



# Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan 2007-2018

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Draft – December 9, 2009

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Cherokee County  
City of Ball Ground  
City of Canton  
City of Holly Springs  
City of Waleska  
City of Woodstock

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# SECTION 1 : INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 Background

### *1.1.1 Multi-Jurisdictional Plan*

The Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan is a Multi-Jurisdictional Plan with six jurisdictions (Cherokee County and the Cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock) participating in the Plan. The Cities of Nelson and Mountain Park are not included in this plan. The Plan updates the last Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan, adopted in February 1992, updated in 2003, and the Solid Waste Short-Term Work Program updated in 2003. This Plan covers the eleven-year planning period between November 1, 2007 and October 31, 2018.

Planning requirements for the preparation and adoption of Solid Waste Management Plans have been adopted by the State's Board of Community Affairs pursuant to the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act, and administered and supplemented by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). The most recently applicable planning standards took effect January 1, 2004, and establish the minimum standards that must be met for DCA approval.

This plan addresses the core planning elements specified by the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures, including:

- Waste Reduction;
- Collection;
- Disposal;
- Land Limitation; and
- Education and Public Involvement.

In addition, the Plan includes a waste disposal stream analysis and an implementation strategy.

### *1.1.2 Memorandum of Understanding from Participating Jurisdictions*

The participating jurisdictions have entered into an agreement to jointly plan for Solid Waste Management. The signed Memorandum of Understanding for the jurisdictions listed below can be found in Appendix A of this document.

- Cherokee County
- City of Ball Ground
- City of Canton
- City of Holly Springs
- City of Waleska
- City of Woodstock

## 1.2 Solid Waste Management Contact

The Cherokee County Public Works Agency Director is responsible for this Plan. The contact information for the current Director is as follows:

Geoffrey E. Morton, P.E.  
Public Works Agency Director  
Cherokee County  
1180 Bluffs Parkway  
Canton, GA 30114  
(678) 493-6057  
[gmorton@cherokeega.com](mailto:gmorton@cherokeega.com)

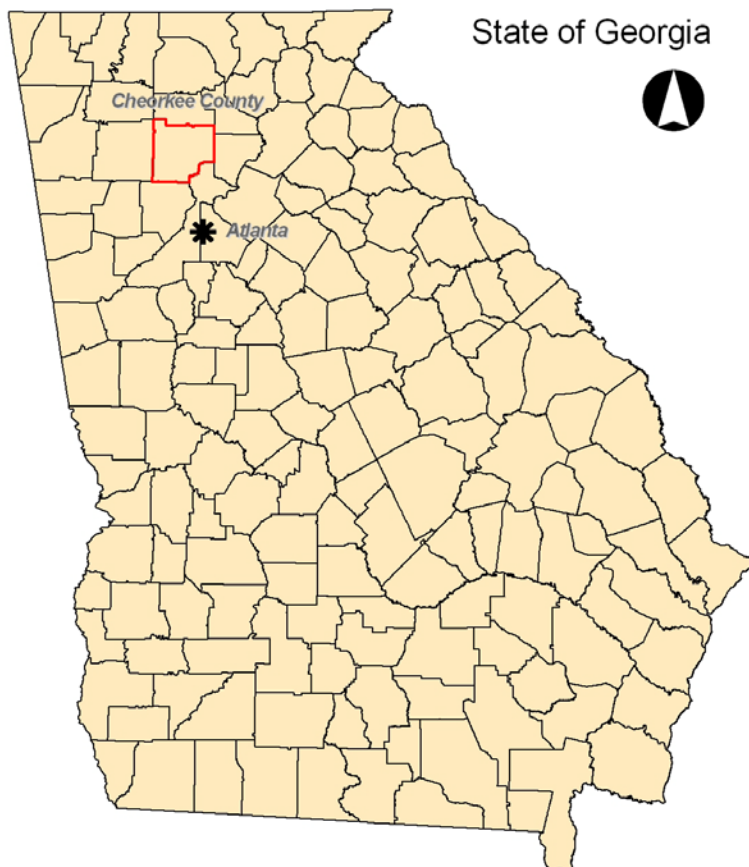
Any questions regarding the Plan or requests for additional information can be directed to the Public Works Agency Director.

## 1.3 Planning Area Overview

### 1.3.1 Planning Area

Located between Atlanta and the North Georgia mountains, the roughly 425 square miles of Cherokee County offer pristine woodlands, beautiful lakes and convenient access to metropolitan Atlanta.

**Figure 1-1: Location within Georgia**

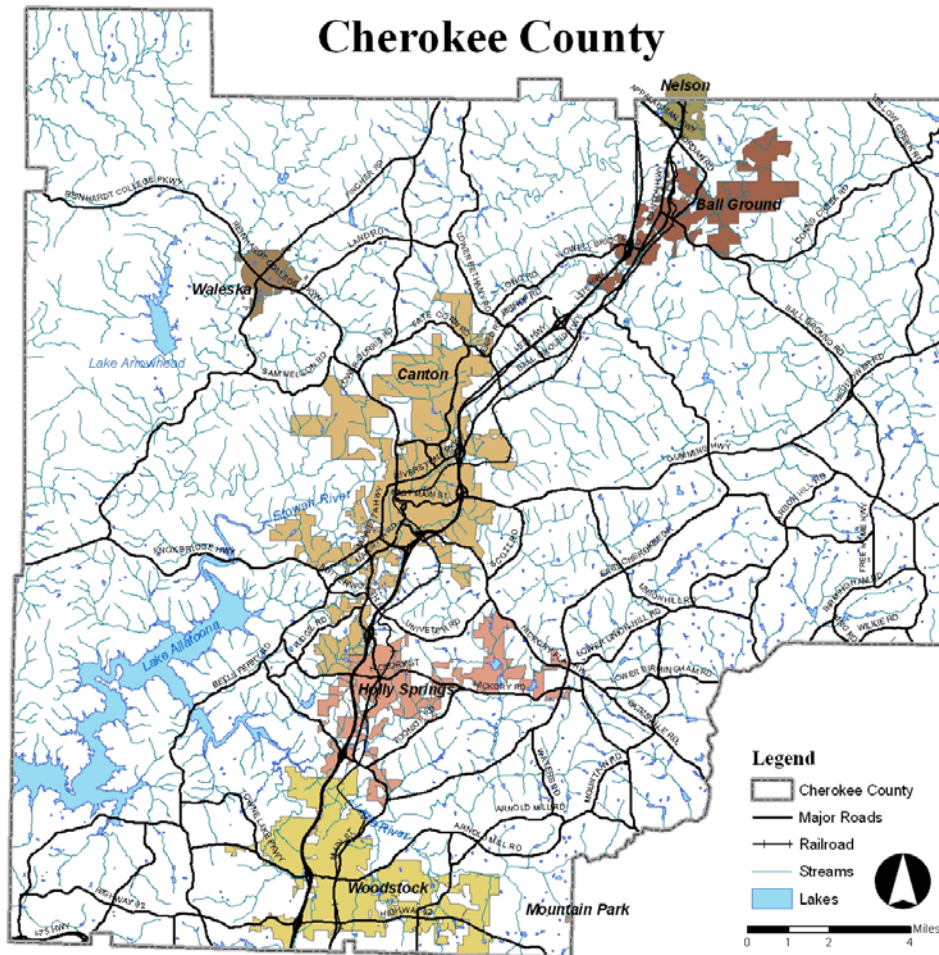


### 1.3.2 Topographic Features

Over the past 30 years, Cherokee County has undergone a transformation from a primarily rural county to a full-fledged Atlanta suburb because of proximity to jobs, its abundance of vacant land and availability of affordable housing stock. This change has translated into significant population growth from 141,903 people in 2000 to 204,363 (estimated) in 2007. The population is projected to more than double - for every five people in the county today, there will be 11 by 2030. The current economic conditions have certainly slowed growth for the moment but the population and employment are still expected to increase significantly over the next ten to twenty years.

Four of the five municipalities in Cherokee County; Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs and Woodstock, are located along I-575. Waleska is located in northwest corner of Cherokee County at the intersection of State Routes 140 & 108. Cherokee County also contains portions of the cities of Mountain Park and Nelson, which are planning separately. Each of the five cities has its own character. Canton has always been the center of government. Ball Ground is known for its gems and minerals. Waleska is home to Reinhardt College. Woodstock has worked to revitalize their downtown with new development. Holly Springs has a quaint downtown surrounded by residential neighborhoods.

**Figure 1-2: Map of Cherokee County**



Cherokee County is rich with natural resources. The Etowah River and Little River supply water to Lake Allatoona in the Southwest corner of the county. This lake is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for flood control, power generation, water supply and recreation. Lake Arrowhead, west of Waleska, is a private lake within the Lake Arrowhead master-planned development. The northwest corner of Cherokee County is the most mountainous with several recognized peaks above 2200 feet.

Served by excellent Interstate roadways, the Georgia Northeastern Railroad, and the Cherokee County Regional Airport, residents and businesses have convenient and efficient access to multiple modes of transportation. Cherokee County is bisected by Interstate 575, which runs from Marietta north, ending at the Pickens County line into Georgia 515. The Georgia Northeastern Railroad operates freight service on the former L&N tracks, roughly parallel to this route. The expansion of the Airport is underway as a result of a groundbreaking federal-state-local partnership. This \$25 million dollar project is an opportunity to attract significant economic development around the airport and link it to the Bluffs of Technology Park, which is designed to create a major regional employment center along I-575 between Canton and Ball Ground. Population growth follows the same general pattern as well, with new suburbs in the south following the highway toward rural areas further north.

The majority of residential development in Cherokee County has been, and is anticipated to be single-family residential units at a variety of prices and sizes. This attracts a mix of younger family households with children, first time homebuyers, and opportunities for move-up and, to a much lesser extent, executive housing in a suburban setting. Density is building in the cities where services exist and a more “urban” character is developing. With this dramatic household growth has come support for a significant amount of new local-serving retail and local-serving office development of moderate to high quality. Most commercial centers are clustered in Woodstock and Canton and along I-575

### 1.3.3 Population

Since 1990, the population of Cherokee County and the three major cities has grown dramatically according to the U.S. Census. The Table 1-1 below illustrates this change. The overall county growth rate was 115.2% but the cities of Canton, Holly Springs and Woodstock grew at much faster rates, 304.7%, 164.3% and 394.8% respectively. This is consistent with the pattern of suburbanization of the three major cities and the Southern half of Cherokee County in the past two decades.

**Table 1-1: Historical Population Data**

Jurisdiction	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Change
Unincorporated Cherokee County <sup>1</sup>	77,015	119,603	123,527	124,103	131,096	134,390	138,835	144,908	88.2%
Ball Ground	905	730	812	827	836	847	866	901	0.4%
Canton	4,817	7,709	9,831	11,631	13,478	15,320	17,654	19,493	304.7%
Holly Springs	2,406	3,195	4,087	4,195	4,393	4,682	5,328	6,359	164.3%
Waleska	700	616	730	710	716	794	759	842	20.3%
Woodstock	4,361	10,050	12,356	13,951	15,549	17,829	19,643	21,579	394.8%
Total Planning Area	90,204	141,903	151,343	159,066	166,068	173,862	183,085	194,082	115.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (1990 & 2000 Census and Population Estimates)

<sup>1</sup> Includes the portion of the cities of Mountain Park and Nelson located within Cherokee County.

Table 1-2, on the next page, shows the population projections for each jurisdiction over the 2007 to 2018 planning period. During that time frame, the total population of Cherokee County is projected to grow from 206,882 to 311,279, an increase of roughly 50%. All of the cities will grow by at least 50% with Ball Ground projected to increase by almost 1.5 times the current population.

These population projections are based on an 's-curve' function derived from the pattern of growth in population over the past 30 years. This methodology for making projections allows for some variation in the annual rate of growth by looking at the long-term trend rather than short-term ups and downs.

It is important to note that these projections are consistent with all of the Comprehensive Plans for the Planning Area. There is general agreement within Cherokee County that it would be better for the majority of the growth in the next twenty years to occur within the Cities or already developed areas of the County. The vision is for this to happen through a combination of redevelopment with increased density or development of raw land on the edges of the urban areas.



**Table 1-2: Population Projections 2007-2018**

Jurisdiction	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change
Unincorporated Cherokee County	155,551	162,184	168,858	175,545	182,218	188,849	195,408	201,867	208,196	214,366	220,343	226,099	45.4%
Ball Ground	1,013	1,100	1,194	1,296	1,407	1,527	1,658	1,800	1,954	2,121	2,303	2,500	146.8%
Canton	21,464	22,522	23,632	24,796	26,018	27,300	28,645	30,056	31,537	33,091	34,721	32,298	50.5%
Holly Springs	8,079	9180	10281	11,383	12484	13,586	13788	13990	14192	14394	14,598	14,800	83.2%
Waleska	826	862	900	940	981	1,024	1,069	1,116	1,165	1,216	1,270	1,326	60.5%
Woodstock	19,949	20,954	22,010	23,119	24,284	25,507	26,792	28,142	29,560	31,049	32,613	34,256	71.7%
Total Planning Area	206,882	216,802	226,875	237,079	247,392	257,793	267,360	276,971	286,604	296,237	305,848	311,279	50.5%

Source: Cherokee Community Assessment &amp; Holly Springs Community Assessment

**1.3.3.1 Seasonal Population Variation**

The resident population of Waleska varies significantly based on whether Reinhardt College is in session or not. This private college had total enrollment in 2007 of 1028 students and roughly 80 faculty members exceeding the city population of 826. The population projections for Waleska do not include students or faculty of the college unless they are also full-time city residents.

**1.3.3.2 Housing Units****Table 1-3: Housing Unit Projections (2007-2018)**

Jurisdiction	2007			2010			2015			2018		
	Single-family	Multi-family	Total	Single-family	Multi-family	Total	Single-family	Multi-family	Total	Single-family	Multi-family	Total
Unincorporated Cherokee County	55,502	1,953	57,455	63,114	2,221	65,335	75,383	2,653	78,036	81,923	2,883	84,807
Ball Ground	414	11	425	534	14	548	813	21	834	1,043	27	1,070
Canton	4,908	1,909	6,817	5,825	2,265	8,090	7,715	3,001	10,716	9,106	3,541	12,647
Holly Springs	1,958	118	2,076	2,312	140	2,452	3,038	184	3,222	3,568	216	3,784
Waleska	154	4	158	178	5	183	227	6	233	263	7	270
Woodstock	6,608	1,757	8,365	7,723	2,053	9,776	9,967	2,650	12,617	11,581	3,079	14,660
Total Planning Area	69,544	5,752	75,296	79,686	4,698	78,294	97,143	8,515	105,658	107,484	9,753	117,238

Source: U.S. Census Bureau &amp; Cherokee Community Assessment

In 2007, roughly 93.8% of housing units in the Planning Area were single-family structures for a total number of 75,296 units. Table 1-3 shows the projected units of single family and multi-family housing units for each jurisdiction. The cities of Canton and Woodstock had much lower percentages of single-family units at 72% and 79% respectively. The single-family percentages are expected to remain stable through 2018.

### **1.3.4 Economic Activity**

In the past two decades, Cherokee County has become a bedroom community within the Atlanta metro area. This means that a significant number of people have moved into the County but they continue to commute to jobs in other surrounding communities. According to the 2000 Census, only 35% of county residents also worked in the County. There are positive and negative aspects of this situation. This daily commute has a real impact on transportation problems like the rush hour bottlenecks on I-575.

On the other hand, the people moving in are changing the demographics of the County. For example, Cherokee County's working age population is more educated than in many of the surrounding counties, the State and the nation. In 2000, the County not only has a higher percentage of individuals over 25 years old with at least a high school diploma, but also has higher percentages of individuals with some college, Associate Degree and Bachelor's Degree categories than both Georgia and the U.S. In 2000, 57 percent of the population had completed some college and above, and 26 percent had a college degree. There was a significant decline—from 24.8 percent in 1990 to 15.6 percent in 2000—in the percent of the population with no high school diploma. The growth and relatively strong levels for bachelor's, graduate, and professional degrees clearly indicate that the individuals moving to Cherokee County are a relatively well-educated group.

While Cherokee County residents are increasingly educated, the majority of jobs in the community are low paying. Table 1-4 lists the top five private employers. It is important to note that three of the five are large retailers. Pilgrim's Pride Corp. processes poultry from farms in and around Cherokee County. Northside Hospital-Cherokee has a typical mixture of highly skilled and low skill health care jobs. The Cherokee County School System and the Cherokee County Government are the overall largest employers in the county exceeding the top private employers.

**Table 1-4: Top Private Employers**

Kroger Company
Northside Hospital-Cherokee
Pilgrim's Pride Corp
Publix Super Market Inc
Wal-Mart Associates Inc

Source: Georgia Department of Labor (2007 Cherokee County Labor Profile)

As more residential development has taken place, Cherokee County has attracted a mixture of retail (lower paying jobs) as well as professional services (middle to upper income jobs) to support those new residents. The higher paying jobs include doctors, accountants, real estate professionals, and other professional services that residents will support near their home. Businesses that produce goods will also be attracted to areas of Cherokee County where there is access to transportation infrastructure, such as along I-75 or I-575. We would expect this trend to continue over the next 20 years, creating a larger and higher-end employment base that is more diversified.

The data in Table 1-5 shows the increases in employment in different industry sectors. Between 2001 and 2008, the total employment in Cherokee County increased by 35%. Not all of the sectors grew, some even contracted. For example, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting declined consistently both in number of persons employed and percentage of total employment. In contrast, Finance & Insurance, Professional Services, Education, Health Care, and Accommodation & Food Services all grew significantly because of the growth of the residential population. The remaining industries did not show improvements in number of persons employed and percentage over the 7 year period.

**Table 1-5: County-wide Employment by NAICS code**

NAICS code	Description	2001	2001 %	2005	2005 %	2008 (1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter)	2008 %
11	<b>Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing &amp; Hunting</b>	141	0.3%	107	0.2%	63	0.1%
21	Mining	Withheld	Withheld	63	0.1%	54	0.1%
22	Utilities	61	0.2%	58	0.1%	Withheld	Withheld
23	Construction	3,574	10.1%	4,260	9.9%	4,103	8.6%
31-33	Manufacturing	4,369	12.4%	4,518	10.5%	4,575	9.6%
42	Wholesale Trade	1,627	4.6%	1,949	4.5%	2,104	4.4%
44-45	Retail Trade	6,077	17.2%	7,272	16.9%	7,399	15.5%
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	543	1.5%	740	1.7%	730	1.5%
51	Information	294	0.8%	338	0.8%	310	0.7%
52	<b>Finance &amp; Insurance</b>	921	2.6%	1,347	3.1%	1,587	3.3%
53	Real Estate	422	1.2%	710	1.7%	565	1.2%
54	<b>Professional Services</b>	1,088	3.1%	1,877	4.4%	2,524	5.3%
55	Management	Withheld	Withheld	51	0.1%	Withheld	Withheld
56	Administrative Support & Waste Management	2,194	3.1%	2,246	5.2%	2,342	4.9%
61	<b>Education</b>	357	1.0%	524	1.2%	633	1.3%
62	<b>Health Care</b>	2,418	6.8%	3,380	7.9%	4,131	8.7%
71	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	745	2.1%	668	1.6%	825	1.7%
72	<b>Accommodation &amp; Food Services</b>	3,372	9.5%	4,394	10.2%	5,495	11.5%
81	Other Services	1,031	2.9%	1,526	3.6%	1,544	3.2%
99	Not Classified	238	0.7%	53	0.1%	86	0.2%
11-81, 99	Total Private Sector	29,680	84.0%	36,079	84.1%	39,262	82.5%
92	Total Government	5,666	16.0%	6,807	15.8%	8,347	17.5%
Total Employment		35,346	100%	42,886	48,168	47,610	100%

Source: Georgia Department of Labor

Over the past several decades, there has been a coordinated effort to bring higher paying jobs to Cherokee County led by the Development Authority of Cherokee County. The Authority has been successful in attracting medium size employers as well as helping existing businesses to expand. From the list of top manufacturers in Table 1-6, the majority of these companies employ less than 250 people. The small to medium businesses size is typical across other industries.

**Table 1-6: Top 20 Largest Manufacturers in Cherokee County**

Employer Name	Products	Number of Employees
Pilgrim's Pride	Poultry Processing	870
Kingway Material Handling	Metal Storage Racks	250
Chart-Industries, Inc.	Stainless Steel Cylinders	246
Universal Alloy Corporation	Aluminum Extrusion	245
Piolax Corporation	Auto Parts	229
Meyn America, LLC/Hill Parts	Poultry Processing Equipment	225
ERB Industrial, Inc.	Safety Equipment and Aprons	130
Hydro-Chem (Division of Pro-Quip Corp.)	Hydrogen	116
Kirk-Rudy, Inc.	Paper Handling Equipment	100
Morrison Products	Blower Wheels for A/C Units	100
PHX	Synthetics, Stairs & Stair Parts	100
Quill Corporation	District Office Products	90
Williams Bros Lumber Company	Lumber & Millwork	80
Aerosol Specialties	Contract Aerosol Filling Company	75
International Fragrance & Technology Inc.	Fragrances	72
Gold Kist Rendering	High Protein Feed Products	71
International Marble, Inc.	Cultured Marble Products	64
Crane Materials International, Inc.	Vinyl Sheet Piling	60
Roytec Industries, Inc.	Electrical Wire Assemblies	60

Source: Development Authority of Cherokee County

## **SECTION 2 : WASTE DISPOSAL STREAM ANALYSIS**

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### **2.1 Inventory of Waste Disposed**

This section of the plan addresses the amount of waste that is generated for disposal in Cherokee County, no matter where it was disposed. This section does not address the amount of waste disposed at facilities located in Cherokee County that was generated in other counties (that information is found in Section 5 - Disposal).

Since the adoption of the County's 1992 Solid Waste Management Plan, the County's disposal strategy has shifted from the use of publicly owned and operated landfill facilities to privately owned and operated landfill facilities.

According to reports from Georgia landfills to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), a total of approximately 334,412 tons of waste from Cherokee County was disposed of in MSW landfills in Georgia for the period of July 2007 through June 2008. Table 2-1 shows where solid waste generated in Cherokee County was reportedly disposed.

Although the EPD is the best source for available data, it should be noted that there may be some shortcomings in the data. Landfills typically gather data by asking collectors to identify the jurisdiction where each load is collected. Collectors may not answer the question in a way that correctly identifies the source of waste. Also, if the solid waste passed through a transfer station prior to disposal in a landfill, it is possible that the waste would be documented as coming from the County in which the transfer station is located. This may be the case in Cherokee County.

It is also difficult to determine an exact tonnage of waste disposed of annually by Cherokee County because most residents and businesses are given the choice of selecting their trash hauler. When dealing with contracted haulers, loads are generally not differentiated based on jurisdictional boundaries. In many cases loads being disposed of may contain waste from more than one jurisdiction.

**Table 2-1: MSW Landfills Reporting Solid Waste from Cherokee County (July 2007 - June 2008)**

Landfill Name & Location	Tons
Pine Bluff Landfill, Cherokee County, GA	225,178
Waste Pro of GA, Cherokee County, GA	51,540
Swims SR 92 - Phase 5, Cherokee County, GA	40,982
Eagle Point Landfill, Forsyth County, GA	14,425
Chadwick Road Landfill, Fulton County, GA	1,275
APAC Donzi Lane Phase 5, Dekalb County, GA	481
Safeguard Landfill Management, Fulton County, GA	264
Grady Road Landfill, Polk County, GA	97
BFI- Hickory Ridge Landfill, Dekalb County, GA	56
K&M Old Whitestone Road, Pickens County, GA	48
BFI - Richland Creek Road MSWL, Gwinnett County, GA	26
Greenleaf Recycling, Forsyth County, GA	21
Reliable Tire Services, Hall County, GA	13
Republic US 78 Landfill, Walton County, GA	6
<b>Total:</b>	<b>334,412</b>

Of the waste generated for disposal from Cherokee County, 238,836 tons, or 71.42%, is Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). The remaining 95,576 tons, or 28.58%, is Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste. Table 2-2 shows a breakdown of the type of solid waste generated in Cherokee County and where it was reportedly disposed.

**Table 2-2: Waste Composition from Cherokee County**

Facility Name	County	Facility Type	Tonnage Reported
<b><i>Construction &amp; Demolition</i></b>			
Cherokee Co-Swims-SR 92 Ph 5	Cherokee	C&D Landfill	40,982
Waste Pro of GA Cherokee C&D Landfill	Cherokee	C&D Landfill	51,540
APAC/GA - Donzi Ln Ph 5A (L)	DeKalb	C&D Landfill	481
Eagle Point Landfill	Forsyth	C&D Landfill	945
Greenleaf Recycling, LLC	Forsyth	C&D Landfill	21
Chadwick Rd Landfill, Inc.	Fulton	C&D Landfill	1,275
Safeguard Landfill Management C & D	Fulton	C&D Landfill	264
Reliable Tire Services, Monroe Dr.	Hall	C&D Landfill	13
K&M, Old Whitestone Road C&D Landfill	Pickens	C&D Landfill	48
Republic - US 78 C&D Landfill	Walton	C&D Landfill	6
		<b>C&amp;D Total</b>	<b>95,575</b>
<b><i>Municipal Solid Waste</i></b>			
Cherokee Co-Pine Bluff Landfill, Inc.	Cherokee	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	225,178
BFI-Hickory Ridge (MSWL)	DeKalb	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	56
Eagle Point Landfill	Forsyth	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	13,480
BFI - Richland Creek Road MSWL	Gwinnett	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	26
Polk Co - Grady Rd (SL)	Polk	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	97
		<b>MSW Total</b>	<b>238,837</b>

### ***2.1.1 Waste Stream Composition***

The Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management do not require Cherokee County, or any local government, to conduct its own waste stream characterization study to determine the composition of its wastes. The Planning Standards and Procedures do allow the option for local governments to use the waste characterization study conducted by the State of Georgia or to use any other comparable information. With this option available, Cherokee County will use the results of the waste characterization study conducted by the State of Georgia in preparing its Comprehensive SWMP.

To better understand the composition of solid waste being disposed of in Georgia, the DCA commissioned a multi-phase, statewide municipal solid waste characterization study. The study

was funded through the Georgia Solid Waste Management Trust Fund and the results were presented in the “Georgia Statewide Solid Waste Characterization Study”, dated June 22, 2005.

The waste composition information presented in the Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study includes the waste composition for the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Regional Development Center. The ten counties that make up the ARC are Cherokee, Cobb, Clayton, Dekalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale. Since Cherokee County is part of the ARC, the waste composition results found in the Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study for ARC (Appendix A of the Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study) is used for the preparation on the Cherokee County Comprehensive SWMP.

### ***2.1.2 ARC Waste Composition***

The Georgia Waste Characterization Study was completed by taking waste samples and sorting or characterizing the waste into various materials and categories. The wastes were characterized under seven major groups, and these seven groups were further subdivided into 39 individual materials categories. The seven major material groups are:

1. Paper
2. Plastic
3. Glass
4. Metal
5. Organics
6. Construction & Demolition (C&D)
7. Inorganics

Table 2-3 represents the composition of wastes disposed of in the ARC region. The table presents the percentage of the total for each of the waste material categories. Sludge/biosolids were excluded from the Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study.

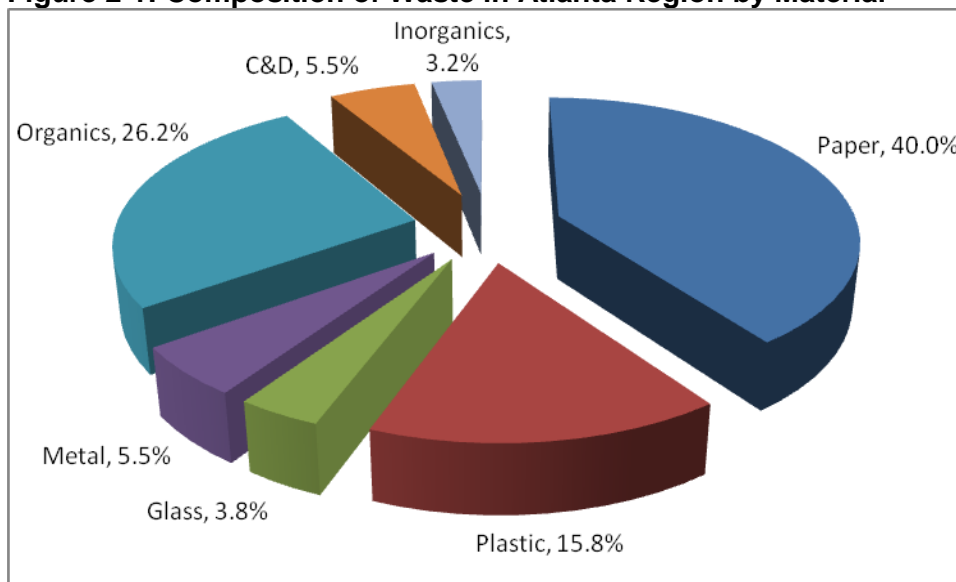
**Table 2-3: Regional Waste Composition and Cherokee Tonnage**

<b>Material</b>	<b>ARC Average Percentage</b>	<b>Cherokee Estimated Tonnage</b>
Paper	40.0%	95,534
Plastic	15.8%	37,736
Glass	3.8%	9,076
Metal	5.5%	13,136
Organics	26.2%	62,575
C&D	5.5%	13,136
Inorganics	3.2%	7,643
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>238,836</b>

Paper and organic materials make up the largest fraction of the waste stream in the ARC region. Plastic is the third largest, followed by metal, C&D, glass and inorganics. Inorganics make up the smallest portion of the waste stream. Figure 2-1 is a pie chart diagram of the percentage distribution of the seven major waste groups in the ARC region using the ARC waste

composition data presented in Table 2-3. A more detailed breakdown of the regional waste composition can be found in Appendix B.

**Figure 2-1: Composition of Waste in Atlanta Region by Material**



### ***2.1.3 Unique Conditions and/or Seasonal Variations***

Cherokee County does not have any unique conditions that would impact its waste stream. It does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population or waste received. The seasons do bring a variation in yard trimmings, with leaves in the fall and grass and other yard waste in spring and summer. The construction and demolition activity varies from year to year and season to season depending on factors such as the economy and the weather.

### ***2.1.4 Waste Generating Disasters***

A major disaster has the potential to result in a significant increase in the amount of waste disposed of on an annual basis. However, without knowing the type and degree of unanticipated disasters, Cherokee County cannot predict the additional amount of waste that would require management for such an incident. Based on recent experience, it is clear that a major disaster could result in many times more waste to be disposed of than in an average year. The sections on collection and disposal outline the approach that Cherokee County would take to deal with waste resulting from such disasters.

Recent disasters in Cherokee County include ice storms, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, hurricanes and major rain events which produced damage to structures and trees.

## **2.2 Disposal Rate**

Table 2-4 shows that based upon the reported tonnage of 334,412 tons of waste disposed from Cherokee County in MSW landfills and the 2007 population stated in Table 1-2, the average person in Cherokee County disposed of 8.86 pounds per day in MSW landfills for the period of July 2007 through June 2008.



The disposal rate for the State of Georgia is 6.39 pounds per day per person and is calculated in the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan. If the construction and demolition (C&D) waste is not included, then the MSW disposal rate for Cherokee County is estimated to be 6.33 pounds per person per day, which is right at the state average.

Similarly, the C&D disposal rate for the State of Georgia is 2.24 pounds per person per day as calculated in the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan. The C&D disposal rate for Cherokee County is slightly higher at 2.53 pounds per person per day. These breakdowns are shown in Table 2-4.

**Table 2-4: Disposal Rates in Cherokee County (2007-2008)**

Waste Type	Percent of Total Disposed	Tons Disposed	Pounds Per Person Per Day
MSW	71.42%	238,836	6.33
C&D	28.58%	95,576	2.53
Total:	100%	334,412	8.86

### ***2.2.1 Increase in Disposal Rate***

According to the 1992 Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan, the per capita disposal rate for all solid waste generated in Cherokee County was 4.87 pounds per person per day. This is much less than the current disposal rate.

There may be a couple of factors that account for this increase. The first one being that reporting of the amounts of solid waste collected is now more accurate and complete. The second one being that Waste Management operates a transfer station in the City of Woodstock. All of the waste generated by the transfer station is trucked to Waste Management's Pine Bluff Landfill. It is Cherokee County's thinking that Waste Management is labeling all waste generated by the transfer station as being generated in Cherokee County when in fact it may be generated in neighboring jurisdictions of Cobb County and the City of Milton.

## **2.3 Projection of Waste to be Disposed**

Table 2-5 shows the anticipated tonnage of solid waste to be disposed of in MSW landfills in each of the planning years based on population growth assuming the per capita disposal rate remains the same as in 2007.

**Table 2-5: Cherokee County MSW Disposal Projections (2007-2018)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Projected Population</b>	<b>Pounds Per Capita</b>	<b>Projected Tonnage Disposed</b>
2007	206,882	6.33	238,995
2008	216,802	6.33	250,455
2009	226,875	6.33	262,092
2010	237,079	6.33	273,880
2011	247,392	6.33	285,793
2012	257,793	6.33	297,809
2013	267,360	6.33	308,861
2014	276,971	6.33	319,964
2015	286,604	6.33	331,092
2016	296,237	6.33	342,220
2017	305,848	6.33	353,323
2018	311,279	6.33	359,597
Total:			3,624,081

## SECTION 3 : WASTE REDUCTION

### 3.1 Inventory of Waste Reduction Programs

This section of the Plan describes the waste reduction programs operating in Cherokee County. Waste reduction includes reducing the amount of waste generated (source reduction), reuse, recycling and composting.

#### *3.1.1 Source Reduction*

Source reduction and reuse are the first steps in the process to reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal. In Cherokee County, residential source reduction efforts include promoting consumer awareness of purchasing and use of product to reduce waste at the source and to reuse.

#### *3.1.2 Reuse and Recovery*

Reused or recovered materials are materials which have a known use, reuse or recycling potential; can be feasibly used, reused or recycled; and have been diverted or removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, reuse or recycling, whether or not requiring subsequent separation and processing. Reusing products is better than recycling because the item does not need to be reprocessed before it can be used again. Reusing items delays or removes that item from waste collected for disposal. Following are some items that are typically reused or recovered:

- Clothing
- Home and Office Furniture
- Appliances
- Tools
- Toys
- Lawn equipment
- Books, etc...

Goodwill Industries operates three (3) retail centers with drop off and three (3) stand alone drop off locations within Cherokee County. One of the drop off locations is located at the Cherokee County Recycling convenience center at Hobgood Park, west of Woodstock. The other two are located in neighborhood shopping centers. The Goodwill Industries locations are shown in Table 3-1.

**Table 3-1: Goodwill Industries Collection Locations in Cherokee County**

Facility	Address	Services Provided
Goodwill Retail Store	9425 Highway 92, Woodstock, GA 30188	Drop-off and Retail Store
Hobgood Park	6688 Bells Ferry Road, Woodstock, GA 30189	Drop-off
Goodwill Retail Store	2850 East Cherokee Drive, Canton, GA 30115	Drop-off and Retail Store
Prominence Point Shopping Center	150 Prominence Point Parkway, Suite 100 Canton, GA 30115	Drop-off
Goodwill Retail Store	1750 Marietta Highway, Canton, Georgia 30114	Drop-off and Retail Store
Kroger Shopping Center	4045 Marietta Highway, Canton, Georgia 30114	Drop-off

Habitat for Humanity also operates a resale store and drop off location in Cherokee County. The “Restore” is located at 551 Marietta Road, Canton, Georgia 30114. The location accepts and resells household goods, appliances and building materials.

### ***3.1.3 Recycling***

Recycling is a process by which materials that would otherwise become solid waste are collected, separated, processed and reused or returned to use in the form of raw materials or products. Recycling is one of the most common and effective types of waste reduction. Recycling is primarily driven by the market availability for each type of material. The different types of recycling programs are usually focused on a specific material or materials in response to the available markets for resale and reuse.

Cherokee County and its cities conduct recycling programs for diversion of materials from the waste stream. These include curbside collection and drop-box locations but vary by jurisdiction.

#### **Curbside Collection Programs**

The City of Canton contracts with a private hauler for the collection of curbside recyclables. Canton also provides curbside collection of yard waste. The City of Woodstock also contracts with private haulers to offer curbside collection of recyclables to households located within the City limits. Aluminum and steel cans, #1 and #2 plastic, OCC, newspaper, magazines, and glass are collected on a weekly basis by the City’s designated hauler. The City of Ball Ground contracts with a private hauler for curbside collection of recyclables, yard waste, and bulky items. This service is mandatory in all newer subdivisions and optional for other city residents. Approximately 85% of households in Ball Ground use this service.

Curbside collection of recyclables is offered in unincorporated Cherokee County, Holly Springs and Waleska through separate agreements between private haulers and their customers. Many of the waste haulers in Cherokee County and its cities provide recycling. Recycling is not mandatory in Cherokee County, but it is believed that many residents take part in recycling and are committed to waste reduction.

In Cherokee County, Waste Management has initiated a new single stream recycling program for its residential customers. Each customer is provided a 65 gallon wheeled recycling container that is picked up on a weekly basis. Items accepted in the container include newspaper, cardboard, junk mail, paperbacks and phone books, frozen food packages, magazines, carton board, plastics 1 thru 7, and all types of glass. The recycling container and a detailed list of acceptable recyclables is included in Appendix C.

#### **Drop-off Recycling Centers**

Cherokee County provides a variety of waste reduction services throughout the County. The Cherokee County Recycling Center is located at 470 Blalock Road, Canton, Georgia 30115. The center accepts recyclable materials such as paper, plastic, glass, metals and aluminum cans.

Cherokee County also operates four (4) convenience centers that accept recyclables from residents. The convenience centers are staffed sites allowing residents to dispose of the following recyclables: #1 and #2 plastic, OCC, newspaper, magazines, aluminum cans and glass (clear, brown and green). Convenience Center information is presented in Table 3-2.

**Table 3-2: Cherokee County Recycling Convenience Center Information**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Facilities Provided</b>
Dwight Terry Park	13395 East Cherokee Drive, Ball Ground, Georgia 30107	8 yard Paper/Cardboard Dumpster; 10 - 95 gallon carts for aluminum cans and plastic bottles
Kenny Askew Park	1080 Univeter Road, Canton, Georgia 30115	8 yard Paper/Cardboard Dumpster; 5 - 95 gallon carts for aluminum cans and plastic bottles
Hobgood Park	6688 Bells Ferry Road, Woodstock, Georgia 30189	40 yard stationary compactor for single stream recycling
JJ Biello Park	155 Brooke Boulevard, Woodstock, Georgia 30188	8 yard Paper/Cardboard Dumpster; 12 - 95 gallon carts for aluminum cans and plastic bottles
Blalock Road Center	470 Blalock Road, Canton, Georgia 30115	40 yard stationary compactor for single stream recycling

The City of Canton offers three (3) drop off sites for recycling. Canton also maintains a drop off site for the collection of used tires. They are listed in the table below.

**Table 3-3: Canton Recycling Convenience Center Information**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Facilities Provided</b>
McFarland IGA	261 Marietta Road, Canton, Georgia 30114	Receptacles for cans and bottles
Canton City Hall	150 Elizabeth Street, Canton, Georgia 30114	Receptacles for cans, bottles and paper
Canton Public Works	2525 Ridge Road, Canton, Georgia 30115	Receptacles for cans, bottles and cardboard Collection point for used tires

Other recycling activities in Cherokee County have been initiated either through private industry, as fund-raising tools for civic organizations or school organizations, or as environmental awareness tools by environmental groups or government organizations.

For all recyclables the public does not pay or receive payment for delivery to a drop off center. The types and amounts of recyclables collected at the Cherokee County Convenience Centers in 2007 are presented in Table 3-3. In 2007 the Cherokee County Recycling Center processed 1,564 tons of materials.

**Table 3-4: Material Collected at Cherokee County Recycling Convenience Centers in 2007****CHEROKEE COUNTY RECYCLING - END OF YEAR REPORT 2007***Listed weights below are in tons.*

<b>Recyclables</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD %</b>
<b>Cardboard</b>	78.96	56.89	61.43	61.78	55.42	57.02	61.35	76.61	56.94	72.68	44.69	60.34	744.11	47.58%
<b>Paper</b>	65.91	42.23	0.00	55.39	36.55	42.51	53.62	39.62	0.00	49.55	0.00	49.93	435.31	27.83%
<b>Phone Books</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
<b>Glass</b>														
<i>Flint</i>	10.70	28.83	19.41	0.00	6.35	0.00	22.75	10.19	0.00	4.98	20.70	0.00	123.91	7.92%
<i>Green</i>	8.83	0.00	5.13	0.00	7.42	1.91	14.21	1.97	6.27	0.00	7.75	0.00	53.49	3.42%
<i>Amber</i>	12.85	0.00	17.78	0.00	12.65	7.09	16.39	6.70	4.22	0.00	8.30	4.68	90.66	5.80%
<b>Glass Totals</b>	<b>32.38</b>	<b>28.83</b>	<b>42.32</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>26.42</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>53.35</b>	<b>18.86</b>	<b>10.49</b>	<b>4.98</b>	<b>36.75</b>	<b>4.68</b>	<b>268.06</b>	<b>17.14%</b>
<b>Aluminum</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.80</b>	<b>0.12%</b>
<b>Aluminum Cans</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.84</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.77</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2.12</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10.34</b>	<b>0.66%</b>
<b>Batteries (lbs.)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.41</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.24%</b>
<b>Metals</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2.21</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>1.91</b>	<b>6.75</b>	<b>26.33</b>	<b>8.86</b>	<b>17.57</b>	<b>39.89</b>	<b>21.33</b>	<b>125.26</b>	<b>8.01%</b>
<b>Tires (individual)</b>	<b>384.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>492.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>288.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>452.00</b>	<b>229.00</b>	<b>1,845.00</b>	<b>117.96%</b>
<b>Used Oil (In Gal)</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>3,140</b>	<b>200.76%</b>
<b>Plastics</b>														
<i>PET</i>	0.00	0.00	3.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.90	1.46%
<i>HDPE Natural</i>	0.00	0.00	1.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.99	0.26%
<i>HDPE Colored</i>	0.00	0.00	2.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.27	0.53%
<b>Plastics Totals</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8.34</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>26.82</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>35.16</b>	<b>2.25%</b>
<b>Recyclables Total</b>	<b>177.25</b>	<b>103.69</b>	<b>112.09</b>	<b>121.42</b>	<b>118.80</b>	<b>121.69</b>	<b>175.07</b>	<b>190.01</b>	<b>78.09</b>	<b>146.11</b>	<b>83.56</b>	<b>136.28</b>	<b>1,564.06</b>	
<b>Yard Waste</b>														
Cherokee Recycle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Disposal</b>														
Pine Bluff Landfill	54.80	55.11	62.42	87.28	66.17	72.90	68.69	89.00	62.83	51.08	70.37	85.77	826.42	
<b>ROADSIDE</b>														
Clean Up	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

### 3.1.4 Summary of Programs

**Electronics Recycling Day** is an annually scheduled drive-up and drop-off collection event sponsored by the City of Canton and Waste Management that was first introduced in 2006. The event is typically held in May of each year. This day event is held for the sole purpose of diverting electronic waste items away from landfills. This program allows for the reduction in electronic waste items through recovery and reuse of valuable materials. This is a day when citizens can drop off, free of charge, their unwanted electronics for recycling. Beginning in 2009, Cherokee County and Waste Management plan on sponsoring a second Electronics Recycling Day in the fall at the County Administration Building. Since 2006, the City of Woodstock has held an annual E-Recycling Day as part of Greenstock Day. In 2009, this event was hosted in partnership with Advanced Disposal and Georgia E-Waste.

In the spring of 2008, Electronics Recycling Day in Canton received approximately 15,398 pounds (7.7 tons) of electronics during the one day event. Those items included 141 computer monitors, 184 computers and 20 television sets.

**Bring One for the Chipper** Christmas tree recycling events are conducted each year in Cherokee County and its cities. In this program residents are responsible for bringing their used Christmas trees to various sites throughout the County. Christmas trees are accepted at all four (4) County recycling convenience centers as well as several locations within the cities.

**SP Recycling Corporation Newspaper and Magazine Collection** maintains 76 dumpster carts for recycling paper throughout Cherokee County and its cities. The carts are located in shopping centers, at schools, at churches and at several County and city parks and facilities. Residents can recycle newspaper, magazines, catalogs, telephone books, office paper, junk mail, file folders, index cards, colored paper, plain and window envelopes in the dumpster carts. In 2008 SP Recycling collected 1,027 tons of paper in Cherokee County. The locations of the dumpster bins for newspaper and magazine collection are shown in Table 3-4.

**Table 3-5: Newspaper and Magazine Collection Locations**

Facility	Address	No. Bins
Oak Grove Elementary School	6118 Woodstock Road, Acworth, GA 30102	1
Heritage Presbyterian Church	5323 Bells Ferry Road, Acworth, GA 30102	1
Ball Ground Fire Department	388 Groover Street, Ball Ground, GA 30107	1
Clayton Elementary School	221 Upper Burris Road, Canton, GA 30114	3
Liberty Elementary School	10500 Bells Ferry Road, Canton, GA 30114	1
Kroger Shopping Center	4045 Marietta Highway, Canton, GA 30114	3
Canton City Hall	150 Elizabeth Street, Canton, GA 30114	2
Sixes Elementary School	20 Ridge Road, Canton, GA 30114	2
Hickory Flat Elementary School	5186 Hickory Road, Canton, GA 30114	1
Cherokee County Public Library	116 Brown Industrial Parkway, Canton, GA 30114	1
American Heritage Academy	2126 Sixes Road, Canton, GA 30114	1
Freedom Middle School	10438 Bells Ferry Road, Canton, GA 30114	1
Canton Elementary School	712 Marietta Highway, Canton, GA 30114	1
Cherokee County Public Library	7745 Main Street, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Joseph Knox Elementary School	151 River Bend Way, Canton, GA 30114	1
Hickory Flat Fire Department	3624 Hickory Flat Highway, Canton, GA 30115	1

Sequoyah High School	33449 Hickory Road, Canton, GA 30115	1
Circle Five Fire Department	10378 East Cherokee Drive, Canton, GA 30115	4
Mt. Zion Baptist Church	4096 East Cherokee Drive, Canton, GA 30115	1
Holly Springs Elementary School	1965 Hickory Road, Canton, GA 30115	1
Hickory Flat UMC Preschool	4056 East Cherokee Drive, Canton, GA 30115	1
Free Home Elementary School	12525 Cumming Highway, Canton, GA 30115	1
Hickory Flat Fire Department	3687 Sugar Pike Road, Canton, GA 30115	1
Creekview High School	1550 Owens Store Road, Canton, GA 30115	1
Cherokee High School	930 Marietta Highway, Canton, GA 30115	1
Macedonia Elementary School	10596 East Cherokee Drive, Canton, GA 30115	1
Dean Rusk Middle School	4695 Hickory Road, Canton, GA 30115	1
Avery Elementary School	7845 Union Hill Road, Canton, GA 30115	1
Hobgood Park	6596 Bells Ferry Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	6
Cherokee Recycling Center	470 Blalock Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	4
Canton Post Office	2400 Riverstone Boulevard, Canton, GA 30114	1
Boy Scout Pack 777	777 Neese Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Cherokee County Humane Society Thrift Store	6168 Bells Ferry Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
First Baptist of Woodstock	11905 Highway 92, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Goodwill Industries	9203 Highway 92, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Big Lots	8499 Highway 92, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Petsmart	1699 Emma Drive, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Mountain Road Elementary School	615 Mountain Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
ET Booth Middle School	6550 Putnam Ford Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Arnold Mill Elementary	710 Arnold Mill Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
Woodstock Presbyterian Church	345 Arnold Mill Road, Woodstock, GA 30188	1
WalMart Super Center	173 Keith Drive, Canton, GA 30188	2
WalMart Super Center	5900 Bells Ferry Road, Acworth, GA 30188	1
Kroger Shopping Center	2295 Towne Lake Parkway, Woodstock, GA 30189	2
Etowah High School	6599 Putnam Ford Drive, Woodstock, GA 30189	1
Bascomb Elementary School	1335 Wyngate Parkway, Woodstock, GA 30189	2
Woodstock High School	1000 Towne Lake Hills, Woodstock, GA 30189	1
Chapman Intermediate School	6500 Putnam For Drive, Woodstock, GA 30189	2
Bascomb United Methodist Church	2295 Bascomb Carmel Road, Woodstock, GA 30189	1
Carmel Elementary School	2275 Bascomb Carmel Road, Woodstock, GA 30189	2
Woodstock Middle School	1000 Towne Lake Hills, Woodstock, GA 30189	1

### ***3.1.5 Yard Trimmings Programs and Facilities***

Yard waste generally includes grass clippings, leaves, shrubs, brush, tree trimmings, and other vegetative materials generated from general maintenance of yards, lawns and landscaping. Yard waste collection in Cherokee County and its cities is handled based on the contracts individual residents have with their waste haulers. Waste haulers operating in Cherokee County are not



required to collect yard trimmings from customers. However, most waste haulers in Cherokee County do offer routine collection of yard trimmings.

### ***3.1.6 Items requiring Special Handling***

Cherokee County does not have a formal program for recycling of special materials. Residents have the option to drop off certain items at businesses that specifically accept certain items.

## **3.2 Disaster Debris Management – Waste Reduction Strategy**

During the last tornado and severe thunderstorm outbreak, Cherokee County came up with a waste reduction strategy that includes both public works forces and contracted forces to collect and dispose of vegetative debris. In general the strategy consists of the following:

- a. Debris removal includes removal of debris from the public rights-of-way. The County has found that it may be necessary to make several trips through a neighborhood as debris is moved to the right-of-way.
- b. The County will designate a temporary debris staging and reduction site - a debris management site. The site will be located within the vicinity of the storm damaged area; preferably on County owned or leased property.
- c. All vegetative debris shall be processed in accordance with local, State and Federal laws, standards and regulations. Processing shall include, but is not limited to, reduction by tub grinding. Prior to reduction, all debris shall be segregated between vegetative debris, construction and demolition debris, recyclable debris, white goods and hazardous waste.
- d. Debris disposal includes disposal of all eligible debris, reduced debris, ash residue and other products of the debris management process in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, standards and regulations.

Cherokee County is in the early stages of developing a Comprehensive Debris Management Plan and expects to include all its cities via an intergovernmental agreement. The plan is expected to pre-identify haulers and disposal. The Comprehensive Debris Management Plan is estimated to be completed in 2010.

## **3.3 Assessment of Waste Reduction Programs**

Cherokee County has several opportunities to improve source and waste reduction in not only the unincorporated County but also in its cities. Currently, recycling is available to all residents, but is not mandatory. As a result it is difficult to determine the number of households that participate in recycling.

The County and its cities offer public education about the benefits of source reduction through the County's website. Continued implementation and expansion of these elements are required in order to achieve a 10% reduction goal established as a part of this plan. If Cherokee County does not take a more proactive approach to waste reduction, it is likely that per capita numbers will increase over the planning period of this report.

Cherokee County encourages landfills located within the County to implement processes to remove recyclables from the waste stream. These processes may include manual material recovery and/or mechanized material recovery.

One of the major haulers working in unincorporated Cherokee County and two of its cities is Waste Management. According to Waste Management's 2008 collection records for unincorporated Cherokee County, residential recycled material accounted for approximately 46% of waste collected. This is illustrated in Table 3-5.

**Table 3-6: Residential Recycling Rates in Cherokee County as Reported by Haulers**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>MSW (Tons)</b>	<b>Recycled (Tons)</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Unincorporated Cherokee County	12,218	10,386	46%
City of Canton	5,563	4,729	46%
City of Ball Ground	353	300	46%
City of Woodstock	4,980	743	13%
Total:	23,144	16,158	41%

### 3.4 Goals and Needs

Based upon the inventory and assessment described in this section, the following goals and needs have been identified.

**Goal:** To maintain current per capita waste disposal rates over the planning period despite the increase in population.

**Needs:**

- Encourage participation in existing recycling programs.
- Encourage source reduction through education.
- Evaluate opportunities to expand residential recycling programs.
- Evaluate ways to expand commercial recycling programs.
- Work with schools, local governments and other institutions to expand recycling opportunities.
- Work with businesses to expand commercial and industrial waste reduction opportunities.
- Focus education programs on priority recyclable materials such as corrugated cardboard, metals and glass.
- Promote citizen participation and education in backyard composting.
- Work with private haulers to track and keep better records of recycled materials picked up.

## **SECTION 4 : COLLECTION**

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### **4.1 Inventory of Collection**

This section of the Plan describes the collection programs for solid waste, yard trimmings and bulky items operating throughout Cherokee County. Collection of recyclables was discussed in Section 3. This section also includes an evaluation of how Cherokee County and its cities address illegal dumping and littering and what contingency strategies they have in place to collect waste in unanticipated circumstances.

#### ***4.1.1 Inventory of Existing Programs***

Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs and Waleska do not provide waste collection services. Waste collection for residential and commercial customers in unincorporated Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs and Waleska is provided through private, multiple haulers. Homeowners and businesses in unincorporated Cherokee County and these cities contract directly with a private hauler of their choice. The City of Woodstock contracts with a private hauler, currently Advanced Disposal, for citywide collection service. The City of Canton also contracts with a private hauler, currently Waste Management, for its citywide collection service. The City of Ball Ground also contracts with a private hauler, currently Waste Management, for residential collection services. This service is mandatory for residents of all newer subdivisions (Lantern Walk, Olde Mill, Holcomb Manor, Preston Manor and Mountain Brooke) and optional for other city residents. Approximately 85% of households in Ball Ground use this service.

Residential curbside collection in Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs, Waleska and a small portion of Ball Ground is provided by multiple private haulers. The private haulers operate in an open market system and are responsible for promoting their own services. The haulers are also responsible for scheduling and overall coordination with the collection of municipal solid waste, yard waste and recyclables from their customers. In this type of system, multiple haulers cross paths picking up waste throughout the County. Table 4-1 is a listing of waste haulers holding current business licenses in Cherokee County and its cities.

Commercial establishments in Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs, Ball Ground and Waleska are also free to contract with a hauler of their choice. Apartment complexes, restaurants, shopping centers and hotels are examples of commercial waste generators. These establishments contract for collection services for the balance of waste not recycled.

Cherokee County and its cities do not incur any expenses associated with the collection of waste. The waste haulers are responsible for finding disposal locations and paying all tipping fees.

**Table 4-1: Waste Collectors Operating in Cherokee County and its Cities**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
AC Sanitation	7180 Union Hill Road, Canton, Georgia 30114
Anything & Everything Hauling	1261 Little Deer Run, Canton, Georgia 30114
Bates Sanitation, Inc.	2499 Palm Street, Canton, Georgia 30115
Billy Lovelace Garbage and Hauling	4230 Hickory Point Drive, Canton, Georgia 30115
Bo Sanitation	1430 Fate Conn Road, Canton, Georgia 30114
Compacting Trash Industries, Inc.	1534 Sixes Road, Canton, Georgia 30114
C2 Dumpster Services, Inc.	3645 James Road, Suite B, Acworth, Georgia 30102
Cycle Works Sanitation & Recycling	5341 Old Hwy 5, Suite 206, Woodstock, Georgia 30188
J Martin Trash Service	564 Northlake Lane, Canton, Georgia 30115
Longhorns Sanitation	911 Franklin Goldmine Road, Cumming, Georgia 30040
North Cherokee Sanitation	336 Bart Manous Road, Canton, Georgia 30115
North Metro Waste, Inc.	149 River Mill Drive, Ball Ground, Georgia 30107
Robertson Sanitation	7100 Delta Circle, Austell, Georgia 30168
R W Sanitation	9990 Bells Ferry Road, Canton, Georgia 30114
Waste Management, Inc.	6962 Main Street, Woodstock, Georgia 30188

C&D waste collection in Cherokee County and its cities is open competition where businesses or developers have the option to select their own hauler. Options for C&D waste are to self haul waste to a permitted C&D landfill or contract the service through a private hauler.

Yard waste collection in Cherokee County and its cities is handled based on contracts individual residents have with their waste haulers. Yard waste generally includes grass clippings, leaves, shrubs, brush, tree branches and other vegetative materials generated by routine maintenance of yards, lawns and landscaping. Most waste haulers in Cherokee County provide routine collection of yard trimmings.

Table 4-2 provides an inventory of waste collection programs in Cherokee County by jurisdiction.

**Table 4-2: Inventory of Collection Programs**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Collector/Operator</b>	<b>Program Description</b>	<b>Jurisdictions Served</b>	<b>Sectors Served</b>
Curbside MSW Collection	Advanced Disposal	Bagged MSW	City of Woodstock	Residential
Curbside MSW Collection	Waste Management	Bagged MSW	City of Ball Ground	Residential
Curbside MSW Collection	Waste Management	Bagged MSW	City of Canton	Residential
Curbside MSW Collection	Private Haulers	Bagged MSW	Unincorporated County and Cities of Holly Springs, Ball Ground and Waleska	Residential
Commercial MSW Collection	Advanced Disposal	One to seven days per week	City of Woodstock	Commercial
Commercial MSW Collection	Private Haulers	One to seven days per week	Unincorporated County and Cities of Canton, Holly Springs, Ball Ground and Waleska	Commercial
Drop-off MSW Collection at Recycling Center and Convenience Centers	Waste Management	Recyclables	Unincorporated and Incorporated County	Residential & Commercial

#### ***4.1.2 Contingency Strategy***

Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs, Ball Ground and Waleska have a number of options in the event that one of the existing waste haulers working in each municipality was to no longer conduct collections. Since there are a number of private waste haulers working in Cherokee County, residents and businesses affected by this situation have the ability to contract with a different company if the current company becomes unavailable. The estimated time frame for this option to take effect would be determined by the contracted company, but it is anticipated that collection could begin within one cycle since the newly hired company would already be conducting routine collection in other areas of the County.

#### ***4.1.3 Disaster Debris Management – Collection Strategy***

In the case of a disaster that generates significant amounts of debris, Cherokee County and its cities would use their existing equipment to collect debris and stage it at a County or City owned location or directly transport the debris to a landfill or debris processing facility. This approach has been used successfully to clean up debris from past storms. Staging areas are identified dependent upon the location of the most debris. If needed, the County and its cities would contract with collectors and haulers to expand debris collection and hauling capabilities.

Cherokee County is in the early stages of developing a Comprehensive Debris Management Plan and expects to include all its cities via an intergovernmental agreement. The plan is expected to pre- identify haulers and disposal. The Comprehensive Debris Management Plan is estimated to be completed in 2010.

The County and its cities would use their web sites, local news media and mobile message boards to announce schedules for debris removal in affected areas.

## **4.2 Transfer Stations**

Transfer stations that operate in Cherokee County or its cities must be sited in areas that are approved for such use by local zoning ordinances. The local ordinances establish certain design and operating requirements for transfer stations operating within each jurisdiction.

## **4.3 Assessment of Collection Programs**

For several years waste collection for residential and commercial customers in Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs, Ball Ground and Waleska has been provided through an open market private hauler system. Homeowners and businesses in Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs, Ball Ground and Waleska contract directly with a hauler of their choice. Cherokee County and these cities believe that the current waste collection services provided by the private waste collection businesses are adequate for the present and future needs of the community.

Waste collectors are more profitable in that they are able to collect waste from as many homes as possible in an area. The more homes a collector can service in an area the more it can profit by saving on fuel costs and labor costs. Residents with a homeowners' association or within a community can as a group negotiate with and enter into a contract with one of the waste collectors for better pricing and levels of service. As a group they can also invite several waste collection companies to submit price and level of service bids for their community. In addition to possible cost benefits to the group, having one waste hauler in the community will also reduce the traffic associated with having multiple haulers servicing an area.

## **4.4 Illegal Dumping/Littering**

### ***4.4.1 Solid Waste Ordinances***

The Cherokee County Solid Waste Ordinance, specifically Article III, Litter Control, which was adopted in 2006, is intended to address illegal dumping and littering in unincorporated Cherokee County. The purpose of the Litter Control Ordinance is intended to place upon all persons in the County, the duty of contributing to the public cleanliness and appearance of the County in order to promote the public health, safety and welfare and to protect the interests of people of the County against unsanitary and unsightly conditions. It is also the intent of the Ordinance to protect the people of Cherokee County against the public expense caused by littering. The ordinance prohibits the depositing of litter anywhere in the County.

The ordinance states that litter thrown from a moving vehicle or unauthorized litter on property containing documentation with names is considered evidence of littering by the vehicle operator or such persons.

A copy of the Cherokee County Solid Waste Ordinance, including Article III, Litter Control, is attached in Appendix D.

The Cities of Ball Ground and Canton have very similar litter control ordinance and enforcement policies as the County.

### ***4.4.2 Penalties***

Violations of the Cherokee County Solid Waste or Litter Control Ordinance are tried in the magistrate court. Each violation shall be constituted as a separate offense.

Any person found violating the Cherokee County Solid Waste or Litter Control Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be punished as follows:

1. By a fine of not less than \$200.00 and not more than \$1,200.00; and
2. In addition to the fine, the violator shall reimburse Cherokee County for the reasonable cost of removing the litter when the litter is or is ordered removed by the County; and
3. In the sound discretion of the court in which the conviction is obtained, the person may be directed to pick up and remove from any public street or highway or public right-of-way for a distance not to exceed one mile any litter deposited thereon by anyone else prior to the date of the execution of sentence; or
4. In the sound discretion of the judge of the court in which conviction is obtained, the person may be directed to pick up and remove from any public beach, public park, private right-of-way or with the prior permission of the legal owner or tenant in lawful possession of such property, any private property upon which it can be established by competent evidence that he has deposited litter, any and all litter deposited thereon by anyone prior to the date of execution of the sentence.
5. The court may publish the names of persons convicted of violating these ordinances.
6. Records of convictions for violations of these ordinances shall be a matter of public record.
7. No person accused of violating these ordinances shall be arrested prior to trial, but any defendant who fails to appear for trial shall be arrested thereafter on the warrant of the magistrate judge and required to post a bond for his future appearance.

#### ***4.4.3 Enforcement***

The Cherokee County Marshall's office enforces the Solid Waste and Litter Control Ordinances and monitors illegal dumping hot spots within the County and brings to justice those violators that are able to be identified.

### **4.5 Goals and Needs**

Waste collection for residential and commercial customers in unincorporated Cherokee County and the cities of Holly Springs, Ball Ground and Waleska is provided through an open market, multiple hauler system. Homeowners and businesses in these areas contract directly with a private hauler of their choice. Cherokee County and these cities believe that the current waste collection services provided by the private sector are adequate for the present and future needs of their communities.

In contrast, waste collection for residential and commercial customers in the cities of Canton and Woodstock has been provided through a citywide hauler contracted by each city. These two cities believe that the current waste collection services provided by this method are adequate for the present and future needs of their communities.

**Goal:** To provide consistent and efficient waste collection services to all residents.

**Needs:**

- Work with all private haulers to ensure steady and reliable collection.
- Continue to enforce litter control ordinances to address illegal dumping.
- Evaluate penalties for illegal dumping so that they are consistent to meet County and City(ies) goals.



## SECTION 5 : DISPOSAL

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### 5.1 Inventory of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities

This section of the Plan discusses the disposal facilities located in Cherokee County. This section also demonstrates assurance of disposal capacity throughout the planning period as required by the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures. The section ends with an identification of goals and needs for solid waste disposal.

#### 5.1.1 Solid Waste Disposal Practices

Landfills are the physical facilities used for the disposal of solid waste. A landfill is an area of land or an excavation in which solid waste is placed for permanent disposal. The area or excavation used as a landfill cannot be a land application unit, surface impoundment, injection well, or waste pile. Permanent disposal of solid waste requires the placement of daily, intermediate, and/or final earth, synthetic, or a combination of earth and synthetic cover over the waste. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) defines Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) as any solid waste derived from households, including garbage, trash, and sanitary waste in septic tanks and means solid waste from single-family and multifamily residences, hotels and motels, bunkhouses, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and day use recreation areas. The term includes yard trimmings and commercial solid waste, but does not include solid waste from mining, agricultural, or silvicultural operations or industrial processes or operations.

Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste is defined by Georgia EPD as building waste materials and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition operations of pavements, houses, commercial buildings and other structures. Such wastes include, but are not limited to asbestos containing waste, wood, bricks, metal, concrete, wall board, paper, cardboard, inert waste landfill material, and any other wastes that cannot be quickly decomposed by microorganisms and which have a low potential for groundwater contamination.

Landfills that have reached their designed capacity are formally closed in accordance with the requirements established by the Georgia EPD. After closure construction and receipt of a final closure certificate from the EPD, the landfill goes into a post-closure care period. Postclosure means a procedure approved by the EPD to provide for a minimum 30-year financial assurance, monitoring, and maintenance of a solid waste disposal facility to protect human health and the environment.

In the past, the term sanitary landfill was used to denote a landfill in which waste was placed on bare ground and was covered at the end of each day's operation. Today, sanitary landfill refers to an engineered facility for the disposal of municipal solid waste designed and operated to minimize public health and environmental impacts. Landfills are now designed and constructed with liner and leachate collection systems, and are monitored environmentally for its impact to the quality of the groundwater and air. The term leachate with regards to landfills means a liquid that has passed through or emerged from solid waste and contains soluble or suspended materials removed from such wastes. Landfill operation today includes monitoring of incoming waste stream, placement and compaction of the waste and application of a cover over the waste at the end of each day.

Historically, landfills have been the most economical and environmentally acceptable methods used for the disposal of solid waste both here in the United States and throughout the world. After the implementation of source reduction and waste reduction through recycling and

composting, there still remain solid wastes that need to be disposed of in landfills. Even in the process of burning waste as a fuel source, such as in a waste-to-energy facility, there are still waste residues, in the form of ashes, which need to be disposed in landfills. The disposal of solid waste in landfills still remains an important component of an integrated solid waste management system.

### ***5.1.2 Cherokee County Landfills***

In the past, Cherokee County owned and operated a landfill on Blalock Road in the south central portion of the County. The landfill did not have a liner system and it was not equipped with a leachate collection system. Such systems were not available or required at the time of the design, permitting and construction of this landfill.

Cherokee County's Blalock Road Landfill accepted municipal solid wastes until closing in 1993. It was constructed under various phases and operated under EPD Permit Nos. 028-006D(SL), 028-015D(SL) and 028-017D(SL).

Developing the history of the Blalock Road Landfill is a challenge because few records were available regarding the layout and operation of the landfill. From what can be determined, the landfill was constructed in five distinct areas that were developed over the years that the landfill was in operation. Several of these areas were in operation during the same time period. Because of the limited data available, it is difficult to determine the exact limits of the landfill phases as well as the quantities of solid waste in each phase of the landfill. Estimates of the amount of solid waste placed into each phase of the landfill were generated from the evaluation of existing topography, design plans and estimates of average depths of each phase of the landfill.

Although the history of the landfill is quite obscure, this brief history does provide several insights to the development of the landfill. The approximate boundary of each Phase of the landfill is shown in Figure 5-1.

Phase I of the landfill site is located on the east side of Blalock Road. The property was originally owned by North Georgia Timberlands, who sold it to Rome-Kraft. Rome-Kraft sold it to Cherokee County. Of the approximately 38.5 acres of this tract, only about 14.7 acres were used as a landfill.

Phase I of the Blalock Road Landfill began as the "local dump" in the 1950's. By the mid-sixties, Cherokee County was utilizing this phase of the landfill to dispose of solid waste. This landfill was very rudimentary in construction and consisted of merely dumping solid waste into the low areas of the property and covering up these areas as the "smell became too bad". No bottom liner or cap was installed on Phase I of the landfill. Apparently the solid waste in certain areas of this phase was placed within 10 to 20 feet of the southern property line. It is estimated that most of this phase ranges from two to 15 feet deep with an average depth of seven feet and that approximately 166,000 cubic yards of waste is located in this phase of the landfill. This phase was closed to the receipt of additional waste in the mid 1970's by using local topsoil of unknown depth and consistency.

In 1996, Cherokee County leased to Cherokee Clean and Beautiful, a non-profit organization, about 3.2 acres of the Phase I site. Cherokee Clean and Beautiful built a local recycling center, which is now the Cherokee County Recycling Center, on this phase of the landfill site. It is not known whether the Recycling Center was built on top of an area that contains solid waste.

Phase II through V of the Blalock Road Landfill is located on a 126.77 acre tract of land on the west side of Blalock Road. This land was purchased from Kraft Land Services, Inc. in June of

1979. Phase II of the Blalock Road Landfill was developed in the early 80's and consists of approximately 8.5 acres of property just west of and immediately adjacent to Blalock Road.

Phase II of the landfill was also very rudimentary in construction. No bottom liner or cap were installed on this phase of the landfill. Based on conversations with those familiar with the site, it is estimated that most of this phase ranges from 8' to 15' deep with an average depth of approximately 11 feet, and that approximately 151,000 cubic yards of waste is located in this phase of the landfill. It appears this phase was filled and closed using local topsoil of unknown depth and consistency by 1988.

Phase III of the Blalock Road Landfill began development in approximately 1984, and grew in size over the next several years. It was closed sometime in the late 1980's. This area is the largest single phase of the landfill covering approximately 23.8 acres of the property west of Blalock Road. This phase of the landfill was permitted by the state of Georgia based on a Design and Operation (D&O) plan prepared by EMCON in March of 1998. However, those familiar with this site indicate that the construction of the cells did not necessarily conform to the D&O plan, and the regulatory files indicate that several irregularities were noted during the operation of this phase. The D&O plan did not require that an impermeable bottom liner or impermeable cap be installed. It is estimated that most of this phase ranges from 10 to 15 feet deep, with an average depth of 12 feet. However, some areas of this phase may have up to 30 feet of waste buried on-site. Estimates of solid waste range from 500,000 to 850,000 cubic yards located in this phase of the landfill. It appears this phase was filled and closed using local topsoil of unknown depth and consistency by 1988.

Phase IV of the Blalock Road Landfill began development in approximately 1987, and grew in size over the next several years until the entire landfill was closed for operations in 1993. This area is the second largest phase of the landfill, consisting of approximately 14.3 acres of property. This phase is bounded on both the east and west side by small tributaries that flow through the landfill. Phase IV of the landfill was not constructed with a bottom clay liner, however a clay cap was constructed over this phase of the landfill. This clay material was hauled to the landfill from off-site and the compacted permeability of the cap generally achieved 106 cm/sec permeability. This phase of the landfill is constructed with 2:1 slopes on the south, east and west side of the area. It is estimated that most of this phase ranges from 15 to 30 feet in depth with an average depth of 25 feet, however some areas of this phase may have up to 35 feet of waste buried on-site. Estimates of solid waste in Phase IV range from 350,000 to 450,000 cubic yards.

Phase V of the Blalock Road landfill began development in 1989 or 1990. This phase grew in size over the next several years until the entire landfill was closed to further waste operation in 1993. This area is relatively small and only covers approximately 2.4 acres of property. This phase is bounded on both the east and west sides by sediment ponds that were constructed during the development of this landfill phase in order to reduce erosion and prevent soil from exiting the site. Phase V of the landfill was not constructed with a bottom liner, or with an impermeable cap. This portion of the landfill was apparently constructed in four 100-foot wide cells, which varied from 10 to 18 feet in depth, with an overall average of 15 feet depth. Estimates of solid waste range from 50,000 to 80,000 cubic yards of waste located in this phase of the landfill.

Phase VI of the landfill was planned by Cherokee County to be located on a 111 acre tract directly north of Phase I, and was to cover an area of approximately 32 acres. This phase of the landfill was permitted by the Georgia EPD for operation in 1993. However, this phase of the landfill was never constructed.

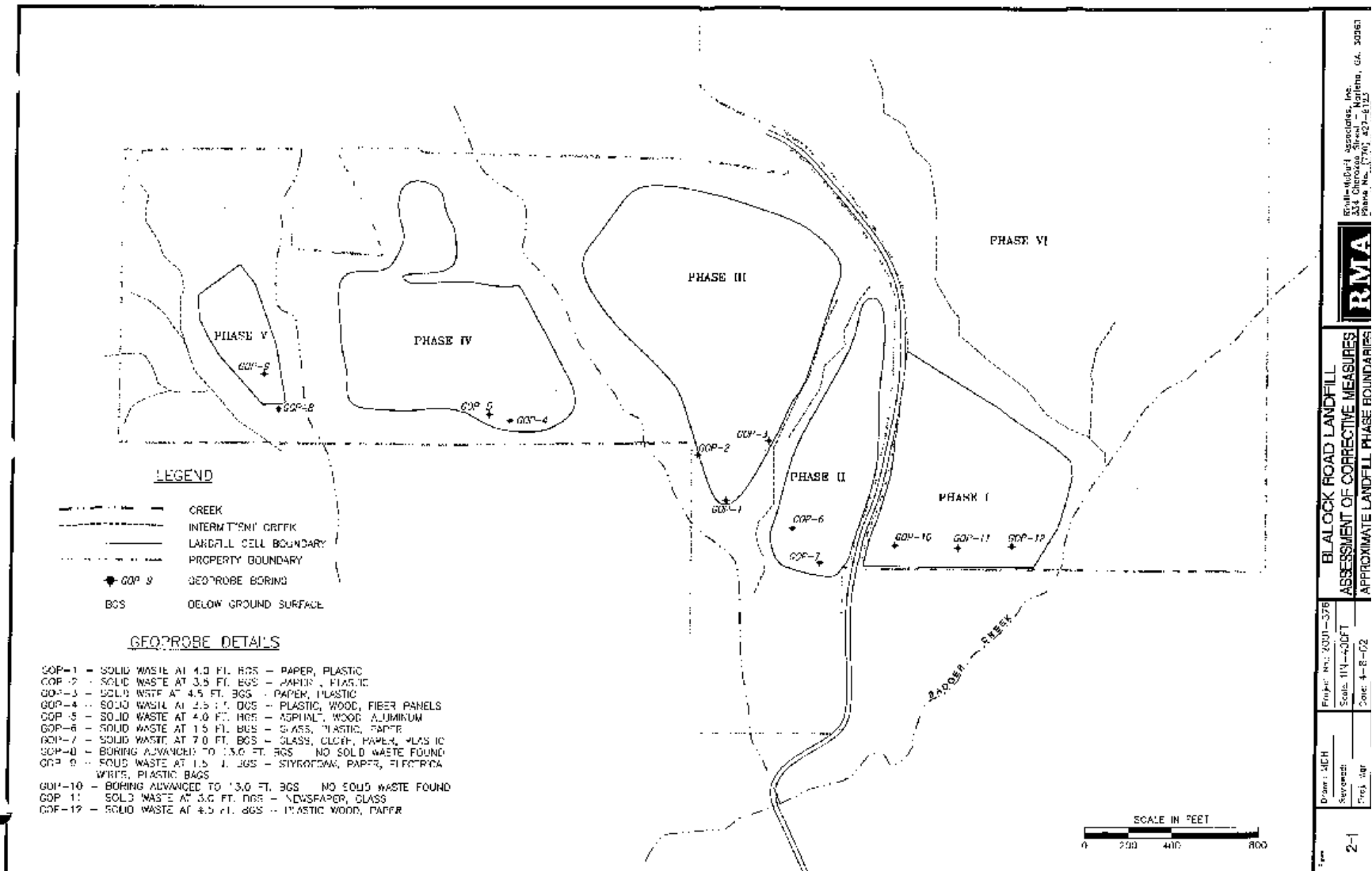
The privately owned Pine Bluff Landfill, operated by Waste Management, located on East Cherokee Drive in north central Cherokee County, receives a majority of the waste generated in the County. According to Waste Management, the facility has sufficient capacity to accommodate the County's waste disposal needs well into the future. The development of additional landfills within Cherokee County, except for the expansion of existing landfills within existing property limits, is neither required nor encouraged at this time.

Waste generated in Cherokee County is also disposed of in facilities in Forsyth, Dekalb, Fulton, Hall, Pickens, Gwinnett, Walton and Polk Counties. These facilities collectively will have more than enough capacity to handle waste generated from Cherokee County and its cities throughout the planning period of this report. The landfills accepting waste from Cherokee County are listed in Table 5-1.

**Table 5-1: Landfills Accepting Waste From Cherokee County (July 2007 - June 2008)**

<b>Landfill Name &amp; Location</b>	<b>Location</b>
Pine Bluff Landfill	Cherokee County, GA
Waste Pro of GA	Cherokee County, GA
Swims SR 92 - Phase 5	Cherokee County, GA
Eagle Point Landfill	Forsyth County, GA
Chadwick Road Landfill	Fulton County, GA
APAC Donzi Lane Phase 5	Dekalb County, GA
Safeguard Landfill Management	Fulton County, GA
Grady Road Landfill	Polk County, GA
BFI- Hickory Ridge Landfill	Dekalb County, GA
K&M Old Whitestone Road	Pickens County, GA
BFI - Richland Creek Road MSWL	Gwinnett County, GA
Greenleaf Recycling	Forsyth County, GA
Reliable Tire Services	Hall County, GA
Republic US 78 Landfill	Walton County, GA

Figure 5-1: Blalock Road Landfill Schematic



### ***5.1.3 Solid Waste Transfer Facilities***

A Transfer Station is a facility used to transfer solid waste from one transportation vehicle to another for transportation to a disposal facility or processing operation. Typically, collection vehicles and other smaller vehicles are used to bring in solid waste into a transfer station. The solid wastes from these vehicles are tipped or dumped onto the receiving area of the transfer stations. The receiving area for the waste in a transfer station is commonly known as the tipping floor. And, the fee collected to dump, off-load or tip waste onto the tipping floor is called the tipping fee. The solid wastes on the tipping floor are then transferred into larger vehicles such as semitrailers which are then used to transport the waste to a disposal site. Transfer stations are typically classified with respect to its capacity. The capacity of transfer stations is generally designated in tons per day, and is the amount of waste materials that can be transferred and hauled from the facility.

There is currently one private transfer station operating in Cherokee County. It is located at 6970 Main Street, Woodstock, Georgia. It is owned and operated by Waste Management of Georgia. The transfer station accepts waste from Cherokee County, Cobb County and the City of Kennesaw and transports the waste to the Pine Bluff Landfill, which is also owned and operated by Waste Management of Georgia.

### ***5.1.4 Host Fees***

Host fees are required pursuant to O.C.G.A Section 12-8-39. All landfills in the state of Georgia are required to pay \$1.00 per ton to the local jurisdiction. Waste Management and Cherokee County have a host agreement whereby Waste Management pays the County \$2.00 per ton plus \$.10 per ton for maintenance of East Cherokee Drive. In 2008 host fees collected from the Pine Bluff Landfill totaled \$2,923,858.20.

### ***5.1.5 Assurance of 10-Year Capacity***

Based upon information gathered by the Georgia EPD and collected in this report, approximately 67% of the waste collected in Cherokee County is being disposed of at the Pine Bluff Landfill. The Cherokee C&D Landfill handles 15% of waste collected, Swims SR 92 Dixie Landfill in Woodstock handles 12% of waste collected and Eagle Point Landfill in Forsyth County handles 4% of waste collected. The assurance letters are based upon the projected 27,794,901 tons of waste to be generated over the next ten years (as determined in the Waste Stream Analysis). The County has received assurance letters from each disposal facility. Table 5-2 shows the breakdown of waste projected to be disposed of at each facility. It should be noted that these assurance letters assume that each facility will account for the same percentage of waste collected in the County over the next ten years. Included in Appendix E are the assurance letters from landfills accepting waste from Cherokee County.

**Table 5-2: Breakdown of Disposal Location and Projected Tonnage (2007 - 2018)**

<b>Landfill Name &amp; Location</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Tons</b>
Pine Bluff Landfill, Cherokee County, GA	67.34%	3,421,815
Waste Pro of GA, Cherokee County, GA	15.41%	783,044
Swims SR 92 - Phase 5, Cherokee County, GA	12.25%	622,472
Eagle Point Landfill, Forsyth County, GA	4.31%	219,008
Other	0.69%	35,061
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5,081,400</b>

The Pine Bluff Landfill is located on East Cherokee Drive, south of the City of Ball Ground. The facility has been operating since 1994 under EPD Permit No. 028-039D (SL). It currently has a permitted capacity of 60,604,250 cubic yards. The Pine Bluff Landfill is owned and operated by Waste Management of Georgia and sits on over approximately 1,000 acres. Only a portion of that area will be used for the disposal of municipal solid waste, the remaining acreage includes a natural buffer around the perimeter of the facility. The landfill accepts municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris, selective non-hazardous industrial waste, contaminated non-hazardous soils, ash, sludge, non-chemical liquids, residuals and asbestos.

The Cherokee C&D Landfill is located on Ball Ground Highway, also south of the City of Ball Ground. The facility opened in 2001 with EPD Permit No. 028-043D (C&D). As currently permitted, and as it may be expanded from time-to-time, the facility provides C&D waste disposal for residents and contractors.

### **5.1.6 Contingency Strategy**

Natural and/or Manmade Disaster – A major disaster, whether natural or manmade, has the potential to produce debris in the form of trees, building and construction materials, vehicles, personal property, etc. The total quantity and type of debris generated is a function of the location, type of event, magnitude, duration and intensity. These factors collectively determine the approach Cherokee County will take to address the debris problem as well as the associated costs and timeframe for removal. In an effort to be better prepared for such a situation, the County will be adopting an Emergency Operations Plan which provides a detailed and comprehensive action plan for Cherokee County's first responders and support staff.

During recent natural disasters, Cherokee County and its cities used their existing equipment to collect debris and stage it at County and City locations until such time as a contractor could be obtained; through the bid process, to chip and dispose of the collected materials. For minimal natural disasters affecting a small area, the County used its existing equipment to collect debris and transport it to a local, privately owned, chipping and mulch processing facility. This approach has been used successfully to clean up debris from past storms. Possible staging locations have already been identified.

Cherokee County used its website and radio announcements, where available, to announce schedules for debris removal from unincorporated areas.

Current Landfill is Unable to Accept Waste from the County – There are a number of landfills within a relative close proximity to Cherokee County. In addition, Cherokee County has multiple waste haulers operating within its boundaries. These waste haulers have the ability to transport waste to a variety of landfills and/or waste handling facilities in the area, which makes

Cherokee County less dependent on one particular site for disposal. In the event in which one of the existing facilities is no longer able to accept waste, the waste haulers will arrange for disposal at one of the other facilities.

Cherokee County anticipates that there would be a seamless transition in disposal from the perspective of residents since the residents' contracted hauler would still be conducting collection. However, the transition from the existing disposal facility to a new and/or temporary facility would take place with the goal of uninterrupted service to customers. Information would be posted on the County's website, if required, to inform residents and businesses about any major changes in service.

## 5.2 Goals and Needs

Based on the inventory and assessment described in this section, the following goals and needs have been identified for this element.

**Goal:** To ensure that solid waste handling facilities have capacity to handle all solid waste generated in Cherokee County, do not negatively impact the natural environment or public health, and are consistent with the Plan.

**Needs:**

- Ensure space is available at existing landfills.
- Expand the existing landfills as needed to ensure sufficient capacity.
- Divert recyclables, when feasible, from the landfill to maximize landfill life.
- Monitor solid waste handling facilities located in the County to ensure they are operated in a manner that protects public health and the environment and are consistent with the Plan.
- Ensure that solid waste generated in Cherokee County is managed in Cherokee County.
- Ensure revenues fully recover the costs of an integrated solid waste management system.
- Adopt an Emergency Operations Plan, including a debris management plan.



## **SECTION 6 : LAND LIMITATION**

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### **6.1 Natural & Environmental Limitations**

This section of the Plan reviews some of the restrictions on locating a solid waste facility within Cherokee County based on federal, state and local policy. The map at the end of this section illustrates the items discussed below.

#### ***6.1.1 Water Supply Watersheds***

Cherokee County is included in three major watersheds: the Coosawattee, the Etowah and the Chattahoochee Rivers. The majority of Cherokee County is located within the Etowah River Watershed. Three areas within Cherokee County would require synthetic liners and leachate collections systems under Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regulations because they meet the definition of small water supply watersheds. They are as follows: Yellow Creek in the northeast corner adjacent to the Hollis Latham Reservoir in Dawson County, Big Creek on the southeast boundary between Cherokee, Forsyth and Fulton Counties and the area in Canton around the new Hickory Log Creek Reservoir.

#### ***6.1.2 Groundwater Recharge Areas***

Groundwater recharge areas are places where surface water enters underground aquifers through being absorbed into the ground. Three such areas have been identified in Cherokee County. The groundwater recharge areas are as follows: Macedonia (State Route 20 & East Cherokee Drive), Sixes (Bells Ferry Road & Sixes Road) and Lake Allatoona (State Route 92 & Kellogg Creek Road). Any proposed landfills located within these areas would be required to have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.

#### ***6.1.3 Wetlands***

Wetlands can be found scattered across Cherokee County because of the significant number of water resources located in the county. Proposed landfills that would impact wetlands would be required to obtain Section 404 permits prior to beginning construction.

#### ***6.1.4 River Corridors***

Both the Etowah River and the Little River are Protected River Corridors under Georgia DNR regulations. New solid waste landfills are prohibited from being developed within 150 feet of these rivers.

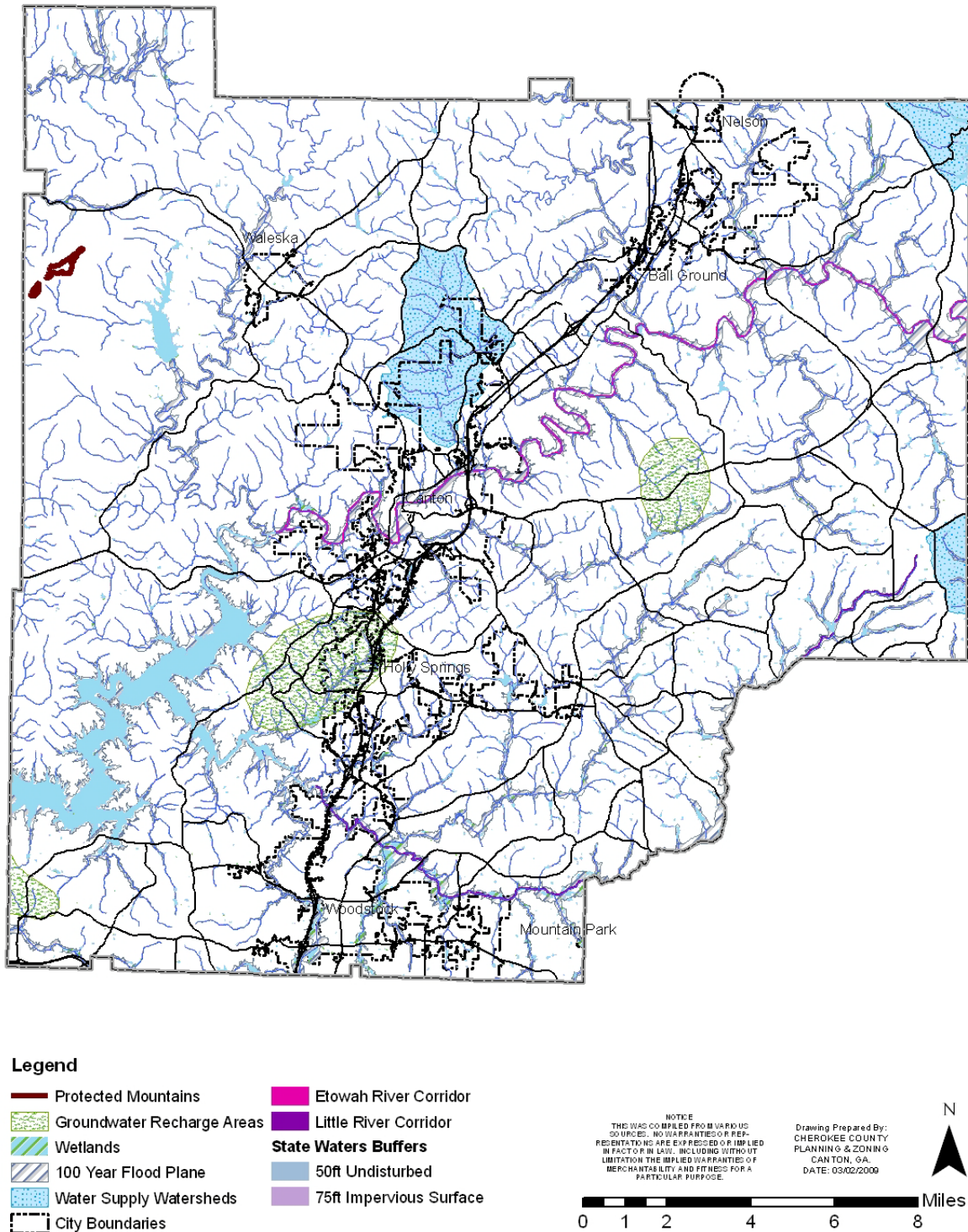
#### ***6.1.5 Protected Mountains***

Two peaks, Pine Log Mountain and Bear Mountain, in Cherokee County meet the State of Georgia criteria for Protected Mountains. Both of these mountains are located in the northwest corner of the County near Lake Arrowhead. The development of new solid waste landfills is prohibited in these areas.

### ***6.1.6 Floodplains***

Georgia law stipulates that any solid waste landfill located in the 100-year floodplain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the flood plain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment. This law discourages the development of solid waste landfills within the 100-year floodplain. Areas of floodplain exist throughout Cherokee County. The largest areas are along the Etowah River and Little River, around Lake Allatoona and along the major creeks.

**Figure 6-1: Protected Environmental Areas**



## 6.2 Zoning and Land Use Limitations

### 6.2.1 Zoning Restrictions

Each jurisdiction within Cherokee County has its own regulations for landfills, transfer stations and recycling facilities. Below is a brief summary of the regulations for each jurisdiction:

#### Cherokee County

Solid Waste Facilities (Landfills, Transfer Stations and Recycling Facilities) and Inert Landfills are permitted only in the Heavy Industrial (HI) zoning district. The location of Solid Waste Facilities is regulated by the Solid Waste Management Ordinance, which requires a Special Use Permit for any new facilities. Inert Landfills are permitted on HI property provided the following required conditions have been met:

- a) Such facility shall conform to State of Georgia Rules and Regulations for Solid Wastes Management.*
- b) The operation can and shall be conducted in such a manner that air, land and water pollution and public health hazard nuisances are prevented.*
- c) Such facility shall not be located in any wetland, or area being designated as 100-year floodplain.*
- d) Such facility shall not be located near a significant groundwater recharge area.*
- e) Such facility shall not be situated within two (2) miles up gradient of any surface water intake for a public drinking water source.*
- f) The location, the boundaries and the proposed method of operation shall have been approved by the Cherokee County Health Department and the County Engineer. The Health Department and County Engineer shall both collect reasonable and appropriate fees for the inspection in advance.*
- g) Such facility shall be accessible without excessive travel over residential streets. Proposed truck traffic routes and entrances to the facility shall be approved in advance of the Board's hearing by the County Engineer. Turn lanes and expansion necessary to improve sight distance and other safety requirement shall be made a condition by the Board.*
- h) All-weather access roads shall be provided to the disposal site.*
- i) Such facility shall be suitably fenced to prevent the spread of papers and other materials and shall be screened and planted so that it is not visible from any residential, commercial or industrial structure or from any street.*
- j) A minimum of two (200) feet buffer area with dense natural foliage shall be provided between the property line and the operation line. No clearing and grubbing shall take place in buffer areas except as required for the construction of drainage devices, groundwater monitoring wells and access roads.*

#### Ball Ground

Sanitary Landfills are prohibited within the Ball Ground city limits because the city relies on groundwater for their municipal water supply.

*Section 10-4-7 Sanitary Landfills Prohibited:*

*The Mayor and City Council have found after extensive investigation and research that the city relies on the underground aquifer as the major source of drinking water supply. Further, the Mayor and Council find that the presence of any sanitary landfill within the corporate limits of the City of Ball Ground will introduce toxins and other contaminants into the city water supply rendering the underground aquifer unusable for public drinking water supplies. Therefore, sanitary landfills shall not be permitted within the corporate limits of the City of Ball Ground, Georgia.*

The Zoning Ordinance of the City of Ball Ground generally agrees with this prohibition since landfills are not listed as a permitted use in any of the zoning districts. The Refuse Collection and Disposal section of the Municipal Code briefly describes a review process for landfills “*No person shall hereafter establish or operate any new disposal facility without first submitting plans and specifications to the mayor and council and receiving its written approval as regards disposal site, methods of disposal, adequacy of equipment and supervision, and other pertinent matters. Existing disposal facilities shall be operated in such a manner as to prevent nuisance or menace to the public health.*”

Canton

The Zoning Ordinance of the City of Canton does not permit landfills, transfer stations or any similar type facilities. The Solid Waste Disposal ordinance regulates the service provider selected to provide trash and recycling pickup across the city.

Holly Springs

In the City of Holly Springs, Landfills, Transfer Stations and Recycling Facilities are considered Heavy Industrial Uses, which would require a conditional use permit in the Light Industrial (LI) zoning district. Conditional Use Permits are evaluated by the Mayor and Council using the following standards:

*It is found and declared that there exist uses and activities that have potentially serious objectionable and deleterious effects on the public health, safety, morals and welfare and that it is in the public interest to introduce special regulation of such uses and activities to abate or eliminate adverse effects contributing to a blighting or downgrading of surrounding neighborhoods and businesses. It is the purpose of this Section, therefore, to safeguard the best interests of the citizens of the City of Holly Springs, to protect and enhance the quality of the environment, and to promote the public health, safety and welfare by achieving the following:*

- A. Providing appropriately located areas for the various uses listed herein to meet the needs of the City.*
- B. Supporting development compatibility with surrounding uses and neighborhoods while suggesting uniqueness and character.*
- C. Protecting the property values of existing business developments from inappropriately located uses and to enhance the investment of residents and business owners.*
- D. Encouraging uses to be grouped.*

### Waleska

The City of Waleska does not permit landfills in any zoning district.

### Woodstock

Designated Recycling Collection Locations, Sanitary Landfills, Waste Transfer Stations and Recycling Processing Facilities are no longer allowed within the city limits of the City of Woodstock according to the Zoning Ordinance. The Solid Waste Ordinance governs the trash collection and trash pickup franchise within the City.

## **6.2.2 Other Land Use Restrictions**

There are a series of state and federal restrictions for the siting of solid waste facilities based on land uses. These areas are described on the map at the end of this section. The restrictions that pertain to Cherokee County are as follows:

Archaeological Sites - No solid waste handling facility should be located so as to negatively impact an area of concentrated or known archaeological sites on file with the Georgia Archaeological Site File (GASF). Because specific information concerning the location and contents of archaeological sites is protected by Georgia Law (O.C.G.A. 50-18-72 [a][10]), direct access to the complete information held by the GASF is restricted to qualified archaeologists and archaeology students. If a facility siting has the potential to impact an area of concentrated or known archaeological sites, then consultation with the State Archaeologist and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) would be required.

Surface Water Intake - According to the Georgia DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01, unless there are no other feasible locations, solid waste landfills should not be located within two miles of a surface water intake for a public water source. Two public surface water intakes are located in Cherokee County on the Etowah River. The map denotes a two mile radius upstream which is the area that would be impacted by this rule.

Airport Safety – Georgia DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c) requires that new municipal solid waste landfill units or lateral expansions of existing units shall not be within 5,000 feet of any runway planned or used for piston-type aircraft or within 10,000 feet of any runway planned or used for turbo-jet or piston-type aircraft. A 10,000 foot buffer is shown on the map around Cherokee County Regional Airport. This is the appropriate buffer for the airport based on the length of the expanded runway now under construction.

Co-Located Landfills - Section 12-8-25.4 of the O.C.G.A. states that no solid waste handling facility, excluding materials recovery facilities and composting facilities, can be sited on a site that falls within a two-mile radius of three or more solid waste landfills (including closed landfills that received waste on or after June 29, 1989). There are no areas of Cherokee County that meet these criteria.

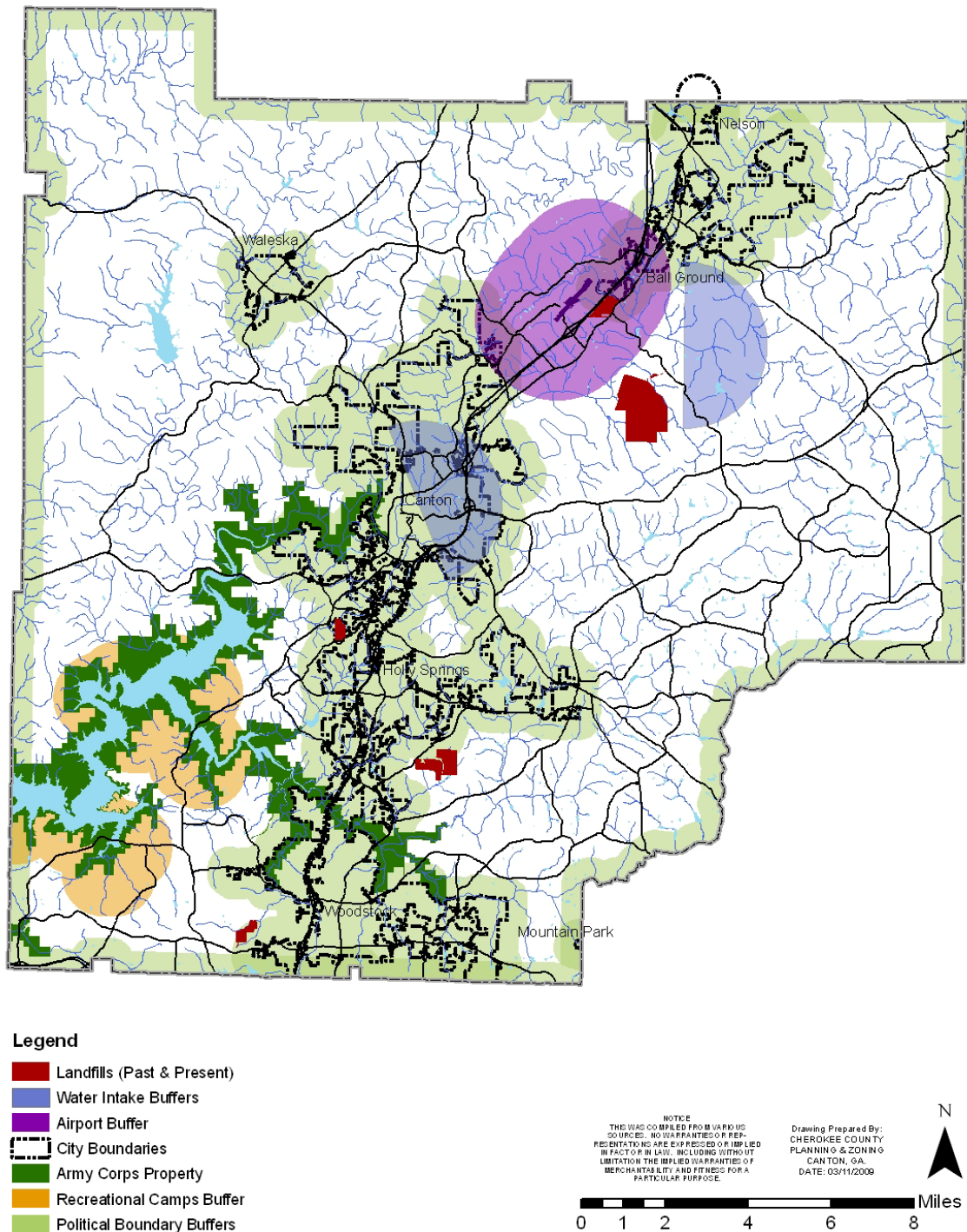
Political Subdivisions - O.C.G.A. Section 12-8-25 prohibits the siting of a Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill within one-half mile of another jurisdiction's borders without the approval of the jurisdiction's governing authority. In Cherokee County this would apply to land within ½ mile of the county boundary as well as ½ mile inside or outside of each of the city boundaries. This restriction is depicted on the map at the end of the section. The ½ mile restriction would also apply to land outside of the county boundary in the seven surround counties; Bartow, Cobb, Dawson, Fulton, Forsyth, Gordon, and Pickens.

Private Recreational Camps - O.C.G.A Section 12-8-25.5 states that no permit shall be issued for any new municipal solid waste disposal facility if any part of the premises proposed for



permitting is within one mile of any private recreational camp operated primarily for use by persons under 18 years of age and which camp has been so operated at its location for 25 years or more. These facilities in Cherokee County are primarily located on Army Corps property along Lake Allatoona. The map below illustrates the one mile radius around 6 camps meeting this requirement.

**Figure 6-2: Land Use Restrictions**



## 6.3 Local Procedures for Siting Solid Waste Facilities

### 6.3.1 Rezoning and/or Permit Process

Based on the survey of local zoning ordinances in Cherokee County and its municipalities, described above, new solid waste handling facilities are only allowed on Industrial zoned property by special permit. Undeveloped industrial property is relatively scarce in Cherokee County. Typically the siting of a new facility would require rezoning and/or a special permit. The rezoning/permit process may take place concurrently with the Plan Consistency Procedure described below. The details of the rezoning/permit process will vary based on the particular jurisdiction. In Cherokee County, applicants for a Special Use Permit for a private landfill must meet the following requirements from the Solid Waste Management Ordinance:

*Sec. 46-92. Private landfills.*

*(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a landfill, waste disposal area or waste storage area intended to be used by the owner or used by others for the disposal or storage of waste without first having filed the proper application for a special use permit with the county zoning appeals board and complying with the zoning resolution of the county applying to private landfills under article X, section E, subsection 3(g)(8) of such zoning resolution. The owner of any landfill must also obtain a proper permit from the department of natural resources and a county business license.*

*(b) No permit shall be issued by the county until the applicant has shown, to the satisfaction of the board of commissioners, that all federal, state and county regulations and ordinances will be complied with in the operation and management of the landfill, waste disposal area or waste storage area, and that the location of the landfill, waste disposal area or waste storage area is such that there is no detriment to the environment, including, but not limited to, noxious odors, runoff or contamination of surface water and groundwater, so that the maximum protection is afforded to the health, safety and well-being of the citizens of the county.*

*(c) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the owner of any private disposal site to keep the site in an orderly condition and maintained so as not to be a public nuisance or a menace to public health.*

*(d) The commissioner shall designate county employees, and his designees shall have the right to enter a private disposal site at any time during normal business hours for the purpose of inspecting the site to determine whether or not the site is in compliance with this chapter and all other pertinent laws and regulations of the county.*

*(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 6.1; Ord. No. 91-8, § 1, 7-26-91)*

Requirements for the City of Holly Springs are described in the previous section. All other cities in Cherokee County directly or indirectly prohibit the siting of solid waste handling facilities.

### 6.3.2 Plan Consistency Procedure

In order for the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to issue or renew a permit for a solid waste handling facility, the facility or facility expansion must be consistent with the current approved local solid waste management plan. The local Solid Waste Management Plans must identify a procedure for determining if the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the Plan.



No proposed solid waste handling facility, facility expansion or permit renewal will be approved in Cherokee County without a letter from the governing body of the local jurisdiction, the Board of Commissioners for Cherokee County or the respective City Council. This letter shall indicate if the proposed facility is consistent with the current Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan. The procedure for determining whether a proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the current Plan is as follows:

Submit Written Statement of Consistency

The owner/operator of the facility will submit a Written Statement of Consistency to the local government 60 days prior to filing for a solid waste handling permit or notifying the Georgia EPD in the case of a facility that is permitted by rule. The Statement shall include all of the following:

- 1) How the proposed facility or facility expansion will meet the specific goals and/or needs identified in the current Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan, including a description of:
  - a. The impact upon the collection capability within the County;
  - b. The impact upon disposal capacity identified in the County; and
  - c. The impact to the waste reduction and recycling efforts within the County, specifically how the proposed facility or facility expansion will further progress toward the County's waste reduction goal.
- 2) How the proposed facility or facility expansion and its operation will impact the community. Specifically what will be:
  - a. The impact to vehicle traffic and public safety around the proposed facility and throughout the County;
  - b. The impact on natural or cultural resources within the County;
  - c. The impact to the financial viability of the existing solid waste management system within the County;
  - d. The impact to individual and business solid waste management rates; and
  - e. The impact on the current solid waste management infrastructure within the County, both public and private.
- 3) Evidence that the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed suitable according to the criteria listed in the Plan.
- 4) Evidence that the proposed facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with local zoning ordinances.
- 5) Evidence that the proper public notification was given (notification in the county's legal organ for a minimum of 15 days), including notification of all adjacent property owners.

Local Jurisdiction Public Hearing

The local governing body will hold at least one public hearing on the facility, proposed facility or facility expansion to gather input regarding the consistency of the facility with the current Plan. This public hearing will be advertised according to local requirements regarding public notification of public hearings. Based on the results of the initial public hearing, the local governing body can decide whether additional public meetings are necessary.

Consistency Determination

The governing body of the jurisdiction in which the facility, proposed facility or facility expansion is sited shall review the written documentation of consistency from the owner/operator, and comments received at the public hearing to determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the current Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan. Within 30 days of making their determination the governing body shall

notify the facility owner/operator whether or not the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the current Plan. If the proposed facility is consistent with the current Plan, the governing body will issue a letter of consistency. If the proposed facility is not consistent with the current Plan, the owner/operator may address the inconsistencies and resubmit their request for another review.

## 6.4 Assessment of Land Limitations

The following are key findings based on the presentation and assessment of land limitation factors and plan consistency requirements. They include:

- The planning area is subject to limitations on the siting and development of solid waste disposal facilities.
- These siting limitations arise from restrictions in natural environmental features, land use considerations and locally desirable criteria.
- The restrictions are of three types: 1) absolute prohibitions of facilities established by regulation, 2) siting restrictions and/or design limitations established by regulation; and 3) locally desirable criteria.
- In order for the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) to issue or renew a permit for a solid waste handling facility, the facility or facility expansion must be consistent with the currently approved local solid waste management plan.
- The Plan requires applicants to address consistency through a Written Statement of Consistency to include information about the suitability of that specific location, among other factors.

## 6.5 Goals and Needs

Based on the inventory and assessment described in this Section, the following goals and needs have been identified for this Land Limitation element.

**Goal:** To ensure that any new or expanded solid waste handling facilities are consistent with environmental requirements, local land use limitations and this Plan.

**Needs:**

- Ensure that proposed facilities or facility expansions comply with State and local environmental siting requirements.
- Ensure that all proposed solid waste handling facilities or facility expansions follow the procedure for approval established in this Plan.

**Goal:** To ensure that regulations, codes, and policies are consistent with the community's vision and desire for new solid waste facilities.

**Needs:**

- Ensure that the recommendations of this plan are consistent with each of the participating jurisdictions vision and Comprehensive Plans.
- Verify that the regulations, codes and procedures are clear and consistent without internal conflicts.

## **SECTION 7 : EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

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Education and public involvement related to solid waste should emphasize the link between waste reduction goals, collection systems and public programs to reduce solid waste disposal, improve solid waste handling, affect individual behaviors, improve system economics and reduce environmental impacts. The goal of the education and public involvement programs is to help all persons who live and/or work in the community achieve an understanding of the social, economic and environmental issues associated with solid waste management and to encourage all persons to make choices and take action to reduce waste and ensure the proper handling of solid waste.

### **7.1 Education Partners**

Environmental education programs in Cherokee County are offered by a wide range of organizations consisting of local governments, non-profit groups, and institutions. Listed below are the primary organizations offering these education programs.

Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce  
Cherokee County Engineering Department - Stormwater Division  
Cherokee County School District  
Cherokee County Water and Sewer Authority  
City of Canton  
City of Holly Springs  
City of Woodstock  
The Upper Etowah River Alliance  
Cherokee County Master Gardeners  
Master Gardeners / Cherokee County Cooperative Extension Service  
Little River Valley Association

### **7.2 Inventory of Existing Public Education Programs and Public Involvement Opportunities**

Until recently, County-wide education and public involvement programs were overseen by the Cherokee County Recycling Center Coordinator. However, due to recent reorganization within the Cherokee County government, education and public involvement is now the responsibility of the Cherokee County Stormwater Coordinator. Many of these programs continue on because they are sponsored by another organization. For example, there is a partnership agreement with the Cherokee County School System which allows for presentations in the schools as well as the ability to use the school system's internal mailing system. This allows the County to reach over 30,000 students and their parents to notify them of events such as the Christmas Tree Recycling Program. Table 7-1 describes the education and public involvement programs currently offered in Cherokee County.

**Table 7-1: Existing Environmental Education Initiatives**

Program/Activity	Jurisdiction(s) Covered	Sponsor Organization(s)	Target Audience
Adopt-a-Stream Training	Cherokee County	Upper Etowah River Alliance	General Public
Build-a-Rain Barrel Workshop	Cherokee County	City of Canton Upper Etowah River Alliance	General Public
Earth Day Celebrations	Cherokee County Woodstock	Master Gardeners / Cherokee County Cooperative Extension Service City of Woodstock	General Public
Going Green Task Force	Cherokee County	Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce	Businesses
Great American Cleanups	Holly Springs Woodstock	City of Holly Springs City of Woodstock	General Public
Greenstock Day	Woodstock	City of Woodstock	General Public
Newsletter articles on water quality and pollution	Canton Holly Springs Woodstock	City of Canton City of Holly Springs City of Woodstock	Residents
Rivers Alive Cleanups	Canton Holly Springs Unincorporated Cherokee County Woodstock	Georgia EPD Upper Etowah River Alliance Little River Valley Association Cherokee County Stormwater Division Cherokee County Water & Sewer Authority City of Canton City of Holly Springs City of Woodstock	General Public
Stormwater Drain Stenciling	Cherokee County	Cherokee County Stormwater Division City of Canton City of Woodstock	Citizen Groups
Stormwater Websites	Cherokee County	Cherokee County Stormwater Division City of Woodstock	General Public
Stormwater/Pollution Information	Canton Holly Springs	City of Canton City of Holly Springs	General Public

In the past Cherokee County has also received funding from the Scrap Tire Grant which had been very beneficial in furthering public awareness in regard to recycling and waste reduction. Current public awareness and education regarding litter control, recycling and waste reduction in Cherokee County and its cities is combined with public awareness and education for stormwater and water quality. These programs are evolving in all the jurisdictions and have so far proved successful in promoting public education activities that preserve all aspects of the environment.

### 7.3 Assess Adequacy of Environmental Education Initiatives

In general, there is a wide range of education programs available to the public in Cherokee County. Many are targeted toward preserving water resources through pollution prevention. These efforts are required necessary to meet requirements of the North Metro Water Planning District. In this

situation, the topics of waste reduction, recycling and littering may be secondary to the water quality focus.

## **7.4 Goals and Needs**

**Goal:** To ensure that all citizens of Cherokee County and its municipalities have access to information about waste reduction and solid waste management.

**Needs:**

- Continue to provide information promoting recycling, mulching, composting and other waste reduction programs.
- Provide resources for public education activities.
- Provide information to residents about services by way of handouts at public buildings and postings on the County's website.
- Expand avenues for education of the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.
- Ensure that residents and businesses understand how to comply with federal, state, and local solid waste management policies.

## **SECTION 8 : IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

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### **8.1 Summary of Needs and Goals**

**Waste Reduction Goal:** To maintain current per capita waste disposal rates over the planning period despite the increase in population.

**Waste Reduction Needs:**

- Encourage participation of existing recycling programs.
- Encourage source reduction through education.
- Evaluate opportunities to expand residential recycling programs.
- Evaluate ways to expand commercial recycling programs.
- Work with schools, local governments and other institutions to expand recycling opportunities.
- Work with businesses to expand commercial and industrial waste reduction opportunities.
- Focus education programs on priority recyclable materials such as corrugated cardboard, metals and glass.
- Promote citizen participation and education in backyard composting.
- Work with private haulers to track and keep better records of recycled materials picked up.

**Waste Collection Goal:** To provide consistent and efficient waste collection services to all residents.

**Waste Collection Needs:**

- Work with all private haulers to ensure steady and reliable collection.
- Continue to enforce litter control ordinances to address illegal dumping.
- Evaluate penalties for illegal dumping so that they are consistent to meet County and City(ies) goals.

**Disposal Goal:** To ensure that solid waste handling facilities have capacity to handle all solid waste generated in Cherokee County, do not negatively impact the natural environment or public health, and are consistent with the Plan.

**Disposal Needs:**

- Ensure space is available at existing landfills.
- Expand the existing landfills as needed to ensure sufficient capacity.
- Divert recyclables, when feasible, from the landfill to maximize landfill life.
- Monitor solid waste handling facilities located in the County to ensure they are operated in a manner that protects public health and the environment and are consistent with the Plan.
- Ensure that solid waste generated in Cherokee County is managed in Cherokee County.

- Ensure revenues fully recover the costs of an integrated solid waste management system.
- Adopt an Emergency Operations Plan, including a debris management plan.

**Land Limitation Goals:**

- To ensure that any new or expanded solid waste handling facilities are consistent with environmental requirements, local land use limitations and this Plan.
- To ensure that regulations, codes, and policies are consistent with the community's vision and desire for new solid waste facilities.

**Land Limitation Needs:**

- Ensure that proposed facilities or facility expansions comply with State and local environmental siting requirements.
- Ensure that all proposed solid waste handling facilities or facility expansions follow the procedure for approval established in this Plan.
- Ensure that the recommendations of this plan are consistent with each of the participating jurisdictions vision and Comprehensive Plans.
- Verify that the regulations, codes and procedures are clear and consistent without internal conflicts.

**Public Education and Involvement Goal:** To ensure that all citizens of Cherokee County and its municipalities have access to information about waste reduction and solid waste management.

**Public Education and Involvement Needs:**

- Continue to provide information promoting recycling, mulching, composting and other waste reduction programs.
- Provide resources for public education activities.
- Provide information to residents about services by way of handouts at public buildings and postings on the County's website.
- Expand avenues for education of the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.
- Ensure that residents and businesses understand how to comply with federal, state, and local solid waste management policies.

## **8.2 Implementation Strategy/Short Term Work Program**

The section identifies the specific task and/or activities, timeframe for implementation, responsible party, estimated costs and funding sources for the items identified in the report. The short term work program is defined as the first five years of the implementation strategy and is designed to ensure that the County moves forward with the goals identified in this plan. The short term work program will be submitted to the DCA every five years to demonstrate that the County has implemented the tasks outlined below.

**Table 8-1: Solid Waste Management Short Term Work Program**

Cherokee County															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Reduction</b>															
Require haulers to provide optional recycling.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	Board of Commissioners
Develop process for tracking recycle collection by private haulers.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	County Staff
Survey existing business to see what recycling programs they participate in or would like to have available to them.				X									Staff Time	Annual Budget	Cherokee Chamber of Commerce
Work with Cherokee Schools to establish quarterly waste reduction / recycling competitions.						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Annual Budget	Cherokee County School District
Encourage recycling and waste reduction on County-funded capital improvement projects.					X								Staff Time	Capital Fund	Board of Commissioners, County Staff
Expand the website for recycling options and programs available in the County.				X									Staff Time	General Fund	Community Services
Encourage participation in existing recycling programs through continued education and promotion	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Community Services
Continue to offer collection of recyclables at convenience centers and other sites for all County residents	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$150,500 per year	General Fund	Community Services
Evaluate recyclable drop-off locations, convenience centers and other sites, based on number, location, hours, traffic and cost to County to determine if they meet local needs. Adjust as needed.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Community Services
Bring One for the Chipper	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Parks & Recreation
Electronics Recycling Day			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Community Services



Cherokee County															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Collection</b>															
Revise existing solid waste ordinance to ensure consistency with other ordinances.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	County Staff
Continue residential collection through private haulers	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A	User Fees	Residents
Continue commercial and industrial collection through private haulers that contract directly with businesses.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A	User Fees	Commercial & Industrial Businesses
Set reporting requirements for haulers					X								Staff Time	General Fund	Board of Commissioners, County Staff
Adopt Debris Management Plan for disaster management to meet County's needs.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	Board of Commissioners, County Staff
Continue to enforce the Litter Ordinance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	County Marshall
Conduct regular cleanups in areas with litter and known locations for illegal dumping	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	County Staff
<b>Waste Disposal</b>															
Blalock Road Landfill – Post closure care	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$150,000 per year	General Fund	County Staff
Use of Private landfills for disposal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A	N/A	Private Sector
Ensure that space is available at landfills for waste generated in the County.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	County Staff
Collect host fees from Landfill Operators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	None	N/A	Finance Dept.

Cherokee County															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Land Limitations</b>															
Maintain County maps / GIS database with regard to environmental, land use, and zoning limitations for solid waste facilities within the County	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	GIS, Planning & Zoning
Enforce siting requirements for any new facility based on the consistency with the Solid Waste Management Plan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	County Staff
<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>															
Recognize and publicize businesses in the community that do a good job of recycling and reducing waste.				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Annual Budget	Cherokee Chamber of Commerce
Continue to inform residents and businesses of solid waste & recycling programs through educational materials	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Community Services
Continue to promote source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting in schools, on the website, at community events, and in other forums to increase participation in programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Community Services

City of Ball Ground															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Reduction</b>															
Develop and implement plan to mandate curbside recycle service from private haulers					X	X							\$350.00	Solid Waste Fund	City Manager
Organize special collection days for hazardous household materials, i.e. paint, chemicals etc.					X		X		X		X		Unknown	Solid Waste Fund	Customer Svc
Sponsor a computer disposal/recycling day in conjunction with a local computer company.				X		X		X		X		X	\$10,000	General Fund	City Manager
<b>Waste Collection</b>															
Evaluate and revise existing ordinances related to solid waste to ensure they meet current requirements				X					X				\$350.00	Solid Waste Fund	City Manager
Sponsor a Great American Clean Up Day				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Unknown	Solid Waste Fund	Parks and Recreation Committee
Periodically review city contract for trash and recycling pickup.				X			X			X			No Cost	N/A	City Manager
<b>Waste Disposal</b>															
<b>Land Limitations</b>															
<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>															
Add information about trash and recycling services to website				X									No Cost	N/A	City Clerk
Send out periodic information through water bills on solid waste topics, such as encouraging the use of the yard waste collection or composting information					X		X		X		X		\$100.00	Solid Waste Fund	Customer Svc

City of Canton															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Reduction</b>															
Continue to offer collection of recyclables at convenience centers for all City residents.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Water Department & Waste Management
Develop program to track collection of recyclables at convenience centers and from curbside collection. Make data available to general public.					X								Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Water Department & Waste Management
Evaluate curbside collection of recyclables by contract hauler. Investigate options to improve quantity and quality of materials collected.						X							Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Water Department & Waste Management
Electronics Recycling Day	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Water Department & Waste Management
Bring One for the Chipper	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Public Works
Consider recycling program for special events on City property, such as Taste of Canton, weekly Farmers' Market, etc.					X								Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Water Department & Waste Management
<b>Waste Collection</b>															
Continue current residential collection program.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Waste Management
Work with contracted hauler to ensure waste collection is efficient and consistent.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Waste Management
Periodically review city contract for curbside collection.				X			X			X			Staff Time	Sanitation Fund	Waste Management
Adopt Debris Management Plan for disaster management to meet City's needs.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	Public Works
Continue to enforce the Litter Ordinance.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Code Enforcement

City of Canton															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Disposal</b>															
<b>Land Limitations</b>															
<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>															
Write newsletter articles on solid waste topics, such as recycling, composting, and pollution.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	IT Department & Waste Management
Rivers Alive Cleanup	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	City Engineer & Etowah River Alliance
Improve solid waste and recycling information available through the City of Canton website.				X									Staff Time	General Fund	IT Department & Waste Management

City of Holly Springs															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Reduction</b>															
Encourage participation in existing recycling programs through continued education and promotion.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$7,000 Annually (Newsletter)	General Fund	City Manager
Develop process for tracking recycle collection by private haulers.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	Public Works Director
Consider adding a recycling drop-off center on West side of Holly Springs.						X							Staff Time	N/A	City Manager
Bring One for the Chipper	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$500.00	General Fund	Public Works Supervisor
Explore options for holding an electronics recycling day.						X							No Cost	N/A	City Manager
<b>Waste Collection</b>															
Continue residential collection through private haulers.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	No Cost	N/A	City Council
Continue to enforce the Litter Ordinance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Unknown	General Fund	Police Department and Inspections Division
Conduct regular cleanups in areas with litter and known locations for illegal dumping	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$100.00	General Fund	Public Works Director
<b>Waste Disposal</b>															
<b>Land Limitations</b>															
<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>															
Great American Cleanup	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$100.00	General Fund	Stormwater Coordinator

Rivers Alive Cleanup	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$50.00	General Fund	Stormwater Coordinator
Send out periodic information in newsletter on solid waste topics, such as recycling, yard waste or composting information			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$7,000 Annually (Newsletter)	General Fund	Stormwater Coordinator

City of Waleska															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Reduction</b>															
Survey existing business to see what recycling programs they participate in or would like to have available to them.					X	X							Staff Time	General Fund	City Staff
Work with Reinhardt College to enhance on-campus recycling programs, especially for special events.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	City Manager & Reinhardt College
Consider adding a recycling drop-off center at City Hall or in partnership with Reinhardt College.						X							Unknown	General Fund	City Council & Staff
<b>Waste Collection</b>															
Evaluate and revise existing ordinances related to solid waste to ensure they meet current requirements.				X									Staff Time	General Fund	City Manager & City Attorney
Continue residential collection through private haulers	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	No Cost	User Fees	City Residents
Continue commercial and industrial collection through private haulers that contract directly with businesses.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	No Cost	User Fees	City Businesses
<b>Waste Disposal</b>															
<b>Land Limitations</b>															
<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>															
Add information about trash and recycling services to website				X									Staff Time	General Fund	City Staff
Send out periodic information through water bills on solid waste topics, such as encouraging the use of the yard waste collection or composting information					X		X		X		X		Staff Time	General Fund	City Staff



City of Woodstock															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Reduction</b>															
Continue to offer curbside collection of recyclables for all City residents.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	No Cost	N/A	Contracted Hauler
Develop program to track collection of recyclables from curbside collection. Make data available to general public.					X								Staff Time	Stormwater Utility	Environmental Manager
Evaluate curbside collection of recyclables by contract hauler. Investigate options to improve quantity and quality of materials collected.					X								Staff Time	Stormwater Utility	Environmental Manager
Electronics Recycling Day	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Parks and Recreation
Bring One for the Chipper	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Stormwater Utility	Environmental Manager
Offer recycling at special events on City property, such as Concerts in the Park, 4 <sup>th</sup> of July, etc.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Contracted Hauler
<b>Waste Collection</b>															
Continue current residential collection program.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	No Cost	N/A	Contracted Hauler
Work with contracted hauler to ensure waste collection is efficient and consistent.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Public Works
Periodically review city contract for curbside collection.				X			X			X			Staff Time	General Fund	Public Works
Continue special collections for appliances and bulky items.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	No Cost	N/A	Contracted Hauler
Adopt Debris Management Plan for disaster management to meet City's needs.					X								Staff Time	General Fund	Public Works
Continue to enforce the Litter Ordinance.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Code Enforcement
Great American Cleanup			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Stormwater Utility	Environmental Manager

City of Woodstock															
Activity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources	Responsible Party
<b>Waste Disposal</b>															
<b>Land Limitations</b>															
<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>															
Write newsletter articles on solid waste topics, such as recycling, composting, and pollution.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Stormwater Utility	Environmental Manager
Rivers Alive Cleanup	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Stormwater Utility	Environmental Manager
Improve solid waste and recycling information available through the City of Woodstock website.				X									Staff Time	Stormwater Utility	Environmental Manager
Greenstock Day			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	General Fund	Parks and Recreation

### **8.3 Plan Updates and Amendments**

The County will review the implementation strategy on an annual basis to ensure the short term work program is on schedule. The implementation strategy and short term work program will be updated every few years as necessary to account for unforeseen needs and goals that were not identified in the initial Solid Waste Management Plan.

## **SECTION 9: APPENDIX**

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APPENDIX A: PUBLIC HEARING DOCUMENTS..... 1

APPENDIX B: REGIONAL WASTE COMPOSITION ..... 2

APPENDIX C: RECYCLING INFORMATION ..... 3

APPENDIX D: SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE..... 4

APPENDIX E: LANDFILL CAPACITY LETTERS..... 5

## **APPENDIX A: PUBLIC HEARING DOCUMENTS**

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- Initial Public Hearing Advertisement & Meeting Minutes
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Second Public Hearing Advertisement & Meeting Minutes
- Plan Submittal Resolution

# CHEROKEE TRIBUNE

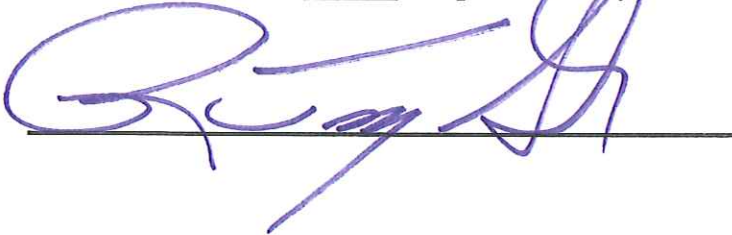
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## PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA – County of Cherokee

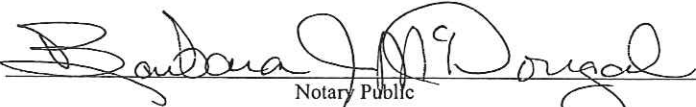
Before me, the undersigned; a Notary Public,  
this day personally came  
R. Terry Smith

\_\_\_\_\_,  
who, being duly sworn, according to law,  
says that he is the President  
of the CHEROKEE TRIBUNE, publishers of  
the CHEROKEE TRIBUNE, official  
newspaper published at Canton in said county  
and State, and that the publication, of which  
the annexed is a true copy, was published in  
said paper on the 26  
day(s) of Nov. 2008, and on the  
\_\_\_\_ day(s) of  
\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_, as provided by law.



Subscribed and sworn to before me this

28 day of Nov., 2008

  
Notary Public

My commission expires 20 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUG. 26, 2010

(SEAL)



### NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING CHEROKEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Cherokee County will hold a Joint Public Hearing to solicit public input on the Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan. This will serve as notice to the general public that Cherokee County is beginning the solid waste management planning process in accordance with the State of Georgia Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. The plan will include Cherokee County and the Cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, 2008 at 6 pm in the Board of Commissioners Chamber of the Cherokee County Administrative Complex and Conference Center, 1130 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, Georgia.

# MINUTES

## Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

**DECEMBER 2, 2008**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**6:00 P.M.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

**CHAIRMAN AHRENS**

Chairman Ahrens called the regular meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners to order at 6:10 p.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2008. Those in attendance were Commissioner Jim Hubbard; Vice Chair/Commissioner Karen Bosch; Commissioner Derek V. Good; County Manager Jerry Cooper; County Attorney Angie Davis; County Clerk Sheila R. Corbin; Agency Directors/Department Heads; the media and the public. (Commissioner Harry Johnston was absent)

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CHAIRMAN AHRENS**

### **PRESENTATION**

By Chairman Ahrens and Garry Moss, District Attorney, representing the Cherokee County Child Fatality Review Committee

Chairman Ahrens asked Ms. Ashley Snow, Assistant District Attorney, to come forward as Garry Moss was not able to attend. Ms Snow, who sits on the Cherokee Child Fatality Review Committee, first stated that this was an unusual occasion since most of the cases that the committee reviews are the result of a child fatality. However, in this case, the small boy was saved by two citizens who were instrumental in rescuing him from a storm drain and performing CPR on him until the EMTs' arrived. The small boy was Nathan Harston who was here with his mother, sister and grandmother; the person who jumped into the storm drain that Nathan fell in and brought him out is Steve Wheeler. The lady who performed CPR on Nathan is Jackie Dault. Ashley asked all of them to come forward where she and Chairman Ahrens presented awards to Mr. Wheeler and Mrs. Dault; with commendations to the 9 EMTs who were David Tilson, Michael Vaughn, Kevin Duncan, Cody Collett, Stephen Whitfield, Shannon Gibbs, Lance Tuten, Sarah Love and Greg Erdely.

### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

There were 3 amendments to the agenda, 1) Add Approval of Work Session Minutes for November 17, 2008; 2) Under the County Attorney – add Approval of settlement agreement and authorization for Chairman to sign for threatened litigation of former employee; 3) Under County Attorney – add Approval of settlement agreement and authorization for Chairman to sign for litigation regarding permitted uses at Children's Academy of Hickory Flat/James and Paulette Thomas. After reading the amendments, the Chairman asked for a motion. Vice Chair/Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the amendments were unanimously approved.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Frank J. Hill Outstanding Service Award* notification**

Chairman Ahrens asked Dr. Jackie McMorris to tell everyone about this award. Dr. McMorris began by saying that the award was for the CATS (Cherokee Area Transportation System) program and that the Cherokee County program had been awarded the highest score this year of the 6 entries received, by the evaluation team from GDOT. The **Frank J. Hill Outstanding Service Award** was awarded each year to the system whose project is ranked “the best of the best” among the entries from around the state; and this year Cherokee County’s CATS program and Dr. McMorris had been chosen. Dr. McMorris said that there would be an actual award made at the GTA conference in Athens later in the week and she would be happy to bring it to the next meeting.

### **Adopt a Senior Program**

Chairman Ahrens said that he just wanted to remind everyone of the “Adopt a Senior” program on behalf of Senior Services for the holidays; saying that some information is available on the county web site and directed anyone to call 770-704-2320 for further information.

### **Holiday Electrical Safety Recommendations**

Chairman Ahrens said that he was not going to read the complete list that is also available on the county web site, but that he did want to remind all of the hazards of the holiday lights and decorations.

## **APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 17, 2008 – AMENDMENT**

Chairman Ahrens asked for a motion, Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve; Vice Chair/Commissioner Bosch seconded and the Minutes for November 17, 2008 Work Session were approved 4-0.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SPECIAL CALLED MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING ON NOVEMBER 17**

Vice Chair/Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Commissioner Good seconded and the Minutes for November 17, 2008 were approved 4-0.

## **AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 18 REGULAR MEETING**

Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve; Vice Chair/Commissioner Bosch seconded and the Minutes for November 18, 2008 were approved 4-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.



## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 1) To solicit public input on the Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan

Chairman Ahrens asked Mr. Geoff Morton, County Engineer, to come up, before Mr. Morton could begin, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.; Commissioner Good seconded and the motion to open was approved 4-0.

Mr. Morton explained that this was to announce the kickoff of the development of a Solid Waste Management Plan in accordance with the State of Georgia Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management per the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The staff will be working with the cities to develop a joint plan to be submitted. After Mr. Morton finished, the Chairman called Mr. Ben Key who was the only person to sign up to speak during the public hearing. Mr. Key said that he was a representative of property owners of the former Leo Taylor Estate located at Sharp Mountain Creek on Highway 5, and he had been approached by a company called "Waste Not Technologies" who had spoken to him about the many ways to re-use recycled materials. Commissioner Bosch asked Mr. Morton if there would be a time and place for companies such as this to present their plans. Mr. Morton answered yes. Chairman Ahrens said there were no other speakers, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:28 p.m.; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion to close was approved 4-0. Mr. Morton said that there was no action to be taken tonight.

- 2) Consideration of the abandonment of a portion of Eagle Drive and the determination that said road has ceased to be used by the public

Commissioner Good made the motion to open the public hearing at 6:29 p.m.; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the motion to open was approved 4-0. Mr. Morton said that this was to abandon 2 slivers of right-of-way on Eagle Drive at Atherton Drive at the entrance to Sturbridge subdivision and the HOA and adjacent property owners had requested that these be abandoned in order to locate the subdivision entrance sign there. Chairman Ahrens said there was no one signed up to speak, so Commissioner Good made the motion to close the public hearing at 6:30 p.m.; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the motion to close was approved 4-0.

Commissioner Good said as this was in his post, he would make a motion to approve the request; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion to approve the request was approved 4-0.

- 3) Consideration of the abandonment of a portion of Rachel Drive and the determination that said road has ceased to be used by the public

Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to open the public hearing on this item at 6:30:30 p.m.; Commissioner Good seconded and the motion to open was approved 4-0. Mr. Morton said that his office had received a request from the 2 adjacent property owners on Rachel Drive, which runs off of Hembridge Hills Road,

off Canton Highway, for the unimproved section of roadway, also saying that this is in Commissioner Bosch' post.

Chairman Ahrens called the only person who had signed up to speak, Mr. Dave Ferris. Mr. Ferris said that he was representing the property owners and just wanted to let the Board know that this section had been landlocked for years and if the request was granted, then the property owners stood a better chance of having the property developed as retail. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:34 p.m.; Commissioner Good seconded and the motion to close was approved 4-0.

Commissioner Bosch said that she would make a motion to approve the request: Commissioner Good seconded and the request was approved 4-0.

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## **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

### **CHAIRMAN**

**L. B. AHRENS**

#### *Consideration and approval of 2009 Commission meeting dates*

Chairman Ahrens said that the Clerk had sent the dates via e-mail to all and he had not seen any cause for changes. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve the 2009 meeting dates; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the 2009 meeting dates were approved 4-0.

### **COMMISSION POST 1**

**HARRY B. JOHNSTON**

### **COMMISSION POST 2**

**JIM HUBBARD**

### **VICE CHAIR/COMMISSION POST 3**

**KAREN BOSCH**

### **COMMISSION POST 4**

**DEREK V. GOOD**

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## **COUNTY MANAGER**

1. Consider extension of closing of the sale of former County administration building and amendments with Cherokee Landmarks (Doug Flint) – contingent upon approval of extension agreement by County Attorney

Mr. Cooper explained that because of the downturn in the economy, Cherokee Landmarks had not been successful in obtaining financing to purchase the administration building and requested an extension until Fall of 2009 along with the following amendments: 1. Allow Colonnade Realty, LLC to manage the property at no cost to the county; 2. Rental incomes received during the extension period to be dedicated to the a) apply to utilities, insurance and maintenance of property, and b) residual incomes would be used to make improvements to the property.

The purchase price would remain at \$2.7 million. Mr. Cooper also said that Mr. Flint was here tonight if there were any questions.

Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve; Commissioner Good seconded and the motion was approved by 4-0.

2. Consider agreement with RMA for methane mediation for Blalock Landfill

Mr. Cooper said that he had not received the agreement from RMA and asked for a postponement until December 16. Commissioner Bosch made the motion to postpone until December 16; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

3. Consideration and adoption of the CDBG 5-year Consolidated & Action Plans

Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to accept the 2009 Action Plan and 5 Year Comp Plan to be submitted to HUD and approve the posting of personnel contingent on HUD's approval of plans; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion received a 4-0 approval.

4. Request acceptance of proposed sites and as approved by USACE in conjunction with Riverside Athletic Complex at J.J. Biello Park, Cherokee Mills Park and Hickory Trails Park for consideration for mitigation and contingent upon approval of Special Services Agreement to be presented in the near future by the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Cooper said that he would begin talks with Wetland Ecological Associates next week to begin the process of getting an agreement for the restoration projects assembled in time for the December 16 meeting.

Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve; Commissioner Good seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

5. Approval of agreement regarding exchange of right-of-way areas between Cherokee County and Thomas Gary Standridge for Roberts Road

Mr. Cooper said that this would finally get this issue closed out. Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve; Commissioner Good seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

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**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

6. Recommend that Triple B Shell at 2852 Cumming Hwy. be placed on twelve (12) month probation for violation of alcoholic beverage ordinance by selling alcoholic beverage to a person under the age of twenty-one (21). Any violation during this probation period will result in their alcoholic beverage license being suspended or revoked. All employees must attend an alcoholic beverage training class. (Postponed from November 18)

Ms. Davis asked Chief Marshal Ray Waters to come forward, as well as any representative from Triple B. Shell, who was present. The owner was there and answered a few questions from the Board about new procedures had been implemented since the incident.

Commissioner Good made a motion to follow the recommendation of the Marshal's Office; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

**AMENDMENT** - Consideration and approval of settlement agreement for threatened litigation filed by former employee, Howard Currie and authorization to allow Chairman to execute.

Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

**AMENDMENT** - Consideration and approval of settlement agreement and authorize Chairman to execute documents for litigation stemming from violation of permitted uses in the case of James and Paulette Thomas/Childrens' Academy of Hickory Flat

Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion was approved 3-1 with Commissioner Good voting nay.



## **ADJOURN**

Chairman Ahrens asked if there was any other business and if not, I will ask for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bosch made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:59 p.m.; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the motion to adjourn was approved 4-0.

---

These Minutes were approved at the regular meeting on December 16, 2008.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
FOR THE  
2007-2018 CHEROKEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
  
BETWEEN  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA  
AND  
THE CITIES OF BALL GROUND, CANTON, HOLLY SPRINGS,  
WALESKA, AND WOODSTOCK, GEORGIA**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made and entered into this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2009, by and between Cherokee County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia ("County"), the City of Ball Ground, Georgia, a municipal corporation ("Ball Ground"), the City of Canton, Georgia, a municipal corporation ("Canton"), the City of Holly Springs, Georgia, a municipal corporation ("Holly Springs"), the City of Waleska, Georgia, a municipal corporation ("Waleska"), and the City of Woodstock, Georgia, a municipal corporation ("Woodstock") (collectively, the "Parties").

**WITNESSETH**

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined by the Parties that it is necessary to reduce the amount of waste land filled in Cherokee County and elsewhere as well as to improve solid waste handling capacity and capability; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties are committed to reducing the amount of solid waste generated within their jurisdictions in an environmentally safe and cost effective manner by reusing, recycling and composting; and

**WHEREAS**, The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires county and municipal governments to prepare a local solid waste management plan and periodic update for review and approval by the Atlanta Regional Commission and the State of Georgia, Department of Community Affairs ; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties believe it is their mutual best interests to plan and coordinate solid waste management; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Cherokee County, and the cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock, Georgia to develop a joint 2007-2018 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update under the leadership of Cherokee County to fulfill each jurisdiction's responsibility under the Act.

(Signature pages follow)

SO RESOLVED THIS 6<sup>th</sup> DAY OF October, 2009

CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA

By:   
L.B. Ahrens, Chairman  
Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

[Seal]

Attest:

  
Sheila R. Corbin, County Clerk

Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 8<sup>th</sup> day  
of October, 2009

CITY OF BALL GROUND, GEORGIA

By: *A.R. Roberts*  
A.R. (Rick) Roberts, III, Mayor

[Seal]

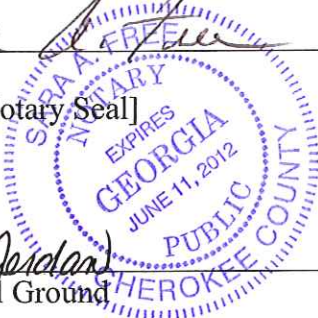
Witness

*[Signature]*  
Notary Public

[Notary Seal]

Attest:

*Laren L. Jordan*  
Clerk, City of Ball Ground



Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 22 day  
of October, 2009

CITY OF CANTON, GEORGIA

By: Gene Hobgood  
Gene Hobgood, Mayor

Witness

Shirley M. Fowler  
Notary Public

[Notary Seal]



Attest:

Diana Shrewitt  
Clerk, City of Canton

Approved as to form and content:

W G Hasty Jr

William G. Hasty, Jr.  
City Attorney



Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 5 day  
of Oct., 2009

CITY OF HOLLY SPRINGS, GEORGIA

By: Timothy B. Downing  
Timothy Downing, Mayor

[Seal]



Karen Norred  
Notary Public

[Notary Seal]

Attest:

Karen Norred  
Clerk, City of Holly Springs

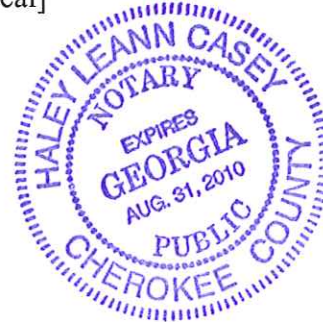
Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 4 day  
of November, 2009

CITY OF WALESKA, GEORGIA

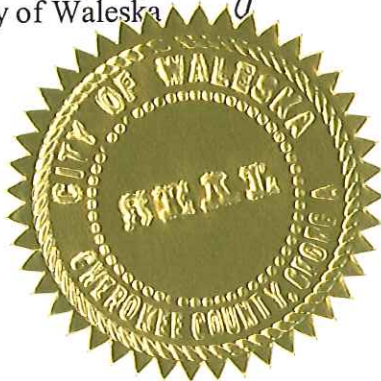
By: Doris Ann Jones  
Doris Ann Jones, Mayor

[Seal]

Witness  
Haley Leann Casey  
Notary Public  
[Notary Seal]



Attest:  
Debra McEntyre  
Clerk, City of Waleska



Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 13 day  
of October, 2009

CITY OF WOODSTOCK, GEORGIA


By:   
Donnie Henriques, Mayor

[Seal]

Witness

  
Notary Public

Attest:

  
Clerk, City of Woodstock



# CHEROKEE TRIBUNE

521 East Main Street • Canton, Georgia 30114

## PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA – County of Cherokee

Before me, the undersigned; a Notary Public,  
this day personally came

Otis Brumby, III,

who, being duly sworn, according to law,  
says that he is the General Manager  
of the CHEROKEE TRIBUNE, publishers of  
the CHEROKEE TRIBUNE, official  
newspaper published at Canton in said county  
and State, and that the publication, of which  
the annexed is a true copy, was published in  
said paper on the 18, 25

day(s) of September 2009, and on the  
2 day(s) of

October 2009, as provided by law.



Subscribed and sworn to before me this

2 day of October, 2009



Notary Public

My commission expires 20

(SEAL)



M-1528  
NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING  
Cherokee County  
Solid Waste Management Plan  
Cherokee County Board of Commissioners will hold a Joint Public Hearing to solicit public input on the Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 6 pm in Cherokee Hall of the Cherokee County Administrative Complex and Conference Center, 1130 Bluffs Parkway, Canton, Georgia. This will serve as notice to the general public that Cherokee County is completing the solid waste management planning process in accordance with the State of Georgia Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. The plan includes Cherokee County and the Cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock. The Plan is available for review at the Engineering Department at the Cherokee County Administrative Complex during normal business hours.  
9:18,25,10:2

# MINUTES

## Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

OCTOBER 6, 2009

REGULAR MEETING

CHEROKEE HALL 6:00 P.M.

### CALL TO ORDER

### CHAIRMAN AHRENS

Chairman Ahrens called the regular meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners to order at 6:11 p.m. on Tuesday, October 6, 2009. Those in attendance were Commissioner Harry B. Johnston; Commissioner Jim Hubbard; Commissioner Karen Bosch; Vice Chair/Commissioner Derek V. Good; County Manager Jerry Cooper; County Attorney Angie Davis; County Clerk Sheila R. Corbin; Agency Directors/Department Heads; the media and the public.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### CHAIRMAN AHRENS

*"Veterans of U.S. military service may proudly salute the flag while not in uniform based on a change in the governing law on 25 July 2007"*

### PRESENTATION

Chief Raymond Gunnin, of Cherokee County Fire and Emergency Services, turned the microphone over to Team Captain John Carroll who presented a short video showing some of the different segments of the "Fit to Fight" competition and led the audience in congratulating the firefighters who re-captured the first place award in the Statewide and Nationwide competition called "Fit to Fight" which was held on September 12 in Marietta, Georgia.

### AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

There were 6 amendments: (1) Under the Chairman's portion – add Authorization to sign FEMA resolution; (2) Under the Chairman's portion – add brief update on the finally successful vote of the Airport Authority to award the FBO (Fixed Base Operator) lease for the airport; (3) From Executive Session – under the County Manager's portion – add approval to purchase 5.02 acres on Sixes Road near Blankets' Creek Park from Parks Bond; (4) From Executive Session – under the County Manager's portion – add approval to purchase 39+ acres on Highway 92 from Parks Bond; (5) From Executive Session – under the County Manager's portion – add approval to purchase 150+ acres on Highway 20 from Parks Bond; (6) Under Announcement – add Commissioner Johnston announcing Town Hall Meeting.

After the Chairman read the Amendments, he asked for a motion. Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve the amendments; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the result was for unanimous approval.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Waste Management and Cherokee County are co-sponsoring an ***"Electronics Recycling Day"*** on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the parking area at the Cherokee County Administration Building/Northside-Cherokee Hospital Conference Center located at 1130 Bluffs Parkway-Call (770) 592-3520 for more information. **Commissioner Hubbard**

**AMENDMENT** – Commissioner Harry Johnston announced that he would be holding a Town Hall meeting here in one of the Conference Center's smaller rooms on Tuesday, October 13th beginning at 7 p.m.; all are invited to attend.

#### **APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2009**

When Chairman Ahrens asked for a motion to approve the Work Session Minutes as submitted by the Clerk, Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the result was unanimous approval.

#### **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2009**

When Chairman Ahrens asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted by the Clerk, Commissioner Bosch made the motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the result was for unanimous approval.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tom Gazaway regarding the work to be done on the culvert on Kellogg Creek Road. Roy Taylor announcing a "Save Energy, Save Money" Summit to be held on October 23 from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. here in the conference center.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- (1) Joint public hearing with the cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock to solicit public input on the 2007-2018 Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan – Geoff Morton

Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to open the first public hearing at 6:31 p.m.; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion received unanimous approval. Geoff Morton and Margaret Stallings briefly described the process which had taken several months; Mr. Morton explained that during the County Manager's portion of the agenda, the board would vote on a Memorandum of Understanding with the cities and a Resolution to Transmit the joint plan to the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Morton also stated that the cities, of which there were representatives present, had scheduled the MOU and Resolution on their council meetings in the next two weeks for approval. No speakers had signed up. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:43 p.m.; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion received unanimous approval to close. Further action will be taken during County Manager's portion.

- (2) To consider revisions to **Article 7 – District Uses and Regulations**, specifically concerning **7.4-1.1 Single Family Residential (RD-3)** of the Cherokee County Zoning Ordinance – Jeff Watkins

Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to open the public hearing at 6:44 p.m.; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and the motion received unanimous approval. Jeff Watkins and Margaret Stallings gave a brief presentation on the changes made to the RD-3 classification, stating that the changes had been in the works for some two years at least; and they were being made to strengthen the requirements and compliance with them.

Tom Ware was the only speaker and he asked what mechanisms are in place to enforce these changes when a developer/builder comes back for a variance to this newly revised ordinance. After Mr. Ware spoke, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and there was unanimous approval to close.

Vice Chair/Commissioner Good said that these amendments had been a long time coming and he would make the motion to approve the amendments as proposed; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the vote was for unanimous approval.

---

### **REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

Request to set a public hearing to consider a petition from Bryon Kizer for modification to a condition of zoning in Case Number 02-09-029 (Eric Ratner) Hearing date requested is November 3 – Vicki Taylor Lee, Zoning Administrator

Vice Chair/Commissioner Good made a motion to approve the advertisement for a public hearing for November 3; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.

---

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Consideration of amendments to Article 15-Zoning Board of Appeals in Zoning Ordinance-postponed from September 15-most recent version is on the web site – Vicki Taylor Lee

Commissioner Bosch said that she was satisfied that all the changes requested had been made and she wanted to make a motion to approve the amendments as proposed; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the vote was for unanimous approval.

---

### **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

#### **CHAIRMAN**

#### **L. B. AHRENS**

##### *(1) Update Flood recovery*

Chairman Ahrens gave the most recent figures released on damages incurred and the hours that the Disaster Recovery Center at the South Annex would be open.

##### *(1a) Authorization to sign FEMA resolution – AMENDMENT*

Chairman Ahrens said this had been brought to his attention in order to receive assistance from FEMA. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve; Commissioner Bosch seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- (2) *Visit by Taipei Economic and Culture Office, hosted by Representatives Byrd and Hill*

The Chairman said that this visit, on Friday, October 2, had gone very well and that he and others from the community had spent several hours with the delegation giving the benefits of businesses locating to Cherokee County.

- (3) *ARC Citizen Representative: on 31 Dec, Dennis Burnette will complete the unfilled portion [two-year] of Gene Hobgood's tenure prior to becoming Mayor of Canton. Terms for Citizen Representatives are four years. Discuss process.*

Chairman Ahrens asked the board to consider the re-appointment of Mr. Dennis Burnette after consultation with the cities, he would bring this back on November 3.

*Update on Airport Authority status of FBO lease agreement – AMENDMENT*

The Chairman said that he just wanted to let everyone know that the Airport Authority had voted, last night, to extend the lease for the current FBO (Fixed Base Operator), S&S Aviation until at least 2035.

<b><u>COMMISSION POST 1</u></b>	<b><u>HARRY B. JOHNSTON</u></b>
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<b><u>COMMISSION POST 2</u></b>	<b><u>JIM HUBBARD</u></b>
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<b><u>COMMISSION POST 3</u></b>	<b><u>KAREN BOSCH</u></b>
---------------------------------	---------------------------

<b><u>VICE CHAIR/COMMISSION POST 4</u></b>	<b><u>DEREK V. GOOD</u></b>
--	-----------------------------

*Remove the name of Catherine Holman from consideration of appointment to the DFACS Board and insert the name of Donna Ratliff, who is a Counselor at Chapman IS, per the Superintendent's request*

Vice Chair/Commissioner Good said that after speaking with Catherine Holman, he would make a motion to remove her name from consideration and replace with the name of Donna Ratliff; seconded by Commissioners Bosch and Hubbard and unanimously approved.

---

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Reimbursement of mileage expense to Commissioner Karen Bosch for the period of July 10, 2009 to September 2, 2009 for \$146.30
2. Acceptance and approval of grant received of Hazard Mitigation Grant from Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Georgia Office of Homeland Security for \$55,000; and approval of budget amendment/transfer for Cherokee Sheriff's Office of Homeland Security-Emergency Management to make these funds available for use



3. Consider approval for reimbursement to Amicalola EMC in the amount of \$14,940 for relocation of utility poles in conflict with the Howell Bridge Road Bridge Replacement project
4. Consider approval of a request from the Georgia DOT for Cherokee County to quit claim any interest in the right-of-way purchased for the construction of the SR92 widening project, from I-75 to Wade Green Road
5. Approval of purchase of John Deere TS Gator utility vehicle for Parks Operations through the Bond program for \$7,134
6. Approval of purchase of John Deere 1200A infield rake for Parks Operations through the Bond program for \$10,961
7. Approval of purchase of Toro Z597-D Z Master Mower 72" Zero Turn Mower for Parks Operations through Bond program for \$14,104.19
8. Approval of purchase of Toro HD Pro Workman pro utility vehicle for Parks Operations through Bond program for \$15,453.19
9. Property Management requests approval to surplus 28 copiers currently located in the basement of the old Administration Building at 130 East Main Street
10. Consider acceptance of a grant award of \$79,260 in federal funds for the Sheriff's Office H.E.A.T. (Traffic Unit); consider acceptance of a grant award of \$31,650 in federal funds for the DUI Court Program
11. Consider approval to purchase equipment in the amount of \$36,748.39 for Fleet Services for use in servicing of CATS transit vehicles using ARRA 5307 funds
12. Approval to award bid for emergency generator to low bidder Power and Energy Services in the amount of \$47,990.70 for Tax Commissioner's main offices at 2780 Marietta Hwy.

After Mr. Cooper read the items on the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Bosch made the motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the Consent Agenda received unanimous approval.

---

### **COUNTY MANAGER**

13. Request approval of Resolution to Transmit Draft Solid Waste Management Plan to ARC and DCA and request approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the cities to submit the joint plan

Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

14. Consider approval of a proposal from Lewallen Construction, Inc. for construction of a replacement pipe culvert on Kellogg Creek Road at Owl Creek in the amount of \$233,817

Commissioner Bosch made the motion to approve; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.

15. Consideration of bid award to CRS Building Corporation for construction of Fire Station 6 located in the Clayton community in the amount of \$1,410,332.

Commissioner Johnston made the motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and there was unanimous approval.

**AMENDMENT** From Executive Session – Approval to purchase 5.02 acres (Babb Property) on Sixes Road near Blankets Creek Park from Park Bond

Commissioner Bosch made the motion to approve; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.

**AMENDMENT** From Executive Session – Approval to purchase 39+ acres (Dunn Property) on Highway 92 from Park Bond

Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and there was unanimous approval.

**AMENDMENT** From Executive Session – Approval to purchase 150+ acres (Funk Property) on Highway 20 from Park Bond

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

---

#### **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

16. Request approval and acceptance of a Quit Claim Deed from Southern Value Homes. Inc. for 14.32 acres of open space associated with Ridge View Estates subdivision and approval with authorization for the Chairman to sign an Easement Agreement between the County and Ridge View Estates Homeowners Association, Inc.

Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

17. Request approval of a Resolution, Declaration of Taking and Order of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners to condemn the 0.98 acre parcel of property located at 101 Port Victoria Way

Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

---

## **ADJOURN**

Chairman asked if there was any other business, hearing none, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:45 p.m.; Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion to adjourn received unanimous approval.

---

These Minutes were approved at the regular meeting on October 20, 2009.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-R- Q37**

**Resolution to Transmit  
2007-2018 Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan**

**Joint Plan Between  
Cherokee County and the Cities of Ball Ground, Canton,  
Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock, Georgia**

**WHEREAS**, The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act requires county and municipal governments to prepare a local solid waste management plan and periodic update for review and approval by the Atlanta Regional Commission and the State of Georgia, Department of Community Affairs ; and

**WHEREAS**, Cherokee County and the cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock, Georgia are committed to reducing the amount of solid waste generated within their jurisdictions in an environmentally safe and cost effective manner by reusing, recycling and composting; and

**WHEREAS**, Cherokee County and the cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock, Georgia have prepared the 2007 – 2018 Solid Waste Management Plan for Cherokee County; and

**WHEREAS**, Cherokee County and the cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock, Georgia certify that the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements, as identified in the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management (Chapter 110-4-3), have been met or exceeded in preparing the 2007 – 2018 Solid Waste Management Plan for Cherokee County; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Cherokee County and the cities of Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska and Woodstock that the document entitled 2007 – 2018 Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan may be submitted to the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review and approval.

**SO RESOLVED THIS** 6<sup>th</sup> **DAY OF** Oct., 2009.

CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA

By: 

L.B. Ahrens, Chairman  
Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

[Seal]

Attest: 

Sheila R. Corbin, County Clerk

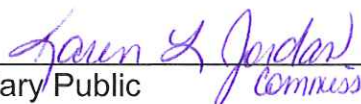
Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 17<sup>th</sup> day  
of September, 2009

CITY OF BALL GROUND, GEORGIA

By:   
A.R. (Rick) Roberts, III, Mayor

[Seal]

Witness

  
Notary Public Commission Expires 11/3/09  
[Notary Seal]

Attest:

  
Clerk, City of Ball Ground

Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 22 day  
of October, 2009

CITY OF CANTON, GEORGIA

By: Gene Hobgood  
Gene Hobgood, Mayor

Witness

Shirley M. Fowler  
Notary Public

[Notary Seal]



Attest:

Diana Threewitt  
Clerk, City of Canton

Approved as to form and content:

William G. Hasty, Jr.  
William G. Hasty, Jr.  
City Attorney

Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 5 day  
of Oct., 2009

CITY OF HOLLY SPRINGS, GEORGIA

By: Timothy B. Downing  
Timothy Downing, Mayor

[Seal]



Karen Norred  
Notary Public

[Notary Seal]

Attest:

Karen Norred  
Clerk, City of Holly Springs



Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 4 day  
of November, 2009

CITY OF WALESKA, GEORGIA

By: Doris Ann Jones  
Doris Ann Jones, Mayor

[Seal]



Witness  
Haley Leann Casey  
Notary Public  
[Notary Seal]


Attest:

Debbie McEntyre  
Clerk, City of Waleska





Sworn to and subscribed  
Before me and this 26<sup>th</sup> day  
of October, 2009

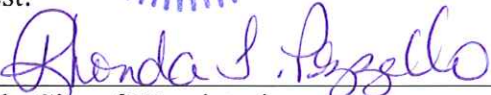
CITY OF WOODSTOCK, GEORGIA  
By:   
Donnie Henriques, Mayor

[Seal]

Witness

  
Notary Public   
[Notary Seal]

Attest:

  
Clerk, City of Woodstock

## APPENDIX B: REGIONAL WASTE COMPOSITION

**Table C-1: Atlanta Regional Commission Waste Composition**

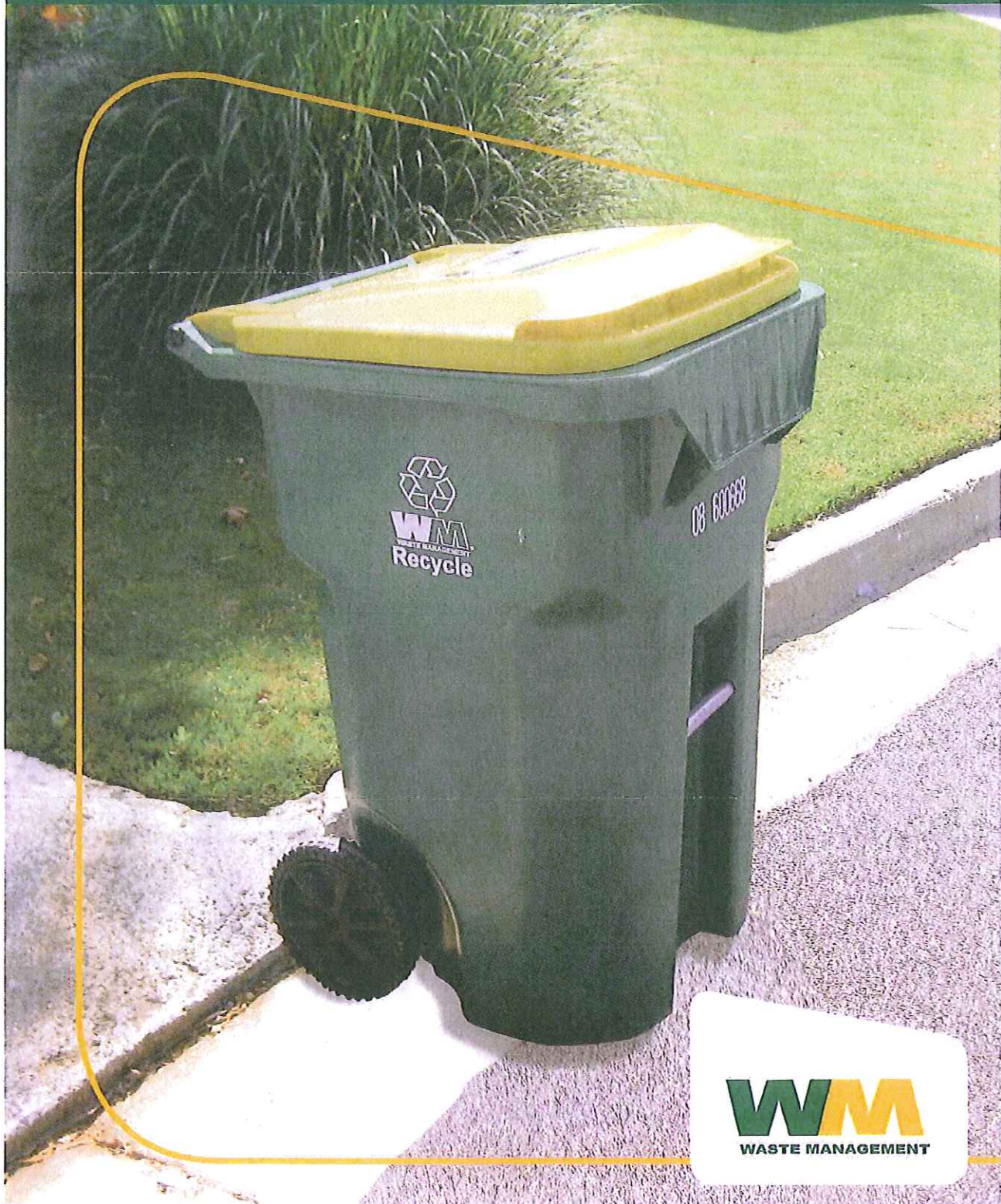
<b>Paper – 40%</b>	
Newspaper	4.9%
Corrugated Cardboard	11.3%
Office Paper	3.5%
Magazine/Glossy	2.8%
Paperboard	3.5%
Mixed Paper (Other recyclables)	3.4%
Other Paper (Non-Recyclables)	10.6%
<b>Plastic – 15.8%</b>	
#1 PET Bottles (Polyethylene Terephthalate)	1.3%
#2 HDPE Bottles (High Density Polyethylene)	1.1%
#3-#7 Plastic Bottles	0.2%
Expanded Polystyrene (EPS)	1.4%
Film Plastic	7.5%
Other Rigid Plastic	4.3%
<b>Glass – 3.8%</b>	
Clear Glass	1.8%
Green Glass	0.5%
Amber Glass	1.2%
Other Glass	0.3%
<b>Metal – 5.6%</b>	
Steel Cans	1.3%
Aluminum Cans	0.6%
Other Ferrous	3.0%
Other Non-Ferrous	0.6%
<b>Organics – 26.2%</b>	
Yard Waste	2.4%
Wood (Non-C&D)	1.8%
Food Waste	12.3%
Textiles	3.7%
Diapers	2.3%
Fines (Organic)	2.7%
Other Organics	0.8%
<b>C&amp;D – 5.5%</b>	
Drywall	0.5%
Wood (C&D)	2.2%
Inerts	0.2%
Carpet	1.8%
Other (C&D)	0.8%
<b>Inorganics – 3.2%</b>	
Televisions	0.0%
Computers	0.1%
Other Electronics	1.7%
Tires	0.3%
HHW (Household Hazardous Waste)	0.5%
Other Inorganics	0.6%

Source: "Georgia Statewide Waste Characterization Study," June 22, 2005, Appendix A – Atlanta Regional Commission Composition

## **APPENDIX C: RECYCLING INFORMATION**

---

# Introducing New 65 Gallon Recycle Cart



**WM**  
WASTE MANAGEMENT

stock #753300



Thank you for recycling! Gracias por reciclar

# Mix all recyclables here

## Revuelva todos los reciclables aqui



### Paper Papel

- Newspaper  
Periódicos
- Cardboard  
Cartón (aplastar todas las cajas)
- Junk mail & other paper products  
(anything that tears)  
Correspondencia variada
- Paperback & phone books  
Directorios y cobertura blanda
- Frozen food packages  
Empaques de comida congelada
- Magazines  
Revistas

- Cartonboard  
such as cereal boxes & shoe boxes  
(flatten all boxes, remove plastic bags)  
Cartón como cajas de cereal y zapatos (aplastar todas las cajas y remover bolsas de plástico)
- Paper grocery bags  
Bolsas de papel

**Do not include:**  
No incluya:

- No food contaminated paper  
No papel contaminado de comida
- No hardcover books  
No libros de cobertura dura
- No photos  
No fotografías
- No tissue paper, hand towels, or toilet paper  
No pañuelos, toallas de papel o papel de baño



### Cans Latas

- Aluminum cans  
Latas de aluminio
- Tin, steel, bi-metal cans  
Latas de aluminio, metal, y derivados de metal
- Lids from jars  
Tapaderas de envases



### Plastics Plástico

- All containers  
Todo tipo de envases
- Recycle codes  
1 thru 7  
(typically marked on the bottom of container)  
Reciclar los códigos de 1 a 7 (usualmente son marcados en la parte inferior de los envases)

**Do not include:**  
No incluya:

- No plastic bags  
No bolsas de plástico
- No styrofoam  
No empaques de espuma



### Glass Vidrio

- Food containers  
Envases de comida
- Beverage containers  
Envases de bebidas

**Do not include:**  
No incluya:

- No window glass or mirrors  
No vidrios de ventanas o espejos
- No ceramics  
No cerámicos
- No light bulbs  
No focos de luz

**Important:**  
**Importante:**

- Empty containers only  
Solamente envases vacíos
- Rinse all food & beverage containers  
Vaciar todos los envases de comidas y bebidas
- Flatten or cut cardboard boxes  
Aplastar o cortar cajas de cartón
- All recyclables must be placed in the cart, bin, or stacked neatly to side  
Todos los reciclables deben ser depositados en el contenedor y acomodados a un lado
- Set out your cart at least 2 feet away from other carts or objects  
Coloque su contenedor a 2 pies de distancia de los otros contenedores u otros objetos



404-794-6707

Lot Number

**No hazardous materials** including automotive fluids, garden chemicals, paint products, cleaners and fluorescent lamps. Ningun material peligroso/contaminante incluyendo líquidos de automóviles, químicos de jardín, productos de pintura, líquidos de limpieza y lámparas de focos fluorescentes.

From everyday collection to environmental protection. Desde la recolección diaria a la protección del medio ambiente

Think green think "Waste Management" Pense verde piense "Waste Management"

This cart is partially made from your recycled plastic milk containers

Este contenedor es parcialmente hecho del envase de leche reciclable.



**ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY SATURDAY MAY 2, 2009**  
**9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at City Hall**  
**151 ELIZABETH STREET, CANTON, GEORGIA**

**Items Accepted at No Charge**

Personal Computers  
Floppy/Disk Drives  
CD-Roms  
Circuit Boards  
PC Power Supplies  
Keyboards  
Mouse/Mice  
PC Monitors

Laptops  
Printers  
Fax Machines  
Copiers  
Stereos/VCR/CD-Players  
Typewriters  
Test Equipment  
Networking Equipment

Modems  
UPS Batteries  
Cell Phones  
Phones  
Scanners  
Microwaves  
Wire/Cabling

**Chargeable Items**  
**Televisions (\$10.00)**

**Items Not Accepted**

Console/Projection Televisions  
Washer/Dryers  
Vacuum Cleanser  
Humidifiers  
Refrigerators  
Washers

Car Batteries  
Toaster Ovens  
De-Humidifiers  
Gas Powered Tools  
Tires  
Battery Powered Tools

Dryers  
Freezers  
Blenders  
Household Trash  
Mixers  
Ovens

Please remain in your car and let our volunteers take all equipment from your vehicle. Also, please remove equipment from boxes, and cables from each device. All cables may be placed in a bag for drop off that day. Atlanta Recycling Solutions, the City of Canton and Waste Management make this event possible. Call 770-592-3520 for more information. We will also be collecting cell phones and ink cartridges for the Canton Police Explorers.



**ATLANTA RECYCLING SOLUTIONS**

*Closing the loop on e-waste*





SP Recycling Corp.

1131 Atlanta Industrial Drive

Marietta, GA 30066

(770) 424-6397

**WHAT CAN BE PLACED LOOSE IN YOUR *RED & GREEN* RECYCLING BIN :**



**NEWSPAPER**



**Magazines**



**Catalogs**



**Telephone books**



**Office paper**



**Junk mail**



**File folders**



**Index cards**



**Colored paper**



**Plain & Window Envelopes**

**STAPLES & PAPERCLIPS DO NOT HAVE TO BE REMOVED**

**WHAT *CANNOT* BE RECYCLED IN YOUR PAPER RECYCLING BIN :**

**NO LAMINATED OR WAX COATED PAPER**

**NO PAPER WITH CRAYON OR GLUE ON IT000000**

**NO CARDBOARD, POSTER BOARD, CEREAL BOXES, OR BROWN PAPER BAGS**

**NO CONSTRUCTION PAPER OR BROWN ENVELOPES**

# GLASS IS BACK!

**The City of Woodstock is committed to preserving our environment and our natural resources.**

**Starting NOW, glass bottles will be collected at the curbside with the rest of the recyclables on your service day.**

**You can place your glass bottles in the same recycling bin with the rest of the expanded menu of recyclables.**

**If you have any questions, please contact the City at 678 4950058**

**You can feel good about keeping your environment and community clean!**

**Recycling is for Everyone! Don't forget to recycle the following:**

- Cardboard boxes
- Pie Pans and Foil
- Cereal & Detergent Boxes
- Brown Paper Bags
- Magazines
- Telephone Books
- Junk Mail
- Office & School Paper
- Computer Paper
- Plastic #1 & #2 Flower Pots
- Plastics #1 and #2
- Newspaper
- Aluminum & Steel Cans

**AND NOW**

**GLASS BOTTLES**



**Advanced Disposal**  
**Keeping Your Community Beautiful**



## **APPENDIX D: SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE**

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## Chapter 46 SOLID WASTE\*

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\*Cross references: Cherokee Clean Commission, § 2-56 et seq.; buildings and building regulations, ch. 14; businesses, ch. 18; environment, ch. 26; utilities, ch. 62.

State law references: Authorization to provide garbage and solid waste collection and disposal, Ga. Const. art. 9, sec. 2, par. 3; Solid Waste Management Act, O.C.G.A. § 12-8-20 et seq.; local and regional solid waste plans, O.C.G.A. § 12-8-31.1; hazardous waste disposal, O.C.G.A. § 12-8-61 et seq.; Litter Control Law, O.C.G.A. § 16-7-40; transporting garbage or waste across state or county boundaries pursuant to contract, O.C.G.A. § 36-1-16; Resource Recovery Development Authorities Law, O.C.G.A. § 36-63-1 et seq.; littering highways, O.C.G.A. § 40-6-249.

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### **Article I. In General**

Sec. 46-1. Purpose of chapter.

Sec. 46-2. Definitions.

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## ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

### Sec. 46-1. Purpose of chapter.

The purposes of this chapter are to:

- (1) Protect the public health, safety and well-being of the citizens of the county;
- (2) Protect and enhance the quality of the environment;
- (3) Institute and maintain countywide rules and regulations controlling the spread of litter; and
- (4) Establish rules and regulations concerning solid waste management to ensure that solid waste systems, whether privately or publicly operated, do not adversely affect the health, safety and well-being of the public and do not unduly degrade the quality of the environment.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, art. I; Ord. No. 2005-O-003, 6-21-05)

### Sec. 46-2. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Building materials* means any material such as lumber, roofing material, brick, concrete block, plaster, gutters, sand, gravel or other substances used in repairs or alterations of existing buildings, construction of new buildings or demolition of existing buildings.

*Dumpster* means a bulk container used for the collection of garbage, refuse, trash and litter. The use of this term is generic and does not refer to a bulk container manufactured by a specific manufacturer.

*Dumpster monitor* refers to the person or persons authorized by the commissioner to inspect and patrol the areas where dumpsters are located in the county and the roads or streets of the county, and who are responsible for enforcing this chapter. Dumpster monitors shall be authorized by the commissioner to issue citations to violators of this chapter.

*Garbage* means the byproduct of animal or vegetable foodstuff resulting from handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food, or other matter which is subject to decomposition, decay, putrefaction or the generation of noxious or offensive gases or odors, or which during or after decay may serve as breeding or feeding material for flies, insects or animals.

*Garbage bag* means a plastic, or other similar nonporous material, bag or sack designed specifically to contain garbage or household trash in a secure, airtight manner. Such bags shall also include suitable means of closure to ensure that the material contained therein is not exposed to the outside air.

*Hazardous refuse* means materials such as poison, acids, caustics, chemicals, infected materials, offal, fecal matter and explosives.

*Household trash* means every waste accumulation of paper, sweepings, dust, rags, bottles, cans or other matter of any kind, other than garbage, which is usually attendant to housekeeping.

*Industrial waste* means all waste, including solids, semisolids, sludges and liquids, created by factories, processing plants or other manufacturing enterprises.

*Junk vehicle* includes any automobile, vehicle, trailer of any kind or type or mechanical contrivance or part thereof which is in an inoperative or junk condition by reason of its having been wrecked, dismantled or partially dismantled, inoperative, and which does not have a valid license plate; or which has been abandoned or discarded according to the definition of "abandoned motor vehicle" set forth in O.C.G.A. § 40-11-1. For the purposes of this chapter, a vehicle is "inoperative" if it is incapable of movement by its own power, or if it remains in place for a period of more than seven days, and in neither case is within a carport or parking way or driveway.

*Junkyard* includes land on which two or more junk vehicles are parked, standing or allowed to remain.

*Landfill* means all garbage, refuse, waste materials, sand, gravel, slag, brickbats, rubbish, tin cans, trash, debris, dead animals or any other discarded, used or unconsumed substance which is not handled in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

*Public or private property* means the right-of-way of any road, street, or highway; any body of water or watercourse or the shores or beaches thereof; any park, playground, building, refuge or conservation or recreation area; and residential or farm properties, timberlands or forests.

*Road* or *street* shall be mutually inclusive, and shall like wise be deemed to include any alley, lane, court and other thoroughfare, however described or designated.

*Rubbish* includes wastepaper, cartons, boxes, wood, tree branches, yard trimmings, furniture, appliances, metal, cans, glass, packing material and similar material.

*Scavenge* or *scavenging* means any unauthorized or uncontrolled retrieval of discarded refuse materials.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 4.1; Ord. No. 2005-O-003, 6-21-05)

Cross references: Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 46-3. Garbage collection/pickup vehicles.

Applications for garbage collection/pickup vehicles shall be issued only to vehicles having compaction equipment and capacity. The provisions of this section shall not apply to those firms or vehicles presently operation garbage collection routes within the county.

(Ord. of 7-10-78; Ord. No. 2005-O-003, 6-21-05)

Secs. 46-4--46-30. Reserved.

## **ARTICLE II. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

Sec. 46-31. Enforcing officers; issuing of citations.

- a) Any peace officer of the state or the commissioner may name, by appropriate resolution, an employee of the county to serve as his designee and to oversee all matters concerning the enforcement of this chapter.
- b) The commissioner may name, by appropriate resolution, such persons as he feels necessary to be dumpster monitors. Such dumpster monitors shall be under the supervision of the designee described in subsection (a) of this section and shall patrol, inspect and monitor dumpster sites to ensure compliance with this chapter, and shall monitor all areas of the county for violations of this chapter.
- c) The designee of the commissioner, as the dumpster monitor, shall be authorized to issue citations to violators of any provision of this chapter or to the owner or any other person who may be in possession of any property upon which any condition exists which constitutes a violation of any provision of this chapter. Such citations shall be on a form approved by the commissioner and shall state the time and place at which the accused is to appear for trial, shall identify the offense with which the accused is charged, shall indicate the identity of the accused and the date of service and shall be signed by the representative of the county who completes and serves it.
- d) Evidence.
  1. Whenever litter is thrown, deposited, dropped or dumped from any motor vehicle, boat, airplane, or other conveyance in violation of this article, it shall be prima facie evidence that the operator of the conveyance has violated this chapter.
  2. Except as provided in subsection (1), whenever any litter which is dumped, deposited, thrown or left on public or private property in violation of this chapter is discovered to contain any article or articles, including but not limited to letters, bills, publications or other writing which display the name of the person thereon in such a manner as to

indicate that the article belongs or belonged to such person, it shall be a rebuttal presumption that such person has violated this chapter.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 9.0; Ord. No. 2005-O-003, 6-21-05)

Sec. 46-32. Penalty.

a) Any person violating this chapter or any provision hereof shall, upon conviction, be punished as provided in section 1-12, or as follows:

1. By a fine of not less than \$200.00 and not more than \$1,200.00; and
2. In addition to the fine set out in subsection (1) above, the violator shall reimburse Cherokee County for the reasonable cost of removing the litter when the litter is or is ordered removed by the (jurisdiction); and
3. In the sound discretion of a court in which conviction is obtained, the person may be directed to pick up and remove from any public street or highway or public right-of-way for a distance not to exceed one mile any litter deposited thereon by anyone else prior to the date of the execution of sentence; or
4. In the sound discretion of the judge of a court in which conviction is obtained, the person may be directed to pick up and remove from any public beach, public park, private right-of-way or with the prior permission of the legal owner or tenant in lawful possession of such property, any private property upon which it can be established by competent evidence that he has deposited litter, any and all litter deposited thereon by anyone prior to the date of execution of sentence.
5. The court may publish the names of persons convicted of violating this chapter.

b) Records of convictions for violation of this chapter shall be a matter of public record.

c) No person accused of violating this chapter shall be arrested prior to trial, but any defendant who fails to appear for trial shall be arrested thereafter on the warrant of the magistrate and required to post a bond for his future appearance.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 9.1; Ord. No. 2005-O-003, 6-21-05)

Sec. 46-33. Court proceedings.

a) Violations of this chapter shall be tried upon citations or accusations as described in section 46-31(c) of this chapter and may be tried with or without a prosecuting attorney as well as upon accusations. The county attorney or another attorney designated by the commissioner shall serve as prosecuting attorney.

b) Violations of this chapter shall be tried in the magistrate court of the county.

c) Nothing in this section shall prevent the commissioner from bringing any civil action for injunction, mandamus or other proceedings to present, correct or abate any violation of this chapter. No sanction, penalty or remedy prescribed herein shall be considered exclusive of any other remedy, but shall be available in addition to any other sanction, penalty or remedy by law.

d) Each violation of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 9.2; Ord. No. 2005-O-003, 6-21-05)

Secs. 46-34--46-60. Reserved.

### ARTICLE III. LITTER CONTROL\*

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\*Editor's note: Ord. No. 2006-O-001, adopted Mar. 7, 2006, deleted Art. III, §§ 46-61--46-76, in its entirety and enacted a new Art. III, §§ 46-61--46-76, to read as set out herein. Former Art. III, §§ 46-61--46-76, pertained to similar subject matter and derived from an ordinance adopted Feb. 14, 1989, §§ 5.0-5.3; Ord. No. 91-8, § 2, adopted July 26, 1991; Ord. No. 2001-017, adopted Aug. 28, 2001; Ord. No. 2005-O-001, adopted May 17, 2005; and Ord. No. 2005-O-003, adopted June 21, 2005.

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#### Sec. 46-61. Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is intended to place upon all persons within the county, the duty of contributing to the public cleanliness and appearance of the county in order to promote the public health, safety and welfare and to protect the interests of the people of the county against unsanitary and unsightly conditions. It is further the intent of this chapter to protect the people against the public expense caused by littering.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

#### Sec. 46-62. Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meanings given in this section.

*Authorized litter receptacle* means a litter storage and/or collection receptacle as defined or required by this chapter as now enacted or hereafter amended.

*Compost pile* means plant debris, soil and other putrescible wastes stacked so as to encourage rapid decomposition for the ultimate use as plant fertilizer.

*Drop box* means a container for the disposal of litter of a capacity of at least ten cubic yards and not more than 30 cubic yards.

*Dumpster* means a container for the disposal of litter of a capacity of at least one and one-quarter cubic yards and not more than eight cubic yards.

*Garbage* means putrescible animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooling and consumption of food.

*Handbill* means any printed or written matter any sample, device, dodger, circular, leaflet, sampler, newspaper, magazine, paper, booklet, or any other printed or otherwise reproduced original or copy of any matter of literature, political or nonpolitical, for profit or nonprofit, for commercial or noncommercial purposes not included in the definitions of "newspaper" except the word "handbill" shall not include any notice or any document relating to legal proceedings, court proceedings or action of any government agency including the county.

*Litter* means garbage, refuse, and rubbish, as defined in this section, animal excrement, and in addition, all other waste material which, if thrown or deposited as prohibited in this chapter, tends to create a public nuisance.

*Litter receptacle* means a container for the disposal of litter of not more than 60-gallon capacity; provided that garbage containers or other waste containers serving single family multi-family residences are not included in this definition.

*Newspaper* means any newspaper of general circulation any newspaper duly entered with the U.S. Postal Service Department of the United States in accordance with federal statute or regulation, and, in addition thereto, means and includes any periodical or magazine regularly published with not less than four issues per year and sold or distributed to the public.

*Park* means a park, reservation, playground, beach, recreation center, or any other public area in the county, owned or used by the county and devoted to active or passive recreation.

*Private property* means any realty not held out for the use by the public, whether owned or operated by public or private interests, whether inhabited or temporarily or continuously uninhabited or vacant, and shall include any dwelling, house, building or other structure, any walk, driveway, porch, steps, vestibule, or mailbox located on such realty.

*Public place* means any area that is used or held out for use by the public whether owned or operated by public or private interests. "Public place," for purposes of compliance with the provisions of this chapter regarding placement of litter receptacles in the number specified, shall not include indoor areas. An indoor area shall be construed to mean any enclosed area covered with a roof and protected from moisture and wind.

*Refuse* means all putrescible and non-putrescible solid wastes except body wastes, including garbage, rubbish, ashes, residue from street cleaning, and solid market and industrial wastes.

*Rubbish* means non-putrescible solid wastes consisting of both combustible and noncombustible wastes such as paper, wrapping, cigarettes, cardboard, tin cans, wood, grass, plastic, cloth, bedding, crockery, and similar materials.

*Vehicle* means every device, in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, including devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

#### Sec. 46-63. Prohibited conduct.

- a) Deposit in public places. No person shall throw or deposit litter in or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public place within the county except in litter receptacles or in official county transfer stations.
- b) Deposit on private property. No person shall throw or deposit litter on any private property within the county, whether owned by such person or not, except that the owner or person in control of the private property may maintain private receptacles for collection in such a manner that litter will be prevented from being carried or deposited by the elements onto any street, sidewalk or other public place or onto any other private property.
- c) Deposit in parks. No person shall throw or deposit litter in any park within the county except in litter receptacles and in such a manner that the litter will be prevented from being carried or deposited by the elements onto any part of the park or onto any street or other public place. Where litter receptacles are not provided, all such litter shall be carried away and properly disposed of elsewhere as provided in this chapter.
- d) Deposit in water. No person shall throw or deposit litter in any fountain, pond, lake, stream, bay, or any other body of water in a park or elsewhere within the county.
- e) Throwing from vehicles. No person, while a driver or passenger in a vehicle, shall throw or deposit litter upon any street or other public place or upon private property within the county.
- f) Litter from vehicle. No person shall drive or move any vehicle within the county unless such vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any load, contents or litter from being blown or deposited upon any street, alley or other public place or private property. Any person owning or operating a vehicle from which any litter has fallen or escaped, which would constitute an obstruction or damage to a vehicle or otherwise endanger travel upon such public street, shall immediately cause such public street to be cleaned of all such litter or other objects and shall pay any cost thereof.
- g) Litter from construction sites.
  1. No individual or person in charge of a construction site in the county shall cause or allow any litter from the site to be deposited by the elements or otherwise upon any adjacent public or private property. During such time as the construction site is not actually being



used, all litter shall be stored or deposited in containers or receptacles in such a manner as to prevent the litter from being deposited upon adjacent property by the elements or otherwise.

2. No person in charge of any construction site in the county shall cause or allow any mud, dirt, sticky substances, road surfacing materials, or other litter from said construction site to be deposited by any vehicles, the wheels or tires of any vehicles, the elements, or otherwise upon any street, alley or other public place; provided, however, if a construction site and adjacent public streets and sidewalks are maintained under a clean-up program approved by the department of public works, then this paragraph shall not apply.
- h) Sweeping into gutters. No person shall sweep into or deposit in any gutter, storm water drain, street, or other public place within the county, an accumulation of litter from any building or lot or from any public or private sidewalk or driveway. Persons owning or occupying any real property within the county shall keep the sidewalk in front of or adjacent to said property free of litter.
  - i) Dropping litter or handbills from aircraft. No person in an aircraft shall throw out, drop or deposit within the county any litter, handbill or any other object.
  - j) Handbills--Prohibited placement.
    1. Depositing in public. No person shall throw, deposit, or post any handbill in or upon any sidewalk, street or other public place within the county; provided however, this section shall not prohibit the posting of commercial or noncommercial bills on posting boards designated for such purposes; and provided further, this section shall not apply to political signs or handbills as permitted.
    2. Placing on vehicles. No person shall throw or deposit any handbill in or upon any vehicle without the permission of the owner of such vehicle; provided, however, that it is not unlawful in any public place for a person to hand out or distribute a handbill without charge to the receiver thereof.
    3. Deposit on vacant property. No person shall throw, deposit, post, or distribute any commercial or noncommercial handbill in or upon any private property which is temporarily or continuously uninhabited or vacant.
    4. Distribution on posted premises. No person shall throw, deposit, post, or distribute any handbill upon any private property if requested by the owner or person in control of such property to refrain from doing so if there is placed on the property in a conspicuous position near the entrance thereof a sign bearing the words: "No Trespassing," "No Peddlers or Agents," "No Advertisement," or any similar notice, indicating in any manner, that the occupants of the premises do not desire to have any such handbills left upon such premises, in case of inhabited private premises; unless requested by anyone upon such premises not to do so, such person may place or deposit any such handbill in or upon such inhabited private premises, in such a manner as to prevent such handbill from being flown or drifted about such premises or sidewalks, streets or other public places; and except that mailboxes may not be used when so prohibited by federal postal law or regulations; provided further, that this chapter shall not be construed to permit solicitation.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-64. Property owner's duty to keep premises litter-free.

The owner, occupant or person in control of any private property or public place shall at all times maintain the premises free of litter; provided, however, that this section shall not prohibit; the storage of litter in private litter receptacles for collection or disposal; the maintenance of compost piles

contained within a physical structure; and the temporary storage of building, construction, landscaping, and similar materials, except as prohibited.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-65. Placement in litter receptacles.

Persons placing litter in litter receptacles shall do so in such a manner as to prevent it from being carried or deposited by the elements upon any street, sidewalk or other public place or upon private property.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-66. Placement in dumpsters and drop boxes-dumpster standards.

- a) Persons placing litter in dumpsters or drop boxes shall do so in such a manner as to prevent the litter from being carried or deposited by the elements onto any street, sidewalk or other public property or onto any other private property.
- b) No person shall deposit litter in any dumpster or drop box designated for the sole use by a business or multi-family residence unless that person or individual is licensed to do so by that business or multi-family residence.
- c) All dumpsters are to be equipped with a lid to prevent the contents and to prevent the entrance of dogs or other animals. Lids shall remain closed at all times unless other means of protection are provided to prevent the contents from being scattered by animals or the elements.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-67. Newspapers.

Newspapers shall be placed on private property in such a manner as to prevent their being carried or deposited by the elements upon any street, sidewalk or other public place or upon private property.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-68. Responsibility to procure and place receptacles.

Any person owning or operating any private property or public place, in which litter receptacles are required by this chapter, shall procure, place and maintain such receptacles on the premises at his or her own expense in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-69. Authorized litter receptacles--Minimum standards.

Litter receptacles procured and placed in public places as required by this chapter shall meet the following minimum standards:

1) General specifications.

- (a) The body of each litter receptacle shall be constructed of a minimum of 24 gauge galvanized steel or other material of equivalent strength that will, with normal wear and tear; reasonably resist corrosion and acts of vandalism.
- (b) All outside edges of each litter receptacle shall be rounded.
- (c) Openings in covered litter receptacles shall be readily identifiable and readily accessible for the deposit of litter.
- (d) Construction and general configuration of litter receptacles shall be in conformance with all pertinent laws, ordinances, resolutions, or regulations pertaining to fire, safety, public health, or welfare.

2) Color and marking.

(a) The words "deposit litter" shall be placed on the litter receptacle. Lettering used for these two words shall be block-typed capital letters to be readily legible at a distance of 30 feet.

(b) No commercial advertisement shall be placed on any litter receptacle.

- 3) However, the person owning any receptacle may place a single line on the receptacle identifying the ownership, and a single credit line designating any donor of the litter receptacle other than the owner may also be placed on the receptacle; provided that the lettering does not exceed the size specified for the words "deposit litter", and does not interfere with or distract from the prominence of the anti-litter symbol.
- 4) Maintenance. Compliance with the minimum standards set forth in this section shall include the proper upkeep, maintenance, repair, or replacement of litter receptacles sufficient to permit such receptacles to serve the functions for which they were designed and to prevent the appearance of such receptacles from becoming unsightly;
- 5) All litter receptacles are to be braced or supported in such a manner that dogs or other animals cannot enter or tip or tilt the same or empty any of the contents thereof; and each such receptacle shall have overlapping close-fitting lids designed in such a way as to remain closed when not in actual use.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-70. Receptacles--Placements required.

- a) Litter receptacles meeting the standards established by this chapter shall be placed in the following public and private places in the county:
  1. Parks;
  2. Campgrounds;
  3. Trailer park facilities for transient habitation;
  4. Drive-in restaurants;
  5. Gasoline service stations;
  6. Tavern parking lots;
  7. Shopping centers;
  8. Grocery store parking lots;
  9. Marinas;
  10. Boat launching areas;
  11. Boat moorage and fueling stations;
  12. Public and private piers;
  13. Beaches and bathing areas;
  14. Outdoor parking lots, other than those specifically designated in this section, having a capacity of more than 50 automobiles;
  15. Fairgrounds;
  16. School grounds;
  17. Racetracks;
  18. Sporting event sites;
  19. Sites for carnivals, festival, circuses, shows, or events of any kind to which the public is invited.
- b) Litter receptacles need only be placed in the public and private places designated in subsection (a) of this section during times that such places are open to the public.
- c) Placement of litter receptacles shall be in conformance with laws, ordinances, resolutions, and regulations pertaining to fire, safety, public health or welfare.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-71. Receptacle--Number required.

The minimum number of receptacles meeting the standards established by this article and required in public places listed are as follows:

- 1) Parks, campgrounds and trailer park facilities for transient habitation; one receptacle at each public restroom facility, and one receptacle at each established trailhead giving access by foot, motorcycle, bicycle, or similar trail for excursion or exploration out or away from the central activity area.
- 2) Gasoline service stations, one receptacle per gasoline pump island;
- 3) Drive-in restaurants, tavern parking lots, shopping center, grocery store parking lots, and outdoor parking lots having a capacity of more than 25 automobiles; one receptacle for the first 25 spaces, plus one additional receptacle for each addition 100 parking spaces.
- 4) Marinas, boat launching areas, boating moorage, and fueling stations, and public and private piers; one receptacle at each main pier, at each float and at each boat launching ramp;
- 5) Beaches and bathing areas: One receptacle at each public restroom facility and one receptacle at each access point officially designated as such by the county;
- 6) School grounds: One receptacle at each school ground bus-loading zone;
- 7) Supporting event sites: one litter receptacle at each entrance to the sporting event; sporting event sites with seating capacity of more than 100 spectators: one litter receptacle at each seating area, plus an additional receptacle in each seating area for each addition 500 seats;
- 8) Fairgrounds and sites for carnivals, festivals, circuses, shows, or events of any kind to which the public is invited: one receptacle at the entrance of each ride, and one receptacle at each end of walk-through exhibit buildings.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-72. Litter receptacles--Prohibited acts.

- a) No person shall damage, deface, abuse, or misuse any litter receptacle not owned by such person to interfere with its proper function or to detract from its proper appearance.
- b) No person shall deposit leaves, clippings, pruning, or gardening refuse in any litter receptacle not owned by such person.
- c) No person shall deposit household garbage in any litter receptacle; if this subsection shall not be construed to mean that wastes of food consumed on the premises at any public place may not be deposited in litter receptacles.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-73. Presumption of responsibility.

A person is presumed to be responsible for illegally depositing litter by the discovery of one or more pieces of litter within such illegally deposited litter, which are identifiable to such person by means of a name, address, or other mark of identification contained on such items.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

Sec. 46-74. Declaration of nuisance conditions.

The following conditions may be declared nuisances:

- 1) Stagnant water on premises;
- 2) Any dead or decaying matter, weeds, vegetation or any fruit, vegetable, animal or rodent, upon premises which is odorous or capable of causing disease or annoyance to the inhabitants of the county;
- 3) The generation of smoke or fumes in sufficient amount to cause odor or annoyance to the inhabitants of the county;

- 4) The pollution of public water or the injection of matter into the sewage system which would be damaging thereto;
  - 5) Maintaining a dangerous or diseased animal or fowl;
  - 6) Obstruction of a public street, highway or sidewalk without a permit;
  - 7) Loud or unusual noises, which are detrimental or annoying to the public, including without limitation, unusual or loud disturbances in or around churches or multiple-family complexes such as loud music and other activities in swimming pool and clubhouse areas;
  - 8) All walls, trees and buildings that may endanger persons or property;
  - 9) Any business or building where illegal activities are habitually and commonly conducted in such a manner as to reasonably suggest that the owner or operator of the business or building was aware of the illegal activities and failed to reasonably attempt to prevent those activities;
  - 10) Unused iceboxes, refrigerators and the like unless the doors, latches or locks thereof are removed;
  - 11) Any trees, shrubbery or other plants or parts thereof, which obstruct clear, safe vision on roadways and intersections of the county; and
  - 12) Any other condition constituting a nuisance under state law.
- (Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

**Sec. 46-75. Vegetation control.**

It shall be unlawful, after ten days' notice from the county, for the owner, or any person having control or management, of property within the county to permit and allow the growth of grass, underbrush or weeds on such property to a height greater than 18 inches above ground level; however, this does not apply to agriculturally (AG) zoned property, property used for agricultural purposes, or "natural areas" of residentially zoned property.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

**Sec. 46-76. Violation--Penalty.**

- a) The violation of or failure to comply with any provision of this chapter is declared to be unlawful.
- b) Any violation of any provision of this chapter is a civil violation as provided for which a monetary penalty may be assessed and abatement may be required as provided therein.
- c) In addition to or as an alternative to any other penalty provided by this chapter or by law, any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of an ordinance violation.

(Ord. No. 2006-O-001, 3-7-06)

**Secs. 46-77--46-90. Reserved.**

## **ARTICLE IV. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

### **DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

**Sec. 46-91. Private collection.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to collect refuse within the county except from his own residence, business or individual plant without first having obtained a proper permit from the state department of natural resources and the county, and without first having obtained a county business license.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 6.0)

Sec. 46-92. Private landfills.

- a) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a landfill, waste disposal area or waste storage area intended to be used by the owner or used by others for the disposal or storage of waste without first having filed the proper application for a special use permit with the county zoning appeals board and complying with the zoning resolution of the county applying to private landfills under article X, section E, subsection 3(g)(8) of such zoning resolution. The owner of any landfill must also obtain a proper permit from the department of natural resources and a county business license.
- b) No permit shall be issued by the county until the applicant has shown, to the satisfaction of the board of commissioners, that all federal, state and county regulations and ordinances will be complied with in the operation and management of the landfill, waste disposal area or waste storage area, and that the location of the landfill, waste disposal area or waste storage area is such that there is no detriment to the environment, including, but not limited to, noxious odors, runoff or contamination of surface water and groundwater, so that the maximum protection is afforded to the health, safety and well-being of the citizens of the county.
- c) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the owner of any private disposal site to keep the site in an orderly condition and maintained so as not to be a public nuisance or a menace to public health.
- d) The commissioner shall designate county employees, and his designees shall have the right to enter a private disposal site at any time during normal business hours for the purpose of inspecting the site to determine whether or not the site is in compliance with this chapter and all other pertinent laws and regulations of the county.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 6.1; Ord. No. 91-8, § 1, 7-26-91)

Sec. 46-93. Public landfills.

- a) The county, through the commissioner, may operate and maintain public landfills located on county property and in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- b) Public sites approved for the disposal of refuse shall be identified by appropriate directional signs posted near the roadside and at the location of the county sanitary landfill.
- c) Such sites shall be maintained while in use until permanently closed, at which time additional authorized sites shall be opened and publicized by posting notices and through public advertisements. The commissioner may restrict certain sites or portions thereof to a specific type or types of refuse.
- d) Commercial collections, including yard maintenance men, may use the public designated sites. Residents of the county, other than commercial collectors, may use public sites upon payment of a fee, if any, to be set by the commissioner in accordance with the regulations for the particular site and under the instruction of the site attendant.
- e) No refuse generated outside the county will be accepted at any disposal site.
- f) Authorized public disposal sites shall be operated Monday through Saturday of each week, with the exception of holidays. During the hours designated by the commissioner or his designee, acceptable refuse generated in the county shall be received for disposal from any resident of the county.
- g) No person shall enter a disposal site except when an attendant is present and during the hours and days prescribed in this chapter. All materials delivered and deposited in a disposal site shall immediately become the property of the county.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 6.2)

Sec. 46-94. Cost reimbursement fees; surcharges.

Any and all reimbursement fees and surcharges authorized by O.C.G.A. § 12-8-39 are hereby levied by the board of commissioners and authorization is hereby given to collect the same.

(Ord. No. 94-11, § 1, 7-22-94)

Secs. 46-95--46-120. Reserved.

## DIVISION 2. CLASSIFICATION OF REFUSE FOR DISPOSAL

### Sec. 46-121. Domestic refuse.

The following types of refuse shall be classed as domestic refuse and shall be accepted for disposal:

- 1) Garbage.
  - 2) Business trash.
  - 3) Refuse.
  - 4) Household trash.
- (Ord. of 2-14-89, § 7.0)

### Sec. 46-122. Industrial waste.

The following types of waste shall be classified as industrial waste and shall not be accepted for disposal:

- 1) Industrial waste.
  - 2) Hazardous refuse.
- (Ord. of 2-14-89, § 7.1)

### Sec. 46-123. Building materials.

Building materials, if presented to the county for disposal, may be accepted for disposal upon such terms and conditions as may be determined by the commissioner or his designee.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 7.3)

### Sec. 46-124. Yard trimmings disposal restrictions.

- a) Definition: Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 12-8-22, yard trimmings are defined as leaves, brush, grass clippings, shrub and tree prunings, discarded Christmas trees, nursery greenhouse vegetative residuals and vegetative matter resulting from landscaping development and maintenance other than mining, agricultural, and silvicultural operations.
- b) Restrictions:
  1. Yard trimmings may not be placed in or mixed with municipal solid waste.
  2. Yard trimmings are prohibited at all municipal solid waste disposal facilities located within the county having liners and leachate collection systems or requiring vertical expansion within their jurisdiction.
  3. Yard trimmings shall be sorted and stored for collection in such a manner as to facilitate collection, composting, or other handling, and yard trimmings shall be sorted and stockpiled or shipped, composed, used as mulch or otherwise beneficially reused or recycled to the maximum extent feasible.
  4. Any person in violation of this section shall be subject to fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 and/or imprisonment not exceeding 60 days in the magistrate's court of the county.

(Ord. No. 96-13, 9-10-96)

### Sec. 46-125. Scrap tire facilities.

All scrap tire facilities operating within unincorporated Cherokee County shall in addition to the regulations provided herein comply with and be operated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Division Rules for Solid Waste Management (ch. 391-3-4) and in the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act (O.C.G.A., §12-8-22). Whenever such laws or regulations are amended this Ordinance shall also be amended.

(Ord. No. 2003-O-005, 6-3-03)

Secs. 46-126--46-150. Reserved.

## **ARTICLE V. ABANDONED AND JUNKED MOTOR VEHICLES**

Sec. 46-151. Abandonment prohibited.

It shall be unlawful to abandon any motor vehicle as provided in O.C.G.A. § 40-11-1 et seq. Any motor vehicle abandoned within the county shall be disposed of by the proper authorities as provided in O.C.G.A. § 40-11-1 et seq.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 8.0(1))

Sec. 46-152. Junk vehicles prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to maintain or keep any junk vehicle on any property adjoining or abutting any public road, street or other public property within the unincorporated portions of the county, and visible from such public road, street, way or other public property.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 8.0(3))

Sec. 46-153. Enforcement.

- a) The enforcement provisions of this article as they apply to junk vehicles are not exclusive but shall be in addition to the other regulations and regulatory codes including the zoning resolution of the county.
- b) Article 4(b), definition "junk vehicle" of the Cherokee County Zoning Ordinance is incorporated herein for the purposes of enforcement. It shall be unlawful to park or let stand any junk vehicle in violation of the provisions of article 4, of the zoning ordinance, and violations shall subject the owner to penalties as provided by state law.

(Ord. of 2-14-89, § 8.0(2), (4); Ord. No. 95-O-9, 8-8-95)

Secs. 46-154-46-170. Reserved.

## **ARTICLE VI. ON-SITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Sec. 46-171. Applicability.

These rules will have application except in the following cases:

- 1) Any facility or system under the jurisdiction of and regulated by the department of natural resources or its successor;
- 2) Any public or community sewage treatment system; or
- 3) Other shared jurisdiction by memoranda of agreement or other agreements.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.01, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

Sec. 46-172. Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning as indicated beside each listing:

*Additive* means an approved commercial product added to an on-site sewage system to enhance the performance of the system.

*Absorption field* means a configuration of absorption trenches installed in a portion of land and used for the absorption and final treatment of sewage.



*Absorption line* means a pipe line of perforated pipe laid in an absorption trench to serve as a conduit for sewage effluent.

*Absorption trench* means an excavation in which an absorption line is laid.

*Absorption trench bottom and side soil area* means the total interface of bottom and side soil area with undisturbed soils of all absorption trenches in an absorption field and occurring horizontally and downward from the point of distribution into the soil, expressed in square feet.

*Aggregate* means washed gravel or washed stone meeting the Georgia Department of Transportation standards for hardness or other materials approved by the department and shall be one-half inch to two inches in diameter.

*Alternative on-site management system* means any approved on-site sewage management system which differs in design or operation from the conventional or chamber septic tank system or privy.

*Approved* or *Approval* means compliance with applicable specifications or criteria developed or accepted by the department.

*Auxiliary system* means a system to serve a portion of a residence, a pool house or other adjunct facility.

*Bedroom* means any room that is designed primarily for sleeping purposes, as shown on the building plan.

*Black water* means wastewater generated by water closets, urinals, bidets, kitchen sinks and garbage disposals.

*Building drain* means that part of the lowest piping of a building drainage system inside the walls of a building, which receives the discharge from soil, waste or other drainage systems and conveys the discharge to the building sewer.

*Building sewer* means that part of the horizontal piping of a building drainage system beyond the building drain which receives the discharge from the building drain and conveys it to a public sewer, private sewer, on-site sewage management system, or other disposal.

*Central on-site sewage management system* means an on-site sewage management system serving more than one building, business, residence or other facility designed or used for human occupancy or congregation.

*Chamber septic tank system* means a septic tank and a chamber system as defined in chamber system.

*Chamber system* means a system of chambers with each chamber being a molded polyolefin plastic, arch shaped, hollow structure with an exposed bottom area and solid top and louvered sidewall for infiltration of effluent into adjoining bottom and sidewall soil areas. Chambers may be of different sizes and configurations to obtain desired surface areas.

*Community subsurface treatment system* means any system which treats primarily domestic wastewater other than those serving single family residences or non-domestic sewage systems.

*Conventional system* means a system traditionally used composed of perforated pipe surrounded by gravel or stone masking for the infiltration of effluent into adjoining bottom and side soil areas.

*Conventional septic tank system* means any septic tank, and conventional system as defined in conventional system, but does not include alternative or experimental systems.

*County board of health* means the County Board of Health established by the Georgia Health Code (O.C.G.A. 31-3-1) or its representative.

*Department* means the Department of Human Resources of the State of Georgia or its representative.

*Distribution device* means a watertight structure which receives sewage effluent from a septic tank, dosing tank, or other sewage retention device and distributes it in equal portions to two or more absorption lines.

*Dosing tank* means an approved watertight tank, located after a septic tank or other sewage retention device, to receive and retain sewage effluent, and so equipped as to discharge sewage effluent intermittently to a distribution device, either by pump or by siphon.

*Experimental on-site sewage management system* means any on-site sewage management system proposed for testing and observation, and provisionally approved for such purposes by the department, but which has not been fully proven under field use.

*Failure* means a condition of an on-site sewage system that constitutes a public hazard by inadequate treatment and/or disposal of sewage.

*Filter* means an approved device that removes solids or other materials from the effluent that could cause failure of an on-site sewage management system.

*Flood plain* means a generally flat plain or depression susceptible to being flooded from any source, including small and intermittent water courses and coastal areas subject to intermittent tidal action.

*Gray water* means wastewater generated by water-using fixtures and appliances, excluding water closets, urinals, bidets, kitchen sinks, and garbage disposals.

*Grease trap* means a device in which the grease content of sewage is intercepted and congealed, and from which grease may be skimmed or otherwise removed for proper disposal.

*Individual water supply system* means a system of piping, pumps, tanks, or other facilities, utilizing groundwater to supply a single family dwelling.

*Lot* means a portion of a subdivision, or any other parcel of land, intended as a unit for transfer of ownership, or for development, or both, and shall not include any part of the right-of-way of a street or road.

*Manual for on-site sewage management systems* means the technical handbook currently adopted and periodically updated which is used by the department in the implementation of this chapter and is available for inspection at the appropriate state office in Atlanta or at local health departments. Such manual for on-site sewage management systems and its provisions are herein adopted unless inconsistent with other provisions of law or regulation and is hereafter referred to as the "Manual" or "Manual for On-site Sewage Management Systems."

*Mechanical treatment systems* means any alternative or experimental on-site sewage management system utilizing pumps, aeration units, or other mechanical devices to treat sewage.

*Mobile home park* means a parcel of land developed for subsequent rental or lease for placement of two (2) or more mobile homes.

*On-site sewage management system* means a sewage management system other than a public or community sewage treatment system serving one or more buildings, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, residences, or other facilities designed or used for human occupancy or congregation. Such term shall include, without limitation, conventional and chamber septic tank systems, privies, and experimental and alternative on-site management systems which are designed to be physically incapable of a surface discharge of effluent that may be approved by the department.

*Percolation coefficient* means the ratio of trench bottom area to percolation time; it is expressed as the allowable rate of sewage application in gallons per square foot per day.

*Percolation rate* means the time, expressed in minutes per inch, required for water to seep into saturated soil at a constant rate.

*Percolation test* means the method used to measure the percolation rate of water into soil as described in the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.

*Person* means any individual, partnership, corporation, or association and may extend and be applied to bodies, political and corporate.

*Physical development* means development which includes, but is not limited to site preparation, erection of a structure, road construction, well construction, or installation of on-site sewage management systems.

*Privy* means a structure (and necessary appurtenances) used for the sanitary disposal or storage of human wastes without the aid of water carriage; the term does not include chemical, composting, portable, or incinerator toilets.

*Public water supply system* means a system for the provision of piped water to the public for human consumption, if such system has at least fifteen service connections, or regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five individuals daily, at least 60 days out of the year.

*Septage* means a waste that is a fluid mixture of partially treated or untreated sewage solids, liquids and sludge of human or domestic waste, present in or pumped from septic tanks, malfunctioning on-site sewage management systems, grease traps or privies.

*Sewage treatment system* is a system that provides primary treatment and disposal, including absorption field components, devices and appurtenances intended to be used for disposal of sewage by soil absorption, but does not include a conventional or chamber septic tank system. The system shall be designed to be physically incapable of a surface discharge of effluent.

*Septic tank* means an approved watertight tank designed or used to receive sewage from a building sewer and to affect separation and organic decomposition of sewage solids, and discharging sewage effluent to an absorption field or other management system.

*Sewage* means and includes human excreta, all waster carried wastes, and liquid household waste from residences or commercial and industrial establishments.

*Sinkhole* means a depression in the land surface, generally in a limestone region, which communicates or has the potential to communicate with a subterranean passage developed by solution; typical sinkholes can be broad, closed basin-like features or steep-sided dropouts, or variants thereof.

*Site* means the location where the absorption field will be installed to include replacement area.

*Soil classifier* means a person who holds at least a Bachelor of Science degree from an accredited college or university with a major in Agronomy, Soil Science, or related field, as approved by Soil Classifiers Certification Board. Must have completed a minimum of 15 semester hours or 25 quarter hours in approved soil science courses including a course in pedology and have four years or more of full time experience as a soil classifier/soil scientist actively mapping, identifying and classifying soil features, and interpreting the influence of soil features on soil uses. Certification shall be in accordance with guidelines published in the manual for on-site sewage management systems.

*Subdivision* means any division of a tract or parcel of land into five or more lots, building sites, mobile home sites, or other divisions, resulting in any single lot of less than three acres, for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale or legacy, and includes resubdivision and, where appropriate to the context, relates to the process of subdividing or to the land or area subdivided, provided; however, that the following are not included within this definition:

- 1) The combination or recombination of previously platted lots or portions thereof where the total number of lots is not increased and the resultant lots conform to the standards of these rules.
- 2) The division of land into parcels, all of which is three acres or more in size with minimum width of 150 feet for a distance sufficient to provide an adequate area for the placement of structures and improvements including wells and approved installation of approved on-site sewage management systems.

*Well* means an excavation or opening into the ground by which groundwater is sought or obtained.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.02, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

Sec. 46-173. Residences, buildings or facilities.

- a) Where public or community sewage treatment systems are not available, the owner, lessee or agent thereof of every building, residence or property, designed, used or intended to be used for human occupancy or congregation, shall provide an approved on-site sewage management system sufficient for persons normally expected to use or frequent the building, residence or other property for two hours or more. Connection shall be made to a public or community sewage treatment system when such system is available within 200 feet of the property line, or available in a public

rights-of-way abutting the property. Where a public or community sewage treatment system is to be constructed, or an existing public or community sewer is to be extended to serve a lot, or an approved on-site sewage management system is to be used, the building sewer shall be installed so that it will insure gravity flow at a self-cleaning velocity throughout. If an existing on-site sewage system fails, immediate connection shall be made to a public or community sewerage system if such a system is available.

- b) Any facility that produces a waste stream with BOD5 and TSS (total suspended solids) higher than 200 mg/L shall be required to pretreat the waste to reduce the BOD5 and TSS to 200 mg/L or below before disposal through a conventional or chamber septic tank system.
- c) When deemed appropriate, the board may require that the on-site sewage system be installed prior to the construction of the building.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.03, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-174. Minimum lot sizes or land area required.

##### a) Lot size.

1. To provide for orderly and safe development utilizing on-site sewage management systems, minimum lot sizes have been established. These lot sizes permit flexibility to suit soil conditions, topography and ground or surface water limitations. The following table shows the minimum lot sizes based on soil groups and slopes for individual wells and on-site sewage management systems. Larger lot sizes may be required to meet the requirements of these rules in some circumstances.

TABLE INSET:

Slope		Soil Grouping*				
Class	Slope %	1	2	3	4	5
AB	0-5	40,000	40,000	48,000	51,000	60,000
C	6-15	40,000	42,000	51,000	54,000	66,000
D	16-25	40,000	45,000	54,000	57,000	N/A
E	26-35	40,000	48,000	57,000	60,000	N/A

\*Refer to Table CT-2 Georgia Department Human Resources Manual for On-site Sewage Management Systems.

2. Where on-site sewage management systems and community or public water is used, minimum lot sizes may be reduced by up to 50 percent.
3. The lot sizes in (a)(1) are for single family residences. The square footage for multifamily residences shall be increased by 50 percent per unit.
4. Mobile home lots located in subdivisions and mobile home parks shall meet the above size requirements.
5. The above minimum lot sizes are for one, two, or three bedroom residences with basic appurtenances, i.e., driveways, minimum number of trees, water line. The county board of health may require larger lots when swimming pools, tennis courts, detached or offset garages or trees may interfere with the installation of the sewage system. The lot size shall be increased by 2,500 square feet, of usable soils area per bedroom over three bedrooms.
6. Minimum lot width shall conform to the county zoning ordinance.

- b) Mobile home park lot sizes. Wherever possible, mobile home parks should be served by a central or community sewage system. If the mobile home park is to be served by a public or community water system and each lot or space is to be served by an individual on-site sewage management system, the lot or space shall be sized utilizing the table (a)(1) of this section.

(Ord. No. 98-O-22, § 290-5-26.04, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

Sec. 46-175. Construction permits.

- a) Construction permit required. No person may begin the physical development of a lot or structure thereon, where an on-site sewage management system will be utilized, nor install an on-site sewage management system or component thereof without having first applied for and obtained from the county health department a construction permit for the installation.

1. Application for such construction permits shall be made in writing on forms provided by the county board of health. The county board of health shall approve or disapprove such application within 20 days after the receipt of a completed application. The application shall include:
  1. Name and address of the owner and the applicant, if other than the owner;
  2. Location of property;
  3. Plans and specifications including location and design of the proposed on-site sewage management system including surface and subsurface drainage and piping;
  4. Nature of the facility to be served;
  5. Location of all water supplies, geothermal systems, or other utilities and trash pits on or off the lot, which will bear upon the location of the on-site sewage management system;
  6. Number of bedrooms in the dwelling, or the number of persons to be served in other types of establishments, or other sewage flow or water usage data;
  7. Soil characteristics, including soil types and capabilities, frequency and evaluations of seasonal high groundwater tables, occurrence of rock and other impervious strata;
  8. Signature of the owner or agent applying for a permit; and
  9. Any additional information deemed necessary to determine the suitability of the site, such as, but not limited to, a plot plan (to scale) showing the house, well, driveway, proposed location of the septic tank system, underground utilities, drainage areas, gullies, streams, lakes, ponds, etc. Also wells within 100 feet of the property lines shall be shown. Topo lines of two feet, intervals may be required to help determine slope.
2. The county board of health may waive submission of part of the information required for the application, however, provided the board deems that such information is available from previously submitted subdivision or mobile home park data, or from other sources, and is sufficient to make an adequate appraisal of the acceptability of the proposed lot for the installation of an on-site sewage management system.
3. Before a site evaluation of a lot is performed by the county board of health, the property owner or his agent may be required to clear lot lines and building site, post an identification marker in the front center of the lot, and may be required to place stakes

at the corners of the proposed building, at the proposed stub out, and at the proposed or existing well location. Pins or other identifiers denoting the lot corners shall be located. A survey of the property may also be required.

4. Repairs, replacement, or additions to existing systems must be permitted and inspected. The installer or the home owner shall be responsible for applying for a permit and paying fees.
  5. Any person preparing to modify a lot for the purpose of obtaining a construction permit for the installation of an on-site sewage management system shall submit plans showing the type and extent of modifications. No modifications shall be carried out prior to the approval of the plans by the county board of health. Such approval shall be in accordance with the provisions of the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.
- b) Requirements for on-site sewage management system construction permit issuance or denial. On-site sewage management system construction permits shall be issued only after a site inspection by the county board of health shows favorable findings relative to absorption rates, soil characteristics, groundwater, rock, and any other factors which would affect the acceptability of the lot. No construction permit for an on-site sewage management system shall be issued prior to the approval of the public water supply system, where a public water supply system is to be utilized. Lot suitability and approval is to be determined by the criteria established by the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems. Lots shall be sized according to the regulations of the county board of health. The county board of health may deny or revoke an on-site sewage management system construction permit upon finding the lot unsuitable or for failure of the applicant to comply with the provisions of these rules. Such denial shall be made in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. 12-8-1, 31-5-2, 31-5-3, 31-5-4, 31-5-5 and 31-5-6. On-site sewage management construction permits shall remain valid for not more than 12 months from the date of issue.
- c) Design limits for conventional or chamber septic tank systems. To provide for the maintenance of sanitary conditions through the proper functioning of a conventional or chamber septic tank system for a reasonable period of time, no such system may be installed, constructed, or used, having a septic tank design capacity of less than 1000 gallons or greater than 10,000 gallons, or where the total length of absorption trenches required would exceed 3,000 linear feet, or where the total absorption trench bottom area required would exceed 9,000 square feet.
- d) Submission of plans, specifications, and soil data. Plans, specifications, soil data and, if required, absorption test data, submitted to the county board of health for the purpose of obtaining a construction permit to install an on-site sewage management system, which will produce a sewage flow in excess of 2,000 gallons per day, shall bear the registration number and signature of a registered professional engineer, certified and registered under the laws of this state. The county board of health may accept plans, specifications, soil data, and absorption test data for facilities with sewage flow of 2,000 gallons or less per day, when prepared in accordance with these rules, from any person who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the county board of health that they have sufficient knowledge of on-site sewage management system design.
1. Mechanized treatment systems with subsurface disposal. A registered, professional engineer, certified and registered under the laws of this state shall design and certify installation of these systems. Information on the type of system shall be attached to the property deed and properly recorded.
- e) Soil data acceptability for individual lots. Effective 24 months after the adoption of these rules, soil evaluations shall be conducted by individuals meeting the requirements established in the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.

f) Construction permit issuance or denial. On-site sewage management system construction permits shall be issued only after a site inspection by a representative of county board of health shows favorable findings relative to absorption rates, soil characteristics, groundwater, rock, and any other factors which would affect the acceptability of the lot. No construction permit for an on-site sewage management system shall be issued prior to the approval of the public water supply system, where a public water supply system is to be utilized. Lot suitability and approval is to be determined by the criteria established by the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems. The county board of health may deny or revoke an on-site sewage management system construction permit upon finding the lot unsuitable or for failure of the applicant to comply with the provisions of these rules. Such denial shall be made in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. 12-8-1, 31-5-2, 31-5-3, 31-5-4, 31-5-5 and 31-5-6. On-site sewage management construction permits shall remain valid for not more than 12 months from the date of issue.

1. Issuance of a construction permit for an on-site sewage management system, and subsequent approval of the same by representatives of the county board of health shall not be construed as a guarantee that such systems will function satisfactorily for a given period of time; furthermore, said representatives do not, by any action taken in affecting compliance with these rules, assume any liability for damages which are caused, or which may be caused, by the malfunction of such system.
2. On tracts or parcels of land of three acres or more, where the absorption rate exceeds 90 minutes per inch, the conventional or chamber septic tank system may be based on the percolation rate not to exceed 120 minutes per inch. All other conditions must comply with the requirements of the regulations for on-site sewage management systems.

(Ord. No. 98-O-22, § 290-5-26.05, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-176. Inspection.

No person may cover or use an on-site sewage management system until final inspection has been made by the county board of health to determine compliance with the provisions of the construction permit issued under section 46-175(3) and written approval has been issued by the county board of health.

- 1) A copy of the final inspection of an on-site sewage management system shall be provided to the owner, builder, developer or agent, whichever is appropriate.
- 2) Grading, filling, digging trash pits or other landscaping or construction activities on the lot subsequent to final inspection by the county board of health which may adversely affect the on-site sewage management system shall render the approval void.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.06, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-177. Approved locations (Subdivisions and mobile home parks).

a) Predevelopment review. It is recommended that developers considering subdivision or mobile home park development where public or community sewage treatment systems will not be available seek a predevelopment review by the county board of health prior to developmental improvements. Rejection or tentative approval may be obtained by submitting a boundary plat including:

1. A vicinity map;
2. A topographic map;

3. A preliminary soil study conducted in compliance with the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.
- b) Proposals and Plans Required. The following information is required for subdivision and mobile home park proposals:
1. A boundary plat drawn to a reasonable scale which includes:
    - a) A vicinity map;
    - b) Proposed lots and streets including lot identification, dimensions, building lines and square footage of lots;
    - c) A topographic map depicted in two foot intervals, provided. However, that lesser contour intervals may be approved by the county board of health if the slope is sufficiently steep;
    - d) A soil map and soil description based on a high intensity study conducted in compliance with the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems;
    - e) The location of all present and proposed wells, water systems, water courses, flood plains, sewage systems, structures, right-of-ways, utilities, storm water drainage systems and easements on the property and within 100 feet outside the perimeter of the property; and
    - f) The name, registration number and seal of the preparing professional surveyor or engineer.
  2. A completed subdivision analysis record on forms provided by the department or county board of health.
  3. A copy of the following documents issued by the environmental protection division of the department of natural resources:
    - a) The land disturbance activity permit;
    - b) The letters of approval to begin construction of a public water supply system and approving the source of the water supply where a public water supply is to be utilized; and
    - c) The approved storm water pollution plan, where applicable.
- c) Approval required. No person may sell, offer for sale, lease, rent, begin construction or otherwise begin physical development of a lot or lots in a subdivision or mobile home park until written approval of plans for the water supply and sewage disposal has been obtained from the county board of health. This approval constitutes general acceptance of all lots not excluded for development utilizing on-site sewage management systems. (Excluded lots may receive further consideration based on additional information.)
- d) Limits on use of on-site sewage management systems for subdivision and mobile home parks. Approval of subdivisions and mobile home parks utilizing on-site sewage management systems shall not be granted:
1. When a public or community sewage system is available within 500 feet off the subdivision or mobile home park;
  2. When soils maps, descriptions, and reports compiled by a registered soil classifier indicate that soil conditions prohibit safe development of on-site sewage management systems.
  3. Prior to receipt of a letter(s) from the environmental protection division approving the plans to construct the public water supply system and approving the source of the water supply where a public water supply system is to be utilized.
- e) Subdivision and mobile home park percolation tests. Where required for planning purposes and determination of the general absorptive capacity of soils, the number of percolation tests to be



made shall be one per lot, in the area where absorption fields are to be located. Preparatory to construction of on-site sewage management systems, individual lots within the proposed development shall comply with section 290-5-26.14 of the rules for on-site sewage management systems.

- f) Subdivision and mobile home park test bores. Where required for planning purposes, test bores to determine groundwater elevations and subsurface rock formations shall be made at locations, in numbers and at depths to be determined by the department or county board of health.
- g) Subdivision site walk-over. Prior to the walk-over of the proposed subdivision land, the proposed corner property lines of each lot shall be staked and the lot number affixed to each stake. The sidelines of each lot line shall be flagged and the board of health may also require clearing of the lot lines.
- h) Construction permits. Construction permits for on-site sewage management systems shall be issued in accordance with section 290-5-26.05(1)(a) of the rules for on-site sewage management systems.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.07, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7, 31-3-5.

#### Sec. 46-178. Sewers.

- a) Size of sewers. Sewers connecting component parts of on-site sewage management systems shall be of sufficient size to serve anticipated flow conditions.
- b) Sewers. All solid pipe and fittings used in an on-site sewage management system, beginning at the house, shall be NSF International schedule 40 PVC or equivalent and shall be a minimum of four inches in diameter. Sewers under driveways or similar areas of load or impact shall be of material capable of withstanding anticipated loads or installed so as to provide protection from crushing.
- c) Construction. Sewers, other than perforated pipe or drain tiles used in absorption fields, shall be laid with sealed, watertight, root-resistant joints. Such sewers shall be laid on a firm foundation, and shall not be subject to settling, and shall be installed on a grade that will insure a self-cleaning velocity. Where on-site sewage management systems are used, and where installation of building drains and building sewers is not covered by duly adopted local plumbing codes, or in the absence of a local plumbing code and/or plumbing inspections, the county board of health may verify the adequacy and acceptability of all or any portion of the building sewer or the building drain.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.08, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-179. Septic tanks.

- a) Minimum design and construction. Septic tanks shall provide a minimum of 24 hours of retention and shall be designed and constructed to equal or exceed minimum design and construction criteria established by the department as published in the current manual for on-site sewage management systems. After the effective date of these regulations, any person seeking approval of septic tanks to be used in on-site sewage management systems, shall submit detailed plans and specifications for tank manufacture and other information as may be required by the department. Manufacturers and suppliers may be subject to periodic inspection, and approval by the county board of health or the department. Six months after the date of the adoption of these regulations, both the inlet and outlet tees shall be NSF International schedule 40 PVC or equivalent. In addition, an approved filter shall be installed on the outlet end of the septic tank in compliance with the manual for on-site sewage management systems.
- b) Location. No septic tank shall be installed less than 50 feet from existing or proposed wells/springs, sink holes, or suction water lines, and tanks shall be located downgrade from wells or springs if physically possible; less than 25 feet from lakes, ponds, streams, water courses, other

impoundments; less than ten feet from pressure water supply lines, or less than ten feet from a property line. No septic tank shall be installed less than 15 feet from a drainage ditch or embankment. Septic tanks shall be installed so as to provide ready access for necessary maintenance. Normally, the distance a septic tank should be located from a building foundation is at least ten feet, but lesser distances may be allowed by the county board of health. The county board of health, after site inspection, may require greater separation distances than cited herein due to unusual conditions of topography, or other site configuration; subsurface soil characteristics and/or groundwater interference.

- c) Capacity. Twelve months after the date of the adoption of the regulations for on-site sewage management systems, the liquid capacity of septic tanks for single family dwellings shall be 1000 gallons for one, two, three or four bedrooms, and 250 additional gallons for each bedroom more than four. Septic tank capacity shall be increased by 50 percent where garbage grinders are to be used. Auxiliary systems serving single family residences or other facilities shall be based on the maximum daily flow.
- d) Compartmented tanks. Twelve months after the adoption of these regulations for on-site sewage management systems, two compartment tanks shall be required. The first compartment shall be at least two-thirds the liquid capacity of the tank.
- e) Tanks in series. The county board of health may approve the installation of two septic tanks placed in series provided that the capacity of the first tank is at least 1000 gallons and at least equal to the capacity of the second tank. When tanks in series are used, they shall be connected with a sealed sewer line, and all sewage shall initially enter the first tank.
- f) Foundation and backfill. Septic tanks will be constructed or installed level, on a foundation that will prevent settling; backfill shall be placed so that a stable fill results and undue strain on the tank is avoided. Earth backfill shall be free of voids, large stones, stumps, broken masonry, or other such materials. A minimum earth cover of six inches over the tank is recommended. With proper documentation the county board of health may approve less cover. All openings and manholes shall be constructed so as to prevent the entrance of surface water.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.09, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-180. Distribution devices and dosing tanks.

- a) Minimum design and construction of distribution devices. Distribution devices shall be designed and constructed in accordance with minimum design and construction criteria established in the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.
- b) Minimum design and construction of dosing tanks. Where required, dosing tanks shall be designed, constructed, and installed in accordance with the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.10, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-181. Absorption fields.

- a) Absorption area. The absorption area shall be based upon the anticipated volume of treated sewage and upon the characteristics of the soil in which absorption fields are to be located as specified in the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems. All lots must include an approved replacement area equal in size to an conventional, chamber, or alternative system, whichever is larger. Soil characteristics and other related data, including percolation tests, may be required by the county board of health. Absorption areas shall be classified as follows: Aggregate, non-aggregate and other.

- b) Prior approved systems. Any prior approved system as defined in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 31-2-7 (a) (4) is approved for installation according to manufacturers' recommendation.
- c) Location. No absorption field will be constructed less than 100 feet from existing or proposed wells, springs or sinkholes; less than ten feet from water supply lines and buildings, other structures, and property lines; less than 15 feet from an embankment or trash pits, nor less than 50 feet from the normal water level of any impoundment, tributary, stream, or other body of water, including wetlands. If the water supply line crosses or comes within ten feet of the absorption field the water supply line shall be installed at least 12 inches above the top of the aggregate layer of the absorption line and shall be encased in a single length of larger diameter water pipe. No absorption field shall be installed in areas where groundwater, soil characteristics or adverse geological formation may interfere with the absorption or effective treatment of sewage effluent. The board of health may require that the area in which the on-site sewage management system is located be protected from surface water and roof or downspout drainage. No part of the absorption field other than sealed pipe with watertight joints shall be covered by buildings, pavements, driveways, or used for parking automotive vehicles or for vehicular traffic.
- d) Minimum design and construction for absorption fields. Absorption lines and absorption trenches shall be designed and installation in accordance with the minimum design and installation criteria established in the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.11, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-182. Privies.

Minimum design and construction. Privies shall be designed and constructed in accordance with minimum design and construction criteria established by the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.12, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-183. Alternative-on-site sewage management systems.

- a) Alternative on-site sewage management system. Any approved on-site sewage management system which differs in design or operation from the conventional or chamber septic tank or privy.
- b) Design and construction. Alternative on-site sewage management systems shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the minimum design and construction criteria established by the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems. The department shall maintain a list of approved alternative on-site sewage management systems.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.13, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-184. Experimental on-site sewage management systems.

Experimental on-site sewage management systems means any on-site sewage management system proposed for testing and observation, and provisionally accepted for such purposes by the department's technical review committee. Any limitations to the use of experimental systems shall be decided by the department's technical review committee.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.14, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-185. Septage removal and disposal.

- a) Permit required. No person shall engage in the removal or disposal of the contents of septic tanks, pit privies, or other on-site sewage management or experimental systems without having first applied for and obtained from the department or county board of health a septage removal permit, renewed annually, for such activities. The application for such septage removal permits shall be submitted in writing on forms provided by the county board of health at least ten days prior to engaging in such activities. The application shall include but not be limited to: the business name and address, name and address of the applicant, the manner by which such contents are to be removed, transported and given final disposal and such other documentation as may be required by the county board of health, including evidence that septage removed and transported will be accepted at approved disposal sites.
  - 1. The permit shall be subject to suspension and revocation for failure to comply with the requirements of these regulations or the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.
- b) Pumping and disposal methods. Approved methods of pumping and disposal of septage from on-site sewage management systems shall be: discharge to a public or community sewage treatment system for treatment in a wastewater treatment plant, treatment at separate septage handling facilities, or direct land application. Pumping and disposal shall be in accordance with the requirements of the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems.
  - 1. Pumping of tank must be done in such a manner so as to insure removal of collected solids:
    - a) Remove lid or manhole covers;
    - b) Agitate to facilitate removal of solids; and
    - c) Pump all liquids and solids from tank.
- c) Vehicle identification. The name and address of the person or firm engaging in the removal of septage from on-site sewage management systems and the permit number shall be lettered on both sides of each vehicle used for septage removal purposes. Letters and numerals shall not be less than two inches in height and shall be readily visible.
- d) Vehicle maintenance. Every vehicle used for removal of septage from on-site sewage management systems shall be equipped with a watertight tank or body and properly maintained. Liquid wastes shall not be transported in open bodied vehicles. All pumps, hose lines, valves and fittings shall be maintained so as to prevent leakage.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.15, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

#### Sec. 46-186. Grease traps.

- a) Grease traps required. Grease traps shall be required for commercial or industrial establishments with on-site sewage management systems where it is determined by the county board of health that the amount of grease introduced into the system is in excess of 50 milligrams per liter.
- b) Grease trap design. Plans and specifications for grease traps shall be submitted to the county board of health for approval. The county board of health shall review the grease trap design in accordance with minimum design and construction criteria established by the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems. Effluent from grease traps shall be disposed of in a septic tank and not directly discharged to the absorption field. Grease traps shall be located, installed and constructed so that the temperature of the sewage will be reduced to permit congealing or separation of grease, and easy access for cleaning is provided.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.16, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

Sec. 46-187. Sewage flow.

Sizing. Sizing of on-site sewage management systems shall be determined from the department's current manual for on-site sewage management systems. The daily sewage flow may be determined by the department after due consideration of data submitted by the owner or his agent on design criteria. Calculations will be made on the basis of peak flow and not on long term averages.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.17, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

Sec. 46-188. Subdivision, mobile home park water supply.

a) Public water supply. Connection to a public water supply system shall be required if available within 1,0000 feet of the proposed subdivision or mobile home park.

1. Where a public water supply system will not be utilized, lots shall be sized to accommodate individual wells.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.18, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

Sec. 46-189. Maintenance and operation.

a) Prohibited discharge. No person shall allow the unapproved discharge or spillage of sewage, nor shall an on-site sewage management system be used or maintained in such a manner that will allow the seepage or discharge of effluent from such system to the ground surface, to a water course, drainage ditch, open trench, canal, storm drain or storm sewer, water well, abandoned well, lake, stream, river, estuary, groundwater, or other body of water.

b) Maintenance. The property owner shall be responsible for properly operating and maintaining the on-site sewage management system to increase the life expectancy and prevent failure. Maintenance of the system shall be in accordance with standards developed by the county board of health.

1. Mechanical treatment systems with subsurface disposal. Prior to placing the system into operation, the owner shall obtain a permit to operate such system from a representative of the county board of health. The operating permit must be renewed annually. To qualify for the operating permit, the owner must submit a copy of a signed maintenance contract with the manufacturer or licensed distributor or a company or individual acceptable to the county board of health. Conventional or chamber systems utilizing pumps are excluded from this requirement.

c) Multiple ownership. Where an on-site sewage management system is proposed to serve facilities under separate ownership, a contract to insure proper operation and maintenance of the system signed by all owners, shall exist as a precondition to the issuance of a permit for the construction of an on-site sewage management system.

d) Additives. Sewage system additives which are used to enhance the operation of an on-site sewage management system must be approved by the department. No strong bases, acids or organic solvents shall be used in the operation of the system.

e) Existing system evaluations. If a performance evaluation of an existing system is conducted, the evaluation shall be performed in accordance with the procedure established in the department's current. Manual for on-site sewage management systems.

f) Variances. The county board of health may grant variances in the cases of hardship where existing systems are malfunctioning.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.19, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7, 31-3-5.

Sec. 46-190. Technical review committee.

- a) Technical review committee. The department shall appoint and maintain a technical review committee consisting of a maximum of fifteen individuals with the technical and scientific knowledge relating to on-site sewage management systems. The duties of the committee will be to approve new systems, periodically review systems performance, assist the department with the development of standards and guidelines for new technology, assist with the adoption of periodic updating of the manual for on-site sewage management systems, revisions to standards and be the ultimate authority in contested interpretational issues. The committee shall also maintain a list of approved systems.
- b) Membership. The committee shall include at least one individual from the following disciplines:
  - 1. An environmental health section staff person who shall serve as the secretary;
  - 2. Local county environmentalist;
  - 3. Health district environmentalist;
  - 4. Engineering;
  - 5. Manufacturing;
  - 6. Home builders association;
  - 7. Soil classifier;
  - 8. University/academia;
  - 9. District health director, and
  - 10. Environmental protection division.
- c) Meetings. The committee shall meet as deemed appropriate by the department.
- d) Fee. The department shall adopt a fee schedule for the technical review of new products and technology.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.20, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1,31-2-1,31-2-2, 31-2-4,31-2-7,31-3-4.

Sec. 46-191. Certification and decertification of septic tank contractors, inspection personnel, pumpers, soil classifiers and maintenance personnel.

- a) Certification required. Twenty-four months after the adoption of these regulations, individuals performing services related to, site approval, the design, location, installation, inspection and maintenance of on-site sewage management systems, must be certified by the department.
  - 1. Guidelines defining certification qualifications for septic tank contractors, inspection personnel, pumpers, soil classifiers and maintenance personnel shall be established by the department and shall be published in the manual for on-site sewage management systems. The guidelines shall be based on education, experience, testing and performance.
  - 2. The department shall write a protocol for decertification of persons certified under the provisions of this section.
  - 3. Certification shall be required every two years and shall be based upon continuing education.
- b) Fee. The department shall adopt a fee schedule for the certification and recertification of the persons listed in this section.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.21, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1,31-2-1,31-2-2,31-2-4,31-2-7,31-3-4.

Sec. 46-192. Appeals.

Any person may appeal the denial of a permit to construct an on-site sewage management system to the appeals board utilizing forms provided by the county board of health. Where the public health is not endangered, the appeals board may waive or grant a variance of these regulations.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.22, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1,31-2-1,31-2-2,31-2-4,31-2-7,31-3-5.

Sec. 46-193. Errors and omissions insurance.

[Any] soil classifier practicing in this county shall be required to carry errors and omission insurance. Documentation confirming coverage shall be provided to the health department upon request. This requirement shall become effective thirty days after the adoption of these rules. The amount of coverage shall be a minimum of \$1,000,000.00.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-27-.23, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-3-5.

Sec. 46-194. Enforcement.

The administration and enforcement of this chapter shall be in accordance with O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-5.

(Ord. No. 98-O-110, § 290-5-26.24, 10-13-98)

Legal Authority: 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-2-7.

Sec. 46-195. Penalty.

Any person who violates any provision of this rule shall be guilty as provided by state law. Each and every violation of the provisions of this rule shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. No. 98-O-22, § 290-5-26.25, 10-13-98)

## **APPENDIX E: LANDFILL CAPACITY LETTERS**





**PINE BLUFF LANDFILL**

13809 E. Cherokee Drive  
Ball Ground, GA 30107  
(770) 479-2936  
(770) 479-3265 Fax

September 9, 2009

Mr. Geoffrey E. Morton, PE  
County Engineer  
Cherokee County  
1130 Bluffs Parkway  
Canton, GA 30114

Subject: Disposal Capacity Assurance

Dear Mr. Morton

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste collected or generated by Cherokee County disposed of at Pine Bluff Landfill, located at 13809 East Cherokee Drive, Ball Ground, Georgia 30107.

The Georgia EPD permit number for Pine Bluff is 028-039D (SL) the remaining permitted capacity of the landfill is 43,724,024 tons or 49,513,109 cubic yards based on measurements of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. The estimated life of permitted capacity remaining at the current and projected rates of waste disposal is 33 years.

We thank you for this business partnership; reserve a portion of our capacity for you as long as you remain a customer of Pine Bluff Landfill. We look forward to providing you environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future

Sincerely  
Pine Bluff Landfill

Gene Barnes  
Director of Atlanta Landfill Operations



September 28, 2009  
Mr. Geoffrey E. Morton, PE  
County Engineer  
Cherokee County  
1130 Bluffs Parkway  
Canton, Georgia 30114

Subject: Disposal Capacity Assurance

Dear Mr. Morton:

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Cherokee County Solid Waste Division from 2009 to 2019. The Georgia EPD permit for this disposal facility, Dixie Landfill, is 028-040D(C&D). Dixie is located at 150 Dixie Drive, Woodstock, Georgia, 30189. The remaining permitted capacity of the landfill is 37,875 tons or 75,750 cubic yards as of October 1st, 2009. The estimated life of permitted capacity remaining at current and projected rates of waste disposal is 1.5 years.

This disposal capacity assurance is based upon Cherokee County Solid Waste Division disposing of approximately 50,000 cubic yards of construction and demolition waste or approximately 25,000 tons of construction and demolition waste at our facility on an annual basis.

We thank Cherokee County for our business partnership and look forward to providing environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,  
Dixie Landfill

Mickey Swims  
Landfill Operator/Manager