



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT
BOARD MEMORANDUM



Date: June 30, 2017
To: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
From: Vincent Burke, P.E., Director of Utility Services
Thru: Himanshu H. Mehta, P.E., Managing Director, Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD)
Prepared By: Stephanie C. Fonvielle, Recycling Education and Marketing Coordinator, SWDD
Subject: Quarterly Recycling Update – Second and Third Quarter FY2016/17

QUARTERLY UPDATE:

On June 30, 2017, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) published the recycling rates for all counties in Florida and Indian River County has reached an overall recycling rate of 53% for Calendar Year (CY) 2016. Concrete tonnages (not previously used for historical overall recycling rates) are incorporated for CY 2016 which contributed to the increase. We are excited to reach this 50% milestone, and we hope to continue to see a positive trend as we continue our recycling efforts.

For the second and third quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2016/17, the recycling tonnages under Single-Stream Recycling (SSR) were relatively comparable to those in FY 2015/16, with the exception of January where tonnages were 25% higher in FY 2016/17. Although the trends under SSR are comparable, these tonnages are still about 60% higher than the amount collected under the previous Dual-Stream recycling program.

The summaries for the second and third quarter are as follows:

Month	FY 2015/16 SSR Tonnages	FY 2016/17 SSR Tonnages	% Change
January	1,613	2,030	25.8%
February	1,585	1,606	1.4%
March	1,941	1,900	-2.1%
April	1,656	1,629	-1.7%
May	1,626	1,803	10.9%
June	1,493	1,648	10.4%

Recycling Collection Events:

During the second quarter, the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) hosted a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronics Recycling Event on January 21, 2017 at the North County Pool. The event brought in 230 cars and recycled 8,000 lbs. of electronics as well as various HHW such as paint cans, propane tanks, pesticides, and fire extinguishers. Mr. Edward O'Neal won the raffle and received a laptop that was generously donated by NWI Recycling. On August 12, 2017, Waste Management and SWDD will host a second HHW and Electronics Recycling

event in the south part of the county at the Intergenerational Recreation Center from 9 am to 12 pm. All residents of IRC are welcome to attend.

During the third quarter, SWDD partnered with Southeast Secure Shredding (SESS) to co-host the spring Residential Paper Shredding Event on April 8, 2017 at their facility at 3910 US-1. The popularity of the event is increasing and our spring event brought in around 700 cars and recycled 20,829 lbs of paper (compared to the 450 cars and 15,588 lbs of paper at the fall event in 2016). Because of the positive responses from IRC residents and the increasingly large turnout, staff would like to continue to offer two paper shredding events per fiscal year, one in the fall and one in the spring.

Outreach:

Providing a clear and consistent message about proper recycling habits is key to encouraging the public participation in the program and keeping contamination rates low. Throughout the second and third quarter, SWDD continued a recycling educational campaign that included radio interviews, radio advertisements, print advertisements and email blasts to announce upcoming events and provide general recycling information. In an effort to reach those not tuned into local media, a poster was on display in the AMC Theatre lobby from November 2016 to April 2017 and a 30 second video advertisement aired on Comcast from February 2017 to May 2017. The increased tonnages under single stream recycling program and the low contamination rates (6.9%) reported by our processor, Tropical Recycling, indicate that our educational efforts are successful in encouraging proper recycling in Indian River County. On a related note, as reported recently by TC Palm, the increase in recycling tons has allowed Tropical Recycling in 2015 to expand from West Palm Beach to the former Tree Sweet citrus plant in Ft. Pierce. The transition has created 22 jobs, and they plan to hire about 10 people a year, up to 50 with an average annual salary of about \$37,000.

Our goals for the remainder of the fiscal year are 1) to send out a postcard to all the residents in the county about proper recycling, 2) to begin the application process for a grant that would enable us to implement a pilot school recycling program, and 3) to find a way to have recycling picked up at the eight county beaches. We are also hoping to encourage more local businesses to sign up for commercial recycling.

FUNDING:

This agenda item is for a quarterly recycling update to the SWDD Board and does not require funding.