural) containers from the landfill. Upon collection, Greater Ben Hill will transport recyclables to local and regional markets.

Strategy III-2: Coordinate waste reduction and recycling efforts on a countywide basis.

As Ben Hill County's drop-off recycling sites become operational, increased coordination will be required. Ben Hill County and Fitzgerald will coordinate

various aspects of each local recycling program, such as collection routes, schedules, etc. Coordination efforts will be incorporated into local education and public involvement efforts.

**Strategy III-3:** Continue to use the inert landfill in Ben Hill County and investigate the feasibility of implementing a county-operated composting operation.

In an effort to reduce the amount of yard waste and other inert waste land filled, county/city officials will develop the inert landfill. In order to obtain waste reduction credit, the diverted yard waste will need to be processed and reused in the form of mulch, compost, or some other product.

**Strategy III-4:** Establish an active program of market identification and analysis.

In order to ensure that markets exist for recyclables, Ben Hill County will closely monitor market conditions and trends on an on-going basis. To assist in this effort, the county will enlist the assistance of Fitzgerald, volunteers, and civic organizations. In addition, the South Georgia Regional Development Center will be called upon to assist in identifying and developing regional markets for recyclables.

**Strategy III-5:** White and brown goods, and tires are stockpiled and managed at the Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Landfill. Cumbaa Enterprises, Inc., 19041 SR 20 West, Blountstown, FL 32424 collects the white and brown goods on a fee per ton basis; and the county solid waste authority hauls tires to Jackson, GA and pays for disposal. The landfill assesses \$3.00 for small truck/car tires; \$7.50 for semi-truck tire; and \$250/ton for all other large tires.

## **DISPOSAL**

**GOAL IV:** TO ENSURE THAT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES SERVING BEN HILL COUNTY MEET REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS AND ARE IN PLACE WHEN NEEDED TO SUPPORT AND FACILITATE EFFECTIVE SOLID WASTE HANDLING PROGRAMS TODAY AND FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TEN-YEAR PERIOD, THEREBY MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE RESIDENTS OF BEN HILL COUNTY.

**Strategy IV-1:** Continue using private vendor contracts for disposal at the Pecan Row Landfill through 2016.

Information regarding Ben Hill County/City of Fitzgerald use of Pecan Row Landfill disposal capacity for the next ten years is included in the Appendix.

Strategy IV-2: The County and City currently contract with Onyx Evergreen at Pecan Row Landfill, and are developing a contingency strategy for alternative disposal on an interim basis. Disposal options include Crisp County Landfill, and Atkinson County Landfill. These alternative disposal sites will be on-line within thirty days.

Strategy IV-3: Continue to monitor via post-closure regulations at the former Ben Hill County Landfill.

## **LAND LIMITATION**

**GOAL V: TO ENSURE THAT PROPOSED SOLID WASTE HANDLING FACILITIES ARE SITED IN AREAS SUITABLE FOR SUCH DEVELOPMENTS, ARE COMPATIBLE WITH SURROUNDING USES AND ARE NOT CONSIDERED FOR LOCATION IN AREAS WHICH HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS AS HAVING ENVIRONMENTAL OR OTHER LAND USE LIMITATIONS.**

Strategy V-1: Identify land areas within Ben Hill County which are unsuitable for siting solid waste handling facilities.

The Land Limitations Map, Hydrologic Atlas 20, Ground-water Pollution Susceptibility maps prepared by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and Georgia Geologic Survey, identifies areas unsuitable for siting solid waste handling facilities. These maps, along with the Future Land Use Map and zoning ordinance maps, will be consulted by local officials as the need arises and in future planning efforts.

Strategy V-2: Prior to filing for a solid waste handling or C&D permit submit to Ben Hill County a written statement documenting the following:

- (1) How the proposed facility or facility expansion will meet the specific goals and/or needs identified in the Ben Hill County Solid Waste Management Plan, specifically what will be:
  - a. The impact upon the collection capability within the planning area;
  - b. The impact upon disposal capacity identified in the planning area; and
  - c. The impact to the waste reduction and recycling efforts within the planning area.
- (2) How the proposed facility or facility expansion and its operation will impact the county and cities. Any proposed solid waste handling facility will not negatively impact the natural and cultural environment and/or negatively impact public health and safety. Operational hours, vehicle traffic, etc., are all issues that should be addressed.

- (3) That the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed suitable according to the criteria listed in the solid waste management plan; and
- (4) That the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with local zoning ordinances.

Strategy V-3: Prepare, adopt, and update a local comprehensive plan.

Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald will, in accordance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, prepare and update their comprehensive plan by February 28, 2006. The plan will include a detailed future land use element.

Strategy V-4: Continue to amend and update the 2025 Greater Ben Hill Comprehensive Plan, and the county and city land development and zoning ordinances.

## **EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

**GOAL VI: TO HELP THE RESIDENTS OF BEN HILL COUNTY TO ACHIEVE AN AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, PROBLEMS, CONCERNS, AND NEEDS ASSOCIATED WITH SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF LITTERING, WASTE REDUCTION, RECYCLING, DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE, RECYCLING, COMPOSTING, PROCESSING, ENERGY RECOVERY, AND TO INCREASE SUPPORT FOR EFFECTIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.**

Strategy VI-1: Implement an on-going public relations program to create an awareness of solid waste issues and encourage maximum participation in countywide waste reduction and recycling efforts. Public information and education are the keys to any successful waste reduction program. Greater Ben Hill officials and volunteers will assume the lead role in countywide waste reduction and recycling efforts. Local efforts will focus on the following:

1. Conduct solid waste educational programs in the school system and the "Recycle as a Family" concept;
2. Hold annual events, activities, and contests throughout the year;
3. Strongly encourage source reduction and use of local recycling facilities;
4. Enlist the support and participation of local church congregations, as well as civic organizations, garden clubs, and community groups;
5. Utilize the local and regional media to the fullest extent possible to "get the word out" regarding the benefits of waste reduction and participation in local programs;
6. Continue to enforce anti-littering laws and support local beautification efforts.

7. Annually publicize the full cost of providing solid waste management services.

## **FUTURE FINANCING OF STRATEGIES**

Financing is the process of paying for the selected solid waste system and is divided into two areas: (1) capital costs and (2) operating and maintenance costs. A well-designed system can easily fail because an operating budget was not prepared and inadequate revenue sources secured for the system's operation and maintenance. The financing of a solid waste system will often involve more than one source of funds. Four points, which are essential to a soundly financed system, are:

- (1) Accurate cost accounting is needed to establish and maintain a cost effective operation,
- (2) Funds collected for financing the system should be set-aside in a dedicated or earmarked fund,
- (3) An amount of money sufficient to accumulate the purchase price of major pieces of equipment and land should be placed in an account called a "sinking fund" each year, and
- (4) Revenues should reflect the actual costs of services provided.

### **Collection**

Ben Hill County will continue to use general funds and user fees for commercial collection, and the City of Fitzgerald collection system will continue to be financed through their user charges enterprise funds.

### **Disposal**

Ben Hill County and Fitzgerald contract with Onyx Evergreen for the disposal of municipal solid waste. The combined FY '04 cost for collection/disposal was \$1,520,173. This total includes funds allocated to provide engineering services for post closure monitoring at the former Ben Hill County Landfill.

### **Waste Reduction**

Future waste reduction efforts in Greater Ben Hill will be financed through general fund allocations, user charges, and private donations. Local officials plan to seek financial assistance from state programs, if, and when funding becomes available.

### **Education and Public Involvement**

Future funding for activities and programs in these areas will likely come from each local governments' general fund. Private sector assistance in countywide efforts will also be sought.

### **Cost Projections**

Table 5 present cost projections (disposal, collection, waste reduction, and education/public involvement) for Greater Ben Hill. The projections include costs for: (1) operation and maintenance; and (2) capital expenditures. The cost projections presented in Table 5 represent the expenditures anticipated to fully implement each local governments' various solid waste management strategies. Each local government in annual budgeting processes will use these projections.

**TABLE 5: BEN HILL COUNTY AND CITY OF FITZGERALD SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
COST PROJECTIONS**

Year	Ben Hill County		Joint County / City Waste Reduction	Joint County / City Public Education
	Collection / Disposal	City of Fitzgerald Collection / Disposal		
2006	\$ 573,509	\$ 946,664	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000
2007	\$ 559,171	\$ 922,997	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,000
2008	\$ 545,192	\$ 899,922	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000
2009	\$ 531,562	\$ 877,424	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
2010	\$ 518,273	\$ 855,488	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,000
2011	\$ 505,316	\$ 834,101	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
2012	\$ 492,683	\$ 813,249	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
2013	\$ 480,366	\$ 792,918	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
2014	\$ 468,357	\$ 773,095	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
2015	\$ 456,648	\$ 753,768	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
2016	\$ 445,232	\$ 734,924	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000

Source: Ben Hill County & City of Fitzgerald, 2005. Analysis: South Georgia Regional Development Center, 2005.  
 Assumes: (1) Use of contract collection & disposal. (2) A 25% per capita reduction in MSW due to aggressive waste reduction/recycling.  
 (3) Post-closure monitoring at Ben Hill County Landfill costs \$28.6K/yr and will amount to \$286.8K for ten years.

**South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan  
Ben Hill County-Fitzgerald Solid Waste Management Plan  
2007-2016 Short-Term Work Program**

	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
<b>Amount of Waste</b> Maintain accurate records of the amount of materials collected/recycled											County Commission	NA	County / City
Utilize the DCA waste stream sort for recycling needs											City Council		
<b>Collection</b> Continue manned sites in county and door to-door collection in city	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	NA	County / City
Establish /encourage the use of drop-off sites for the collection of recyclables											Ben Hill County	\$227,471	GF/User fees
Monitor the effectiveness of collection practices annually	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City of Fitzgerald	\$558,495	User fees
<b>Waste Reduction</b> Divert yard trimmings and construction/demolition waste to inert landfill-1.5 % reduction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	\$1,450/y	General Fund
Market all recyclables-8% drop	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	NA	County / City
Work with local businesses to target corrugated cardboard (Est. reduction 10%)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	Unknown	User fees/ GF
Support waste reduction and recycling efforts undertaken by schools, churches, and other organizations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	NA	Sales/Gen. Fund
											Jointly County/City	NA	County/City
											Jointly County/City	NA	County/City

	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source
Monitor effectiveness of waste reduction programs on annual basis (decrease in MSW tonnage saves dollars)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	NA	County/City
Participate in solid waste related workshops & seminars					X				X				
<b>Disposal</b> Continue using Pecan Row Landfill for MSW disposal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	\$200/y	County/City
Utilize the transfer station & apply excess to landfill	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County Commission		
Continue to utilize the inert Landfill for non-MSW disposal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Council	\$ 166,494	User fees/GF
<b>Education &amp; Public Involvement</b> Actively support school system environmental education efforts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Business/Individual	\$ 359,379	Enterprise funds
Partner with local media (radio, TV, newspapers) to solicit assistance in education and public involvement efforts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Jointly County/City	NA	User fees
<b>Land Limitation</b> Use land limitation maps, and zoning ordinances & maps in future planning efforts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County Commission	Unknown	User fees
<b>General</b> Update solid waste management plan annually	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Council	Unknown	User fees
Seek assistance thru available state/federal financial programs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County Commission	NA	County
Annually inform public of the full cost of solid waste services	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Council	NA	City
											County Commission	NA	County
											City Council	NA	City
											County Commission	NA	County
											City Council	NA	City
											County Commission	NA	County
											City Council	NA	City
											County Commission	\$200/y	General Fund
											City Council	\$200/y	General Funds



**South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan  
Ben Hill County and City of Fitzgerald: 2001-2005 Report of Accomplishments**

<b>Collection</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
	Continue collecting trash from greenbox system	Greenboxes were replaced by curbside pickups countwide in 1998	
	Implement and encourage the use of a system of combined collection/recycling drop-off sites throughout the county	Completed	There are five manned sites for the collection of MSW and white goods in county and city collects at curb
	Continue existing collection practices and make modifications as necessary to support countywide waste reduction and recycling efforts	Completed	
	Monitor effectiveness of collection practices on an ongoing basis	Completed/Ongoing	
<b>Disposal</b>	Continue using Pecan Row Landfill	Completed/Ongoing	
	Close/monitor Ben Hill County Landfill as required by Georgia EPD	Completed/Ongoing	
	Participate in regional solid waste planning activities	Completed/Ongoing	
<b>Land Limitation</b>	Use land limitation map in future planning efforts	Completed	
<b>Waste Reduction</b>	Implement and encourage the use of a system of drop-off recycling centers throughout the county (Est. Reduction 5%/y)	Underway/Ongoing for white, brown goods and tires at landfill	
	Coordinate countywide waste reduction on an on-going basis	Completed/Ongoing	
	Develop and use inert landfill for waste disposal (\$35K, Est. Reduction 5%/y)	Completed/ongoing	
	Identify and implement incentives to encourage source reduction	Completed/ongoing	
	Establish on-going market identification program	Partially completed and ongoing	
	Seek the assistance of the South Georgia RDC in developing regional markets for recyclables	Completed/Ongoing	
	Participate in solid waste related seminars and workshops on an on-going basis	Completed/Ongoing	

**Education and Public Involvement**

Support educational programs in school system	Completed/Ongoing	
Hold special events, activities and contests on an annual basis	Completed/Ongoing	
Encourage source reduction, household composting and participation in local recycling programs	Completed/Ongoing	
Encourage local community groups to take the lead in countywide educational and public involvement efforts	Completed/Ongoing	
Work with local/regional media regarding public education	Completed/Ongoing	
Actively enforce anti-littering laws	Completed/Ongoing	
Encourage business, industry and government to use recycled products	Completed/Ongoing	
Annually publicize the full cost of providing solid waste services	Completed/Ongoing	

**ONYX**  
**WASTE SERVICES**

October 31, 2005

Mr. Larry E. Davis, Chairman  
Ben Hill County Commission  
402-A East Pine Street  
Fitzgerald, GA 31750

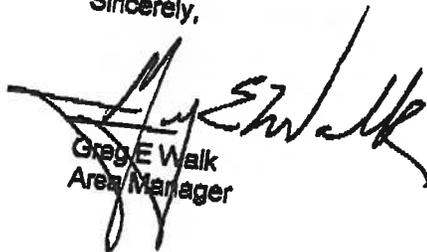
Dear Sir:

This letter serves a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Ben Hill County. Waste is hauled by Onyx to the Pecan Row Landfill or the Evergreen Landfill. The GAEPD permit number for the Pecan Row facility is 092-019-D (MSWL). This facility has a remaining capacity of (5) five years. This assurance is based on current total incoming volumes including the total disposal of approximately 10,500 tons generated on an annual basis by Ben Hill County.

The GAEPD permit number for the Evergreen facility is 092-022-D (MSWL). This facility has a remaining capacity of (38) thirty-eight years. This assurance is based on current total incoming volumes including the total disposal of approximately 15,000 tons generated on an annual basis by Ben Hill County.

We thank Benn Hill County for this business partnership and look forward to providing environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,

  
Greg E. Walk  
Area Manager



# WASTE SERVICES

October 31, 2005

Mr. Gerald Thompson, Mayor  
City of Fitzgerald  
116 North Johnston Street  
Fitzgerald, GA 31750

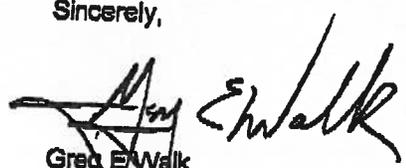
Dear Sir:

This letter serves a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by the City of Fitzgerald. Waste is hauled by Onyx to the Pecan Row Landfill or the Evergreen Landfill. The GAEPD permit number for the Pecan Row facility is 092-019-D (MSWL). This facility has a remaining capacity of (5) five years. This assurance is based on current total incoming volumes including the total disposal of approximately 10,500 tons generated on an annual basis by the City of Fitzgerald.

The GAEPD permit number for the Evergreen facility is 092-022-D (MSWL). This facility has a remaining capacity of (38) thirty-eight years. This assurance is based on current total incoming volumes including the total disposal of approximately 15,000 tons generated on an annual basis by the City of Fitzgerald.

We thank the City of Fitzgerald for this business partnership and look forward to providing environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,

  
Greg E. Walk  
Area Manager





GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

Jim Higdon  
COMMISSIONER

Zell Miller  
GOVERNOR

March 25, 1997

Honorable Freddie L. Sawyer, Chairman  
Ben Hill County Commission  
401 East Central Avenue  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750-2547

Dear Commissioner Sawyer:

According to our records, Ben Hill County's solid waste management plan was approved by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in 1992. The State's *Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management* require local governments to update the Short Term Work Programs (STWPs) of their solid waste plans at least once every five years. Ben Hill County's STWP, therefore, must be updated and approved by DCA by December 31, 1997 in order for the county to remain eligible to receive solid waste grants, loans, and permits.

A one-page summary of requirements relating to the STWP update is enclosed. Please contact Mark Bryant of my staff at 404/679-4998 if you have any questions about these requirements. If you need assistance in developing the update you may want to contact your regional development center or the planning/engineering firm, if any, that prepared your original solid waste plan.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Radford, Director  
Research & Information Division

PDR/mb

c: Hal A. Davis, Executive Director  
South Georgia RDC



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

Jim Higdon  
COMMISSIONER

Zell Miller  
GOVERNOR

March 25, 1997

Honorable Gerald H. Thompson, Mayor  
City of Fitzgerald  
116 North Johnson  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750

Dear Mayor <sup>Gerald</sup> Thompson:

According to our records, the City of Fitzgerald's solid waste management plan was approved by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in 1992. The State's *Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management* require local governments to update the Short Term Work Programs (STWPs) of their solid waste plans at least once every five years. Fitzgerald's STWP, therefore, must be updated and approved by DCA by December 31, 1997 in order for the city to remain in compliance with State law and eligible to receive solid waste grants, loans, and permits.

A one-page summary of requirements relating to the STWP update is enclosed. Please contact Mark Bryant of my staff at 404/679-4998 if you have any questions about these requirements. If you need assistance in developing the update you may want to contact your regional development center or the planning/engineering firm, if any, that prepared your original solid waste plan.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Radford, Director  
Research & Information Division

PDR/mb

c: Hal A. Davis, Executive Director  
South Georgia RDC



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SOUTH GEORGIA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

December 12, 1997

Mr. Paul D. Radford, Director  
Research and Information Division  
Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, N. E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Dear Mr. Radford:

Submitted under cover this date are reviews and up-dates of The Short-Term Work Programs of The South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan approved by DCA on September 18, 1992.

The required local hearings have been held in and by all local governments.

A regional hearing on the up-dates was held in The South Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) offices on November 24, 1997.

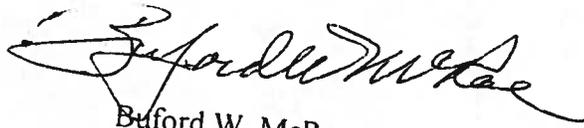
Regional review indicates that the few changes made in The Short-Term Work Programs for 10 counties and 24 cities has no adverse effect upon 10-year collection capability, 10-year disposal capacity; the local strategy for achieving a 25 per cent waste volume reduction; identification of land areas unsuitable for waste-handling facilities, or waste-handling facilities requiring EPD permits.

South Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) recommends approval of the work program up-dates as submitted by the following counties and cities:

1. Ben Hill County-----Fitzgerald
2. Berrien County-----Alapaha  
Enigma  
Nashville  
Ray City

- 3. Brooks County-----Morven  
Quitman
- 4. Cook County-----Adel  
Cecil  
Lenox  
Sparks
- 5. Echols County-----Ocilla
- 6. Irwin County-----Lakeland
- 7. Lanier County-----Dasher  
Hahira  
Lake Park  
Remerton  
Valdosta
- 8. Lowndes County-----Omega  
Tifton  
TyTy
- 9. Tift County-----Ashburn  
Rebecca  
Sycamore
- 10. Turner County-----

Cordially yours,



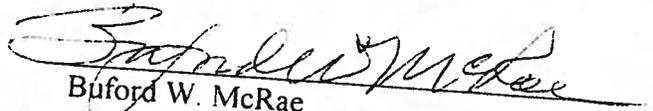
Buford W. McRae  
Special Projects Director

# South Georgia Regional Development Center

P. O. Box 1223 • 327 W. Savannah Ave. • Valdosta, Georgia • 31603 • Phone: (912) 333-5277 • GIST: 349-5277 • FAX (912) 333-5312

November 24, 1997

I hereby certify that the Regional Public Hearing on the mid-term update of The Short-Term Work Program contained in the South Georgia Multi Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan approved by The Department of Community Affairs on September 18, 1992, was held at the location on the date and at the time given in the foregoing notice.



Buford W. McRae  
Special Projects Director  
South Georgia Regional Development Center



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

Jim Higdon  
COMMISSIONER

Zell Miller  
GOVERNOR

January 13, 1998

Buford McRae  
South Georgia RDC  
Post Office Box 1223  
Valdosta, Georgia 31603

Dear Buford:

As we discussed by phone yesterday, the South Georgia RDC's regional solid waste plan hearing of November 24, 1997 was held without proper notification of the Department of Community Affairs, the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority, and the Department of Natural Resources' Pollution Prevention Assistance Division and Environment Protection Division. In order to comply with the *Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management*, you must notify these agencies as well as all contiguous local governments and regional development centers, and conduct another hearing.

Please let me know if I can be of further help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Bryant, Consultant  
Office of Waste Management

c: Paul Radford



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# South Georgia Regional Development Center

P. O. Box 1223 • 327 W. Savannah Ave. • Valdosta, Georgia • 31603 • Phone: (912) 333-5277 • GIST: 349-5277 • FAX (912) 333-5312

## Notice of Regional Review Hearing (Please substitute this notice for the one dated 01/20/98)

On October 30, 1997, the following local government members of The South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan submitted required up-dates of the Short-Term Work Program to review by South Georgia RDC.

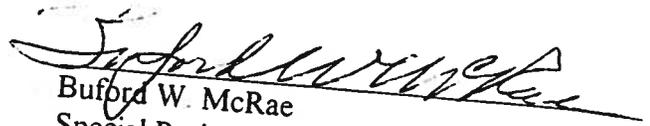
<u>Counties</u>	<u>Cities</u>	
1. Ben Hill County-----	Fitzgerald	6. Irwin County-----Ocilla
2. Berrien County-----	Alapaha	7. Lanier County-----Lakeland
	Enigma	8. Lowndes County-----Dasher
	Nashville	Hahira
3. Brooks County-----	Ray City	Lake Park
	Morven	Remerton
	Quitman	Valdosta
4. Cook County-----	Adel	9. Tift County-----Omega
	Cecil	Tifton
	Lenox	TyTy
5. Echols County	Sparks	10. Turner County-----Ashburn
		Rebecca
		Sycamore

A notice of a regional review hearing was published. The list of recipients of the notice was incomplete. This notice was mailed to the list of original recipients augmented by the addition of names and agencies overlooked in the original notice.

The Short-Term Update of The Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan reviews the progress made by each member agency in implementing the plan, gives a current status report and projects 5-year conformance through the initial 10-year plan life to the year 2002.

South Georgia Regional Development Center located at 327 West Savannah Avenue, Valdosta, Georgia, will hold a Regional Review Re-Hearing to receive public views, comments and questions about this Waste Plan Up-Date on Monday February 2, 1998, at 10:00 a.m.

January 21, 1998

  
Buford W. McRae  
Special Projects, South Georgia RDC

# South Georgia Regional Development Center

P. O. Box 1223 • 327 W. Savannah Ave. • Valdosta, Georgia • 31603 • Phone: (912) 333-5277 • GIST: 349-5277 • FAX (912) 333-5312

February 3, 1998

Mr. Paul D. Radford, Director  
Research and Information Division  
Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, N. E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Dear Mr. Radford:

I certify that on February 2, 1998, at 10:00 a.m., in the offices of South Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) in Valdosta, Georgia, I held a regional re-hearing to receive comments, inquiries and general information on the up-dated short-term work program contained in The South Georgia Multi-jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan.

The corrected notice was issued on January 21, 1998, to the list of recipients attached. Chis Cannon, President of Trans Waste Services attended.

Cordially,



Buford W. McRae,  
Special Projects Director

Enclosures  
xc: Mark R. Bryant



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**Jim Higdon**  
COMMISSIONER

February 11, 1998

**Zell Miller**  
GOVERNOR

Mr. John Leonard, Executive Director  
South Georgia Regional Development Center  
Post Office Box 1223  
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-1233

Dear Mr. <sup>Jahr</sup> Leonard:

Our staff has reviewed the update to the short term work program (STWP) of the solid waste management plan for Ben Hill County and the city of Fitzgerald. We find the STWP update to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management.

Please remind these local governments that eligibility for solid waste permits, grants and loans is contingent upon official adoption of the updated STWP by all participating local governments. A copy of the adopted STWP should be forwarded to the Department of Community Affairs.

As soon as we receive notification from your office that each local government has adopted the updated STWP, we will send each local government official notification of its continued eligibility to receive solid waste permits, grants and loans.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Radford, Director  
Planning, Information &  
Management Division

PDR/mb

cc: See attached list



Hon. Tim Raynor, Chairman  
Ben Hill County Commission  
401 East Central Avenue  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750-2547

Hon. Gerald H. Thompson, Mayor  
City of Fitzgerald  
116 North Johnson Street  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750

# South Georgia Regional Development Center

P. O. Box 1223 • 327 W. Savannah Ave. • Valdosta, Georgia • 31603 • Phone: (912) 333-5277 • GIST: 349-5277 • FAX (912) 333-5312

May 19, 1998

Paul D. Radford, Director  
Planning, Information & management Division  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Dear Mr. Radford:

I am pleased to report that 33 of the 34 cities and counties in the South Georgia Area have adopted the Up-dated Short-Term Work Programs included in the South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan.

Copies of approval resolutions are enclosed.

Berrien County is processing its resolution and it will be forthcoming.

Mark Bryant feels that the other agencies should be cleared for possible future interactions with DCA and I agree.

This operation has taken much too long and the delay is regrettable, but we've had many personnel changes and miles of driving with which to contend. Thanks for your forbearance!

Cordially yours,



Buford McRae, Secretary  
Solid Waste Coordinator

xc: Mark Bryant

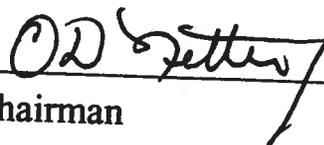
## Resolution

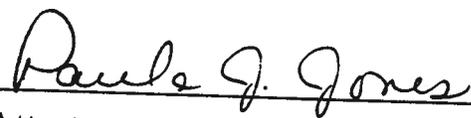
Whereas the County through South Georgia Regional Development Center submitted to DCA on December 12, 1997, an Up-Date of The Short-Term Work Program contained in the South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan in which this public agency participates, and

Whereas DCA has reviewed the plan up-date and has found that it conforms to minimum planning standards and procedures for solid waste management,

Now, Therefore, Be It Enacted by Ben Hill County that the Up-Date of The Short-Term Work Program approved by DCA after review, approval and submittal by South Georgia Regional Development Center be adopted.

This the 3rd day of March, 1998.

  
Chairman

  
Attest:

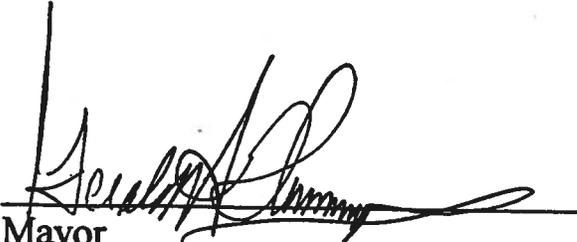
## Resolution

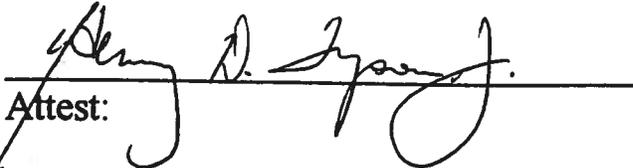
**Whereas** the City of Fitzgerald through South Georgia Regional Development Center Submitted to DCA on December 12, 1997, an Up-Date of The Short Term Work Program contained in the South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan in which this public agency participates, and

**Whereas** DCA has reviewed the plan up-date and has found that it conforms to minimum planning standards and procedures for solid waste management,

**Now, Therefore,** Be It Enacted by Mayor and Council that the Up-Date of The Short-Term Work Program approved by DCA after review, approval and submittal by South Georgia Regional Development Center be adopted.

This is the 9th day of March, 1998.

  
Mayor

  
Attest:

THIS IS A CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ORIGINAL





# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

**Jim Higdon**  
COMMISSIONER

**Zell Miller**  
GOVERNOR

May 22, 1998

Honorable Tim Raynor, Chairman  
Ben Hill County Commission  
401 East Central Avenue  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750-2547

Dear Commissioner Raynor:

The South Georgia Regional Development Center has notified us that Ben Hill County has adopted an update to its solid waste management plan and short term work program that meets the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Accordingly, it is my pleasure to notify you that Ben Hill County is eligible for solid waste permits, grants and loans.

As you have experienced, in addition to proper and thorough long-range planning, effective solid waste management requires the ability to adapt when circumstances indicate that such action is necessary. Through continued review, and revision when necessary, solid waste planning provides your local government with more control over its destiny and assists you in dealing more effectively with both short- and long-term management decisions. Ben Hill County's success in managing this pressing issue will be evident through your ongoing efforts in implementing, adapting and updating your recently adopted plan.

It is important to note that your county's eligibility for solid waste permits, grants and loans means that your plan meets the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. As a public official, you should be aware that your plan must again be updated no later than December 31, 2002 in order for Ben Hill County to retain this eligibility.

We commend you for your hard work and dedication. If you have any questions regarding your solid waste management plan, please feel free to call our Office of Waste Management at (404) 679-4998.

Sincerely,



Jim Higdon  
Commissioner

JH/mb

c: John L. Leonard, Executive Director  
South Georgia RDC



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60 Executive Park South, N.E. • Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231 • (404) 679-4940

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GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**Jim Higdon**  
COMMISSIONER

**Zell Miller**  
GOVERNOR

May 22, 1998

Honorable Gerald H. Thompson, Mayor  
City of Fitzgerald  
116 North Johnson Street  
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750

Dear Mayor Thompson:

The South Georgia Regional Development Center has notified us that the City of Fitzgerald has adopted an update to its solid waste management plan and short term work program that meets the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Accordingly, it is my pleasure to notify you that Fitzgerald is eligible for solid waste permits, grants and loans.

As you have experienced, in addition to proper and thorough long-range planning, effective solid waste management requires the ability to adapt when circumstances indicate that such action is necessary. Through continued review, and revision when necessary, solid waste planning provides your local government with more control over its destiny and assists you in dealing more effectively with both short- and long-term management decisions. Fitzgerald's success in managing this pressing issue will be evident through your ongoing efforts in implementing, adapting, and updating your recently adopted plan.

It is important to note that your city's eligibility status for solid waste permits, grants, and loans means that your plan meets the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste **Management. As a public official, you should be aware that your plan must again be updated no later than December 31, 2002 in order for Fitzgerald to retain this eligibility.**

We commend you for your hard work and dedication. If you have any questions regarding your solid waste management plan, please feel free to call our Office of Waste Management at (404) 679-4998.

Sincerely,



Jim Higdon  
Commissioner

JH/mb

c: John L. Leonard, Executive Director  
South Georgia RDC



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**SOUTH GEORGIA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

December 12, 1997

Mr. Paul D. Radford, Director  
Research and Information Division  
Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, N. E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Dear Mr. Radford:

Submitted under cover this date are reviews and up-dates of The Short-Term Work Programs of The South Georgia Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Management Plan approved by DCA on September 18, 1992.

The required local hearings have been held in and by all local governments.

A regional hearing on the up-dates was held in The South Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) offices on November 24, 1997.

Regional review indicates that the few changes made in The Short-Term Work Programs for 10 counties and 24 cities has no adverse effect upon 10-year collection capability; 10-year disposal capacity; the local strategy for achieving a 25 per cent waste volume reduction; identification of land areas unsuitable for waste-handling facilities, or waste-handling facilities requiring EPD permits.

South Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) recommends approval of the work program up-dates as submitted by the following counties and cities:

1. Ben Hill County-----Fitzgerald
2. Berrien County-----Alapaha  
Enigma  
Nashville  
Ray City

- 3. Brooks County-----Morven  
Quitman
- 4. Cook County-----Adel  
Cecil  
Lenox  
Sparks
- 5. Echols County
- 6. Irwin County-----Ocilla
- 7. Lanier County-----Lakeland
- 8. Lowndes County-----Dasher  
Hahira  
Lake Park  
Remerton  
Valdosta
- 9. Tift County-----Omega  
Tifton  
TyTy
- 10. Turner County-----Ashburn  
Rebecca  
Sycamore

Cordially yours,



Buford W. McRae  
Special Projects Director