

Solid Waste Hierarchy

SW Hierarchy No.	Topic	Issue
Source Reduction		
1	Preserving Disposal Capacity/Waste Minimization	EPA GPRA Goal of 4.5 LB/day/person- RI currently is at about 7+ pound/day/person
2		Pay As You Throw
3		Financial Incentives and Disincentives to Waste Minimization
4		Resource Management Contracting
5	Reduction of Toxics in Solid Waste	Product Stewardship-industry looking at entire life cycle of product-PSI/NEPSI
6		Implementation of Mercury Regs and more mercury product diversions-TRC, etc.
7		Issues related to Pressure Treated Wood and CCA
8		Targeted household hazardous waste collections
9	Compliance and Enforcement	Incorporation of Solid Waste Minimization (in addition to "traditional" P2) principles into ERP workbooks and self audits
10	Planned Regulation Amendments	Amendment of Mercury regs for 2004 issues and other changes
11	Other Issues	Public Education
12		Outreach Activities
Recycling		
1	Preserving Disposal Capacity/Waste Minimization	Status of Municipal / State Agency Recycling-particularly enforcement
2		Status of, and "doable" steps to improve Commercial Recycling, i.e., technical assistance and outreach
3		Developing Regional Rural Recycling Incentives
4		Market development for recyclables
5		State incentives to purchase material with recycled content, i.e., lower tax rate
6		Development of DOA requirements to purchase material with recycled content
7		Increasing recycling participation in multi-family dwellings
8	Compliance and Enforcement	Municipal Recycling
9	Other Issues	Tires
10		Removing Universal Wastes from Solid Waste stream- fluorescent bulbs, etc.
11		Public Education
12		Outreach Activities

SW Hierarchy No.	Topic	Issue
Composting		
1	Preserving Disposal Capacity/Waste Minimization	Diversion of Special Wastes-such as composting restaurant wastes
2	Planned Regulation Amendments	"Common Sense" approach to tree and brush waste
Landfill		
1	Permitting Issues	Phase V License Review and potential license conditions
2		Closure of NEED and Global and Industry Reactions
3		Planning for Beyond Phase V-Phase VI or other sites- Reconsideration of Incineration?
4	Compliance and Enforcement	Conditioning Permits to Promote Compliance
5		Use of Environmental Management Systems
6		Increased enforcement presence at remaining facilities to keep "contracted" industry in line and prevent future problems
7	Planned Regulation Amendments	New fee structure for SW facilities
8		Management of Out of State Waste-particularly loopholes related to alternative daily cover-Recovermat.

Source Reduction: refers to the design, manufacturing, purchase, or use of materials, such as products and packaging to reduce the amount or toxicity of materials before they enter the municipal solid waste management system, such as redesigning products or packaging to reduce the quantity of materials or the toxicity of the materials use; reusing products or packaging already manufactured; and lengthening the life of products to postpone disposal. Examples include donating food to food banks; diverting food scraps and yard trimmings through backyard (onsite) composing, and reusing plastics pallets. Also referred to as waste prevention. (U.S. EPA, 1996b)

Recycling: refers to those materials recovered from the solid waste stream and transported to a processor or end user for recycling (National Recycling Coalition, 1995).

Composting: refers to the organic component of municipal solid scraps that are biologically decomposed under controlled conditions; an aerobic process in which organic materials are ground or shredded and then decomposed to humus in windrow piles or in mechanical digesters, drums, or similar enclosures. (U.S. EPA, 1991a, 1994b)

Landfill: means a facility that collects and disposes of waste by landfilling methods. The term includes facilities that collect and store waste indefinitely. The term does not include incinerators, land application sites, surface impoundments and injection wells.