



October 2012

Hardin County, Kentucky

County Updates 5 Year Solid Waste Plan

Kentucky Statute requires county governments to update their solid waste management plan every five years. On September 11, Fiscal Court approved our five-year update.

This plan addresses:

1. Solid Waste Disposal
2. Recycling
3. Waste Reduction
4. Open Dumping
5. Litter Cleanup
6. Enforcement Measures
7. Public Participation
8. Public Education
9. Financial Costs

By reviewing these items, we assessed our current plan to determine successful areas as well as identify opportunities for improvement.

County Ordinances are currently in place to adequately address our residents' solid waste disposal needs and reduce open dumping. However, our updated plan also identifies additional educational measures and public participation as necessary improvements.

The five-year plan highlights the heavy monitoring measures in place at Pearl Hollow Landfill to assure ground and surface water is not contaminated. Actions are also underway to expand the landfill's lifespan for another 135 years!

Currently our landfill management contractor hauls leachate to an offsite wastewater treatment facility, incurring additional costs to the landfill operations. In an effort to reduce these costs, we are assessing the feasibility of an additional onsite leachate storage lagoon at the landfill, or the construction of a pump station to transport leachate to an offsite treatment facility in a more cost-effective way.

RECYCLING

Included in the solid waste plan is our recycling program. This program established five drop-off locations for residents to take household paper, cardboard, aluminum, tin, and plastics for processing into recycled items. We currently transport these items from our drop-off locations to Meade County where its county government established a processing center. The agreement with Meade County allows both governments to benefit from reduced costs by consolidating services. Our Solid Waste Plan calls for improvements to the current Recycling Program as it becomes financially feasible to do so.

ILLEGAL DUMPSITE CLEANUP

We will continue to cleanup illegal dumpsites as we identify them throughout the county. We contract out the cleanup of the larger dumpsites, such as the one we are currently working on along the Ohio River near West Point. We cleanup the smaller ones with the county work force with assistance from the Detention Center inmates.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Many active civic groups throughout our county assist with roadside litter cleanup, tree planting, and landscaping such as: Let's Spruce Up, Freeman Lake cleanups, and Adopt-a-Highway programs.



**Judge/Executive
Harry L. Berry**

FINANCIAL

The County's Solid Waste revenues include general funds, franchise fees, landfill user fees, leachate treatment fees, and methane gas sales.

We also receive state grant money to assist with some of our "green" programs such as Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Anti-Liter Control, and cleanup of illegal dumpsites.

Pictured below: The electrical generating facility at Pearl Hollow Landfill powered by methane gas from the landfill.

