

**2022 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 (Act) requires The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) to publish a Solid Waste Management Plan (State Plan). The most recent revision to the State plan was published in 1999.

The Act also requires preparation of "local" solid waste management plans. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. (HCSWA) initially developed a Solid Waste Management Plan for Horry County (Plan) in 1993. The Plan was updated in 1996, 1998, 2001, 2007, 2011, and 2018. The purpose of this revision is to update the Plan by incorporating information through Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. For the purposes of this Plan, the fiscal year is defined as July 1 through June 30 (i.e., FY 2021 is from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). This update to the Plan has been organized to follow the 1999 State Plan and has been prepared so that information presented in the Plan can be readily incorporated into the appropriate chapters of the State Plan.

A brief synopsis of each Section of the 2022 Solid Waste Management Plan is provided in the remainder of this section.

1.1 LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) is a federal law, which was established to provide nationwide standards for management of solid waste. Because South Carolina adopted the standards outlined in Subtitle D, the Environmental Protection Agency gave authorization to the State to enforce solid waste management standards.

The State law that largely governs the management of solid waste in South Carolina is the Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 (Act). The Act required SC DHEC to develop South Carolina's Solid Waste Management Plan. The Act also provided minimum standards as to the content of the Plan. Also included in the Act, SC DHEC was given responsibility in the development and promulgation of various regulations intended to establish minimum standards for the construction, maintenance, operation, and closure of solid waste management facilities.

Section 44-96-80(J) of the Act gives the governing body of a county the responsibility and authority to provide for the operation of solid waste management facilities. The Governing body of Horry County is the Horry County Council. The Horry County Council created the Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. in 1990 by Ordinance Number 60-90 to carry out these responsibilities regarding solid waste management.

On March 17, 2009, the Horry County Council enacted Ordinance No. 02-9. The Ordinance provides an effective means of regulating the collection and disposal of solid waste generated in Horry County.

On January 21, 2014, the Horry County Council enacted Ordinance 78-13. The Ordinance amends, among other things, Chapter 10.5 (Solid Waste), Article II (Applicability) of the Horry

County Code of Ordinances to allow construction and demolition debris/waste produced in Horry County to be sent to an “appropriately licensed and DHEC permitted” disposal facility rather than the designated HCSWA Landfill. A copy of the Ordinance is provided in Appendix A.

1.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

Using US Census Data (Census), the permanent population of Horry County in FY 2021 was reported to be 351,029, a slight decline from FY 2020 reported at 354,081; however, Census July 1, 2021 (FY 2022) population estimate increased by 4.1% to 365,579. The projections after FY 2022 are based on the calculated average growth rate between 2010 – 2022, which means the annual population was escalated using a 2.75% growth factor for the remainder of the planning period. The permanent population is estimated to be 629,468 in FY 2042.

The large tourist population has a significant impact on the waste stream in Horry County. As reported by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Bureau, an estimated 15,600,000 tourists visited the County in 2021, considerably lower than the 20,600,000 tourists that visited the County in FY 2019, likely due to effects of the COVID-10 Pandemic affecting travel in 2020 and 2021. Assuming tourist visits average six-days, the equivalent full-time tourist population accounted for another 249,600 people or about 71.1%% of the permanent population of Horry County in FY 2021 (compared to 329,600 estimated equivalent full time tourists or about 95.8% in FY 2019). Using the average tourist percent of permanent population between FY 2010 and FY 2021, tourists are estimated to continue to comprise 89.2%% of the permanent population of Horry County, resulting in FY 2042 equivalent full-time tourist population of 561,500 and the equivalent permanent (includes permanent and tourist) population will be 1,190,968.

1.3 EXISTING AND FUTURE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The FY 2021 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report determined for FY 2021 each South Carolinian generated an average 5.3 pounds per day of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and an average 4.0 pounds per day of the generated MSW was disposed. For Horry County in FY 2021, SC DHEC reported that 351,029 Horry County residents disposed of 286,288 tons MSW and recycled 110,081 tons of MSW resulting in a per capita MSW generation rate (disposed and recycled tonnages combined) of 6.2 pounds per day and a disposal rate of 4.5 pounds per day. If the effects of the 301,801 equivalent full-time tourist population for FY 2021 are included in the per capita calculations, the per capita MSW generation rate drops to 3.3 pounds per day and disposal rate drops to 2.3 pounds per day.

Collection and transfer of waste for disposal in Horry County is accomplished by varying means throughout the county, depending on the particular location. The collection of solid waste for the majority of Horry County's population is either curbside or staffed drop-off/convenience sites. Two transfer stations are also utilized, one located in North Myrtle Beach and one located in Myrtle Beach.

The HCSWA has one Class Three (MSW) landfill and one Class Two (C&D) landfill to provide the solid waste disposal needs for the citizens of Horry County for the 20-year planning period. The C&D vertical expansion over the old unlined East Fill Area and West Fill Area will provide C&D capacity until FY 2029. SC DHEC recently issued a permit for a Piggyback expansion of the MSW landfill. Once the Piggyback expansion becomes operational, C&D disposal capacity for the remaining portion of the 20-year planning period may be provided by commingling waste in the Subtitle D Landfill. The HCSWA has permitted and built a C&D recycling facility in an effort to recover as much material from the C&D waste stream as possible, thereby reducing the amount of C&D waste that will have to be landfilled. The capacity provided by the existing 27-acre Subtitle D Landfill, the permitted Horizontal Expansion, and the Piggyback Expansion is anticipated to provide MSW capacity for the 20-year planning period. HCSWA also provides a food waste composting program that encourages wholesale and retail food establishments as well as governmental agencies such as municipalities and schools to compost food waste materials, saving landfill space and creating a valuable product for the community.

The 1991 Solid Waste Management Act placed disposal bans (cannot be landfilled) on lead-acid batteries, used oil, yard trash & land-clearing debris, whole waste tires, white goods, and small-sealed lead-acid batteries. Beginning July 1, 2011, certain electronic wastes were banned from disposal in landfills in South Carolina. The HCSWA provides collection, recycling, and disposal services for banned items. The HCSWA has enacted several public education programs to inform the public of the need for and benefits of source separation, recovery, and recycling. These programs place a particular emphasis on educating students in all grade levels in Horry County along with their teachers.

The HCSWA has received numerous awards for Excellence in Waste Reduction and Recycling Programs and fully expects to continue its efforts in this area.

The HCSWA continues to explore a regional approach to solid waste management and is a member of the Pee Dee Regional Landfill Authority.

1.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

All of the incorporated areas of Horry County, including the Cities of Conway, Loris, Myrtle Beach, and North Myrtle Beach and the Towns of Atlantic Beach, Aynor, Briarcliffe Acres, and Surfside Beach, as well as the unincorporated collection system generate funds in support of their systems through user fees and/or property taxes. These user fees and/or property taxes pay for collection, recycling and composting, public education, as well as disposal.

The HCSWA is responsible for the siting, construction, and operation of any proposed new solid waste management disposal facilities in Horry County. The HCSWA's primary source of revenue to cover costs for siting, construction, operation, closure, and post-closure care of any proposed solid waste management facilities for the 20-year planning period are generated from tipping fees and sales from recyclables. Ordinance No. 02-9 plays an important role in providing a means of funding for all solid waste management and recycling facilities located at the

HCSWA. However, Ordinance 78-13 allows C&D debris to be disposed of in landfills outside the County.

1.5 GOALS, POLICIES, STRATEGIES & BARRIERS

The HCSWA intends to incorporate the goals and policies set by the State into its solid waste program. Through the HCSWA's recycling and public education programs, significant effort has been made toward recycling and reduction of solid waste. As funding allows, the HCSWA intends to capitalize on opportunities to achieve the per capita waste generation goal and continue to work toward exceeding the recycling goal set by the State Plan. The greatest barriers to increasing solid waste reduction and recycling include adequate and affordable markets for recyclables, available funding, and education in high-tourism areas.

By 2021, the recycling commodity markets largely recovered from the impacts of China prohibiting the import of certain solid wastes and scrap into their country, including mixed paper and mixed plastics, that began on January 1, 2018. However, the economic downturn in 2021 and 2022 has again negatively impacted the recycling commodity markets.

Horry County Council and the HCSWA Board previously approved a policy to allow recyclable materials to be accepted from other counties. Increasing the volume should improve the marketability of the materials, provided that viable markets remain available. Maintaining the existing recycling system is dependent upon maintaining the tipping fees at their current levels or the substitution of an alternative funding system.

The Technical Advisory Council (TAC) met on four occasions to review the Plan updates and discuss goals, policies, strategies, and barriers. As a result of the meetings, the TAC supported inclusion of a series of additional strategies for potential improvements to the County's solid waste management programs. Topics include strategies related to:

- Consumption/ Generation
- Collection and Transfer
- Processing and Conversion Technologies
- Marketing and End Use of Recyclables
- Additional Material Streams for Recycling or Diversion

These additional potential strategies are described in further detail in Section 6.3 of the Plan.

1.6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, PLAN REVISION, AND CONSISTENCY WITH STATE AND LOCAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The 2022 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared utilizing input from local governments, the private sector, and the public. A Solid Waste Advisory Council (hereinafter referred to as the Technical Advisory Council, or TAC), as described in Section 44-96-80(N)

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of the South Carolina Solid Waste Policy and Management Act, was established to provide advice on the drafting and implementation of the Plan. The Technical Advisory Council held four meetings to discuss the Plan and provide input on revisions to the Plan. The Plan was presented to the HCSWA Board and the public for comment on August 27, 2018. The Plan was next presented to each municipality located in Horry County to obtain their approval of the Plan by resolution. The HCSWA Board approved the 2022 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan on August 27, 2018, it was then sent to the Horry County Council I&R Committee for its approval and forwarded to the County Council for a resolution of approval.

Commented [AT2]: Date to be updated.

The Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan will be updated every five years, at a minimum. Revisions of the Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan require endorsement of the Horry County Solid Waste Authority Board, Horry County Council, and the municipalities in Horry County. Meeting minutes documenting Horry County Solid Waste Authority Board approval and Horry County Council approval of the Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan revisions along with the updated Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan will be provided to SC DHEC.

Section 44-96-290(F) of the Act states no permit to construct a new solid waste management facility or to expand an existing solid waste management facility within a county or municipality may be issued by SC DHEC unless:

1. The proposed facility or expansion is consistent with local zoning, land use, and other applicable local ordinances, if any;
2. The proposed facility or expansion is consistent with the local or regional solid waste management plan and the state solid waste management plan; and
3. The host jurisdiction and the jurisdiction generating solid waste destined for the proposed facility or expansion can demonstrate that they are actively involved in and have a strategy for meeting the statewide goal of waste reduction established in this chapter.

All permit applications for solid waste management facilities must be submitted to SC DHEC and reviewed for consistency with the State Solid Waste Management Plan and the 2022 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this section is to describe the legislative authority for preparation of this plan.

2.1 FEDERAL

The United States Environmental Protection Agency regulates solid waste under the authority of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Non-hazardous solid waste is governed by Parts 257 and 258 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Part 258, better known as RCRA Subtitle D, establishes criteria for municipal solid waste landfills and was published in the Federal Register on October 9, 1991. The intent of this section is to establish a framework for federal, state and local government cooperation in controlling the management of non-hazardous solid waste. The federal role in this arrangement is to establish the general regulatory direction, by providing minimum nationwide standards for protecting human health and the environment and to provide technical assistance to states for planning and developing their own environmentally sound waste management practices.

2.2 STATE

The principle state law that governs solid waste management is the South Carolina Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 (Act).

The Act outlines its purpose as follows:

1. to protect the public health and safety, protect and preserve the environment of the State and recover resources which have the potential for further usefulness by providing for, in the most environmentally safe, economically feasible and cost-effective manner, the storage, collection, transport, separation, treatment, processing, recycling and disposal of solid waste;
2. to establish and maintain a cooperative state program for providing planning assistance, technical assistance, and financial assistance to local governments for solid waste management;
3. to require local governments to adequately plan for and provide efficient, environmentally acceptable solid waste management services and programs;
4. to promote the establishment of resource recovery systems that preserve and enhance the quality of air, water and land resources;
5. to ensure that solid waste is transported, stored, treated, processed and disposed of in a manner adequate to protect human health, safety, welfare and the environment;
6. to promote the reduction, recycling, reuse and treatment of solid waste and the recycling of materials which would otherwise be disposed of as solid waste;
7. to encourage local governments to utilize all means reasonably available to promote efficient and proper methods of managing solid waste, which may include contracting with private entities to provide management services or operate management facilities on behalf of the local government, when it is cost effective to do so;

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8. to promote the education of the general public and the training of solid waste professionals to reduce the generation of solid waste, to ensure proper disposal of solid waste and to encourage recycling;
9. to encourage the development of waste reduction and recycling programs through planning assistance, technical assistance, grants and other incentives;
10. to encourage the development of the state's recycling industries by promoting the successful development of markets for recycled items and by promoting the acceleration and advancement of the technology used in manufacturing processes that use recycled items;
11. to establish a leadership role for the State in recycling efforts by requiring the General Assembly, the Governor's Office, the Judiciary and all state agencies to separate solid waste for recycling and by granting a preference in state procurement policies to products with recycled content;
12. to require counties to develop and implement source separation, resource recovery or recycling programs or all of the above, or enhance existing programs so that valuable materials may be returned to productive use, energy and natural resources conserved and the useful life of solid waste management facilities extended;
13. to require local government and state agencies to determine the full cost of providing storage, collection, transport, separation, treatment, recycling and disposal of solid waste in an environmentally safe manner; and
14. to encourage local governments to pursue a regional approach to solid waste management.

The Act required SC DHEC to develop the South Carolina Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan). As stated in Section 44-96-60 of the Act, the Plan shall, at a minimum, include:

1. an inventory of the amounts and types of solid waste currently being disposed of at solid waste disposal facilities in this State, both in the municipal solid waste stream and in the industrial solid waste stream;
2. an estimate of solid waste which will require disposal at solid waste disposal facilities in this State projected for the 20-year period following this chapter's effective date;
3. an estimate of the current capacity in this state to manage solid waste, including an identification of each solid waste management facility and a projection of its remaining useful life;
4. an evaluation of current solid waste management practices, including without limitation waste reduction, recycling, incineration, storage, processing, disposal and export;
5. an analysis of the types of solid waste facilities which will be needed to manage the state's solid waste during the projected 20-year period;
6. a description of procedures by which the state may facilitate the siting, construction and operation of new facilities needed to manage the state's solid waste over the projected 20-year period;
7. an evaluation of existing local government solid waste management programs, including recommendations, if necessary, on ways to improve such programs;
8. a description of the means by which the State shall achieve its statewide solid waste

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- recycling and reduction goals; including recommendations on which categories of solid waste material should be recycled;
9. procedures and requirements for meeting state goals for waste reduction and recycling, including composting and objectives for waste-to-energy implementation and sanitary landfilling;
 10. a description of existing state programs and recommendations for new programs or activities that will be needed to assist local governments in meeting their responsibilities under this article, whether by financial, technical or other forms of aid;
 11. procedures by which local governments and regions may request assistance from SC DHEC;
 12. procedures for encouraging and ensuring cooperative efforts in solid waste management by the State, local governments and private industry, including a description of the means by which the State may encourage local governments to pursue a regional approach to solid waste management;
 13. minimum standards and procedures developed after consulting with local government officials which must be met by a county or region in its solid waste management plan, including the procedures that will be used to provide input from private industry and from private citizens;
 14. a comprehensive analysis of the amounts and types of hazardous waste currently being disposed of in municipal solid waste landfills and recommendations regarding more appropriate means of managing such waste;
 15. a description of the public education programs to be developed in consultation with local governments, other state agencies, and business and industry organizations to inform the public of solid waste management practices in this State and the need for and benefits of recycling, reduction, and other methods of managing the solid waste generated in this State;
 16. a description of the program for the certification of operators of solid waste management facilities;
 17. recommendations on whether to require that certain solid waste materials be made degradable and, if so, which categories of materials; and
 18. a fiscal impact statement identifying the cost incurred by SC DHEC in preparing the State Solid Waste Management Plan and that which will be incurred in carrying out all of SC DHEC's duties and responsibilities under this chapter, including the number of new employees that may be necessary, and an estimate of the revenues that will be raised by the various fees authorized by this chapter.

SC DHEC published the first State Solid Waste Management Plan, pursuant to the Act, on November 27, 1992. In mid-1999, SC DHEC published the 1999 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Plan that was intended to be a revision and update of the 1992 Plan.

In an effort to streamline the regulatory process for permitting of solid waste landfills, SC DHEC promulgated a new landfill regulation that based disposal of waste on the waste's chemical and physical properties and not the source of generation of the waste, except for municipal solid waste. On May 23, 2008, Regulation 61-107.19, Solid Waste Landfills and

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Structural Fill, became effective. The regulation established minimum standards for site selection, design, operation, and closure of all solid waste landfills and structural fill areas. The regulation replaced R.61-107.11, Construction, Demolition, and Land-clearing Debris Landfills; R.61-107.13, Municipal Solid Waste Incinerator Ash Landfills; 61-107.16, Industrial Solid Waste Landfills; and, 61-107.258, Municipal Solid Waste Landfills. The landfill classifications established by R.61-107.19 are reflected in Section 4, Existing and Future Solid Waste Management.

Another regulatory change that has occurred is the revision to R.61-107.17, Demonstration of Need. The revisions to the regulation became effective on June 26, 2009. Changes in the regulation drastically reduced allowable increases in the maximum annual disposal rate for Class Two and Class Three Landfills. Another important revision to the regulation provides for only one replacement of an existing Class Two or Class Three Landfill that has exhausted its capacity. From a planning standpoint, it is imperative that the capacity of the existing site be utilized to the maximum extent before moving to a replacement site.

A more recent regulatory change occurred in R.61-107.4 Solid Waste Management: Compost and Mulch Production from Land-clearing Debris, Yard Trimmings and Organic Residuals, which became effective on June 26, 2015. Changes in the regulation were related to feedstock categories for composting.

The most recent regulatory changes occurred in H.4035 which went into effect May 17, 2021 to extend the S.C. Manufacturers Responsibility and Consumer Convenience Information Technology Equipment Collection and Recovery Act until December 31, 2023. Changes require manufacturers to collect TV's and monitors at no charge. H.3222 went into effect May 17, 2021 providing updates to the Waste Tire Facilities Section in the Act relating to DHEC's regulating authority. Updates to R.61-107.4 SWM: Compost and mulch production from land clearing debris, yard trimmings, and organic residuals went into effect on May 28, 2021, clarifying permitting and operating requirements, updating closure requirements, and other regulatory text improvements.

2.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Section 44-96-80(J) of the Act gives the governing body of a county the responsibility and authority to provide for the operation of solid waste management facilities. The governing body of Horry County is the Horry County Council. In 1990, the Horry County Council created the Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. (HCSWA) by Ordinance 60-90 to carry out these responsibilities.

Section 44-96-80(K) of the Act gives the governing body of a county the authority to enact such ordinances that may be necessary to carry out these responsibilities regarding solid waste management.

The primary County Ordinance regarding solid waste, Ordinance No. 50-01, entitled "Junk, Debris, and Common Nuisance Ordinance of Horry County, South Carolina" is provided in Appendix A.

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On March 17, 2009, the Horry County Council enacted Ordinance No. 02-9. The Ordinance provides an effective means of regulating the collection and disposal of solid waste generated in Horry County. The Ordinance directs the flow of solid waste generated within the boundaries of Horry County to the HCSWA's landfill located on Highway 90 in Conway or to a public facility designated by the HCSWA. The Ordinance also requires waste haulers to be licensed by the HCSWA. County-wide collection and disposition of solid waste allows for more effective implementation of the County's integrated solid waste management plan. A copy of the Ordinance is provided in Appendix A.

On January 21, 2014, the Horry County Council enacted Ordinance 78-13. The Ordinance amends Chapter 10.5 (Solid Waste), Article II (Applicability) of the Horry County Code of Ordinances to allow construction and demolition debris/waste produced in Horry County to be sent to an "appropriately licensed and DHEC permitted" disposal facility rather than the designated HCSWA Landfill. A copy of the Ordinance is provided in Appendix A.

Section 44-96-80(A) of the Act requires the governing body of a county to develop a solid waste management plan. It also outlines the minimum requirements that are to be addressed in the Plan. These requirements include the following:

1. an estimate of the amount of solid waste currently disposed of at the solid waste disposal facilities within that county or region and a projection of the amount of solid waste that will be disposed of at solid waste disposal facilities during the twenty-year period following this chapter's effective date;
2. an estimate of the current capacity within that county or region to manage solid waste including identification of each solid waste management facility and a projection of its useful life;
3. an analysis of the existing and new solid waste facilities that will be needed to manage the solid waste generated within that county or region during the projected twenty-year period;
4. an estimate of the cost of implementing the solid waste management plan within that county or region;
5. an estimate of the revenue that each local government or region needs and intends to make available to fund implementation of the solid waste management plan;
6. an estimate of the cost of siting, constructing, and bringing into operation any new facilities needed to manage solid waste within that county or region during the projected twenty-year period;
7. a description and estimate of the sources and amount of revenues that can be made available for the siting, construction, and operation of the new solid waste management facilities;
8. a description of resource recovery, or recycling program, or both, which shall be implemented in each county or region and shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (a) a designation of a recycling coordinator;
 - (b) an identification of the categories of solid waste materials to be source separate, recovered, recycled, or all of the above;
 - (c) an identification of the means by which such materials will be collected and

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- marketed;
- (d) a description of the incentives or penalties, or both, that will be used to ensure compliance with the recycling program; and
 - (e) a description of the public education program that will be used to inform the public of the need for and benefits of source separation, recovery, and recycling and of the requirements of the recycling program; and
9. a description of efforts, in addition to the recycling program, which will be undertaken within that county or region to meet the solid waste reduction goal as established on a statewide basis in Section 44-96-50.

The HCSWA is responsible for preparing the Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan. The HCSWA initially developed a Solid Waste Management Plan in December 1993. Revisions have been made as part of the HCSWA's ongoing Annual Progress Reporting process. This Plan, the 2022 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan, is prepared for the purpose of meeting the requirements of Section 44-96-80 of the Act.

Each of the municipalities within Horry County have solid waste related ordinances within their respective jurisdictions, including:

Town of Atlantic Beach: The Town of Atlantic Beach Code of Ordinances covers solid waste related matters in Amended Title 6, Chapter 2 – Garbage, Trash, and Refuse.

Town of Aynor: The Town of Aynor Code of Ordinances covers solid waste related matters in the Health, Sanitation and Nuisances, Article 1: Garbage Collection, Sections 15-01 through 15-09.

Town of Briarcliffe Acres: The Town of Briarcliffe Acres covers solid waste related matters in Chapter 6, Buildings and Building Regulations, of the Town Code of Ordinance. The Town amended prior ordinances on August 22, 2017, and the new ordinances were codified in 2018. The amended ordinances to be codified in 2018 include:

- #2017-05 An ordinance to amend Article VI Section 6-129 in regard to definitions of waste and recycle carts;
- #2017-06 _ An ordinance to amend Article VI Section 6-129 in regard to waste and recycle cart placement and timing.

City of Conway: The City of Conway Code of Ordinances covers solid waste related matters in Title 6 – Health and Sanitation, Chapter 3 Garbage and Waste Disposal.

City of Loris: The City of Loris covers solid waste related matters in Chapter 26, Solid Waste Management, of the City's Code of Ordinances.

City of Myrtle Beach: The City of Myrtle Beach covers solid waste related matters in Chapter 17, Solid Waste Management, of the City's Code of Ordinances.

City of North Myrtle Beach: The City of North Myrtle Beach covers solid waste related

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matters in Chapter 12, Article IV. – Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, of the City’s Code of Ordinances.

Town of Surfside Beach: The Town of Surfside Beach covers solid waste related matters in Chapter 7, Article II, Solid Waste section of the Town Code of Ordinances.

3.0 INTRODUCTION

There are multiple sources of population information available. For the purposes of this report, population data from the US Census Bureau (2020 Census). Projections were calculated using the average growth rate between FY 2010 and FY 2022, which equals 2.75%. The permanent resident population is estimated to be 629,468 in FY 2042, as shown in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1 Population Projection - Horry County

Fiscal Year	Permanent Residents ⁺	Tourist % of Permanent Population	Equivalent Full-Time Tourist (6-day Stay) [^]	Equivalent Permanent Population ^{^,o}
2017	322,342	97.3%	313,600	635,942
2018	333,268	96.0%	320,000	653,268
2019	344,147	95.8%	329,600	673,747
2020	354,081	72.8%	257,600	611,681
2021	351,029	71.1%	249,600	600,629
2022	365,579	89.2%	326,100	691,679
2023	375,648	89.2%	335,100	710,748
2024	385,994	89.2%	344,300	730,294
2025	396,625	89.2%	353,800	750,425
2026	407,549	89.2%	363,500	771,049
2027	418,774	89.2%	373,500	792,274
2028	430,308	89.2%	383,800	814,108
2029	442,160	89.2%	394,400	836,560
2030	454,338	89.2%	405,300	859,638
2031	466,851	89.2%	416,400	883,251
2032	479,709	89.2%	427,900	907,609
2033	492,921	89.2%	439,700	932,621
2034	506,497	89.2%	451,800	958,297
2035	520,447	89.2%	464,200	984,647
2036	534,781	89.2%	477,000	1,011,781
2037	549,510	89.2%	490,200	1,039,710
2038	564,645	89.2%	503,700	1,068,345
2039	580,196	89.2%	517,500	1,097,696
2040	596,176	89.2%	531,800	1,127,976

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Fiscal Year	Permanent Residents ⁺	Tourist % of Permanent Population	Equivalent Full-Time Tourist (6-day Stay) [^]	Equivalent Permanent Population ^{^,o}
2041	612,596	89.2%	546,400	1,158,996
2042	629,468	89.2%	561,500	1,190,968

⁺ Unless otherwise noted, Permanent residents are estimated from South Carolina State Projections, which are based on Census data. See note below.

^{*} Population growth rates were calculated based on the actual average annual growth rate between FY 2010 and FY 2022.

[^] Equivalent Permanent Population data from 2017 through 2021 was extrapolated from data provided by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau and is assumed to have the same fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) as the permanent resident population estimate. Equivalent Full-Time Tourist data from 2022 to 2042 is calculated as a percentage of the Permanent Resident Population.

^o Equivalent Permanent Population is the addition of the Permanent Residents and the Equivalent Full-Time Tourist estimates.

3.1 TOURISTS

The large tourist population has a significant impact on the waste stream in Horry County. In order to accurately determine the total amount of waste generated per person, the entire population must be considered, both tourist and resident. Table 3-2 summarizes the number of tourists that visited Horry County for FY 2017 through FY 2021, as provided by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau, and calculates the equivalent full-time population based on the average day stays.

Table 3-2 Equivalent Full-Time Tourist Population*

Fiscal Year	Tourists	Equivalent Population			
		5-day stay	6-day stay	7-day stay	8-day stay
2017	19,600,000	274,400	313,600	372,400	431,200
2018	20,000,000	280,000	320,000	380,000	440,000
2019	20,600,000	288,400	329,600	391,400	453,200
2020	16,100,000	225,400	257,600	305,900	354,200
2021	15,600,000	218,400	249,600	296,400	343,200

* Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau provided total annual tourist data. Estimates of each day's stays impact on permanent equivalent population is based on percentages calculated from the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce data provided in previous years of 1.4% for 5-day stays, 1.6% for 6-day stays, 1.9% for 7-day stays, and 2.2% for 8-day stays.

As can be seen on Table 3-1, the equivalent full-time tourist population for a 6-day stay equaled 71.1% of the resident population in 2021, compared to 95.8% in FY 2019 likely due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to project population through the planning period, the average annual growth rate for permanent population FY 2010 through FY 2022 was

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calculated at 2.75%. Applying a 2.75% growth rate, over the projection period, the equivalent full-time tourist population will be 561,500 by FY 2042, as shown in Table 3-1. Adding the permanent population and the equivalent full-time tourist population yields the equivalent permanent population, which, based on the tables above, will be 1,190,968 in FY 2042. Figure 3-1 provides a graphic representation of the population trends that includes both tourist and resident populations.

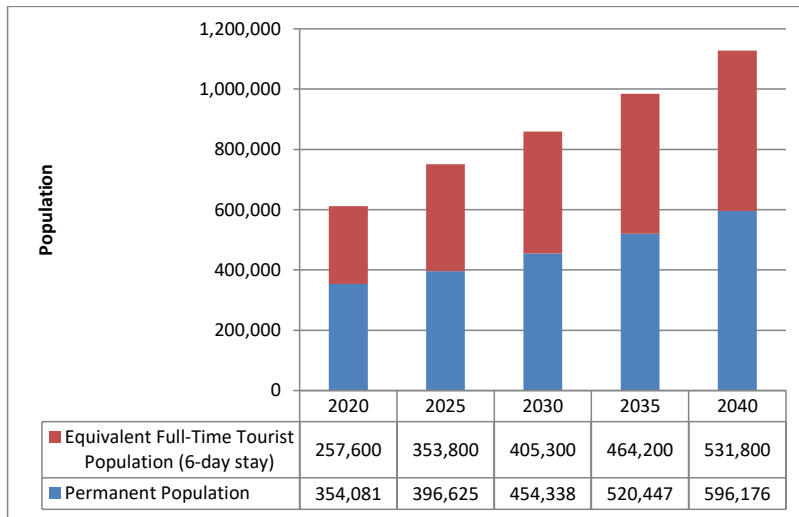


Figure 3-1 Horry County Population Projection

3.2 ECONOMIC TRENDS

Given the above information, it is not surprising that the tourism industry and its many related services make up a substantial portion of the economic base in Horry County. The County's economy has traditionally been divided between tourism in the areas adjacent to the beach and agriculture in the western part of the County. However, in recent years agriculture's role in the overall economy has declined. Employment is highest in the service, retail, finance, insurance, real estate, and construction sectors. Retail and shopping opportunities are concentrated in the eastern part of the County where they can serve the population center and the tourism industry. The Coastal Grand Mall, Barefoot Landing, Broadway at the Beach, Myrtle Beach Mall, Tanger Outlets, Coastal North Town Center, and other businesses cater to both the tourist and local customers. Businesses including hotels, restaurants, golf courses, entertainment venues, and amusement parks all provide support for the tourism industry.

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There has been continued construction and building throughout the County during the past three years. During FY2021, 24,742 building permits were issued in Horry County. All industries benefit from construction and real estate. Table 3-3 shows the number of building permits issued by each municipality during FY2020 and FY2021.

The population growth in the County is expected to continue for the next twenty years, meaning more homes, healthcare, retail, financial institutions and more public services such as police, fire, parks and recreation, and libraries. Certainly, this fast-paced development and population increase will result in increased MSW and C&D waste generation.

Table 3-3 Building Permits Issued, FY 2020 and FY 2021

Municipality	Number of Building Permits Issued (FY 2020)	Number of Building Permits Issued (FY 2021)
Myrtle Beach	517	718
North Myrtle Beach	3,860	4,389
Briarcliffe Acres	51	76
Conway	1,430	1,652
Surfside Beach	1,731	1,848
Atlantic Beach	Unavailable	Unavailable
Aynor	9	7
Loris	123	158
Unincorporated Areas	13,396	15,894
Totals	21,117	24,6742

3.3 LAND USE

Horry County is the largest county in terms of geographic area in the state of South Carolina, with an estimated 1,150 square miles. The County is bordered on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, to the north by North Carolina, to the south by Georgetown County, and to the west by Marion County and Dillon County. Urban areas are concentrated predominantly in the northeastern and southeastern portions of the County, with the Grand Strand and the City of Conway accounting for a large portion of the area. Figure 3-2 shows the future land use for Horry County through the year 2025. As far as use/land cover is concerned, roughly 38 percent of the land area is comprised of some type of undeveloped upland forest, scrub/shrub, and grassland, 13 percent agriculture, 4 percent high density development, 2 percent medium density development, 2 percent low density development, 2 percent miscellaneous development, 3 percent water, while the remaining 37 percent is made up of wetlands.

In the City of Myrtle Beach, residential growth over the next five years is anticipated to include approximately 3,100 new residential units that are planned for development, which may include both single family and multifamily dwellings. Additionally, many redevelopment opportunities

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exist within the City limits.

The City of North Myrtle Beach has completed multiple annexations west of the waterway and along the Little River Neck Road corridor. These areas are typically developing as single-family and multi-family residential, which increases our collection routes, customers and waste volume. Most of these areas were previously under the unincorporated Horry County convenience center program. Many residential redevelopment opportunities exist within the existing City limits which would increase density and improve collection efficiencies..

The Town of Surfside Beach is largely built out. There remains fewer than 400 lots of vacant land in the Town. Mostly re-development is expected, replacing small bungalows with larger, multi-bedroom homes. Density is expected to increase over the next 20 years. Census population has grown over 8%, between the 2010 and 2020 census.

The Town of Aynor anticipates moderate growth over the next twenty years. Currently the Town does not have any additional planned subdivisions. The Town expects to continue to see single family homes built steadily over the coming years, due in part to our local schools. As Horry County continues to experience rapid growth, it is likely that future residential subdivisions could be proposed within or adjacent to the Town's boundary. The Town will continue to monitor future annexations to hopefully manage growth.

The Town of Briarcliffe Acres is strictly zoned as residential "R-1". The Town has five vacant lots where a home may be built.

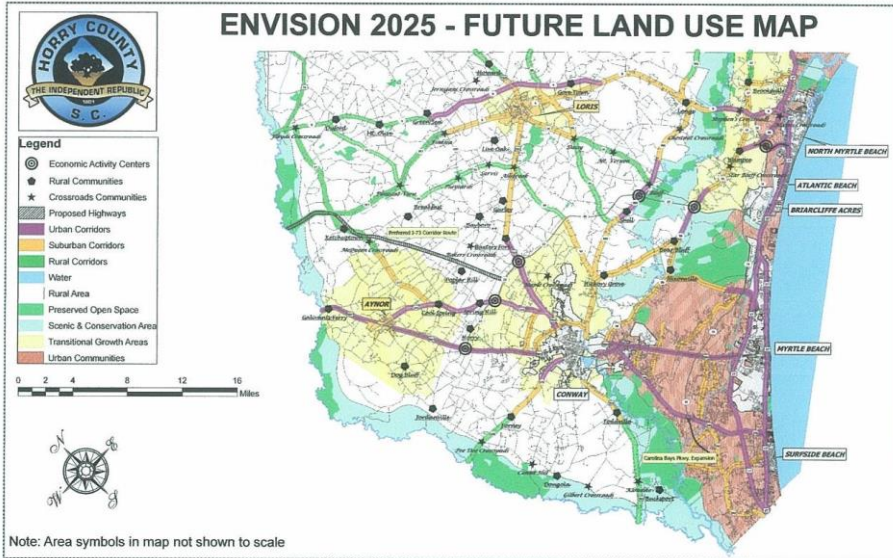


Figure 3-2 Future Land Use

Major transportation routes that provide access to Horry County include U.S. Highways 17 and 501, and S.C. Highway 9. US 22 was completed which runs from east of Aynor from US 501 to US 17. The Carolina Bays Parkway (US 31) was completed and runs from Highway 9 to Highway 707, intersecting with Highways 22 and 501. The Carolina Bays Parkway will be extended to the North Carolina State line, and Highway 707 has been expanded to four lanes to the Georgetown County line. Also, Highway 544 has been widened from two lanes to five lanes from Highway 17 Business to Highway 501 near Conway. Another significant improvement is in the North Myrtle Beach area, called the Robert Edge Parkway, which connects with Highway 17 with Highway 90. In 2006, the voters of Horry County approved a funding mechanism which provides for the paving of International Drive from the Carolina Forest area to Highway 90 which was completed in the Spring of 2018.

Passenger train service is available in nearby Florence, S.C., with buses connecting to Horry County. R J Corman Railroad provides cargo rail transport. Local bus transportation is available through the Coast Rural Transit Authority, and air service is available through Myrtle Beach International Airport. A mass transit referendum was passed to support mass transit along the coast through millage. The millage was set at 0.6 mils countywide.

The Horry County Council approved zoning throughout the county's unincorporated areas in April 2001.

Section 4
Existing & Future Solid Waste Management

4.0 INTRODUCTION

Section 44-96-60 of the Solid Waste Policy and Management Act requires that the State's existing solid waste management be assessed and that the State's future solid waste management needs be determined and addressed.

The information in this chapter describes existing and future solid waste management in Horry County.

4.1 GENERATION & CHARACTERIZATION

The FY 2021 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report determined, based on FY 2021 figures, each South Carolinian disposed an average 4.0 pounds per day of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). It should be noted that according to the FY 2021 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report, MSW does not include other waste types such as industrial process waste, construction, and demolition (C&D) debris, land-clearing debris, automobile bodies, combustion ash and other items. The FY 2021 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report further determined that based on FY 2021 figures, each South Carolinian generates an average 5.3 pounds per day of MSW. Table 4-1 shows per capita MSW disposal and generation rates for Horry County residents for FY 2017 to 2021. Note that the Horry County estimated per capita Daily MSW Disposed based only on permanent population was 4.5 pounds in FY 2021; however, taking tourism into account, the per capita Daily MSW Disposed equals 3.6 pounds.

Table 4-1 Horry County Per Capita Waste Rates 2017-2021

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
MSW Disposed (tons)*	268,052	262,824	273,307	267,191	286,288
MSW Recycled (tons)*	147,911	100,177	139,971	122,258	110,081
Grand Total MSW Generated (tons)	415,963	363,001	413,278	389,449	396,369
Permanent Population*	322,342	333,268	344,147	354,081	351,029
Per capita Daily MSW Disposed (lbs)*	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.5
Per Capita MSW Generation (lbs)*	7.1	6.0	6.6	6.0	6.2
Equivalent (tourist) Permanent Population	635,942	653,268	673,747	611,681	600,629
Per capita (tourist) Daily MSW Disposed	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.6
Per Capita (tourist) Daily MSW Generation	3.6	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.6

* FY17-FY21 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Reports, SC DHEC

4.2 COLLECTION & TRANSFER

Collection and transfer of waste in Horry County is accomplished by varying means throughout the County depending on the particular area. There are eight incorporated areas within Horry County, including the Town of Atlantic Beach, Town of Aynor, Briarcliffe Acres, City of Conway, City of Loris, City of Myrtle Beach, City of North Myrtle Beach, and Town of Surfside Beach, which provide for collection and transfer of waste within their incorporated limits. The unincorporated areas of Horry County comprise the remaining area of Horry County. The collection and transfer of waste for each of these areas is described in more detail below.

4.2.1 The Town of Atlantic Beach

The Town of Atlantic Beach offers curbside collection via a private hauler for an estimated 100 households within the incorporated limits and handles household waste and yard waste. Collection for household waste and yard waste is provided once per week.

The Town of Atlantic Beach does not have a recycling program in place at this time.

The private contractor also performs the commercial collection, and frequency of collection is determined by the requirements of each business or entity.

Currently, the Town of Atlantic Beach does not have a solid waste transfer station facility. A transfer station facility will not be required to meet the Town of Atlantic Beach's collection and transfer needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.2.2 The Town of Aynor

The Town of Aynor offers curbside collection of municipal solid waste and yard debris once a week and serves approximately 305 households via a private contractor.

Commercial collection of solid waste is performed by a private contractor. The frequency of collection (a minimum of once per week) is determined by the requirements of each business or entity. Most of the estimated 64 commercial accounts use municipal solid waste front load containers that are picked up by front-load trucks, except for two businesses that utilize a compactor.

Currently, the Town of Aynor does not have a solid waste transfer station facility. A transfer station facility will not be required to meet the Town of Aynor's collection and transfer needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.2.3 The Town of Briarcliffe Acres

Briarcliffe Acres offers curbside collection for household waste for the estimated 527 residences, 8 of which receive backdoor service, within the incorporated limits. Collection service is provided once per week on Mondays for household waste. Recycling collection is

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provided every other Monday. The collection service is contracted out to a private contractor. Residents use 96-gallon containers provided by GFL for household waste and recycling.

There is no commercial collection since the town is all residential.

GFL provides Briarcliffe Acres' residents with a voluntary yard debris collection service each Thursday. Currently, Briarcliffe Acres does not have a solid waste transfer station facility. A transfer station facility will not be required to meet Briarcliffe Acres' collection and transfer needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.2.4 The City of Conway

The City of Conway offers curbside collection service to all areas within its incorporated limits and handles household waste, yard waste, and bulk waste (white goods/brown goods). Residential system capacity is currently estimated at around 14,000 households, and more growth is expected over the next several months.

Regular garbage pickup uses semi-automated trucks that pick up 96-gallon roll carts on a once-a-week basis. Recycling service is offered using green 18-gallon bins and 65-gallon carts on a once-a-week basis. Cardboard boxes are collected along with all the typical items. Yard waste is picked up loose (predominantly) via knuckle boom trucks. Batteries, construction debris, and tires are excluded from collection.

Electronic waste is collected weekly using a one-ton pickup truck and transferred to a 30- yard roll-off container. The container is picked up when full and carried to the HCSWA.

On the commercial side, there are approximately 75 cardboard front load containers picked up by the HCSWA from various businesses within the town limits. There are roughly 460 commercial accounts. Commercial collection of compactor roll-off containers and municipal solid waste front load containers (ranging from 2 to 8 yards capacity) is also accomplished using City crews and equipment (front loaders) collecting 6 days per week. The City provides compactor or roll off service to approximately 41 customers with City equipment. It is estimated that around 40 percent of the businesses participate in some aspect of recycling.

Currently, the City of Conway does not have a solid waste transfer station facility. A transfer station facility will not be required to meet the City of Conway's collection and transfer needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.2.5 The City of Loris

The City of Loris offers via a private contractor curbside collection for approximately 1,000 households within the incorporated limits and handles household waste. Yard waste. service is provided by the City once per week. Household waste is collected in 90-gallon carts provided to the residents once per week. White goods and brown goods are collected as needed by the City. Construction and demolition waste is excluded from collection.

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The commercial collection of municipal solid waste front load containers (typically 6 to 8-yard capacity) is also performed by the private contractor, and the frequency of collection (ranging from 1 to 5 times per week) is determined by the requirements of each business or entity.

Currently, the City of Loris does not have a solid waste transfer station facility. A transfer station facility will not be required to meet the City of Loris' collection and transfer needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.2.6 The City of Myrtle Beach

Myrtle Beach owns and operates the newly renovated Jake Abraham Transfer Station located at 3221 Mr. Joe White Avenue that now offers a residential drop-off convenience center. The transfer station has a SC DHEC permitted capacity of 600 tons per day (TPD). The facility is a partially enclosed open top style facility that utilizes 116 cubic yard walking floor refuse trailers to haul material to the landfill. The average distance to the facility from City collection route(s) is 2.5 miles, while the distance from the facility to the Solid Waste Authority's landfill site is approximately 18 miles one-way.

The City of Myrtle Beach offers residential curbside collection service and limited commercial collection services to all areas within its incorporated limits. The City handles household/garbage waste, recyclables, yard waste, electronic waste, and bulk waste (white goods/brown goods) responsibilities using city crews and equipment. The residential and commercial collection system serviceability is currently estimated at around 23,298 customers.

Residential household waste is collected weekly with rear loaders using a 65-gallon or 95-gallon roll cart container. Knuckleboom trucks provide curbside collection service for both bulk waste and yard waste. Smaller yard waste items such as grass and shrubbery clippings are placed in a disposable container/bag by the customer for curbside collection.

Recyclables are collected weekly with rear loaders using a 35-gallon roll cart or a 65-gallon roll cart container. Items collected include glass (clear, brown, green), aluminum cans, steel cans, newspapers, magazines, plastic bottles, cardboard, aerosol cans, and cereal or detergent boxes.

Commercial collection services are available based upon the waste generation needs of a property. City-provided commercial containers vary in size from roll carts, front load type containers, or joint-use compactors. City crews service a limited number of multi-family residential complexes or mixed-use developments with either City provided front load containers or joint-use compactor(s). Master-metered residential complexes and commercial businesses may elect to be serviced by private sector haulers, which utilize non-City provided front load type containers and/or compactors.

E-waste is collected weekly by the City's crews through the residential curbside collection service, or residents can bring their materials to the City's transfer station to be dropped off in the e-waste staging area. At the end of each day, all e-waste materials are separated by product type and prepared for shipping either in Gaylord containers or shrunk wrap to pallets. The materials are stored in a watertight shipping container until a truckload quantity is collected.

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Once this volume of material has been collected, arrangements are made for pick-up by the City's E-waste vendor.

Currently the Myrtle Beach Jake Abraham Transfer Station Facility processes about 215 tons per day (TPD) on average. Private sector haulers are allowed to bring in waste from outside the incorporated city limits of Myrtle Beach for a fee. The existing Myrtle Beach Transfer Station should provide adequate capacity for the City of Myrtle Beach over the next 20-year planning period.

The City's Solid Waste Ordinance governs the types of refuse containers to be utilized by residential and commercial locations, screening requirements for multi-family residential units utilizing front load containers, collection practices, solid waste fees, transfer station operation and environmental and enforcement issues.

The City's Solid Waste Division of Public Works is currently reviewing innovative technology enhancements that may allow us to improve collection efficiency - Global Positioning System (GPS) technology to optimize routes, Geographic Information System (GIS) data management tools, financial management software applications, and exploring new types of collection methods and equipment.

Illegal dumping activity directly affects the appearance and pride of our City and Quality of Life for our residents, business owners, and visitors. Illegal dumping is a nuisance, and if allowed to exist, will lead to other nuisances and ultimately to the overall decline of our community. The illegally dumped material is non-revenue generating and our Solid Waste Division administers a code enforcement program to mitigate costs borne by the City associated with collection, hauling, and final disposal of illegally dumped material. Positive outcomes of the City's implementation of a solid waste management code enforcement program is a dramatic improvement in the appearance of local rights-of-way and a high percentage of voluntary compliance from violators in response to notifications of corrective action.

4.2.7 The City of North Myrtle Beach

The City of North Myrtle Beach provides residential curbside service for collection of household solid waste, serving 10,600 households within the incorporated area. Curbside service is provided once each week for all customers using 48, 65, or 96-gallon roll-carts. All residential collection services are provided on the same day each week based on the customer's location within a zone route.

Yard waste collection is provided curbside once each week with both bagged or loose material being collected. Current annual yard waste disposal is approximately 5,000 tons. The City is currently operating a limited yard waste roll-cart pilot program to assess the feasibility of this collection method for single family properties. Yard waste generated by landscape contractors, tree services, etc. is not picked up by the City and must be disposed of by the contractor performing the work.

The City also provides curbside recyclable materials collection once each week for single family

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customers. City residents are provided with a 48-, 65-, or 96-gallon recycle roll-cart at no charge and recyclables are collected co-mingled by City crews and delivered to the Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc. (HCSWA) Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). In addition, the City accepts recycling materials drop off, scrap metal, and used motor oil at the City's transfer station. The City's current recycling collection rate is 15%.

The City provides a special collection service for bulky items such as furniture, appliances, etc. This service is not regularly scheduled but is provided on an as needed basis. The City collects electronic waste (E-Waste) and segregates these materials from the waste stream using a designated roll-off container for temporary storage. The E-Waste roll-off is periodically delivered to the Horry County SWA, for an annual generation rate of 24 tons.

The City operates two types of commercial collection services for approximately 1,000 business accounts. Roll cart service is provided for small businesses and professional offices, with collection scheduled at least once each week and more frequently as needed. The City provides dumpster service via side load containers which are picked up at least once each week and more frequently based on the customers need. The City does not provide roll-off compactor service, but these services are available through local private haulers. Commercial customers are allowed to choose service offered by the City or private sector haulers.

The City of North Myrtle Beach operates a transfer station, which is a covered, direct dump facility with two compactors. All solid waste collected by the City is taken to the transfer station, compacted onto trailers, and hauled to the Horry County landfill for final disposal. Household solid waste and yard waste are handled separately at the transfer station to ensure proper disposal. In addition, roll-off containers are available on site to ensure separation of scrap metal, white goods, furniture, cardboard, E-Waste, etc. The City does not allow private haulers to use the transfer station since the facility does not have scales.

Currently the North Myrtle Beach Transfer Station handles approximately 100 tons per day (TPD), substantially below the permitted capacity of 300 TPD. Therefore, this facility will adequately provide for the City of North Myrtle Beach's transfer station requirements over the 20-year planning period.

The City does not pick up construction debris, land-clearing debris, hazardous material, medical waste, or automotive waste. Contractors are responsible for the transportation and disposal of all waste created by their activities.

4.2.8 The Town of Surfside Beach

The Town of Surfside Beach offers curbside service to all areas within its incorporated limits. The Town handles all household waste, recyclables, yard waste, and bulk waste (white goods/C&D) using Town crews and equipment. Residential system capacity is currently estimated at 4,000 households.

Household waste and co-mingled recyclables are each picked up in town-issued mobile totes of 95, 65, and 35 gallons, respectively. Semi-automated trucks are used for this purpose. Yard

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waste and bulk waste/white goods are picked up once per week utilizing knuckle boom trucks. Periodic residential drop-off events are being utilized to collect Household Hazardous Waste and consumer-generated E-waste.

With the exception of a few high-quantity generators that are privately contracted out, commercial solid waste collection is provided to approximately 190 accounts. Privately owned containers of 6 or 8 yards can be accommodated, with a service minimum of once per week. Batteries, tires, oil, and other banned items are excluded from collection. Semi-annual drop off events for e-waste and HHW are held at the Public Works Department. Some commercial establishments, such as convenience stores and grocery stores, participate in the cardboard recycling program coordinated by the HCSWA.

Currently, the Town of Surfside Beach does not have a solid waste transfer station facility. A transfer station facility will not be required to meet the Town's collection and transfer needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.2.9 The Unincorporated Areas of Horry County

The unincorporated area of Horry County is provided residential solid waste collection and recycling services via staffed convenience centers located throughout the County and by the private haulers. Additional convenience centers will be added as needed to serve the unincorporated area of Horry County. The convenience centers typically collect the following materials:

Containers for:

- plastic - includes plastic soft drink and detergent bottles, milk and water jugs, food containers, shampoo containers and other personal care items;
- cans - includes aluminum beverage cans, steel and metal food cans and empty aerosol cans; and,
- glass - includes glass containers of any color.
- paper products - includes clean, dry newspaper, magazines, office paper, junk mail, and books (including telephone books and catalogs).
- cardboard - corrugated cardboard that is not wax coated.
- cooking oil – used kitchen oil
- tires – car and truck tires (no commercial tires)
- used motor oil - includes an igloo container for oil from cars and other vehicles;
- gasoline – unused gasoline (available at limited locations)
- oil filters;
- batteries - includes car, light truck, marine, and small electronics;
- scrap metal - includes white goods, such as dishwashers, refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, water heaters and other types of scrap metal;
- yard waste - brush from yards, grass clippings, leaves and small limbs (less than 6" in diameter); (Effective July 1, 2017, leaves and yard trimmings are no longer allowed to be placed in plastic bags for drop-off at the Horry County Recycling Centers. Residents

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- must place these items in large paper bags.)
- bulk waste - includes brown goods, such as chairs, mattresses, sofas, tables, and other furniture items;
 - textiles - clothes, shoes, and cloth;
 - electronic waste - includes televisions, computers, and printers; and,
 - garbage - includes compactor for items that are not recycled.

Waste generated by commercial (business) entities throughout the unincorporated areas of Horry County is collected by private contractors.

Currently, the unincorporated area of Horry County does not have a solid waste transfer station facility. A transfer station facility is not anticipated to be needed or required in the unincorporated area to meet Horry County's unincorporated area collection and transfer needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.2.10 Horry County Public School District

Horry County Schools (HCS) has made significant efforts to address waste management throughout its 60+ facilities spanning the entire county. HCS continues to improve collection and diversion practices throughout schools and other facilities through whole-school recycling programs, organics collection programs, and other non-traditional waste management programs.

HCS recognizes that school recycling efforts have considerable room for improvement and opportunities exist to outfit schools with proper equipment and establish policy for internal collection schemes. HCS continues to work toward providing all facilities with proper equipment, including containers and signage, and refining collection schemes for commingled and paper recycling through continuous improvement processes and stakeholder collaboration.

HCS began commercial-scale composting in 2016 and continues to expand the program to additional schools to divert food waste and other organic material from the landfill to be made into compost. HCS partners with a private hauler to provide these services.

At the District level, HCS has comprehensive electronics, hazardous waste, and scrap metal recycling programs. HCS also encourages diversion of construction and demolition waste by associated contractors.

4.2.11 Coastal Carolina University

The City of Conway collects and transfers the municipal solid waste from Coastal Carolina University (CCU). There are approximately 10,000 students (4,500 residential) on campus. Municipal solid waste is collected in 46, eight-yard dumpsters, five compactors, and a 30-yard bulk waste container.

CCU offers commingled recycling collection throughout all academic, office, and athletic buildings. Recyclables are also collected at all sporting events. There are approximately 330 recycling bins that are utilized on campus. Recyclables are collected by staff of The TD Campus and Community Sustainability Initiative (Sustain Coastal). The HCSWA and City of Conway

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currently transfer all recyclables from campus to HCSWA's Material Recycling Facility (MRF). CCU offers students, faculty, and staff members the ability to recycle many items on campus. The following list shows what can be recycled at CCU:

- Mixed Paper (newspaper, magazines, paper (shredded paper must be in clear bags), junk mail, catalogs, phone books, textbooks)
- Cardboard (corrugated cardboard, pizza boxes, snack boxes, cereal boxes)
- Plastic Bottles and Jugs (lids on)
- Metal and Aluminum Cans
- Glass Bottles and Jars
- Empty Ink Cartridges (all sizes, brands, including toners)
- Used Batteries (alkaline, lead-acid)
- Techno Trash (used ink cartridges, computers, computer parts and accessories, cell phones, CDs, floppy disks, VHS tapes)
- Plastic Bag and Film (Lib Jackson Student Union and select department locations only)
- Pizza Boxes (HTC Center only)
- Tennis Shoes (HTC Center only)
- Aerosol Cans (select department locations only)

CCU currently has an organics diversion program at four of the dining locations. Food waste, paper towels and other soiled paper products are collected in carts at each location. These carts are serviced by SMART Recycling, an organic hauler out of Charleston, SC. Each location is serviced three days per week, with the materials being delivered to the HCSWA's compost facility. As of June 2022, 450 tons have been collected and diverted from the four dining locations. Yard waste is also collected by the CCU Grounds staff. It is placed in a 30-yard container and hauled to HCSWA's compost facility by the City of Conway. On average, 90-110 tons of this material. CCU purchases and uses the finished compost from the HCSWA to use on campus and at the CCU greenhouse.

The collection of organics has also allowed CCU to move towards Zero Waste events. As an example, all CCU home football games are zero waste events. The goal is to divert 90 percent or more of the waste generated at each home game from going to the landfill. With 32 zero waste stations throughout Brooks Stadium, the 2021 season saw a nearly 70 percent diversion rate reached. CCU has eliminated most single-use plastics sold at the stadium and fans are educated about the program regularly.

Table 4-2 summarizes the collection practices used by the municipalities in the county.

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Table 4-2 Collection Practices in Horry County

MATERIAL	ATLANTIC BEACH	AYNOR	BRIARCLIFFE ACRES	CONWAY	LORIS	MYRTLE BEACH	N MYRTLE BEACH	SURFSIDE BEACH	UNINCORPORATED AREAS (HCSWA)
MSW	Curbside Weekly	Curbside Weekly	Curbside Weekly, 96-gallon cart	Curbside Weekly, 96-gallon cart	Curbside Weekly	Curbside Weekly, 65- or 95-gallon cart	Curbside Weekly, 48, 65, or 96-gallon	Curbside Weekly	Staffed Convenience Centers
RECYCLABLES	None	None	Curbside, Every-other-week, 96-gallon cart	Curbside Weekly, 65-gallon cart	None	Curbside Weekly 35- or 65-gallon carts	Curbside Weekly, 48, 65, or 96-gallon	Curbside Weekly 65- and 95-gallon carts	Staffed Convenience Centers
C&D	None	None	None	Curbside Weekly	On Call Basis	By Zone, by day	None	Curbside Weekly	Staffed Convenience Centers
YARD WASTE	Curbside Weekly	Curbside Weekly	Weekly drop off, via private contractor	Curbside Loose / paper bag Weekly	Curbside Weekly	By zone, by day	Curbside Weekly	Curbside Weekly	Staffed Convenience Centers
WHITE GOODS/ BROWN GOODS	None	None	On Call Basis	Curbside Weekly	On Call Basis	By zone, by day	On Call Basis	Curbside Weekly	Staffed Convenience Centers

4.3 TREATMENT

The Act defines treatment as "any technique designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any solid waste so as to render it safe for transport, amenable to storage, recovery, or recycling, safe for disposal, or reduced in volume or concentration." Treatment methods practiced in South Carolina include activities such as shredding, compacting, incineration and baling. A description of each process, and its use in Horry County is described below.

4.3.1 Shredding

Shredding is generally used to change the physical character of solid waste. For instance, Yard Waste is typically shredded (ground up) to facilitate composting activity. Concrete is also shredded prior to use on the landfill property. Shredding is utilized for, but not necessarily limited to, the concrete and yard waste and composting programs in Horry County. (Effective July 1, 2017, leaves and yard trimmings are no longer allowed to be placed in plastic bags for drop-off at the Horry County Recycling Centers. Residents must place these items in large paper bags.)

4.3.2 Compacting

Compacting is generally used to change the physical character of solid waste. For instance, compaction is used to more efficiently transfer waste and dispose waste. Compaction is utilized for, but not necessarily limited to, the collection and disposal programs in Horry County. The Class Three Landfill cumulative compaction rate over the last nineteen years is 1,972 pounds per cubic yard.

4.3.3 Waste Conversion Technologies

Waste conversion technologies, including Waste-to-Energy Facilities, and Pyrolysis Facilities, etc. are governed by SC DHEC Regulation 61-107.12. Solid Waste Incinerator facilities and Waste-to-Energy facilities are only effective with large volumes of waste, and landfilling is still a necessity for disposal of the ash. The cost of these facilities and low public opinion continue to inhibit the use of this treatment process. Pyrolysis facilities heat municipal solid waste without oxygen and generate a synthesis gas, char, and inorganic residue. To date, most of these facilities are small scale and unproven. While there is solid waste disposal capacity available in Horry County, Horry County may consider utilizing a commercially proven or emerging alternative technology that derives energy from waste during the 20-year planning period in order to increase diversion and extend the life of the landfill.

Air curtain incinerators operate by forcefully projecting a curtain of air across an open chamber or pit in which burning occurs. These facilities are only allowed to burn land-clearing debris, yard waste, and clean wood. A permit from SC DHEC is required.

4.3.4 Baling

Baling is generally used to change the physical character of solid waste. For instance, baling is used to more efficiently package and/or transfer waste. Baling is currently used by the HCSWA MRF prior to transportation of recyclables. Cardboard is baled at the C&D processing facility.

4.3.5 Solid Waste Processing Facility

Solid waste processing facility means a combination of structures, machinery, or devices utilized to reduce or alter the volume, chemical, or physical characteristics of solid waste through processes, such as baling, shredding, or solidifying prior to delivery of such waste to a recycling or resource recovery facility or to a solid waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility and excludes collection vehicles. Solid waste processing facilities are governed by SC DHEC Regulation 61-107.6. Section A.1. of the Regulation states that the Regulation establishes the procedures, documentation, and other requirements which must be met for the proper operation and management of all solid waste processing facilities, including the processing activities involving unrecoverable solid waste at a Material Recovery Facility. Material Recovery Facilities are defined by the Act as solid waste management facilities that provide for the extraction of recoverable materials, materials suitable for use as a fuel or soil amendment, or any combination of such materials.

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Horry County has permitted and constructed a C&D processing facility to recover C&D materials. The C&D processing facility is permitted as a solid waste processing facility by the state and is limited to processing only C&D debris. Horry County encourages the siting of other facilities to recover the useful materials from the C&D waste stream as long as it is accomplished within the guidelines of the SC DHEC regulations and Horry County Ordinance No. 02-9.

Facilities that process solid waste generated in the course of normal operations on property under the same ownership or control as the solid waste processing facility, such as industrial or manufacturing facilities that process their own waste, are exempted from the requirements in SC DHEC Regulation 61-107.6. Because these facilities are not required to obtain a solid waste permit and cannot accept waste from other solid waste generators, they are not included in Horry County's solid waste planning. In addition, Section 44-96-80(G) of the Act limits the authority of South Carolina counties to regulate industrial waste. The HCSWA does not accept certain types of industrial waste at its facilities; however, there are numerous commercial solid waste processors located within the 75-mile planning area that process waste destined for disposal in a Class Three landfill. These facilities operate on a regional basis, accepting waste from across South Carolina and the Southeast. These facilities are available to accept any non-hazardous industrial waste generated in Horry County that may need processing prior to disposal in a Class Three landfill. Therefore, no solid waste processing facilities that process waste requiring disposal at a Class Three landfill will be required to meet Horry County's solid waste processing facilities needs during the 20-year planning period.

4.4 OTHER

Solid waste management practices that are not considered to be treatment or disposal are discussed in this section. Composting, land application of solid waste, and research, development, and demonstration projects are included in this category. Each is described below.

4.4.1 Composting and Wood Grinding

The Act defines a composting facility as any facility used to provide aerobic, thermophilic decomposition of the solid organic constituents of solid waste to produce a stable, humus-like material. Regulation 61-107.4 Solid Waste Management: Compost and Mulch Production from Land-clearing Debris, Yard Trimmings and Organic Residuals establishes minimum standards for the proper management of yard trimmings, land-clearing debris, and other organic material; encourages composting and establishes standards for the production of compost and ensures that operations are performed in a manner that is protective of public health and the environment. Regulation 61-107.4 became effective on June 27, 2014. The HCSWA expanded its composting operation to include additional materials (other organics including food waste) in compliance with the new regulation in FY 2016, and has since expanded from six to eight windrows with a total not-to-exceed permitted cubic yard capacity of 60,200 at the site.

Yard waste composting is currently a successful component of the HCSWA's program and will continue to be well into the future. Composting is conducted at one public facility in Horry

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County at the present time; the Horry County Composting Facility at the Highway 90 facility. Material is ground up or shredded and is then placed into windrows for composting. Compost is sold to the general public, golf courses, and landscaping business. Effective July 1, 2017, leaves and yard trimmings are no longer allowed to be placed in plastic bags for drop-off at the Horry County Recycling Centers. Residents must place these items in large paper bags.

Several private companies are registered with SC DHEC to perform composting and wood grinding in Horry County. A list of the registered facilities can be found in Appendix C.

4.4.1.1 Food Scraps

HCSWA has received a permit modification to allow acceptance of other organic material, including food waste, at the Horry County Composting Facility. The program continues to grow, encouraging wholesale and retail food establishments as well as governmental agencies such as municipalities and schools to compost food waste materials. In FY17, the facility received 761.64 tons; FY18: 1,108.25 tons; FY19: 1,031.7 tons; FY20: 903.27 tons; and FY21: 180.33 tons.

Backyard composting is also encouraged throughout the county. The HCSWA actively promotes this activity by providing educational materials about how homeowners can compost vegetable scraps, fruit peelings, eggshells, coffee grinds and tea bags from the kitchen along with grass, leaves and clippings in their own backyards. Composting bins are available for sale (at cost) to County residents. The HCSWA will provide composting seminars to interested citizen organizations and groups upon request and scheduling.

4.4.2 Land Application of Solid Waste

On July 26, 1996, Regulation 61-107.15: Land Application of Solid Waste became effective. This regulation is for land application of non-hazardous solid waste for beneficial agricultural, silvicultural, or horticultural purposes and not used as a means of disposal. Benefits of land application include offsetting farming costs of soil amendments and lime, returning nutrients to the soil depleted by erosion and harvesting crops, and freeing additional landfill space. Land application is a way to recycle and is not a means of disposal. This regulation also addressed the application of solid waste on land that is being reclaimed to enhance its aesthetic value or to reduce environmental degradation. The regulation establishes appropriate application rates, frequency of application, and monitoring requirements for the uniform surface spreading or mechanical incorporation of non-hazardous solid waste on or into the soil. SCDHEC issues permits for land applications. The applicant is required to report annually to SCHDEC the quantity and location of land application.

Currently, there are no permits or registrations for land application projects within the county.

4.4.3 Research, Development & Demonstration Projects

Innovative and experimental solid waste management technologies and processes are regulated by Regulation 61-107.10. This regulation, effective June 25, 1993, establishes the minimum standards for the proper operation and management of solid waste management facilities, or

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parts of these facilities, proposing to utilize an innovative and experimental solid waste management technology or process. Examples of emerging technologies include gasification, plasma arc, anaerobic digestion, and chemical decomposition.

Gasification is the heating of municipal solid waste to generate a synthesis gas (syngas) that can be used as a fuel or feedstock for the production of other chemicals. Most gasification facilities are small scale projects.

Plasma arc facilities use a plasma torch to create a high energy field that breaks down waste and generates a syngas. Impurities such as metals are captured in a glass bath. Most plasma facilities are small scale operations that treat industrial or medical waste.

Anaerobic digestion is a treatment process where organic wastes are fed into water tanks and processed without air. The wastes breakdown and generate a gas that is high in methane. The gas can be burned as a fuel or to generate electricity.

Chemical decomposition uses chemicals to break down wastes into oils or gases such as ethanol. This technology is still under development.

Currently there are no Research, Development and Demonstration projects within Horry County. However, the Horry County Solid Waste Authority is actively pursuing Research, Development and Demonstration projects that can reduce the amount of solid waste disposed in landfills. Horry County encourages RD&D projects through public- private partnerships that are consistent with Ordinance No. 02-09.

4.5 DISPOSAL

In an effort to minimize the landfilling of waste and increase recycling, the HCSWA strives to divert as much waste as practical to its materials recovery facility. Because it is not feasible to recover one hundred percent (100%) of the waste stream at this time, landfills continue to be a necessity. The HCSWA operates both a Class Two and Class Three landfill to manage the county's waste that is not recovered for recycling. As stated earlier in this Plan, the landfill regulation 61-107.19 became effective on May 23, 2008. The regulation changed the classification of landfills based on the source of the waste, e.g., yard waste, construction and demolition debris, industrial waste, and municipal solid waste, to Class One, Two and Three Landfills.

The regulation establishes the minimum standards for all types of landfills and is divided into the following five parts:

Part I - outlines the general criteria that applies to one or more Parts of the regulation, e.g., the applicability for the regulation, waste characterization requirements for determining the type of landfill needed, and definitions for the purposes of the regulation;

Part II - outlines the Permit-by-Rule requirements for structural fill activity using a limited waste stream;

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Part III - outlines the General Permitting requirements for Class One Landfills. Class One Landfills can accept only land-clearing debris and yard trash to fill low areas, including mining sites, for an aesthetic benefit or property enhancement;

Part IV - outlines the requirements for Class Two Landfills. These are all landfills used for the disposal of waste outlined in Appendix I of the regulation, primarily construction and demolition debris type wastes, and wastes that leach contaminants at very low levels when tested.

Part V - outlines the requirements for Class Three Landfills that accept municipal solid waste, industrial solid waste, sewage sludge, nonhazardous municipal solid waste incinerator ash, and other nonhazardous wastes.

In fulfilling the disposal needs of the County, the HCSWA has one Class Three (MSW) landfill, and one Class Two (C&D) landfill. Each is described below.

4.5.1 Class Three Landfills

There is one permitted Class Three Landfill within Horry County which is located at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority site on Highway 90. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority has a solid waste permit (Facility ID 261001-1102), dated March 26, 2018, for a Class Three footprint area of approximately 112-acres, a permitted capacity of 14.2 million cubic yards, and an annual disposal rate of 750,000 tons per year.

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority's scale house records indicate approximately 293,000 tons were disposed in the Class Three Landfill in FY 2022. However, Class Three waste generation rates increased in FY 2022 due to permanent and tourism population growth. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority estimates 285,000 tons will be disposed in the Class Two Landfill in FY 2023, and further projects that Class Three waste disposal rates will increase 2% annually from the previous year thereafter. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority estimated that 6,691,036 tons of permitted capacity were remaining in the Class Three Landfill as of July 2022. This capacity represents built capacity (2,459,426 tons) and yet-to-be-built permitted capacity (4,231,610 tons). Figure 4-1 at the end of the section shows the total permitted capacity as well as the projected cumulated waste tonnage disposed within the Class Three Landfill. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority estimates the Class Three Landfill will reach capacity sometime in Fiscal Year 2042 as shown on Figure 4-1.

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority's Class Three Landfill has approximately 20 years of Class Three disposal capacity for Horry County, which meets the Solid Waste Management Plan's twenty-year planning horizon.

4.5.2 Class Two Landfills

There is one permitted Class Two Landfill within Horry County which is located at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority's Highway 90 site. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority has a solid waste permit (Facility ID 261001-1102), dated September 30, 2020, for a Class Two

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footprint area of approximately an 101.3-acre area (48 acres closed; 43.3 acres active). The landfill has a permitted capacity of 5.8 million cubic yards, and a disposal rate of 250,000 tons per year.

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority's scale house records indicate approximately 156,000 tons were disposed in the Class Two Landfill in FY 2022. However, Class Two waste generation rates were unusually high in FY 2022 due to storm-related debris. Therefore, the Horry County Solid Waste Authority estimates 137,000 tons will be disposed in the Class Two Landfill in FY 2023, and further projects Class Two waste disposal rates will increase 2% annually from the previous year thereafter. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority estimated that 87,000 tons of capacity were remaining in the Class Two Landfill as of July 2022; however, a recently constructed, but not yet operational, Class Two Landfill has approximately 1.5 million cubic yards of additional airspace remaining, which is estimated to provide an additional 921,000 tons of Class Two disposal. Therefore, there is an estimated 1.0 million tons of capacity remaining in the Class Two Landfill as of July 2022. Figure 4-2 at the end of the section shows the Class Two Landfill's total permitted capacity as well as the projected cumulated waste tonnage disposed within the Class Two Landfill.

With the 2022 Class Two Landfill expansion, HCSWA estimates the Class Two Landfill will reach capacity sometime in Fiscal Year 2029 as shown on Figure 4-2. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority's Class Two Landfill has approximately seven years of Class Two disposal capacity for Horry County, which does not provide for the Solid Waste Management Plan's 20-year planning horizon. However, as previously stated in Section 1.3, once the recent Piggyback Expansion of the MSW Landfill becomes operational, C&D disposal capacity for the remaining portion of the 20-year planning period may be provided by commingling waste in the Subtitle D Landfill. The HCSWA has also permitted and built a C&D recycling facility to recover as much material from the C&D waste stream as possible to reduce utilization of landfill space.

Figure 4-1 and Figure 4-2 show the remaining capacity of the Class Two and Class Three Landfills, and the estimated consumption at the landfills over the next twenty years.

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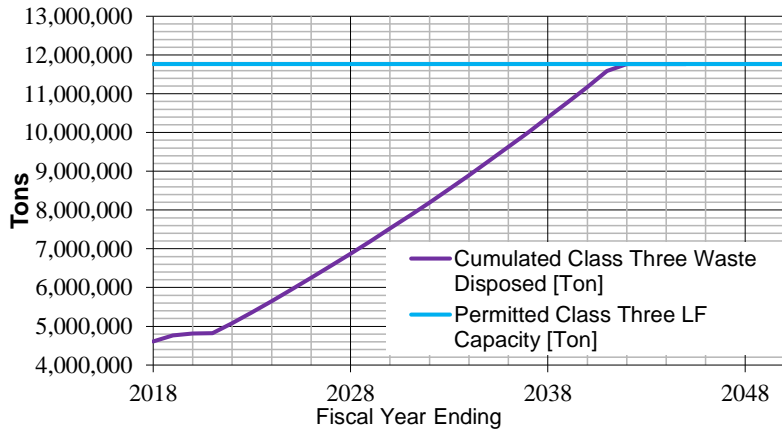


Figure 4-1 Class Three Landfill Capacity

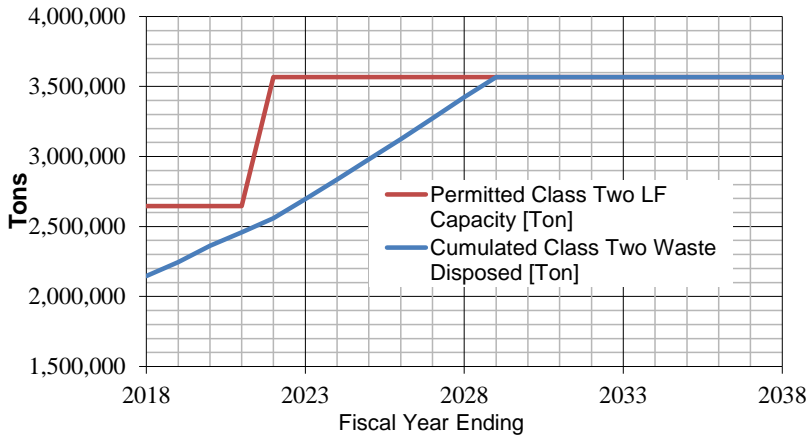


Figure 4-2 Class Two Landfill Capacity

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4.6 REDUCE, REUSE, & RECYCLE

Section 44-96-80 of the Solid Waste Policy and Management Act requires local governments to provide a description of recycling programs and to designate a recycling coordinator.

4.6.1 Recycling Coordinator

The HCSWA has two Recycling Coordinators on staff. The Recycling Coordinators can be contacted as follows:

Recycling Coordinator
Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Inc.
1886 Highway 90
P.O. Box 1664
Conway, South Carolina 29528-1664 (843) 347-1651
education@solidwasteauthority.org

4.6.2 Categories of Solid Waste to be Recycled

To gain a better appreciation for recycling efforts, Table 4-3 shows the recycling tonnage broken down by commodity.

Table 4-3 Recycling By Commodity, in Tons*

Category	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY2021
Glass	1,960.55	2,989.31	2,615.03	3,704.74	1,322.96
Metal	33,334.06	28,927.14	20,608.49	27,358.00	30,911.27
Paper	33,334.06	28,927.14	20,608.49	27,358.00	30,911.27
Plastics	1,338.75	1,271.60	1,212.37	1,523.96	1,800.55
Banned Items	8,666.93	6,450.14	7,627.14	7,140.55	7,474.55
Miscellaneous	5,621.66	2,898.38	5,442.59	24,901.14	3,928.28
Commingled Recyclables	1,776.66	894.31	2,231.96	237.92	5,475.93
C&D Cardboard	175.27	173.70	206.12	248.29	330.86
C&D Scrap Plastic	13.31	-	1.50	-	2.65
C&D Scrap Metal	284.74	407.33	421.78	405.84	437.73
C&D Wood Chips	9,441.95	9,637.31	6,249.86	6,564.99	6,608.17
C&D PETE Plastic	1.07	-	2.86	-	2.02
C&D Aluminum	1.66	-	1.29	-	1.23
C&D Carpet	270.67	275.14	254.82	288.46	5.36

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Category	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY2021
C&D Concrete	621.04	376.85	1,294.20	1,257.87	1,592.68
C&D Dirt	3,077.46	2,614.59	3,602.88	4,628.43	4,828.86
C&D Pad/Mattress	48.16	55.21	102.64	51.17	42.16
Clean Wood	1,720.43	2,223.86	2,442.34	3,399.11	2,835.73
Colored Mulch	924.70	1,051.56	811.94	1,243.20	1,621.61
Total	106,187.58	79,382.37	107,629.14	93,262.48	83,363.86

* Numbers compiled from the FY17-FY21 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Reports with the exception of C&D material numbers, which were provided by the Horry County Solid Waste Authority.

4.6.3 Materials Processing

The HCSWA owns and operates a regional material recovery facility (MRF). The MRF accepts electronics, cardboard, office paper, newspaper, plastic containers, glass, aluminum cans, non-UBC aluminum cans, and steel cans from the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Horry County and from other counties in South Carolina. The MRF processes these materials in a manner to prepare them for sale to end users. The MRF is located on 3 R Drive, near the intersection of Highway 90 and International Drive.

4.7 BANNED ITEMS

The 1991 Solid Waste Management Act placed disposal bans on certain types of solid wastes increasing the importance of counties to manage this waste. A list of the items that are banned from disposal in MSW landfills is identified in Table 4-4.

Table 4-4 Items Banned from MSW Landfills (State)

Banned Item	Effective Date
Lead-Acid Batteries	May 27,1992
Used Oil	May 27,1992
Yard Trash & Land-clearing Debris	May 27,1993
Whole Waste Tires	October 23,1993
White Goods	May 27,1994
Small-Sealed Lead-Acid Batteries	June 23,1995
Electronic Waste	July 1, 2011

Banned items are discussed in the following sections: batteries in section 4.7.1, used oil in 4.7.2, yard trash & land-clearing debris in 4.4.1, tires in 4.7.3, white goods in 4.7.4, electronic waste in 4.7.5.

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Within Horry County, certain items have also been banned, in addition to the State bans. Table 4-5 identifies items banned in the County.

Table 4-5 Items Banned from Landfill (Local)

Banned Item	Effective Date
Yard trimmings contained in plastic bags	July 1, 2017

4.7.1 Batteries

Section 44-96-180 of the Solid Waste Act banned the disposal of lead-acid batteries in landfills by May 27, 1992. Since that time, the HCSWA has provided for the collection of batteries at each of the recycling convenience centers located throughout the county and the household hazardous waste facility located at the Landfill. The HCSWA contracts with an approved recycling company for the collection of these batteries. The tons of batteries recycled since 2017 are shown in Table 4-6 below, as reported in each respective South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report.

Table 4-6 Tons of Batteries Recycled by the HCSWA

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Tons of Batteries Recycled	2,874.60	1,285.36	1,786.83	413.49	401.98

4.7.2 Used Oil

In accordance with Section 44-96-160 of the Solid Waste Policy and Management Act, the disposal of used oil in the landfill was banned on May 27, 1992. Since that time, the HCSWA has had a comprehensive used oil collection program in place working in partnership with Santee Cooper through its "Gofer Program". Used oil containers are available at all recycling convenience centers located throughout the county, along with a number of locations established by Santee Cooper. More recently, the collection of used oil filters was also implemented at each of the centers. 55-gallon drums are used to hold up to 250 uncrushed filters, or up to 750 crushed filters. This program has met with tremendous success and the HCSWA continues to educate the public about the benefits of used oil and filter recycling through a number of its educational mediums along with promotional information linked to the HCSWA's web site.

The HCSWA encourages oil bottle recycling through a program which was supported by a DHEC Grant. Small devices that facilitate complete drainage and emptying of motor oil bottles were purchased with grant funds and given to do it yourself oil changers who visit the recycling centers. The completely empty oil bottles can then be recycled along with the mixed plastics. Education regarding the program was also supported with grant funds.

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4.7.3 Tires

Whole waste tires have been banned from the MSW and C&D waste stream since October 23, 1993. The waste tire rebate by the state funds this collection program, along with Waste Tire Grant funds provided by DHEC. To encourage the proper disposal of waste tires, the HCSWA eliminated tipping fees for waste tires delivered to the landfill, except for off-road tires. With the elimination of the waste tire tipping fees, the quantity of waste tires delivered to the landfill for proper disposal has increased significantly.

Waste tires are disposed at an approved tire recycling and/or disposal facility.

4.7.4 White Goods

Section 44-96-200 of the Solid Waste Act placed a ban on the landfilling of white goods as of May 27, 1994. The HCSWA has procedures in place to address the requirements of this rule. As indicated in Section 4 of this Plan Update, many of the incorporated areas within the county offer curbside pickup of white goods and other bulk waste items on an "on call" basis. Similarly, containers are available at each of the recycling convenience center sites located throughout the unincorporated areas of the county. These items, which include appliances such as dishwashers, refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, and water heaters, are collected and recycled for their scrap metal content.

4.7.5 Electronic Wastes

Electronic Waste is collected in roll-off containers at the convenience centers located throughout the County or in a roll-off container at the Solid Waste Authority's Landfill Facility on Hwy. 90. Beginning July 1, 2011, disposal of most electronic waste (e-waste) was prohibited in landfills. More recent regulatory changes occurred in H.4035 which went into effect May 17, 2021 to extend the S.C. Manufacturers Responsibility and Consumer Convenience Information Technology Equipment Collection and Recovery Act until December 31, 2023. Myrtle Beach collects e-waste curbside weekly, and brings it to its transfer facility, where it is sorted and prepared for shipping until it is transported by a vendor. North Myrtle Beach collects e-waste, segregates the materials from the waste stream, and periodically delivers the e-waste to the HCSWA. Conway collects e-waste weekly and when its container is full it is delivered to the HCSWA. Surfside Beach conducts semi-annual special events for the collection of e-waste and contracts independently with an electronics certified recycler; Surfside Beach has recycled 35.46 tons of material in the same 5 year time period shown in Table 4-7. The tons of electronics recycled since 2017 by the HCSWA is shown in Table 4-7 below, as reported in each respective South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report.

Table 4-7 Tons of Electronics Recycled by the HCSWA

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Tons of Electronics Recycled	1,255.10	1,127.05	1,018.26	1,042.25	874.42

4.8 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Miscellaneous items include materials such as Household Hazardous Waste, Textiles, Construction and Demolition Debris, and Green Power.

4.8.1 Household Hazardous Materials

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) includes: acids, aerosols, antifreeze, batteries, brake fluids, corrosives, drain openers, flammables, fuel, furniture strippers, gasoline, household cleaners and polishes, kerosene, lighter fluid, oxidizers, paints, pesticides, photo chemicals, poisons, pool chemicals, solvents, thinners, weed killers, wood preservatives. HHW is collected at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority on Hwy. 90 on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.. The facility is also open each Saturday from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Appointment times can also be set up when necessary. A total of 122.86 tons of HHW material was collected by the HCSWA in FY 2021.

4.8.2 Textiles

Textiles such as clothing and shoes are collected in 8-Cubic Yard containers at many of the convenience centers located throughout the County and then collected by a recycling company. At the other convenience centers, the textiles are collected in the bulk waste roll-off containers and are disposed in the Class Two Landfill at the Solid Waste Authority’s Landfill Facility on Hwy. 90. The tons of textiles recycled since 2017 by the HCSWA is shown in Table 4-7 below, as reported in each respective South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report.

Table 4-8 Tons of Textiles Recycled by the HCSWA

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Tons of Textiles Recycled	821.49	738.65	604.6	320.48	940.52

4.8.3 Construction and Demolition Debris

The HCSWA Solid Waste processing facility now accepts clean wood that is processed through an electric wood grinder. Some of the ground material is sold for boiler fuel while the remaining tonnage is put through a coloring process resulting in colored mulch, which is sold to the public. The HCSWA actively pursues recycling of asphalt, concrete, metal, cardboard, rigid plastics, and wood, and offers reduced tipping fees for these materials if segregated into uncontaminated loads. The HCSWA grinds concrete for use in landfill operations such as road construction. In an effort to expand its construction and demolition debris recycling, the HCSWA has permitted and constructed a solid waste processing facility to recover materials from the C&D waste stream and continues to monitor opportunities and markets to divert more materials. The C&D material recycled is shown in Table 4-3.

4.8.4 Green Power

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority's Landfill Facility on Hwy. 90 also has a Green Power Program. The term "Green Power" comes from the process of generating electricity through renewable resources such as solar, wind and decomposing garbage in landfills. The program transforms methane from the Horry County Solid Waste Authority's landfill into an environmentally friendly electricity product. Garbage put into landfills decomposes over time and landfill gas is a product of this process. Methane is a hydrocarbon gas (CH₄) generated specifically by decomposition, such as in landfills and also swamps. If methane is released directly into the atmosphere, it is a potent greenhouse gas that has greater global-warming potential than carbon dioxide. Landfill gas is approximately 50% methane, with the remainder being mostly carbon dioxide with varying amounts of nitrogen, oxygen and assorted non-methane organic compounds. While landfill gas could simply and easily be flared, the more efficient collection will help the environment to generate renewable energy and reduce emissions into the atmosphere. Landfill gas is the only renewable energy source that, when used, actually removes pollution from the atmosphere. The landfill gas is collected by a vacuum process through a series of buried pipes throughout the landfill. A series of moisture traps and a filtration system conditions the landfill gas prior to sending it to the generating equipment, which includes three 1,400 horsepower engines that produce 3.3 megawatts to power more than 2,100 homes. The Green Power Program operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and allows electricity consumers the choice to buy Green Power.

The Green Power Program started in September 2001 through a partnership between the HCSWA, Santee Cooper, Horry Electric Cooperative, and Central Electric Power Cooperative. Santee Cooper owns and operates the building and generating equipment. The Horry County Solid Waste Authority owns and operates the landfill, methane gas collection system and sells the [landfill gas that is collected](#) to Santee Cooper. [Santee Cooper in turn generates electricity from the landfill gas.](#) Horry Electric Cooperative and Central Electric Power Cooperative supply and maintain the power lines [that distributes the electricity to the power grid.](#)

[The HCSWA will continue to plan and implement future landfill gas system expansions all the while researching available technologies and partnerships that utilize the landfill gas effectively and efficiently.](#)

4.9 PUBLIC EDUCATION

The HCSWA has several public education programs to inform the public about the benefits of source separation, recycling, and waste reduction. These programs are essential in increasing public awareness and to help achieve the goals set for reducing, reusing, and recycling. A description of several of these programs is as follows:

- The Education Programs at the HCSWA are essential to increase public awareness and to help achieve the goals set for reuse, reduction and recycling. Two Coordinators of Recycling Programs are employed by the HCSWA and are responsible for carrying out the Public Education programs. They work with 60 public schools, charter schools,

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private schools and home schools as well as all libraries, summer camps, after school programs, etc. The Education Department also works closely with varying civic groups, local businesses, HOA organizations/retirement communities and all individual residents of Horry County.

- During Fiscal Year 2020, the HCSWA could not host tours due to the Covid Pandemic and resumed conducting tours in Spring 2022. The Education Department was able to complete 40 landfill tours by June 30th, 2022, reaching 675 residents/students. Presentations were offered to those who could not tour and 65 virtual or physical outdoor presentations were provided to various schools, civic groups, church groups, businesses, and individual residents reaching approximately 5,000 individuals.
- Ongoing school programs include the Cafeteria Recycling Program (since 1993) and Classroom Paper Recycling Program (since 1982). Schools are provided with 8 yard commingle recycling containers to collect plastic jugs and bottles, metal cans, newspapers, magazines, and cardboard. These containers are collected at least once a week by the HCSWA at no charge. Recycling paper roll carts as well as classroom paper recycling bins are distributed to each school at no cost. Each Horry County School classroom is provided with a paper recycling bin and the paper recycling roll carts are collected once a week by the HCSWA at no charge. In many schools, students take responsibility for this activity. It is estimated that the school district saved almost \$50,000 during the 2021-2022 school year and recycled more than 375 tons of commingled recyclables through these SWA programs.
- Student contests and awards from the HCSWA include: The Talkin' Trash Recycling and Waste Diversion Contest for HCS fourth graders, the POP (Protect Our Planet) Art Contest for middle school students, Environmental Scholarships for high school seniors, and the Recycling Student of the Year recognition offered to all Horry County School students. During FY 22, the fourth graders participating in the Talkin' Trash Recycling and Waste Diversion Contest recycled 145 tons of material for the six month contest beginning Oct. 1st and ending March 31st.
- The Public Education Department publishes a quarterly newsletter entitled, "Recycle This!" and encompasses topics concerning Horry County's recycling rate, backyard composting, free landfill tours, and tips on how to protect tomorrow's environment today. The newsletter is distributed via email (if subscribed) as well as a part of presentations, events, trainings, etc. and is also available on the HCSWA website, www.SolidWasteAuthority.org.
- Every year, the HCSWQA honors teachers and educators that have supported its mission in "Protecting Tomorrow's Environment Today" with an Environmental Awards Banquet. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this banquet was cancelled beginning in the year 2020 in compliance with CDC guidelines through year 2022. Award recipients are honored with various categories such as Gold Star School, Liaison of the Year, Green Spark Award and occasionally the Environmental Eagle Award is presented to one outstanding steward of the environment who goes above and beyond or mission of "Protecting Tomorrow's Environment Today". Plans are to reactivate this awards program in the 2022-2023 school year.

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- The Coordinators of Recycling Programs conduct waste audits and cold calls to new businesses and set up new businesses with recycling collection by explaining the benefits of recycling as well as possible financial savings to businesses through reduction of garbage collection. All new customers are offered free employee training to encourage proper procedures and to explain recycling and landfill operations.
- The Solid Waste Authority also focuses on a Continuing Education Program with current cardboard, commingle and office paper customers. Staff routinely visit approximately 1600 customers to reemphasize parameters of the recycling program, decrease contamination, increase efficiency and address any other issues that may arise during collection (i.e., blocked gate, lock/combination issues).
- The SWA Recycling Coordinators routinely recognize businesses, industries and agencies who exhibit and practice reducing, reusing and recycling in their daily operations and promote sustainability through the Spotlight on Environmental Awareness (SEA) Program. Residents are also recognized and rewarded for their recycling efforts through the Caught Green Handed Program conducted at the 25 Recycling Centers in Horry County each month.
- Promotional events are scheduled each year during national recycling/waste reduction recognition days, i.e., Earth Day and are held at various locations including recycling centers, various businesses and local parks.
- The SWA produces weekly educational videos through the Watch Out Wednesday (W.O.W.) Program. Videos are produced, recorded and then uploaded to Facebook and YouTube each Wednesday to further educate Horry County residents on various topics including frequently asked questions, seasonal recycling/waste reduction campaigns, SWA programs, sustainable crafts, etc.
- An award-winning website, www.SolidWasteAuthority.org, offers specific sections for Horry County residents, educators, and students. The site features information on all SWA Programs, virtual tours/presentations, what to recycle and what to not recycle in Horry County, a map of the recycling convenience centers, press releases, calendar of events, hours of operation as well as landscaping materials for sale. A copy of “The Recycling Guidebook” containing information on SWA programs can be accessed on the website and are distributed at all events, tours and presentations.
- Event Recycling Containers are promoted and offered to all Horry County residents, community groups, etc. for special events ranging from community events to family reunions. Containers are free to use and are delivered before the event and recollected after the event has ended.
- The SWA offers three grants that are available to teachers/schools:
 - Field Trip Grant: reimbursement to schools for the cost of school buses to the landfill and MRF for tours/presentations.
 - The Environmental Education Grant: allows purchase of up to \$250 of materials for recycling and/or various environmentally based projects such as gardening/composting.

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- The Compost/Mulch/Glass Aggregate Grant: allows schools to receive up to 25 tons of landscaping material from the HCSWA at no cost each school year.

For the municipalities, the school district, and the university within the County, each can take advantage of the HCSWA programs described above, as appropriate, and have the following additional public education efforts:

- **Town of Atlantic Beach:** The Town currently does not have an education program in place and relies on the HCSWA public education programs.
- **Town of Aynor:** The Town currently does not have an education program in place and relies on the HCSWA public education programs.
- **Town of Briarcliffe Acres:** The Town website, www.townofbriarcliffe.us, posts any education information provided by the private contractor, GFL; in addition, the Town Clerk sends pertinent information and dates on a monthly calendar, posts specific dates on the Town kiosk, and hand delivers information to those without email accounts. The Town is vigilant in recycling efforts; residents are encouraged to recycle, and are offered additional waste, and/or recycling carts.
- **City of Conway:** The City currently does not have an education program in place and relies on the HCSWA public education programs.
- **City of Loris:** The City currently does not have an education program in place and relies on the HCSWA public education programs.
- **City of Myrtle Beach:** The City provides on-going education through its website, literature distribution and recycling educational materials. The 2018 pilot commercial recycling program that aimed to provide recycling services to those businesses in the downtown area that may not have it available to them resulted in the four recycling site locations being removed due to recurring collection issues of contaminated recyclables that were deemed unsuitable for the Solid Waste Authority's Materials Recycling Facility (MRF). Long-term plans call for developing a comprehensive education program that will look at regular ongoing activities, new recycling opportunities (such as event recycling) to divert additional recyclable materials from disposal. The City's Solid Waste Superintendent will continue to manage the recycling and other waste diversion programming for the City.
- **City of North Myrtle Beach:** Activities include brochures, newspaper and web posting to encourage recycling participation. In addition, the City uses our electronic video message board to rotate recycling and waste collection education messages. The City is in the process of adopting a retail level plastic bag ban and has increased our environmental stewardship messaging. .
- **Town of Surfside Beach:** The Town takes advantage of efforts conducted by the HCSWA. The Town also utilizes on-truck message display boards, and giveaways (like

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magnets) to promote recycling in the Town.

- **Horry County Public School District:** HCS provides grade level education for specific learning objectives that focus on waste management, responsible diversion practices, and environmental stewardship, which directly supports the operational goals of the District. HCS continues to partner with the HCSWA to coordinate the “Talkin’ Trash” program for fourth grade students. HCSWA field trips are offered to schools, and many schools take advantage of the opportunity to see the landfill, MRF, and composting facility. Various programs exist throughout the District that directly promote environmental literacy including “Green” Teams, Environmental Clubs, learning gardens, and outdoor inquiry classes.
- **Coastal Carolina University:** CCU has several education programs to inform the University community of recycling and waste reduction opportunities, including:
 - Employ 4-5 Eco-Reps (peer educators) each semester
 - Comprehensive guide on sustainability at the university
 - Distribute a "What, Where, How" recycle flyer to each resident
 - Public Waste Audits
 - Tabling Events
 - Classroom Presentations
 - Earth Month Programming
 - Green Tours
 - Green Workshops
 - Pop-Up Thrift Shop (reuse program)
 - Campus Salvage (reuse program).

The following strategies are in place for CCU to continue working toward a 50% diversion rate by 2030.

- CCU is currently expanding organic collection to include residential composting
- CCU will expand zero waste operations within Athletics to include Springs Brooks Stadium (baseball) within the next three years
- CCU will expand organic collection to include the University’s food court (CINO Grille) within the next three years
- CCU will expand organic collection to include “Zero Waste Catering” within the next two years

CCU will publish a comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Inventory (Scope 1-3) for FY18-21 in September 2022. This inventory will include emissions related to solid waste management and plans to decrease future emissions.

4.10 AWARDS

Over the past 20 years, the Horry County Solid Waste Authority has received numerous awards of recognition for various recycling, waste reduction and educational programs. A listing of these awards is as follows:

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- 2018 Annual Recycling Award for Talkin' Trash Program (CRA)
- 2017 Outstanding Safety Achievement Award (SC Workers Compensation Trust)
- 2015-2016 SC Workers Compensation Prompt Reporting Award – First Place
- 2014-2015 SC Workers Compensation Prompt Reporting Award - Silver
- 2014-2015 United Way Pacesetter
- 2014 Keep Horry County Beautiful Litter Prevention Award
- 2013-2014 United Way Pacesetter
- 2012-2013 United Way Pacesetter
- 2012-2013 SC Workers Compensation Prompt Reporting Award - Gold
- 2012 Bill Evans & Carol Bond Memorial Award for Outstanding Toxicity Reduction
- 2011-2012 United Way Pacesetter
- 2010-2011 SC Workers Compensation Prompt Reporting Award - Silver
- 2010 SC Local Government Award (CRA)
- 2010 Jennifer Sellers & Kendra Hooks SC Recycler of the Year Award (CRA)
- 2010 Green Building Project of the Year (CRA)
- 2009 Jennifer Sellers & Kendra Hooks - Recycling Professional of the Year
- 2009 Getting the Word Out- Sensational Education and Outreach (CRA)
- 2008 Getting the Word Out - Sensational Education and Outreach (CRA)
- 2007 Spotlight Award (CRA)
- 2006 Outstanding County Waste Reduction/Recycling Program (SC DHEC)
- 2006 Government Recycling Program of the Year (CMRA)
- 2005 Outstanding County Waste Reduction/Recycling Program (SC DHEC)
- 2004 Business Recycling Promotion Award (SC DHEC)
- 2003 Outstanding Local Government Waste Reduction/Recycling Education Program (SC DHEC)
- 2003 Outstanding Business Recycling Award Public Sector (SC DHEC)
- 2002 Outstanding Business Recycling Award Public Sector (SC DHEC)
- 2002 Outstanding Local Government Waste Reduction/Recycling Education Program (SC DHEC)
- 2002 Elly Mavley-Recycling Coordinator of the Year (CRA)
- 2001 Outstanding County/Municipal Program of the Year (Carolina Recycling Assoc. - CRA)
- 2001 Energy Partner of the Year for Landfill Methane Green Power Generation (SC Energy Manager)
- 2001 LMOP Partner of the Year Award (Landfill Methane Outreach Program)
- 2000 Best Local Government America Recycles Day Event (SC DHEC)
- 1999 Best Local Government Awareness Program (SC DHEC)
- 1999 Excellence in Public Information and Education Programs (SWANA SC Palmetto Chapter)
- 1998 Excellence in Municipal Solid Waste Management Award (SWANA)
- Gold Award-School Curricula Excellence
- Silver Award- Special Waste Excellence

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- 1998 Outstanding Composting or Organics Recycling Program (CRA)
- 1998 Recycling Program Excellence (SWANA SC Palmetto Chapter)
- 1997 Excellent Education Program (SWANA SC Palmetto Chapter)
- 1995 Best Local Government Program Recycling Education (SC Recycling Association)
- 1994 Recycling Program Collection Excellence Awards (SWANA)
- 1994 Yard Waste Composting Facility Award (SWANA SC Palmetto Chapter)
- 1994 Partners in Education Programs (SWANA SC Palmetto Chapter)

4.11 SPECIAL WASTES

Each MSW landfill is required by the Act to have a SC DHEC approved Special Waste Analysis and Implementation Plan (SWAIP). The plan is required to address the parameters for which each special waste, proposed for disposal is to be analyzed and the rationale for selecting these parameters. The HCSWA has an approved SWAIP as a component of its Solid Waste Operations Plan. Asbestos is considered a special waste and is not accepted for disposal at the HCSWA facilities. There are several landfills located within the planning areas that accept asbestos containing waste.

4.12 IMPORT AND EXPORT

The HCSWA serves the solid waste needs of the citizens of Horry County. Only minor amounts of municipal solid waste are imported each year from Georgetown County and exported to Georgetown County in a cooperative effort with Georgetown County. Horry County has an interlocal governmental agreement with Georgetown County that allows Georgetown County to take Horry County waste and Horry County to take Georgetown County waste. However, waste is not currently being imported from Georgetown County into Horry County.

The HCSWA's material recovery facility accepts recyclables from other counties in South Carolina.

The HCSWA continues to explore a regional approach to solid waste management.

5.0 INTRODUCTION

Section 44-96-80 of the Act requires the County's Solid Waste Management Plan to include:

- an estimate of the cost of implementing the solid waste management plan within that county or region;
- an estimate of the revenue which each local government or region needs and intends to make available to fund implementation of the solid waste management plan;
- an estimate of the cost of siting, constructing, and bringing into operation any new facilities needed to manage solid waste within that county or region during the projected twenty-year period;

Each year the municipalities and the HCSWA complete Full Cost Disclosure Forms and submit them to SC DHEC, which show their cost to provide solid waste services. Copies of the Full Cost Disclosure Forms are available from each entity or from SC DHEC.

Appendix B contains the HCSWA's Annual Operating Budget Summary of Revenues and Summary of Expenditures for Fiscal Years 2017-2021. Additionally, Appendix B includes the HCSWA's Capital Budget Summary of Expenditures and Funding Sources for Fiscal Years 2017-2021, along with each fiscal year's detailed capital improvement budget items and the sources of funding.

A discussion of how each of the services is funded is in the following sections.

5.1 COLLECTION

Many of the incorporated areas of Horry County provide curbside collection services. Each of the incorporated areas generates funds in support of their systems through user fees and/or property taxes.

Horry County provides collection for the unincorporated areas of the county utilizing manned convenience centers. The HCSWA manages and provides staffing for the convenience centers. Horry County collects a millage from unincorporated areas and reimburses the HCSWA for the actual cost of operating the centers.

5.2 EDUCATION

For incorporated areas of Horry County that provide education, funds are generated through user fees and/or property taxes.

The HCSWA provides solid waste and recycling public education services for the entire County. Funding for the HCSWA public education services is funded from the collection of tipping fees, which are paid by all users of the HCSWA landfill facilities, as well as revenues from sales of recyclables.

5.3 RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING

For incorporated areas of Horry County that have recycling and composting programs, funds are generated through user fees and/or property taxes.

The HCSWA operates an office paper and OCC collection program, a commingled collection program, and operates a MRF which processes recycled material. The office paper, OCC, and commingled collection, as well as the MRF are funded from the sale of recyclable materials as well as the collection of tipping fees, which are paid by all users of the HCSWA landfill facilities.

The HCSWA has a resale store to encourage the reuse of items that would normally be disposed of in a landfill. Reusable materials are collected at eight of the county's convenience centers. The resale store is located on HCSWA property and managed and operated by the Horry County Council on Aging with profits going to Meals on Wheels.

The HCSWA provides hauling services for numerous recycling collection areas located in both the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Horry County.

The HCSWA also operates a composting facility as described in Section 4.4.1 of this Plan. The compost facility is funded from sales of compost and mulch as well as the collection of tipping fees, which are paid by all users of the HCSWA landfill facilities.

5.4 DISPOSAL

The HCSWA is responsible for the siting, construction, and operation of solid waste management disposal facilities in Horry County. The HCSWA is a non-profit organization incorporated under the South Carolina Non-Profit Corporation Act (Article 1, Chapter 31, Title 33, of the South Carolina Code). Tipping fees are the primary source of revenue to cover costs for siting, construction, and operation of Horry County's solid waste disposal facilities for the twenty-year planning period. The cost for providing these disposal services is funded from the collection of tipping fees, which are paid by all users of the HCSWA landfill facilities. Tipping fees also support countywide recycling programs.

Included in the HCSWA tipping fees charged for municipal solid waste and mixed construction is a \$2.25 per ton Community Waste Disposal Fee which was adopted by the Horry County Council effective July 1, 2003. HCSWA remits the fees collected on these materials each month to Horry County based on the tonnage received at the landfill.

All municipalities in Horry County pay tipping fees for disposal of material collected. Each municipality generates funds in support of their systems through user fees and/or property taxes.

In the unincorporated area of Horry County, materials collected at the convenience centers and transported to the landfill for disposal incur tipping fee charges. The costs for the operation of the unincorporated collection system are funded by a millage applicable only to property located outside municipal limits.

6.0 INTRODUCTION

The Solid Waste Policy and Management Act (Act) designates a waste reduction goal and a waste recycling goal for the state. The Act also establishes policies to be incorporated into South Carolina's solid waste management programs. This chapter details the solid waste reduction and recycling goals and policies outlined in the Act along with suggested strategies for achieving the goals, and possible barriers.

Specifically, Section 6.1 summarizes the State Solid Waste Management Plan Goals and Policies; Section 6.2 presents the HCSWA's plan for meeting these Goals and Policies; Section 6.3 presents additional potential strategies and actions to assist in meeting the Goals and Policies; Section 6.4 describes ongoing actions taken to meet Goals and Policies; and Section 6.5 describes possible barriers to meeting the Goals and Policies.

6.1 STATE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

6.1.1 Goals

The following goals are included in Section 44-96-50 of the Act.

1. It is the goal of this State to reduce, on a statewide per capita basis, the amount of municipal solid waste being *generated* to 3.5 pounds per day not later than June 30, 2005. The Fiscal Year 2021 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report updated this goal. The new goal is to reduce municipal solid waste *disposal* to 3.25 pounds or less per person per day without a specific year (previously stated by 2020).

For the purposes of this goal, "municipal solid waste" includes, but is not limited to, wastes that are durable goods, nondurable goods, containers and packaging, food scraps, yard trimmings, and miscellaneous inorganic wastes from residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial sources including, but not limited to, appliances, automobile tires, old newspapers, clothing, disposable tableware, office and classroom paper, wood pallets, and cafeteria wastes. "Municipal solid waste" does not include solid wastes from other sources including, but not limited to, construction and demolition debris, auto bodies, municipal sludges, combustion ash, and industrial process wastes that also might be disposed of in municipal waste landfills or incinerators.

2. It was a prior goal of the State to recycle, on a statewide basis, at least thirty-five percent, calculated by weight, of the municipal solid waste stream generated in this State no later than June 30, 2005. In determining whether the solid waste recycling goal has been achieved, no more than 40 percent of this goal may be met by removing yard trash, land-clearing debris, and C&D debris from the solid waste stream. The Fiscal Year 2021 South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report updated this goal. The new goal is to recycle forty percent of the state's municipal solid waste without a specific year (previously stated by 2020).

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3. It is the goal of this State to continue setting new and revised solid waste recycling and waste reduction goals after June 30, 2005. These goals must be established in a manner so as to attempt to further reduce the flow of solid waste being disposed of in municipal solid waste landfills and solid waste incinerators.

6.1.2 Policies

The following policies are included in Section 44-96-50 of the Act.

1. It is the policy of this State to promote appropriate methods of solid waste management prior to utilizing the options of disposal in landfills, treatment or disposal by incineration or other treatment, storage, or disposal methods, and to assist local government with solid waste management functions. In furtherance of this state policy, it shall be preferable to reduce the production and generation of waste at the source and to promote the reuse and recycling of materials rather than the treatment, storage, or disposal of wastes by landfill disposal, incineration, or other management methods designed to handle waste after it enters the waste stream.
2. It is the policy of this State that the methods of management of solid waste shall protect public health, safety, and the environment by employing the best available technology, which is economically feasible for the control of pollution and the release of hazardous constituents into the environment. Such methods shall be implemented in a manner to maximize the reduction of solid waste through source reduction, reuse, and recycling.
3. It is the policy of this State to encourage research by private entities, by state agencies, and by state-supported educational institutions into the reduction of solid waste production and generation.
4. It is the policy of this State to encourage a regional approach to solid waste management.
5. It is the policy of this State that each county or region make every effort to meet, on an individual basis, the state solid waste recycling and reduction goals and that each county or region, and municipalities located therein, which meet this goal be financially rewarded by the State.

6.2 STRATEGIES TO MEET GOALS AND POLICIES OF THE ACT

With this Plan, the HCSWA intends to incorporate all the goals and policies set by the State into its solid waste program. Strategies to meet goals and policies of the act include:

- To develop and maintain an administrative staff which fully supports the missions, goals, and objectives of the Board of Directors.
- To provide educational programs to the public on responsible waste management with an emphasis on source reduction, re-use, recycling, and environmental awareness.
- To provide comprehensive solid waste management programs which incorporate state-of-the-art technologies in order to maximize protection of the environment and efficiently utilize the disposal system.
- To provide attractive and well-maintained facilities and equipment in order to provide waste disposal services promptly to users, to enhance the image of waste management

in the service area, and to instill pride in the HCSWA.

- To maintain active liaison and communications with industry, federal, state, and local officials concerned with solid waste management.
- To continue to employ, train, and retain a highly competent work force consistent with sound personnel practices and laws.
- To continue to pursue a regional approach to managing the county's waste.

6.3 ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS TO CONSIDER

The following additional strategies were discussed by the TAC and determined to have merit for inclusion in the 2022 Plan.

6.3.1 Consumption/ Generation Potential Strategies

1. A phased approach for increasing diversion over time beyond the state goals should be considered. However, due to the difficulty in accurately tracking the actual, overall diversion and recycling rates due to inconsistent reporting across the County and State, a more clear and comprehensive understanding of accounting for recycling and diversion in the County is needed. A clear method of accounting for recycling and diversion rates should be established as a baseline before setting more aggressive recycling and diversion goals and developing strategies to achieve those goals. A clear method for accounting should include taking tourism population into consideration when calculating the pounds per person per day disposal rate rather than DHEC's current practice of only using permanent population to determine the pounds per person per day in the State's Solid Waste Management Annual Report. Using tourism equivalent population rather than permanent population results in more accurate accounting of disposal rates for communities such as Horry County with high tourism (see Section 3 for equivalent permanent population factoring in tourism).

The Authority and County should look for ways to incentivize commercial reporting. An evaluation of what is currently occurring should first be determined. Consider encouraging the State to mandate reporting, and perhaps consider putting the reporting requirement on the recyclable materials haulers or processors rather than individual businesses.

It was discussed that any businesses that are recycling should be required to report to the State, and enforcement should occur. The Authority should encourage the State to do more to ensure reporting, including mandating reporting.

Discussions with County Council should be considered in order to demonstrate the current difficulties in measuring accurate recycling rates, and potential efforts to require or otherwise incentives reporting in order to accurately track recycling efforts in the County, which may include:

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- an incentive program to promote businesses that report
 - an adjustment to regulations in order to make recycling easier for businesses (i.e., dumpster enclosure regulations, style of service regulations, future building design criteria).
 - **Action Item:** Work with DHEC to improve/streamline, require and enforce reporting, which may include changes to who reports and how (e.g. instead of individual businesses reporting, focus on recyclable material haulers and/or processors reporting and tie to licensing to enforce, as appropriate.)
 - **Action Item:** Work with DHEC to improve the State’s disposal rate calculation method to more accurately represent the pounds per person per day disposed, which should include the tourism equivalent permanent population (see Section 3).
2. The Authority should perform a waste characterization study every five years, before each Plan update, in order to better understand what is in the waste stream. The study should break down information from different generator sectors (e.g. residential single family, residential multifamily, commercial, tourist areas).
 3. The County, and municipalities within the County, should continue to promote backyard composting and take-back programs, such as for electronics, through its education and outreach efforts.
 - **Action Item:** Baseline food scraps, electronics, and other items that should be recycled in “take back” programs in the next waste characterization study, then measure progress with each waste characterization study performed prior to each Plan update.
 - **Action Item:** Research whether an additional fee could be added for HCSWA to provide certain additional services.
 4. The Authority, County and municipalities within the County should support state-level Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) initiatives, rather than implement its own EPR initiatives, which may include EPR initiatives for tires, e-waste, solar panels, plastic bags, carpet, paint, mattresses, lithium ion batteries, and various product packaging materials.
 - **Action Item:** Encourage DHEC to take more action on EPR initiatives.
 5. The HCSWA, the County and municipalities within the County should each review its own current Municipal Purchasing Practices, and determine if there are opportunities to lead by example through sustainable purchasing practices at the local government level. The HCSWA should also encourage the State to look for opportunities for sustainability initiatives through the State purchasing practices.

6.3.2 Collection and Transfer Potential Strategies

6. The County and municipalities within the County should research the viability of Pay-As-You-Throw Collection (PAYT) in order to provide an economic incentive to recycling, rather than landfill.
 - o **Action Item:** Form a subcommittee to research and share information on PAYT programs, when needed.
7. The County and municipalities within the County should research the viability of curbside cart collection for garbage and recycling, where organized collection is in practice. (Communities switching from bins to carts for recyclables have seen as much as a 50% increase in tons diverted. The Town of Surfside Beach, the City of Myrtle Beach and the City of North Myrtle Beach have made the switch to cart collection, and the City of Conway is in the process of moving to carts. Some municipalities do not offer curbside recycling.)
 - o **Action Item:** Establish a goal of transitioning each municipality to cart collection in the next five years.
8. The Authority, County, and municipalities within the County should continue to monitor and implement opportunities to address recycling in public places and at special events, such as the continued and expanded use of public recycling containers at the beach, and at shopping centers. The added cost of collections and need for instructive signs should be compared to the diversion anticipated to determine the cost and benefits of expanding recycling in public places and at special events. Logistics, including impacts on planning and zoning should also be factored into the analysis.
9. The Authority should continue to expand its technical assistance program for businesses and multifamily housing in order to assist in setting up recycling programs. Technical assistance may include education and outreach for tenants of building, logistics assistance for property managers to determine placement of recycling containers, and recommendations for recycling programs that make the most sense for the specific user (i.e., office buildings recycle office paper, restaurants recycle bottles and containers and/or food scraps, retailers recycle cardboard, etc.).

6.3.3 Processing and Conversion Potential Strategies

10. The HCSWA will continue to monitor and evaluate annually opportunities for alternative technologies to divert more materials from the landfill. Technologies may include:
 - o Mixed waste processing
 - o Energy from Waste opportunities (including WTE and alternative technologies)
 - o Anaerobic Digestion for organics

11. The TAC recommends that the HCSWA review and research all the properties and existing permits to gain maximum life of the existing landfill location. The review and research should look at any space that is not under permit, as well as existing permits to see if any additional life can be added to the current landfill location. All future usage of closed areas such as mining or structure engineered walls versus slopes that will give additional capacity to the landfill should also be reviewed.

6.3.4 Marketing/End Use

12. The HCSWA should evaluate the markets for recyclables in the region in order to determine what markets are readily available in the area and what kinds of markets make sense to attract to the area. Specific attention to tourist-generated materials should be given, as appropriate.

6.3.5 Additional Material Streams and Strategies to Consider

13. The HCSWA should further promote organics recycling through commercial food scraps diversion, as the processing capabilities within the County allow.
 - o **Action Item:** Look for ways to attract more haulers for organics collection, to help lower cost.
14. The HCSWA, County, and municipalities within the County should look for opportunities to recycle more construction and demolition debris (C&D). Because the HCSWA's C&D landfill current permitted capacity is anticipated to be met in 2029, the TAC recommends that the HCSWA review and research, then implement as appropriate, additional recycling measures at the C&D landfill in the short term to extend the permitted capacity beyond 2029 if possible. The TAC also recommends that the HCSWA begin review and research for additional C&D landfill capacity which could include expansion at the current site or identifying an additional site for the long term.
 - o **Action Item:** Add C&D recycling statistics from each municipality to the Plan, so it can be tracked every five years, with each update. To the extent possible, aggregate data from private haulers, too.
 - o **Action Item:** Research and implement as appropriate additional recycling measures in the short term. Begin efforts to identify additional C&D landfill capacity for the long term.
15. Specifically related to hazardous materials, guidance should be sought from DHEC on end-of-life management of solar panels, which may be hazardous. Guidance should include direction on proper testing of solar panels to determine which are hazardous, education and outreach on appropriate management and disposal of solar panels, and potential funding for such management. Absent this guidance, HCSWA will not accept solar panels.

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- **Action Item:** Include these efforts as part of the DHEC subcommittee and HHW subcommittee efforts described in Section 1.3.6 below.
- 16. The HCSWA should investigate education and outreach related to the dangers of lithium ion batteries and the need for proper management of lithium batteries, potentially partnering with non-profit organizations and other entities to assist with outreach.
 - **Action Item:** Include these efforts as part of the DHEC subcommittee and HHW subcommittee efforts described in Section 1.3.6 below.
- 17. Specifically related to tires, as population continues to grow in the region, the influx of the number of tires to be managed has grown. Current funding levels from DHEC may not be adequate for proper management and disposal of tires. As acknowledged by the State, the dangers of tire piles stored outside include the potential for disease, mosquitoes, and fires. In 2022, DHEC also acknowledged that State funding for tire management may not be adequate.
 - **Action Item:** The HCSWA should continue to engage with DHEC and coordinate on the Scrap Tire Sustainability Coalition to be reinstated by the State. These coordination efforts should also include seeking adequate funding and removing current restrictions on tipping fees from the State for proper management of scrap tires.
 - **Action Item:** The HCSWA should work with each municipality within the jurisdiction to explore expanding existing nuisance ordinances to specifically ban the storing of tire piles outdoors and enforce as appropriate.
- 18. The HCSWA could consider setting tipping fees, or identifying other funding sources, that cover the cost of recycling and diversion programs in order to avoid the negative impact of funding programs that successfully reduce waste tonnages while simultaneously reducing corresponding tipping fee revenue, thereby hindering the ability to adequately fund diversion programs.
- 19. The HCSWA should encourage municipalities to accept the 2022 strategies as part of their own goals and strategies, as many of these strategies would need to be implemented in each jurisdiction.

6.3.6 Subcommittees to Consider

The TAC discussions included the potential to establish certain subcommittees within the group to tackle broader issues and strategies identified, and to assist in implementing strategies to reach the goals and policies of the State. Because the TAC is recommending updating the Plan every five years instead of every three years, the TAC should meet at least once per year to discuss progress and should coordinate the meeting of subcommittees as frequently as necessary to make progress. Such subcommittees could potentially include:

- **DHEC Subcommittee:** work with HCSWA and other jurisdictions in the County to encourage DHEC to take action on issues that should be handled at the State level (e.g., EPR initiatives, reporting issues, sustainability initiatives through the State purchasing practices as well as guidance on solar panels, lithium ion batteries, and other hazardous materials.)
- **Challenging Materials Subcommittee:** work with HCSWA and other jurisdictions in the County to coordinate with DHEC and other entities, as appropriate, to provide education and outreach on properly managing potentially hazardous materials such as solar panels and lithium ion batteries, or other materials such as tires. This could include managing single use plastic bags as is occurring in the Town of Surfside and the City of North Myrtle Beach.
- **PAYT Subcommittee:** focus on research and sharing information on PAYT programs, when needed.
- **Ban Subcommittee:** work with HCSWA and other jurisdictions to explore whether banning certain items from the landfill would be beneficial. Pursue how a ban would be implemented, including exceptions or problem areas, financial incentives or disincentives.

6.4 ONGOING ACTIONS TAKEN TO MEET GOALS AND POLICIES OF THE ACT

Currently, the HCSWA expends substantial resources on its public education programs which are described in detail in Section 4.9. The HCSWA will continue to promote recycling through its public education programs and will do more to encourage waste reduction throughout the County. The HCSWA will encourage residents to select products with less packaging when practical, buy products in large or economy sizes when possible, and inform retail outlets that less packaging is preferred. In addition, residents are encouraged to use all of a product before discarding the package and reuse packaging when possible.

Beyond public education programs to meet the goals of the Act, the HCSWA has various other programs in place. The cardboard collection program serves over 1,300 customers, businesses and schools, having nearly 1,400 containers. Under this program, the HCSWA leases the 8-yard OCC containers to customers at a nominal monthly charge and collects the cardboard at no charge. The containers are emptied between 1-5 times per week, depending upon the customer's needs. Another program operated by the HCSWA is the office paper collection program which serves approximately 250 customers weekly. The customers purchase a roll-out cart in which the office paper is deposited at their business and the HCSWA collects the paper from the curb using a rear-loader truck. Additionally, the HCSWA supports the recycling programs offered by the municipalities and the unincorporated collection system through various ways, i.e., transporting recyclables to the MRF. Also, waste audits are performed for businesses as well as

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training their employees on what and how to reduce, reuse and recycle. Event recycling is a new program established to collect recyclables, plus emphasize to attendees at the event the need to recycle.

As stated previously, the HCSWA operates a state-of-the-art, LEED-Certified Material Recovery Facility which processes the recyclables collected via the municipal, unincorporated system, and private hauler programs. It is an essential component to meeting the goals of the Act since it provides a readily available facility in Horry County which can effectively market the recyclables, thus completing the loop for handling these materials.

The HCSWA's Material Recovery Facility has the capacity to increase the amount of recyclable materials that it receives and processes. Accepting recyclable materials from neighboring counties would increase the quantity of materials available for recycling, thereby improving the marketability of the materials. More volume usually translates to higher prices for the commodities. The HCSWA is investigating ways to improve the recycling market. Horry County Council and the HCSWA Board of Directors recently approved a policy to allow recyclable materials to be accepted from other counties.

The HCSWA's landfill operations utilize the Pay-As-You Throw concept by charging customers a tipping fee for each ton delivered to its facility for disposal. Materials which can be reused or recycled at the landfill such as shingles, concrete, asphalt, yard waste, and wood waste have lower tipping fees applied to them if the materials are delivered separately and are clean, thus facilitating their reuse. The tipping fee for Class Two waste is \$29 per ton at the landfill, however if the waste is delivered to the C&D processing facility, the tipping fee is reduced. The tipping fee for the Class Three landfill is \$38 per ton. The tipping fee approach also encourages reduction in the amount of materials to be landfilled since the customer pays based on the tonnage generated and delivered to the landfill. A number of municipalities also utilize the Pay-As-You-Throw concept in their collection systems. Customers pay different amounts depending upon the service frequency and the number and size of the containers which are serviced.

New initiatives are currently being evaluated regarding commercial source recycling which involve both the tourism industry and the construction industry. The HCSWA will continually monitor new technology and other initiatives to enhance its' source recycling, reduction, and reuse alternatives. Specific strategies will continue to be developed on an annual basis at an annual planning retreat by the Board of Directors and staff. This method allows both the flexibility of reacting to new technology, and current trends utilized by other areas in meeting similar reduction, reuse, and recycling goals.

The HCSWA has made significant efforts toward the recycling and reduction of solid waste through its recycling and public education programs. The HCSWA intends to capitalize on opportunities to achieve the per capita waste disposal goal and recycling goal set by the State Plan.

HCSWA reserves the right to pursue equipment, technologies, and processes that further efforts to divert waste materials from final disposal and places them into reuse and recycling opportunities to include any new technologies. Further, the HCSWA will continue to review

options for managing any and all waste streams generated within the County for proper waste management options to protect the health and safety of the residents and businesses in the County in a manner which protects all of its resources.

6.5 POSSIBLE BARRIERS TO ACHIEVING GOALS

The greatest barriers to meeting the State's solid waste reduction goals include the large tourist population and economic prosperity. As discussed in Section 3, the number of tourists equal to nearly 90% of the County's permanent population assuming an average six-day stay. Items purchased by tourists for their short-term stay tend to generate substantial packaging content. The short-term stay also creates a challenge with regard to informing tourists of the many recycling options available within the County.

Over the past several decades, it has been demonstrated that waste generation is directly correlated to economic activity. During prosperous times, society tends to be more wasteful. For businesses, these good economic times reduce the incentive to recycle or reduce waste since waste disposal fees become a much smaller portion of their overall costs. During good economic times, citizens tend to increase purchases and discard rather than reuse, thereby creating more waste.

In recent years, the country has experienced extreme volatility in markets for commodities that are collected for recycling, which fell drastically due to actions on the part of China no longer accepting materials from the US beginning in 2018. By 2021, the recycling commodity markets largely recovered from the impacts of China's actions. However, the economic downturn in 2021 and 2022 has again negatively impacted the recycling commodity markets. Fluctuating and unstable markets for recyclables have made it difficult to significantly expand recycling opportunities. The markets can significantly impact the cost effectiveness of a recycling program. Markets must abound and be stable for communities and private businesses to invest and expand recycling and waste reduction efforts.

Since recycling programs are generally a net cost (i.e., the revenues from the sale of recyclables do not cover the cost of the programs), their prevalence is subject to the funding constraints of the local government. The HCSWA recycling programs are funded from sales of recyclables and tipping fees from disposal operations. New recycling programs or expansion of existing recycling programs will necessitate significant increases in tipping fees. Increased funding could result from more waste being disposed or from higher tipping fees. It is unlikely that significant increases in tipping fees are politically achievable. The biggest concern is that maintaining the existing system is dependent upon maintaining the tipping fees at their current levels or the substitution of an alternative funding system.

In an effort to achieve the goals of the State and provide the programs necessary to achieve those goals, the Horry County Council enacted Ordinance 02-09 on March 17, 2009. The Ordinance directs the flow of waste generated within Horry County to the HCSWA facilities on Highway 90. The Ordinance ensures that the HCSWA will continue to receive adequate revenue from the tipping fees placed on waste received at the facility. This revenue is used to fund the

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programs established by the HCSWA to meet the goals and mandates of the Solid Waste Policy and Management Act. Any decision by the Courts to overturn the Ordinance would prove to be a tremendous barrier to the HCSWA in meeting the goals of the State.

The HCSWA is interested in pursuing a regional approach to solid waste management and has been a participating member of the Pee Dee Regional Landfill Authority. The Pee Dee Regional Landfill Authority has been exploring options that may allow waste to be handled on a regional basis. The ability of the Pee Dee Regional Authority to site and construct a regional landfill is limited by the requirements of SC DHEC's Demonstration of Need (DON) Regulation, 61-107.17. The requirements of the regulation currently do not allow a new landfill to be sited in the Pee Dee region except as a replacement for an existing landfill. To be able to site and construct a regional landfill, the Pee Dee Regional Landfill Authority would have to purchase an existing permitted landfill and designate it as the Pee Dee Regional Landfill. Once the capacity of the existing landfill is exhausted, the Regional Authority could build a replacement facility at another location. A potential barrier is the permitted annual disposal rate that the facility would operate under. Based on the DON Regulation, the existing permitted disposal rate can be transferred to a new replacement facility; however, the maximum increase in the disposal rate allowed by regulation may not be adequate to accommodate waste from all of the counties participating in the Pee Dee Regional Landfill Authority.

Another possible option for a regional approach would be for the HCSWA to partner with one or more of the neighboring counties to create a regional solid waste management facility. The Horry County Ordinance No. 02-9 allows the HCSWA to designate a publicly-owned facility to receive Horry County waste. By designating an existing neighboring facility to receive a portion of the Horry County waste stream, the life of the HCSWA landfill could be extended. A partnership such as this would increase revenue for the neighboring county's facility, thereby improving the financial standing of the facility and overall operation of the facility. Ordinance No. 02-09 provides the HCSWA with the ability to guarantee a certain tonnage to the regional facility, insuring the long-term financial viability of a regional landfill. Again, a potential barrier is the ability to increase the permitted annual disposal rate to accommodate the additional tonnage.

As discussed earlier, waste reduction plays an important role in reaching the goals of the State. The HCSWA can encourage its citizens to reduce the amount of waste they generate by smart shopping and reuse of packaging materials; however, the results will be limited without the support of the businesses and industries that produce and sell the products the citizens buy. The effort to reduce packaging must start at the State and Federal levels in order to be successful. The HCSWA will encourage DHEC and the General Assembly to expand Section 44-96-150 of the Act dealing with packaging and plastics. The section requires packaging, especially beverage containers, to be made of recyclable materials. The section also needs to focus on reducing packaging for all products, where practical.

Section 7
Public Participation, Plan Revision, and Consistency
with State and Local Solid Waste Management Plan

7.0 INTRODUCTION

This section of the Plan describes public participation utilized to make this Plan revision as well as procedures for determining consistency with the State and local solid waste management Plan.

7.1 STATE AND LOCAL PLAN REVISION

7.1.1 Local Government Participation

Section 44-96-80 of the Solid Waste Act states "Local governments... shall participate in the development of the ... plan and are required to be a part of the plan". As described in Section 44-96-80(N) of the Act, a Solid Waste Advisory Council (referred to herein as the Technical Advisory Council, or TAC) was formed to offer advice on the preparation of the Plan and on methods of implementing the Plan. The TAC was comprised of members of the public, private waste industries, and representatives of local governments. A list of the membership of the Council is contained in Appendix D. The TAC was provided an overview of the efforts associated with this update to the Plan at an initial TAC meeting held on April 20, 2022. The State goals and requirements were reviewed, and additional discussions regarding the latest efforts in innovation and management of solid waste across the country were reviewed. Subsequent meetings were held on July 28, 2022, August 25, 2022 and November 3, 2022 to review and discuss Plan revisions, mainly focusing on strategies and limitations associated with reaching the goals. Minutes from the meetings of the Council are contained in Appendix E.

Once the TAC completed its revisions to the Plan, the Plan was presented to the Policy Council on March 22, 2023 for its input. The Policy Council is comprised of the Mayors of Horry County municipalities, the Chair of the Horry County Council, and a member from the Horry County legislative delegation.

Commented [AT3]: Dates to be updated.

After input was received from the Policy Council, the City Councils' throughout Horry County were asked to approve a resolution in support of the Plan. The Plan was then presented to the public at a public hearing held at 5:00 p.m. on August 27, 2018. The Plan was approved by the Board at its regular meeting on August 27, 2018. The Plan was presented to the County Council I&R Committee on October 4, 2018. A resolution endorsing the Plan was passed by the Horry County Council on March 5, 2019.

Following approval by the Horry County Council, the Plan was then submitted to SC DHEC.

7.1.2 Public Participation

The HCSWA advertised and held a public meeting for the purpose of receiving public comment on the 2022 Solid Waste Management Plan. The public meeting was held at the regularly scheduled Horry County Solid Waste Authority Board Meeting on August 27, 2018. Copies of the minutes from the August meeting are included in Appendix F. The Plan was also presented at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Infrastructure and Regulation Committee of the Horry County Council on October 4, 2018.

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7.1.3 Plan Revision

The Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan will be, at a minimum, updated every five years. Revisions of the Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan require approval of the Horry County Solid Waste Authority Board and the Horry County Council. Meeting minutes documenting Horry County Solid Waste Authority Board approval and Horry County Council approval of the Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan revision along with the updated Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan will be provided to SC DHEC.

7.2 CONSISTENCY WITH STATE AND LOCAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS

Section 44-96-290(F) of the Act states no permit to construct a new solid waste management facility or to expand an existing solid waste management facility within a county or municipality may be issued by the SC DHEC unless:

1. the proposed facility or expansion is consistent with local zoning, land use, and other applicable local ordinances, if any;
2. the proposed facility or expansion is consistent with the local or regional solid waste management plan and the state solid waste management plan; and
3. the host jurisdiction and the jurisdiction generating solid waste destined for the proposed facility or expansion can demonstrate that they are actively involved in and have a strategy for meeting the statewide goal of waste reduction established in this chapter

All permit applications for solid waste management facilities must be submitted to SC DHEC and reviewed for consistency with the State Solid Waste Management Plan and the 2022 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan.