

**A Joint Solid Waste Management Plan
for Murray County and the
Cities of Chatsworth and Eton
2005 – 2014**

October 2005

FINAL ADOPTED VERSION

Prepared by:
The North Georgia
Regional Development Center

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Solid Waste Management Definitions

Banned Item – Item prohibited from disposal in sanitary landfills such as used motor oil, discarded batteries and scrap tires, all of which must be disposed of separately as special wastes.

Commingled – Term that describes the typical mixture of household waste such as food, glass, metal, plastic, and paper wastes.

Commingled Recyclables – Recyclables that are separated from the waste stream and mixed together in a separate container or bag for future separation and sorting.

Composting – The controlled biological decomposition of organic matter into a stable, odor-free humus.

Convenience Center – A waste collection/reduction system concept which utilizes manned and fenced center strategically located to provide convenient “drop-off” of solid waste and source separated recyclables.

Curbside Collection – The collection of any type of waste by schedule pick up at the curb or driveway of participating property owners.

Mulch – The product resulting from the reduction of selected organic wastes into a landscaping cover used primarily for protecting plants from moisture loss and freezing and for weed control.

Municipal Solid Waste – Any solid waste derived from households, including garbage, trash, and sanitary waste in septic tanks. Households include single and multi-family residences, hotels and motels, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and day use recreation areas. The term includes yard trimmings and commercial solid waste, but does not include recovered materials, or solid waste from mining, agricultural, or silvicultural operations or from industrial processes or operations.

Recyclables – A term used to describe items that can be extracted or separated from the waste stream and processed for delivery to end markets. Typical items include paper, cardboard, aluminum, plastic, glass, and various metals.

Solid Waste – A term which describes all types of non-liquid and non-hazardous wastes to be disposed of including, but not limited to, those wastes defined as garbage, rubbish, trash, and refuse.

Transfer Station – A facility specifically designed to facilitate the transfer of solid waste from a local waste collection system to vehicles for hauling such waste over long distances to disposal facilities. Compaction of the waste at transfer is an option.

Acronyms

AWS – Appalachian Waste Systems

C&DL – Construction and Demolition Landfill

DCA – Georgia Department of Community Affairs

DNR – Georgia Department of Natural Resources

EPD – Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division

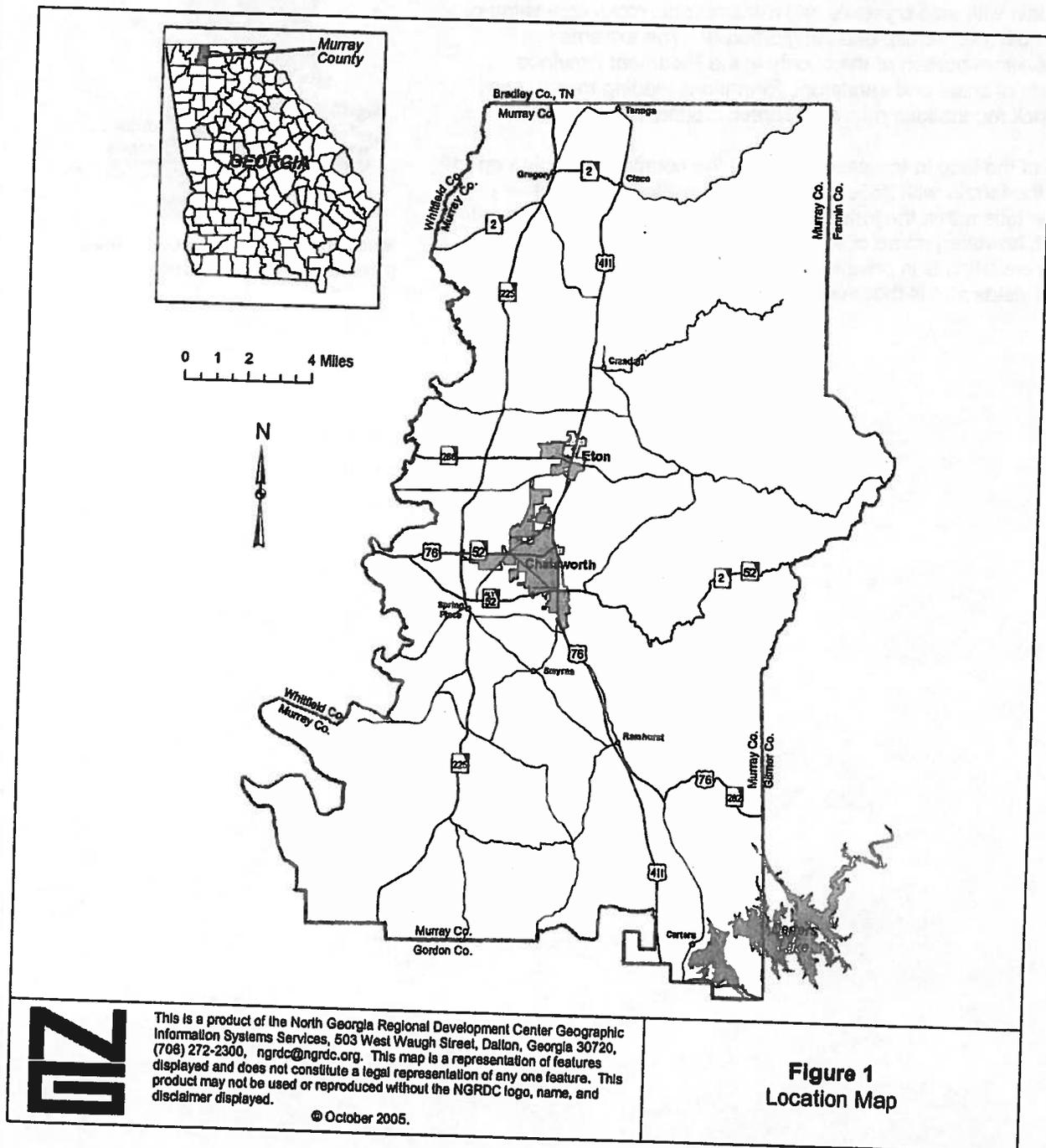
MSWL – Municipal Solid Waste Landfill

NGRDC – North Georgia Regional Development Center

MURRAY COUNTY PROFILE

Location

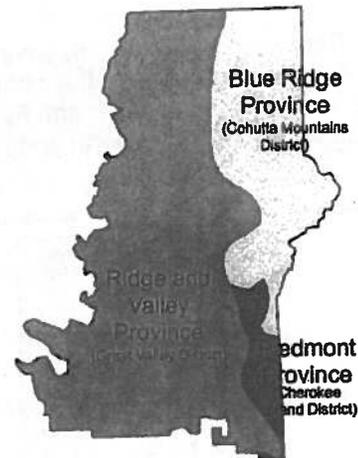
Murray County, located in North Georgia, is a predominantly rural county encompassing 347 square miles. As shown in Figure 1, it is bounded on the west by Whitfield County, on the south by Gordon County, on the east by Gilmer and Fannin Counties, and on the north by Tennessee. There are two incorporated cities: Chatsworth and Eton. Chatsworth is the county seat and the largest city.



Topography

Murray County is located in three physiographic provinces: the Great Valley District of the Ridge and Valley Province, the Cohutta Mountains District of the Blue Ridge Province, and the Cherokee Upland District of the Piedmont Province. The area of the county within the Ridge and Valley Province is generally underlain with sedimentary rocks consisting of limestone, shale, and sandstone. The portion of the county within the Blue Ridge Province is underlain with acid crystalline and metamorphic rocks consisting of slate, quartzite, schist, and conglomerate. The extreme southeastern portion of the county in the Piedmont Province consists of shale and sandstone formations leading to very hard lime rock foundations near the Gordon County line.

Much of the land in the eastern part of the county is steeply sloped. All of the terrain with 25% slopes at an elevation of 2,200 feet or greater falls within the jurisdiction of the Chattahoochee National Forest; however, some of the steeply sloped terrain under 2,200 feet in elevation is in private ownership. Much of this land offers scenic vistas and is therefore very desirable for home building.



Murray County is located in three physiographic provinces.

Population and Households

In terms of total population, Murray County ranked 49th out of the 159 counties in Georgia in the year 2000, but it ranked 26th in terms of population growth between 1990 and 2000. During this time it had a growth rate of nearly 40%, while total population in Georgia grew by 26.4%. Murray County is expected to continue to experience growth during the planning period. Population, household, and employment trends and projections are illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1. Population, Household, and Employment Trends and Projections for Murray County

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Population	26,147	30,649	36,506	42,547	50,770	58,952	68,405	79,374
Households	9,363	11,245	13,286	15,493	18,665	21,674	25,242	29,289
Employment – Service Providing	3,091	3,543	4,292	4,572	5,420	6,268	7,117	7,966
Employment – Goods Producing	5,823	8,086	8,897	6,437	7,345	8,255	9,164	10,073

Sources: 1990 and 2000 Census, Georgia Department of Labor, and NGRDC

Between 1990 and 2000, the minority population in Murray County increased as it did in much of the region. In 2000, the total Hispanic/Latino population was 2,006 persons or 5.5% of the total population. (See Table 2.)

Table 2. Racial Characteristics for Murray County, Chatsworth, and Eton

	1990			2000		
	Total Population	# Hispanic	% Hispanic	Total Population	# Hispanic	% Hispanic
Murray County	26,147	136	0.4%	36,506	2,006	5.5%
City of Chatsworth	2,865	8	0.3%	3,531	229	6.5%
City of Eton	315	2	0.6%	319	36	11.3%

Sources: 1990 and 2000 Census

Business Climate

The economic base in Murray County is primarily dependent upon one industry type: carpet manufacturing and distribution. Top employers in the county include Better Backers, Beaulieu, Mohawk, and Shaw.

As shown in Table 3, there were more "goods producing" establishments in Murray County in 2003 than "service providing" establishments. Overall, the goods producing industry employed more persons than service industry. This trend is expected to continue into the future.

Table 3. Business Establishments and Employment by Sector in Murray County in 2003

	Number of Establishments	# of Employees	% of Total Employment
Goods Producing^{1,2}	148	6,073	51%
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing ³	*	*	*
Mining	46	176	1%
Construction	94	5,741	48%
Manufacturing	302	4,231	35%
Service Providing			
Wholesale Trade	31	835	7%
Retail Trade	100	810	7%
Transportation and Warehousing	13	806	7%
Utilities	*	*	*
Information	*	*	*
Finance and Insurance	17	154	1%
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing	12	67	1%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	18	55	<1%
Management	*	*	*
Administrative/Waste Services	19	197	2%
Educational Services ⁴	*	*	*
Health Care and Social Services	23	424	4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	33	655	5%
Other Services	27	140	1%
Unclassified or Undisclosed	*	*	*
Total: Private Sector	452	10,305	86%
Federal Government	6	108	1%
State Government	12	105	1%
Local Government	15	1,429	12%
Total: Government	33	1,642	14%
All Industries	485	11,948	100%

Source: Georgia Department of Labor, "Georgia Employment and Wages Averages," 2003
An asterisk (*) means the industry group does not meet the criteria for disclosure.

Land Use

Existing land use in Murray County was compiled as part of the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update. County tax records for the spring of 2005 were used to determine the general land use classification of all properties in the county and this information was interpreted/field-checked as needed. Projections of future land use needs were also prepared as part of the comprehensive planning process. This data is presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Existing Land Use and Projections of Future Land Use Needs

Land Use Type	2005		2015 (Projected)		2025 (Projected)	
	Acres	% of Total	Acres	% of Total	Acres	% of Total
Residential	26,289	12%	42,775	19%	57,909	26%
Commercial	767	0.3%	1,003	0%	1,275	1%
Industrial	1,651	0.7%	1,651	1%	2,015	1%
Public or Institutional	3,094	1.4%	3,174	1%	3,254	1%
Transportation, Communication, or Utilities	13,136	5.9%	18,236	8%	21,425	10%
Parks and Recreation	4,126	1.9%	4,186	2%	4,246	2%
Conservation	51,285	23.2%	51,535	23%	51,785	23%
Agriculture	36,957	16.7%	35,457	16%	33,957	15%
Forestry	18,601	8.4%	17,101	8%	15,601	7%
Undeveloped	62,761	28.4%	43,549	20%	27,200	12%
Water	2,387	1.1%	2,387	1%	2,387	1%
TOTAL	221,054	100%	221,054	100%	221,054	100%

Source: A Joint Comprehensive Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton, 2005 - 2025

ELEMENT 1: WASTE DISPOSAL STREAM ANALYSIS

This element provides an inventory of waste stream generators (e.g. residential, commercial, industrial, etc.) and the types of waste they contribute to the waste stream (e.g. paper, plastic, metal, etc.). It also provides projections of anticipated waste stream amounts for the next ten years. This information is used to guide local government decisions regarding current and future solid waste management services and facility needs.

1.1. Waste Stream Composition

A waste composition study was conducted for the majority of the RDCs in Georgia in 2005. A study was not conducted for the North Georgia RDC area; however, it is assumed that the results for the Georgia Mountains RDC in 2005 are similar enough to those for the North Georgia area to be useful. According to the study for the Georgia Mountains RDC, almost 42% of the municipal solid waste generated in North Georgia is paper. Figure 3 provides a breakdown of the waste characterization.

While it is projected that the future composition of the waste stream in Murray County will remain essentially the same as the Georgia Mountains 2005 characterization, an analysis of the composition of the waste stream can aid in the development of targeted reduction efforts. For example, given that 42% of the waste stream in Murray County is likely to be paper, it follows that this source could be a primary target for waste reduction efforts.

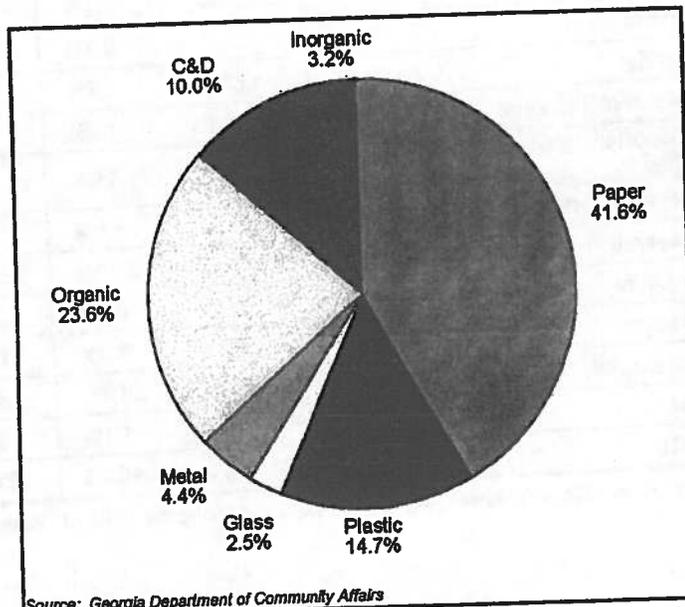


FIGURE 2. Waste Stream Composition

1.2. Waste Stream Generation: Base Year

A waste study was conducted in Murray County in 1991 in conjunction with the preparation of the 1993 *Murray County Solid Waste Management Plan*. The study was conducted over a two-week time period by trained personnel. All waste entering the Murray County Landfill was weighed at the landfill scales and the composition of the waste was recorded through visual inspection of each load. The composition was estimated to be 28.3% residential waste, 7.4% commercial waste, and 64.3% industrial waste. (See Table 5 below.)

Using the data that was collected and using 1992 as the base year for population and employment, estimates of annual waste generation for the County were derived. These are also illustrated in Table 5. The residential waste generation rate was calculated to be 0.35 tons of waste per capita per year (9,717 tons ÷ 27,694 persons). The commercial and industrial waste generation rates were 0.72 and 3.50 tons of waste per employee per year, respectively.

Table 5. Waste Generation Estimates

		Tons of Waste	Percent of Total Waste	Population and Employment (1992)	Annual Tons of Waste Per Capita	Annual Tons of Waste Per Employee	Pounds of Waste Per person Per Day
MSW	Residential	9,717	28.3%	27,694	0.351		
	Commercial	2,528	7.4%	3,499		0.722	
	Total MSW	12,245	35.7%		0.442		2.42
All Waste	Industrial	22,078	64.3%	6,305		3.502	
	Total All Waste	34,323	100.0%		1.240		6.79

Sources: NGRDC Population Projections and NGRDC Waste Study for Murray County

1.3. Waste Stream Generation: Projections

It is anticipated that waste generation rates have not changed drastically during the past decade; therefore, projections of future waste generation have been prepared based upon these rates and are shown in Table 6 below. The residential, commercial, and industrial waste generation rates provided in Table 5 on page 5 (last column) were applied to projections of total population, total commercial employment, and total industrial employment (rows a, b, and g) to obtain figures for residential, commercial, and industrial waste (rows c, d, and h).

Table 6. Projected Waste Stream Generation Based Upon 1991 Generation Rates from Table 5 and Assuming No Reduction in Waste Generation

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
a. Total Population (persons)	42,547	44,249	45,946	47,632	49,238	50,770	52,319	53,909	55,535	57,237
b. Commercial Employment	6,267	6,464	6,661	6,858	7,053	7,250	7,445	7,642	7,839	8,035
c. Residential Waste (tons per year)	14,934	15,531	16,127	16,719	17,283	17,820	18,364	18,922	19,493	20,090
d. Commercial Waste (tons per year)	4,525	4,667	4,809	4,951	5,092	5,235	5,375	5,518	5,660	5,801
e. Total Tons of MSW Per Year	19,459	20,198	20,936	21,670	22,375	23,055	23,739	24,440	25,153	25,891
f. Pounds of MSW per Person per Day	2.51	2.50	2.50	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.48	2.48	2.48
g. Industrial Employment	6,437	6,618	6,800	6,981	7,164	7,345	7,528	7,709	7,891	8,073
h. Industrial Waste (tons per year)	22,542	23,176	23,814	24,447	25,088	25,722	26,363	26,997	27,634	28,272
i. Total Tons of Waste per Year	42,001	43,375	44,750	46,118	47,463	48,777	50,102	51,437	52,787	54,163
j. Cumulative Total for 2005 - 2014	42,001	85,376	130,126	176,243	223,707	272,484	322,586	374,022	426,809	480,972
k. Total Tons per Capita	0.987	0.980	0.974	0.968	0.964	0.961	0.958	0.954	0.951	0.946
l. Pounds per Person per Day	5.41	5.37	5.34	5.31	5.28	5.26	5.25	5.23	5.21	5.19

Calculations used in table above:

$c = a * 0.351$	$h = g * 3.502$
$d = b * 0.722$	$i = e + h$
$e = c + d$	$k = i + a$
$f = e + a * 2000 + 365$	$l = k + a * 2000 + 365$

The total projected amount of waste to be disposed of in Murray County over the next ten years is 480,972 tons or 48,097 tons per year on average. (See Table 5, row h, last column.)

Note that the Murray County per capita daily generation rate for MSW of 2.51 is lower than the FY 2003 statewide per capita municipal solid waste disposal rate of 4.2 lbs. per person per day. (See excerpt from the DCA 2003 Solid Waste Annual Report in Figure 3 to the right.) Because of the heavy industry in Murray County, the per capita disposal rate for all wastes, including industrial waste, is significantly greater at approximately 5.41 pounds per person per day.



**Per Capita Disposal
2003 Update**

Looking at the disposal rate at MSW landfills only, including waste disposed from out-of-state sources, the per capita disposal rate returns to the FY 2001 level of 7.15 pounds per person per day. When excluding out-of-state waste imports, the daily per capita MSW disposal rate drops to 6.38 lbs/person/day. It should be noted that these rates reflect all waste entering a MSW landfill as reported to the EPD, not just MSW. According to a 2001 study conducted by R.W. Beck for the Department of Community Affairs, about two-thirds of the waste disposed in MSW landfills is actually Municipal Solid Waste. Based upon this estimate, the FY 2003 per capita MSW disposal rate, excluding waste imported into the state, is approximately 4.2 lbs/person/day.

Source: www.dca.state.ga.us/environmental/SWAR_2003_update/SWAR_2003_Per_Capita_Disposal.pdf, page 2.

FIGURE 3. Excerpt from DCA's 2003 Solid Waste Annual Report

The actual amount of future waste disposal in Murray County will be dependent upon the amount of waste reduction that can be achieved. The State has established a goal that all waste generation be reduced by 25%. A 25% reduction in Murray County's per capita waste disposal rate would be the equivalent of the County reducing its disposal from 1.24 tons per capita per year (disposal rate in 1992) to 0.93 tons per capita per year (5.1 pounds per person per day). Table 7 below illustrates the impact of achieving the 25% reduction goal in Murray County.

Table 7. Projected Waste Stream Generation Based Upon 1991 Generation Rates and Assuming a 25% Reduction in Per Capita Waste Generation Rates

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
a. Total Population (persons)	42,547	44,249	45,946	47,632	49,238	50,770	52,319	53,909	55,535	57,237
b. Commercial Employment	6,267	6,464	6,661	6,858	7,053	7,250	7,445	7,642	7,839	8,035
c. Residential Waste (tons per year)	11,200	11,649	12,095	12,539	12,962	13,365	13,773	14,192	14,620	15,068
d. Commercial Waste (tons per year)	339	350	361	371	382	393	403	414	424	435
e. Total Tons of MSW Per Year	11,540	11,999	12,456	12,910	13,344	13,758	14,176	14,605	15,044	15,503
f. Pounds of MSW per Person per Day	1.49	1.49	1.49	1.49	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48
g. Industrial Employment	6,437	6,618	6,800	6,981	7,164	7,345	7,528	7,709	7,891	8,073
h. Industrial Waste (tons per year)	16,907	17,382	17,860	18,336	18,816	19,292	19,772	20,248	20,726	21,204
i. Total Tons of Waste per Year	28,447	29,381	30,316	31,246	32,160	33,049	33,948	34,853	35,770	36,706
j. Cumulative Total for 2005 - 2014	28,447	57,827	88,144	119,390	151,550	184,599	218,548	253,401	289,170	325,877
k. Total Tons per Capita	0.67	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.64	0.64
l. Pounds per Person per Day	3.66	3.64	3.62	3.59	3.58	3.57	3.56	3.54	3.53	3.51

Calculations used in table above: $c = a * 0.351 * 0.75$ $d = b * 0.722 * 0.75$ $e = c + d$ $f = e + a * 2000 + 365$
 $h = g * 3.502 * 0.75$ $i = e + h$ $k = i + a$ $l = k + a * 2000 + 365$

With a 25% reduction, the total projected amount of waste to be disposed of in Murray County over the next ten years is 464,425 tons or 46,442 tons per year on average. (See Table 6, row f, last column.)

ELEMENT 2: WASTE REDUCTION

2.1. Existing Waste Reduction and Recycling Programs and Facilities

2.1.1. Source Reduction

The major carpet mills in the Murray County and the surrounding area implement source reduction programs. For example, Mohawk, Beaulieu, and Shaw all have programs to convert plastic (PET) bottles to carpet fiber. They market commercial and residential carpet made with 25% to 100% recycled plastic recovered from the bottles. ("Used Carpet Recycling" at www.floortec.net) Shaw Contract, now reprocesses 85% of its production waste. Most of the remaining 15% is baled and landfilled in a segregated area to be mined and recycled at a future date. ("Beyond Recycled Content" at www.edc.mag.com) All of the other manufactures have similar source reduction programs.

2.1.2. Recycling

Glass, plastic, newspaper, and cardboard are currently not accepted for recycling at the County's convenience centers or at the landfill because it has been determined that the volumes are not high enough for it to be cost-effective.

The closest recycling center that is available to residents of Murray County who want to recycle glass and plastic is in Roswell, Georgia.

Goodwill Industries, area churches, and Habitat for Humanity each offer some form of recycling of items such as clothing, furniture, and construction materials. A few stores such as Wal-Mart accept plastic shopping bags for recycling. Several major stores in the community bale their cardboard and have it picked up for recycling.

The carpet industry implements a variety of recycling programs. The following is an excerpt from the March 2000 issue of *Flooring Magazine*:

"Today, used-carpet recycling is driven more by consumer demand than profit. But that's changing. The result of well-placed research dollars throughout the 2990s and the efforts of the carpet manufacturing industry as been a boom in the variety of products that primarily consist of recycled carpet components. This young industry is on the threshold of becoming a major, profitable venture." (From "An Industry Poised for Vast Growth" by Robert Simpson)

The major carpet manufactures have successful post-industrial recycling programs. "Closed-loop" recycling involves turning used carpet into new carpet. Only certain types of carpet fibers can be used in this process. "Down-cycling" is used with fibers that cannot be closed-loop recycled. Such fibers are melted, recycled, and compounded with nylon resins for use in things such as engine fan shrouds, air cleaners, plastic lumber, and carpet padding.

The major carpet manufacturers also have some form of post-consumer recycling program and are involved with Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE). This organization has a goal of diverting 40% of waste carpet from landfills by 2012. More information on CARE can be found at www.carpetrecovery.org.

2.1.3. Yard Trimming Mulching and Composting

Murray County accepts landscape debris at its inert landfill. Currently, there is no program for recycling it.

No composting programs are currently operated by the local governments, but it is possible that some residents do home composting.

2.1.4. Special Management Items

Household Hazardous Waste. Paint and chemicals are not accepted at the landfill.

Lead Acid Batteries. Automotive batteries are accepted at the landfill. They are picked up by American Alternator & Battery (Dalton) for recycling.

Used Motor Oil. Used motor oil is accepted at the landfill and is picked up by Shipley's waste oil for recycling.

Tires. Tires are accepted at the landfill for recycling. Mac Tires of Mississippi picks up the tires regularly and takes them to Memphis for chipping. They chipped tires are then sold to TVA for fuel. Table 8 provides data on the tonnage of tires that have been diverted from the landfill in recent years.

Table 8. Used Tire Recycling

Year	Tons of Tires Recycled
2003	196
2004	109

Electronics. Electronics are accepted at the landfill, but there is no procedure for recycling them. They are disposed of with the regular solid waste. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has an excellent brochure which provides information on electronics recycling. It can be found at www.dca.state.ga.us/development/EnvironmentalManagement/programs/downloads/electronicrec.pdf.

White Goods. Stoves, dishwashers, washers, dryers, air conditioners, hot water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers are accepted at the landfill. White goods are picked up by Phillip Metals of Chattanooga. Table 9 provides data on the tonnage of white goods that have been diverted from the landfill in recent years.

Table 9. White Goods Recycling

Year	Tons of White Goods Recycled
2003	88
2004	135
Jan - April 2005	13

Furniture. Furniture is accepted at the landfill, but not for recycling. Furniture that is in good condition can be recycled through Goodwill Industries.

Poultry. Dead chickens and chicken litter cannot be disposed of at landfills; however, there are several disposal alternatives for chicken farmers: stackhouses, for the temporary storage of chicken litter; composters, for composting dead chickens; and incinerators.

2.2. Assessment of Waste Reduction Programs and Facilities

While Murray County does provide several alternatives for recycling, its programs are limited somewhat by a small population and by low density development. As the population continues to grow and as the awareness of and interest in recycling increases, opportunities for expanding recycling programs will become more attractive. Unfortunately, without an organization in the community that is tasked with promoting recycling and unless more forms of recycling become cost effective in the short-term, it is unlikely that any great changes in waste reduction will occur in Murray County during the planning period.



Georgia Recycling Markets Directory

The Georgia DCA provides a wealth of information on recycling opportunities. It also maintains a Recycling Markets Directory which provides information on recycling companies in Georgia. The directory can be found at www.dca.state.ga.us/development/EnvironmentalManagement/programs/recycling/default.asp

2.3. Waste Reduction Needs and Goals

1. Waste Reduction of 25%. The overall goal for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth is to target the appropriate waste generating sectors and/or streams to achieve a 25% per capita waste disposal reduction goal. To achieve this goal, the county and cities should look for cost-effective opportunities to recycle.

Estimated Cost: Staff time for investigating new opportunities.

2. Promote Waste Reduction. Public awareness of community recycling programs and facilities should be improved where possible and a group should be established to promote waste reduction. (See Element 6: Public Education.)

Estimated Cost: Minimal as brochures and other materials are available at no cost from DCA.

3. Consider Disposal Fees for Household Waste. A potentially unpopular way to encourage recycling and other forms of waste reduction would be to charge fees for the disposal of household waste at the county convenience centers, and to make the disposal of recyclable materials at recycling facilities free. Surrounding counties do charge fees for the disposal of household waste.

Because of the isolated nature of the convenience centers, it is not desirable to collect monies at them. The DCA has useful information on alternative "pay-as-you-throw" collection systems for the disposal of household waste. The information can be found at www.dca.state.ga.us/publications/paythrow/PayIndex.html.



There is a concern that if a fee is implemented, the county will experience an increase in illegal dumping. In addition, to truly encourage recycling as opposed to merely collecting fees for the disposal of household waste, all convenience centers will need to be equipped with recycling centers for paper, plastic, glass, and aluminum.

Estimated Cost: The cost of a pay-as-you-throw system will vary depending upon the type of system which is implemented.

4. Investigate the Possibility of Diverting Recyclable Plastics. Dalton, Georgia in neighboring Whitfield County is the largest importer of PET and HDPE plastics in North America. Among the possibilities is that Murray consider a collaborative effort with other counties in the region to consolidate these recyclables.

Estimated Cost: Minimal staff time involved.

ELEMENT 3: WASTE COLLECTIONS

3.1. Inventory of Existing Waste Collection System

Murray County. Murray County presently does not provide streetside garbage collection services. Solid waste management activities are handled through five collection facilities (convenience centers) located throughout the county and at the Murray County Landfill. The locations of all of the centers are shown in Figure 4.

All of the convenience centers have a compacter and a 40 cubic yard roll off box, an office, and a portable toilet. The County leases the property where the five convenience centers are located. The convenience centers are open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 AM until 6:00 PM.

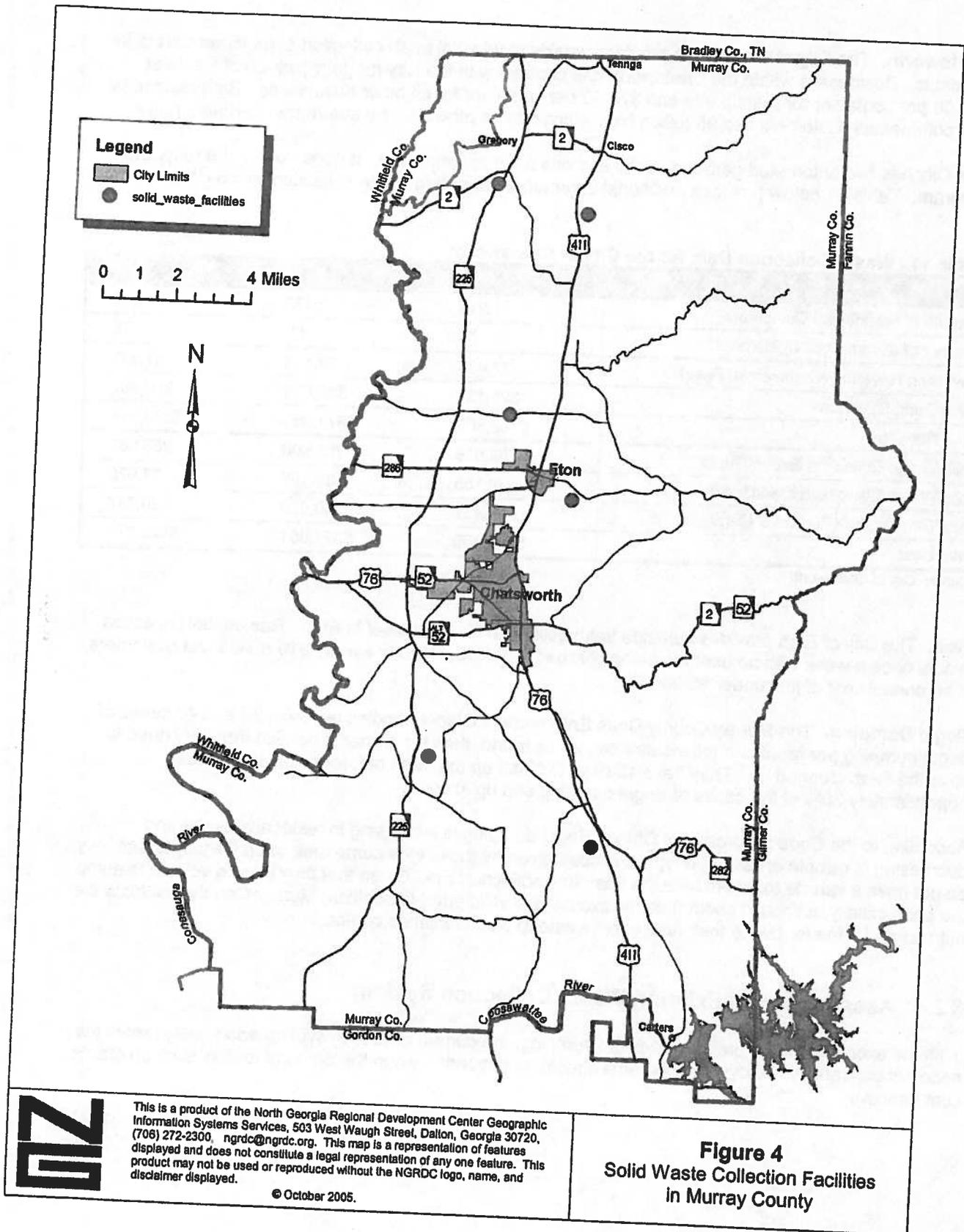
The useful life of the convenience centers is virtually unlimited because there is no landfilling, just waste compacting and transfer. Unless county residents make arrangements with a private hauler, they are responsible for transporting their solid waste and recyclable materials to the convenience centers or landfill. Murray County residents may dispose of up to 10 bags of household garbage at either the landfill or convenience center at no charge. The "gate fee" for waste entering the landfill is \$31.50 per ton.

Residential and commercial waste is collected by a variety of private haulers. These are listed in Table 10.

Table 10. Waste Collection and Removal Companies

Company and Location	Type of Service				
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	C & D	Recycling
BFI Waste Services Dalton, GA	—	✓	✓	✓	✓
Basic Environmental 712 N. Wall Street, Calhoun, GA	—	—	—	✓	—
Foster's Disposal 822 Holly Creek Drive, Chatsworth, GA	✓	—	—	—	—
Mitchell's Disposal 478 Sequoyah Drive, Chatsworth, GA	✓	—	—	—	—
North Georgia Disposal Inc. 2207 Industrial South Road, Dalton, GA	—	✓	—	✓	—
Super Garbage Service 113 McFalls Street, Dalton, GA	✓	✓	—	—	—

* Companies listed are known entities; there may be additional companies that are not listed.



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Figure 4
Solid Waste Collection Facilities
in Murray County

Chatsworth. The City of Chatsworth provides weekly residential trash collection at no direct cost to its residents. Businesses within the Chatsworth can contract with the City for daily pick-up of waste at \$35.00 per container for restaurants and \$25.00 per container for all other businesses. Both residential and commercial customers use 95 gallon bins which can be picked up by automated garbage trucks.

The City has two automated garbage trucks and one full-time employee. It does not have a recycling program. Table 11 below provides additional information regarding waste collection within Chatsworth.

Table 11. Waste Collection Data for the City of Chatsworth

	2002	2003	2004
Number of Residential Customers	1,218	1,230	1,235
Number of Commercial Customers	73	69	76
Operating Revenue (Commercial Fees)	37,483	39,175	37,312
Other Fund Revenue	325,126	332,676	356,462
Total Revenue	\$362,609	\$371,851	\$393,774
Solid Waste Collection Expenditures	283,016	255,606	255,067
Solid Waste Disposal Expenditures	30,156	36,195	37,970
Yard Trimmings Collection & Management	49,437	80,050	100,737
Total Cost	\$362,609	\$371,851	\$393,774

Source: City of Chatsworth

Eton. The City of Eton provides curbside trash collection for residential in Eton. Residential collection occurs once a week with no user fee being charged. In 2003, the City served 319 residential customers at an annual cost of just under \$5,000.

Illegal Dumping. The Murray County Code Enforcement Officer handles between 20 and 40 cases of illegal dumping per month. If the violator cannot be found, then the owner is notified that they need to have the trash cleaned up. They have 15 days to clean up the trash before a citation is issued. Approximately 30% of the cases of illegal dumping end up in court.

According to the Code Enforcement Officer, illegal dumping is increasing in residential areas and decreasing in remote areas. The typical excuse given by those who dump their trash illegally is that they do not have a vehicle to use to take the trash to a collection site. Given that they used a vehicle to dump the trash initially, it doesn't seem that this excuse is a valid one. In addition, Murray County residents are not charged a fee for taking their household waste to a convenience center.

3.2. Assessment of Existing Waste Collection System

With the exception of the problem of illegal dumping, the current collection system adequately meets the needs of community. Recycling programs should be expanded when the demand makes such programs cost effective.

3.3. Waste Collection Needs and Goals

1. Adequate Waste Collection System. The goal for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton is to provide and maintain a waste collection system which provides economical service to residents and businesses. Neither the County nor the Cities have plans to alter their present collection methods.

Estimated Cost: The cost of providing solid waste management services for the county and cities is shown in Table 12 below. Total costs will likely increase by 5 percent per year.

Table 12. Cost of Solid Waste Management Services (\$)

Type of Service	Murray County	City of Chatsworth (2002/2003)	City of Eton (2002/2003)
Solid Waste and Recycling Administration	\$ 41,754		
Solid Waste Collection	\$ 184,847	\$ 283,016	\$ 4,892.47
Solid Waste Disposal	\$ 373,382	\$ 30,156	
Recyclables Collection			
Recyclables Operations	\$ 4,728		
Closure and Post-Closure Care	\$ 49,747		
Future Landfill/Cell Development	\$ 103,002		
Public Education			
Yard Trimmings Collection and Management		\$ 49,437	
Total Cost	\$ 757,460	\$ 362,609	\$ 4,892.47

Source: Solid Waste Management Survey and Full Cost Reports

2. Additional Convenience Centers. The five convenience centers currently operated by Murray County, plus the landfill site, provide adequate coverage to the community although another convenience center would be desirable in the southern part of the county near GA 225. As pockets of more dense development occur in areas of the county which are not close to an existing convenience center, new centers may be developed.

Estimated Cost: Capital expenditures to set up a new site will consist of land purchase, fencing, and a small office facility. Fencing and construction will cost approximately \$10,000 for a two acre site. A compactor and roll off box will cost between \$75,000 and \$100,000. The cost of land is highly variable, but at \$25,000 per acre, the total capital cost would be between \$100,000 and \$125,000 for one new convenience center.

3. Expanded Recycling Programs. As the demand for recycling increases, each of the convenience centers should be outfitted to accept household recyclable materials such as paper, plastic, and glass.

Estimated Cost: Depends upon the product being recycled.

3.4. Emergency Solid Waste Management

Should the current collection practices become interrupted or unavailable, the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton will seek other haulers who will be able to provide for the collection of solid waste from their citizens. The Cities are aware of available haulers and are prepared to ensure that any interruption in service would be minimized. In the unlikely event of an interruption of collection service, residents would be able to take their solid waste to the County convenience centers.

Murray County does not collect solid waste at individual residences or at businesses; it is transported to convenience centers or landfill by private citizens. Should one or more of the County convenience centers become non-operational, residents would simply take their trash to the next closest convenience center or to the landfill.

3.5. Emergency Solid Waste Management

In the case of emergency, the county's first response agency is the Murray County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), which would be charged with devising a waste management disaster plan. The degree and nature of the disaster dictate the extent of EMA action.

A disaster could generate large amounts of waste in a short time period. The most likely scenario is that high winds, ice, or flooding will damage trees and/or produce construction and demolition debris. The county landfill would usually serve as a staging area for accumulating these abnormally large amounts of refuse, but should the landfill be rendered inoperative, an alternative staging site is the county's closed landfill, which is still in county ownership.

The EMA will coordinate all preparation and communication in the case of such an event. The EMA will contact the commissioner's office and the public works department in the course of establishing a disaster solid waste procedure. EMA will be responsible for disseminating information by contacting local radio stations (such as WQMT, WBLJ, WDAL, and WTTI in Dalton) and the local paper (Chatsworth Times). To avoid overloading the 911 emergency response system, the general public could be instructed to contact the commissioner's office for further information.

ELEMENT 4: WASTE DISPOSAL

4.1. Inventory of Existing Disposal Practices

Murray County owns the Murray County Westside Landfill. The landfill has been managed for Murray County by Santek Environmental, Inc. since June 2002. Under the current contract between the County and Santek, Murray County is able to dispose of 7,500 tons of waste per year at the landfill with no charge. In addition, the County receives a fee of \$1.50 per ton for all waste that enters the landfill.

According to data maintained by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), waste generated in Murray County, Chatsworth, and Eton is disposed of at various regional landfills in Georgia. Table 13 shows the volumes and percentages of Murray County's waste received at each facility over the past five years.

Table 13. Murray County Waste Disposed of Annually at Georgia Landfills (Tons)

Disposal Facility Name	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Murray County – US 411 Westside	37,357	37,975	37,908	38,804	45,526	49,917
Gordon Co. – Redbone Ridges Rd.	1.2				0.1	
Cherokee Co. – Pine Bluff Landfill	66.2		23.8	36.0	15.7	39.5
BFI – East Dekalb Landfill (C&D)		11.9				
BFI – Hickory Ridge			3.5			
Catoosa Co. – SR 151				13.2		
Pecan Row				21.8	18.6	
Cherokee C&D Landfill						13.7
Total Tons of Waste	37,424	37,987	37,935	38,875	45,560	49,970
Tons of MSW (excludes C&D)	37,424	37,963	37,935	38,875	45,560	49,957
Pounds of MSW	74,848,800	75,926,200	75,870,600	77,750,000	91,120,800	99,913,000
Total Population (persons)	33,922	36,506	37,831	38,617	39,446	40,556
Pounds of MSW Per Person Per Day	6.05	5.70	5.49	5.52	6.33	6.75

Source: Waste Volumes: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division; Population Figures: US Census Bureau
C&D: Construction and Demolition Landfill

Table 14 below shows the capacity and ownership of the landfills (as of 2003) that received municipal waste from Murray County in 2004. It is expected that a combination of these landfills will be used during the planning period.

Table 14. Capacity of Georgia Landfills Receiving Murray County Solid Waste

Disposal Facility Name	County	Type	Ownership	Remaining Capacity (CY)	Remaining Permitted Capacity (Years)
Murray County - US 411 Westside MSWL	Murray	MSWL	Public	1,650,620*	15.9*
Cherokee County-Pine Bluff MSWL	Cherokee	MSWL	Private	3,045,138	9.7

Source: www.dca.state.ga.us/environmental/SWAR_2003_update/SWAR_2003_Capacity_Disposal.pdf
 MSWL – Municipal Solid Waste Landfill; C&DL – Construction and Demolition Landfill
 *Excluding capacity that will be added by expansion.

As Table 15 shows, Murray County disposed of the majority of its waste at the Murray County Westside Landfill. Other counties use the Murray County Landfill for their waste disposal needs. These counties and the amount of waste they disposed in Murray County in the past 2 1/2 year are shown in Table 15 below. As shown in Figure 5 to the right, the majority of the waste entering the Murray County Landfill comes from Murray County. Both Gordon and Whitfield Counties contribute 15% of the total waste stream. The balance of the waste comes from other Georgia Counties and Tennessee. Currently the only out of state waste entering the Murray County Landfill comes from Tennessee.

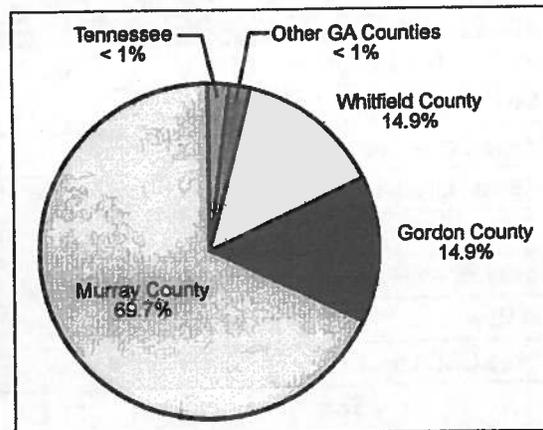


Figure 5. Contributors of Waste to the Murray County Landfill (January 2003 – March 2005)

Table 15. Quarterly Waste Disposal at the Murray County Westside Landfills (Tons)

	2003				2004				2005
	1 st Qtr.	2 nd Qtr.	3 rd Qtr.	4 th Qtr.	1 st Qtr.	2 nd Qtr.	3 rd Qtr.	4 th Qtr.	1 st Qtr.
Georgia									
Murray County	10,125	11,638	11,126	12,638	11,082	12,920	14,022	11,893	13,527
Bartow County	< 1	1	11	11	1	-	-	-	3
Catoosa County	53	25	9	-	2	-	-	-	9
Gilmer County	27	22	0	24	2	24	22	-	-
Gordon County	2,942	19	23	119	763	1,948	2,742	4,473	3,598
Harris County	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pickens County	7	7	8	6	8	-	-	-	-
Polk County	6	-	7	-	9	-	-	-	-
Walker County	13	1	<1	1	13	40	75	17	194
Whitfield County	1,492	1,566	1,362	1,731	1,180	2,149	3,026	3,019	4,193
Tennessee	-	-	6	-	-	45	25	5	32
Total Tons of Waste	14,665	13,280	12,552	14,530	13,060	17,126	19,912	19,407	21,556

Source: Waste Volumes: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division

Currently, there are no thermal treatment technologies (e.g. refuse-derived fuel, incinerators, etc.) for solid waste in Murray County.

The County operates an inert facility at the County Landfill.

4.2. Assessment of Existing Disposal Practices

Existing facilities and services will be adequate through the ten-year planning period.

4.3. Needs and Goals

1. Adequate Disposal Capacity. The goal for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton is to assure that there will be adequate disposal capacity to meet the needs of local businesses and residents for the next 10 years and beyond.

Estimated Cost: Under the current agreement with Santek, the county can dispose of up to 7,500 tons of municipal solid waste at not cost.

2. Tub Grinder. Murray County would like to purchase a small tub grinder that would be capable of grinding landscape debris and other materials.

Estimated Cost: \$130,000 to \$140,000

4.4. Assurance of 10-Year Disposal Capacity

Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton propose to achieve their ten year disposal capacity requirement by continuing arrangements to dispose of locally generated waste at the Murray County Landfill. A copy of a waste disposal assurance capacity letter from Santek is included in the appendix.

4.5. Contingency Disposal Strategy

If the Murray County Landfill were to be closed for some reason, Santek would take Murray County's waste to another of Santek's landfills. For example, Santek manages landfills in Rhea County and Bradley County, Tennessee.

ELEMENT 5: LAND LIMITATION

The purpose of this element is to provide an assessment of areas in Murray County which are unsuitable for solid waste recycling, recovery, composting, or disposal facilities because of natural environmental limitations or land use criteria. Environmental limitations include such things as water supply watersheds, groundwater recharge areas, wetlands, river corridors, and protected mountains. Land use criteria refers to heavily developed areas, zoning, historic resources, and airports.

Murray County does not anticipate opening a new landfill within its jurisdiction in the foreseeable future. It is the goal of Murray County and its cities to consider the following items in determining the location of any solid waste management facility within the Murray County area.

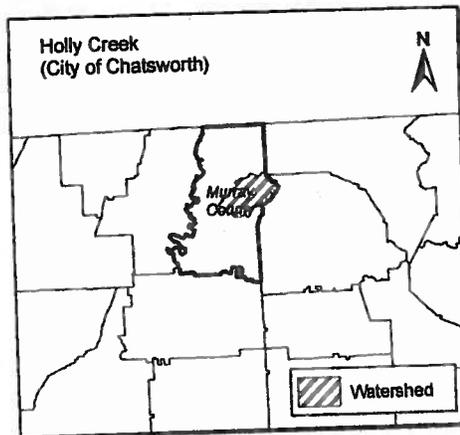
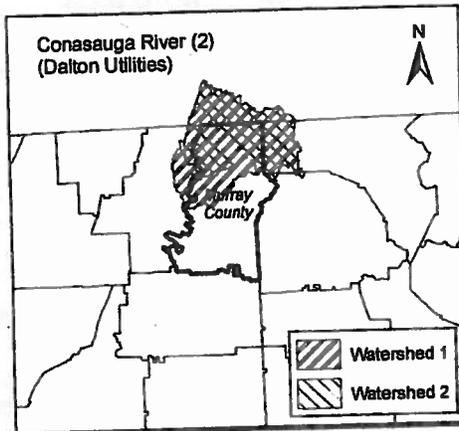
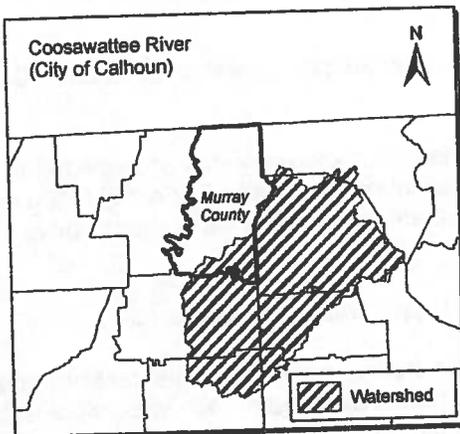
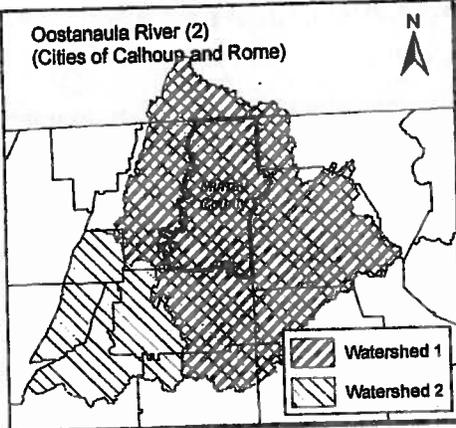
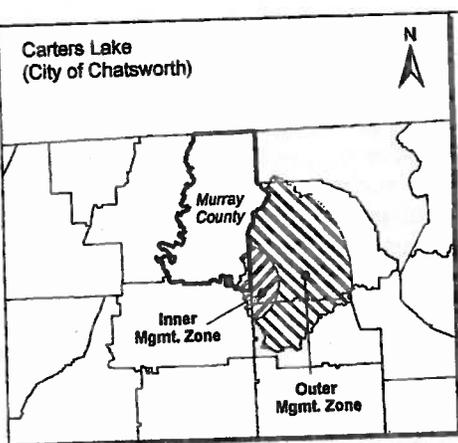
5.1. Natural Environmental Limitations

5.1.1. Water Supply Watersheds. There are a number of water supply watersheds in Murray County, the boundaries of which are shown in Figure 5.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) classifies watersheds by size and whether or not they include a reservoir. The watershed above the Holly Creek intake is classified as small (<100 square miles). The other watersheds are classified as large (>100 square miles). The watersheds above the Coosawattee/Carters Lake intake includes a reservoir.

The criteria for locating of a solid waste facility within a water supply watershed are as follows:

- Within a seven mile radius upstream of a public water intake, no solid waste facility should be constructed within a 100 foot buffer on both sides of a perennial stream. No impervious surfaces should be constructed within 150 feet of either side of the stream.
- In small water supply watersheds, beyond seven miles, a 50 foot buffer must be maintained and no impervious surfaces should be constructed within 75 feet of a perennial stream.
- No solid waste facility should be located in the 150 foot buffer around water supply reservoirs.
- In small water supply watersheds, new municipal solid waste landfills must have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems. (DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1)



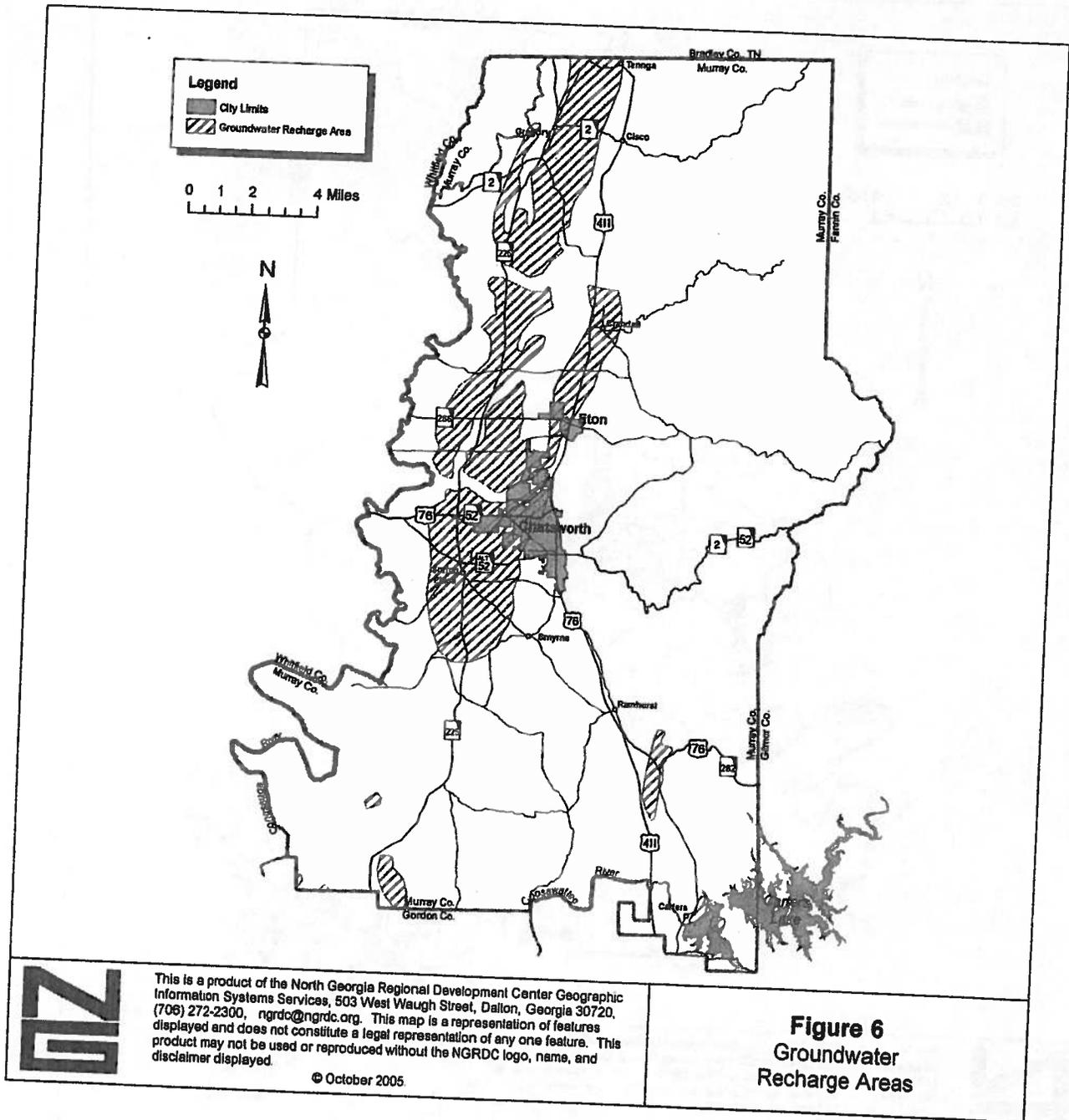
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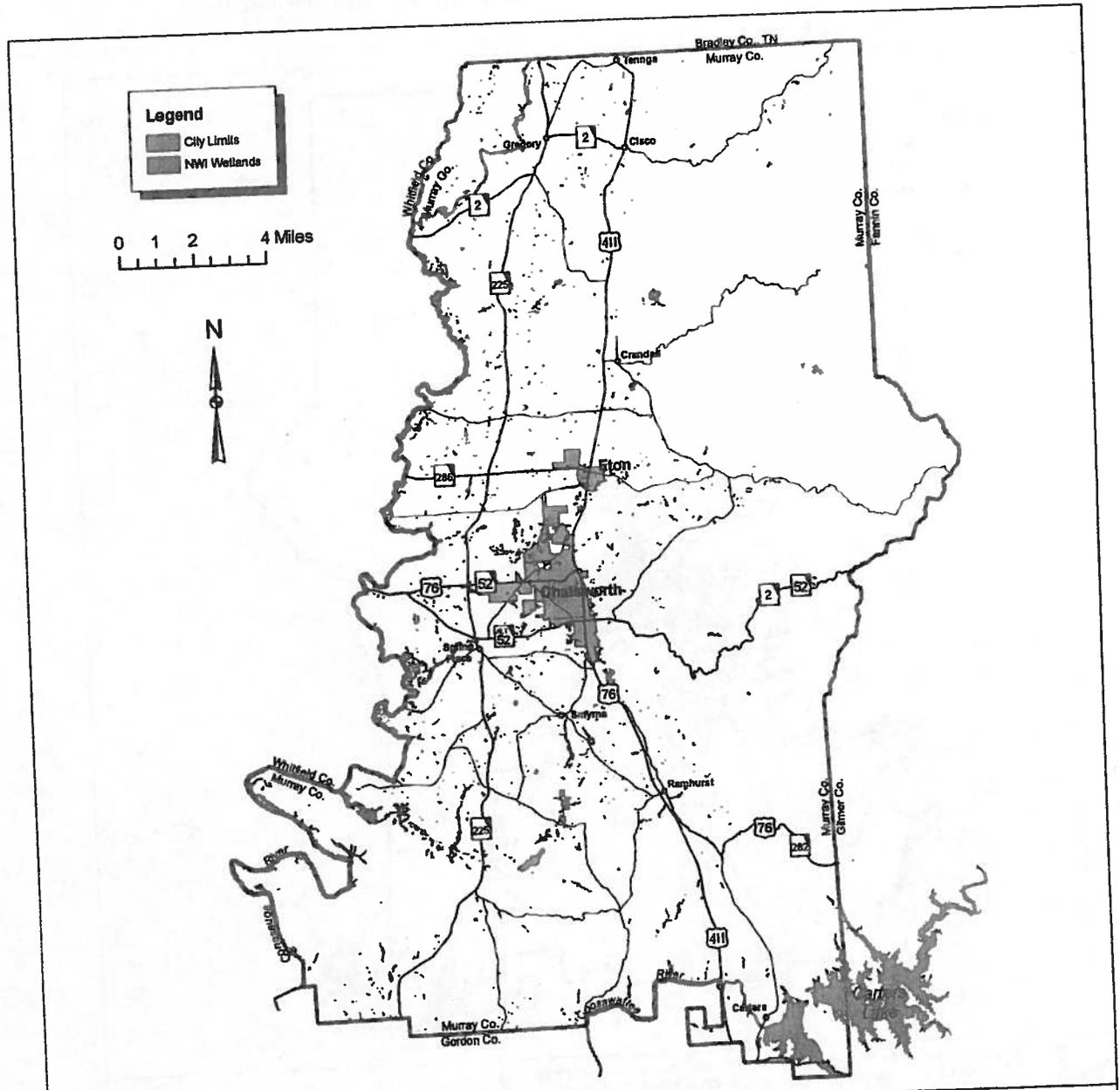
Figure 5
Water Supply Watershed Boundaries

5.1.2. Groundwater Recharge Areas. A groundwater recharge area is a surface land area where precipitation infiltrates the soil and percolates downward to replenish an aquifer or underground reservoir. The contaminants in the soil and air affect the overall quality of the water that reaches an aquifer. While vegetation biologically cleans the water as it infiltrates the soil, some contaminants are still conveyed to the groundwater. Once polluted, a groundwater source is nearly impossible to clean up.

Significant recharge areas exist in Murray County. The locations are illustrated in Figure 6.



5.1.3. Wetlands. Wetlands in Murray County are shown in Figure 7. Solid waste landfills may constitute an unacceptable use of a wetland (DNR Rule 391-3-16-.03(3)(e)). No solid waste handling facility should be located in a wetland, as defined by the US Army Corp of Engineers, unless there are no other alternative sites or methods available and the use of such wetlands complies with all applicable state and federal regulations.



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**Figure 7
 Wetlands**

5.1.5. Protected Mountains. A protected mountain is defined as all land area 2,200 feet or more above mean sea level that has a percentage slope of 25% or greater for at least 500 feet horizontally. It also includes crests, summits, and ridge tops which lie at elevations higher than any such area.

DNR Rule 391-3-16-.05(4)(l) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills in areas designated as protected mountains. Protected mountains and areas with steep slopes (25% or greater) are shown in Figure 9.

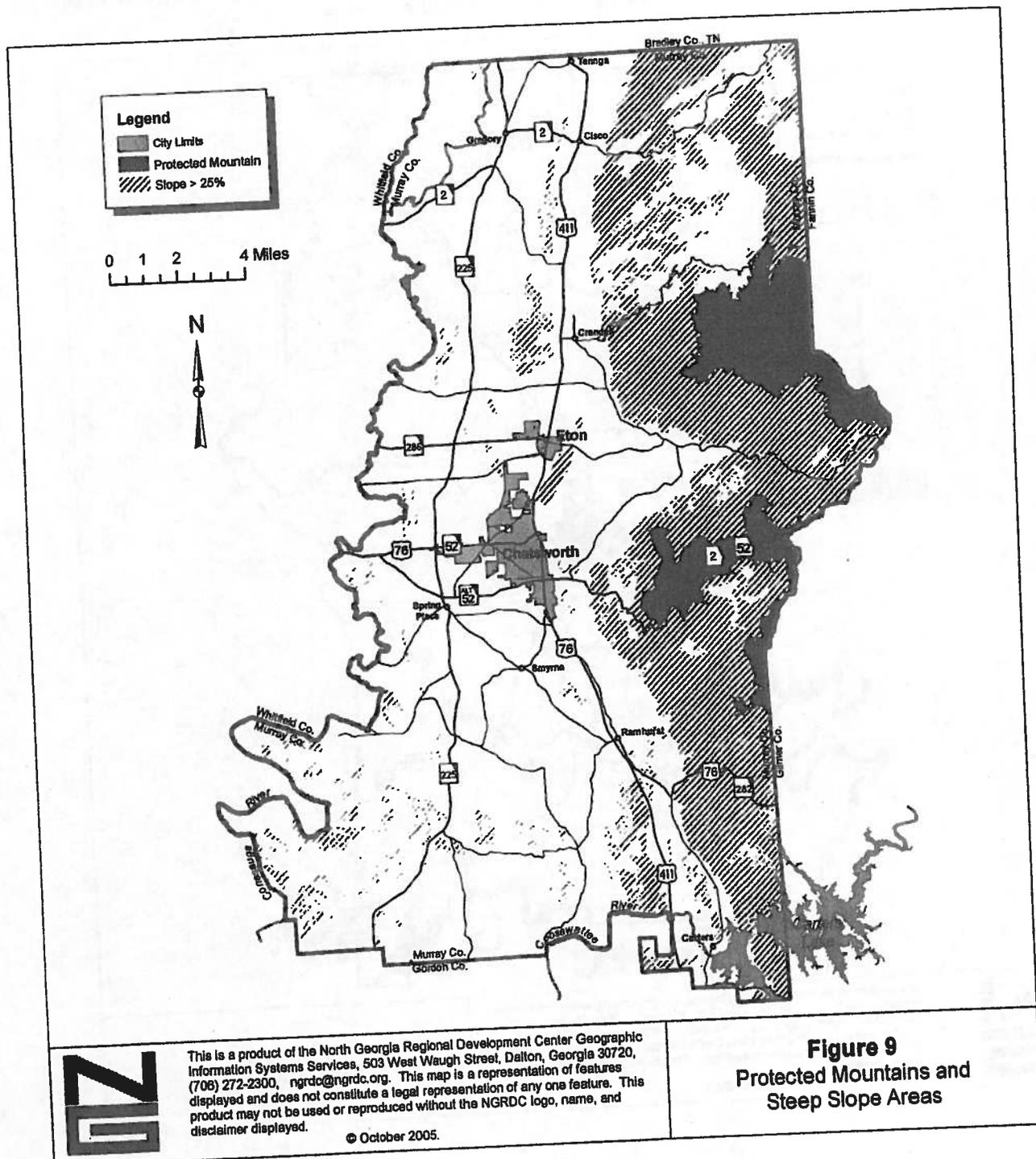


Figure 9
Protected Mountains and Steep Slope Areas



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5.2. Land Use Criteria

The following items are criteria for siting solid waste facilities under DNR rules: zoning, airport safety, flood plains, wetlands, fault areas, seismic impact zones, unstable areas, and significant groundwater recharge areas. Those items which were not discussed in section 5.1. are presented below.

5.2.1. Zoning. Solid waste facilities must conform to all local zoning and land use ordinances. (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a)) Table 16 details, by jurisdiction, the zones in which various types of solid waste facilities may be located.

Table 16. Zoning Related to Solid Waste Facilities

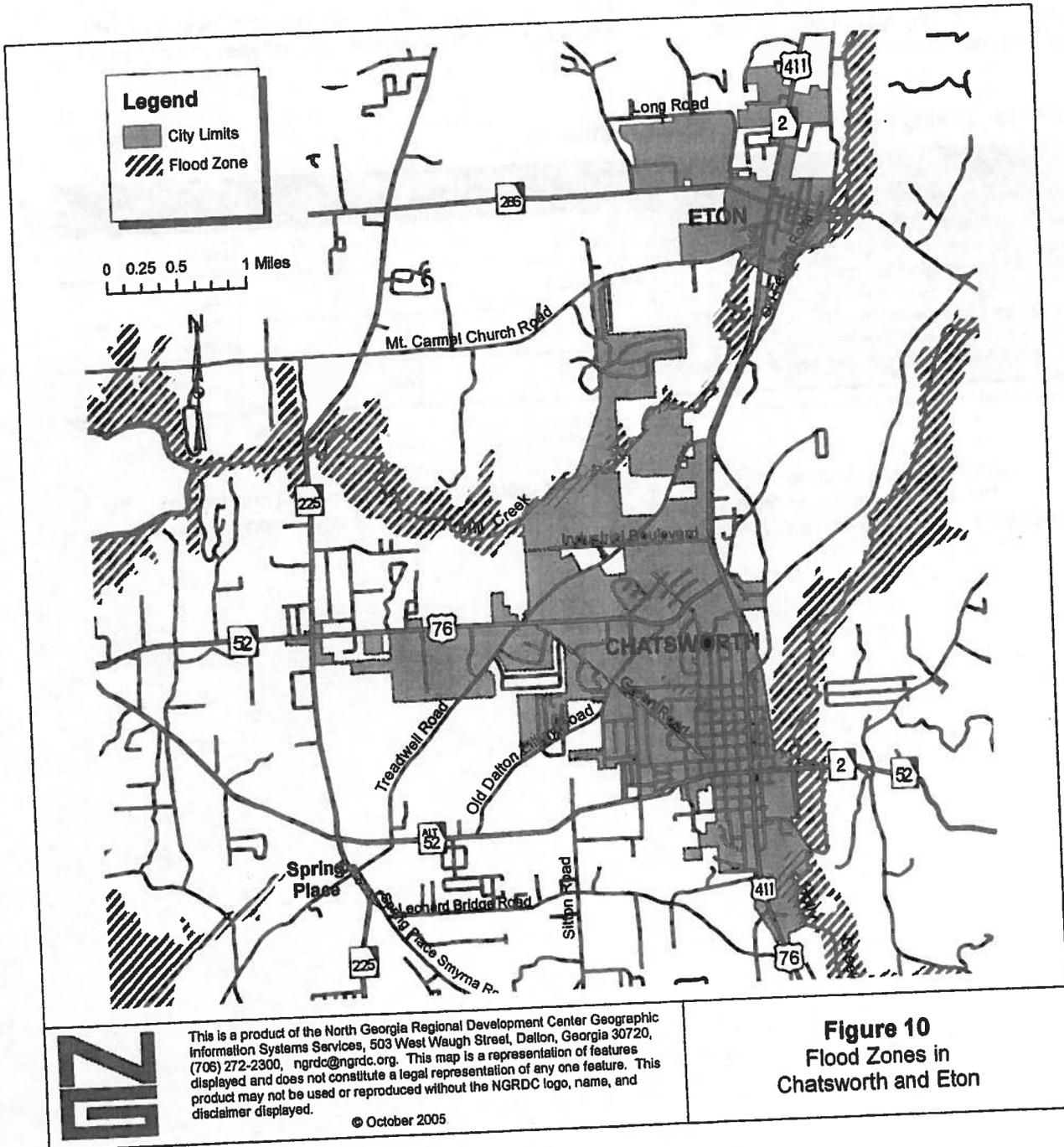
Use	Murray County	Chatsworth	Eton
Landfill/Hazardous Waste Facility	I (c)	M-1 (c), M-2 (c)	n/a
Recycling Collection Station	HC, I	M-1, M-2	n/a
Recycling Center with processing Facilities	I	M-2	n/a
Hazardous Waste - Handling and processing	I (c)	n/a	n/a

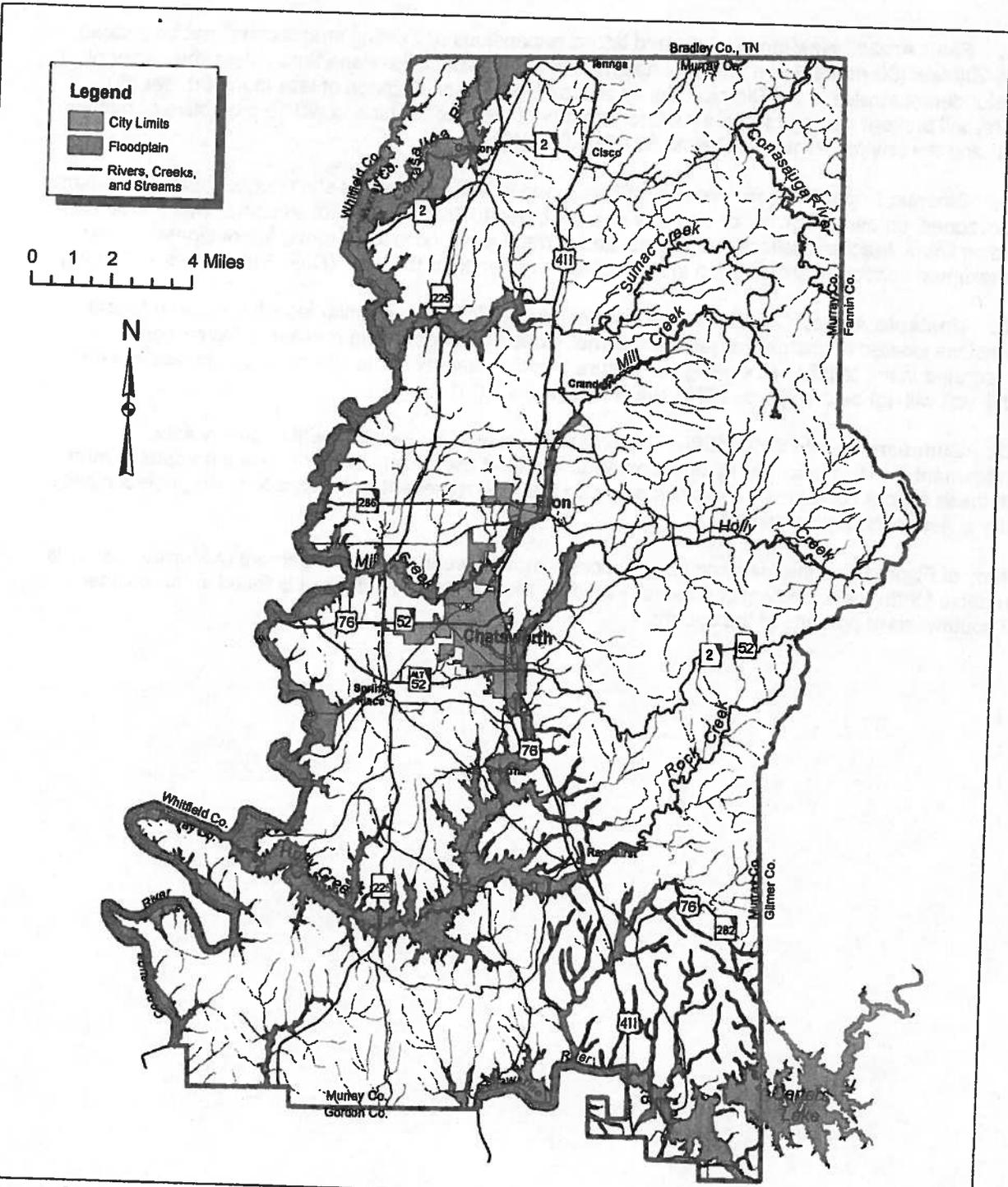
C-Conditional Use, n/a-Not specifically listed in ordinance

5.2.2. Airport Safety. Murray County does not contain a public airport; however, if one locates in the County in the future, sanitary landfills shall not be located within 5,000 feet of any airport runway end used only by piston-type aircraft. (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c))

5.2.3. Flood Plains. Murray County and its municipalities participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. No solid waste facility located in the 100-year flood plain shall 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. (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(d))

Flood zones in Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton are shown in Figures 10 and 11.





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Figure 11
Flood Zones in Murray County

5.2.4. Fault Areas. New landfill units and lateral expansions of existing landfills shall not be located within 200 feet (60 meters) of a fault that has had displacement in Holocene time unless the owner or operator demonstrates to the Director that an alternative setback distance of less than 200 feet (60 meters) will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the landfill unit and will be protective of human health and the environment. (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(f))

5.2.5. Seismic Impact Zones. New landfill units and lateral expansions shall not be located in seismic impact zones, unless the owner or operator demonstrates to the Director 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. (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(g))

5.2.6. Unstable Areas. Owners or operators of new landfill units, existing landfill units, and lateral expansions located in unstable areas must 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. (DNR rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(h))

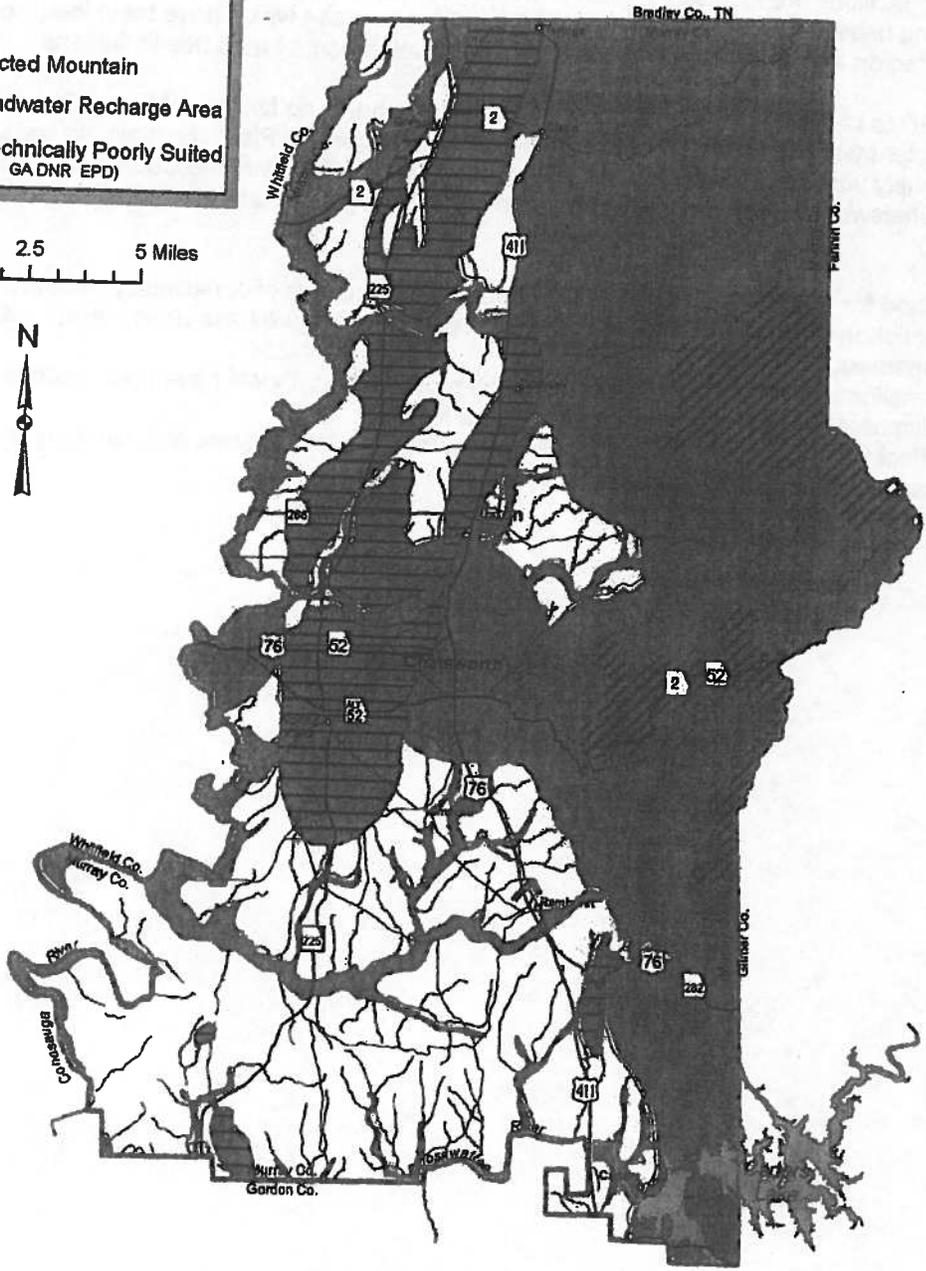
5.2.7. Summary of Site Suitability. The availability of land for development of solid waste management facilities is limited by environmental and land use factors. Figure 14 is a composite map of all of these factors combined. The black areas on the map represent land areas that are geotechnically poorly suited for a sanitary landfill.

A study of Figure 12 on the following page indicates that between 50 and 60 percent of Murray County is unsuitable for the development of a sanitary landfill. Most of the suitable land is found in the southern and southwestern portions of the county.

Legend

-  Protected Mountain
-  Groundwater Recharge Area
-  Geotechnically Poorly Suited
(Source: GA DNR EPD)

0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

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Figure 12
Overall Site Suitability

5.3. Land Limitation Needs and Goals

1. Suitable Site Location. The overall goal of the County and Cities is to insure that proposed solid waste handling facilities are located in areas which are suitable for such developments, are compatible with surrounding uses, and are not considered for locations in areas which have been identified by the community or region as having environmental or other development or land use limitations.

In order for EPD to issue or renew a permit for a solid waste handling facility in Murray County, the facility must be consistent with the Murray County Solid Waste Management Plan. To maintain consistency with the plan, the entity which proposes to site a solid waste handling facility in the County, including within the City limits of Chatsworth and/or Eton, must provide the following information to the affected local government(s):

- a method for notifying and involving the public in the process of consistency review;
- a description of the anticipated impact the proposed facility will have upon current solid waste management facilities;
- an identification of the anticipated impact the proposed facility will have upon adequate collection and disposal capability within the planning area; and
- the effect the facility will have upon waste generated within the state achieving the State's 25% per capita waste disposal reduction goal.

ELEMENT 6: EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

6.1. Inventory of Existing Education Programs and Public Involvement Opportunities

Murray County, Chatsworth, and Eton do not have public education programs for solid waste although Santek Environmental does conduct public education in other communities where it manages solid waste facilities.

The Murray County School System provides some recycling and source reduction educational programs for students.

Currently there are no regional programs for solid waste public education or public involvement.

6.2. Assessment of Existing Education Programs and Public Involvement Opportunities

Numerous opportunities to expand education programs and public involvement related to solid waste management exist in the community. In many cases, needed materials are available free of charge. DCA and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have a variety of public education/public involvement materials. Examples of public involvement pamphlets produced by the EPA include the following:

- *Waste Transfer Stations: A Manual for Decision-Making*
- *Sites for Our Solid Waste: A Guidebook for Effective Public Involvement*



6.3. Education and Public Involvement Needs and Goals

In Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton, there are five areas of need in terms of public education and involvement: recycling, resource recovery, reuse, reduction-at-source, and litter control. The County and Cities should work with the Chamber of Commerce, the schools, and other groups in the community to promote these efforts. The development of a local solid waste citizen advisory council would be an effective vehicle for public involvement in solid waste issues.

1. **Recycling.** Promote recycling at home and at work by educating the public about financial incentives to recycle. Use visual aids such as pamphlets, flyers, and news releases to consistently education the public about recycling.

Estimated Cost. None. Flyers are available at no cost from the DCA.

2. **Resource Recovery.** Educate the public about the opportunity to obtain mulch from the county inert landfill where yard waste is processed on-site and recovered or returned to a useable organic matter.

Estimated Cost. Minimal if the information can be presented on a city or county website and in the newspaper.

3. Reuse. Educate the public about the practicality of re-using articles that are discarded but which have a remaining useful life, such as clothing, furniture, or small appliances.

Estimated Cost. Minimal if the information can be presented on a city or county website.

4. Reduction-at-Source. Educate the public and promote the development of "Reduction Habits," particularly relating to consumer purchases. This program should emphasize the fact that changing the buying habits of one household or business creates an awareness about source reduction, which, when multiplied by thousands of households and businesses in the county, results in noticeable waste reduction.

Visual aids such as pamphlets are recommended to present the case for source reduction to schools, civic groups, and church groups. The theme of the presentation should be the cost savings of source reduction to the consumer as well as the long-term environmental benefits.

Estimated Cost. Minimal if volunteers are used to present the information.

5. Litter Control. Litter is the result of the irresponsible scattering of waste throughout the county, particularly along streets and highways. In spite of continuing efforts by individuals and civic groups, littering is a persistent problem in Murray County. The County has begun to more actively enforce laws against illegal dumping. In addition, existing anti-litter laws could be enforced with stiffer penalties, such as the doubling of the fine for each consecutive violation. The fines could be earmarked to pay for the cost of further efforts to eradicate litter.

Estimated Cost. Not applicable as law enforcement is an ongoing responsibility of the County Sheriff's Department and the City Police Departments.

6. Promote Cooperative Spirit of Recycling. Dalton, Georgia in neighboring Whitfield County is the largest importer of PET and HDPE plastics in North America. In the interest of supporting the local economy, Murray County will consider educating about the possibility of a cooperative effort, perhaps involving other nearby counties.

Estimated Cost: Minimal staff time involved.

ELEMENT 7: IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

7.1. Summary of Needs and Goals

Following is a summary of the needs and goals which were presented in Elements 2 through 6.

Waste Reduction Needs and Goals:

1. Reduce waste by 25%.
2. Promote waste reduction (specifics are listed under Public Education).
3. Consider disposal fees for household waste.
4. Investigate the possibility of diverting recyclable plastics and consolidating with Whitfield County.

Waste Collection Needs and Goals:

1. Provide an adequate waste collection system.
2. Consider additional or relocated convenience centers.
3. Improve operations at existing convenience centers.
4. Expand recycling programs.

Waste Disposal Needs and Goals:

1. Ensure adequate disposal capacity.
2. Purchase a tub grinder.

Land Limitation Needs and Goals:

1. Insure site suitability for new waste handling facilities.

Public Education Needs and Goals:

1. Promote recycling at home and at work by educating about financial incentives.
2. Educate the public about the opportunity to obtain mulch from the county inert landfill.
3. Educate the public about the practicality of re-using discarded articles.
4. Educating the public and promote the development of reduction habits.
5. Consider stiffer penalties for littering.
6. Promote a cooperative spirit of recycling with Whitfield County.

7.2. Implementation Schedule

The following strategies are intended to achieve the needs and goals listed above.

Table 17. Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Schedule for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton

Project or Activity	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
WASTE REDUCTION													
Continue current recycling programs at the landfill and expand recycling programs where feasible.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Murray County	unknown	general fund
Establish a group that will develop and conduct a public education program to promote recycling and coordinate anti-littering programs.		X									Murray County, Chatsworth, and Eton	staff time	n/a
Investigate recycling alternatives including "pay-as-you-throw" and diverting recyclable plastics.		X									Murray County	staff time	n/a
WASTE COLLECTION													
Provide additional convenience centers as the need arises.						X					Murray County	\$125,000+ (each)	general fund or SPLOST
Investigate the feasibility of providing recycling facilities for household recyclables at all convenience centers.		X									Murray County	staff time	n/a
Pursue grant funding, when available, to provide additional recycling facilities or new composting/chipping programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Murray County	staff time	n/a
WASTE DISPOSAL													
Maintain contract with Sarek to manage the Murray County Westside Landfill and review contract periodically.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Murray County	staff time	n/a
Purchase a tub grinder.		X									Murray County	\$130,000 - \$140,000	general fund or SPLOST
LAND LIMITATION													
Ensure that entities which intend to locate solid waste handling facilities in the county follow the plan consistency guidelines outlined in Element 5.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Murray County	staff time	n/a
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT													
Establish a group that will develop and conduct a public education program to promote recycling and coordinate anti-littering programs.		X									Murray County, Chatsworth, and Eton	staff time	n/a
Promote coordinated public education efforts through the County, Cities, and other groups. Education shall include, but not be limited to promoting recycling at home, the opportunity to obtain trash at the public landfill, the practicality of reusing articles, the value of reduction habits, and cooperating with Whitfield County in the recycling of plastics.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Murray County, Chatsworth, and Eton	staff time	n/a
Consider stiffer penalties for littering.		X									Murray County	staff time	n/a
OTHER													
Adopt Solid Waste Management Plan	X										County and Cities	n/a	n/a

APPENDICES

Disposal Capacity Assurance Letter

The letter below provides assurance of disposal capacity for solid waste coming from Murray County convenience centers at an average of 9,000 tons total per year. Nine thousand tons represents the approximate amount of waste collected annually from the County convenience centers.



8585 Highway 411 South
P.O. Box 1129
Chatsworth, GA 30705
(706)955-0062
Fax (706)517-2633

August 19, 2005

Mr. Jim Welch
Murray County Commissioner
Post Office Box 1129
Chatsworth, GA 30705

Dear Commissioner Welch,

This letter serves as disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Murray County from 2005 to 2015. The Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 105-014D (MSWL). This assurance is based upon Murray County disposing of approximately 15,000 cubic yards of waste or approximately 6,700 tons of waste at this facility on an annual basis.

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

Sincerely,



Robert D. Burnette, P.E.
Vice President of Engineering
Murray County Landfill

*Landfill Solutions Under
Local Government Authority*

Printed on recycled paper

Opportunities for Public Involvement

The first required public hearing was held on February 17, 2005. It was advertised in *The Chatsworth Times* and at the County Courthouse, Chatsworth City Hall, and Eton City Hall.

The second required public hearing was held on June 20, 2005. It was advertised in *The Chatsworth Times* and at the County Courthouse, Chatsworth City Hall, and Eton City Hall.

Transmittal Resolutions

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MURRAY COUNTY
AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON
TO THE NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

WHEREAS, Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014;

WHEREAS, the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS, two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Plans, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Murray County does hereby submit the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan to the North Georgia Regional Development Center for review, as per the requirements of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 2nd day of July, 2005.

BY:

Jim Welch

ATTEST:

Stacie Moss

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MURRAY COUNTY
AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON
TO THE NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

WHEREAS, Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014;

WHEREAS, the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

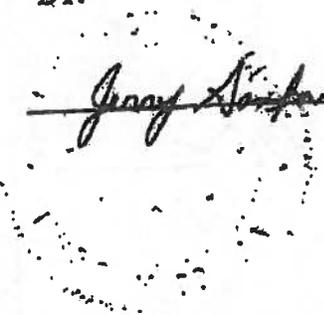
WHEREAS, two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Plans, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Chatsworth does hereby submit the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan to the North Georgia Regional Development Center for review, as per the requirements of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of August, 2005.

BY:

ATTEST:


Janay Sanford

Wesley Nolan

JUL 12 2005

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MURRAY COUNTY
AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON
TO THE NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

WHEREAS, Murray County and the Cities of Eton and Chatsworth have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014;

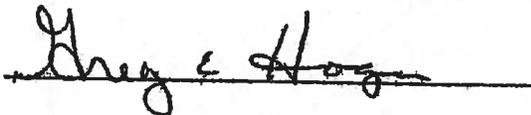
WHEREAS, the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS, two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Plans, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and

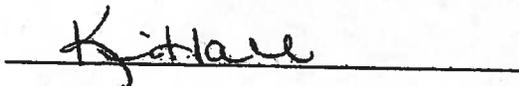
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Eton does hereby submit the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan to the North Georgia Regional Development Center for review, as per the requirements of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of July, 2005.

BY:



ATTEST:



Adoption Resolutions

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
THE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

WHEREAS Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014; and,

WHEREAS the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans as established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Planning, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and,

WHEREAS the North Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) scheduled a regional hearing and the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was reviewed by the RDC with positive findings; and

WHEREAS Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan and found it in compliance with the State required Minimum Planning Standards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Murray County does hereby adopt the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Chatsworth and Eton 2005-2014.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of November, 2005.

BY:

ATTEST:

Jim White

Stacie Moss

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
THE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

WHEREAS Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014; and,

WHEREAS the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans as established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Planning, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and,

WHEREAS the North Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) scheduled a regional hearing and the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was reviewed by the RDC with positive findings; and

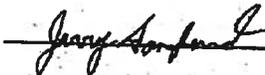
WHEREAS Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan and found it in compliance with the State required Minimum Planning Standards;

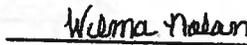
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that CITY OF CHATSWORTH does hereby adopt the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Chatsworth and Eton 2005-2014.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of November, 2005.

BY:

ATTEST:





RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
THE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

WHEREAS Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014; and,

WHEREAS the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans as established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Planning, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and,

WHEREAS the North Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) scheduled a regional hearing and the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was reviewed by the RDC with positive findings; and

WHEREAS Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan and found it in compliance with the State required Minimum Planning Standards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Eton does hereby adopt the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Chatsworth and Eton 2005-2014.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of November, 2005.

BY:

ATTEST:

Aug. E. Hogan

K. H. Hester

Excerpt from the Georgia Solid Waste Management Report (2003)

Source: www.dca.state.ga.us/development/research/programs/downloads/SWAR_2003.pdf

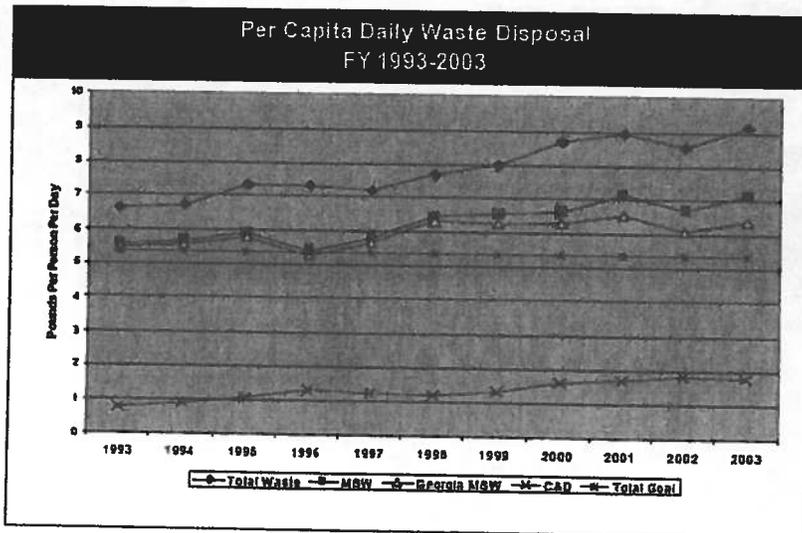


Per Capita Disposal 2003 Solid Waste Management Update

The amount of garbage entering Georgia's Municipal Solid Waste landfills climbed during Fiscal Year 2003, taking Georgia farther from its waste reduction goal. With only two exceptions, during the past decade the per capita disposal rate in Georgia has either climbed gradually or remained nearly flat. In 1996, the same year the yard trimmings ban and MSW 25% per capita waste reduction goal went into effect, the MSW per capita disposal rate fell to 5.4 lbs/person/day. In 2002, the MSW disposal rate dipped again, due in part to the increased disposal of construction materials at C&D designated landfills and a sluggish economy.

Since FY 1993, the per capita municipal solid waste disposal rate has climbed from 5.56 lbs/person/day to 7.14 lbs/person/day. Looking at records that exclude the amount of waste disposed from out-of-state sources, the per capita MSW disposal rate has been marginally lower, climbing from 5.48 lbs/person/day in FY 1993 to 6.38 lbs/person/day in FY 2003. It should be noted that the state's 25% waste disposal reduction goal is a per capita reduction goal based upon all MSW disposed within the state. It does not exclude waste generated from out-of-state sources and disposed in landfills located within the state.

As can be seen in the *Per Capita Daily Waste Disposal* graph, there is more than one way to track per-capita disposal rates. In FY 2003, the Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD) reported a total of 14,247,133 tons of waste disposed in the state. When looking at the reported total volumes of waste disposed, the per capita waste disposal rate rose to 9.14 lbs/person/day in FY 2003, up from 8.52 lbs/person/day in FY 2002. This figure represents all waste entering MSW and C&D landfills. It includes residential waste, sludge from municipal wastewater treatment plants, some industrial waste, construction debris, commercial and business waste, and waste brought here from other states.



Internet reference for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs web page on solid waste planning:

www.dca.state.ga.us/development/EnvironmentalManagement/programs/swplanning.asp

Georgia Department of Community Affairs 60 Executive Park South, NE - Atlanta, GA 30329

Keyword Search

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Fostering Sustainable Development >> Environmental Management

Solid Waste Planning

Program Description | Downloads & Related Links | Contact Information

Program Description

It's not fun to think about, and it may not make a pretty Web page, but someone's got to do something with the 12.7 million tons of waste we produce annually in Georgia. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) helps with Georgia's solid waste management efforts primarily in four ways:

1. Planning the state's solid waste management efforts and assisting local governments in planning to meet their own solid waste management needs.
2. Gathering, analyzing and dispersing information on the state's solid waste management and waste reduction efforts.
3. Offering technical assistance and training in waste management issues for Georgia's local governments.
4. Educating Georgia citizens and businesses about waste management and waste reduction issues through training sessions, media campaigns, special events and the state's Keep America Beautiful affiliates.

Downloads & Related Links

Updated 2004 Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management (PDF)
Landfill Capacity Letter (PDF)
Landfill Memo (PDF)

Contact Information

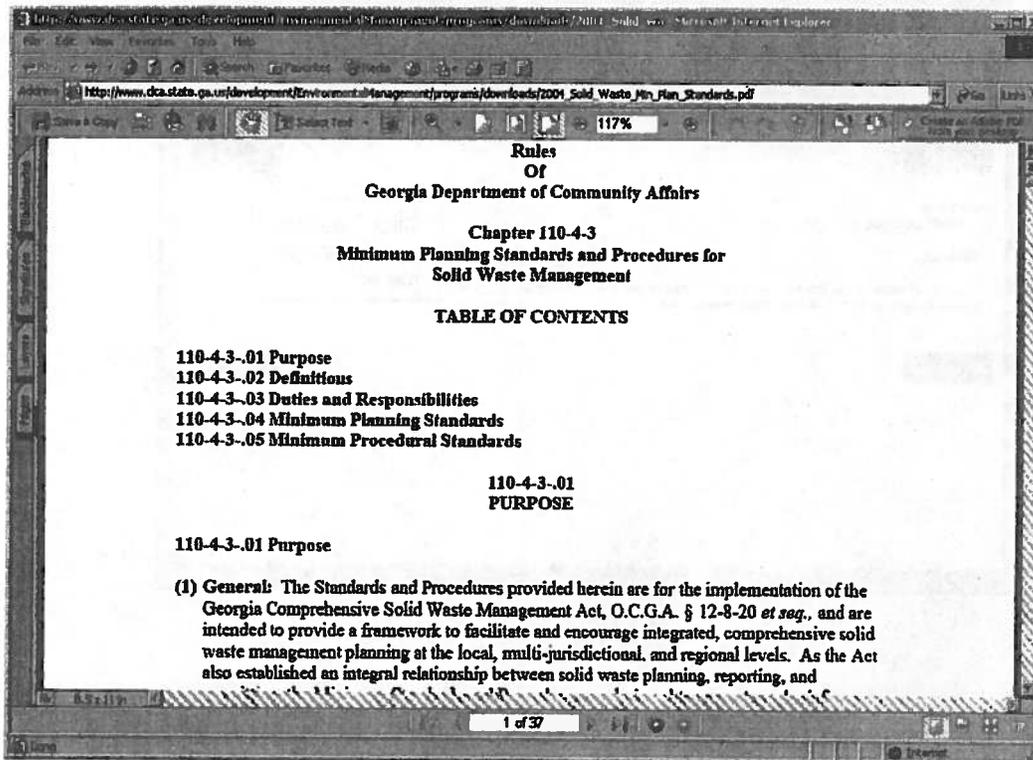
For more information, email the Office of Environmental Management or call 404-678-3144.

Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

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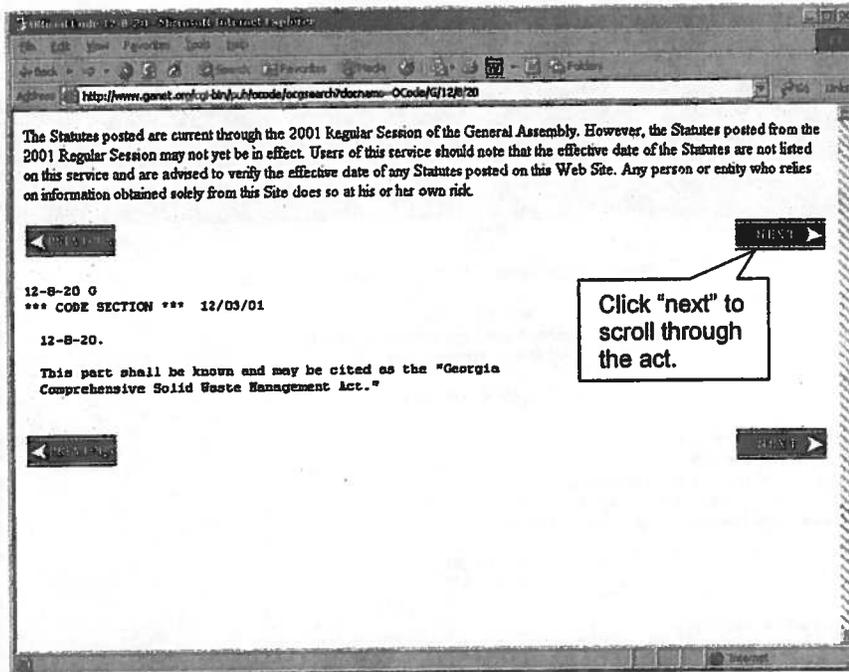
Internet reference for the State's *Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management*:

www.dca.state.ga.us/development/EnvironmentalManagement/programs/downloads/2004_Solid_Waste_Min_Plan_Standards.pdf



Internet reference for the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act:

www.ganet.org/cgi-bin/pub/ocode/ocgsearch?docname=OCODE/G/12/8/20



FIVE-YEAR UPDATE

For The

***JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF
CHATSWORTH AND ETON***

Submitted Jointly By

Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton

To the Georgia Department of Community Affairs

In Fulfillment of the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures

[Revision August 23, 2010]

Final Adoption Version

October 5, 2010

FOREWARD

This Solid Waste Management Plan, Five-Year Update has been completed in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures promulgated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The Five-year Update includes: A Report of Accomplishments for the years 2005-2010 (six years); a new Implementation Schedule in the form of a new Five-Year Short-Term Work Program for the years 2011-2015; a new waste generation table with new population projections; and an Assurance Letter that 10-years of disposal capacity remains for Murray County, Chatsworth, and Eton.

In compliance with creating public participation opportunities, this Solid Waste Plan was the subject of an initial public hearing on June 8, 2010, to explain the planning process. A second and final public hearing was held on July 28, 2010 which allowed the public the opportunity to review the draft plan documents as proposed and to make contributory comments on the drafts. At the conclusion of this last hearing, the local governments, jointly participating in this plan update, each adopted a Transmittal Resolution to initiate the State review process.

[Note: The paragraphs and table below are updated in August 2010 and are proposed to replace similar paragraphs and a Table 5 produced in the *Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton, 2005-2014.*]

1.2. Waste Stream Generation: Base Year

A waste study was conducted in Murray County in 1991 in conjunction with the preparation of the 1993 *Murray County Solid Waste Management Plan*. The study was conducted over a two-week time period by trained personnel. All waste entering the Murray County Landfill was weighed at the landfill scales and the composition of the waste was recorded through visual inspection of each load. The composition was estimated to be 28.3 percent residential waste, 7.4 percent commercial waste, and 64.3 percent industrial waste. (See Table 5 below.)

Using the data that was collected then, and using 2009 as the base year for population and employment, as well as the total tonnage for all wastes, estimates of annual waste generation for the County were derived. These are also illustrated in Table 5. The residential waste generation rate was calculated to be 0.428 tons of waste per capita per year (17,389 tons ÷ 40,621 persons). The commercial and industrial waste generation rates were 0.63 and 6.51 tons of waste per employee per year, respectively.

Table 5. Waste Generation Estimates

		Tons of Waste	Percent of Total Waste	Population and Employment (2009)	Annual Tons of Waste Per Capita	Annual Tons of Waste Per Employee	Pounds of Waste Per person Per Day
MSW	Residential	17,389	28.3%	40,621	0.428		
	Commercial	4,547	7.4%	7,217		0.630	
	Total MSW	21,936	35.7%		0.540		2.95
All Waste	Industrial	39,510	64.3%	6,069		6.51	
	Total All Waste	61,447	100.0%		1.512		8.28

Sources: NWGRC Population Projections (residential shows total population ; commercial and industrial show employment); a 1991 Waste Study for Murray County (regarding percentages of the waste stream); and the total waste tonnage (61,447 in 2009) is provided by Georgia EPD.

1.3. Waste Stream Generation: Projections

Table 6 below is new and one of the components desired by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs within the Five-Year Solid Waste Plan Update. The residential, commercial, and industrial waste generation rates provided in Table 5 on page 7 (last column) of the October 2005 Joint Solid Waste Management Plan are assumed to be the same and were applied to new projections of total population, total commercial employment, and total industrial employment (rows a, b, and g) to obtain figures for residential, commercial, and industrial waste (rows c, d, and h). The footnotes at the base of the table show the multipliers.

Compared to the Table 6 that was originally published in the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan in 2005, the population totals and projections are much more conservative below. In 2005, the economy was good and growth was reasonable and steady, however by late 2007 the economy began to slide downward with the housing and banking debacle so that full recession was realized through all of 2008 and into early 2009. Then 2009 began to tick upward in some markets, but business failures and high unemployment continued. Industrial layoffs were commonplace. The same business pattern prevails in 2010 and there are few hopes that much will change in 2011, thus the population projections below begin with lower numbers than those published in 2005 and growth is held at a slower rate to the end of the planning period, 2011-2020.

Table 6. Projected Waste Stream Generation Based Upon 2009 Generation Rates from Table 5 and Assuming No Reduction in Waste Generation*

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
a. Total Population** (persons)	40,621	40,686	40,957	41,228	41,769	42,310	42,851	43,392	43,933	44,474	45,015	45,556
b. Commercial Employment	7,217	7,723	8,230	8,736	9,243	9,749	10,256	10,762	11,269	11,775	12,182	12,788
c. Residential Waste (tons per year)	17,389	17,413	17,530	17,645	17,877	18,108	18,340	18,572	18,803	19,035	19,266	19,498
d. Commercial Waste (tons per year)	4,547	4,865	5,185	5,504	5,823	6,142	6,461	6,780	7,099	7,418	7,675	8,056
e. Total Tons of MSW Per Year	21,936	22,278	22,715	23,149	23,700	24,251	24,801	25,352	25,902	26,453	26,941	27,534

f. Pounds of MSW per Person per Day	2.95	3.00	3.03	3.07	3.10	3.14	3.17	3.20	3.23	3.26	3.28	3.31
g. Industrial Employment	6,069	5,614	5,842	6,069	6,297	6,524	6,752	6,979	7,207	7,434	7,662	7,889
h. Industrial Waste (tons per year)	39,510	36,547	38,031	39,509	40,993	42,471	43,956	45,433	46,918	48,395	49,880	51,357
i. Total Tons of Waste per Year***	61,447	58,825	60,746	62,658	64,693	66,722	68,757	70,785	72,820	74,848	76,821	78,911
j. Total Tons per Capita	1.51	1.45	1.48	1.52	1.55	1.58	1.60	1.63	1.65	1.68	1.71	1.73
k. Pounds per Person per Day	8.28	7.94	8.10	8.32	8.49	8.65	8.76	8.93	9.04	9.20	9.36	9.47

Calculations used in table above:

$c = a * 0.428$	$h = g * 6.51$
$d = b * 0.630$	$i = e + h$
$e = c + d$	$j = i + a$
$f = e + a * 2000 + 365$	$k = j * 2000 + 365$

* Includes MSW and industrial wastes only.

** Population projections are by the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission beginning with the 2009 population totals published by the U. S. Census. The recession of late 2007 through early 2009 is considered in terms of post-recessionary recovery in 2010 and 2011 (slower growth), then in 2012 the population projection is held constant to the end of the period. Commercial and industrial employment is derived from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, April 2010.

*** Total Tons of Waste Per Year in 2009 generated in Murray County according to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. This tonnage is the base year and the basis for all future estimates. The multipliers created in Table 5 were based on the 2009 tonnage total and division of the waste stream similar to 1991 (28.3 % residential; 7.4% commercial; and 64.3% industrial).

[The below paragraph is proposed for inclusion under **Section 2.2 Assessment of Waste Reduction Programs and Facilities** in the original *Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton, 2005-2014*. The proposed paragraph provides an informational update regarding a potential opportunity at the present Westside Landfill Site and the paragraph is proposed to be added as the last paragraph appearing under the above referenced Section.]

2.2.1. Potential Waste-to-Energy Project

Murray County has entered into a contract with a private company that proposes to create a waste-to-energy facility, located on 12.5 acres of the Murray County Westside Landfill site. The contract, executed in 2010, is for a one-year period to await available financing for the facility/concept, that if implemented, would propose to convert MSW into time released fertilizer and liquid fuels, thus expanding the future disposal capacity of the Westside Landfill site. If feasible, the facility/company would seek necessary State and local permits prior to actual implementation.

2010 REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

For the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton, 2005-2014

--- Proposed Implementation Schedule, 2005 - 2014

[Reporting for 2005 through 2010 (six years).]

ACTIVITY	YEAR PROPOSED	STATUS ¹				Explanation if postponed or dropped
		Complete	Underway	Postponed	Dropped	
WASTE REDUCTION						
Continue current recycling programs at the landfill and expand recycling programs where feasible.	2005 to 2014		X			The Landfill site allows recycling; convenience centers hope to offer recycling in the future but budget constraints have delayed full implementation. The "Keep Chatsworth-Murray Beautiful" program operates a site six-days a week that is successful and includes "call-in" opportunities for recycling pick-ups.
Establish a group that will develop and conduct a public education program to promote recycling and coordinate anti-littering programs.	2006	X				The "Keep Chatsworth-Murray Beautiful" group, affiliated with Keep America Beautiful, is viable and operating.
Investigate recycling alternatives including "pay-as-you-throw" and diverting recyclable plastics.	2006		X			Similar to the first item above. Local budget limitations have restricted progress.
COLLECTION						
Provide additional convenience centers as the need arises.	2010			X		Postponed due to local budget constraints.
Investigate the feasibility of providing recycling facilities for household recyclables at all convenience centers.	2006			X		Postponed due to local budget constraints.
Pursue grant funding, when available, to provide additional recycling facilities or new composting/chipping programs.	2005-2014		X			Grant funds are in short supply.
DISPOSAL						
Maintain contract with Santek to manage the Murray County Westside Landfill and review contract periodically.	2005-2014		X			The current relationship with Murray County is considered workable and a long-term relationship is anticipated.
Purchase a tub grinder.	2006			X		Postponed due to local budget constraints.
LAND LIMITATIONS						

Ensure that entities which intend to locate solid waste handling facilities in the county follow the plan consistency guidelines outlined in Element 5.	2005-2014	X				Murray County and the cities intend to operate solid waste facilities in compliance with State law.
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT						
Establish a group that will develop and conduct a public education program to promote recycling and coordinate anti-littering programs.	2006	X				The "Keep Chatsworth-Murray Beautiful" group has taken on this task.
Promote coordinated public education efforts through the County, Cities, and other groups. Education shall include, but not be limited to promoting recycling at home, the opportunity to obtain mulch at the public landfill, the practicality of reusing articles, the value of reduction habits, and cooperating with Whitfield County in the recycling of plastics.	2005-2014	X				The "Keep Chatsworth-Murray Beautiful" group has taken on this task.
Consider stiffer penalties for littering.	2006	X				Fines were increased for violations during the report period.
OTHER						
Adopt Solid Waste Management Plan	2005	X				The Plan was adopted in November 2005.

Implementation Schedule

The following strategies are intended to achieve the needs and goals.

Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Schedule for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton

Project or Activity	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
1--WASTE REDUCTION								
1A Continue current recycling programs at the landfill and expand recycling programs where feasible (convenience centers).	x	x	x	x	x	Murray County	Variable	General Fund (Minimal)
1B Continue to investigate recycling alternatives including "pay-as-you-throw," diverting plastics and other materials.	x	x	x	x	x	Murray County	Staff Time	General Fund (Minimal)
1C Encourage the establishment of a waste-to-energy program that will make use of municipal solid waste and convert to fertilizer and liquid fuels.	x					Murray County; Private Sector	---	Private Funds
2--COLLECTION								
2A Provide additional convenience center locations as the need arises.			x	x		Murray County	\$130,000 each	General Fund
2B Investigate the feasibility of providing recycling facilities for household recyclables at all convenience centers.			x			Murray County	Variable	General Fund
3B Pursue grant funding to provide additional recycling facilities or composting/chipping programs.		x	x	x	x	Murray County	Variable	General Fund; State Grants
3--DISPOSAL								
3A Maintain a renewable contract with Santek, or equivalent private sector entity, to manage the Murray County Westside Landfill.	x	x	x	x	x	Murray County; Private Sector	Variable	General Fund
3B Purchase a tub grinder.			x			Murray County	\$140,000	General Fund

Project or Activity	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
4--LAND LIMITATION								
4A. Ensure that entities which intend to locate solid waste handling facilities in the county follow the plan consistency guidelines outlined in Element 5.	x	x	x	x	x	Murray County	Staff Time	-----
5--EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT								
5A. Promote coordinated public education efforts through the county, cities, and other groups. Education shall include, but not be limited to promoting recycling at home, the opportunity to obtain mulch at the public landfill, the practicality of reusing articles, and cooperating with Whitfield County in the recycling of plastics.	x	x	x	x	x	Murray County, Chatsworth, Eton; Keep Chatsworth-Murray Beautiful	Staff time	General Fund; grants
6--OTHER								



650 25th Street, N.W., Suite 100
Cleveland, Tennessee 37311
(423) 476-8160
Toll Free: 1-800-457-8160
Fax: (423) 475-1892

August 31, 2010

David Ridley,
Sole Commissioner, Murray County
P. O. Box 1129
Chatsworth, GA 30705

Dear Mr. Ridley:

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Murray County governments from 2010-2020. The Georgia EPD permit number for the Santek-managed solid waste landfill in Murray County, Georgia is 105-014D. This assurance is based upon Murray County governments disposing of approximately 78,920 tons of waste at this facility on an annual basis.

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

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Dunson
Vice-President of Marketing

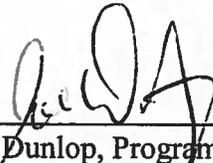
(423) 303-7107 - Office
(423) 303-7150 - Fax

*Landfill Solutions Under
Local Government Authority*

Printed on recycled paper.

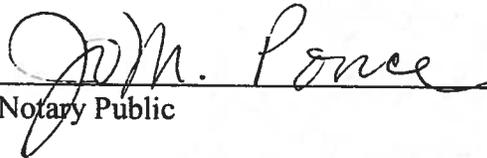
Certification

I hereby certify that I am an officer of the public entity shown below and that I hold the title indicated. The 67 pages attached hereto are true, correct, and accurate copies of the original and current adopted Solid Waste Management Plan and Short-Term Work Program Update for Murray County and the cities of Chatsworth and Eton as documented and maintained in my office.



Joe Dunlop, Program Coordinator
Office of Sustainable Development
Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Sworn to and subscribed
Before me this 15th day of October, 2010



Notary Public

JO M. PONCE
Notary Public, Cobb County, Georgia
My Commission Expires Feb. 17, 2012



**COMMISSIONER OF
MURRAY COUNTY**

P.O. BOX 1129/121 NORTH 4TH AVE., CHATSWORTH, GA 30705
TELEPHONE 706-517-1400 FAX 706-517-5193

**RESOLUTION
TO ADOPT THE
FIVE-YEAR UPDATE
FOR THE
JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR
MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

Whereas, the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires county and municipal governments to prepare a local solid waste management plan and periodic update; and

Whereas, Murray County, Georgia has compiled, reviewed, and modified a Five-Year Update to the *Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton*; and

Whereas, Murray County has complied with the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management (Chapter 110-4-3) including public participation requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Murray County Sole Commissioner that the document entitled *Five-Year Solid Waste Update For the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton* be officially approved and adopted.

SO RESOLVED THIS 5th Day of October, 2010.

BY: *Dominic Rieley*
Sole Commissioner, Murray County

ATTEST: *Charlene N. [Signature]*
County Clerk, Murray County



**RESOLUTION
TO ADOPT THE**

**FIVE-YEAR UPDATE
FOR THE
JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR
MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

Whereas, the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires county and municipal governments to prepare a local solid waste management plan and periodic update; and

Whereas, the City of Eton, Georgia has compiled, reviewed, and modified a Five-Year Update to the *Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton*; and

Whereas, the City of Eton has complied with the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management (Chapter 110-4-3) including public participation requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Eton that the document entitled *Five-Year Update For the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan of Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton* be officially approved and adopted.

SO RESOLVED THIS 5th Day of October, 2010.

BY:

Billy Cantrell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim Hall, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION
TO ADOPT THE

FIVE-YEAR UPDATE
FOR THE
JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR
MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

Whereas, the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires county and municipal governments to prepare a local solid waste management plan and periodic update; and

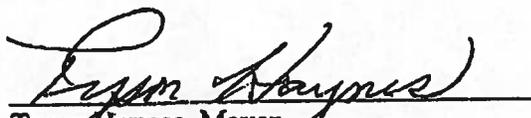
Whereas, the City of Chatsworth, Georgia has compiled, reviewed, and modified a Five-Year Update to the *Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton*; and

Whereas, the City of Chatsworth has complied with the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management (Chapter 110-4-3) including public participation requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Chatsworth that the document entitled *Five-Year Update For the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan of Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton* be officially approved and adopted.

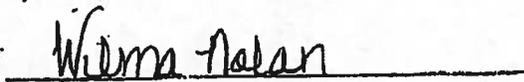
SO RESOLVED THIS 4th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2010 AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL, AND EFFECTIVE ON OCTOBER 5TH, 2010.

BY:



Tyson Haynes, Mayor

ATTEST:



Wilma Nolan, City Clerk

October 15, 2010

Honorable David Ridley
Chair, Murray County Commission
Post Office Box 1129
Chatsworth, GA 30705-1129

Dear Chairman Ridley:

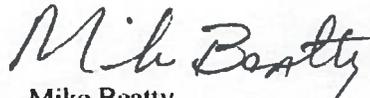
Congratulations on the recent adoption of your Short Term Work Program, Solid Waste Management 5 Year Update! In recognition of Murray County's impressive achievement, the Department of Community Affairs is honored to award solid waste permit, loan and grant eligibility to your community.

Now begins the challenging work of implementing this plan. A community's plan is its clearly articulated vision for the future. We therefore believe that the plan should provide a framework for making sound decisions regarding Murray County's long-term growth and development. We hope that you and other decision makers will refer to it as a management and policy tool in the day-to-day decisions you make concerning the community, and we expect that, if you do, all of your community's residents will enjoy an improved quality of life.

Please note that this award has no effect upon you community's compliance with the Service Delivery Strategy Act (O.C.G.A. 36-70-20). Please visit our website at www.georgiaplanning.com/planners/qlgdeadlines/ to keep abreast of upcoming planning deadlines for your community.

A number of assistance resources are available to help you with implementing your plan. These are listed in the attachment. Please don't hesitate to contact DCA's Office of Sustainable Development or your Regional Commission with any questions or assistance needs you may have. Best wishes for the successful implementation of your plan!

Sincerely,



Mike Beatty
Commissioner

MB/nah

Attachment

cc: William R. Steiner, Northwest Georgia RC Executive Director
David Howcrin, Northwest Georgia RC Planning Director



RESOURCES FOR LOCAL PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND QUALITY GROWTH

Guidebooks, Tools, etc.

- PQG offers several guidebooks on various aspects of plan development and implementation, including:
 - "Selecting a Plan Preparer," explains how best to go about selecting someone to help your community develop their comprehensive plan.
 - "Why Do We Plan?" provides an overview of planning, its benefits, and why it is important.
 - "Planning for Community Involvement" focuses on tools, techniques and best practices for effectively involving stakeholders and the general public in your local planning process.
 - "Discovering and Planning Your Community Character" describes character areas, provides tools and techniques for identifying character areas, and discusses the processes for developing a vision for your community.These guidebooks are available at www.georgiaplanning.com or by calling (404) 679-5279.
- DCA's Office of Sustainable Development and its partner organizations offer periodic Community Planning Institute (CPI) workshops on how to prepare, implement, and get the most out of your comprehensive plan. Call (404) 679-5279 or visit www.georgiaplanning.com for details and schedule of upcoming training events.
- If you're looking for help with selling your community on planning and quality growth ideas, visit our "Selling Planning and Quality Growth" webpage at www.dca.state.ga.us/development/PlanningQualityGrowth/programs/selling.asp
- Digital data and maps specific to your community are provided for download and use at www.georgiaplanning.com.
- A *Quality Community Objectives Assessment* tool is available to assist with evaluating the community's current policies, activities and development patterns for consistency with DCA's Quality Community Objectives. It can be accessed at www.georgiaplanning.com.
- The Model Development Code provides a number of viable alternatives to conventional zoning. The code is presented as a relatively simple, modular, set of land use management techniques that can be pieced together to create unique regulations tailored to fit local circumstances. The Model Code may be accessed at www.georgiaplanning.com.

Getting good ideas

- The *State Planning Recommendations* are intended to give you good ideas for all aspects of your planning and plan implementation process. They include lists of issues and opportunities; recommended character areas and development strategies for each; suggested stakeholders and public participation techniques; recommended development patterns to encourage; implementation best practices;

and suggested policies. They are available on our website at:

<http://www.dca.state.ga.us/development/PlanningQualityGrowth/index.asp>

- OPQG provides examples of good local plans that we've previously reviewed on the Georgia Planning website at www.georgiaplanning.com.
- Peruse the Quality Growth Resource Team Reports to see recommendations made by our team of experts on visits to various communities around the state. These can be accessed by choosing the "Resource Teams" link on our Georgia Quality Growth website at www.georgiaqualitygrowth.com.

The requirements, plain and simple

- Office of Sustainable Development's requirements for content and process of developing the required plan updates are found on the web at www.georgiaplanning.com. These include:
 - *Local Planning Requirements* – Qualified Local Government (QLG) designation is linked to the successful completion of the update of your Comprehensive Plan in accordance with these requirements. QLG designation enables your local government to maintain its eligibility for grants and loans from DCA, the Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority as well as other state agency assistance.
 - *Minimum Planning Standards for Solid Waste Planning*. Eligibility for solid waste grants, loans and permits from the State, depends upon your local government's Solid Waste Management Plan, which must be prepared in accordance with these standards.
 - *Revising an Existing Service Delivery Strategy* – provides details about reviewing and/or revising your existing Service Delivery Strategy.
 - *Capital Improvements Element* – in order to legally charge impact fees, a local government must include a Capital Improvements Element (CIE) in its Comprehensive Plan. A local government that does not currently include a CIE in its plan can amend the Comprehensive Plan to include a CIE at any time if it wishes to initiate an impact fee program.

2005 NOV 21 PM 3:29 RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
THE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

WHEREAS Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014; and,

WHEREAS the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans as established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Planning, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and,

WHEREAS the North Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) scheduled a regional hearing and the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was reviewed by the RDC with positive findings; and

WHEREAS Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan and found it in compliance with the State required Minimum Planning Standards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Murray County does hereby adopt the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Chatsworth and Eton 2005-2014.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of November, 2005.

BY:

Jim Uebel

ATTEST:

Stacie Moss

2005 NOV 21 PM 3: 28

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
THE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

WHEREAS Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014; and,

WHEREAS the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans as established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Planning, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and,

WHEREAS the North Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) scheduled a regional hearing and the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was reviewed by the RDC with positive findings; and

WHEREAS Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan and found it in compliance with the State required Minimum Planning Standards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that CITY OF CHATSWORTH does hereby adopt the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Chatsworth and Eton 2005-2014.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of November, 2005.

BY:

ATTEST:

Jeany Sanford

Wilma Nolan

2005 NOV 21 PM 3: 28

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
THE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MURRAY COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF CHATSWORTH AND ETON**

WHEREAS Murray County and the Cities of Chatsworth and Eton have prepared a Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005 to 2014; and,

WHEREAS the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans as established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and,

WHEREAS two joint public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Planning, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and,

WHEREAS the North Georgia Regional Development Center (RDC) scheduled a regional hearing and the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan was reviewed by the RDC with positive findings; and

WHEREAS Department of Community Affairs has reviewed the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan and found it in compliance with the State required Minimum Planning Standards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Eton does hereby adopt the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan for Chatsworth and Eton 2005-2014.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of November, 2005.

BY:

ATTEST:

