

COG Number: 22



THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TRAVIS

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality document, which is filed in the permanent records of the Commission. Given under my hand and the seal of office on

LaDonna Castanuela JUN 25 2007

LaDonna Castanuela, Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VOLUME I: REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
adopted under provisions of Texas
Health & Safety Code Ann.
Chapter 363 (Vernon)

Name of Council of Governments: Texoma Council of Governments
1117 Gallagher Road, Third Floor
Sherman, TX 75090

Regional Solid Waste Management Plans provide the structure for implementing regional and local solid waste management programs. The requirements and contents of Regional Solid Waste Management Plans are specified in Texas Health & Safety Code, Section 363.064.

This plan is adopted subject to the rules and orders of the Commission and laws of the State of Texas and it replaces any previously approved plan. Nothing in this plan exempts the Council of Governments from compliance with other applicable rules and regulations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This plan is valid until canceled, amended, or revoked by the Commission.

This plan is adopted by reference into Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 330, Subchapter O as specified in Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, Section 330.647(a).

ADOPTED in accordance with Title 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 330.

ADOPTION DATE: MAY 31 2007

Kathleen H. White
For the Commission

VOLUME I: REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SECTION I – NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

- A. This Regional Plan pertains to Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG). The counties covered under this plan include Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson.
- B. This Regional Plan is based on the materials dated August 15, 2002, as revised on April 5, 2006. These materials are incorporated into this Regional Plan as if fully set out herein.

SECTION II – REGIONAL PLAN

A. Regional Goals

Goal #1: Promote programs to assist regional and local entities in controlling and stemming illegal and improper disposal practices.

Objective #1A: Coordinate education/awareness programs for citizens discouraging illegal dumping, open burning, and other improper disposal practices.

Objective #1B: Coordinate education/awareness programs to inform residents about alternatives to hazardous home products.

Objective #1C: Coordinate education/awareness programs to inform small quantity generators.

Objective #1D: Assist local governments in developing plans for management of special waste.

Objective #1E: Institute region "dump stoppers" hotline and reward system.

Goal #2: Encourage local source reduction, waste minimization, reuse, recycling, and composting programs to conserve disposal capacity and resources.

Objective #2A: Initiate a study to evaluate regional collection, transportation, processing, and marketing options.

Objective #2B: Coordinate yard-waste composting sites at existing landfills.

Objective #2C: Provide technical assistance to local governments, businesses, and institutions identifying and implementing source reduction, waste minimization, reuse and recycling strategies, including use of drop off recycling center.

Objective #2D: Coordinate with governments and school districts to adopt internal source reduction, reuse, recycling, and recycled content procurement policies and programs.

Objective #2E: Develop education/awareness programs targeting proper methods or preparing recyclables, encouraging consumers to "pre-cycle" and "buy recycled."

Objective #2F: Develop education/awareness programs targeting preferred options for yard waste reduction/management.

Objective #2G: The amount of Municipal Solid Waste diverted from disposal through source reduction, waste minimization, reuse and recycling programs in the TCOG region should be estimated on an annual basis, and publicized.

Objective #2H: Identify where deficiencies exist in the collection and/or marketing of used oil and tires, and outline regional and local alternatives for dealing with these materials.

Objective #2I: Consider facilitating cooperative contracting agreements between local governments to help collect & recycle these materials.

Objective #2J: Identify the status of local governmental entities' compliance with requirements to establish programs for the separation & collection of recyclables from governmental facilities.

Goal #3: Promote regional cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally suitable solid waste management systems.

Objective #3A: Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)/Natural Resources Advisory Committee (NRAC) shall determine the need for establishment of sub-regional plans.

Objective #3B: Report on the status of implementing their regional plans, through biennial reports to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Objective #3C: Establish priorities for use of solid waste grant funds which, once approved, will form the basis for regional solid waste grant funding decisions.

Objective #3D: Target areas with critical needs for development of local solid waste management plans.

Objective #3E: Address whether further assessments are needed to determine risks posed by closed landfill sites in their regions.

Objective #3F: The COGs' solid waste grant funding decisions should be directly tied to implementation of the regional solid waste management plans.

Goal #4: Regionally, assure adequate levels of transportation and disposal capabilities.

Objective #4A: Consider integrated waste management options, as well as the use of Type IV landfills, to ensure the availability of Type I disposal capacity.

B. Waste Minimization, Waste Reuse, Recycling & Education

- (1) Waste reduction, reuse, and recycling programs have been slow to begin in the region, with a few exceptions. Four cities, Gainesville, Sherman, Whitesboro, and Van Alstyne sponsor recycling programs.

Gainesville has collection centers where paper, plastic, glass, metal, brush and glass are accepted. The City of Sherman has curbside collection plus one collection center at a local grocery store. In Whitesboro, materials are collected both curbside and at a collection center. Curbside service is provided for residences and picked up every other week by IESI. New programs are being formed in Van Alstyne (Grayson County) and Bonham (Fannin County). The Van Alstyne program has started accepting recycled goods and has held an "e-waste" collection day accepting computer monitors and other related waste items. The City of Bonham and Fannin County are working together to create a program they call the Beautification, Education, and Enforcement (BEE) program. BEE will focus on environmental concerns including recycling, reuse, and waste minimization.

Continued low market prices for many recyclables have certainly done their part to suppress the development of local recycling programs. More analysis needs to be done to

identify those specific elements of the regional waste stream that can be recycled at a fully-loaded cost equal-to or less-than landfilling.

No regional communities are operating 'smart buying' or other organized waste minimization training programs for citizens. Regional businesses, however, appear to continue making positive strides toward waste minimization through better purchasing practices and process recovery of internally generated waste. Each of the local governments reports that they have established programs for the separation and collection of recyclables in their own government facilities.

In summary, while the City of Gainesville and other cities have made major strides in the management of recycling programs, the situation that was identified in the *Texoma Regional Solid Waste Management Plan* still continues to describe the overall recycling situation in the region: "The state's solid waste management hierarchy is not currently reflected in the region's solid waste management systems. The region's recycling level is currently minimal, despite the various municipal, civic, and private collection efforts. Furthermore, other requirements in state legislation such as those requiring local governments, school districts, and other governmental agencies to start recycling programs and give preference in purchasing products made of recycled materials, will need to be implemented."

No public composting facilities yet exist in the region. The Texoma Area Solid Waste Authority facility has designated an area for composting. Composting may be provided based on incoming waste volumes. Only one city, the City of Sherman, has an active program to address the reuse of municipal sludge. Additional studies are needed to identify where deficiencies exist in the collection and use of municipal sludge and outline local alternatives for dealing with these materials.

- (2) Recommend a study to evaluate regional collection, transportation, processing and marketing options; one yard-waste composting site should be provided in each county at existing landfill sites; technical assistance should be provided to local governments, businesses, and institutions; identify and implement source reduction, waste minimization, and reuse and recycling strategies, including use of drop off recycling center; local Governments and school districts should adopt internal source reduction, reuse, recycling and recycled content procurement policies and programs; education/awareness programs targeting proper methods of preparing recyclables, encourage consumers to "pre cycle" and "buy recycled;" promote education/awareness programs targeting preferred options for yard waste reduction/management; increase the amount of MSW diverted from disposal through source reduction, waste minimization; reuse and recycling programs in the Texoma region should be estimated on an annual basis and publicized; identify where deficiencies exist in the collection and/or marketing of used oil and tires, and outline regional and local alternatives for dealing with these materials; identify where deficiencies exist in the collection and use of municipal sludge and outline local alternatives for dealing with these materials; consider facilitating cooperative contracting agreements between local governments to help collect & recycle these materials; and identify the status of local governmental entities' compliance with requirements to establish programs for the separation and collection of recyclables from governmental facilities.

- (3) The only collection of household hazardous waste in the Texoma region occurs when the Texoma Council of Governments is awarded Solid Waste Implementation Grant Program funding from TCEQ. In the past, the events have been held in Sherman (Grayson County) every year to two years and are sometimes financially supported by Grayson County and the City of Sherman. The COG relies heavily on citizen and private industry volunteers for the community collection events and provides education and public awareness information prior to and during the events. Collection, recycling and reuse activities are also carried out during the events. Typically, only the transportation and disposal costs of the collected materials are paid for with grant funds. Future collection events are planned and may include sites in Cooke and Fannin counties. Overall, the projects to date have been very well received by the general public and have been very successful in diverting hazardous waste from the waste stream. Lack of funding and the uncertainty of future funding have a negative impact on the success of the events due to reduced coverage area (Grayson County site only) and inability to plan for and market future events with any level of certainty.
- (4) TCOG will establish a recycling rate goal appropriate to the region.
- (5) TCOG recommends composting programs for yard waste and related organic wastes that may include:
 - (A) Creation and use of community composting centers;
 - (B) Adoption of the "Don't Bag It" program for lawn clippings developed by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service; and
 - (C) Development and promotion of education programs on home composting, community composting, and the separation of yard waste for use as mulch.
- (6) TCOG's solid waste program includes a public education/outreach component.

C. Municipal Solid Waste Facilities – TCOG will:

- (1) encourage cooperative efforts between local governments in the siting of landfills for the disposal of solid waste;
- (2) assess the need for new waste disposal capacity;
- (3) consider the need to transport waste between municipalities, from a municipality to an area in the jurisdiction of a county, or between counties, particularly if a technically suitable site for a landfill does not exist in a particular area;
- (4) allow a local government to justify the need for a landfill in its jurisdiction to dispose of the solid waste generated in the jurisdiction of another local government that does not have a technically suitable site for a landfill in its jurisdiction;
- (5) complete and maintain an inventory of closed municipal solid waste landfill units and update it as needed; provide one copy to the TCEQ and to the chief planning official of each municipality and county in which a unit is located; and

- (6) develop a guidance document to review municipal solid waste registration and permit applications to determine conformance as outlined in *Volume II: Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Guideline*.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



VOLUME II: REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINE Approved under provisions of Texas Health & Safety Code Ann. Chapter 363 (Vernon)

Name of Council of Governments: Texoma Council of Governments
 1117 Gallagher Road, Third Floor
 Sherman, Texas 75090


Regional Solid Waste Management Implementation Guidelines provide the details for implementing the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (Volume I). The TCEQ Commissioners adopted Volume I on May 31, 2007. The requirement and contents of Regional Solid Waste Management Implementation Guidelines are specified in Texas Health & Safety Code, Section 363.064.

This Guideline is approved subject to the rules and orders of the Commission and laws of the State of Texas and it replaces any previously approved Guideline. Nothing in this Guideline exempts the Council of Governments from complying with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rules and regulations. This Guideline is valid until canceled, amended, or revoked by the Executive Director.

This guideline is approved by reference into Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 330, Subchapter O as specified in Texas Administrative Code, Section 330.647(a).

This action is taken under authority delegated by the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

APPROVAL DATE: **SEP 06 2007**



For the Commission