

BLOUNT COUNTY, ALABAMA



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

2025

FINAL

Prepared for:

Blount County Commission

Judge Chris Green, Chairman

Allen Armstrong — District 1

Chad Trammell — District 2

Bradley Harvey — District 3

Nick Washburn — District 4

Mark Staton, Administrator

Prepared By:

Goodwyn Mills Cawood, LLC

2400 Fifth Avenue South, Suite 200

Birmingham, Alabama 35233

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. SOLID WASTE GENERATION	12
3. SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION	15
4. SOLID WASTE FACILITIES.....	20
5. RECYCLING.....	23
6. RCRA SUBTITLE D REQUIREMENTS	26
7. UNAUTHORIZED DUMPS	28
8. SOLID WASTE GENERATION PROJECTIONS	29
9. DEVELOPMENT OR EXPANSION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	37
10. JOINT USE OF SOLID WASTE FACILITIES	39
11. PRIVATE COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND/OR DISPOSAL CONTRACTS.....	40
12. SITING FOR SOLID WASTE PROCESSING OR DISPOSAL FACILITIES AND RECYCLING PROGRAMS	41
13. UTILIZING SOLID WASTE FACILITIES OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION	44
REFERENCES.....	45

Appendices

Appendix A – Application for Host Government Approval

Appendix B – Public Notice and Comments

Appendix C – Public Hearing Minutes and Resolution Adopting the 2024 Solid Waste Management Plan

Appendix D – ADEM Approval Letter

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. HISTORIC OVERVIEW

In 1989, the Alabama State Legislature passed Act 89-824 governing solid waste management in the State of Alabama. This Act, codified in the Alabama Solid Wastes Disposal Act, Code of Alabama 1975, §22-27-40 through §22-27-48, required the Director of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), and cities and counties of the State of Alabama to develop and adopt comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plans (SWMP or "Plan") which forecast and describe the management of solid waste generated within a local government's jurisdiction over a minimum 10-year period. This SWMP is to be utilized as a "roadmap" on how to manage solid waste facilities and services in the local jurisdiction by addressing all items required by the Alabama Solid Wastes Disposal Act.

As a result of Act 89-824 and additions to the Alabama Solid Wastes Disposal Act (later revised and now called the Solid Wastes and Recyclable Materials Management Act or SWRMMA), each county was originally required to develop and submit a SWMP to ADEM for approval in 1990. The requirements also call for each county to periodically submit an updated Plan that covers the management of solid waste generated in their jurisdiction for the next ten-year period (minimum). An ADEM-approved SWMP is required before a county or municipality can grant local approval on matters related to solid waste management within their jurisdiction, and is also required to be eligible for recycling grant funds. Municipalities within each county have the option of adhering to the County's SWMP or "opting out" of the county's plan by developing and submitting their own plan to ADEM.

Blount County has retained Goodwyn Mills Cawood, LLC (GMC) to update their SWMP. The Blount County Solid Waste Management Plan addresses the concerns of the Solid Wastes and Recyclable Materials Management Act and meets the requirement for each government's SWMP to be periodically updated.

1.2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this Solid Waste Management Plan is to provide for the management of solid waste within the political jurisdiction of Blount County for the period of 2025 to 2035. This Plan will address aspects of solid waste management such as generation, collection, transportation, disposal, recycling, illegal dumps, and will have general applicability for the circumstances and situations that may affect solid waste management in Blount County. In particular, the SWMP will address the following issues required by Code of Alabama 1975, §22-27-47, as applicable:

- Descriptions and explanations of the general origins and weight or volume of solid waste (household, commercial, industrial, construction/demolition, and special wastes) currently generated within the jurisdiction's boundaries. Please note that the solid waste generation tonnages provided in this SWMP typically refers to the weight of materials as they enter the waste management system after recycling has taken place. To obtain a true solid waste generation rate, the recycling tonnages should be added to the current generation totals.
- Current methods of collection and transportation of solid waste within the jurisdiction,

- Identification and descriptions of facilities where solid waste is currently being disposed of or processed, with estimated remaining capacities of these facilities, including municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills, Industrial landfills, Construction/Demolition (C/D) landfills, incinerators, and recycling centers,
- Identification and descriptions of current and/or planned recycling programs, and
- The impact such recycling programs have on generated waste in the jurisdiction.
- Address the requirements of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Subtitle D and explain those actions the jurisdiction should take to assure proper management of its waste under these requirements.
- Descriptions of current and/or planned procedures for the identification, elimination, and prevention of unauthorized dumps in the jurisdiction.
- Descriptions of the general origin and weight or volume of solid waste that is expected to be generated annually in the jurisdiction for the next ten (10) years.
- Provisions for the development or expansion of solid waste management systems that are consistent with the needs of the jurisdiction, while considering planning, zoning, population and development estimates, economics of jurisdiction and the protection of air, water, land and other natural resources.
- Identification of current and proposed future agreements between the jurisdiction and other units of local governments and/or authorities for the joint use or operation of solid waste facilities.
- Identification of current and proposed future contractual agreements with private operators of collection, processing, transportation, and/or disposal facilities for solid waste.
- Identification of proposed solid waste processing, disposal or recycling facilities, considering the needs of the area, the proximity to transportation routes and large solid waste generators, the cost and availability of public services, public health, safety and environmental impacts, and the social and economic impacts a proposed location would have on the affected community.
- If applicable, an explanation of why a jurisdiction proposes to utilize a solid waste facility outside its jurisdiction.

1.3. PLANNING PERIOD

All solid waste projections, analyses, recommendations and schedules will be based on the planning period of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2035. For reporting purposes, this SWMP shall expire January 1, 2036.

1.4. METHODOLOGY

This update generally follows a format required by ADEM with its purpose being to develop a comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan by addressing the collection, transportation, processing, disposal and recycling of solid waste in the county. The report is outlined in the Table of Contents and addresses all concerns for a completed Solid Waste Management Plan. The heading of each section includes the addressed task required by the Code of Alabama 1975, §22-27-47.

The historical data utilized in this report was compiled for record year 2024 and all references to “current” conditions reflect those conditions present during the development of this SWMP. Preparation of the Blount County Solid Waste Management Plan included:

- Meetings with ADEM to determine format and methodology of data to be included in the SWMPs.
- Identification and designation of cities and incorporated areas to be included in the SWMP.
- Review of previous Solid Waste Management Plans.
- Location and identification of existing solid waste facilities (landfills, transfer stations, recycling centers, etc.).
- Review of Alabama State Legislative documentation.
- Review of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and local regulations governing solid waste management.
- Review of population data.
- Formal data collection and personal interviews with county personnel, contract haulers, private solid waste facility owners and operators, and local municipality personnel.

1.5. BLOUNT COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

The following is a listing of the twelve (12) municipalities currently located in Blount County that are being covered by the Blount County Solid Waste Management Plan - 2024:

Town of Allgood	Town of County Line
Town of Locust Fork	Town of Rosa
Town of Blountsville	Town of Hayden
Town of Nectar	Town of Snead
Town of Cleveland	Town of Highland Lake
City of Oneonta	Town of Susan Moore

The majority (by population) of the town of Altoona is located in Etowah County; therefore, all solid waste generation estimates (current and future) and descriptions of methods of collection, transportation and disposal will be covered under the Etowah County’s SWMP. A portion of the town limits of Trafford is located in Blount County; however, according to the 2020 Census, there were no citizens living in the Blount County portion of Trafford. Therefore, the Town of Trafford will be covered by Jefferson County’s SWMP.

1.6. LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL APPROVAL OF SOLID WASTE FACILITIES AND SERVICES

A local government must be subject to or covered by an approved SWMP in order to provide local approval of solid waste facilities and services within that jurisdiction. Unless a municipal government specifically elects to “opt out” of their County’s SWMP, they are considered to be included in the County’s Plan. At the time of this report, all municipalities are participating in the Blount County SWMP and none are opting out.

The municipal governments of Blount County may grant local approval of solid waste management facilities and services within their municipal limits (not including the police jurisdiction) if the municipality follows all federal, state and local requirements related to the management of solid waste in Blount County. If a municipality does grant local approval of solid waste management facilities or services, the applying entity is not required to also obtain local approval from the Blount County Commission.

1.7. PUBLIC HEARING

As required by Alabama Law, a public hearing was held to solicit comments on the Blount County Solid Waste Management Plan prior to its approval and adoption by the County Commission. Notice of the public hearing was given in a local newspaper at least thirty (30) days before the hearing date. Draft copies of the SWMP were made available to the public prior to the hearing. A copy of the public notice, public hearing sign-in sheets and the minutes of the public hearing are included in the Appendix. There were no comments received during the public comment period or the public hearing.

1.8. COUNTY COMMISSION RESOLUTION

As required by Alabama Law, the Blount County Solid Waste Management Plan was adopted through a resolution by the County Commission prior to submittal to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. A copy of this Resolution is included in the Appendices.

1.9. DEFINITIONS

A list of terms commonly used in the field of solid waste management is included for general information:

Buffer Zone

Neutral area serving as a protective barrier separating two conflicting forces. An area that minimizes the impact of pollutants on the environment or public welfare. For example, a buffer zone is established between a composting facility and neighboring residents to minimize odor problems.

Buy-Back Center

A facility to which individuals bring recyclables in exchange for payment.

Commercial Waste

Waste materials originating in wholesale, retail, institutional, or service establishments, such as office buildings, stores, markets, restaurants, hotels, warehouses and other non-manufacturing activities, excluding residential and industrial wastes.

Commingled Recyclables

Two or more recyclable materials collected together (i.e. not separated). In some types of collection programs, recyclable materials may be commingled, as long as they do not contaminate each other. For example, glass and plastic can be commingled, but glass and oil cannot.

Composting

The controlled biological decomposition of organic solid materials (i.e. grass clippings, food waste and lawn debris) under aerobic conditions.

Construction/Demolition (C/D) or Inert Landfill

A discrete area of land or an excavation that receives construction/demolition waste, and or rubbish and/or water treatment (alum) sludge, foundry waste meeting ADEM Rule 335-13-4-.26(3), and that is not a land application unit, surface impoundment, or injection well as those terms are defined in this (ADEM) Rule.

Construction and Demolition Waste

Materials resulting from the construction, remodeling, repair, or demolition of buildings, bridges, pavements, and other structures. Such wastes include masonry materials, sheet rock, roofing waste, insulation (not including asbestos), scrap metal, and wood products. Uncontaminated concrete, soil, brick, waste asphalt paving, ash resulting from the combustion of untreated wood, rock, and similar materials are excluded from this definition.

Corrugated Paper

Paper or cardboard having either a series of wrinkles or folds, or alternating ridges and grooves.

Cover Material

Material, either natural soil or geosynthetic material, used in a landfill to impede water infiltration, landfill gas emissions, and bird and rodent congregation. It is also used to control odors and make the site more visually attractive. Landfills have three forms of cover: daily cover, intermediate cover, and final cover.

Drop-Off Collection

A method of collecting recyclable or compostable materials in which the materials are taken by individuals to collection sites, where they deposit the materials into designated containers.

Ferrous Metals

Metals derived from iron. They can be removed from commingled materials using large magnets at separation facilities.

Garbage

Putrescible animal and vegetable waste resulting from handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food, including, but not limited to, waste from markets, storage facilities, handling and sale of produce and other food products and excepting such materials that may be serviced by garbage grinders and handles as household sewage.

Groundwater Monitoring Well

A well placed at an appropriate location and depth for taking water samples to determine groundwater quality in the area surrounding a landfill or other site.

Hazardous Waste

Waste material that exhibits a characteristic of hazardous waste as defined in RCRA (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity), is listed specifically in RCRA 261.3 Subpart D, is a mixture of either, or is designated locally or by the state as hazardous or undesirable for handling as part of the municipal solid waste and would have to be treated as regulated hazardous waste if not from a household.

Household Hazardous Waste (Special Definition and Guidance)

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is any material (gas, liquid, or solid) from a home that may pose a health threat to people, animals, or the environment if handled or disposed of improperly. HHW is corrosive, flammable, toxic, or reactive, and comes from everyday products used in the home, yard, or garden. Common examples include paint, household cleaners, motor oil, pesticides, pool chemicals, products containing mercury (fluorescent bulbs, mercury thermometers) and various chemicals. Because households produce these wastes in limited quantities they are not regulated as hazardous wastes under federal and state laws.

Household hazardous waste items should never be poured on the ground, in a stream, or in a storm drainage system. If a resident has HHW that needs to be disposed of, it is recommended they contact their local government to see if the community sponsors a Household Hazardous Waste collection program. The resident can also contact their solid waste collection agency for guidance on proper disposal of HHW. If no HHW collection program is available, residents should follow the recommendations made in ADEM's brochure "Household Hazardous Waste – Practical Management for Every Home" (Brochure is available online at: <http://adem.alabama.gov/programs/water/nps/take/householdHW.pdf>). Recycling or finding someone who can use the material is recommended first, but if this is not possible, recommendations include solidifying liquids using cat litter, sawdust or other absorbent material, followed by placing in a leak resistant bag or container before taking it to a disposal facility.

Household Waste

Any solid waste, including, but not limited to, garbage, trash, and sanitary waste in septic tanks derived from households, including single and multiple residences, hotels and motels, bunkhouses, ranger stations, crew quarters, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and day use recreation areas. Sanitary waste in septic tanks shall be considered as household waste only when it is disposed in a landfill or unauthorized dump.

Incinerator

A facility in which solid waste is combusted.

Industrial Landfill

A discrete area of land or an excavation that receives industrial solid waste and may in addition receive construction/demolition waste and/or rubbish.

Industrial Waste

Materials discarded from industrial operations or derived from manufacturing processes and that are not regulated as a hazardous waste.

Illegal or Unauthorized Dump

Any collection of solid wastes either dumped or caused to be dumped or placed on any public or private property, whether or not regularly used, and not having a permit from ADEM. Abandoned automobiles, large appliance or similar large items of solid waste shall be considered as forming an unauthorized dump within the meaning of this Division. The careless littering of a relatively few, smaller individual items such as tires, bottles, cans and the like shall not be considered an unauthorized dump, unless the accumulation of the solid waste poses a threat to human health or the environment. An unauthorized dump shall also mean any solid waste disposal site which does not meet regulatory provisions of this Division.

Leachate

Liquid that has percolated through solid waste or another medium and has extracted, dissolved, or suspended materials from it. Because Leachate may include potentially harmful materials, leachate collection and treatment are crucial at municipal waste landfills.

Leachate Collection System

A network of pipes or geotextiles/geonets placed at low areas of the landfill liner to collect leachate from a landfill for storage or treatment. Flow of leachate along the liner is facilitated by the use of a soil drainage blanket or geonet.

Liner

A system of low-permeability soil and/or geosynthetic membranes used to collect leachate and minimize contaminant flow to groundwater. Liners may also absorb or attenuate pollutants to further reduce contamination.

Methane

An odorless, colorless, flammable, explosive gas produced by municipal solid waste undergoing anaerobic decomposition. Methane is emitted from municipal solid waste landfills.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)

MSW means household waste, commercial solid waste, nonhazardous sludge, conditionally exempt small quantity hazardous waste, and industrial solid waste.

Recycling

Any process by which materials are collected, separated, recovered, stored, or processed and reused or returned to use in the form of raw materials or products, but does not include the use of materials as a fuel, or for any use which constitutes disposal.

Residential Waste

Waste generated in single- and multiple-family homes.

Roll-Off Container

A large waste container that fits onto a tractor trailer that can be dropped off and picked up hydraulically.

Rubbish

No putrescible solid wastes, excluding ashes, consisting of both combustible and noncombustible wastes. Combustible rubbish includes paper, rags, cartons, wood, furniture, rubber, plastics, and similar materials. Noncombustible rubbish includes glass, crockery, metal cans, metal furniture and like materials which will not burn at ordinary incinerator temperatures, not less than 1600-degree F. Uncontaminated concrete, soil, brick, waste asphalt paving, ash resulting from the combustion of untreated wood, rock, yard trimmings, leaves, stumps, limbs and similar materials are excluded from this definition.

Solid Waste

Any garbage, rubbish, construction or demolition debris, ash, or sludge from a waste treatment facility, water supply plant, or air pollution control facility, and any other discarded materials, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, or agricultural operations or community activities, or materials intended for or capable of recycling, but which have not been diverted or removed from the solid waste stream. The term "solid waste" does not include recovered materials, solid or dissolved materials in domestic sewage, solid or dissolved material in irrigation return flows, or industrial discharges which are point sources subject to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, or the Alabama Waste Pollution Control Act, as amended; or source, special, nuclear, or by-product materials as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Also excluded from this definition are land applications of crop residues, animal manure, and ash resulting exclusively from the combustion of wood during accepted agricultural operations, waste from silvicultural operations, or refuse as defined and regulated pursuant to the Alabama Surface Mining Act of 1969.

Solid Waste Management

The systematic control of solid waste including its storage, processing, treatment, recovery of materials from solid waste, or disposal.

Source Reduction

The design, manufacture, acquisition, and reuse of materials so as to minimize the quantity and/or toxicity of waste produced. Source reduction prevents waste either by redesigning products or by otherwise changing societal patterns of consumption, use, and waste generation.

Special Waste

Those wastes requiring specific processing, handling or disposal techniques as determined necessary by the Department which are different from the techniques normally utilized for handling disposal. Examples of such waste types may include, but are not limited to mining waste; fly ash; bottom ash; sludges; friable asbestos; industrial waste; liquid waste; large dead animals or large quantities of dead animals; and residue, medical waste, foundry waste, petroleum contaminated wastes, municipal solid waste ash, or contaminated soil and water from the cleanup of a spill.

Subtitle D

The solid, nonhazardous waste section of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976.

Tipping Fee

A fee charged for the unloading or dumping of material at a landfill, transfer station, recycling center, or waste-to-energy facility, usually stated in dollars per ton. (Sometimes called a disposal or service fee.)

Transfer Station

A permanent facility where waste materials are taken from smaller collection vehicles and placed in larger vehicles for transport, including truck trailers, railroad cars, or barges. Recycling and some processing may also take place at transfer stations.

White Goods

Large household appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, air conditioners, and washing machines.

Yard Trimmings

Leaves, grass clippings, pruning and other natural organic matter discarded from yards and gardens. Yard trimmings may also include stumps and brush, but these materials are not normally handled at composting facilities.

2. SOLID WASTE GENERATION

Section 22-27-47(b)(1): Describe and explain the general origin, and weight or volume of solid waste currently generated within the jurisdiction’s boundaries.

2.1. MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE GENERATION

Blount County is a relatively rural county and in some instances household waste is commingled with commercial waste during collection and transportation; therefore, specific records for residential and commercial solid waste volumes or weights are not possible. The 2024 data that was collected from the contract.

2.1.1. Household Waste Generation

Household waste such as garbage and trash are collected from residences in Blount County by various private contractors or homeowners. According to survey results, approximately 14,367 tons of household waste was reported as being generated in Blount County in 2024.

Table 2-1 presents a summary of the municipalities, estimated population served, collection agency, amount of household waste collected, and the calculated per capita generation rate. The waste generated is totaled on the last line and an average household per capita generation rate is calculated using the total population for the County.

TABLE 2-1

HOUSEHOLD WASTE GENERATION

Service Area	2020 Population	Solid Waste Collection Agency	Waste Generation Rate		
			TPY	TPD	PCD
City of Oneonta	59,134	Arrow Disposal	2,893.79	7.93	1.33
Blount County Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4		Republic Services	11,473.53	31.43	
Blount County Totals:	59,134		14,367.32	39.36	1.33

Source: The information in this Table was provided by the solid waste collection agency and/or disposal site. TPY = Tons Per Year, TPD - Tons Per Day, PCD = Pounds Per Capita Per Day.

The city of Oneonta has obtained a solid waste collection agency contract outside that of the county’s contract with Republic Services. Other than the city of Oneonta, Republic services is contracted to be the primary Solid Waste Collection Agency in the county.

2.1.2. Commercial Waste Generation

Commercial solid waste in the county is also collected by various private collection agencies. In 2024, approximately 6,310 tons of commercial waste was reported as being generated in Blount County. Table 2-2 presents a summary of the municipalities, estimated population served, collection agency, amount of commercial waste collected, and the calculated per capita generation rate. The waste generated is totaled on the last line and an average per capita commercial generation rate is calculated using the total population for the County.

TABLE 2-2
COMMERCIAL WASTE GENERATION

Service Area	2020 Population	Solid Waste Collection Agency	Waste Generation Rate		
			TPY	TPD	PCD
City of Oneonta	59,134	Arrow Disposal	2,413.87	6.61	0.58
Blount County Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4		Republic Services	3,896.70	10.68	
Blount County Totals:	59,134		6,310.57	17.29	0.58

Source: The information in this table was provided by the solid waste collection agency and/or disposal site. TPY = Tons Per Year, TPD= Tons Per Day, PCD = Pounds Per Capita Per Day

The city of Oneonta has obtained a solid waste collection agency contract outside that of the county's contract with Republic Services. Other than the city of Oneonta, Republic services is contracted to be the primary Solid Waste Collection Agency in the county.

2.1.3. Municipal Solid Waste Generation

By combining the Household Waste and Commercial Waste, the total amount of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generated can be calculated. In 2024, approximately 20,678 tons of MSW was reported as being generated in Blount County. This equates to an overall municipal solid waste generation rate of 1.91 lbs./capita per day. Please note that this generation rate represents the amount of solid waste actually disposed of in a landfill and does not include the amount that was generated, but then recycled.

2.2. CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION (C/D) WASTE GENERATION

Construction and demolition (C/D) wastes are typically generated by the construction, remodeling, repair or demolition of structures, roads, sidewalks, utilities, etc. Other inert material such as yard wastes (i.e. leaves, limbs, grass clippings) may also be considered as C/D waste.

In 2014, approximately 6,724 tons of construction/demolition (C/D) waste was reported as being generated in Blount County. Please note that this generation rate represents the amount of solid waste actually disposed of in a landfill and does not include the amount that was generated, but then recycled. A survey was conducted in 2024 in an attempt to determine an estimated amount of C/D waste generated in the past year. The survey revealed that other landfills associated with C/D waste in Blount County comingles the C/D waste with the general commercial/residential solid waste, because of this there is not an accurate method to estimate the C/D waste generated within the county.

B & B Tire Landfill is located within Blount County and accepts waste tires from within Blount County, however, the B & B Tire Landfill is permitted to accept waste tires from all contiguous U.S. states. For this reason, there is not an accurate method of determining the amount of waste tires generated within the county.

Therefore, any C&D waste collected within the county is comingled within the tonnages estimated in the solid waste generation tonnage.

2.3. INDUSTRIAL WASTE GENERATION

Solid waste that is generated by an industry is typically collected by a private company and taken to an appropriate landfill, or it may be collected by that industry and disposed of in their own landfill, if applicable.

According to survey results, there was no industrial waste collected or disposed of in Blount County in 2024. Therefore, most waste generated from businesses in Blount County that might be considered industrial is primarily commercial-type waste and is most likely included in the commercial waste totals reported in Section 2.1.2.

2.4. SPECIAL WASTE GENERATION

“Special waste” primarily consists of waste which is not regulated as hazardous waste and has physical or chemical characteristics, or both, that are different from municipal, demolition, construction and wood wastes and which potentially requires special handling. Examples include: contaminated soil, raw animal manure, incinerator ash, industrial or manufacturing process waste and sludge, wastewater and water treatment plant sludge and large quantities of dead animals.

According to survey results, there was no special waste generated or disposed of in Blount County in 2024.

3. SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION

Section 22-27-47(b)(2): Identify current methods of collection and haulage (transport) of solid waste within the jurisdiction.

3.1. GENERAL

The below municipalities in Blount County require at least mandatory residential participation in a solid waste collection program. The solid waste generated in Blount County is typically collected by private haulers (contractors) or homeowners and then transported to an appropriate Transfer Station, Convenience Center or landfill for disposal.

3.2. MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE (HOUSEHOLD AND COMMERCIAL)

Several private solid waste collection agencies/haulers currently operate in Blount County:

- Republic Services
- Arrow Disposal/Meridian Waste

3.2.1. Municipalities

A listing of each municipality in Blount County and its method of municipal solid waste collection and haulage during 2024 is presented below.

Allgood

Weekly residential solid waste collection service in the Town of Allgood is provided via a contract with a private collection agency. Residential participation is mandatory in the town limits unless the resident can prove that they can provide proper solid waste disposal on their own. Republic Services is the current service provider under this contract. Commercial businesses are also able to obtain services under Allgood's current contract; however, the business is allowed to use any collection agency they choose. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Mt. Olive Landfill in Jefferson County for disposal.

Blountsville

Weekly residential solid waste collection service in the Town of Blountsville is provided via a contract with a private collection agency. Residential participation is mandatory in the town limits. Republic Services is the current service provider under this contract. Commercial businesses are allowed to use any collection agency they choose. Both Republic Services reported collecting commercial solid waste in Blountsville. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Cleveland

Weekly residential and commercial solid waste collection service in the Town of Cleveland is provided via a contract with a private collection agency. Residential participation is voluntary in the town limits. Republic Services is the current service provider under this contract. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

County Line

Weekly residential solid waste collection service in the Town of County Line is provided via a contract with a private collection agency. Residential participation is voluntary in the town limits. Republic Services is the current service provider under this contract. There is very little commercial business in County Line; however, these businesses are allowed to use any collection agency they choose. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Hayden

Weekly residential and commercial solid waste collection service in the Town of Hayden is currently being provided by Republic Services. Participation in solid waste collection is voluntary and there is no contract between the town and the collection agency for these services. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama. According to Republic Services, the commercial waste from this area is ran out of Republics Birmingham office and taken to the Mt Olive Landfill in Jefferson County.

Highland Lake

Weekly residential solid waste collection service in the Town of Highland Lake is currently being provided by Republic Services. There is very little to no commercial businesses currently located in Highland Lake. Participation in solid waste collection is voluntary and there is no contract between the town and the collection agency for these services. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Locust Fork

Weekly residential solid waste collection service in the Town of Locust Fork is provided via a contract with a private collection agency. Residential participation is mandatory. Republic Services is the current service provider under this contract. Commercial businesses are allowed to use any collection agency they choose. Republic Services provide commercial solid waste collection services in Locust Fork. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Nectar

Weekly residential solid waste collection service in the Town of Nectar is currently being provided by Republic Services. There is very little to no commercial business currently located in Nectar. Participation in solid waste

collection is voluntary and there is no contract between the town and the collection agency for these services. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Oneonta

Weekly residential and commercial solid waste collection service in the City of Oneonta is provided via a contract with a private collection agency. Participation is mandatory and Arrow Disposal is the current service provider under this contract. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Noble Hill Landfill in Attalla, AL.

Rosa

Weekly solid waste collection service in the Town of Rosa is currently being provided by Republic Services. Participation in solid waste collection is voluntary and there is no contract between the town and the collection agency for these services. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Snead

Weekly residential and commercial solid waste collection service in the Town of Snead is currently being provided by Republic Services. Participation in solid waste collection is voluntary and there is no contract between the town and the collection agency for these services. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Susan Moore

Weekly residential and commercial solid waste collection service in the Town of Susan Moore is currently being provided by Republic Services. Participation in solid waste collection is voluntary and there is no contract between the town and the collection agency for these services. The solid waste is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama.

Blount County Commission Districts and Unincorporated Blount County

Weekly residential and commercial solid waste collection service in unincorporated Blount County is provided via contracts with various private collection agencies. Blount County awards a bid for services to provide a guaranteed group rate, but services are not exclusive and subscription is voluntary. The bid for Commission Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 are combined and include, at no cost, the collection and disposal of Blount County waste at locations specified in the contract. This contract also includes haul away and disposal of solid waste collected at the County Convenience Center (a.k.a. Blount County Transfer Station) and the provision of containers at this location.

Effective in June and July 2014, both solid waste collection contracts were awarded to Republic Services collection services in all Districts and the Convenience Center. The City of Oneonta is the only municipality within Blount County who has a separate contractor servicing the area. At the time of this SWMP, Arrow Disposal (Meridian Waste) holds the contract for the City of Oneonta.

The solid waste collected by Republic Services is compacted during collection and transported to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama and Mt Olive Landfill in Jefferson County, Alabama. The solid waste collected by Arrow Disposal is compacted during collection and transported to the Noble Hill Landfill in Attalla, Alabama.

3.2.2. Blount County Convenience Center (former Transfer Station)

Several individuals in Blount County take their household waste directly to the Blount County Convenience Center near Hayden. This facility previously operated as a landfill, which was closed in accordance with regulations. It then operated as a Transfer Station for several years and now operates only as a convenience center for citizens to drop off their waste. All solid waste delivered to this location is placed into large roll-off containers which are currently being hauled (under Republic Services') to the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, Alabama. According to representatives from Republic this waste is all counted in the Commercial waste number strictly based on it arriving to the landfill in the roll off dumpsters. The majority of this waste does belong to residents and not business operating within the county.

3.3. CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION SOLID WASTE

Construction/demolition (C/D) wastes are typically collected and transported to a C/D landfill by the generator of the waste, a private homeowner, municipality or contract hauler. Other inert material such as yard wastes may also be taken to a C&D landfill for disposal. C/D material is typically taken to a landfill or transfer station by pick-up truck, dump truck, trailer, or roll-off container.

3.3.1. Municipalities

Only two municipalities collect yard waste in their jurisdiction on a periodic basis; however, this waste is taken to private property for disposal and none is disposed of at a C/D Landfill.

Blountsville

Blountsville's Street Department picks up yard waste on a periodic basis and takes it to property that is jointly owned with the Board of Education. This material is burned on site.

Oneonta

Oneonta picks up yard waste on a periodic basis and takes it to property that is owned by the City where it is disposed of at the landfill owned by the city. This landfill is only permitted to handle organic tree/shrubbery debris.

3.3.2. Private Companies

Several private companies in Blount County collect C/D or other inert waste from individuals or businesses in the county.

Republic Services

Republic Services reported collecting and transporting C&D waste that was generated in Blount County in 2024. This waste was taken to either the Sand Valley Landfill in Collinsville, AL or the Mt Olive Landfill in Gardendale, AL depending on the route that picks up the waste.

B&B Tire Landfill

The B&B Tire Landfill picks up tires, tire parts and other inert materials in Blount County. This material is taken to their landfill for proper disposal.

3.4. INDUSTRIAL SOLID WASTE

None of the collection agencies reported collecting industrial waste separate from municipal solid waste in Blount County in 2024. Therefore, most waste generated from businesses in Blount County that might be considered industrial is primarily commercial-type waste and is collected and disposed of as municipal solid waste.

3.5. SPECIAL WASTE

Special wastes are typically generated very randomly and in small quantities, and can be collected and transported to a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill by either a municipality, county, business, or contract hauler. Various methods are used for the transport of Special Wastes but typically involve dump trucks or appropriate containerization (i.e. drums) and transport in trucks or tractor trailers. Roll-off containers may also be used in the collection and transport of special wastes.

According to survey results, there was no special waste collected or transported in Blount County in 2024.

4. SOLID WASTE FACILITIES

Section 22-27-47(b)(3): Identify and describe the activities where solid waste is currently being disposed or processed and the remaining available permitted capacity of such facilities and the capacity which could be made available through the reasonable expansion of such facilities. The plan shall also explain the extent to which existing facilities will be used during the life of the plan and shall not substantially impair the use of their remaining capacity.

4.1. GENERAL

In 2024, three MSW landfills and several C/D landfills were used for the disposal of solid waste generated in Blount County. A transfer station and a drop-off convenience center were also used to consolidate the municipal solid waste prior to transport to the MSW landfill. It is anticipated that these facilities will continue to be utilized during the life of this Plan, as long as capacity remains available.

4.2. MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS

4.2.1. Republic Services - Sand Valley Landfill (Permit #25-04)

The Republic Services - Sand Valley Landfill, located at 3345 County Road 209, Collinsville, DeKalb County, Alabama is designated to accept waste from Blount, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, DeKalb, Etowah, Jackson, Marshall, Randolph, St. Clair and Talladega Counties of Alabama; Chattooga, Dade, Polk, and Walker Counties of Georgia; and Hamilton County of Tennessee. This landfill is owned and operated by Republic Services. The permitted capacity of this Landfill is 2,100 tons of solid waste per day, in 2024, approximately 442,734,000 tons of solid waste was disposed of in this landfill,

"Reasonable expansion" activities at the Sand Valley Landfill include constructing additional disposal cells that have already been permitted. Taking into consideration these reasonable expansion activities, approximately 50 years of disposal capacity remain at this landfill, based on current rates of disposal.

4.2.2. Jefferson County Landfill No. 1 - aka Mt. Olive Landfill (Permit #37-43)

The Jefferson County Landfill No. 1, more commonly referred to as the Mt. Olive Landfill, is located at 101 Barber Blvd. in Gardendale, Jefferson County, Alabama. This landfill is designated to accept municipal solid waste from seven counties in Alabama, including Blount County. This landfill is owned by the Jefferson County Commission, but the operation of the landfill is leased to Republic Services. The permitted capacity of this Landfill is 1,500 tons of solid waste per day. In 2024, approximately 300,000 tons of municipal solid waste was disposed of in this landfill.

"Reasonable expansion" activities at the Jefferson County Landfill No. 1 include constructing additional disposal cells which will provide approximately 50 years of disposal capacity at this landfill.

4.2.3. Noble Hill Landfill (Permit#28-08)

The Noble Hill Landfill, is located at 910 Sand Valley Road in Attalla, Etowah County, Alabama. This landfill is designated to accept municipal solid waste in Alabama, including Blount County. This landfill is owned by the Evergreen Environmental Partners, LLC. This landfill is the primary landfill used by Arrow Disposal for the contract

with the city of Oneonta. The total amount of waste that this landfill intakes on a year to year basis was not made available to GMC during the investigation, however, Arrow Disposal provided data as it pertains to the contract with the city of Oneonta and can be found in Section 2 of this document.

4.3. CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION (C/D) LANDFILLS

4.3.1. B&B Tire Landfill (Permit #05-07)

The B&B Tire Landfill, located at 1316 County Highway 9 in Hayden, Blount County is designated to accept C/D waste (tires, tire parts, conveyor belts and rubber parts) from the State of Alabama. In 2024, the permitted service area remains with the states of Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky. The Permittee is James E. and Barbara L. Adams. Approximately 62,231.37 tons of C/D waste from multiple Alabama counties and other states were disposed of at this landfill in 2024. Considering recent media articles and public voting about future expansion of this landfill it is believed that approximately 2 years of disposal capacity remains available. This landfill is currently expanded to capacity with no more room available for future expansion.

4.3.2. Jefferson County Landfill No. 1 - aka Mt. Olive Landfill (Permit #37-43)

The Jefferson County (MSW) Landfill No. 1 described under Section 4.2.2 also had a dedicated C/D cell that some private contractors utilize for their inert materials. This cell has since been closed and all C/D waste that is brought to the Mt. Olive facility is taken to the same cell. The C/D tonnage for Mt Olive is included in the municipal solid waste quantity. This total includes some C/D waste that was generated in Blount County.

"Reasonable expansion" activities for the C/D cell at the Jefferson County Landfill No. 1 include constructing additional disposal cells which will provide approximately 20 years of remaining C/D disposal capacity at this landfill.

4.3.3. GFL Environmental Inc – Blount Landfill (Permit #05-08)

The GFL Environmental Blount Landfill is a private landfill within Blount County and currently managed by GFL Environmental, INC. GMC interviewed a representative of the landfill to gain information regarding the facility and materials that are deposited onsite. During the interview, GFL's representative stated that the landfill is not currently in use and GFL currently deposits the minimum amount of C/D waste at the landfill in order to keep the permit active. GFL plans to close the landfill in the future and does not currently have plans to expand operations at the Blount Landfill. The statement regarding minimum deposits was corroborated by the 2024 Solid Waste Quarterly Reports of Volume that were submitted to ADEM and approved.

4.4. INDUSTRIAL LANDFILLS

There are currently no Industrial Landfills located in Blount County; however, the decision to construct an industrial landfill in the jurisdiction shall remain a valid solid waste management option available to the County throughout the life of this Plan. All solid waste that is currently being generated by industries in the County is disposed of as municipal solid waste in the MSW landfills listed above.

4.5. TRANSFER STATIONS/CONVENIENCE CENTERS

4.5.1. Blount County Solid Waste Convenience Center (Former Transfer Station)

The Blount County Convenience Center, located near Hayden, is owned and operated by Blount County to give citizens a convenient means to dispose of household waste if they do not wish to contract with a private collection company. This facility previously operated as a landfill, which was closed several years ago in accordance with Subtitle D regulations. It then operated as a Transfer Station for a few years and now operates only as a convenience center for citizens to drop off their waste. All solid waste delivered to this location is placed into large roll-off containers which are currently being hauled (under Republic Services) to the Sand Valley Landfill in DeKalb County.

4.6. INCINERATORS

There is currently no municipal solid waste incinerators located in Blount County; however, the decision to construct an incinerator in the jurisdiction shall remain a valid solid waste management option available to the County and its municipalities.

5. RECYCLING

Section 22-27-47(b)(4): Provide a description of current or planned recycling programs and an analysis of their impact on waste generated within the jurisdiction. Particularly regarding recycling, the plan shall describe and evaluate.

1. Potential benefits of recycling, including the potential solid waste reduction and the avoided cost of municipal waste processing or disposal.
2. Existing materials recovery operations and the kind and weight or volume of materials recycled by the operations, whether public OF private.
3. The compatibility of recycling with other waste processing or disposal methods used in the jurisdiction including methods of collecting recyclables.
4. Options for cooperation or agreement with other jurisdictions for the collection, processing and sale of recyclable materials.

5.1. GENERAL

Waste minimization and recycling efforts, which ultimately decrease the amount of solid waste deposited into landfills, are important aspects of solid waste management. In areas with adequate recyclable markets, the most common materials being recycled include:

- Plastics - plastic containers (type 1 or type 2 milk, soap, juice, water, etc.), grocery sacks (type 2 or 4); and other plastics (toys, plastic hangers, baskets, etc.)
- Metals – ferrous (steel and tin food containers, scrap metal); non-ferrous (aluminum, brass, copper)
- Paper - white office paper, corrugated cardboard, newspapers, phone books, mixed paper (dry magazines and packing, junk mail)
- White Goods - large household appliances (washing machines, refrigerators, heat pumps, air conditioners)
- Batteries – dry cell, rechargeable, automotive, button, lead-acid
- Motor Oil

5.2. BENEFITS OF RECYCLING

The benefits of recycling efforts include:

- Reduces the amount of solid waste that is being handled and processed by solid waste collectors.
- Reduces the amount of waste that requires disposal, therefore reserving valuable landfill space for those materials that must be disposed of in landfills.
- Reduces the number of materials such as white goods, tires, motor oil and other litter that may otherwise end up in the environment, groundwater, or waterways.
- Reduces energy use and associated pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Saves valuable resources such as raw materials and natural resources which are used in the production of materials that could be recycled.
- Reduces overall cost for municipal waste processing and disposal.
- Provides business and job opportunities.

5.3. CURRENT RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Each governmental agency in Blount County recognizes the benefits and need for recycling efforts in their jurisdiction and the option to start or change a recycling program shall remain available to the jurisdictions throughout the planning period of this SWMP.

5.3.1. Municipalities

Town of Hayden

The Town of Hayden keeps one (1) recycling bin behind City Hall for the collection of recyclable materials. Republic Services picks up these materials as part of its collection contract with the City. Representatives of Hayden state that the dumpster is open for use to any resident in the county.

Blount County Commission

The Blount County Commission, as a part of their contract with Republic Services, supplies two (2) recycling open top dumpsters that are available to the public for use. The dumpsters are located at the Oneonta Public Library and Blount County Transfer Station.

5.3.2. Private Industry Programs B & B Tire Landfill

The B & B Tire Landfill declined to provide an exact tonnage of tires that were recycled in the 2024. These tires are sold to various recycling agencies that are located both inside and outside of the United States.

5.3.3. Grocery, Retail and Home Improvement Industry

Several supermarkets, retail, and home improvement stores in Blount County currently recycle plastic bags, corrugated cardboard, rechargeable batteries, or other materials. The material is typically picked up at each store location by private recyclers. Since records of recycled amounts are not readily available, no attempt was made to quantify the amount of these materials currently being recycled by this industry in Blount County.

5.3.4. Automotive Industry

Several automotive service stores in Blount County currently recycle used motor oil and automotive batteries. Since records of recycled amounts are not readily available, no attempt was made to quantify the amount of these materials currently being recycled by this industry in Blount County.

5.4. PLANNED RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Several area businesses have expressed an interest in locating a tire recycling plant near one of the tire landfills in Blount County in the future; however, a site has not yet been chosen for such a facility and plans have not progressed beyond preliminary discussions at this point.

Although there is no additional recycling programs currently planned for Blount County or its municipalities as of the date of this report, each government recognizes the benefits and need for recycling efforts in their jurisdiction and

the option to start, or change, a recycling program shall remain available to the jurisdictions throughout the planning period of this SWMP.

5.5. EXISTING JOINT VENTURES FOR RECYCLING

Although not a joint venture, Blount County's Solid Waste Collections contract with Republic Services currently supplies three (3) recycling bins be provided in various locations around the county for the collection of recyclable materials (see Section 5.3 for additional information).

Oneonta also provides recycling opportunities to its residents under the city's current solid waste collection contract with a private agency (see Section 5.3 for additional information).

5.6. FUTURE JOINT VENTURES FOR RECYCLING

Each governmental entity (i.e. County, municipalities, schools, etc.) in Blount County recognizes the benefits and need for recycling efforts in the County; therefore, the option to enter into or change recycling joint ventures in the future shall remain available to each jurisdiction throughout the planning period of this SWMP.

It is also recognized that multi-jurisdictional recycling programs are beneficial in increasing participation in recycling while decreasing overall costs, so the option to enter into additional multi-jurisdictional agreements shall also remain available to each entity covered by the SWMP.

5.7. IMPACT OF RECYCLING ON WASTE GENERATED

According to survey results, at least 2,500 tons of materials were removed from the waste stream through recycling efforts in Blount County. The actual tonnage of materials recycled in Blount County in 2024 may be higher than reported due to inaccurate reporting due to data not being able to be traced directly to within Blount County.

Due to these recycling efforts, the overall tonnage of solid waste disposed of in a landfill was reduced, thereby conserving valuable landfill space. Waste management costs (collection, transportation, processing and disposal) are also reduced by recycling these materials.

6. RCRA SUBTITLE D REQUIREMENTS

Section 22-27-47(b)(5)i address the requirements proposed under Subtitle D of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. Section d941 as amended and identify and explain those actions the jurisdiction should take to assure proper management of its wastes under these requirements.

6.1. RCRA SUBTITLE D REQUIREMENTS

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), an amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Act, is the principal federal law in the United States governing the disposal of solid waste and hazardous waste. RCRA was enacted in 1976 to:

- Protect human health and the environment from the potential hazards of waste disposal;
- Conserve energy and natural resources;
- Reduce the amount of waste generated; and
- Ensure that wastes are managed in an environmentally sound manner.

Enacted in 1984, the Subtitle D amendment to RCRA deals with nonhazardous solid waste management and designates the state and local governments as the primary planning, permitting, regulating, implementing, and enforcement agencies for the management and disposal of household and industrial or commercial non-hazardous solid wastes. Minimum nationwide standards have been developed under Subtitle D that include specific requirements for the proper design and operation of MSW landfills and other solid waste disposal facilities. These requirements include location restrictions, facility design (liner, leachate collection, run-off controls, etc.) and operating criteria, groundwater and landfill gas monitoring requirements, corrective action requirements, financial assurance requirements, and closure and post-closure care requirements. Most states (including Alabama) have adopted these criteria into their state solid waste management programs. In addition to the minimum federal criteria, states may also impose requirements that are more stringent than the federal requirements.

6.2. JURISDICTIONAL ACTIONS TO ASSURE PROPER MANAGEMENT OF SOLID WASTES

Several of Blount County's municipalities require mandatory residential participation in solid waste collection services in their jurisdiction. In addition, Blount County operates a Convenience Center near Hayden to give residents a convenient method to properly dispose of household waste if they do not wish to contract with a private collection company. A Blount County Commissioner is directly responsible for the management and operation of the Convenience Center in accordance with solid waste regulations.

The Blount County Commission and Administrator also regularly attend classes to be educated in all areas of solid waste compliance, including Federal Rules & Regulations. County attorneys and Counsel of the Association of County Commissions of Alabama (ACCA) are consulted before making decisions relating to proper solid waste management.

All municipal solid waste collected in the county is disposed of in an MSW landfill that has been designed in accordance with Subtitle D regulations. Compliance with these regulations is assured through state-issued permits

and periodic inspections. These facilities also adhere to the operating criteria, groundwater and landfill gas monitoring requirements, corrective action requirements, financial assurance requirements, and closure/post-closure care requirements of Subtitle D.

The Blount County Commission also partners with the Alabama People Against a Littered State (PALS) organization to sponsor an annual road-side trash collection campaign, with a cash award offered based on the total weight of trash collected. Once bagged, the trash is taken to the County's Convenience Center (former Transfer Station) so it can be properly disposed of in an MSW landfill.

7. UNAUTHORIZED DUMPS

Section 22-27-47(b)(6): Propose procedures of the identification and elimination of unauthorized dumps in the jurisdiction:

7.1. PROCEDURES FOR IDENTIFYING UNAUTHORIZED DUMPS

Unauthorized or illegal dumps are typically reported by citizens, County employees, or law enforcement personnel. Blount County actively investigates illegal dump sites and prosecutes those responsible in accordance with local ordinances and State laws if ownership can be established. Responsible parties are also encouraged to clean up their site within 24 hours in return for non-prosecution.

7.2. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELIMINATION OF UNAUTHORIZED DUMPS

The Solid Waste Collections contracts require a minimum of 10 hours of cleanup at illegal dump sites per month at no additional cost to the County. There is a required hourly rate beyond 10 hours, if needed. Once a problematic area has been cleaned, fencing or other barriers and/or "No Dumping" signs can be installed. County deputies can also patrol problematic areas to discourage illegal dumping.

Qualifying unauthorized dump sites can also utilize ADEM's Solid Waste Fund (SWF) Site Remediation Program to clean up and properly dispose of illegally dumped material.

8. SOLID WASTE GENERATION PROJECTIONS

Section 22-27-47(b)(7). Describe and explain the general of origin and weight or volume of solid waste reasonably expected to be generated within the jurisdiction annually during the next 10 years. The assessment shall describe the primary variables affecting this estimate and the extent to which they can reasonably be expected to affect the estimate.

8.1. GENERAL

Historically, nationwide per capita municipal solid waste generation rates increased steadily from 1960 (2.68 lbs./capita/day) to 1999 (4.65 lbs./capita/day), essentially leveled off between 1999 and 2005, and have decreased slightly or remained steady each year since then, resulting in a 2010 national estimate of 4.43 lbs./capita/day. Source reduction, increased recycling participation and the slow economy have contributed to the reduction in generation rates since 1999. According to the EPA document, The Decision Makers Guide to Solid Waste Management, Vol. II, when estimating future solid waste generation quantities, 'bless there is information to the contrary, it is best to assume no change in the generation rate and to develop future projections based on population projections alone.' Based on this statement, the per capita solid waste generation rates calculated in Chapter 2 will be used in conjunction with population projections to estimate future solid waste quantities for the planning period of this SWMP.

8.2. POPULATION ESTIMATES

Current population estimates were obtained using data from the U.S. Census Bureau and the University of Alabama's Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER). CBER typically estimates county populations using five-year intervals, currently from 2010 to 2040 (see Table 8.1). These estimates were used to determine yearly population totals by evenly distributing the five-year change across each year of the time period. Since CBER only estimates future population changes for counties and not municipalities, the estimates given for Blount County will be applied to the municipalities and used to estimate municipal populations for 2025 through the end of the SWMP planning period.

Table 8.1

CBER Population Projections

Population Projections	Est Change 2020-2025	Est Change 2025-2030	Est Change 2030 -2035
Blount County (CBER)	3.3%	3.2%	3.0

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the "covered area" of Blount County had a 2020 Census population of 59,134. Using the methodology described above, CBER estimates that the population of Blount County will increase an average of 3.3% per year between 2020 and 2025, an average of 3.2% per year between 2025 and 2030, and 3.1% for

each year between 2030 and 2035. Applying these percentages to each of the covered municipalities in Blount County results in the projected populations shown in Table 8-2 below.

8.3. ESTIMATED WEIGHT OR VOLUME OF SOLID WASTE GENERATED ANNUALLY

The current per capita solid waste generation rates calculated in Chapter 2 are used in conjunction with the estimated municipal populations from Table 8-2 to calculate projected household, commercial, and C&D waste quantities for the planning period of this SWMP. These estimates are shown in Tables 8-3 through 8-5. Since there was no Industrial or Special Waste reported as being generated in Blount County in 2024, the projected quantities of this type of waste are listed as <1 ton for each year of the planning period.

It should be noted that population data is generally not a reliable measure of future commercial and industrial solid waste production rates, since population growth or decline is not a direct measure of growth and decline in the business sector. However, since there are no long-range economic projections available from the Regional Planning Commission, this is the only method available for estimating future commercial and industrial solid waste generation. Additionally, businesses and industries continually investigate techniques and technology to reuse and recycle waste products which are generated by their core processes.

TABLE 8-2 Blount County Population Projections

Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Allgood	565	571	577	584	590	597	603	610	617	623	630
Blountsville	1,815	1,835	1,855	1,876	1,896	1,917	1,938	1,959	1,981	2,003	2,025
Cleveland	1,261	1,275	1,289	1,303	1,317	1,332	1,347	1,361	1,376	1,391	1,407
County Line	318	321	325	329	332	336	340	343	347	351	355
Hayden	1,365	1,380	1,395	1,411	1,426	1,442	1,458	1,474	1,490	1,506	1,523
Highland Lake	432	437	442	446	451	456	461	466	472	477	482
Locust Fork	1,250	1,264	1,278	1,292	1,306	1,320	1,335	1,349	1,364	1,379	1,395
Nectar	390	394	399	403	407	412	416	421	426	430	435
Oneonta	7,045	7,122	7,201	7,280	7,360	7,441	7,523	7,606	7,689	7,774	7,859
Rosa	385	389	394	398	402	407	411	416	420	425	430
Snead	1,046	1,058	1,069	1,081	1,093	1,105	1,117	1,129	1,142	1,154	1,167
Susan Moore	810	819	828	837	846	856	865	874	884	894	904
Unincorporated Blount County	43,500	43,979	44,462	44,951	45,446	45,946	46,451	46,962	47,479	48,001	48,529
Blount County Total:	60,182	60,844	61,513	62,190	62,874	63,566	64,265	64,972	65,686	66,409	67,140

Source: Population data was derived from U.S. Census Bureau and University of Alabama Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) data.

TABLE 8-3 BLOUNT COUNTY HOUSEHOLD SOLID WASTE PROJECTIONS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	WASTE GENERATION RATE (LBS/CAP/DAY)	Household Waste Generated (Tons/Year)										
		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Allgood	1.33	137	139	140	142	143	145	146	148	150	151	153
Blountsville	1.33	441	445	450	455	460	465	470	476	481	486	491
Cleveland	1.33	306	309	313	316	320	323	327	330	334	338	341
County Line	1.33	77	78	79	80	81	82	82	83	84	85	86
Hayden	1.33	331	335	339	342	346	350	354	358	362	366	370
Highland Lake	1.33	105	106	107	108	110	111	112	113	114	116	117
Locust Fork	1.33	303	307	310	314	317	320	324	328	331	335	338
Nectar	1.33	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	106
Oneonta	1.33	1,710	1,729	1,748	1,767	1,786	1,806	1,826	1,846	1,866	1,887	1,908
Rosa	1.33	93	94	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104
Snead	1.33	254	257	260	262	265	268	271	274	277	280	283
Susan Moore	1.33	197	199	201	203	205	208	210	212	215	217	219
Unincorporated Blount County	1.33	10,559	10,675	10,792	10,911	11,031	11,152	11,275	11,399	11,524	11,651	11,779
Blount County Total:	1.33	15,099	14,768	14,931	15,095	15,261	15,429	15,599	15,770	15,944	16,119	16,296

Note: Waste generation rates were derived in Chapter 2.

TABLE 8-4 BLOUNT COUNTY COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE PROJECTIONS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	WASTE GENERATION RATE (LBS/CAP/DAY)	Commercial Waste Generated (Tons/Year)										
		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Allgood	0.58	60	60	61	62	62	63	64	65	65	66	67
Blountsville	0.58	192	194	196	199	201	203	205	207	210	212	214
Cleveland	0.58	133	135	136	138	139	141	143	144	146	147	149
County Line	0.58	34	34	34	35	35	36	36	36	37	37	38
Hayden	0.58	144	146	148	149	151	153	154	156	158	159	161
Highland Lake	0.58	46	46	47	47	48	48	49	49	50	50	51
Locust Fork	0.58	132	134	135	137	138	140	141	143	144	146	148
Nectar	0.58	41	42	42	43	43	44	44	45	45	46	46
Oneonta	0.58	746	754	762	771	779	788	796	805	814	823	832
Rosa	0.58	41	41	42	42	43	43	44	44	44	45	46
Snead	0.58	111	112	113	114	116	117	118	120	121	122	124
Susan Moore	0.58	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96
Unincorporated Blount County	0.58	4604	4655	4706	4758	4810	4863	4917	4971	5026	5081	5137
Blount County Total:	0.58	6370	6440	6511	6583	6655	6728	6802	6877	6953	7029	7107

Note: Waste generation rates were derived in Chapter 2.

TABLE 8-5

BLOUNT COUNTY CONSTRUCTION / DEMOLITION SOLID WASTE PROJECTIONS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	WASTE GENERATION RATE (LBS/CAP/DAY)	Construction/Demolition Waste Generated (Tons/Year)										
		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Blount County Total:	0.0	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

Note Waste generation rates were derived in Chapter 2

TABLE 8-6

BLOUNT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL SOLID WASTE PROJECTIONS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	WASTE GENERATION RATE (LBS/CAP/DAY)	Industrial Waste Generated (Tons/Year)										
		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Blount County Total:	0.0	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

TABLE 8-7

BLOUNT COUNTY SPECIAL WASTE PROJECTIONS BY JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	WASTE GENERATION RATE (LBS/CAP/DAY)	Special Waste Generated (Tons/Year)										
		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Blount County Total:	0.0	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

8.4. VARIABLES THAT MAY AFFECT WASTE GENERATION ESTIMATES

Several variables exist that may affect the future solid waste quantities predicted above.

8.4.1. Population Trends

As previously mentioned, only countywide growth rates are available to project future population estimates in Alabama municipalities. Since a municipality's growth rate does not necessarily duplicate countywide growth rates, it is reasonable to assume that there will be several municipalities whose future population counts will differ from those estimated for the planning period of this SWMP. This would affect the future waste generation amounts proportionally to the population differences.

8.4.2. Municipal Solid Waste Variables

The calculated per capita household and commercial waste generation rate factors were used to calculate the projected municipal solid waste amounts for the planning period of this Solid Waste Management Plan. One assumption affecting these estimates is that the per capita waste generation rate remains constant over the planning period. Greater economic growth with concurrent job and income growth would likely result in more waste being generated through increased consumer spending. Conversely, if recycling programs become more widespread and/or more effective in diverting waste from disposal, then the amount of MSW generated would decrease.

8.4.3. Construction/Demolition Waste Variables

Construction/Demolition (C/D) waste quantities are primarily driven by the economy and weather. Fluctuations in the economy, especially in residential housing and commercial office construction, have a large effect on C/D waste generation. A growing economy almost always results in additional demand for new or renovated residential and commercial buildings. This activity would result in an increase in the amount of C/D waste generated in the future.

Additionally, severe weather can cause considerable damage to trees and buildings, especially in disaster areas, resulting in a short-term increase in C/D waste for disposal. Cleanup following storms typically lasts for one to two months, but can last for several months, or even years, in severe cases. This disaster waste is very hard to predict or quantify and could have a significant effect on future C/D waste generation.

8.4.4. Industrial Waste Generation Variables

Although there was no industrial waste reported as being collected in Blount County in 2024, this may change in the future if large industries decide to locate in the county. If such an industry locates here, it is impossible to predict whether this industry would have waste that would be disposed of in an MSW landfill, a C/D landfill or if they would permit and construct their own Industrial landfill.

8.4.5. Special Waste

Because of the random nature of Special Wastes, quantities of these types of waste are difficult to estimate. Volumes of special waste that would be disposed of in an MSW landfill tend to be small; therefore, changes in future amounts of special waste are not expected to significantly affect the total amounts of solid waste generated in Blount County in the future.

9. DEVELOPMENT OR EXPANSION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Section 22-27-47(b)(8). Provide for the development or expansion of solid waste management systems in a manner that is consistent with the needs of the area, taking into account planning, zoning, population and development estimates, and economics of the jurisdiction and the protection of air, water, land and other natural resources.

9.1. GENERAL

Proper solid waste management requires an integrated approach to addressing the needs of the jurisdiction while being protective of public and environmental health, safety and welfare.

9.1.1. Solid Waste Disposal Needs of the Area

The current or projected solid waste disposal need for the County can be reasonably assessed by evaluating the remaining disposal capacity for those landfills currently serving Blount County (see Chapter 4). Although there currently appears to be adequate solid waste disposal capacity available to Blount County and its municipalities for the duration of the planning period for this SWMP, a jurisdiction within the County may decide it would be advantageous to site a new landfill or processing facility in Blount County due to collection, transportation and/or disposal costs, host government benefits (i.e. fees, taxes, etc.), increased control over solid waste management decisions, or other currently unforeseen issues. Therefore, the option to site a future landfill (either MSW, Industrial or C/D), solid waste processing facility, recycling facility, or other similar facility, shall remain available to the jurisdiction throughout the planning period of this SWMP.

9.1.2. Planning and Zoning Considerations

Planning and Zoning is the principal means for an area to guide its future growth and achieve a logical pattern of land use and development for the county. A Planning and Zoning Department or Commission typically ensures that all new development meets specific guidelines and requirements related to the adequacy of roads, parking, traffic flow, setbacks, drainage, utilities, etc. Some of the generally accepted, specific objectives of Planning and Zoning are:

- To conserve the taxable value of land and buildings.
- To prevent overcrowding of land and buildings.
- To control pollution, noise, dust, smoke, vibration, odor, flashes of light or danger of explosion.
- To lessen or avoid congestion in the public streets.
- To promote the public health, safety, comfort, morals, and general welfare of the public and the community.

Some municipalities or unincorporated areas do not currently have zoning regulations; however, in the areas that do have these regulations, any proposed solid waste transfer stations, disposal facility or processing facility should be located in an area that is appropriately zoned for each type of facility.

9.1.3. Local Economics and Population / Development Estimates

Considering the information presented above, unforeseen circumstances during the next ten years may lead to the need for additional solid waste disposal or processing facilities in the County due to increased population or commercial development. The County may also wish to consider locating solid waste processing or disposal

facilities within its jurisdiction due to host government benefits (i.e. fees, taxes, etc.) that would be received from these types of facilities.

9.1.4. Protection of Air, Water, and Natural Resources

State and Federal Regulations regarding the siting, design, construction and operation of solid waste processing and disposal facilities are in place to protect air, water and natural resources. These Regulations which safeguard against health, safety and environmental concerns involve:

- Buffer zones
- Minimum separation from groundwater
- Storm water run-on/run-off
- Liners, if applicable
- Leachate collection systems, if applicable
- Gas monitoring systems, if applicable
- Daily cover of solid waste

In regards to landfills, the use of properly installed cover material greatly reduces landfill odors and wind-blown debris. In addition, groundwater is less likely to become contaminated due to the installation of clay liners, geotextile fabric and leachate collection systems. Creeks, streams and other environmentally sensitive areas are protected from excessive stormwater runoff through the use of detention or retention ponds. By following ADEM and EPA guidelines, safeguards against health, safety, and environmental concerns can be achieved while protecting air, water, land and other natural resources.

9.2. CONSIDERING HOST GOVERNMENT APPROVAL FOR PROPOSED NEW OR EXPANDED SOLID WASTE FACILITIES

The Blount County Commission shall consider approval of proposed new or expanded solid waste facilities or services in unincorporated Blount County. A municipal government which is subject to and covered by the County's SWMP may consider and grant local approval of new or expanded solid waste management facilities and services within their municipal limits only. Proposed facilities to be located within a municipality's limits will only be considered by the County Commission after they are petitioned by the City Council to approve said facility/site and an appropriate review fee is negotiated (unless this fee is waived).

Appendix A contains the application that must be submitted by a proposed solid waste facility when requesting host government approval. An Application Fee equal to 20 percent of the application or permit fee required by ADEM will be required to be submitted with the application (unless waived by the host government) and the entity proposing the solid waste facility shall supply the information requested in the application. It is important to note that neither the County nor its municipalities will be reviewing the application for technical compliance with Subtitle D requirements. This level of technical review is reserved for ADEM. Instead, the host government shall provide a review by whatever method it deems necessary to assure the proper management of solid wastes generated within its jurisdiction.

10. JOINT USE OF SOLID WASTE FACILITIES

Section 22-27-47(b)(9). Identify any current agreements between the jurisdiction and other units of local government or public authorities for the joint use of solid waste processing or disposal facilities and evaluate the need for and feasibility of entering joint agreements in the future.

10.1. CURRENT AGREEMENTS

There are currently no agreements between Blount County and any other unit of local government or public authority for the joint use of solid waste processing or disposal facilities. However, any resident of Blount County (regardless of municipal residency) is allowed to use the Convenience Center for the drop-off of household waste.

10.2. EVALUATION OF NEED FOR FUTURE JOINT USE AGREEMENTS

Blount County does not currently anticipate the need for joint agreements with any other unit of local government or public authority. However, in the event of an emergency such as a natural disaster, or any other unforeseen need, the participating jurisdictions may enter into joint agreements with other units of local government or public authorities to accommodate solid waste processing and/or disposal needs throughout the life of this SWMP.

11. PRIVATE COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND/OR DISPOSAL CONTRACTS

Section 22-27-47(b)(10): Identify any current contractual agreements with private entities for the collection, processing or disposal of solid waste and evaluate the need for and feasibility of entering into such agreements in the future.

11.1. CONTRACTS WITH PRIVATE SOLID WASTE CONTRACTORS

Blount County currently administers only one contract for the collection and disposal of solid waste in the county; however, these contracts are not exclusive and subscription to services is voluntary. Also included in this contract is the transport and disposal of solid waste collected at the county's Convenience Center and the provision of at two recycling bins at various locations around the county.

Blount County also has a Memorandum of Understanding with the municipalities that allows each municipality to have its citizens and businesses obtain solid waste collection services under the County's contracts. This allows a municipality to utilize the County's contract instead of having to bid out those services themselves. Several of Blount County's municipalities currently utilize this contract for residential, or residential and commercial, solid waste collections in their areas (see Chapter 3 for additional information).

11.2. EVALUATION OF NEED FOR FUTURE AGREEMENTS WITH PRIVATE SOLID WASTE CONTRACTORS

Contractual agreements for solid waste collection services and disposal will vary throughout the life of this Plan. Since neither the County, nor its municipalities, currently provide solid waste collection or disposal services, it is anticipated that contractual agreements will continue to be needed in the future for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated in Blount County. These contracts are typically bid out on a periodic basis. Bidding these services gives the County and its municipalities increased flexibility over the services received, at a lower cost.

12. SITING FOR SOLID WASTE PROCESSING OR DISPOSAL FACILITIES AND RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Section 22-27-47Q) (7J): Identify the general location within a county where solid waste processing or disposal facilities and recycling programs may be located, and identify the site of each facility if a site has already been chosen.

In identifying general locations for facilities in the plan, each jurisdiction shall consider at least the following:

- a) The jurisdiction's solid waste management needs as identified in its plan;
- b) The relationship of the proposed location or locations to planned or existing development, to major transportation arteries and to existing state primary and secondary roads.
- c) The relationship of the proposed location or locations to existing industries in the jurisdiction or state that generate large volumes of solid waste and to the areas projected by the state or local regional planning and development commission for development of industries that will generate solid waste;
- d) The costs and availability of public services, facilities and improvements which would be required to support a facility in this location and protect public health, safety and the environment;
- e) The potential impact a facility in the proposed location or locations would have on public health and safety, and the potential that such locations can be utilized in a manner so as to minimize the impact on public health and safety, and
- f) The social and economic impacts that a facility at the proposed location would have on the affected community, including changes in property values, community perception and other costs.

12.1. GENERAL

When siting solid waste processing, disposal or recycling facilities, a balance must be struck between the need for environmentally sound waste disposal capacity and recycling ability and the concerns of local citizens and municipalities. Siting factors to consider include: public health and safety, accessibility, drainage, soils, proximity to groundwater and surface water, potential for surface subsidence (underground mining or karst topography), hauling distance and adjacent land use.

12.1.1. Specific Requirements and Considerations

In the consideration of future facilities, the jurisdiction shall consider the following specific items. The jurisdiction shall determine if these items have been addressed in a logical and complete manner.

1. The consistency of the proposal with the jurisdiction's solid waste management needs as identified in its SWMP. In considering future facilities, the SWMP should be reviewed to determine if the proposed facility fills a need as described in the Plan, or fills a need not existing at the time of the Plan's preparation. These considerations should be evaluated by the jurisdiction early in the process.
2. The relationship of the proposal to local planned or existing development, to major transportation arteries and to existing state primary and secondary roads. The proximity of a proposed solid waste project to existing or planned major transportation routes is crucial. All solid waste facilities are dependent upon good roads to facilitate access to and from.

3. Additionally, the type of facility dictates the required proximity. Transfer stations should be located near major arteries as the haul trucks operate best on highways. Recycling centers should be located for ease of access by the public, bearing in mind that material haul trucks need access as well. Landfills are best located in rural or industrial areas, hidden from view of the general public, yet not too far from major arteries and primary state roads so haul and collector trucks can have adequate access.
4. The location of a proposed facility in relationship to existing industries in the state that generate large volumes of solid waste, or the relationship to the areas projected for development of industries that will generate solid waste. Ideally, a facility intended to service an industry should be located as close as possible to the industry. This is sensible from a cost standpoint, but it also minimizes the impact on the community and public health and safety. Absent that, it should be located near major arteries or primary state roads in an appropriate area of the jurisdiction (see Item 2. above).
5. Costs and availability of public services, facilities and improvements required to support a proposed facility and protect public health, safety and the environment. A solid waste facility or recycling facility will require certain public services as a minimum. Water service is vital for fire protection, sanitation, and housekeeping. Water service can be public water system extensions or on-site wells. Sewage treatment facilities close at hand is convenient for leachate and wash down water treatment as well as sanitation treatment. If these are not close by, then liquid wastes will need to be captured and hauled to the facilities or sewer extensions constructed. Alternatively, on site treatment can be considered.
6. The potential impact of a proposed facility on public health and safety, and provisions made to minimize the impact on public health and safety. The proposed facility plan should address transportation safety by evaluating existing roads and traffic controls with proposed upgrades; wastewater, leachate and washdown water capture, transport and treatment must be addressed; stormwater and erosion control systems must be adequately designed and detailed to protect surface and groundwater resources; and adequate safeguards to prevent contamination of air and water resources, nuisance odors, and aesthetic eyesores must be considered. Finally, provisions to minimize or prevent the public from coming in contact with solid waste must be provided (access control).
7. The social and economic impacts of a proposed facility on the affected community, including changes in property values, and social or community perception. Social impacts of a proposed solid waste facility or recycling center can be difficult to quantify. The jurisdiction shall evaluate a proposed project's location, impact on public safety and public facilities, and shall also consider the opinions and concerns of community representatives and the general public. Economic impact positives such as jobs and revenue shall be weighed along with possible negative perceptions.

12.2. SITING FOR FUTURE SOLID WASTE PROCESSING OR DISPOSAL FACILITIES

The Blount County Commission, or its municipalities, will determine if future landfills, processing facilities or recycling facilities will be sited in their jurisdiction, or if expansions or modifications to existing facilities which require Host Government consideration will be approved in their jurisdiction. If a new facility is determined to be needed during the planning period of this SWMP, the items described above shall be considered to determine the

2024 Solid Waste Management Plan

best location for that facility. Locations near major transportation routes such as Interstates and U.S. Highways, and near generators of large quantities of solid waste would be important to the selection of a possible area. The expansion of an existing facility would best occur on site if possible.

12.3. CURRENTLY PROPOSED SOLID WASTE PROCESSING/DISPOSAL OR RECYCLING FACILITIES

During the time in which this SWMP was completed, B&B Tire Landfill made an attempt to start a new operation at a new location within Blount County. The commission voted against this motion. This does not stop B&B from attempting to locate another piece of property within the county to operate. There is currently no other known solid waste processing, disposal or recycling facility planned for Blount County.

Although there are no solid waste processing, disposal or recycling facilities currently proposed in Blount County, the option to site these types of facilities shall remain available to the County and the municipalities within the County due to collection, transportation and/or disposal costs, or other currently unforeseen issues. In addition, the option to approve an expansion or modification to an existing facility shall also remain available to the County and its municipalities.

13. UTILIZING SOLID WASTE FACILITIES OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION

Section 22-27-d7(b)(12): For any facility expected to serve the jurisdiction's future needs that is located or is proposed to be located outside the jurisdiction, the plan shall explain in detail the reasons for selecting such a facility.

13.1. FACILITY USE OUTSIDE OF JURISDICTION

Since there is no municipal solid waste landfill currently located in Blount County, all municipal solid waste generated in Blount County is currently being disposed of outside the jurisdiction. Municipal solid waste is currently being disposed of in either the Sand Valley Landfill in DeKalb County, the Jefferson County Landfill No. 1 (Mt. Olive Landfill) in Jefferson County, or the Noble Hill Landfill in Attala, Alabama. The decision on which landfill to take the solid waste to after it is picked up is typically determined by the collection agency and is usually based on ownership, tipping fees, and ease of transportation to the facility.

REFERENCES

Website, Alabama State Legislature: www.legislature.state.al.us/CodeofAlabama/1975/coatoc.htm, Section 22-27-47.

USEPA, August 1995. Decision Makers Guide to Solid Waste Management, Volume II.

EPA530-R-95-023, and ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-13-1-.03.

U.S. Census Bureau and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama, Fall 2013.

USEPA, December 2011. Municipal Solid Waste in the United States. 2010 Facts and Figures. EPA-530-F-11-005.

Website, Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Landfill Lists: MSW: www.adem.state.al.us/programs/land/landforms/MSWLFMasterList08-11.pdf C/D and ILF: www.adem.state.al.us/programs/land/landforms/CDILFMasterList08-11.pdf

ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-13-1-.03 Definitions. Revised April 3, 2013

APPENDIX A

APPLICATION FOR HOST GOVERNMENT APPROVAL

**HOST GOVERNMENT APPLICATION
FOR
PROPOSED SOLID WASTE FACILITY IN BLOUNT COUNTY**

This application is to be filled out and submitted to the host government (County or participating municipality) for consideration of a proposed solid waste facility or the modification of permits for existing facilities (as described in Alabama Code § 22-27-48). Failure to provide all requested information may result in the application being rejected as incomplete. Time frames will begin only after the participating jurisdiction has determined that the application is complete.

- A. Unless waived by the proposed Host Government, an Application Review Fee equal to 20% of ADEM's permit fee for the proposed facility will be required to be submitted with the application. The fee shall be made payable to the proposed Host Government with a written request for host government approval to locate a solid waste facility, or make modifications to the permit of an existing facility (if the modifications require Host Government Approval), within the legal boundaries of the approving jurisdiction. If an application is received for the same facility within 18 months of it being denied or rejected by the local governing body, the Application Review Fee shall be equal to 50% of the ADEM's permit fee.
- B. Once an application is determined to be complete, a Public Hearing date will be set. The County Commission or participating jurisdiction will place a legal advertisement in a local newspaper to run at least one time identifying time and date of a Public Hearing. A Public Notice describing the date and time of the Public Hearing shall also be displayed in an area typically used for governmental public notifications (i.e. City Hall or Courthouse hallway).
- C. The advertisement is required to run in the newspaper not less than 30 days and not more than 45 days before the Public Hearing.
- D. At least two competent representatives of the proposed facility shall be present at the Public Hearing.
- E. The Approving Jurisdiction will consider the proposal and will determine whether to approve or disapprove the site based on all information provided including the considerations set forth in Alabama Code § 22-27-48.
- F. The Jurisdiction or County Commission will rule on the completed application within 90 days of its receipt.
- G. If any portion of the described review process is found to be in conflict with the requirements of Alabama Code § 22-27-48, or any updated statute, the regulatory requirements shall supercede the requirements of this Plan.

DATE OF APPLICATION SUBMITTAL: _____

1. PROPOSED NAME OF FACILITY: _____

2. APPLICANT:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

If applicant is a Corporation, list Officers: _____

If applicant is a Partnership, list principals:

Principal Stockholders: _____

3. PROPOSED FACILITY TYPE:

_____ MSW LANDFILL

_____ C & D LANDFILL

_____ INDUSTRIAL LANDFILL

_____ PROCESSING FACILITY (Describe)

_____ OTHER (Explain)

3. CONTACT PERSON(S): (if different from No. 2)

Name (1) _____ (2) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

4. LANDOWNER: (if different from No. 2)

Attach a copy of the agreement from landowner giving permission to use site for the intended purpose.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

5. SITE DESCRIPTION:

a. Location: Township _____ Range _____

Section _____ ¼ Section(s) _____

b. Attach location map with the site clearly identified. Acceptable maps include a USGS 7.5 or 15 minute series, a county highway map published by the State DOT, or approved equivalent.

c. Attach a legal property description and boundary plat of the proposed facility prepared by a land surveyor.

d. Size of disposal facility (actual area to be utilized) _____ acres.

e. Total area of property (if different from d.) _____ acres.

6. ADJACENT LANDOWNERS:

a. Submit a list of all adjacent landowners including name and current mailing address.

b. Submit a map identifying the proposed disposal site and all adjacent landowners listed in (a) above. State the source of your information.

7. WASTE DESCRIPTION:

- a. Describe and list all waste streams to be accepted at the facility. Be specific (household solid waste, wood boiler ash, foundry sand, discarded tires, dried sludge, limbs and stumps, etc.)

- b. What is the estimated maximum daily volume of waste to be received at the facility? _____
(indicate tons/day or yd³/day)

- c. What geographic area or specific industry will waste be accepted from? (be specific) _____

- d. Haulage of waste to the facility will be by whom? _____

- e. Describe the principle type of transportation vehicle to be used to transport waste:

- f. Approximately _____ vehicles per day (max.) will be generated as additional traffic on the main collector road to this solid waste facility.

- g. Describe all proposed environmental monitoring systems (i.e. groundwater, explosive gas, leachate collection, liner systems). _____

8. SITING STANDARDS:

- a. Is the facility located within the 100-year flood plain?

YES _____ NO _____

Provide a current flood insurance rate map with the site identified.

- b. Is the facility located so as to protect surface and groundwater?

YES _____ NO _____

Explain on an attached sheet.

- c. Is a discharge to surface water proposed that may require an NPDES Permit?

YES _____ NO _____

Explain on an attached sheet.

- d. Is a discharge of dredged material or fill material into waters of the state proposed which may require a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act?

YES _____ NO _____

- e. The bottom elevation of solid waste shall be a minimum of five feet above the seasonal high groundwater table or bedrock. The minimum depth to (CIRCLE ONE: Bedrock, groundwater) at this site is _____ feet. (Attach map showing location)

- f. Are any sink holes, ponds, springs, swamps, streams, or drainage courses located within the disposal area?

YES _____ NO _____

If YES, explain. _____

- g. Identify any airport runway located within 10,000 feet of the site?

h. How many landfills (or similar type facility) are within a ten (10) mile radius of this proposed facility? _____

i. Does the entrance to the facility meet current standards for sight distance? (Note: The County Engineer's office will review any proposed design that impacts County roads)_____

j. Will any stormwater runoff be directed to a road right-of-way? If so, describe.

9. GENERAL:

a. Describe how the property boundaries will be clearly and permanently marked.

b. Describe and/or show your planned progression of fill from beginning operation through closure. _____

c. The life expectancy of the facility is _____ years.

- d. How will indiscriminate dumping be prevented (gates, fencing, etc.)? _____

- e. Describe what equipment will be utilized in the disposal operation. _____

- f. Describe what personnel will be utilized in the disposal operation. _____

- g. The applicant is responsible for compliance with all other requirements identified by applicable statutes and the ADEM Administrative Code.

10. Alabama Code § 22-27-48:

Describe how the proposed facility shall meet each of the criteria set forth in Alabama Code § 22-27-48.

- a. The consistency of the proposal with the jurisdiction's solid waste management need as identified in its plan;
- b. The relationship of the proposal to local planned or existing development or the absence thereof, to major transportation arteries and to existing state primary and secondary roads;
- c. The location of the proposed facility in relationship to existing industries in the state that generate large volumes of solid waste, or the relationship to the areas projected for development of industries that will generate solid waste;
- d. Cost and availability of public services, facilities and improvements required to support the proposed facility and protect public health, safety and the environment;

- e. The impact of proposed facility on public safety and provisions made to minimize the impact on public health and safety; and
- f. The social and economic impacts of the proposed facility on the affected community, including changes in property values, and social or community perception.

CERTIFICATION:

I, _____, certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments submitted are to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete.

SIGNATURE : _____
(Corporate Officer, Partner, Mayor, Chairman, etc.)

(Printed Name and Title)

APPENDIX B

PUBLIC NOTICE and COMMENTS

**B-1: BLOUNT COUNTY 2024 SWMP PUBLIC HEARING
 – GENERAL**

B-2: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING/COMMENT PERIOD NOTICE

BLOUNT COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

As required by the Alabama Solid Wastes & Recyclable Materials Management Act (SWRMMA), §22-27-47 Code of Alabama (1975), the Blount County Commission will conduct a Public Hearing to solicit public comment concerning the County's Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP or Plan). The Public Hearing will be held Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Blount County Commission Chamber (Blount County Courthouse – First Floor), 220 Second Avenue East, Oneonta, Alabama 35121.

Each city and county of the State of Alabama is required to develop and adopt comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plans which forecast and describe the management of solid waste generated within the local government's jurisdiction over a minimum 10-year period. The SWMP includes topics such as describing the types and volumes of solid waste generated in the county, the methods of collection, transportation and disposal for this solid waste, descriptions of major recycling programs in the county and other solid waste management issues. Copies of the draft Blount County Solid Waste Management Plan will be available for review, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays (excluding holidays), between the dates of December 5, 2024 and January 14, 2025 at the Offices of the Blount County Commission, 220 Second Avenue East, Oneonta, Alabama 35121. To obtain copies of the document or to obtain additional information, contact Mr. Mark Staton, Blount County Administrator, 220 Second Avenue East, Oneonta, Alabama 35121, phone (205) 625-6868.

If any local citizen wishes to submit public comments, such comments shall be submitted in writing no later than 9:00 a.m. on January 14, 2025 to: Mr. Mark Staton, Blount County Administrator, 220 Second Avenue East, Oneonta, Alabama 35121. Public comments may also be submitted in writing at the Public Hearing (date and address given above). In order to affect final decision or content of the SWMP, comments must offer technically substantial information that is applicable to the proposed Plan.

This notice is hereby given this 4th day of December, 2024, but authorization of the Blount County Commission.

B-3: PUBLIC HEARING SIGN-N SHEET

APPENDIX C

C-1: PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

**C-2: RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2025 SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

APPENDIX “D”

ADEM APPROVAL LETTER