

2006 REVIEW OF  
DOUGLAS/JEFFERSON COUNTIES  
REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The eleven-member Douglas/Jefferson Counties Regional Solid Waste Management Committee met on April 18, 2006 for the annual review of the SWM Plan as required by K.S.A. 65-3405(c). The following committee members attended the annual review:

| <u>Member Name</u> | <u>Agency</u>                             |
|--------------------|---|
| Roy Pasley         | Lecompton City Council                    |
| Mike Russell       | KU Environmental, Health and Safety Dept. |
| Bob Yoos           | Lawrence Public Works, Solid Waste Div.   |
| Charlie Sedlock    | Hamm, Inc.                                |
| Lynn Luck          | JFCO Commission                           |
| Eloise Tichenor    | JFCO Zoning                               |
| Mark Richards      | JFCO Auxiliary Services                   |
| Charles Jones      | DGCO Commission                           |
| Keith Browning     | DGCO Public Works                         |

Also in attendance to observe the SWM Plan review meeting was Laura Routh, Douglas County citizen and KDHE employee.

The original Douglas/Jefferson Counties Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared by Franklin Associates in 1996. The Five-Year Review of the SWM Plan was prepared in 2003 and approved by KDHE in 2004.

The following sections of the SWM Plan were reviewed.

Planned Changes/Additions to Solid Waste Management (Chapter 11-5)

1. Expanded HHW collection services.

An additional HHW building facility has been constructed at the Douglas County Public Works Department's Operations yard. The Lawrence HHW collection facility continues to accept HHW by appointment throughout the week. No other HHW changes. The Small Quantity Generator program remains fully operational, and is available to the private sector. Some collections have occurred in the communities of Baldwin and Eudora, mostly from schools.

Jefferson County continues to operate a HHW daily drop-off center in Oskaloosa. Jefferson County has experienced increasing HHW quantities. They are hoping to expand in the future, though no plans are finalized.

There was discussion of the high use of HHW facilities even though recycling is not required by law. It is an ethical choice by citizens to recycle.

2. Mobile drop-off center for household recyclables in Jefferson County.

Jefferson County has borrowed a mobile drop-off center from Leavenworth County, and has an event planned in Meriden on April 22. They are planning future drop-off events.

No mobile drop-off service has been established in Douglas County.

3. Recovery of non-residential waste paper by the City of Lawrence.

The City of Lawrence has continued recycling programs for cardboard and office paper. The City has increased the number of OCC and ONP drop-off locations.

4. Rural waste drop-off centers for bulky items.

Jefferson County has continued to operate a drop-off center for bulky items at the county shop in Oskaloosa. There is no charge to JFCO residents for the drop-off service. Lonnie's Recycling (Lawrence) regularly picks up these bulky items.

The City of Lawrence continues to offer pick-up and processing of bulky items for city residents. Pick-ups are by appointment. The City removes freon from white goods in accordance with EPA regulations prior to hauling to landfill.

Drop-off centers have not been established in Douglas County outside of Lawrence at this time.

The EPA regulations for removing freon from white goods was discussed. Charlie Sedlock will send information to Mark Richards and Charles Jones. Mike Russell indicated freon recovery equipment costs approximately \$800 to \$1200.

There was discussion of Douglas County starting a drop-off program for bulky wastes. The possibility of Douglas County partnering with the City of Lawrence was discussed.

KU has a bulky waste collection system on campus.

5. City-provided waste collection service (including bulky wastes) for all single-family households.

No change. This is provided in the City of Lawrence. Private collectors serve the other communities in the two-county region.

6. Variable rate fees for grass and leaves collected by the City of Lawrence.

This is not currently being proposed. Grass and leaves are collected for composting at no extra charge.

Potential Future Changes/Additions to Solid Waste Management (Chapter 11-7)

1. City-provided curbside recycling service for single-family households in the cities.

No change. This continues to be evaluated in the City of Lawrence. The long-term viability of such a program is still in question due to the high cost of implementation and operation, the lack of markets for many materials which would be collected, and the low value of recyclables that have markets. The City continues to aggressively provide and support the drop-off programs available to residents, and achieved a 34% recycling rate in 2004.

Wal-Mart has opened a larger and more user-friendly recycling center. There are three private haulers in Lawrence.

2. Collection of leaves and grass clippings (in Lawrence) in biodegradable paper bags.

No change. The City of Lawrence has a tubgrinder, which allows yard waste to be collected in paper bags. Plastic bags are not allowed. Lawrence has an approximately 98% satisfaction rate with the use of paper bags only. Brush and other yard waste is also collected with grass and leaves thereby increasing the diversion of these wastes from the landfill.

The City of Lawrence has a compost site open and operational. The City conducts a spring giveaway of all compost material available after the needs of the City Parks & Rec. Department are satisfied.

3. Collection of hazardous waste from small quantity generators that are currently exempt from hazardous waste regulations.

No change. The City of Lawrence continues the on-going collection of hazardous waste from SQG's. The program includes the private sector as well as governmental units (cities, county, and schools).

Other Items of Discussion.

1. Waste Tire Collections.

There was discussion regarding availability of KDHE grant money for waste tire collection events. Bob Yoos will have Mollie Mangerich research and provide information. Both Douglas County and Jefferson County indicated a willingness to cooperate on waste tire collection events. Charlie Sedlock indicated Hamm's would be willing to provide a site for a collection event.

## 2. Consumer Electronics

There was discussion about KDHE's failed attempt to gain legislative approval for establishing a consumer electronics collections center in each county in the state.

Hamm Landfill continues to accept small, household quantities of electronics, and steers larger loads to recyclers.

KU still processes computers and monitors on campus. Their effort to utilize computer leasing did not come to fruition. The City of Lawrence, Jefferson County and Douglas County currently recycle in-house electronic items.

## 3. Debris Management

Charlie Sedlock indicated his desire to discuss a Debris Management plan with Douglas County, City of Lawrence, and Jefferson County. Douglas County Emergency Management has prepared a debris management plan for the City of Lawrence and Douglas County, but the plan is rather general. Details are needed. Issues such as staging areas, clean burn sites, agreements with property owners need to be finalized. Jefferson County has no formal debris management plan at this time.

Debris management problems for the gulf coast resulting from Hurricane Katrina were discussed. In the event of a disaster, enormous quantities of debris are generated.

## 4. General SWM Issues

- (a) Fluorescent light bulbs – the City of Lawrence is accepting these at the HHW collections center; KU utilizes a Missouri recycling company, and currently recycles 20,000 – 30,000 fluorescent bulbs per year.
- (b) Hamm Landfill - It was noted that Hamm's Landfill opened a new cell since last year.

## 5. SWM Plan status

The committee found that the SWM Plan is still valid. No significant updates to the Plan are required at this time.