



# Talking Trash

In Carteret, Craven and Pamlico Counties

Volume 9 Issue 3

Summer 2009

## 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...?

- America's first paper mill opened in 1690 in Philadelphia. It made paper from recycled cotton, linen and used paper.
- Americans generated 83 million tons of paper products in 2007 and recycled about 54% of that.

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## Message From the Director

### Economic Downturn Affects the Waste Business Too

With housing construction down and the economy generally sluggish, Americans are sending less to the landfill. This is a national trend, but is very evident here in the CEP service area. Since July 1, 2008, deliveries of waste in the CEP service area have dropped over 7% from the previous year. As consumption declines, so does the amount of waste we send to the landfill. Construction and Demolition waste is down even more. So what does this mean?

First of all, we are consuming less landfill space and that's a good thing. But it also means our operating revenues are down and that's not a good thing. Most of the costs of operating a landfill are fixed and less incoming waste means

less money to pay the bills. In the case of CEP it also means there is less money available to put into capital reserve for future landfill cells and equipment replacement.



**Allen M. Hardison**  
Executive Director

Our next landfill cell is estimated to cost around \$11.5 million and will need to be ready by early 2011. To have the capital to pay for the new cell, we have to keep placing a considerable amount of money into capital reserve each year.

Last year, the State of NC enacted a \$2.00 per ton state

tax on all waste going into landfills. The CEP "absorbed" this tax at a cost of over \$400,000 per year. Unfortunately, the current reduction in our revenues will not allow us to continue to absorb this tax. Our fee schedule for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 reflects an increase of \$2.00 per ton to get our base tipping fee back to \$34.00 per ton. A complete schedule of fees effective July 1, 2009 is included inside this newsletter.

When the economy turns around, we hope to see revenues increase in response. When we opened in 1993, our base fee was \$37.00 per ton. Sixteen years later, we are at \$34.00 per ton. We think that is proof of our commitment to keep waste disposal costs as low as possible.

## Rate Change

In 2008, NC General Statute 105-187.61 mandated an excise tax of \$2 per ton that was placed on all municipal solid waste and construction and demolition material brought into NC permitted landfills and transfer stations. At that time the Partnership reduced the landfill tipping fee for MSW and C&D to \$32 per ton. The \$2 per ton excise tax brought the total tipping fee back to \$34 and we absorbed the \$2 per ton increase.

Effective July 1, 2009 the tipping fee will increase to \$34 per ton. The \$2 tax added to that will bring the current rate to \$36 per ton. \$12.50 per ton is included in the transfer station fees for MSW, Yard Waste, Pallets, C&D and contaminated loads. That cost is for transportation and will remain the same.

	<u>Regional Landfill, Tuscarora</u>	<u>Transfer Stations</u>
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	\$34.00/Ton	\$46.50/Ton
Yard Waste (YW)	\$15.00/Ton	\$27.50/Ton
Pallets	\$15.00/Ton	\$27.50/Ton
Special Handling (asbestos, etc.)	\$75.00/Ton	Not Accepted
Minimum Charge	\$ 1.00	\$1.00
Penalty Charge - Contaminated Loads	\$68.00/Ton	\$80.50/Ton
Compost (CoastalGrow)	\$30.00/Ton	\$30.00/Ton
Mixed C & D	\$34.00/Ton	\$46.50/Ton
Inert Debris	\$ 7.50/Ton	Not Accepted
Truck Weights	\$25.00	\$25.00
Tires not generated in the normal course of business	\$85.00	\$85.00



Where can I take my scrap tires for disposal? We accept them at the Tuscarora Landfill and the transfer stations in Newport and Grantsboro. You can also take them to Gray's Texaco in Havelock, Mark's Tire in Beaufort, Chadwick Tire in Otway and Eastern Oil in Smyrna.



Are there requirements for accepting the tires? Yes. The rims have to be removed. There is also paperwork you must fill out. It will be given to you at the disposal site.



How much does it cost? There is no charge if the tires were generated in the normal course of business such as purchasing new tires for your vehicles or tires removed from fleet vehicles. When you purchase new tires you pay a \$2 advance disposal fee for each tire. If the tires were collected by other means such as stockpiles from businesses and junkyards (pre-1994) and tires originating from out of state, there is a fee of \$85 per ton.



### Congratulations Miriam Sumner

And this year's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting goes to....Miriam Sumner!!! Miriam is the Finance Officer for the Coastal Environmental Partnership. This is Miriam's 15th consecutive year to win the award. Great job Miriam!

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded this for the Partnership's comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The annual financial report was judged on its high standards for, among other criteria, "demonstrating a spirit of full disclosure" and "clearly communicating our financial story".

## Meet Your Scale Operators



M.T. Taylor  
Tuscarora



Wayne Karas  
Newport



Connie Willis  
Grantsboro

If you've been across our scales, you've seen one of these folks. They are here to assist you when you bring garbage or other items to our facilities.

They are dedicated to giving you helpful information that will make your visit as safe and efficient as possible.



Brian Peluso  
Tuscarora



Steve James  
Newport



Donna Evans  
Grantsboro

## In House Recycling

If you talk the talk, you have to walk the walk. And we do. In one year we go through almost 2,000 gallons of motor oil at our three facilities. Of course you can't have the oil without the oil filters. We use about 1,700 of those in a year.

And we recycle all that we use. We contract with our vendor, Noble Oil Services, to recycle the motor oil and the filters.

Additionally, we recycle paper products, glass, aluminum and plastic generated at our facilities.



## Solid Waste Management Plan

When the Coastal Regional Solid Waste Management Authority was formed, one of the tasks it agreed to undertake was the solid waste management planning required by the State of the cities and counties. A comprehensive plan was prepared in 1997. We are required to update it every three years. The new update will be submitted this summer.

In analyzing the solid waste programs within our partnership counties, we found that we are doing a respectable job in managing our waste. Since the base years approved by the State, Craven County has seen per capita waste disposal decrease by 10%; Carteret and Pamlico counties have seen minimal increases in per capita waste disposal by 2% and 8%, respectively. This compares to a statewide increase of 16% during the same period.

Based on these numbers and several other factors including the economy and upcoming changes in legislation, we have recommended little change in the plan.

If you would like to see the plan just give us a call at 252-633-1564 or visit our website at:

[www.coastalenvironmentalpartnership.com](http://www.coastalenvironmentalpartnership.com)

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