



Talking Trash

In Carteret, Craven and Pamlico Counties

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Our Mission

The Coastal Environmental Partnership's mission is to produce a cleaner, safer and healthier environment by providing, operating and managing an economically and technically sound municipal solid waste management system for the citizens of Carteret, Craven and Pamlico counties.

Did You Know...?

- The Tuscarora Landfill received over 21,000 tons of vegetative debris from Hurricane Irene.
- Recycling one glass bottle can power a computer for 30 Minutes.
- 1 recycled plastic bottle would save enough energy to power a 30-watt light bulb for 6 hours.

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Paper, Plastic or BYOB?

I can remember when you had no choice between paper or plastic when choosing a transporting method for your groceries. No, that wasn't during the dark ages. The plastic bag was introduced November 1, 1974.

Then you had a choice. Paper or plastic? I first chose plastic bags because they were new, had handles and could be reused in many different ways.

It wasn't too long after that I learned the 3 R's; reduce, reuse, recycle. I could reduce my waste by using a reusable bag or I could reuse my plastic bags. I could recycle my paper bags at the convenience centers or take my plastic bags back to the grocery store for recycling. Whew! What's a girl to do?

Just when I thought it was safe to go back in the store, plastic bags became synonymous with litter and reusable cloth bags were thought to be easy to harbor E. coli. Both areas of concern are preventable.



In regards to the litter, secure the plastic bags when disposing or recycling. Not only are strewn plastic bags an eyesore, they are deadly. To a turtle a plastic bag looks like dinner. After consuming the bag the turtle may feel full but it hasn't received any nutrients. The turtle will eventually die.

I started using my reusable cloth bags. What could go wrong there? Well let me tell you. Some folks think the bags can become a health hazard. What? It is certainly possible but unlikely if you ask for plastic bags for meat containers. Leaked juice from a meat container in a cloth bag in a hot trunk could make for an unpleasant experience. Another preventable situation; Most of the cashiers in my community automatically use plastic bags for meat when they see I have cloth bags. If they don't notice, I ask. Simple as that. In areas where plastic bags are banned single-use plastic bags can still be used for fresh fish, meat, poultry, or produce.

Who knows what will be next? But you can bet this Mama will have a brand new bag.



Raleigh Report



Allen M. Hardison

I've been asked to do a column for each of our newsletters about what's going on in Raleigh from a legislative or regulatory perspective that affects, or might affect, solid waste disposal. This first column is being written while the legislature is out of session, so there's not a lot going on, at least not out in the open. But many groups are preparing for the short session that begins in May and getting legislation ready for consideration.

The short session, held in even-numbered years, is designed to be only for fine-tuning the biennial State budget. But this year, several things are coming into play that could make things very interesting. First, the Republican-led legislature began a set of measures last year to introduce regulatory reform. A Joint House-Senate committee was formed, and some laws were passed last year to slow down the proliferation of new rules and to repeal some rules. That effort is ongoing and it appears that some additional legislation regarding regulatory reform will come up in the short session. Second, as a result of re-districting, there are at least 44 seats of the 170 total in the General Assembly that will be open this election year. That means the incumbent member is not running for re-election in that seat. With 44 members not returning to their seats, we could see a lot of lame-duck legislation, where members are not concerned about re-election and will push some pet projects or programs for adoption.

Our region will also see a lot of changes in our representation in Raleigh. Craven County is now divided among three legislative districts. Those districts cover parts of Wayne, Greene, Lenoir, Beaufort, Pamlico, Craven, Carteret and Jones counties.

On the regulatory front, there is little going on that affects solid waste disposal at present. The new legislation concerning adoption of rules, has pretty much stopped any new rule-making. However, the Federal EPA is still finalizing greenhouse gas rules that could affect landfills through regulation of methane gas. Our landfill gas is captured and sold for electric power generation and complies with all current regulations, but the reporting requirements are very burdensome and expensive and appear likely to increase.



Compost for Sale!



That's right. The compost produced at the Tuscarora Landfill is on sale half price, \$15 per ton. That's less than one cent per pound. For the price of three cups of high end coffee you could buy a ton of compost.

This sale will run through the end of April. It applies only to compost. The compost is on sale only at the Tuscarora Landfill.

The hours to pick up the compost are 8 am—4 pm M-F and 8am—1pm Saturday.

Chris Harker...Eagle Scout



Congratulations Chris Harker. He recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Chris is a member of Troop 13, sponsored by Centenary United Methodist Church located in New Bern.

For his project Chris made a model of the Tuscarora Landfill. It included Ingenco's LFG to Energy operation.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). A Scout who attains this rank is called an *Eagle Scout* or *Eagle*. Since its introduction in 1911, the Eagle Scout rank has been earned by more than 2 million young men. The title of Eagle Scout is held for life, thus giving rise to the phrase "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle."

Requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges and demonstrating Scout Spirit through the Boy Scout Oath and Law, service, and leadership. This includes an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. Eagle Scouts are presented with a medal and a badge that visibly recognizes the accomplishments of the Scout. Additional recognition can be earned through Eagle Palms, awarded for completing additional tenure, leadership, and merit badge requirements.



The History of Trash Part 2

- 1710** Colonists in Virginia commonly bury their trash. Holes are filled with building debris, broken glass or ceramic objects, oyster shells and animal bones. They also throw away hundreds of suits of armor that were sent to protect colonists from arrows of native inhabitants.
- 1776** The first metal recycling in America occurs when patriots in New York City melt down a statue of King George III and make it into bullets.
- 1800** Pigs loose in city streets throughout the country eat garbage and leave their own wastes behind.
- 1800** Visitors describe New York City as a "nasal disaster, where some streets smell like bad eggs dissolved in ammonia."
- 1810** The tin can is patented in London by Peter Durand.
- 1834** Charleston, West Virginia, enacts a law protecting vultures from hunters. The birds help eat the city's garbage.



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