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# **McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan**

**McDuffie County  
City of Thomson  
Town of Dearing**

**Prepared by: CSRA Regional Development Center  
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# INTRODUCTION

## 1.0 Introduction

Planning and implementing systems to effectively manage solid waste is a vital responsibility of local government. State government primarily serves a regulatory role in solid waste management, implementing regulations adopted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resource's Environmental Protection Division.

Major shifts have occurred in solid waste policies and regulations in the past two decades. A higher level of community involvement has resulted from residents recognizing the impact of solid waste on quality of life issues. Their efforts, combined with state policies, led to more waste reduction education, monitoring of illegal dumping, and expanded curbside recycling services. City and regional planners are also more aware of the effects of solid waste to the overall planning system and have incorporated these issues into the comprehensive planning process.

In the regulatory arena, the state and federal government have implemented more stringent criteria for the siting, design, construction and operation of solid waste handling facilities, driving regionalization of the solid waste collection and disposal infrastructure. As Georgia communities continue to close municipal solid waste handling facilities and rely on private sector disposal options, the regulatory role of local governments is expected to increase.

The *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act* of 1990 requires local governments take steps to address solid waste management issues. The development of a solid waste management plan provides local communities with the opportunity to consider pressing issues.

## 1.1 Background of Solid Waste Management in Georgia

In 1989, the Georgia General Assembly passed SR 103, creating the Joint Solid Waste Management Study Committee to analyze the status of solid waste management statewide and to make recommendations for a comprehensive revision to the 1972 *Solid Waste Management Act*. The findings and recommendations in the study committee report were drafted as legislation and introduced as an administration bill in the 1990 session of the General Assembly as SB 533, the *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act*.

SB 533 (the *Act*) provides a framework to manage solid waste at the local and state level. The first step in implementing the *Act* is the development of the *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan*. The purpose of the State plan is essentially threefold:

- To present a status report of solid waste management in Georgia;
- To set forth the state strategy for reducing and managing solid waste; and,
- To establish the procedures and criteria for local/regional solid waste plans and other components of local/regional solid waste management strategy.

The *McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* represents the next step in the planning process and includes data in seven topic areas that are considered critical components of the solid waste management planning process. These include:

- Waste Disposal Stream Analysis
- Waste Reduction Element
- Collection Element
- Disposal Element
- Land Limitation Element
- Education and Public Involvement Element
- Implementation Schedule

### 1.2 Local Government Roles and Responsibilities

The *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act* requires that each local government develop a solid waste management plan independently or collectively. The *Act* deems it necessary that these plans provide assurance of adequate solid waste disposal capabilities for at least ten years from the date of completion of the plan; the documentation of adequate collection capabilities for at least ten years from the date of completion of the plan; enumeration of solid waste handling facilities as to size and type within the plan area; and identification of sites which are not suitable for solid waste handling facilities based on environmental and land use factors.

The *Act* prevents the issuance of permits, grants, or loans for any solid waste handling facility and/or equipment not consistent with an approved solid waste management plan.

The *Act* also requires annual reporting requirements on:

- The amount of solid waste collected, processed, and disposed of in the plan area.
- The progress, toward the reduction in solid waste generation since the previous reporting.
- The remaining permitted volume capacity of disposal facilities.
- Existing recycling and composting activities.
- Public information and education activities conducted.
- Any other pertinent information as required by the state.

The planning requirement is aimed at assessing solid waste management systems statewide and provides an opportunity to review the efficacy of existing laws and regulations.

### 1.3 The Planning Process

The content and planning process in this Plan conform to *Chapter 110-4-3 Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management* of the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Each of the five core planning requirements

(waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education & public involvement) includes sections on inventories, assessments, needs and goals. This Plan updates the *McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* adopted in 2002

A working committee composed of solid waste experts from McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing was formed to help direct the solid waste planning effort. The working committee assisted with plan preparation by providing required technical data and serving as policy liaisons with their respective elected leadership. Furthermore, as required by the solid waste minimum planning standards, two public hearings were held in Thomson on March 8, 2007 and June 28, 2007 to elicit community input on solid waste needs and goals, and the draft plan document. Community input was assessed by the working committee and incorporated into the Plan. Finally, neighboring local governments and state agencies were sent copies of the plan for review and comment.

### **1.4 How to Use this Plan**

The *McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* is intended to serve as county/city policy and a reference point for potential users. A number of companion planning documents should be used in conjunction with the Plan. These include:

- *Joint McDuffie County Comprehensive Plan*
- McDuffie County Code of Ordinances
- Thomson Code of Ordinances
- Dearing Code of Ordinances
- DNR Environmental Planning Criteria
- Local, State and Federal Plans, Rules and Regulations

Regulations and plans are frequently amended and updated. It is the user's responsibility to contact the appropriate county/city planning, public works or engineering department for the most up-to-date regulatory and planning documents.

### **1.5 Description of the Planning Area**

McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing are located in east-central Georgia, approximately 30 miles west of Augusta and 115 miles east of Atlanta. The county and municipalities are members of the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center located in Augusta. The County is located along I-20, in proximity to two state capitals, and connections to all major interstates throughout the Southeastern U.S.

McDuffie County is within the Southern Piedmont and the Georgia Sandhills Land Resource Area of Georgia. The Southern Piedmont Area topography consists mostly of broad to narrow, gently sloping ridge tops and moderately steep hillsides adjacent to drainage ways. In most places, the soils are low in silt and mica content. The area is primarily a gently sloping plain dissected by streams in small, shallow valleys. The ridge

## INTRODUCTION

tops are wider and the drainage ways are fewer in the southern part of the county. Nearly level flood plains are located along the Savannah River and its tributaries. In some places the floodplains are adjacent to moderately steep hillsides.

McDuffie County is home to roughly 5 percent of the total population of the Augusta-Aiken Metropolitan Statistical Area. Between 1990 and 2005 the population of McDuffie County increased from 20,119 to 22,962 or 14 percent. In that same period, Thomson increased by 0.05 percent to 6,866 residents while Dearing declined 18 percent to 446 residents. According to the 2000 United States Census, there are 7,980 households in McDuffie County, including 2,625 in Thomson and 149 in Dearing.

McDuffie County is considered a bedroom community to Augusta's larger employment base but is slowly diversifying, particularly in retail trade, construction, government, and service sectors. The County's commercial base is centered on educational, health and social services, & retail trade. Manufacturing businesses account for approximately 20 percent of sector employment and include automotive accessories, plastics, and steel coating to name just a few.

Additional information about the County's demographics and economic trends can be obtained by referring to the *Joint McDuffie County, City of Thomson, City of Dearing Comprehensive Plan*, or by making an inquiry to the CSRA RDC for current and ongoing updates to the comprehensive plan.

WASTE STREAM ANALYSIS

Table with 4 columns and 10 rows, containing data for waste stream analysis. The table is mostly illegible due to low contrast and blurring.

**2.0 Introduction**

The Waste Disposal Stream analysis provides an inventory of waste stream generators – such as residential, commercial and industrial uses, construction and demolition debris (C&D), etc.; the types of waste they contribute to the waste disposal stream (e.g. paper, plastic, metal, etc.) and an estimate of these various components as a percentage of the total waste stream.

This information will guide local government decision-making regarding current and future solid waste management service and facility needs. In addition, the data will provide the basis for creating, implementing, and sustaining programs to assist the State in achieving a reduction of the amount of municipal solid waste disposed state-wide.

**2.1 Waste Stream Generators**

Data from the *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan* illustrates that a steadily increasing tonnage of waste is being disposed of in municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills. Likewise, the state’s MSW landfills are also serving as a repository for waste generated out of state.

**Table 1: Waste Disposed in Georgia MSW Landfills (1994-2004)**

Year	Tons Per Year			Pounds Per Person Per Day		
	Generated in Georgia	Imported	Total	Generated in Georgia	Imported	Total
1994	7,083,345	138,946	7,222,291	5.55	.11	5.66
1995	7,534,790	149,481	7,684,271	5.77	.11	5.88
1996	7,062,499	160,000	7,222,499	5.28	.12	5.40
1997	7,753,072	172,150	7,925,222	5.66	.13	5.79
1998	8,832,259	193,819	9,026,078	6.31	.13	6.44
1999	8,928,747	453,875	9,382,622	6.24	.31	6.55
2000	9,213,264	511,472	9,724,736	6.17	.34	6.51
2001	9,785,329	893,651	10,678,980	6.55	.60	7.15
2002	9,282,913	950,779	10,233,692	6.05	.63	6.68
2003	9,937,787	1,197,686	11,135,473	6.38	.76	7.14
2004	10,282,942	1,633,182	11,916,124	6.38	1.01	7.39

*Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan (2005)*

As illustrated in **Table 1**, the per-capita disposal rate of Georgians increased by almost 15 percent between 1994 and 2004. Since 1999 however, the disposal rate of individual Georgians – excluding imported waste – has fluctuated. Regardless, a comparison of the 2004 tonnage disposal rate with the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2004 state population

estimates suggests that Georgian’s annually dispose of over 1.15 tons of waste per person, or 6.38 pounds per person per day.

**2.2 Waste Characterization**

The *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan* indicates that in 2004, Georgia facilitated the disposal of 11,916,124 tons of waste to municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills (including imported waste). The plan indicates that 1/3 of this amount is actually waste that is not defined as municipal solid waste - almost 4,000,000 tons. While some variations of the definition exist, “municipal solid waste” can be described as: “Solid waste from single-family and multi-family residences (including septic tanks); and from businesses such as retail, offices, restaurants, warehouses, grocery, hotel/motel, and institutions such as schools, universities and government buildings.”<sup>1</sup> Municipal solid waste does not include agricultural waste, sludge/bio-solids, mining waste, or waste generated from silvicultural or industrial/manufacturing activities or processes.

The *Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan* uses data derived from the *Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study* to identify the type of waste that is being disposed in municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills throughout the state. **Table 2** characterizes the type of waste disposed throughout the 13 county CSRA region in 2005. The preliminary analysis of the regional waste characterization contained in **Table 2** shows the percentage of commercial and residential waste disposed of in an MSW landfill by type of material.

Paper		Organics	
Newspaper	6.9%	Yard Waste	3.0%
Corrugated Cardboard	8.5%	Wood (non-C&D)	1.3%
Office	1.9%	Food Waste	14.0%
Magazine/Glossy	2.6%	Textiles	6.1%
Paperboard	5.4%	Diapers	2.8%
Mixed (Other Recyclable)	3.2%	Fines	2.7%
Other (Non-recyclable)	7.0%	Other Organics	1.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.0%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>31.2%</b>
Plastic		C&D	
#1 PET Bottles	1.6%	Drywall	0.1%
#2 HDPE Bottles	1.1%	Wood	1.3%
#3-#7 Bottles	0.3%	Inerts	1.0%
Expanded Polystyrene	2.0%	Carpet	0.2%
Film Plastic	8.4%	Other C&D	0.5%
Other Rigid Plastic	4.2%	<b>Total</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.6%</b>		
Glass		Inorganics	
Clear	2.2%	Televisions	0.1%
Green	0.8%	Computers	0.1%
Amber	1.6%	Other Electronics	0.8%
Other	0.5%	Tires	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	HHW	0.5%
		Other Inorganics	0.7%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
Metal		Total	
Steel Cans	1.8%	<b>Total 100%</b>	
Aluminum Cans	0.9%		
Other Ferrous	1.4%		
Other Non-Ferrous	0.8%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.9%</b>		

*Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study (2005)*

<sup>1</sup> Georgia Department of Community Affairs, *Non-MSW Survey Report (2002)*

The information contained in **Table 2** suggests that the majority of disposed residential and commercial waste within the region is materials, organics and plastics. **Table 2** shows that a large percentage of residential and commercial “municipal solid waste” being deposited into MSW landfills in the region is either recyclable or could be diverted to C&D or inert landfills. Overall the waste characterization for the CSRA is consistent with the state of Georgia as a whole.

### 2.3 Inventory of Waste Disposed

**Table 3** provides waste generation rates for McDuffie County, Dearing and Thomson between 2003 and 2006. It is important to note that a single private hauler provides collection for Dearing and a portion of the unincorporated area of the county. Because Dearing’s waste is mixed with a portion of unincorporated McDuffie County both communities’ waste generation rates are combined within the table. Waste generated by all three jurisdictions is consolidated at the McDuffie County transfer station operated by the McDuffie County Department of Solid Waste. Waste tonnage contained in **Table 3** was obtained from the detailed records of the McDuffie County Department of Solid Waste.

<b>Table 3: Waste Generation Rates by Jurisdiction</b>						
Jurisdiction	Tonnage	Tonnage	Tonnage	Tonnage	Lbs. Per Person Per Day (2006)	Percent Change 2003-2006
	2003	2004	2005	2006		
<b>McDuffie County and City of Dearing</b>	22,429	31,515*	30,502*	17,896	6	-20 %
<b>City of Thomson</b>	6,190	6,371.	7,093	7,354	5.6	
<b>Cumulative Total</b>	28,619	40,027	37,595	25,250	6	-11.7 %
<i>Source: McDuffie County Department of Solid Waste</i>						
<i>* See section 2.4 for further explanation</i>						

All tonnage listed in **Table 3** passes through the McDuffie County Solid Waste Transfer Station, and is ultimately deposited in the Chambers R & B MSW landfill located in Homer, Georgia. The Table does not represent all of the waste that was weighed at the McDuffie County transfer facility over the four year period. Waste generated by Warren and Glascock Counties, as well as the cities of Gibson, Warrenton, and Crawfordville was extracted from transfer facility data to provide a more accurate picture of waste that is actually generated within McDuffie County.

Based on the cumulative data provided by the McDuffie County Solid Waste Department the cumulative per capita disposal rate of McDuffie County residents in 2006 was six pounds per person, per day. This is slightly below the statewide average of 6.38 lbs. per

person per day. In fact each jurisdiction falls below current statewide averages for waste per person per day. The reasons for the below average number are many and varied. First, the availability of municipal pickup service and the lack of un-staffed drop off points - particularly at the periphery of the county - decreases the probability that waste from other jurisdictions will be imported to McDuffie County (except through intergovernmental contract). Next, the urbanizing counties directly adjacent to McDuffie County operate county-wide pickup further reducing the probability that waste generated in these jurisdictions is hauled to the McDuffie County Transfer Station. Finally, the lack of required county wide solid waste collection services increases the likelihood that some solid waste is simply never collected - with some rural residents potentially burning waste or transporting it to un-staffed green-box stations in Wilkes and Jefferson counties.

**2.4 Fluctuations in Quantities Disposed**

**Table 3** illustrates that McDuffie County solid waste disposal rates dramatically increased in 2004 and 2005. In late 2003 HP Pelzer Inc., a company that specializes in the manufacture of automotive acoustical products expanded its operation in McDuffie County. The result of this increase in capacity was a corresponding increase in the amount of solid waste hauled to the county transfer station in 2004 and 2005. After 2005, county waste generation rates fluctuated again when Advanced Disposal (who was contracted to haul HP Pelzer’s waste) opened up a transfer facility in Columbia County. The result was a dramatic decrease in the amount of waste tipped at the McDuffie County Transfer Station. Recently the rising price of fuel has caused Advanced Disposal to tip some of the waste from its commercial accounts at the McDuffie County Transfer Station. County solid waste officials estimate that this trend will continue in the future, but that the increase in waste generation will be more measured than it was in the period between 2004 and 2005. The corresponding increase in the waste generated by the City of Thomson can be explained by the City’s increase in population.

**2.5 Anticipated Waste Amounts**

The volume of solid waste generated is directly dependent on population size. According to data compiled for the ongoing update of the *McDuffie County Joint Comprehensive Plan*, the cumulative county population is anticipated to increase to 26,975 by 2017. **Table 4** presents waste generation rates developed by comparing the disposal rates contained in **Table 3** with county population estimates. County-wide waste generation rates are expected to increase over the 10 year period by 13 percent – rising from 25,600 to 29,938 tons per year.

**Table 4: McDuffie County, Thomson and Dearing Waste Disposal Projections, 2007-2016**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Population</b>	23,576	23,901	24,226	24,702	24,876	25,201	25,526	25,851	26,325	26,650	26,975
<b>Total Tons/Day</b>	70.13	71.16	72.18	73.21	74.23	75.26	76.28	77.31	78.33	79.28	80.93

# WASTE STREAM ANALYSIS

<b>Total Tons/Yr</b>	25,600	25,971	26,342	26,713	27,084	27,455	27,826	28,197	28,568	28,938	29,539
<i>Population Source: McDuffie County Planning &amp; Zoning; Calculations by CSRA RDC</i>											

**Table 5** presents a composite breakdown of the type of waste generated by McDuffie County that is projected to be landfilled over the next 10 year period based on the waste characterization analysis contained in **Table 2**.

<b>Table 5: McDuffie County, Thomson and Dearing Waste Disposal Projections by Type, 2007-2016</b>											
Waste Type	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Paper</b>	9,216	9,350	9,483	9,617	9,750	9,884	10,017	10,151	10,284	10,418	10,630
<b>Organics</b>	7,962	8,077	8,192	8,308	8,423	8,539	8,654	8,769	8,885	9,000	9,212
<b>Plastic</b>	4,506	4,571	4,636	4,701	4,767	4,832	4,897	4,963	5,028	5,093	5,195
<b>C&amp;D</b>	819	831	843	855	867	879	890	902	914	926	941
<b>Glass</b>	1,306	1,325	1,343	1,362	1,381	1,400	1,419	1,438	1,457	1,476	1,502
<b>Inorganics</b>	538	545	553	561	569	577	584	592	600	608	616
<b>Metal</b>	1,254	1,273	1,291	1,309	1,327	1,345	1,363	1,382	1,400	1,418	1,443
<b>Total Tons/Yr</b>	25,600	25,971	26,342	26,713	27,084	27,455	27,826	28,197	28,568	28,938	29,539
<i>Note: Calculations by CSRA RDC</i>											

# WASTE REDUCTION

### 3.0 Introduction

Section 3 provides detailed information on McDuffie County's existing waste reduction programs that target residential, commercial/institutional, industrial, construction and demolition, and inert waste streams.

### 3.1 Inventory

#### 3.1.1 Waste Reduction and Recycling Programs

Public waste reduction activities within McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing are primarily focused on recycling and reuse. The City of Thomson offers its residents and businesses, and residents of the city of Dearing, curbside pickup of aluminum cans, glass, newspaper, plastic bottles, and cardboard. The City of Thomson issues bins for the collection of recyclables with the establishment of any new request for waste collection service. The cost for participating in the City recycling service is included in a monthly 15 dollar waste collection fee. To date, the City of Thomson has conducted the most comprehensive and organized waste reduction efforts. City of Thomson officials estimate that approximately 17 percent of households now participate in their recycling program. In addition, the City of Thomson currently collects cardboard from commercial customers within the City limits and just beyond. The city utilizes a dedicated truck to transport cardboard to the recycling drop off facility where it is consolidated for pickup by commercial buyers. The city is in the process of applying for a Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority Grant to purchase a bailer, sorting bins, and support facility expansion.

Public recycling options for residents of unincorporated McDuffie County are limited. Unincorporated county residents are encouraged to drop off their recyclables at the Thomson-McDuffie Recycle Drop Off Facility located within the City of Thomson. The recycling drop-off facility is operated jointly by the City of Thomson and McDuffie County, and is located adjacent to the pit-burner area off of Augusta Road. Materials accepted at the recycling drop-off facility include of aluminum cans, glass, newspaper, plastic bottles, and cardboard.

Recycled materials collected by all three jurisdictions and consolidated at the Thomson-McDuffie Recycle Drop off Facility are purchased by multiple private companies under contract with Thomson and McDuffie County, and removed from the waste stream. According to data provided by the city in 2004 a total of 815.3 tons or roughly 2 percent of the overall waste stream for the county was recycled. In subsequent years the numbers have fallen even further with 552.8 tons in 2005 and 588 tons in 2006. There are currently no recycling programs operating within McDuffie County that target commercial operations.

Some major employers in the area have also taken a proactive approach to the recycling and reuse of materials not only used in the manufacture of the products that they produce but the waste generated by their employees. The Georgia Department of Labor's Area Labor Profile for McDuffie County identifies the employers in **Table 6** as the counties five largest. All five organizations were surveyed asking for an inventory of current recycling practices that take place within their facility. Both Wal-Mart and Shaw Industries were contacted on repeated occasions but did not participate in survey efforts. It should be noted that Sizemore Inc. is a firm that specializes in temporary employment. The actual number of people that are in the office on any given day is only two or three.

Company	Location	Number of Employees	Sector	Type of Waste Reduction
Wal-Mart Inc.	Thomson, GA	N/A	Retail	N/A
Shaw Industries Group inc.	Thomson, GA	N/A	Yarn Manufacture	N/A
Sizemore	Thomson, GA	N/A	Temporary Staffing	N/A
H P Pelzer	Thomson, GA	273	Automotive Acoustical Products	Grinders to reuse materials used in manufacture of products.
Thomson Plastics	Thomson, GA	360	Injection Molding	Recycling of corrugated cardboard. Reuse of resins used in manufacture.

*Source: Georgia Department of Labor Area Labor Profile, McDuffie County*

### 3.1.2 Yard Trimming/Mulching/Composting

McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing do not conduct compost or mulching operations. Although some residents may utilize backyard composting, no quantities are available.

The City of Thomson provides curbside collection of yard waste to residents through its Streets & Sanitation Department. Leaves and clippings are collected with a vacuum truck while limbs fewer than four inches in diameter can be stacked. The department then hauls the yard waste to the Thomson-McDuffie pit burner area located behind the Thomson-McDuffie Recycle Drop Off Facility to be incinerated. The pit burner area is an air curtain destructor owned and operated jointly by Thomson and McDuffie County. The State regulates certain aspects of pit burner operation (hours of operation, air quality measures, etc.). Additional yard waste in McDuffie County is deposited at an inert landfill located at the site of the County transfer station.

### 3.1.3 Special Management Issues

For all jurisdictions, items requiring special management procedures such as, electronics, household hazardous waste, lead acid batteries, tires, and white goods are allowed to be

dropped off at the McDuffie County Transfer station where private haulers transport them for disposal.

### **3.2 Assessment & Needs**

#### *3.2.1 Waste Reduction & Recycling Programs*

Waste reduction programs operated within McDuffie County annually reduce the waste stream from County jurisdictions by roughly 2 percent – well below the recommended state waste disposal reduction goal of 25 percent. Although recent revisions to the State of Georgia’s solid waste management laws no longer specifically reference the 25 percent waste reduction goal, waste reduction is still an overall goal of state guidelines. Consequently, the original 25 percent goal should still serve as a benchmark for McDuffie County jurisdictions to determine the effectiveness of their waste reduction programs.

Thomson’s household recycling program is accessible to all residents and business owners within the city as well as in the city of Dearing. Bins for recycled items are distributed to households and businesses city-wide. Unfortunately, by comparing the actual waste reduction that Thomson’s programs achieve with the State’s waste characterization study, it is apparent that many city residents are not actively participating in the program. To address this issue, the city’s recycling efforts should include a greater emphasis on education to determine why participation rates are low, and the consideration of measures to encourage more active program participation.

McDuffie County, Dearing and Thomson also have the opportunity to expand current recycling efforts. With the assistance of the State’s Recycling Hub Grant Program, and the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority grant, additional equipment, such as a compactor, and collection bins could be purchased to support the expansion of a county-wide single commodity collection program. With an emphasis on the collection of a single recyclable commodity such as cardboard or glass via the establishment of new commercial accounts, program operation costs may be offset. Costs could be further offset by renegotiating current contracts with companies hauling materials from the city-county recycling drop off facility.

#### *3.2.2 Yard Trimming/ Mulching/Composting*

Thomson and McDuffie County should consider the addition of a chipper for use at the county inert landfill site. The addition of this equipment should be viewed as the first step in a county-wide mulching/composting program. Matching funds for waste reduction equipment can be obtained through the State’s Recycling Hub Grant Program.

### 3.2.3 *Special Management Issues*

The current systems for dealing with items that require special management are effective. McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing do not have any plans to change the way the system operates during the planning period.

### 3.2.4 *Miscellaneous*

In developing waste reduction policies, McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing should examine the regional context. Currently, CSRA counties are considered too small to generate enough recyclables to result in an economically feasible waste reduction program. However, collectively the region includes an area of close to 500,000 residents. To address this problem, numerous area local governments have indicated a desire to implement a regional recycling program. McDuffie County has indicated its desire to participate in such a program by taking official action to support the CSRA Regional Development Center's application to the United States Department of Agriculture to receive funding for a regional recycling feasibility study (**Appendix A**).

Demand for greater access to waste reduction programs should also come directly from citizens. Efforts should be made to establish an affiliate chapter of Keep Georgia Beautiful in order to assist in the expansion of current waste reduction activities and citizen participation in such programs.

## 3.3 **Goals**

All goals are applicable to McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing unless otherwise noted.

- Encourage local businesses to increase their waste reduction and recycling efforts.
- Establish chipping and mulching of yard waste for citizen and public use.(Thomson-McDuffie)
- Participate in region-wide recycling feasibility study.
- Coordinate all waste reduction and recycling activities with other elements in this Plan.
- Maintain municipal waste reduction and recycling equipment. (Thomson)
- Expand curbside pick up of recyclables. (Thomson)
- Establish a Keep Georgia Beautiful chapter.
- Work with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the CSRA RDC to identify viable waste reduction and recycling projects.
- Expand recycling facility operations and educational outreach efforts through equipment and materials purchased with the assistance of the GEFA grant.
- Expand single commodity recycled material collection service for commercial customers in the county through equipment purchased with the assistance of the State Recycling Hub Grant Program.

# COLLECTION

**4.0 Introduction**

Section 4 addresses the collection of solid waste, recyclable, and compostable materials for the ten-year plan period. Every aspect of the solid waste management program represents a link in the chain of a well run and environmentally sound system. An inadequate collection program can create complications for other components of the program, such as those associated with illegal dumping, high costs or inefficient disposal practices. Dissatisfaction with collection services may also lead to poor participation rates with new waste reduction programs.

McDuffie County includes both an urbanized (Thomson and Dearing) and widely dispersed rural population. The population trends for the County anticipate measured growth, and corresponding increase in solid waste produced.

**4.1 Inventory**

*4.1.1 Collection Programs*

The current solid waste collection system for McDuffie County is divided into three categories (See **Table 7**). The first category highlighted in the table is an overview of collection by private haulers. Residents of Dearing along with a portion of residents of the unincorporated county have their waste collected by McGahee Sanitation. Repeated attempts to gather information on the number of customers and specific geographic area in which McGahee Sanitation provides service proved unsuccessful. Advanced Disposal provides roll-off containers and trash compactors for a limited number of non-residential customers throughout incorporated and unincorporated McDuffie County upon request. Waste Management’s collection services in McDuffie County are likewise limited to no more than a handful of non-residential customers.

**Table 7: Inventory of Collection Programs**

Type	Collector	Program Description	Jurisdictions Served	Sectors Served*	Number of Households Served	Contractual Arrangements
Private Haulers	Multiple (See <b>Table 8</b> )	Residential & Commercial Curbside Pickup	Dearing, McDuffie County, & Thomson	R, C	Unavailable	Private
Municipal Collection	City of Thomson	Residential & Commercial Pickup	City of Thomson	R, C	2,700	Municipal service
Individual Hauling	City & County Residents	Countywide Drop off at County Transfer Station	McDuffie County	R, C, C&D	Variable	County service

\* R= Residential, C= Commercial, C&D: Construction and Demolition

Table 8 Private Haulers Operating in Planning Area	
Hauler Name	Address
Advanced Disposal	5734 Columbia Rd. Grovetown, GA
McGahee Sanitation	4414 Iron Hill Rd Dearing, GA
Waste Management	208 Prep Phillips Dr. Augusta, GA

Next, **Table 7** summarizes municipal waste collection. Within the city limits of Thomson, the City of Thomson Streets & Sanitation Department issues containers for the collection of solid waste and recyclables, and provides curbside collection of residential garbage, yard waste, and recyclables on a weekly basis. The combined cost of collection and recycling is 15 dollars a month. White goods and other items identified by city staff as municipal solid waste are picked up by the City for an additional fee on request. Approximately 2700 households - roughly the entire city population - are served by the City of Thomson. Participation in municipal waste disposal is required for all Thomson residents.

As previously mentioned in Section 2, many residents of Dearing utilize the services of a private collector to collect waste from the city's residents (McGahee Sanitation). The City of Dearing has no formal contract for solid waste collection with McGahee Sanitation.

The third category of collection identified in **Table 7** is individual waste hauling. McDuffie County residents that do not participate in a municipal or private curbside collection program transport their waste to the County transfer station or city/county recycling drop off facility on their own. Residents deposit their waste in roll off containers managed by staff at the County transfer station. Residents pay one dollar for waste between 0 and 80 pounds, and an additional dollar for every 20 pounds up to a ton. There is no specific data on the number of residents that choose this method for the disposal of their solid waste. Residents of the unincorporated county are not required to participate in any of the above mentioned collection methods.

#### 4.1.1 Yard Trimmings

Yard waste service in McDuffie County is limited to pick-up provided by the City of Thomson to Thomson and Dearing residents. The City picks up yard waste at the curb. The city owns a vacuum truck so there is no need for residents to bag their yard waste. Smaller limbs (less than 4 inches) must be stacked and larger limbs are manually loaded into trucks. Residents of the unincorporated county are encouraged to bring their yard trimmings and other yard waste to the pit burner area located on Augusta Highway behind the Thomson-McDuffie recycle drop off facility. Residents that choose not to have their yard waste incinerated they can drop off yard waste at the County operated inert landfill located adjacent to the County transfer station.

#### 4.1.2 *Illegal Dumping*

Illegal dumping is disposal of waste in an un-permitted area. Illegally dumped wastes are primarily non-hazardous materials that are dumped to avoid either disposal fees or the time and effort required for proper disposal. Sites used for illegal dumping vary, but typically include abandoned residential or commercial buildings; vacant lots and wooded areas; and infrequently used alleys or roadways. Because of their accessibility and poor lighting, areas along rural roads and railways are particularly vulnerable.

McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing have identified illegal dumping as an issue. The County and the City of Thomson both have ordinances in place related to dumping. (See **Appendix B**) The McDuffie County Sherriff (both in the county and within the city of Dearing) and Thomson Police Department enforces these ordinances when necessary. Under both ordinances the maximum penalty that may be enforced is a fine of \$1,000 or sixty days in jail for each offense. The rural nature of the unincorporated area and the precedence of other law enforcement matters make the ordinance difficult at best to enforce.

#### 4.2 **Assessment and Needs**

Although the population in the unincorporated area is projected to grow steadily through 2015, county wide pickup is not likely to be practical due to a limited and scattered population. The County should always keep the option open and study the feasibility of county-wide collection or the expansion of municipal service in the urbanizing area if economically feasible in the future. Until that time, the reliance on private haulers and individuals continues to be the most viable option for the residents of the unincorporated area.

The existing curbside collection service in the Cities of Thomson and Dearing will be adequate through the planning period. The collection capacity of area solid waste companies is adequate for the relatively smaller municipalities. Therefore no major improvements are needed at this time. Maintaining municipal equipment will be required.

At this time, McDuffie County's existing solid waste ordinance related to disposal, combined with code and law enforcement, is not adequately addressing illegal dumping. The County will continue to monitor these issues during the planning period to determine additional steps that need to be taken to better enforce existing ordinances.

#### 4.3 **Contingency Strategy**

Natural disasters strike with varying degrees of severity and pose both short- and long-term challenges to public service providers. The most severe natural disasters generate debris in quantities that can overwhelm existing solid waste management facilities or force communities to use disposal options that otherwise would not be acceptable. Debris removal is a major component of every disaster recovery operation. Much of the debris generated from natural disasters is not hazardous. Soil, building material, and

green waste, such as trees and shrubs, make up most of the volume of disaster debris. Most of this waste can be recycled into useful commodities.

In the event of a natural disaster or other major event that would disrupt the collection of solid waste within McDuffie County, all three jurisdictions would work with the County's current haulers (See **Table 8**) along with neighboring counties to procure additional resources to collect waste until regular procedures could be re-instituted. As part of such an arrangement, temporary hauling of waste material to another transfer facility would be considered if necessary. With its own current collection capacity, Thomson may alternatively choose to directly contract with another private hauler to provide emergency waste removal services.

Because much of the debris that results from a natural disaster would be vegetative, the pit burner area, along with the County transfer station would serve as initial drop-off points for organic debris from throughout the County prior to disposal at the County's inert landfill.

Public notification efforts in all three jurisdictions regarding debris management and removal, and alternative collection efforts may include any combination of: public service announcements, newspaper articles, posting of flyers, mailings, public meeting announcements, etc. McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing estimate that contingency efforts of debris collection and removal, and the collection of accumulated household waste, will take two to four weeks to become operational following a significant natural disaster.

To date, McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing's contingency strategies do not appear to be coordinated. A unified contingency strategy should be prepared through direct coordination between the McDuffie County Solid Waste and Emergency Management Departments, and Thomson's Streets and Sanitation Department and The Mayors Office in Dearing. As part of this coordination all agencies should maintain a uniform up-to-date list of collection companies and disposal facilities, and also explore the option of a retainer contract with a private hauler to provide service in the event that current collection methods are unavailable. Such a contract could include direct hauling to an "out of county" facility in the event that operations at the McDuffie County Transfer Station are inhibited.

#### 4.4 Goals

All goals are applicable to McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing unless otherwise noted.

- Evaluate collection efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new collection mechanisms are feasible.
- Obtain collection data provided by private haulers and assess on a yearly basis.
- Conduct periodic performance reviews of open market solid waste collection by private providers. ( Dearing, McDuffie County)

## COLLECTION

- Review *Joint McDuffie County/Thomson/Dearing Comprehensive Plan* prior to developing future solid waste management policies.
- Expand current collection contingency program to include an agreement with a private hauler for collection in the event of disruption of service.
- Coordinate with the McDuffie County Emergency Management Agency on a unified contingency strategy.
- Maintain city government collection and vehicle and equipment replacement.
- Study the feasibility of expanded curbside waste collection services by Thomson and/or private sector providers.
- Study the feasibility of a retainer contract with a private hauler to collect waste in the event that current methods of collection are disrupted. (McDuffie County)



# DISPOSAL

## 5.0 Introduction

Section 5 provides an overview of current solid waste disposal methods utilized in McDuffie County and assesses the communities' needs during the ten-year plan period. Disposal methods have taken on more significance as communities throughout the CSRA have closed municipal landfills and shifted to private disposal. Cost and service coverage areas have become increasingly significant issues.

## 5.1 Inventory

There are four public and four private disposal facilities currently permitted in McDuffie County - of which only six are currently in operation (see **Table 9**).

Jurisdiction	Facility Name	Permit Number	Dominion	Reporting Year	Status
McDuffie County	McDuffie County Transfer Station	PBR-097-08TS	All County Solid Waste	2007	All MSW for the county is consolidated here
City of Thomson	City of Thomson Transfer Station	PBR-097-04TS	MSW	2007	MSW from the City is consolidated here then hauled to the county transfer facility
McDuffie County	McDuffie County Board of Commissioners	PRB-097-10IL	Inert Landfill	2007	Operated by the McDuffie County Solid Waste Department
McDuffie County	McDuffie County Inert Landfill	PBR-097-07IL	Inert Landfill	2007	This facility is not currently operating.
Private	Georgia Disposal & Recycling Inc.	PBR-097-06TS	MSW	2007	This facility was never opened for operation
Private	Thomas D Gantt Jr. Inert Landfill	PBR 097-09IL	Inert Landfill	2007	Privately owned inert landfill
Private	CSR Knox-Rivers Construction	PBR-097-11IL	Inert Landfill	2007	Privately owned inert landfill
Private	Interstate Equipment	PBR-097-01IL	Inert Landfill	2007	Privately owned inert landfill

*Source: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division*

The McDuffie County Transfer Facility (PBR-097-08TS) is a consolidation point for residential, commercial, industrial and construction/demolition waste that is then transported to the Chambers R&B MSW Landfill in Homer, GA operated by Waste Management Inc. According to Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) records, the Chambers R&B facility is not scheduled to reach capacity until 2021, this combined with the required "Assurance of 10 year Disposal Capacity" letter (**Appendix B**) submitted by Waste Management ensure that all of the county's disposal needs can be adequately addressed through this planning period and beyond. All County solid waste, as well as waste from Gibson, Warrenton, and Crawfordville along with Warren and Glascock Counties is tipped at the County

transfer facility and then transported to the R&B facility. Equipment at the transfer facility is adequate to meet the facility's day-to-day operations. There are five inert landfills currently operating within the county at this time.

As previously discussed, the waste flow going to the County transfer facility originates from a variety of points within and outside of the County. Industries that generate hazardous waste contract with haulers to ship this waste out of the County to permitted hazardous waste facilities. No other pre-disposal treatment such as shredding or baling is employed at the facility. The County transfer facility does accept tires for an additional fee.

In addition to the facilities mentioned above the city and county jointly operate the Thomson-McDuffie pit burner area. This device is an air curtain destructor used to incinerate yard waste collected by the city.

## **5.2 Thermal Treatment Technologies**

There are no thermal treatment technologies currently in use by McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing.

## **5.3 Assessment and Needs**

McDuffie County's goal is to ensure that disposal facilities meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs for the next ten years.

With a heavy reliance on private disposal providers, the County's disposal role is one of regulation. While collection services are handled by both the public and private sector, disposal of this cumulative waste at a single privately operated landfill facility – via the County transfer facility – limits competition during the term of the County's contract with the disposal provider. To ensure the most favorable costs for disposal services, McDuffie County along with the Cities of Thompson and Dearing should coordinate closely when it is time for the County to renegotiate its contract with its disposal provider.

Existing disposal service will be adequate through the planning period. Disposal will continue at the county transfer station. The disposal capacity of area solid waste facilities is adequate for the relatively smaller municipalities. Therefore no major improvements are needed at this time. Maintaining municipal equipment will be required.

The Cities of Thomson and Dearing as well as McDuffie County will continue to utilize the Thomson McDuffie County pit burner area for yard waste.

#### 5.4 Assurance of Ten-Year Disposal Capacity

Under the *Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990*, each local government must provide ten-year capacity assurance whether that local government relies on its own landfill, another local government, regional authority, private entity or any combination thereof for disposal of the solid waste generated within the planning jurisdiction. **Appendix B** contains the required letters of disposal capacity.

#### 5.5 Contingency Strategy

In the event of a natural disaster or other major event that would disrupt the disposal of solid waste within the County, McDuffie County, Thomson and Dearing would contract with a private hauler to dispose of waste until regular procedures could be re-instituted. To ensure coordination of contingency disposal strategies, an intergovernmental agreement on emergency disposal between all jurisdictions would be prudent. The McDuffie County Department of Solid Waste should also coordinate with Thomson's Department of Streets and Sanitation, and the Mayor's Office in Dearing to ensure an up-to-date list of disposal facilities is available and kept current. The retainer agreement recommended in Section 4 should clarify where the County's solid waste will be hauled in the event that the County transfer station is inoperable.

Based on current capacities and a coordinated emergency disposal strategy, it should take no more than a few weeks to bring the contingency strategy disposal option on-line.

#### 5.6 Goals

All goals are applicable to McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing unless otherwise noted.

- Evaluate disposal efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new disposal mechanisms are feasible.
- Obtain disposal data provided by private haulers and assess on a yearly basis.
- Conduct performance reviews of open market solid waste disposal by private providers.
- Review the *Joint McDuffie County /Thomson/Dearing Comprehensive Plan* prior to developing future solid waste management policies.
- Develop disposal contingency program and coordinate with all jurisdictions on unified contingency strategy.
- Continue operation of inert landfills (McDuffie County and Private Sector).
- Maintain city government disposal vehicles and equipment.

# LAND LIMITATION

## 6.0 Introduction

Section 6 deals with the inventory, analysis, and determination of land areas which, due to environmental limitations or land use factors, are considered unsuitable for the development of solid waste handling facilities. *The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990* defines a solid waste handling facility as: any facility, the primary purpose of which is the storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, or disposal, or any combination thereof, of solid waste. Although it may be technically feasible to build solid waste handling facilities in most situations, there are regulatory and financial constraints which render certain locations unavailable. Distances around airports and bodies of surface water are examples of regulatory constraints. Other siting considerations may not be specifically prohibited but would result in more extensive engineering, environmental, and hydrogeological requirements. The criteria contained in this chapter are established to provide for environmentally sound and financially practical disposal siting.

Specific items to be considered are as follows:

### (1) Natural Environmental Limitations:

- (a) **Water supply watersheds:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1 requires that at any location within a small water supply watershed, new solid waste landfills must have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- (b) **Groundwater recharge areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.02(3)(a) requires that in significant groundwater recharge areas, DNR shall not issue permits for new solid waste landfills not having synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- (c) **Wetlands:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.03(3)(e) establishes that solid waste landfills may constitute an unacceptable use of a wetland.
- (d) **River corridors:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.04(4)(h) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills within protected river corridors.
- (e) **Protected mountains:** DNR Rule 391-3-16-.05(4)(l) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills in areas designated as protected mountains.

(2) **Criteria for siting:** The following items are criteria for siting solid waste handling facilities under DNR Rules. Local governments preparing plans should consult with DNR for the most current applicable rules.

## LAND LIMITATION

- (a) **Zoning:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a) requires that the site must conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances, and that written verification of such be submitted to EPD.
- (b) **Airport safety:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c) requires that new solid waste landfill units or lateral expansions of existing units shall not be within 10,000 feet of any public use or private use airport runway end used by turbojet aircraft or within 5,000 feet of any public use or private use airport runway end used by only piston type aircraft.
- (c) **Flood plains:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(d) stipulates that any solid waste landfill located in the 100-year flood plain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the flood plain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment.
- (d) **Wetlands:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(e) prohibits the development of solid waste landfills in wetlands, as defined by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, unless evidence is provided by the applicant to EPD that use of such wetlands has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all other applicable state and federal laws and rules.
- (e) **Fault areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(f) requires that new landfill units and lateral expansions of existing landfills shall not be located within 200 feet of a fault that has had displacement in the Holocene Epoch unless the owner or operator demonstrates to EPD that an alternative setback distance of less than 200 feet will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the landfill unit and will be protective of human health and the environment.
- (f) **Seismic impact zones:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(g) prohibits the development of new landfill units and lateral expansions in seismic impact zones unless the owner or operator demonstrates to EPD that all containment structures, including liners, leachate collection systems, and surface water control systems are designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site.
- (g) **Unstable areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(h) requires owners or operators of new landfill units, existing landfill units, and lateral expansions located in unstable areas to demonstrate that engineering measures have been incorporated in the landfill unit's design to ensure that the integrity of the structural components of the landfill unit will not be disrupted.
- (h) **Significant groundwater recharge areas:** DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(j) requires new solid waste landfills or expansions of existing facilities within two miles of a significant groundwater recharge areas to have liners and leachate collection systems, with the exception of facilities accepting waste generated from outside

the county in which the facility is located. In that case, the facility must be totally outside of any area designated as a significant groundwater recharge area.

Any entity requesting a renewal or issuance of a solid waste handling permit from EPD must demonstrate that the facility or expansion is consistent with the local government's solid waste management plan. Chapter 391-3-4 of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Protection Division relates to solid waste management in Georgia. Chapter 391-3-4.05 deals specifically with the siting criteria associated with solid waste handling facilities.

Solid Waste handling facility applicants should always check with DNR and the local planning jurisdiction to verify procedures for siting solid waste handling management facilities that include but are not limited to the following:

- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(b) requires that whenever any applicant begins a process to select a site for a solid waste disposal facility, documentation demonstrating compliance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-26(a) be submitted to EPD; further, whenever any applicant takes action resulting in a siting decision for a publicly or privately owned solid waste disposal facility, documentation demonstrating compliance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-26(b) be submitted to EPD.
- Once a site has been selected, the applicant must conduct a Hydrological Assessment in accordance with the provisions of DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(k). Preparation of the land limitation element of a solid waste management plan should comply with the *Solid Waste Management Act* and the Rules of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for solid waste management (Chapter 391-3-4) relating to historic sites, airports, jurisdictional boundaries, access, etc. These documents should be consulted for specifics on land limitations and siting of solid waste management facilities.
- If an applicant undertakes the Facilities Issues Negotiation Process pursuant to a facility siting decision, the process will be undertaken in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-32 and any guidelines issued by the Department pursuant to State law.

## 6.1 Inventory

The following section includes inventories of existing natural and regulatory siting limitations. Protected mountains, fault areas, seismic impact zones or unstable areas were not identified in McDuffie County, Thomson, or Dearing.

The base data used for the mapping component has been provided by the CSRA Regional Development Center. The siting criteria maps referenced in this chapter are approximate, intended for reference purposes only and do not map all local, state and federal siting criteria referenced herein

### 6.1.1 Water Supply Watersheds

There are many different factors that determine the volume of water in a stream or other body of water. These factors include the amount of precipitation, land cover, slope, soil type, and capacity and speed of absorption into the soil. Any water that is not absorbed by the soil, detained on the surface by lakes or ponds, or used by vegetation, runs off of the land as overflow, or surface run-off. Water that is later released by the soil adds to this overflow to produce what is known as total run-off. As run-off flows to areas of lower elevation, it collects in drainage areas, the boundaries of which form watersheds. Run-off from these watersheds flows into streams which serve as outlets for water in the watersheds.

McDuffie County is located within the Savannah River drainage basin. Within this basin, portions of 3 major watersheds can be found in McDuffie County: the Little River Watershed across the northern half of the County, the Brier Creek Watershed in the southern and southwestern portion of the County, and the Middle Savannah watershed just north of Dearing. This plan makes note of these geographic and hydrological subdivisions so that a distinction can be made between them and “water supply watersheds” that require additional resource protection to ensure a safe supply of public drinking water.

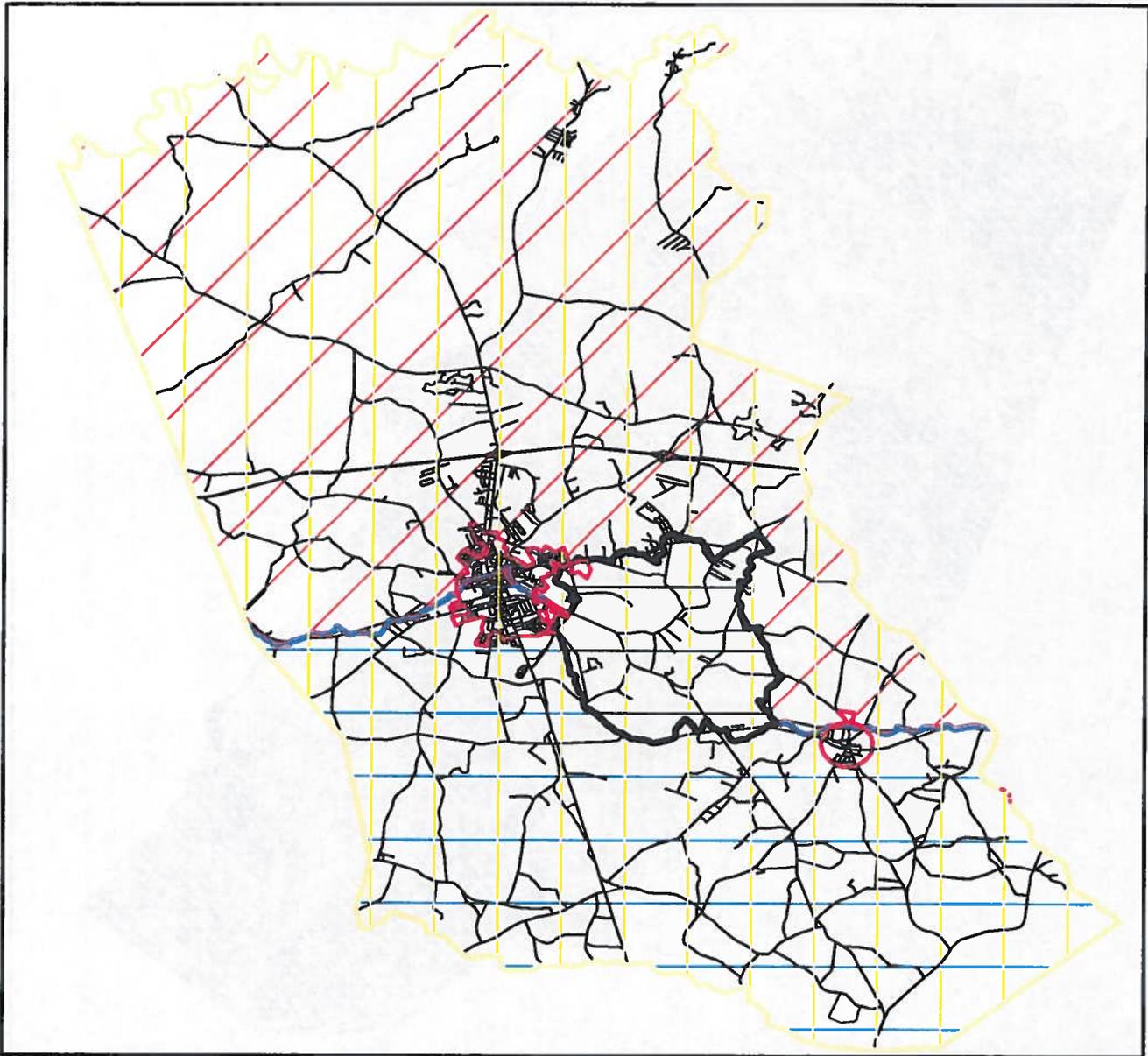
DNR’s *Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria* define a water supply watershed as an area of land upstream from a governmentally owned public drinking water intake. McDuffie County lies entirely within the Savannah I & D water supply watershed. The smaller Thomson-McDuffie County water supply watershed is located to the southeast of Thomson and provides Thomson and Dearing with their public drinking water supply. In addition the cities of Augusta-Richmond County and Waynesboro water supply watersheds divide the county roughly in half. McDuffie County water supply watersheds can be found on **Map A**. All water supply watersheds in McDuffie County are subject to DNR’s *Criteria for Water Supply Watersheds*.

### 6.1.2 Groundwater Recharge Areas

Groundwater recharge areas are portions of the earth’s surface where water infiltrates the ground to replenish an aquifer, which is any stratum or zone of rock beneath the surface of the earth capable of containing or producing water from a well. In order to avoid toxic and hazardous waste contamination to drinking water supplies, groundwater or aquifer recharge areas must be protected. While recharge takes place throughout almost all of Georgia’s land area, the rate or amount of recharge reaching underground aquifers varies from place to place depending on geologic conditions.

According to data provided by DNR on the Ground-Water Pollution Susceptibility Map of Georgia, Hydrologic Atlas 20, McDuffie County contains several significant groundwater recharge areas. (See **Map B**) Recharge areas range from lower susceptibility areas in the northern section of the county adjacent to Clarks Hill Lake, to average and

# Map A: McDuffie County Water Supply Watersheds



## Legend

 City Limits

## Water Supply Watersheds

 City of Augusta - Richmond County

 City of Waynesboro

 Savannah I & D

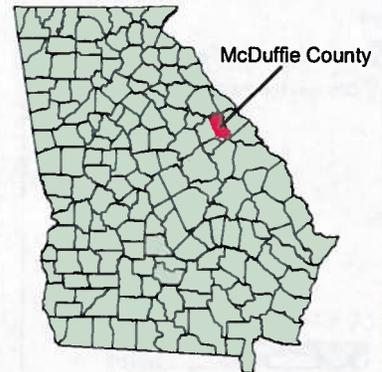
 Thomson - McDuffie County

00.51 2 3 4  
 Miles

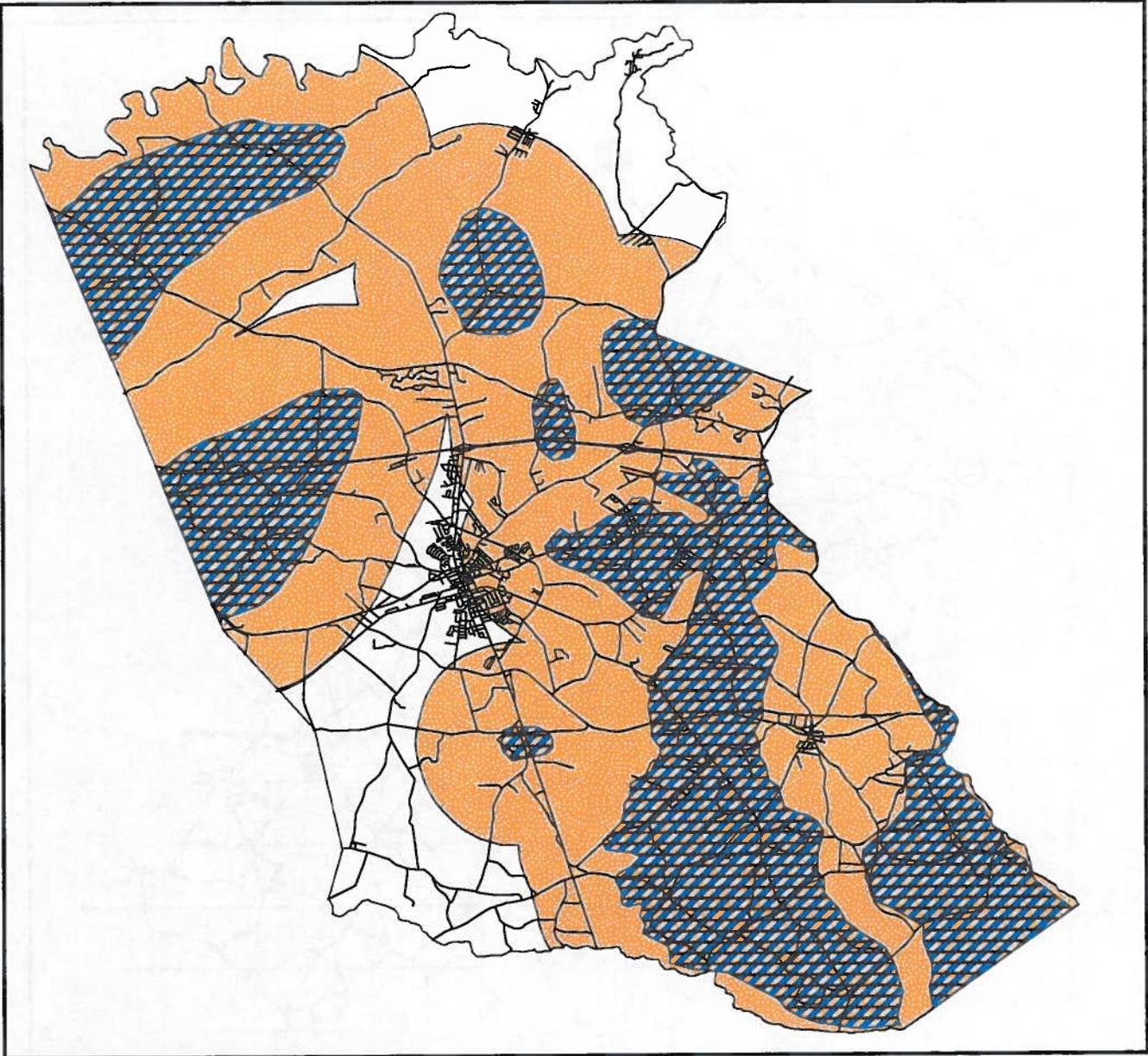


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 June, 2017

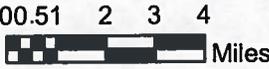


# Map B: McDuffie County Groundwater Recharge Areas



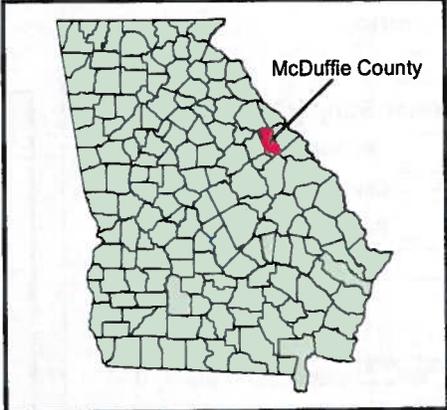
**Legend**

-  Groundwater Recharge Area
-  Groundwater Recharge Area 2 Mile Buffer

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high susceptibility areas in the southern and south-central portion of the county that borders Richmond, Jefferson, and Warren Counties.

Both the state and federal government regulate groundwater recharge areas. Requirements from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD) include restrictions and regulations on sanitary landfills, land disposal of hazardous wastes, spray irrigation of wastewater and wastewater treatment basins.

### 6.1.3 Wetlands

Federal law defines freshwater wetlands as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Preservation of wetlands is vital because of the many important functions they serve. They are among the worlds most biologically productive ecosystems and serve as crucial habitats for wildlife. Wetlands can help maintain water quality or improve degraded water by performing functions similar to a waste-water treatment plant, filtering sediment, toxic substances and nutrients. Wetland vegetation filters and retains sediments which otherwise enter lakes, streams and reservoirs often necessitating costly maintenance dredging activities. Wetlands are also important to flood protection, as they act as water storage areas, significantly reducing peak flows downstream, and the meandering nature of wetlands combined with abundant vegetation reduce flood velocities.

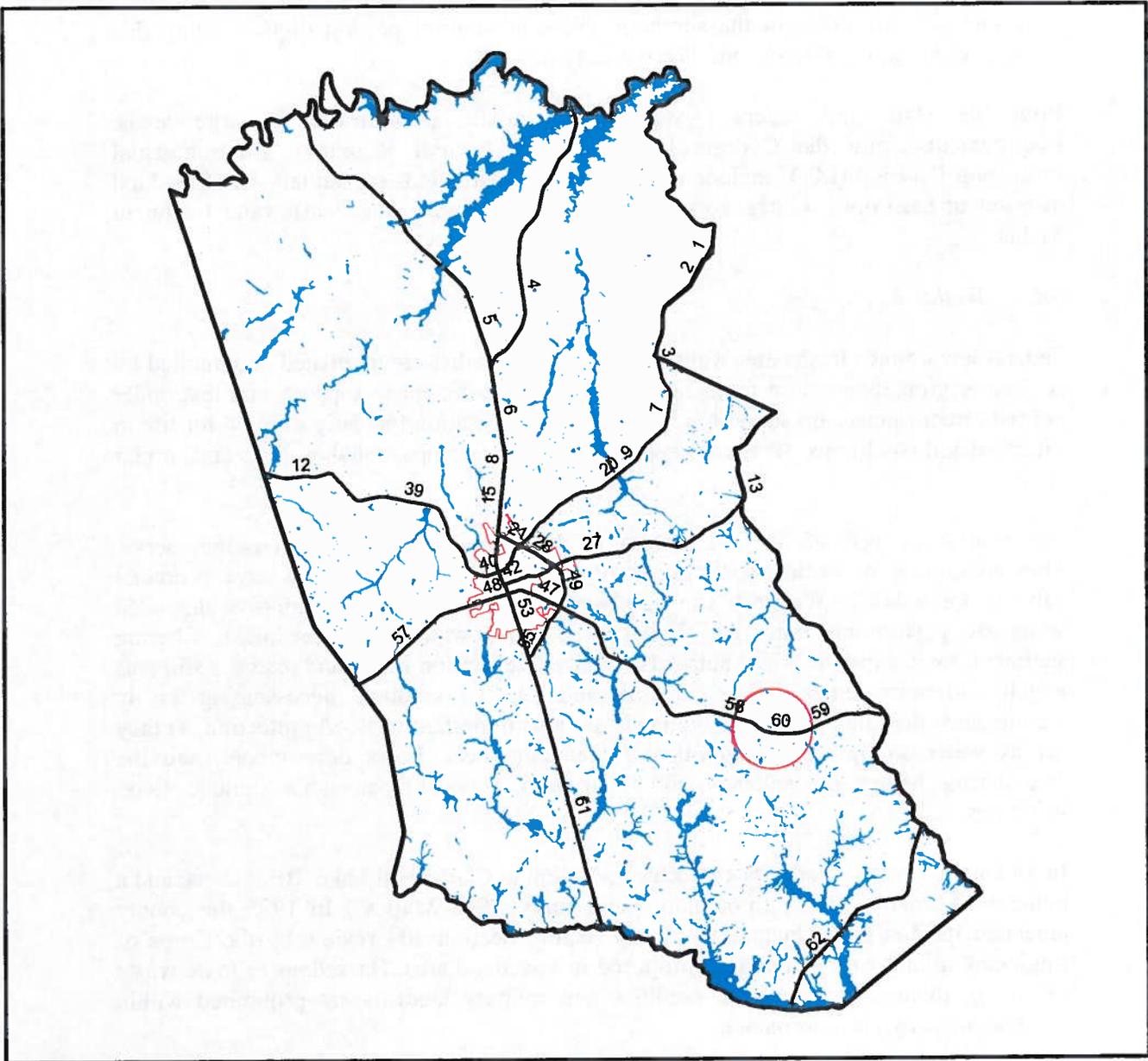
In McDuffie County, wetlands are located adjacent to Clarks Hill Lake, Brier Creek and a number of smaller creeks throughout the County. (See **Map C**) In 1995 the county amended its Zoning Ordinance to clearly require Section 404 review by the Corps of Engineers of any land disturbance proposed in a wetland area. Hazardous or toxic waste receiving, treatment or disposal facilities and sanitary landfills are prohibited within wetland areas by local ordinance.

### 6.1.4 River Corridors

River corridors and their immediate shore land environment (sometimes referred to as the *riparian zone*) are areas of critical environmental significance. They provide a number of benefits including: drinking water, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, flood storage capacity, and assimilative capacity for wastewater discharges-the river or stream's ability to dilute wastewater to a point when it is no longer a threat to human health.

Section 305(b) of the federal Clean Water Act requires that all states biennially list navigable waters throughout the state and provide a description of the water quality of

# Map C: NWI Wetlands McDuffie County



**Legend**

-  City Limits
-  cou189 arc
-  City Limits
-  NWI Wetlands
-  hwy189 arc





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such streams and its impact on its designated uses. Consistent with these requirements, DNR has developed minimum planning criteria for its river corridors in order to protect these vital resources. River corridors within McDuffie County currently on EPA's 303(D)/305(B) list of protected rivers can be found on **Map D**.

#### 6.1.5 Local Zoning

Zoning is an act of city or county authorities by exercise of police powers in regulating, controlling or specifying the type of use to which the property may be put in specific areas.

McDuffie County and the City of Thomson have zoning ordinances in place. The County has the most detailed code, including several classifications of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. According to the code, sanitary landfills and solid waste handling facilities are permitted in the R-1 (Low-Density Residential) zoning district only with a special exception. The county requires any proposed landfill or solid waste handling facility to conform to special development standards identified in Section 44-105 of the county's *Land Development Code*.

Thomson has a zoning ordinance with a more limited amount of districts. Of these districts none classify solid waste facilities in any capacity as an allowed use. There is no zoning at this time in the City of Dearing. See **Maps E1** and **E2** for zoning district boundaries in McDuffie County and the City of Thomson.

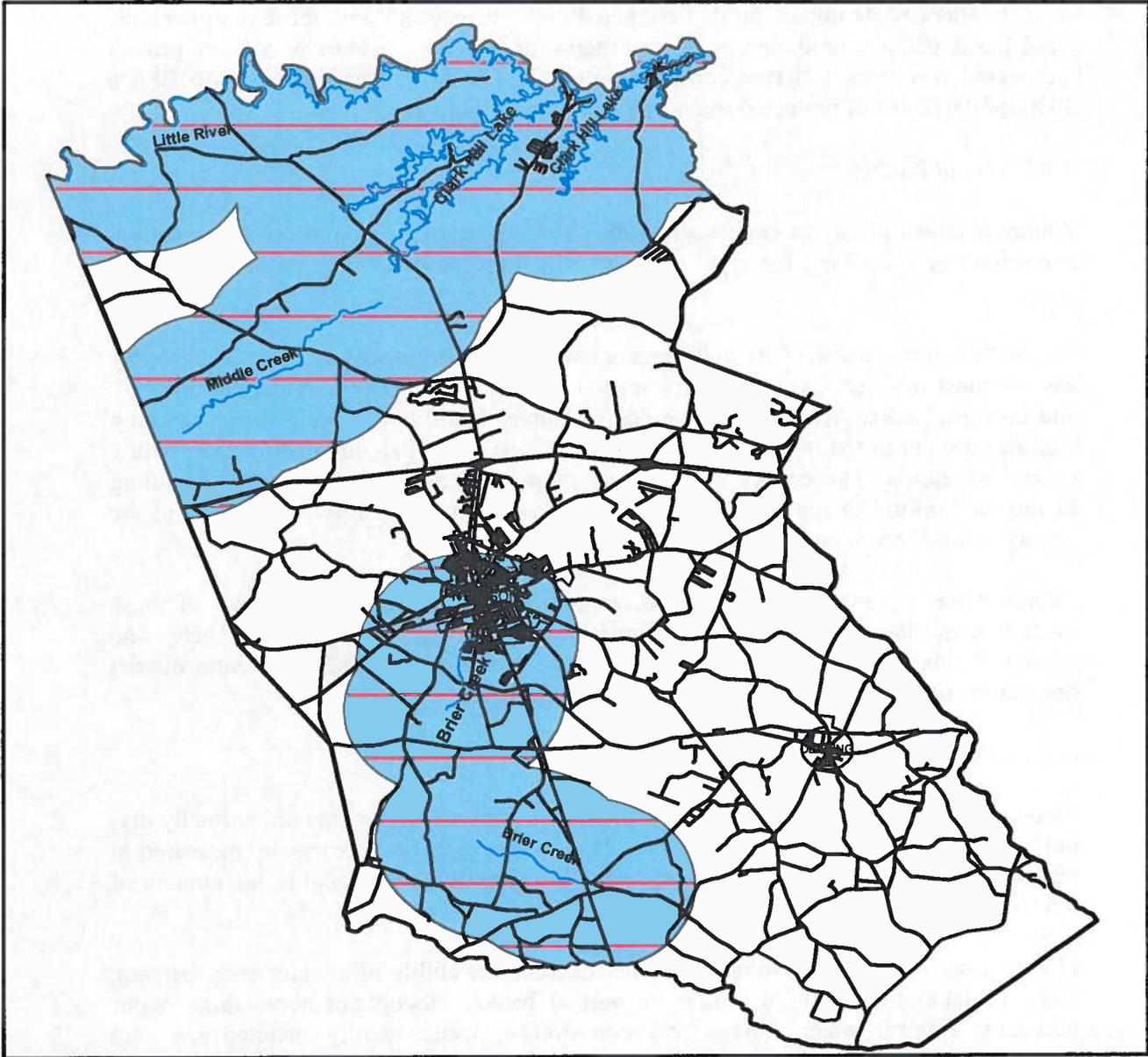
#### 6.1.6 Flood Plains

Flood plains are relatively flat lands that border streams and rivers that are normally dry, but are covered with water during floods. The severity of a flood is usually measured in terms of loss to human life or property, which is directly proportional to the amount of development in the flood plain surrounding the stream or river.

Flooding occurs when the volume of water exceeds the ability of a water body (stream, river, or lake) to contain it within its normal banks. Floodplains serve three major purposes: Natural water storage and conveyance, water quality maintenance, and groundwater recharge. These three purposes are greatly inhibited when floodplains are misused or abused through improper and unsuitable land development. For example, if floodplains are filled in order to construct a building, then valuable water storage areas and recharge areas are lost. This causes unnecessary flooding in previously dry areas and can damage buildings or other structures. Therefore, floodplain development is usually discouraged with the exception of recreational facilities.

The Cities of Thomson and Dearing do not participate in the Federal Flood Insurance program because of the absence of identified floodplains within municipal boundaries. McDuffie County participates in the Federal Flood Insurance Program at the basic level (Class 10) which allows residents within the unincorporated areas to obtain flood

# Map D: 305(b) Rivers & Streams McDuffie County



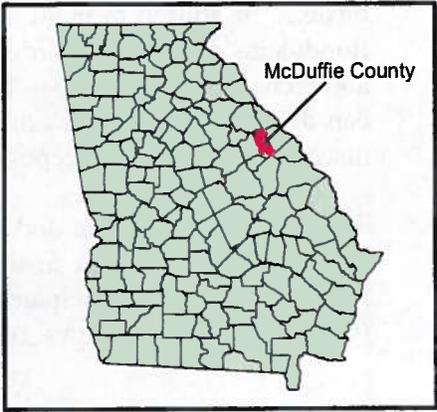
**Legend**

- 305B Rivers & Streams
- City Limits
- 2 Mile Buffer

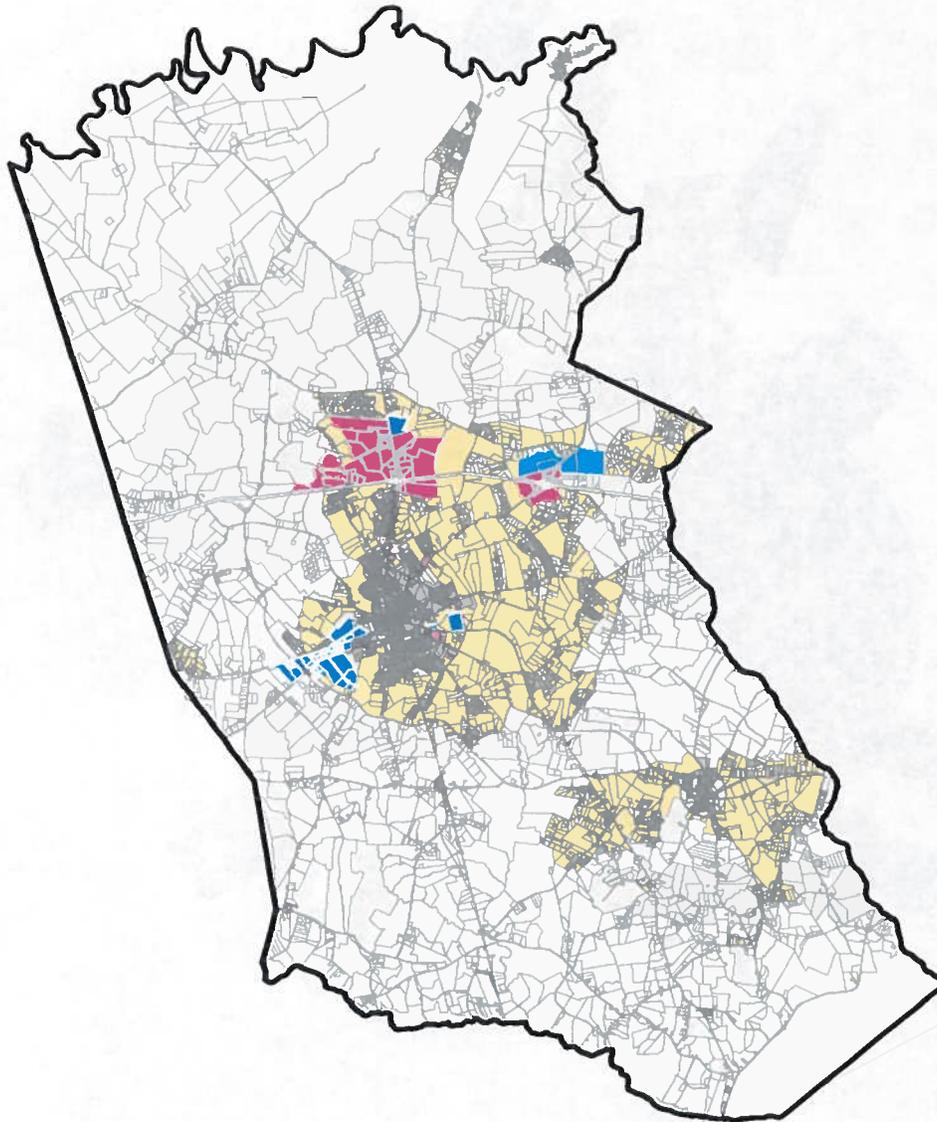
Miles

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# Map E: McDuffie County Zoning Districts



## Legend

### zoning polygon

#### ZONING DISTRICTS

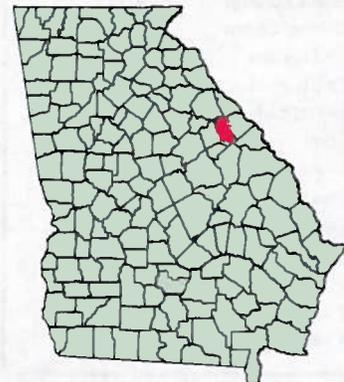
- R-1 Low Density Residential/Agriculture District
- R-2 Medium Density Residential District
- R-3 High Density Residential District
- C-1 Neighborhood Service (Rural) Commercial District
- C-2 General (Highway) Commercial District
- I-1 Light and Wholesale Industrial District
- I-2 Heavy industrial District
- T-1 Interstate Village District
- IN Incorporated Area



0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

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# Map E-2: City of Thomson Zoning Districts



**Thomson Zoning City Zoning Codes**

- B-1 Business
- B-2 Business
- I-1 Light Industrial
- OUT
- P Professional
- R-1 Single Family Residential
- R-1A Single Family Residential
- R-1B Single Family Residential
- R-2 Multi Family Residential
- RD Residential
- S Special



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insurance but not at the discounted rate they would if the community participated in the Community Rating System (CRS) **Map F** illustrates areas that have been identified as flood zones by the Federal Emergency Management Agency

6.1.7 *Historic Resources*

Since the early 1970's McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing have continued to expand their inventory of properties located on the National Register of Historic Places. That effort continues to this day with the recent proposal for the Thomson Historic District to be added to the National Register of Historic Places. McDuffie County's current National Historic Register properties are listed in **Table 10** and illustrated on **Map G**.

**Table 10: McDuffie County National Register Historic Properties**

Individual Property			
Resource Name	Address	City	Listed
Boneville Historic District	Jct. of Boneville Rd. and Georgia RR, 5Mi. SE of Thomson.	Boneville	2000-02-10
Bowdre-Rees-Knox House	SW of Thomson on Old Wrightsboro Rd.	Thomson	1979-01-19
Thomas Carr District	N. of Thomson near jct. of GA 150 and I-20	Thomson	1975-12-06
James L. Hardaway House	Old Mesena Rd. W. of Thomson	Thomson	1993-09-16
Hayes Line Historic District	Jct. of Twin Oaks Rd. and GA 233	Thomson	2000-02-18
Hickory Hill	Hickory Hill Dr. & Lee St.	Thomson	1979-11-15
Hillman-Bowden House	1348 Plylant Crossing Rd.	Thomson	2002-11-01
McNeill House	220 Lee St.	Thomson	1992-11-27
Old Rock House	NW of Thomson on Old Rock House Road	Thomson	1970-12-29
Pine Top Farm	Jct. of US 78 and us 278 2 mi. E. of Thomson	Thomson	1996-06-05

*Source: National Register, National Parks Service*

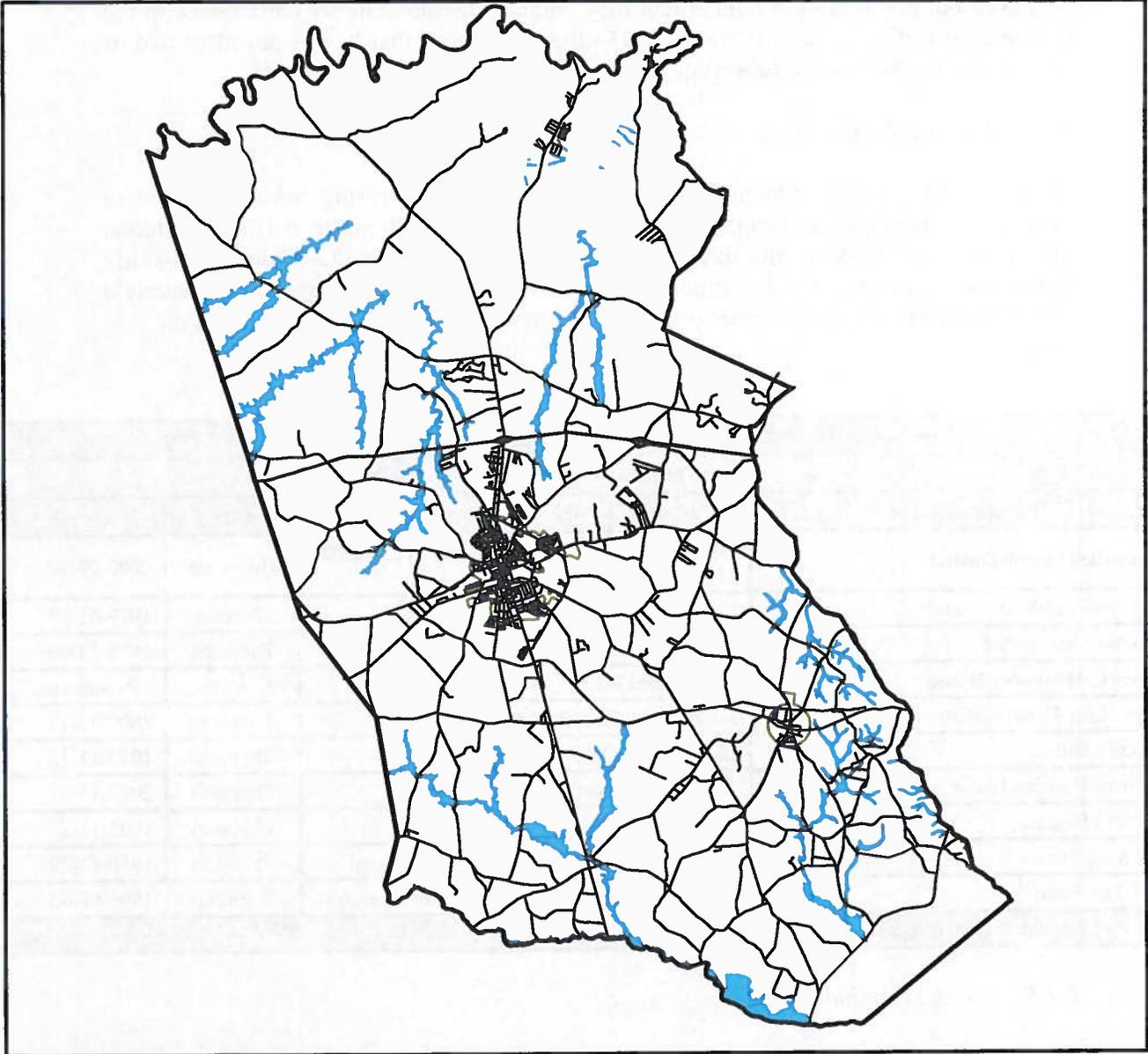
6.1.8 *Airport Proximity*

The Thomson-McDuffie Regional Airport is located approximately 5 miles northwest of downtown Thomson along U.S. Highway 78. This public use airport is capable of accommodating turbojet aircraft. Per DNR criteria, no solid waste handling facility may be located within 10,000 feet from the end of the runway. **Map H** illustrates the airports location.

6.1.9 *Jurisdictional Boundaries*

McDuffie County is bordered by Columbia, Richmond, Jefferson, Warren, Wilkes, and Lincoln Counties. Potential siting of solid waste handling facilities within McDuffie County must be consistent with siting criteria in neighboring jurisdictions.

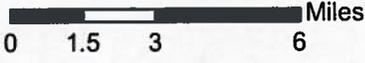
# Map F: McDuffie County Floodplains



**Legend**

-  City Limits
-  Floodplains



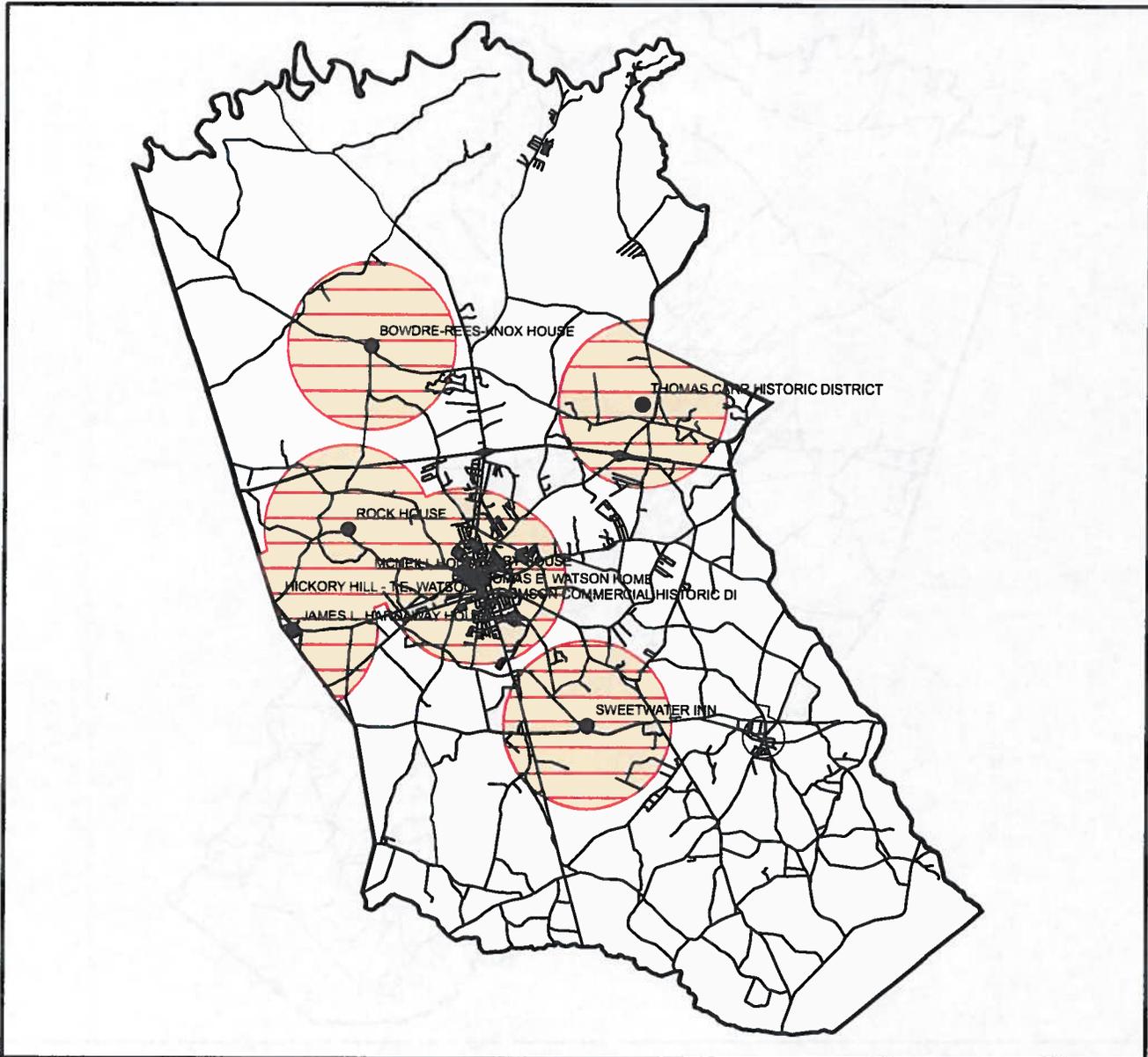
 Miles

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# Map G: McDuffie County Historic Resources



## Legend

● Historic Places

 2 Mile Buffer

 City Limits

0 0.5 1 2 3 4  
 Miles

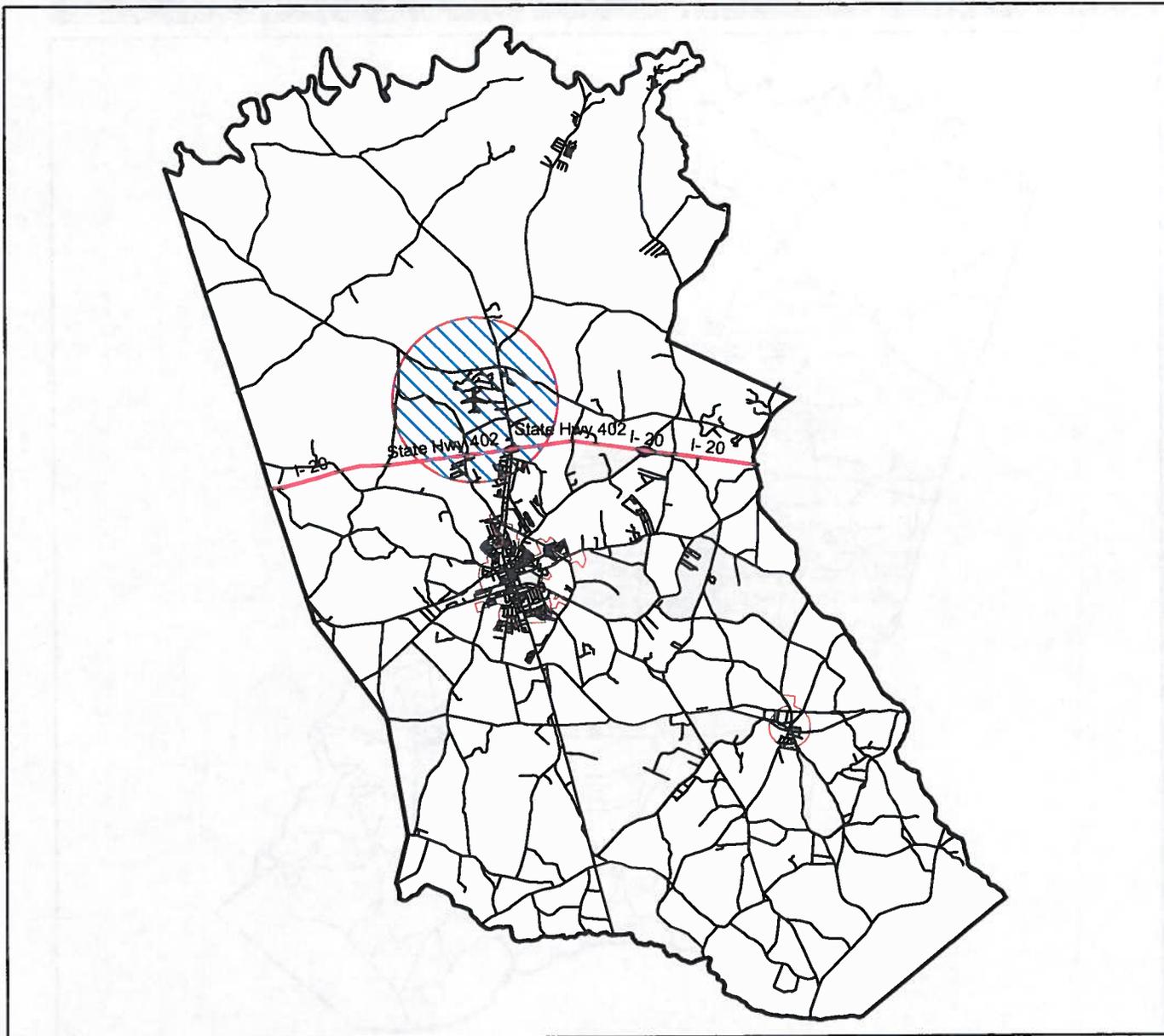


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# Map H: Thomson McDuffie Regional Airport



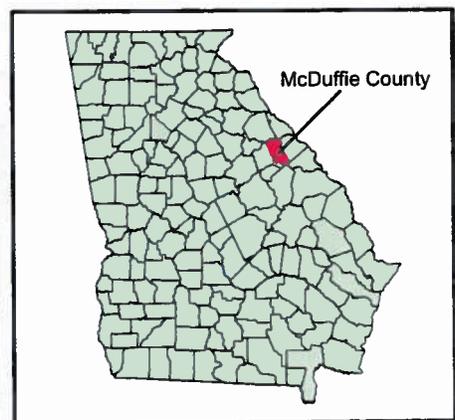
**Legend**

- Airport
- Interstate
- City Limits
- 2 Mile Buffer

0 1 2 4 6 Miles

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### *6.1.10 Access*

The highway system throughout McDuffie County is fairly well-maintained and provides access to the majority of the community. The consistent availability of paved state and county highways in McDuffie County reduces the siting hurdle for potential solid waste handling facilities.

## **6.2 Assessment and Needs**

The goal of the land limitation element is to identify areas of McDuffie County which should be avoided when developing solid waste handling facilities. This is an effort towards providing environmentally and socially sound solid waste disposal facilities. As the County considers siting new disposal facilities, local officials need to be cognizant of environmental considerations as well as other special needs. Regulation should not necessarily result in the prohibition of private solid waste disposal facilities but ensure that the development of facilities do not conflict with this Plan, local comprehensive planning documents, or other local, state and federal regulations. While the maps contained in this Chapter illustrate some of the land limitations applicable in McDuffie County, it is important to note that additional local, state and federal siting criteria may result in additional properties being deemed inappropriate for the siting of solid waste handling facilities.

### *6.2.1 Water Supply Water Sheds*

The City of Thomson and Dearing depend on The Thomson-McDuffie County water supply watershed for a significant percentage of their public drinking water supply. The watershed is small in size, and despite the required consistency of solid waste handling facilities with DNR rules, the potential failure of leachate collection systems and/or synthetic liners would critically impact the well-being of the citizens of Thomson and Dearing. Because of this risk, new solid waste handling facilities shall not be located within the Thomson McDuffie County water supply watershed. Additionally, any landfill that has not been previously permitted shall not be located within any water supply watershed in McDuffie County.

### *6.2.2 Groundwater Recharge Areas*

The citizens of unincorporated McDuffie County rely heavily on groundwater sources for their drinking water supply. In addition to DNR rules, landfills shall be prohibited from locating within two miles of portions of the county that have been identified as groundwater recharge areas. All other solid waste handling facilities wishing to locate within the two mile buffer of a designated groundwater recharge area shall be subject to conformance with applicable local zoning and other land development regulations. The potential for leachate collection system and/or synthetic liner failure places vital groundwater sources for major portions of the county in jeopardy.

*6.2.3 Wetlands*

Consistent with DNR rules, solid waste handling facilities shall not be located within identified wetland areas.

*6.2.4 River Corridors*

Protected rivers illustrated on **Map C** are on the U.S. EPA's list of 303(D)/305 (B) protected rivers due to apparently high levels of particular contaminants. Because these critical waterways are already impaired by one or more pollutants, the siting of solid waste handling facilities within close proximity to these water courses can easily compound existing problems. As a result, solid waste handling facilities shall not be located within two miles of a protected river corridor. In addition, other surface waters throughout the county can easily be contaminated by activities associated with mismanaged or failing solid waste handling facilities. As a result, all other navigable river corridors shall be subject to DNR's minimum planning criteria.

*6.2.5 Local Zoning*

McDuffie County and the City of Thomson have appropriate regulations in place to discourage the location of solid waste facilities in areas identified as unsuitable. Dearing does not have local land use regulations; however, the small size and population concentrations within Dearing (as well as within Thomson) make the location of solid waste handling facilities inappropriate regardless of whether local land use regulations are currently in place.

*6.2.6 Floodplains*

The critical and fragile habitats associated with wetlands are often present in floodplains. In addition, floodplains that may be disrupted or altered by filling activities associated with solid waste handling facilities – potentially creating flooding problems for downstream property owners. Solid waste handling facilities shall be prohibited from being located within floodplain areas.

*6.2.7 Historic Resources*

All of McDuffie County takes great pride in its historic character. Its identity within the region is tied closely to its heritage. In order to protect the marketability of these resources, it is in the communities' best interests to prohibit the siting of solid waste handling facilities within close proximity. Such facilities have the potential to negatively impact historic resources due to noise, smell, traffic, viewshed obstruction, etc. Solid waste handling facilities shall not be located within three miles of a historic resource.

### 6.2.8 *Airport Proximity*

Solid waste handling facilities should be located at least 10,000 feet from either end of the runway at the Thomson-McDuffie County Regional Airport. Because of the future likelihood for runway expansion or the construction of additional runways or facilities, the 10,000 foot buffer should be observed from all sides of the property.

### 6.2.9 *Jurisdictional Boundaries*

Until any multi-jurisdictional agreements are made between McDuffie County and its neighboring counties, solid waste handling facilities should be located in such a way as to not be a detriment to these other jurisdictions. The county respects the siting criteria adopted by its neighboring counties. Because of the rural atmosphere of unincorporated McDuffie County, and the ample supply of open land, these development criteria should not pose a problem for the county so long as any development does not conflict with a neighboring jurisdiction's siting criteria.

### 6.2.10 *Access*

Any future solid waste handling facility in McDuffie County would need to be sited on an easily accessible parcel of land with direct paved road access that does not interfere with rail system operations.

## 6.3 **Procedures for Siting Solid Waste Handling Facilities**

Any entity requesting a renewal or issuance of a solid waste handling permit from EPD must demonstrate that the facility or facility expansion is consistent with the local government's solid waste management plan. Chapter 391-3-4.05 of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Protection Division Rules deals specifically with the siting criteria associated with siting landfills and/or solid waste transfer facilities. In addition to the criteria set forth under DNR's regulations, the County and Cities will also use the following criteria to determine whether the issuance of the requested permit is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan:

- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed unsuitable according to development criteria (examples include, but are not limited to: in groundwater recharge areas; located within two miles of a municipal water supply; on soils poorly suited for development; on slopes of greater than 25 percent; in area that do not have easy accessibility to transportation networks; on urban or built up lands; on or around water bodies or wetlands; or on federal, state, or public lands; in compliance with neighboring jurisdiction's siting criteria).
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with any local zoning ordinances.

## LAND LIMITATION

- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts other natural or cultural resources of the County.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the current solid waste management infrastructure of the County;
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts collection capability and disposal capacity identified in the Plan.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the County's ability to contribute to state-wide waste reduction.
- Determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts the financial viability of the County's solid waste management system.

No proposed facility or facility expansion will be sited without a letter from the McDuffie County Board of Commissioners for the unincorporated area or the City Councils of Thomson and Dearing for their respective jurisdictions, stating that the facility is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. The McDuffie County Board of Commission or the City Council in Thomson or Dearing will hold at least one public hearing to gather input to make this determination for their respective jurisdictions.

Applicants of proposed facilities or facility expansions shall consult with City and/or County officials in order to identify an appropriate date to schedule a public hearing. The applicant shall advertise the public hearing in the local newspaper and distribute letters of intent to adjacent property owners no less than 15 days prior to the date of the scheduled hearing. Should the Board/Council determine, based on information provided, to disapprove the proposal based on inconsistency with the adopted solid waste management plan, the applicant may appeal and provide additional information at a subsequent Board/Council meeting. Applicants may appeal any additional negative ruling by the Board/Council to circuit court.

### 6.4 Goals

All goals are applicable to McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing unless otherwise noted.

- Continue to coordinate solid waste planning with County ordinances and the *Joint McDuffie County/Thomson/ Dearing Comprehensive Plan*.
- Review as needed local ordinances for amendments due to land use changes and waste reduction/recycling programs implementation.
- Continue use of Siting Criteria Maps in review and planning for future solid waste management facilities.
- Enforce jurisdictional ordinances through code enforcement.

# EDUCATION & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

## 7.0 Introduction

The purpose of this section of the Plan is to provide an inventory and assessment of existing educational programs and public involvement activities available in McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing. Local governments throughout Georgia are encouraging residents to become more aware of the true costs of solid waste management and the need for waste reduction, recycling and siting of new facilities.

### 7.1 Inventory

#### 7.1.1 Local Government Programs

Currently, McDuffie County jurisdictions do not participate in the Keep Georgia Beautiful program. Development of an affiliate chapter of this non-profit organization would allow McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing to initiate efforts towards public education on waste reduction. Keep Georgia Beautiful chapters provide information to interested parties as well as presents educational programs at local schools.

In addition the City of Thomson is currently in the process of applying for a Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority grant to help fund education about solid waste in the community. The money from this grant would go towards educational materials targeted at education about solid waste reduction and recycling.

Additionally, public education efforts have been undertaken in the development of this solid waste management plan. The Solid Waste Management Act requires that local governments conduct two public hearings before submitting a solid waste management plan to the Regional Development Center for review. The first public hearing was held on March 8, 2007 at Thomson Depot. Local industries, commercial haulers, other affected parties along with the general public were encouraged to attend and become involved in the planning process. The hearing was designed to inform the public on the planning process and to encourage input on solid waste goals, needs, and issues. The second public hearing was held near the conclusion of the planning process on June 28, 2007. A copy of the Plan was prepared and distributed to stakeholders for review and comment.

#### 7.1.2 Solid Waste Committee/Task Force

There is currently no solid waste committee/task force in place within the county or its incorporated areas. Through discussions with the Solid Waste Management Plan advisory committee it was decided that forming a Solid Waste Committee/Task Force would be in the best interest of all jurisdictions.

#### 7.1.3 School System Programs

The McDuffie County Board of Education (BOE) has active programs for educating students about the ways in which solid waste affects each of us. The state science

curriculum objectives are known as *Georgia Performance Standards* and are the standardized curriculum for providing an introduction to solid waste and waste reduction. McDuffie County begins this education at the primary level and continues it throughout student's secondary education. The level to which the school district provides education about solid waste reduction far exceeds the state established curriculum in both content and the duration of the education. Along with its education efforts the McDuffie County BOE provides a positive example for their students by collecting various items (aluminum cans, white paper, ink cartridges, etc.) and having them hauled to the Thomson-McDuffie Recycle Drop off facility, or picked up by private buyers for recycling.

#### *7.1.4 Litter Control Programs*

McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing have all adopted ordinances regulating litter and illegal dumping. Enforcement of these ordinances is largely the responsibility of local law enforcement and is conducted predominantly on a complaint basis

#### *7.1.5 Regional RDC Programs*

The CSRA RDC does not have any regional recycling programs in place. The RDC is currently applying for Solid Waste Management Grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the preparation of a regional recycling feasibility study. McDuffie County has expressed their support of the RDC in its efforts (**Appendix A**).

### **7.2 Assessment and Needs**

#### *7.2.1 Opportunities for Public Involvement*

Currently, McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing rely on their staffs, and public meetings as venues for public involvement. These organizations are linked to one another and arrangements have worked well. The organizations relay and provide the public with involvement opportunities related to appropriate waste streams.

#### *7.2.2 Education Programs*

There is currently very little infrastructure in place throughout McDuffie County to increase public awareness of local solid waste management and waste reduction practices and programs. Without an autonomous solid waste task force or steering committee, or an independent waste reduction advocacy organization such as Keep Georgia Beautiful operating in the county, there is little discourse on the impacts of local decisions affecting the waste stream. One apparent correlation with the lack of public awareness on solid waste management issues is the low level of participation in Thomson's recycling program.

A specific employee of an appropriate agency will need to coordinate and take an active lead role in development of an effective program. The first step in implementing a public awareness program will be for decision makers to identify and contact known resources. The coordinator will need to identify resources within the community who will provide support. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the CSRA Regional Development Center and McDuffie Solid Waste Department should offer information and assistance regarding existing educational programs.

The McDuffie County (BOE) is currently providing solid waste management education far in excess of the minimum approved state curriculum. The extent to which the County's students are educated about solid waste reduction and the impact that not reducing solid waste output has on everyone's lives is outstanding. Efforts like these should continue, with the County and the RDC providing resources and support.

Current litter control programs are falling short of their current goals and objectives. As mentioned previously all jurisdictions have identified illegal dumping as an issue. The formation of an affiliate of Keep Georgia Beautiful would be the first step in the overall reduction of illegal dumping issues within the County

### 7.3 Goals

All goals are applicable to McDuffie County and the Cities of Thomson and Dearing unless otherwise noted.

- Educate residents on the importance of pursuing a reduction in the amount of solid waste received at disposal facilities through participation in recycling programs.
- Apply GEFA money towards education about solid waste reduction, and recycling.
- Coordinate with citizens and private organizations to establish an affiliate chapter of Keep Georgia Beautiful.
- Establish solid waste committee/task force through amendment of appropriate ordinances.
- Work with the State's Recycling Coordinator and the CSRA RDC to identify viable educational and recycling projects in the county.
- Publicize and promote all proposed solid waste reduction programs.

# IMPLEMENTATION

## 8.0 Introduction

The implementation strategy represents a culmination of information gathered in the preceding sections. After all sections have been inventoried and assessed, and needs and goals have been identified, the plan must identify an implementation schedule for relevant current programs and future planned programs for each element.

Any solid waste management plan should look not only to the future, but also the past for guidance in establishing priorities. The following are recognized as the major accomplishments from the previous plan

- Maintenance of current solid waste handling facilities
- Improvement of residential drop-off at transfer facility
- Promotion of recycling facilities

A complete “report of accomplishments” for the short-term work program period between 2002 and 2007 can be found in **Appendix D**

The implementation strategy is presented in the attached work plan. Its includes specific actions which address the needs and goals expressed in the planning elements and which will help the State reach the statewide goal of waste disposal reduction. Plans and programs presented in the implementation strategy demonstrate 10 year collection capability and disposal capacity. Finally, the implementation strategy identifies specific administrative responsibilities and budgeting necessary to implement the Plan (See **Appendix D**).

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

**McDuffie County Board of Commissioners**

McDuffie County Courthouse THOMSON, GEORGIA 30824  
337 Main Street

(706) 595-2100  
FAX# (706) 595-4710

Sammie Wilson, Sr.  
Darrell L. Wester

*Charles (Charlie) G. Newton IV, Chairman*  
*Donald W. Norton, County Manager*

Frederick D. Favors  
J. Robert (Bob) Farr

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS, the solid waste reduction goal for the State of Georgia is to reduce the solid waste by twenty-five (25) percent; and**

**WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Plan for jurisdictions served by the CSRA Regional Development Center has the stated goal to reduce the solid waste stream by twenty-five (25) percent; and**

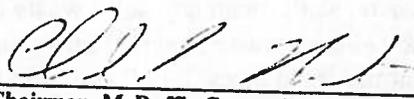
**WHEREAS, the governing body of McDuffie County offers its full support to the CSRA Regional Development Center for the filing of USDA Solid Waste Management Grant to conduct a Region-Wide Recycling Feasibility Study; and**

**WHEREAS, the governing body of McDuffie County directs and authorizes the CSRA Regional Development Center to act in connection with the application; and**

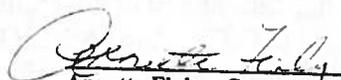
**WHEREAS, the governing body of McDuffie County in support of the application agrees to offer financial support in the amount of \$483.05 (the City of Thomson also has tentatively agreed to provide \$483.05) and to participate in the development of said application.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Chairman and the Board of Commissioners of McDuffie County do hereby authorize the filing of a Solid Waste Management Grant to conduct a Region Wide Recycling Feasibility Study to be submitted to the USDA by the deadline of December 31, 2006.**

Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2006.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, McDuffie County Board of Commissioners

ATTESTED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Annette Finley, County Clerk

SEAL

*Equal Opportunity Employer*  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
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## McDuffie County Solid Waste Ordinance

### ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

#### Sec. 66-1. Management fees.

Management fees for solid waste may be set from time to time by the McDuffie County Board of Commissioners.

(Ord. of 3-3-99)

#### Sec. 66-2. Reserved.

#### Sec. 66-3. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Commercial solid waste* shall mean all types of solid waste generated by stores, offices, restaurants, warehouses and other nonmanufacturing activities as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(4.1).

*Disposal facility* means any facility or location where the final deposition of solid waste occurs and includes but is not limited to landfilling and solid waste thermal treatment technology facilities as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(8).

*Dump* means to throw, discard, place, deposit, discharge, burn, or dispose of a substance.

*Industrial solid waste* shall mean waste generated by manufacturing or industrial processes or operations. Such waste includes, but is not limited to; fertilizer agricultural chemicals, food and food related products and by products as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(12.1).

*Inert waste* shall mean wastes that will not or are not likely to cause production of leachate of environmental concern. Such wastes are limited to earth and earth-like products, concrete, cured asphalt, rock, bricks, yard trimmings, stumps, limbs, and leaves. This definition excludes industrial and demolition waste not specifically listed above (Section 391-3-4-.06 of the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management).

*Litter* shall mean discarded materials of every kind as defined in O.C.G.A. § 16-7-42(1).

*Municipal solid waste* shall mean any solid waste derived from households, including garbage, trash, and sanitary waste in septic tanks and means solid waste from single-family and multifamily residences, hotel, and motels, bunkhouses, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and day use recreation areas. The term includes yard trimmings and commercial solid waste, but does not include solid waste from mining, agricultural or silvicultural operations or industrial processes or operations as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(18).

*Open dump* means a disposal facility at which solid waste from one or more sources is left to decompose, burn or to otherwise create a threat to human health or the environment as defined in Section 391-3-4-.01(44) of the Georgia rules for Solid Waste Management.

*Person* includes any individual, corporation, partnership or other entity including the entity hired or selected by any person as defined herein to pick up, transport, and dispose of any material defined herein.

*Public or private property* shall mean the right-of-way of any road or highway; any body of water or watercourse or the shores or beaches thereof; any park, playground, building, refuge, or conservation or recreation area; and residential or farm properties, timberlands or forests as defined in O.C.G.A. § 16-7-42(2).

*Recovered materials* shall mean those materials which have known use, reuse, or recycling potential and have been diverted or removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, reuse, or recycling as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(25).

*Recovered materials processing facility* shall mean a facility engaged solely in the storage, processing, and resale or reuse of recovered materials as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(31).

*Scrap tire* shall mean a tire that is no longer suitable for its original intended purpose because of wear, damage, or defect as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(31).

*Scrap tire generator* shall mean any person who generates scrap tires as defined in Section 391-3-4-.19(2.i) of the Georgia Rules of Solid Waste Management.

*Scrap tire carrier* shall mean any person engaged in picking up or transporting scrap tires not otherwise exempted under Section 391-3-4-.19(5.g) for the purposes of removal to a scrap tire processor, end user, or disposal facility as defined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(32).

*Solid waste* means any garbage or refuse; sludge from a wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; and other discarded material including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations and from community activities, but does not include recovered materials; solid or dissolved materials in domestic sewage; solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or industrial discharges that are point sources subject to permit under 33 U.S.C. Section 1342; or source, special nuclear, or byproduct material as defined by the federal Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (68 Stat. 923). O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(33).

*Solid waste handling* means the storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing or disposal of solid waste, or any combination of such activities. O.C.G.A. § 12-2-22(34).

*Tire retailer* shall mean any person engaged in the business of selling new replacement tires O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22(39).

(Ord. of 3-3-99)

Secs. 66-4--66-25. Reserved.

## ARTICLE II. UNLAWFUL DUMPING

Sec. 66-26. Enforcement of article.

- (a) Enforcement of this article shall be the responsibility of county and municipal code enforcement officers or county and municipal law enforcement officers.
- (b) Any person or persons authorized to enforce this article shall be empowered to enter any property, upon reasonable cause, at reasonable times in order to inspect the property

for violation(s) of this article, subject to the condition that to allow entry on private property for inspection, the alleged violation(s) of this article must be visible from a public road or right of way, or upon such officer having received a complaint alleging a violation of this chapter.

(Ord. of 3-3-99)

**Sec. 66-27. Prohibited areas.**

(a) The owner or occupant of any premises shall be responsible for the sanitary handling and disposing of all litter, scrap tires, and municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste on the premises used or occupied by such person.

(b) It shall be unlawful to dump, open dump, or permit the dumping of litter, scrap tires, municipal, commercial, or industrial solid waste or recyclables at any place in this county including, and without limitations, any public or private property in the county or any waters in this county unless:

(1) The property is designated by the board of commissioners or its duly designated agent for the disposal of litter, municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste, scrap tires or recovered materials and the person is authorized to use such property.

(2) The litter, municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste, recyclables or scrap tires are placed into a receptacle or container installed specifically for such property.

(3) The person is the owner or tenant in lawful possession of such property or has first obtained consent of the owner or tenant in lawful possession or unless the act is done under the personal direction of the owner or tenant, all in a manner consistent with the public welfare and not otherwise in violation of law.

(4) The property has a valid solid waste handling permit issued by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources/Environmental Protection Division.

(c) All persons defined as scrap tire generators, scrap tire carriers, tire retailers shall be subject to rules as defined in Section 391-3-4-.19 and handle scrap tires in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 12-8-20 et seq. and the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4 applicable to solid waste.

(d) No person other than those described in section (c) may store more than ten scrap tires anywhere in McDuffie County.

(Ord. of 3-3-99)

**Sec. 66-28. Transporting solid waste and litter.**

(a) It shall be unlawful to drive or operate a vehicle in McDuffie County hauling municipal, commercial, or industrial solid waste that leaks, flows freely or spills from said vehicle.

(b) Any litter or municipal, commercial, or industrial solid waste hauled on a moving vehicle shall be covered or secured in such a manner that any will not blow or escape from said vehicle while moving or parked on public or private property in McDuffie County.

(Ord. of 3-3-99)

**Sec. 66-29. Regulation of all solid waste or litter containers and receptacles.**

- (a) Persons using solid waste and litter containers or receptacles shall deposit only authorized solid waste and refuse in the container or receptacle.
  - (b) No person shall deposit a scrap tire in any container or receptacle unless authorized by the owner of the receptacle or the McDuffie County Commissioners or their designee.
  - (c) No dead animals shall be deposited in any such container or receptacle.
- (Ord. of 3-3-99)

**Sec. 66-30. Violations and penalties.**

- (a) Any person violating any portion of this article shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100.00 and no more than \$1,000.00 and/or 60 days imprisonment for each violation within the sound discretion of the Magistrate Court of McDuffie County. The offender(s) may also be directed to pick up and remove litter from public streets, other public, or private areas as provided in O.C.G.A. § 16-7-43(b).
  - (b) The court may order the publication of the names of persons convicted of violating this article.
  - (c) For the purposes of this article, each day a continuing violation occurs shall constitute a separate violation.
- (Ord. of 3-3-99)

**Sec. 66-31. Evidence of identity of violator; rebuttable presumption.**

- (a) Whenever litter is thrown deposited, dropped, dumped, or allowed to blow from any motor vehicle, boat, airplane, or other conveyance in violation of any portion of this chapter; it shall be prima facie evidence that the operator of the conveyance has violated this part.
  - (b) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this Code section, whenever any litter which is dumped, deposited, thrown, blown or left on public or private property in violation of any portion of this chapter is discovered to contain any article or articles, including but not limited to letters, bills, publications or other writings which display the name of a person thereon in such a manner as to indicate that the article belongs or belonged to such person, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that such person has violated this part.
  - (c) The presumption created hereunder shall be rebuttable if such person can prove with competent evidence that they hired or otherwise authorized some other person as defined herein to take their litter and dispose of it and can properly identify such other person that they have hired or otherwise authorized to take control of and properly dispose of their litter at the appropriate county landfill or transfer station.
- (Ord. of 3-3-99)

## City of Thomson Solid Waste Ordinance

### ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

#### Sec. 16-1. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Building materials* shall mean any material such as lumber, brick, plaster, gutters or other substances accumulated as a result of repairs or additions to existing buildings, construction of new buildings or demolition of existing structures.

*Bulk containers* shall mean a metal container of not less than two cubic yards capacity nor larger than eight cubic yards, made of watertight construction with doors opening on top and constructed so that it can be emptied mechanically by a specially equipped truck.

*Chief executive officer* shall mean the mayor or the city administrator and his duly authorized representative and agents.

*Commercial establishment* shall mean any retail, manufacturing, wholesale, institutional, religious, governmental or other nonresidential establishment at which garbage and/or trash may be generated.

*Garbage* shall mean domestic wastes composed of meat, vegetable and fruit scraps, cans, glass, paper, cardboard, rags, ashes and other such waste matter normally to be disposed of from residences, eating establishments and other businesses.

*Garbage receptacle* shall mean a metal or plastic container for garbage and small items of trash made of substantial construction with tight fitting lids and provided with handles and/or wheels sufficient for safe and convenient handling. Such receptacles shall have a capacity of not less than ten gallons nor more than 32 gallons and shall be kept in serviceable condition. In the event that the city should standardize containers by using a semiautomated garbage system with plastic carts of 80--90 gallons capacity, the above specifications would apply to any supplemental containers.

*Hazardous refuse* shall mean materials such as poison, acids, caustics, chemicals, infected materials, radioactive materials, fecal matter, offal, explosives and similar items.

*Industrial waste* shall mean all waste, including sludges, solids, semi-solids and liquids created by factories, processing plants or other manufacturing enterprises.

*Landfill* shall mean an area, location, tract of land or a facility used or intended to be used for the disposal of solid waste, putrescible waste, hazardous waste or other waste as designed and operated as such by the county or by any person subject to the approval of the chief executive officer.

*Large dead animals* shall mean cattle, horses and other animals of similar size.

*Litter* shall mean and include garbage, trash, commercial wastes and other wastes which is scattered about or accumulated in an untidy manner.

*Litter container* shall mean a container with a capacity of not less than 20 gallons nor more than 60 gallons of durable construction to be located along the sidewalks of the city. The location and type of containers are subject to approval of the chief executive officer.

*Loading and unloading area* shall mean space or area used by any moving vehicle for the purpose of receiving, shipping and transporting of goods, wares, commodities and persons.

*Multiple residential unit* shall mean any duplex, apartment, group of apartments, boarding- house, motel or condominium used for dwelling places of more than one family.

*Refuse* shall mean garbage, trash, commercial waste and other wastes.

*Scavenger* shall mean any person who salvages or collects for resale or use, any garbage, paper, cardboard, boxes, crates or other wastes which are being or are to be disposed of from any residence or establishment where people reside, congregate or are employed.

*Single residential unit* shall mean any dwelling place occupied by one family.

*Small dead animals* shall mean cats, dogs, small household pets and other animals of similar size.

*Trash* shall mean leaves, limbs, lumber or wood refuse, boxes, crates, weeds, grass and hedge trimming and similar items.

(Ord. No. 389, § 2, 1-8-81; Ord. No. 403, § 1(K), 1-13-83)

**Sec. 16-2. Superintendent of the sanitation department--Appointment.**

The city council hereby provides for the appointment of a superintendent of the sanitation department of the city. The superintendent shall be appointed by the chief executive officer and such appointment shall be approved by the city council.

(Ord. No. 389, § 3, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-3. Same--Duties.**

The duties of the sanitation superintendent shall be to:

- (1) Supervise the collection of garbage and trash; supervise garbage and trash collection personnel.
- (2) Establish collection schedules in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
- (3) Monitor the operation of any private landfill sites inside the city limits to the satisfaction of the chief executive officer or his duly authorized representative.
- (4) Promulgate rules and regulations which are conducive to the health of the citizens and the cleanliness of the city as to collection days, collection routes and picking up trash and garbage to the satisfaction of the chief executive officer or his duly authorized representative.

(Ord. No. 389, § 3.1, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-4. Enforcement.**

It shall be the duty of the chief executive officer to enforce this chapter. He may designate the following agencies or individuals to actively engage in gaining compliance with this chapter: the sanitation department, the police department, the fire department, the streets department and the building inspector, and any other agency or individual he authorizes. All notices issued to violators must be coordinated through the chief executive officer or his duly authorized representative.

(Ord. No. 389, § 4, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-5. Violations and penalties.**

Any person convicted of not complying with the provisions of this chapter shall be punished in accordance with section 1-14.

(Ord. No. 389, § 5, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-6. Inspection division.**

(a) The clean community commission, the chief executive officer or inspectors designated by him shall substantiate complaints of violations of any provisions of this chapter. They shall determine if there has been a violation and initiate requests for a compliance with this chapter, by the person violating this chapter.

(b) The chief executive officer or his designated inspectors shall be authorized to sign a complaint against said violator with the police department. The alleged violator shall be prosecuted in the municipal court of the city.

(Ord. No. 389, § 39, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-7. General protection of property rights.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to trespass on the rights of another through the neglect of property by causing or allowing unsightly litter, foul odor or potentially dangerous devices to remain on or emanate from the property, or to discard, abandon or cause such on public property or other's private property.

(Ord. No. 389, § 1, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-8. Dead animals.**

(a) The city shall collect small dead animals during operating hours provided the body is in a location easily accessible to the collector.

(b) Owners of large dead animals shall be responsible for their removal and disposal.

(Ord. No. 389, § 28, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-9. Handbills and advertising matter.**

(a) *On vehicles.* It shall be unlawful to place in or on any vehicle in the city any handbill, circular, pamphlet, poster, postcard or other literature except with express permission of the owner or occupant of such vehicle.

(b) *On private or public property.* It shall be unlawful for any person to place on private or public property any handbill, circular, pamphlet, poster, postcard or other literature, except with the express permission of the owner of the property of the intended recipient.

(c) *Exceptions.* Any exception to this section must be approved by the chief executive officer.

(Ord. No. 389, §§ 29--31, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-10. Scavenging.**

(a) No person other than the owner thereof, or an agent or employee of the city, shall interfere with any container placed for the purpose of storing refuse pending collection, or remove or take any of the contents thereof, or remove any such container from the location where the same shall have been placed by the owner thereof.

(b) No person shall be permitted to scavenge or reclaim any refuse which has been delivered to a disposal site for disposal without having first received permission to reclaim items from the chief executive officer.

(Ord. No. 389, §§ 36, 37, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-11. Air curtain destructor.**

(a) The city administrator is authorized to establish guidelines and regulations to manage and control the disposal of waste in the air curtain destructor, and to maintain its efficient use in compliance with state environmental protection regulations.

(b) The director of the city sanitation and street department, assisted as necessary by the county road superintendent, is in charge of daily operations and maintenance of the air curtain destructor to correctly operate and preserve its use along with related site maintenance and equipment used on site.

(c) The priority use of the air curtain destructor shall be to dispose of all environmentally sanctioned waste collected by city-county work crews in the performance of their daily assigned tasks within the city-county area, and environmentally sanctioned waste transported to the destructor site by private city-county citizens.

(d) The secondary use of the air curtain destructor shall be to dispose of all environmentally sanctioned waste transported to the air curtain destructor site by private contractors working in support of city-county citizens and local city-county industrial and commercial companies.

(e) The city administrator is authorized to charge and collect fees for the secondary use of the air curtain destructor. The charge or fee shall be based on the size of the vehicle bed used in disposal. The fee schedule shall be set from time to time by the city council and county commissioners and a schedule of such fees is on file in the city clerk's office.

(f) The fees for the disposal of environmentally sanctioned waste shall be billed monthly, received, accounted for and placed in the general fund of the city by the city clerk. These funds are to be expended only for maintenance on the air curtain destructor and related equipment, and for the purchase of new equipment related to the disposal process as authorized by the city council and county commissioners.

(Ord. No. 449, 8-10-89)

Charter references: Authority to impose charges or fees to cover the cost of solid waste collection, § 1.02(j).

**Sec. 16-12. Unauthorized use of solid waste containers.**

Solid waste containers provided by the City of Thomson for residential use within the City of Thomson shall be utilized only by those persons to whom the container is issued to include members of the immediate family. However, the commercial containers provided by the City of Thomson to commercial entities shall be utilized only by the commercial entity issued the solid waste container. Disposal of solid waste or any other matter in a city-issued container by persons not authorized for disposal of solid waste in such container shall constitute a violation of this ordinance and such violation shall be punishable as provided under Section 1-14 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Thomson.

## ARTICLE II. GARBAGE

Sec. 16-36. Roll cart system.

(a) *Applicability.* The provisions of this section apply only to the "roll cart system." Except as provided in this section, the "roll cart system" shall be the only approved system for the use by residential customers in the city.

(b) *Ownership of carts.* The carts shall remain the property of the city and will be assigned to residents for the health, safety, convenience, and general welfare of the occupant.

(c) *Placement; contents.* The person having authority to control the disposal of garbage in any household shall cause all garbage collected therein to be placed in a receptacle by the city and placed at the curb on scheduled collection days. Only garbage may be placed in approved containers.

(d) *Weight.* The combined weight of a container and its contents shall not exceed 200 pounds and container shall not be filled to overflowing.

(e) *Identification.* Where more than one family occupies a dwelling or apartment, the garbage receptacles shall be marked by the city so as to indicate the family using the particular garbage receptacle. The receptacle may be identified by putting the apartment number thereon or the name of the household. When receptacles are so identified, such receptacle may be used only by the person whose name or other identification is shown thereon.

(f) *Lost, stolen or damaged containers.* Any residential container provided by the city which becomes lost, stolen, or damaged shall be replaced by the city and cost for such replacement shall be borne by the city or property owner depending upon the circumstances of damages or disappearance. The city shall be sole determiner as to responsibility. Containers which are damaged through normal usage shall be repaired or replaced by the city.

(g) *Commercial containers used.* The owner of apartment houses, including public housing, condominiums, and townhouses, consisting of six or more attached living units, may be furnished commercial containers in sufficient number to adequately contain the garbage and refuse disposal at such location. The decision to use commercial containers will be at the discretion of the city. The type, size, number and location of such commercial containers required shall be subject to the approval of the public works department, but in no instance shall the size of said commercial container be less than four cubic yards.

(h) *Maintenance of container.* It shall be the responsibility of the occupant to maintain all garbage containers serving his property in a clean and sanitary manner, free of obnoxious odors, maggots, insects and rodents, or any other conditions which may render them unhealthy to the occupants of the apartment or the neighborhood, in compliance with state and county health code requirements.

(i) *Location of container.* Receptacles provided to residences by the city as provided in subsection (a) of this section shall be placed in the area between the sidewalk and curb or in an accessible place approved by the public works department. Containers shall not be placed at the curbside before 7:00 p.m. on the day preceding the collection day and shall

be removed from the curbside when collected on collection day. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted by the public works department for persons with physical limitations which prevent placement of the garbage receptacles at the curb, provided such person submits a written request for the exception.

(j) *Time of collection.* The public works department shall provide a schedule to each residence receiving garbage collection service from the city which shall indicate the days on which such collection will be made.

(Ord. No. 403, § 1, 1-13-83)

Sec. 16-37. Collection by city.

(a) The City of Thomson shall be and hereby is the only entity authorized to collect garbage inside the City of Thomson and no other entity, party, person, or corporation shall be permitted or authorized to collect and/or dispose of garbage from residential household and commercial sites inside the City of Thompson.

(b) A violation of this section shall be punishable as provided for in this Code.

(Ord. No. 492, §§ 1, 2, 7-11-96)

### ARTICLE III. TRASH AND LITTER

Sec. 16-61. Littering forbidden.

It shall be unlawful for any person to place or cause to be placed any litter on any street, alley, public property or private property in the city.

(Ord. No. 389, § 9, 1-8-81)

Sec. 16-62. Collection.

The city shall provide weekly collection of trash. Such trash shall be placed either at the curb or at the alley on the person's property on collection day. Under no circumstances shall any person place or cause to be placed any trash or litter upon any alley, street or drain of the city. No trash shall be placed on any sidewalk unless there is no other place at the curb for the placement of such trash, and such a placement will be allowed only on collection day.

(1) *Pre-collection practices.* All tree and shrubbery trimmings must be no larger than four inches in diameter nor longer than four feet or they will not be collected by the city. Tree and shrubbery limbs shall have protruding branches trimmed and must be neatly stacked and placed in an orderly manner at curbside or alley. Christmas trees are exempt from these provisions.

(2) *Exception.* Tree and shrubbery branches, limbs and trimmings cut by landscape or tree service contractors or other commercial workmen or resulting from land being cleared shall not be collected by the city, but shall be collected and removed by those who have cut it.

(Ord. No. 389, § 10, 1-8-81)

Sec. 16-63. Trash control.

Any accumulation of trash or other waste items on any lot, property, premises, public street, alley or other public or private place not permitted by this article, is hereby

declared to be a public nuisance and is prohibited. The owner or occupant of the premises shall remove such debris within two weeks of the date of notification. Failure of owner or occupant to remove and correct any such accumulation of trash or litter shall be deemed a violation of this article. The chief executive officer is authorized and empowered to provide for the removal of such debris with any costs being assessed against the property owner upon whose premises the work is done, and, in the event the bill for such charges remains unpaid for 30 days after it has been rendered, such unpaid bill shall become a lien upon the premises enforceable in the same manner as provided for the collection of unpaid taxes.

(1) *Areas surrounding businesses.* The proprietor or person in charge of every business and commercial establishment is hereby required to keep the sidewalks abutting such business, driveways, yards, loading docks, parking lots and area clean at all times with sweepings placed in a container as specified in sections 16-36 through 16-38.

(2) *Parking lots.* Every owner or operator of a private or commercial parking lot in conjunction with every owner or operator of any store fronting on that parking lot shall provide litter containers at a location as specified in section 16-1 and of a type as specified by the chief executive officer or his representative.

(3) *Trapped litter.* The owner, occupant or lessee of all property is required to remove all trapped litter and place the same in a proper container for collection. Vacant lots, borders, parking lots, embankments, fences, walls and sidewalks are to be kept free of litter. Parking lots, shopping centers, convenience stores, drive-in restaurants and all commercial and industrial enterprises will insure that no litter remains on their property.

(4) *Trucks and automobiles.* It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle upon any public street, lane, alley, park or reserve within the city unless the cargo is in containers or covered by a tarpaulin in such a manner as to prevent any part of its contents from falling or being scattered upon any such public street, lane, alley, park or reserve in the city.

(5) *Construction sites.* The property owners and the prime contractor in charge of a construction site are required to furnish litter containers for construction and workmen litter. All litter from construction activities or any related activities shall be containerized and all litter will be picked up and placed in containers at the end of each work day. All litter must be collected and deposited prior to the completion of the construction project.  
(Ord. No. 389, § 11, 1-8-81)

Sec. 16-64. Special collections.

Upon request, the city shall collect normal household discarded furniture and appliances, including sofas, chairs, beds, refrigerators, washers, dryers, hotwater heaters and similar items. Persons requesting this service shall be notified by the sanitation superintendent as to the date collection will occur. This service shall be available for residential areas only.  
(Ord. No. 389, § 12, 1-8-81)

Secs. 16-65--16-85. Reserved.

**ARTICLE IV. OUTSIDE STORAGE****Sec. 16-86. Junked materials.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to place or leave outside any building or dwelling except as specified in section 16-64 any dilapidated furniture, appliance, machinery, equipment, building material, junked motor vehicle, or other item which is either in a wholly or partially rusted, wrecked, junked, dismantled or inoperative condition, and which is not completely enclosed within a building or dwelling. Any such item or items which remain on the property of the occupant for a period of two weeks after notice of violations of this section shall be presumed to be abandoned and subject to being removed from the property by the city without further notice. This shall not apply to authorized junk dealers or currently licensed establishments engaged in the repair, rebuilding, reconditioning or salvaging of equipment or furniture.

(Ord. No. 389, § 13, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-87. Fencing required.**

All authorized junk dealers or licensed establishments engaged in the repair, rebuilding, reconditioning or salvaging of equipment or furniture are hereby required to erect a fence such that the junk materials cannot be seen from the street. The erection of such fence must be of a kind, size and location agreeable to the chief executive officer.

(Ord. No. 389, § 14, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-88. Appliances.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to leave outside any building in a place accessible to children any appliance, refrigerator or other container of any kind which has an airtight snap lock or similar device without first removing the lock or door from such appliance, refrigerator or container. This shall not apply to any appliances, refrigerators or container which has been placed on or adjacent to the rear of the building and is crated, strapped or locked to such an extent that it is impossible for a child to obtain access to any airtight compartment thereof.

(Ord. No. 389, § 15, 1-8-81)

Secs. 16-89--16-110. Reserved.

**ARTICLE V. ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES\***

**\*Cross references:** Motor vehicles and traffic, ch. 11; streets and sidewalks, ch. 18.

**State law references:** Abandoned motor vehicles, O.C.G.A. § 40-11-1 et seq.

**Sec. 16-111. Exceptions.**

This article shall not apply to authorized automobile dealers or to authorized junk dealers in the operation of their businesses.

(Ord. No. 389, § 23, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-112. Abandonment unlawful.**

It shall be unlawful to abandon any motor vehicle on any public street or public grounds or upon any private property, and it shall be unlawful for any person owning private property to abandon or to knowingly permit the abandonment thereupon of any motor vehicle.

(Ord. No. 389, § 16, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-113. Determination of abandonment.**

For the purposes of this article, a motor vehicle shall be determined to have been abandoned in any of the following circumstances:

- (1) If it is partially dismantled or wrecked and it is left on a street, alley or sidewalk for a period of five day or longer.
- (2) If it is left on private property without the consent of the owner, occupant or lessee thereof for 48 hours or longer.
- (3) If it is left on any public street, alley or sidewalk of the city for seven days or longer.
- (4) If it is partially dismantled, wrecked or incapable of self-propulsion and is left by the owner on his own property for seven days or longer.

(Ord. No. 389, § 17, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-114. Removal.**

Any abandoned vehicle may be removed to a storage area for safekeeping by or under the direction of the police department or other person so designated by the city. Written notice by mail of such removal shall be promptly given to the registered owner of the vehicle.

- (1) *Exception.* No abandoned vehicle shall be removed from private property without the written request of the owner, lessee or occupant of the premises unless such vehicle has been found by the chief executive officer to be a health or safety hazard.
- (2) *Fencing required.* If an abandoned vehicle remains on private property and is not judged to be a health or safety hazard, but is judged by the chief executive officer to be an eyesore then fencing is required as specified in section 16-87.

(Ord. No. 389, § 18, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-115. Disposition of vehicles.**

- (a) The owner of any removed abandoned vehicle, before obtaining possession thereof, shall pay to the chief executive officer all reasonable costs incidental to the removal, storage and locating of the owner.
- (b) Should such owner fail or refuse to pay the costs, or should his identity or whereabouts be unknown and unascertainable after a search by the chief executive officer or his designated agent and after notice as prescribed in this section the stored vehicle may be sold after 20 days notice has been given to the department of motor vehicles before the date of the sale, and after the vehicle has been held for not less than 30 days and notice has been published once a week for two weeks in the official organ of the city.
- (c) The vehicle may be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash.

- (d) A vehicle of an appraised value of less than \$100.00 may be disposed of by any means in the discretion of the chief executive officer.
- (e) The funds derived from the sale of such motor vehicle shall be paid into the general fund of the city, from which expenses of such sale shall be paid.  
(Ord. No. 389, § 19, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-116. Junk motor vehicles.**

- (a) Any abandoned vehicle which is inoperable, dismantled, or damaged, five years old or older, and worth less than \$100.00 shall be deemed a junk vehicle. A junk vehicle shall be held at least 15 days, during which time the owner may reclaim it by exhibiting proof of ownership and paying all reasonable costs incident to removal and storage and administrative expenses.
- (b) An unclaimed junk vehicle may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of after 15 days. Notice shall be given within 15 days after final disposition to the department of motor vehicles that it was deemed a junk vehicle and disposed of as such. This notice shall fully and accurately describe such vehicle.
- (c) Any proceeds derived from the disposition of junk vehicles shall be deposited in a general fund of the city.  
(Ord. No. 389, § 20, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-117. Disposition with owner's consent.**

With the owner's consent, the city may remove and dispose of any vehicle as a junk motor vehicle regardless of value or condition of such vehicle and without waiting the 15-day period.  
(Ord. No. 389, § 21, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-118. Immunity.**

No person shall be held to answer in any civil or criminal action to any owner, lien holder or other person legally entitled to the possession of any abandoned, lost or stolen motor vehicle for disposing of it as contemplated in this article.  
(Ord. No. 389, § 22, 1-8-81)

Secs. 16-119--16-140. Reserved.

**ARTICLE VI. HAZARDOUS REFUSE AND BUILDING MATERIALS\***

**Sec. 16-141. Generally.**

No hazardous refuse or building materials shall be placed in any receptacle used for collection by the city, nor shall the same be collected by the city. It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of any soiled lint, cotton or bandages, or waste or refuse of any character whatsoever from any hospital, sanitarium, infirmary, clinic or undertakers' shops, whether public or private, in any manner except by incineration. Kitchen wastes from such establishments are expressly except from this requirement.

(Ord. No. 389, § 26, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-142. Industrial wastes.**

No industrial wastes shall be placed in any receptacle used by the city for collection, nor shall the same be collected by the city. The producer of such waste must dispose of it in a manner to be approved by the chief executive officer or his representative.

(Ord. No. 389, § 26.1, 1-8-81)

Secs. 16-143--16-165. Reserved.

**ARTICLE VII. PRIVATE LANDFILLS**

**Sec. 16-166. Private sites.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or permit to be deposited on land under his ownership and control any refuse without first having obtained a disposal area permit as required by the regulations of the state department of public health and acceptance of the site for such use and purpose by the chief executive officer of the city.

(Ord. No. 389, § 35, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-167. General maintenance.**

It shall be the duty and responsibility of the owner of any private disposal site to keep the site in an orderly condition and maintained so as not to be a public nuisance or a menace to public health.

(Ord. No. 389, § 35.1, 1-8-81)

**Sec. 16-168. Right to enter to inspect.**

The chief executive officer or his representative, or an authorized representative of the department of public health, shall be permitted to enter private disposal sites at any time during normal business hours for free and unhindered inspections to determine compliance with this article and all other pertinent laws and regulations.

(Ord. No. 389, § 35.2, 1-8-81)

Secs. 16-169--16-200. Reserved.

**ARTICLE VIII. COLLECTION FEES\***

**\*Editor's note:** Provisions enacted by §§ 1, 2 of Ord. No. 478, adopted July 8, 1994, have been included herein at the discretion of the editor as Art. VIII, §§ 16-201, 16-202.

**Sec. 16-201. Residential collection fees.**

(a) The mayor and council shall levy and assess a monthly solid waste fee as designated by mayor and council against each residential dwelling unit, for the collection and disposal of solid waste from such residential dwelling unit. This base fee shall provide for the collection of at least one authorized container not less than one time per week. Where any building, apartment house, complex or housing project is comprised of more than one residential dwelling unit or apartment, then the charge shall be levied separately against each such residential unit or apartment, within the corporate limits of the city.

Exemptions from the monthly fee for residential units shall be made only in instances where the residential unit is not occupied and where city water services have been disconnected at the request of the occupant.

(b) The administrative department or any other entity designated by council shall act as billing and collection agency for the garbage collection charge. All monies so collected shall pass directly to the city treasurer for deposit to the city. The charges for all city provided utility services; to include solid waste disposal, shall be billed collectively and failure to pay the total sum due shall cause the recipient of services to have all utility services terminated after ten (10) days written notice to the service recipient.

(Ord. No. 478, § 1, 7-8-94)

**Sec. 16-202. Commercial service.**

(a) For commercial and professional establishments, the city service will provide for the collection of at least one authorized container not less than one time per week during regular city business hours. Any persons or firms receiving such services shall at any time abide by the rules and regulations established by the city with respect to the type of containers used for the storage of waste, the locations of such containers, the sharing of containers by mutual recipients of the services, the measuring of such waste, the charges imposed therefor, or otherwise. Such facilities shall clean or provide for cleaning of their containers and areas surrounding containers to maintain them in a sanitary manner.

(b) The mayor and council shall assess and levy a monthly solid waste fee as designated by mayor and council against each commercial and professional establishment for solid waste services.

(c) The administrative department or any other entity designated by council shall act as billing and collection agency for the garbage collection charge. All monies so collected shall pass directly to the city treasurer for deposit to the city. The charges for all city provided utility services, to include solid waste disposal, shall be billed collectively and failure to pay the total sum due shall cause the recipient of services to have all utility services terminated after ten (10) days written notice to the service recipient.

(Ord. No. 478, § 2, 7-8-94)

Appendix C

Ten-Year Capacity Assurance Letters

**McDuffie County Board of Commissioners**

McDuffie County Courthouse THOMSON, GEORGIA 30824  
337 Main Street

(706) 595-2100  
FAX# (706) 595-4710

Sammie Wilson, Sr.  
Darrell L. Wester

*Charles (Charlie) G. Newton IV, Chairman*  
*Donald W. Norton, County Manager*

Frederick D. Favors  
J. Robert (Bob) Farr

August 31, 2007

Mayor Robert E. Knox Jr.  
City of Thomson  
P.O. Box 1017  
Thomson, GA 30824

**RE: Solid Waste Disposal Capacity Assurance**

Dear Mayor Knox:

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by the City of Thomson from 2007-2017. Waste is currently hauled by the City of Thomson to the McDuffie County Transfer Station. The Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is PBR-097-04-TS. This assurance is based on the City of Thomson disposing of approximately 7,500 tons of waste at this facility on an annual basis.

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

Sincerely,

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Charlie G. Newton, IV  
Chairman

*Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider*



*A Governor's All Star Community*

Jun 26 07 09:54a

McDuffie County SUM

7065872609

**BOLTON ROAD LANDFILL**  
A WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPANY2236 Bolton Road NW  
Atlanta, GA 30318  
(404) 799-1047  
(404) 799-1328 Fax

February 12, 2007

Chairman Charlie Newton  
McDuffie County Board of Commissioners  
P.O. Box 28  
Thomson, GA 30824-0028

Subject: Disposal Capacity Assurance

Dear Chairman Newton:  
This letter serves as disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by McDuffie County, and the cities of Thomson, and Dearing from 2007 to 2017. The Georgia EPD permit number for facilities providing this assurance is 006-009D (MSWL), R & B Landfill. This assurance is based on McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing disposing of approximately 275,000 tons of waste at this facility over the ten year planning period. Our current capacity at this facility exceeds 19,000,000 cubic yards.

We thank McDuffie County, Thomson, and Dearing for the business partnership and look forward to providing environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,  
R&B Landfill

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Stuart', written in a cursive style.

David Stuart  
Director of Atlanta Landfill Operations

Cc: Jo Ann Birrell, WM

APPENDIX D

Report of Accomplishments	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Responsibility	Cost	Funding Source	Status	Comments
<b>AMOUNT OF WASTE</b>											
Maintain transfer Station, scales and inert site at Mesena Road	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	\$20,000	General Fund	Ongoing	
Continue to ship waste out of County	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	\$700,000	Tipping fees, General Fund	Ongoing	
Continue accepting out of county waste, at the transfer station and explore options of increasing out of county waste	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
Continue to divert recyclables from shipping stream	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
<b>COLLECTION ELEMENT</b>											
Continue to allow open competition for collection of waste (County)	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Dearing	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
Continue to contract with private hauler for collection (Dearing)	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
Continue to accept drop off waste at transfer station	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
<b>DISPOSAL ELEMENT</b>											
Continue to operate Transfer Station at current site	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	\$200,000/year	Tipping fees, General Fund, SPLOST	Ongoing	
Enlarge transfer station.			XXX				County	\$600,000	General Fund, SPLOST	Incomplete	Reduction in waste generation numbers made expansive impractical
Improve residential pick-up at transfer station.		XXX					County	\$10,000	General Fund, Surcharge Acct.	Ongoing	
Expand recycling drop-off area at Mesena Road site		XXX	XXX				County	\$10,000	Surcharge Account	Complete	
Add satellite stations for residential convenience centers.			XXX	XXX			County	\$25,000	SPLOST	Incomplete	Reduced participation in recycling made further investment imprudent
<b>WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT</b>											
Continue to operate City/County recycling effort	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County/City	\$45,000/year	General Fund	Ongoing	
Promote city recycling facilities and incorporate county recyclables with city's.	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County/City	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
<b>EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT</b>											
Provide programs in local school	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	City/County	\$2,000	General Fund	Ongoing	
Continue local newspaper and radio ads	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	City/County	\$200	General Fund	Ongoing	
Provide programs at local civic organizations	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	City/County	\$600	General Fund	Ongoing	
<b>LIMITATION ELEMENT</b>											
Continue to maintain closed landfill site	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	\$2,000/year	General Fund	Ongoing	
<b>FINANCING ELEMENT</b>											
Allocate a portion of Sales Tax to Solid Waste	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
Update tipping fee system as necessary	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	
Maintain full cost accounting system	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	County	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	

APPENDIX D

Implementation Strategy

ACTIVITY	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<b>Waste Reduction</b>														
1 Encourage local businesses to increase their waste reduction and recycling efforts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
2 Establish chipping and mulching of yard waste for citizen and public use.	X	X	X									County/Thomson	Variable	Hub Grant, OEFA Grant
3 Participate in region-wide recycling feasibility study.	X	X										County/Cities	N/A	N/A
5 Coordinate all waste reduction and recycling activities with other elements in this Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
6 Maintain municipal waste reduction and recycling equipment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Thomson	Variable	General Fund
7 Expand curbside pick up of recyclables.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Thomson	Variable	SW Operating Budget
8 Establish a Keep Georgia Beautiful chapter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
9 Expand recycling facility operations and educational outreach efforts through equipment and materials purchased with the assistance of the OEFA grant.	X	X	X	X	X	X						County/Thomson	Variable	OEFA Grant
10 Expand single commodity recycled material collection service for commercial customers in the county through equipment purchased with the assistance of the State Recycling Hub Grant Program.	X	X	X	X	X	X						County/Thomson	Variable	Hub Grant
11 Work with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the CSRA Regional Development Center to identify viable waste reduction and recycling projects	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
<b>Collection</b>														
1 Evaluate collection efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new collection mechanisms are feasible.	X		X		X		X		X			County/Cities	N/A	N/A
2 Obtain collection data provided by private haulers and assess on a yearly basis.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	McDuffie County	N/A	N/A
3 Conduct periodic performance reviews of open market solid waste collection by private providers.		X		X		X		X		X		County/Dearing	N/A	N/A
4 Review Comprehensive Plan prior to developing future solid waste management policies.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
6 Coordinate with the McDuffie County Emergency Management Agency on a unified contingency strategy.	X	X	X									County/Cities	N/A	N/A
7 Maintain city government collection and vehicle and equipment replacement.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	Variable	SW Operating Budget
8 Study the feasibility of a retainer contract with a private hauler to collect waste in the event that current methods of collection are disrupted.	X	X										County	Variable	General Fund
9 Expand curbside and waste collection by municipal as well as private sector providers.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities/Private Haulers	Variable	SW Operating Budget
<b>Disposal</b>														
1 Evaluate disposal efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new disposal mechanisms are feasible.	X		X		X		X		X			McDuffie County	N/A	N/A
2 Obtain disposal data provided by private haulers and assess on a yearly basis.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	McDuffie County	N/A	N/A
3 Conduct performance reviews of open market solid waste disposal by private providers.		X		X		X		X		X		McDuffie County/Dearing	N/A	N/A
4 Review Comprehensive Plan prior to developing future solid waste management policies.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
5 Develop disposal contingency program and coordinate with all jurisdictions on unified contingency strategy.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
6 Continue operation of inert landfills (McDuffie County and Private Sector)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Private Sector	N/A	N/A
7 Maintain city government disposal vehicles and equipment.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
<b>Land Limitation Element</b>														
1 Continue to coordinate solid waste planning with County ordinances and the Joint McDuffie County local Comprehensive Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
2 Review as needed local ordinances for amendments due to land use changes.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
3 Continue use of Siting Criteria Maps in review and planning for future solid waste management facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
4 Enforce jurisdictional ordinances through code enforcement.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
<b>Education &amp; Public Involvement</b>														
1 Educate residents on the importance of pursuing a reduction in the amount of solid waste received at disposal facilities through participation in recycling.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
2 Apply OEFA money towards education about solid waste reduction, and recycling.	X	X	X									County/Thomson	Variable	OEFA Grant
3 Coordinate with citizens and private organizations to establish an affiliate chapter of Keep Georgia Beautiful.	X	X	X									County/Cities	N/A	N/A
4 Establish solid waste committee/task force through amendment of appropriate ordinances.	X	X										County/Cities	N/A	N/A
5 Work with the State's Recycling Coordinator and the CSRA RDC to identify viable educational and recycling projects in the county.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A
6 Publicize and promote all proposed solid waste reduction programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County/Cities	N/A	N/A





GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**COPY**

Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

November 2, 2007

Honorable Sean Kelley  
Mayor, Town of Dearing  
Post Office Box 520  
Thomson, Georgia 30808

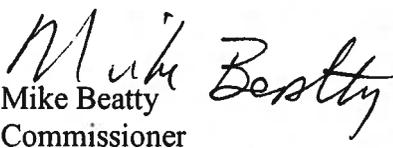
Dear Mayor Kelley:

We have received notification that McDuffie County the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing have adopted the 2007 - 2017 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 McDuffie County and the City of Thomson remains 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-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 Kenny Dove in our Office of Environmental Management at (404) 679-3144.

Sincerely,

  
Mike Beatty  
Commissioner

MB/kd

cc: Andy Crosson, Executive Director, Central Savannah River Area RDC



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**COPY**

Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

November 2, 2007

Honorable Robert E. Knox  
Mayor, City of Thomson  
Post Office Box 1017  
309 Main Street  
Thomson, Georgia 30824

*EOB*  
Dear Mayor Knox:

We have received notification that McDuffie County the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing have adopted the 2007 - 2017 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 McDuffie County and the City of Thomson remains 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-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 Kenny Dove in our Office of Environmental Management at (404) 679-3144.

Sincerely,

*M. Beatty*  
Mike Beatty  
Commissioner

MB/kd

cc: Andy Crosson, Executive Director, Central Savannah River Area RDC



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

[www.dca.state.ga.us](http://www.dca.state.ga.us)

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GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**COPY**

Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

November 6, 2007

Honorable Charles G. Newton IV  
Chair, McDuffie County Commission  
337 Main Street  
Thomson, Georgia 30824

Dear Chair Newton:

We have received notification that McDuffie County, the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing have adopted the 2007 - 2017 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 McDuffie County and the City of Thomson remains 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-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 Kenny Dove in our Office of Environmental Management at (404) 679-3144.

Sincerely,

Mike Beatty  
Commissioner

MB/kd

cc: Andy Crosson, Executive Director, Central Savannah River Area RDC



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**COPY**

Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

October 1, 2007

Mr. Andy Crosson  
Executive Director, Central Savannah River Area RDC  
3023 River Watch Parkway  
Suite A  
Augusta, Georgia 30907

Dear  Mr. Crosson:

Our staff has reviewed the revised information for the 2007 – 2017 Solid Waste Management Plan for McDuffie County the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing. The revisions have brought the plan into compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. To retain eligibility for solid waste permits, grants, and loans, McDuffie County the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing must adopt the 2007 – 2017 Solid Waste Management Plan as soon as possible.

In order to complete the planning cycle, please forward a copy of the adoption resolutions along with a copy of the revised adopted Solid Waste Management Plan to our office. Once we receive these documents, we will send notification to McDuffie County the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing of their renewed eligibility for solid waste grants, loans, and permits.

Sincerely,



Mike Gleaton, Assistant Commissioner  
Planning and Environmental Division

MG/kd



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

**COPY**

Mike Beatty  
COMMISSIONER

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

August 23, 2007

Mr. Andy Crosson  
Executive Director, Central Savannah River Area RDC  
3023 River Watch Parkway  
Suite A  
Augusta, Georgia 30907

Dear Mr. Crosson:

Our staff has reviewed the Solid Waste Management Plan for McDuffie County the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing received by our office on August 1, 2007. We are unable to approve the plan at this time for the following reasons:

- The Plan must cover a ten year period, starting with the current year and extending ten years beyond the year of the Plan. Please add one more year to the planning period.
- Please include how the Town of Dearing handles illegal dumping and white goods

Please forward these comments to McDuffie County the City of Thomson and the Town of Dearing. When the required changes are addressed we will complete our review of the Solid Waste Management Plan. If you have any questions, please contact Kenny Dove at (404) 679-3144 or at [kdove@dca.state.ga.us](mailto:kdove@dca.state.ga.us).

Sincerely,

Mike Gleaton, Assistant Commissioner  
Planning and Environmental Management Division

MG/kd

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
THOMSON CITY COUNCIL**

**ADOPTION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

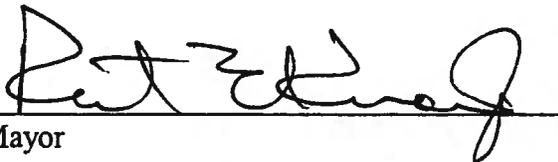
WHEREAS, the Standards and Procedures of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, which are intended to provide a framework to facilitate and encourage integrated, comprehensive solid waste management planning at the local, multi-jurisdictional, and regional levels, have been met;

WHEREAS, the Thomson City Council has received a letter indicating that the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the draft McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update and found it to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management;

WHEREAS, the Thomson City Council is required to adopt the McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update in order retain eligibility for solid waste permits, grants, and loans.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Thomson City Council does hereby adopt the McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update.

Adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
DEARING CITY COUNCIL**

**ADOPTION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

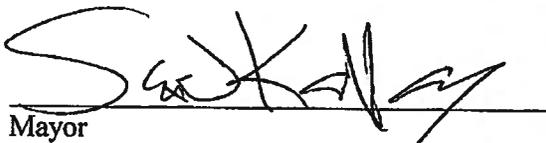
WHEREAS, the Standards and Procedures of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, which are intended to provide a framework to facilitate and encourage integrated, comprehensive solid waste management planning at the local, multi-jurisdictional, and regional levels, have been met;

WHEREAS, the Dearing City Council has received a letter indicating that the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the draft McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update and found it to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management;

WHEREAS, the Dearing City Council is required to adopt the McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update in order retain eligibility for solid waste permits, grants, and loans.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Dearing City Council does hereby adopt the McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update.

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

  
Mayor

ATTEST: 



# NOTICE OF LOCAL PLAN SUBMITTAL AND HEARING/COMMENT PERIOD

<b>Date of Submittal:</b>	July 30, 2007
<b>Submitting Local Governments:</b>	
McDuffie County Board of Commissioners Chairman Charlie G. Newton, IV C/o Don Norton, County Administrator 337 Main Street Thomson, GA 30824 706-595-2100	City of Thomson Mayor Robert E. Knox, Jr. C/o Don Powers, City Administrator 309 Main Street Thomson, GA 30824 706-595-1781
Town of Dearing Mayor Sean Kelley C/o Judy Reeves, City Clerk P.O. Box 520 Dearing, GA 30808-0520 706-556-0384	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Local Plan: <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Single Jurisdiction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Plan Update: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joint Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Single Jurisdiction <input type="checkbox"/> Local Plan Amendment: <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Single Jurisdiction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Short Term Work Program: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joint Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Single Jurisdiction	
<b>Public Hearing Date/Time:</b>	N/A
<b>Public Hearing Location:</b>	N/A
<b>Plan Description:</b>	
<p>In Accordance with Georgia's Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management established for the implementation of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990, O.C.G.A Section 12-8-20, McDuffie County, the Town of Dearing and the City of Thomson have prepared and submitted to the CSRA Regional Development Center for review the <i>McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan</i> update. The solid waste management Plan update includes the elements of: Waste disposal stream analysis, Waste reduction, Collection, Disposal, Land limitation, Education &amp; public involvement, and Implementation.</p> <p>Notification of the Submittal and Opportunity to Comment on the <i>McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan</i> update is being sent to the following potentially affected local governments and organizations: Columbia County, Glascock County, Jefferson County, Lincoln County, McDuffie County, Richmond County, Warren county, Wilkes County, Town of Dearing, City of Thomson, Coastal Georgia RDC, Heart of Georgia-Altamaha RDC, Middle Georgia RDC, Northeast RDC, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Georgia Department of Natural Resources (Environmental Protection Division), Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority, and Pollution Assistance Division.</p>	
<b>Reviewing Regional Development Center:</b>	Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Christian F. Lentz, AICP
<b>Address:</b>	3023 River Watch Parkway, Suite A Augusta, GA 30907-2016
<b>Phone:</b>	(706) 210-2000 ext. 122
<b>E-Mail:</b>	clentz@csrardc.org
<b>Copy of Plan Available For Review At:</b>	<a href="http://www.csrardc.org/csra/planning/planning_review.asp">http://www.csrardc.org/csra/planning/planning_review.asp</a>

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
DEARING CITY COUNCIL**

**TRANSMITTAL OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the Minimum Planning Standards for Solid Waste Management Plans requires that the community's Solid Waste Management Plan be updated every 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the community is required to transmit a copy of the Joint McDuffie County/Thomson Dearing Solid Waste Management Plan to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center upon its completion for review; and

WHEREAS, the community met the requirements for holding two public hearings related to the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year Update, with the first hearing being held on March 3, 2007 and the second hearing on June 28, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Dearing City Council certifies that the minimum public hearing requirements as required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures have been met.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the City Council of Dearing do hereby transmit the Joint McDuffie County/Thomson/Dearing Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year Update to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center for review under the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans.

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2007.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST: 

**RESOLUTION  
McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**TRANSMITTAL OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

- WHEREAS,** the Minimum Planning Standards for Solid Waste Management Plans requires that the community's Solid Waste Management Plan be updated every 10 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the community is required to transmit a copy of the Joint McDuffie County/Thomson/Dearing Solid Waste Management Plan to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center upon its completion for review; and
- WHEREAS,** the community met the requirements for holding two public hearings related to the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year Update, with the first hearing being held on March 8, 2007 and the second hearing on June 28, 2007; and
- WHEREAS,** the McDuffie County Board of Commissioners certifies that the minimum public hearing requirements as required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures have been met.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,** that the Chairman and the Board of Commissioners of McDuffie County do hereby transmit the Joint McDuffie County/Thomson/Dearing Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year Update to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center for review under the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans.

Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2007.

**ATTEST:**

**McDuffie County Board of Commissioners**

  
County Clerk

**By:**

  
Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman



**CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

AUG - 1 2007

3023 River Watch Parkway, Suite A  
Augusta, GA 30907-2016  
(706) 210-2000 • FAX (706) 210-2006  
www.csrardc.org



Area Agency on Aging



Counties Served:

July 30, 2007

**MEMORANDUM**

Burke

**To:** Potentially Interested or Affected Local Governments, State and Federal Agencies, Regional Development Centers, and Local Authorities

Columbia

**From:** Christian F. Lentz, AICP *CFL*  
CSRA Regional Development Center

Glascok

**Subject:** *McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update; Submitted Under the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990.*

Hancock

Jefferson

McDuffie County, the Town of Dearing and the City of Thomson have submitted a solid waste management plan update for formal review and comment under the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990. Two "Notification of Local Plan Submittal and Regional Review Hearing/Comment Opportunity" forms are attached. One copy should be posted on your government's official notice board in conformity with required procedures; the other copy is your official notice of local plan update review.

Jenkins

Copies of the draft plan update are available for viewing at:

Lincoln

[www.csrardc.org/csra/planning/planning\\_review.asp](http://www.csrardc.org/csra/planning/planning_review.asp)

McDuffie

Comments from interested and affected parties will be accepted through August 20, 2007. A regional review public hearing is not being held.

Richmond

Taliaferro

For more information, please contact Christian F. Lentz at (706) 210-2000, ext. 122

Warren

Washington

Enclosure(s)

Wilkes



For information on the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), a division of the CSRA Regional Development Center, call (706) 210-2018 or toll free (and TDD) 1-888-922-4464. Your "one call connection" for finding resources to help seniors. The CSRA Regional Development Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.



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Answers.Action.Advocacy



**Counties Served:**

July 30, 2007

Burke

Kenny Dove  
Program Coordinator  
Department of Community Affairs  
Office of Environmental Management  
60 Executive Park South, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Columbia

Glascok

**Subject:** *McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update*

Hancock

Dear Mr. Dove,

Jefferson

Enclosed you will find the draft *McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* update for your review. Also enclosed are copies of transmittal resolutions and a copy of the formal Notification of Local Plan Submittal and Regional Review Hearing/Comment Opportunity form that was sent to the appropriate local governments, RDCs, and state agencies.

Jenkins

Lincoln

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (706) 210-2000, ext. 122.

McDuffie

Respectfully,

Richmond

Christian F. Lentz, AICP  
Planning Director

Taliaferro

Warren

Enclosure(s)

Washington

Wilkes



For information on the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), a division of the CSRA Regional Development Center, call (706) 210-2018 or toll free (and TDD) 1-888-922-4464. Your "one call connection" for finding resources to help seniors. The CSRA Regional Development Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.



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<b>Reviewing Regional Development Center:</b>	Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center												
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Christian F. Lentz, AICP												
<b>Address:</b>	3023 River Watch Parkway, Suite A Augusta, GA 30907-2016												
<b>Phone:</b>	(706) 210-2000 ext. 122												
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# NOTICE OF LOCAL PLAN SUBMITTAL AND HEARING/COMMENT PERIOD

<b>Date of Submittal:</b>	July 30, 2007
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McDuffie County Board of Commissioners Chairman Charlie G. Newton, IV C/o Don Norton, County Administrator 337 Main Street Thomson, GA 30824 706-595-2100  Town of Dearing Mayor Sean Kelley C/o Judy Reeves, City Clerk P.O. Box 520 Dearing, GA 30808-0520 706-556-0384	City of Thomson Mayor Robert E. Knox, Jr. C/o Don Powers, City Administrator 309 Main Street Thomson, GA 30824 706-595-1781
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<b>Reviewing Regional Development Center:</b>	Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Christian F. Lentz, AICP
<b>Address:</b>	3023 River Watch Parkway, Suite A Augusta, GA 30907-2016
<b>Phone:</b>	(706) 210-2000 ext. 122
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**CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

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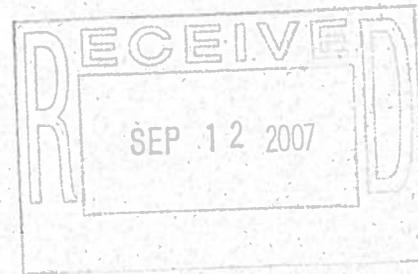


**Counties Served:**

- Burke
- Columbia
- Glascok
- Hancock
- Jefferson
- Jenkins
- Lincoln
- McDuffie
- Richmond
- Taliaferro
- Warren
- Washington
- Wilkes

September 10, 2007

Kenny Dove  
Program Coordinator  
Department of Community Affairs  
Office of Environmental Management  
60 Executive Park South, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231



**RE: McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan –  
Georgia DCA Recommended Revisions**

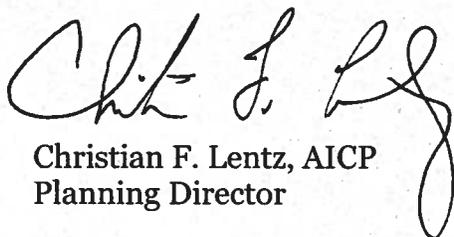
Dear Mr. Dove:

Enclosed you will find a revised version of the *McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan* for your review. Revisions within the document address the concerns brought to the CSRA Regional Development Center's (RDC) attention in an August 23<sup>rd</sup> letter from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The specific revisions in the attached document are referenced in an recent e-mail sent to your attention by Regional Planner, Justin Crighton.

The RDC believes that the changes which have been made to the plan address DCA's concerns. We hope that you will be able to expedite the final review of the document in order for the applicable local governments to adopt their solid waste management plan in the near future. Thank you for your consideration.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (706) 210-2009.

Sincerely,

  
Christian F. Lentz, AICP  
Planning Director

Enclosure



For information on the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), a division of the CSRA Regional Development Center, call (706) 210-2018 or toll free (and TDD) 1-888-922-4464. Your "one call connection" for finding resources to help seniors. The CSRA Regional Development Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.



**CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA  
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Answers. Action. Advocacy

DCI 31 '07 PM 4:14



*Counties Served:*

**October 29, 2007**

Burke

**Kenny Dove  
Program Coordinator  
Department of Community Affairs  
Office of Environmental Management  
60 Executive Park South, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231**

Columbia

Glascock

Hancock

**Subject: McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update**

Jefferson

Dear Mr. Dove,

Jenkins

Enclosed you will find the 2007-2017 McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan update and copies of adoption resolutions from McDuffie County and the cities of Thomson, and Dearing.

Lincoln

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (706) 210-2009.

McDuffie

Sincerely,

Richmond

Taliaferro

**Christian F. Lentz, AICP  
Planning Director**

Warren

Washington

Wilkes

CC: File

Enclosure(s)



For information on the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), a division of the CSRA Regional Development Center, call (706) 210-2018 or toll free (and TDD) 1-888-922-4464. Your "one call connection" for finding resources to help seniors. The CSRA Regional Development Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
THOMSON CITY COUNCIL  
TRANSMITTAL OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
UPDATE**

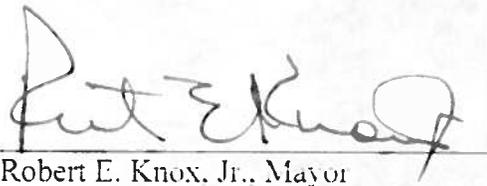
**WHEREAS**, the Minimum Planning Standards for Solid Waste Management Plans requires that the community's Solid Waste Management Plan be updated every 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the community is required to transmit a copy of the Joint McDuffie County Thomson Dearing Solid Waste Management Plan to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center upon its completion for review; and

**WHEREAS**, the community met the requirements for holding two public hearings related to the development of the Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year Update, with the first hearing being held on March 8, 2007 and the second hearing on June 28, 2007 and

**WHEREAS**, the Thomson City Council certifies that the minimum public hearing requirements as required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures have been met.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and the City Council of Thomson do hereby transmit the Joint McDuffie County /Thomson/ Dearing Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year Update to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center for review under the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans. Adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2007.

  
Robert E. Knox, Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Dianne L. Landers, City Clerk

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**ADOPTION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

**WHEREAS, the Standards and Procedures of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, which are intended to provide a framework to facilitate and encourage integrated, comprehensive solid waste management planning at the local, multi-jurisdictional, and regional levels, have been met;**

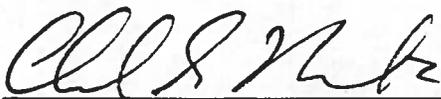
**WHEREAS, the McDuffie County Board of Commissioners has received a letter indicating that the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the draft McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update and found it to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management;**

**WHEREAS, the McDuffie County Board of Commissioners is required to adopt the McDuffie County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan 10-Year update in order to retain eligibility for solid waste permits, grants, and loans.**

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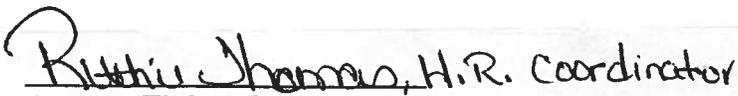
Adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

**MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



**Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

  
for **Annette Finley, County Clerk**

**SEAL**