



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 17, 2020

TO: Himanshu Mehta, Solid Waste District Director, Indian River County

FROM: Chas Jordan, Project Manager, Kessler Consulting, Inc.
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SUBJ: Rate Survey Information

PROJ #: 73-07.00

Purpose

In preparation for a full solid waste rate analysis, Indian River County Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) has contracted with Kessler Consulting, Inc. (KCI) to compare the SWDD's disposal rates with up to ten other counties in the state. These counties were selected due to their geographical proximity or similar population. Additionally, only counties with publicly owned landfills and/or transfer stations, similar to the SWDD, were considered for this analysis.

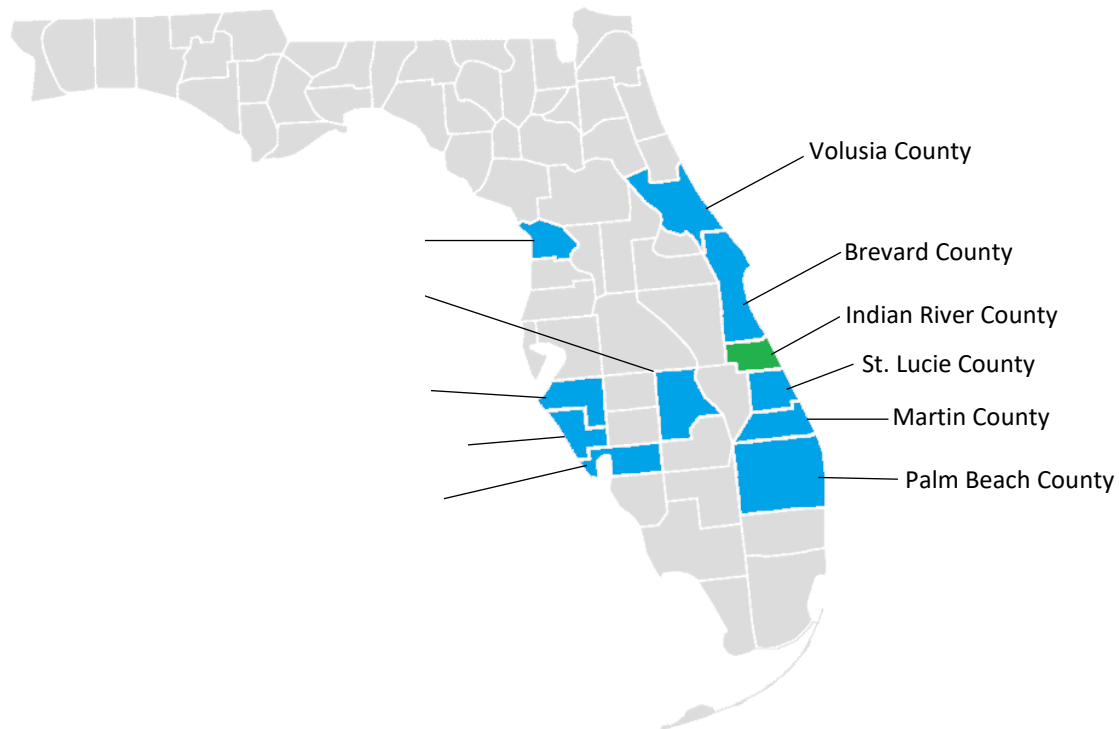
The map and table on the next page highlights the location of these counties and information about their solid waste programs. The counties included in this survey are all in a basic geographic area of Indian River County and have similar disposal operations information. Note: Both Okeechobee and Osceola Counties, which are adjacent to the Indian River County, use privately-owned landfills and were not included in the survey.

The tables on subsequent pages lists the various disposal rates of the counties included in the survey. On the final page of the technical memorandum, KCI has highlighted some key findings in comparing the SWDD's rates to the other counties.

This survey did not include Class I waste disposal rates as this is covered under the SWDD's disposal assessment. It is recommended that a comprehensive study of this rate and the assessment methodology used be considered as this is the primary revenue generator for the SWDD's solid waste program.

KCI feels it is important to note that caution should always be taken when directly comparing rates due to a myriad of differences in county demographics, political and financial structures, and solid waste management that can impact these rates. While many of these factors are included in the tables below, KCI believes all solid waste is local and in each case is specific to the factors impacting each community.

Counties Included in the Rate Survey



County	Collection Program ¹	Population	Region	Area (sq. mi.)	Community Type	Assessment
Indian River	1-1-1	154,939	East Central	503	Suburban/Rural	Disposal
St. Lucie	2-1-1	309,359	East Central	572	Suburban	Collection and Disposal (\$276.14)
Brevard	2-1-1	594,469	East Central	1,016	Suburban	Coll. (\$139.70) and Disp.(\$57)
Martin	2-1-1	158,598	Southeast	543	Suburban	Collection and Disposal (\$314.37)
Highlands	1-1-1	103,434	Central	1,017	Suburban/Rural	Collection and Disposal (\$173)
Palm Beach	2-1-1	1,447,857	Southeast	1,970	Urban/Suburban	Coll. (varies) and Disp. (\$175)
Volusia	1-1-1	538,763	East Central	1,101	Suburban	Collection and Disposal (\$255)
Manatee	2-1-1	387,414	Southwest	743	Suburban/Rural	None
Sarasota	1-1-1	426,275	Southwest	556	Suburban	Collection and Disposal (\$186.59)
Citrus	1-1-1	147,744	West Central	582	Suburban/Rural	Disposal (partial) (\$25)
Charlotte	1-1-1	181,770	Southwest	680	Suburban/Rural	Collection and Disposal (\$215.73)

¹ Collection Program intervals stand for rate of collection for garbage, recycling, and yard waste, in that order. (e.g. 2-1-1 stands for twice a week garbage collection and once a week recycling and yard waste collection).

County	C&D Debris	Clean Concrete	Land Clearing Debris	Yard Trash	Contam. Soil	Dewatered Sludge	Animal - Small	Animal - Large	Out-of-County MSW	Asbestos	Special Waste/ Handling
	\$/ton	\$/ton	\$/ton	\$/ton	\$/ton	\$/ton	as noted	as noted	\$/ton	\$/ton	as noted
Indian River	\$31.80	\$3.00	\$22.00	No charge	\$55.00	\$15.00	\$5 each	\$50 each	\$60.00	\$140.00	\$50/ton
St. Lucie	\$32.00		\$45.00		N.A.	\$49.00 ⁺	\$49/ton ⁺		\$70.00	N.A.	\$70/ton
Brevard	\$23.66 ²	No charge	\$40.00	\$40.00 ³	\$41- \$82 ⁴	\$25.00	\$34.98/ton ⁺⁵		N.A.	\$100.00	\$41/ton
Martin	\$42.00	\$7-\$21 ⁶	\$24.33		N.A.	N.A.	\$60/ton ⁺⁷		Same as In-County	N.A.	N.A.
Highlands	\$25.00	No charge	\$25.00 ⁸		\$45.00	See note ⁹	\$75/ton		N.A.	\$150.00	\$50-150/event ¹⁰
Palm Beach	\$52.00 ¹¹		\$52.00	\$30.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$30/ton \$3 each	\$30/ton \$15 each	\$138.00	\$150.00	\$150/ton
Volusia	\$28.00		\$23.00		\$68.00	N.A.	\$34/ton ⁺		2x rate, min.	\$200.00	2x rate, min. ¹²
Manatee	\$61.00		\$61.00	\$40.00 ⁺	\$61.00	\$61.00	\$40/ton ⁺		3x rate	\$61.00	2x rate ¹³
Sarasota	\$54.00		\$41.37		N.A.	\$75.00	\$57.56/ton ⁺		N.A.	\$57.56 - \$75 ¹⁴	See note ¹⁵
Citrus	\$60.00	\$10.00	N.A.	\$22.50 ¹⁶	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90/ton		See note ¹⁷	\$90.00	\$90/ton
Charlotte	\$37.60 ⁺		\$37.60 ⁺		\$37.60 ⁺	\$37.60 ⁺	\$37.60/ton ⁺		\$75.20	\$104.45	\$50/event

N.A. = Not accepted

*Class I waste rate

² Rate is for commercial and new construction. Assessed residential properties and roofing material are free.³ For non-assessed properties. Assessed properties are free. \$23.66/ton for soil/dirt.⁴ \$41/ton if less than 25 tons. \$82/ton if greater than 25 tons.⁵ Fee for non-assessed entities only, assessed entities are free.⁶ Clean source-separated debris for recycling. \$7/ton for roll off or dump truck. All other is \$21/ton.⁷ Only accepts 1 or 2 animals at a time as Class 1 MSW.⁸ Grass clipping are free.⁹ Only accepts sludge from 2 facilities under contract.¹⁰ Prohibited Debris Separation Fee, depends on vehicle: \$50 - pick-up, \$75 - mini wheel, \$150 - all others.¹¹ Concrete not accepted at the waste-to-energy plants, only landfill.¹² Requires pre-approval, also applies to mixed loads.¹³ Fee for mixed loads.¹⁴ Non-friable asbestos is \$57.56/ton. Friable is \$75/ton.¹⁵ Requires pre-approval.¹⁶ Yard waste larger than 4 in. in diameter or 10 ft. in length are not accepted.¹⁷ Only accepted with BOCC agreement.

County	Tires - Auto	Tires - Truck	Tires - Heavy Equip.	Vehicle Weight Tare/Gross	Uncovered Load	Propane Tanks	Scrap Metal /White Goods	Boats	Mobile Home Trailers	Electronics	HHW
	as noted	as noted	as noted	\$ each	as noted	as noted	as noted	as noted	as noted	as noted	as noted
Indian River	\$95/ton \$2 each	\$100/ton \$5 each	\$130/ton \$20 each	\$3.00	\$25 each	No charge	No charge	\$32.50/ton	\$31.80/ton	Free - resi	Free - resi
St. Lucie	\$105/ton \$2 each	\$300/ton ¹⁸		\$10.00	No charge	\$2.50 each	\$2.50/load	\$10 each	\$10 each	Free - resi	Free - resi
Brevard	\$154.5/ton ¹⁹			No charge	No charge	HHW	Free	Free	N.A.	Free	Free - resi
Martin	\$130/ton \$4 each	\$300/ton \$30 each	\$300/ton \$30 each	\$5.00	2x rate	HHW	\$21-\$38.60/ ton ²⁰	\$42/ton	\$42/ton	Free - resi	Free - resi
Highlands	\$110/ton ²¹	\$110/ton \$7.50 each	\$110/ton \$15 each	\$5.00	\$50 each	\$0 -20 each ²²	\$20.00	\$45/ton ⁺	\$200 - \$450 each ²³	\$45/ton ⁺	Free - resi ²⁴
Palm Beach	\$55/ton ²⁵	\$190/ton ²⁴		No charge	\$10 each	HHW	\$10/ton	\$42/ton	\$90/ton	Free - resi	Free - resi
Volusia	\$126/ton ²⁶	\$201/ton		\$5.00	2x rate, min.	No charge	\$13/ton	\$28/ton	\$28/ton	Free - resi	Free - resi
Manatee	\$86.00/ton			\$1.50	2x rate	HHW	\$40/ton ⁺	\$40/ton ⁺	\$61/ton	Free - resi	Free - resi
Sarasota	\$158.60/ton, \$2 each ²⁷			\$5.00	No charge	\$57.56/ton ⁺	\$57.56/ton ⁺	\$57.56/ton ⁺	\$57.56/ton ⁺	Free - resi	Free - resi
Citrus	\$95/ton \$2 each ²⁸	\$95/ton	\$200/ton	\$5.00	\$10/ton	\$30-\$60/ ton ²⁹	\$0-\$60/ ton ³⁰	\$60/ton	\$60/ton	\$60/ton - TVs \$0/ton - other	See note ³¹
Charlotte	\$120.12/ton			\$5.00	No charge	HHW	\$37.60/ton ⁺	\$37.60/ton ⁺	\$37.60/ton ⁺	Free - resi	Free - resi

N.A. = Not accepted

*Class I waste rate

¹⁸ For rim sizes greater than 20 in. in diameter.¹⁹ Commercial properties only, residents are free. Also \$29.50/ton if shredded to FDEP specs.²⁰ Scrap metal is \$21/ton. White Goods are \$38.60/ton.²¹ Free for residents.²² Depends on size: Free - less than 20 lb, \$5 - 21-30 lb, \$10 - 31-120 lb, \$20 - 121 - 250 lb.²³ Depends on size and type: \$200 – less than 40', \$300 – greater than 40', \$350 – less than 40' with drywall, \$450 – greater than 40' with drywall.²⁴ Also charges \$3/gallon for commercial paint.²⁵ \$10/ton if tires are shredded or segmented (4 or more pieces).²⁶ Residents can dispose 4 free tires on Saturdays.²⁷ Per tire fee is limited to 5 tires.²⁸ Residents can dispose 5 tires for free 2 times per year.²⁹ First tank is free, then \$30/ton for residents, \$60/ton for commercial.³⁰ Refrigerator, freezer, a/c: 1st unit is free for residents, then \$30/ton. For commercial these are \$60/ton. Other metal appliances and scrap metal are free.³¹ For assessed residents: <10 gal/60 lb is free. >10 gal/60 lb is \$0.35/lb. For non-assessed residents: any amount is \$0.35/lb. For conditionally exempt small quantity commercial generators: \$1/lb. Fluorescent lamps: first 10 free, then \$0.80 per lamp. Mercury containing devices: \$2 each, residents get first 10 free.

Key Observations and Next Steps

Below are some key observations in comparing the SWDD's disposal rates to other counties.

- The SWDD's C&D debris disposal rate (\$31.80) is below the average of the counties surveyed (\$41.53/ton).
- Only two counties have a lower rate for clean concrete, both of which accept it at no charge.
- More than half of the counties surveyed did not distinguish between clean concrete and C&D debris.
- No other county surveyed accepted yard waste at no cost.
- Half of the counties surveyed made no distinction between land clearing and yard waste.
- The SWDD's rate for land clearing debris (\$22/ton) is lower than all other surveyed counties' rates for either yard waste or land clearing debris.
- The SWDD also has a lower rate of \$18/ton for chipped/mulched land clearing debris. No other surveyed county has a separate rate for this.
- The SWDD has the lowest rate for sludge (\$15/ton). Aside from Broward County (\$25/ton), all other rates were \$49/ton or greater.
- The SWDD also has the lowest rate for out-of-county waste (\$60/ton), except for Martin, which does not distinguish between in- or out-of-county waste. Manatee County charges three times as much for out-of-county waste, which could be as high as \$183/ton for C&D debris.

While we caution the direct comparison of disposal rates, the information can provide insight on where the SWDD's disposal rates are compared to other counties. KCI recommends that the SWDD consider a rate revision for yard waste type materials to be in line with other counties. It is also recommended that out-of-county charges be revised and more effectively enforced to limit the bringing of materials from neighboring counties to the SWDD for disposal. Finally, a full review of the current assessments charged to customers and the composition of materials used to determine those assessments need updating to assist the SWDD in funding the infrastructure needed to manage those materials. As an example, the difference in material composition between a grocery store and a full-service restaurant has probably changed in the past fifteen to twenty years since those composition rates were developed. Changes in processing of materials for commodity reuse and recycling have greatly changed the composition landscape for many customers since that time. KCI has a proven history of providing quality composition data as well as developing accurate and dependable rate studies to assist organizations like the SWDD in determining accurate and fair rates for their customers. KCI looks forward to assisting the SWDD in this assessment and analysis.