

ANNUAL REPORT



Integrated Waste Management Services 2016 – 2017



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Innovative Environmental Solutions




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Integrated Waste Management Services

Fiscal Year 2016-17

(July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017)

This Annual Report describes the services, including performance measurements, provided by the County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division (RR&WMD) to the communities of Buellton, Goleta, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Solvang and the unincorporated areas during fiscal year (FY) 2016-17 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017). Some of the cities, such as Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Solvang, receive an array of services through different programs and facilities, while other communities, such as Lompoc and Santa Maria, receive more limited services, since they provide many of their own solid waste management programs.



Community Programs

The RR&WMD provides a wide variety of community programs to the region overall, as well as services specific to the unincorporated areas of the County. The Division is paid for these services through service contracts with the different cities and as part of the waste collection bills paid by residents and businesses in the unincorporated areas.

Waste Collection

The County administers two waste collection permitting systems in the unincorporated areas. It maintains exclusive franchise agreements with private hauling companies to provide the regular collection of waste, commingled recyclables, and green waste from residents and businesses. For the collection of bulky, construction related, or large quantities of organic refuse, the County has designed a collection system by issuing permits to a limited number of businesses (referred to as unscheduled haulers) who are allowed to collect this irregularly generated material with roll-off containers.

Regular Collection of Trash, Recyclables and Green Waste

RR&WMD staff is responsible for managing exclusive franchise agreements for the collection of solid waste materials from residents and businesses in the County unincorporated areas. Management responsibilities include identification of services to be provided, negotiation of service agreements, development of rates, mediation of customer complaints/service issues, and performance tracking. The following highlights some accomplishments of the franchised waste haulers, MarBorg Industries in the South Coast and Waste Management in the North County in key performance areas for FY 2016-17:

- **Sharps Collection Containers:** 75 customers in the North County and 165 customers on the South Coast requested and received postage paid sharps collection containers.
- **Household Batteries:** Residents are encouraged to put their unusable batteries in a clear closed bag and to place the bag on top of their curbside recycling container on collection day. A total of 3,840 pounds of batteries were collected curbside in the North County and 6,534 pounds of batteries were collected curbside on the South Coast.
- **Bulky Items:** Residents are allowed to request twice each year the curbside collection of bulky items that cannot fit into their trash container. Notably, electronic items have become an increasing portion of these collected items, and they are properly handled and recycled. A total of 1,696 curbside collections of bulky items were made in the North County and 3,783 curbside collections of bulky items were made on the South Coast.
- **CNG Vehicles:** The County requires its franchised waste haulers to operate clean burning condensed natural gas (CNG) trucks rather than diesel fueled vehicles. The nearly 40 trucks needed to service the unincorporated areas save 400 metric tons of



greenhouse gas emissions per year. This translates into an annual environmental benefit equivalent to removing 84 vehicles from the road each year. These trucks are also less expensive to fuel, resulting in savings that help moderate solid waste collection rates.

- **Recovery of Waste Material:** Each service provider is required to recover or divert from landfilling a specific percentage of material collected in each service area. These requirements are part of the County's overall program for meeting the state's goal of diverting 75 percent of the waste generated from landfills. The diversion requirements vary in different zones based on the characteristics of the waste collected. The following provides the overall recovery rates (comparing tons of recyclables and green waste to trash) in the two broader areas of the County for FY 2016-17:

AREA SERVED	TRASH	RECYCLING	GREEN WASTE	RECOVERY RATE
North County	58%	21%	21%	42%
South Coast	48%	18%	34%	52%
Countywide	53%	19%	28%	47%

Unscheduled Solid Waste Handling Services

The RR&WMD manages the Unscheduled Solid Waste Handling Services Permit Program. Under this program, the Division issues and manages permits granted to local businesses that rent roll-off bins in the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County. The program has the following components:

- A roll-off business must have a permit to operate in the unincorporated area; the RR&WMD issues five-year permits;
- Permit holders are:
 - Limited to providing up to 20 unscheduled pickups per calendar year from a customer, unless they are collecting waste that is exempt from this regulation; and
 - Required to recycle a minimum of 50 percent of all waste they collect through the rental of roll-off containers on an annual basis.
- RR&WMD staff conducts an annual audit to ensure that the unscheduled haulers are recycling the majority of the material that they collect.

Recycling and Organics Programs

The RR&WMD provides resources to the community to ensure that the maximum amount of recyclables and organics are diverted from being disposed in a landfill. These programs are targeted to households, businesses, schools, and construction projects. Resources include distributing a variety of educational materials, indoor and outdoor recycling and composting containers, and responding to a variety of public inquiries regarding the reuse, recycling, and composting of materials.

Mandatory Commercial Recycling

In 2003, the County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance banning the disposal of recyclables (e.g. cardboard, glass containers, metals, mixed paper, paperboard, and hard plastics nos. 1 through 7 (excluding Styrofoam)) by commercial customers. RR&WMD staff worked with local chambers of commerce, property management companies, and the franchised service providers to develop a convenient collection program to service the commercial sector. Staff from the franchised service providers and the RR&WMD worked closely with each commercial customer in an effort to modify trash and recycling service to appropriate levels to ensure compliance with the ordinance. In many instances, these efforts led to cost savings for the customer. Each year, RR&WMD staff reviews customer lists and service levels and meets with new businesses to ensure compliance with the ordinance. Staff provides indoor recycling collection containers, as well as stickers, posters, and other outreach materials to facilitate the implementation of a recycling collection program at a business.

Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling

Effective in 2016, Assembly Bill (AB) 1826 is a statewide law that requires the diversion of organics from landfills. Organics are defined to include green waste, wood materials, food scraps, and cardboard and paper products soiled with food. Outreach materials were developed and distributed to all commercial customers subject to this law and included graphics and instructions on how they could participate in the County's food scrap collection program. Information on AB 1826 was also posted on the County's website for waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, LessIsMore.org. Approximately 45 affected commercial customers in the unincorporated areas of the county have complied, primarily by having the County's franchise waste haulers collect and process their green waste, wood waste, and manure for use as mulch. Nearly 8,000 tons of these materials were collected by the franchise waste haulers during 2016-17. Working with the city of Goleta, the County continues to identify commercial customers willing to participate in its Food Scraps collection program, which is described in more detail below.

County Building Recycling

Additionally, recycling collection is provided at all County facilities, and the RR&WMD provides free indoor recycling collection containers upon request. During FY 2016-17, **31 such containers were provided to four County departments.**



School Recycling

The RR&WMD provides two types of school recycling services. The first service pertains to maintaining recycling programs at schools located in the unincorporated areas and the cities of Goleta and Solvang. The Division provides indoor and outdoor recycling containers, educational materials such as stickers and posters, and makes presentations to school classes and assemblies. In FY 2016-17, 14 recycling containers were delivered to one school. Educational materials were provided to four schools. The second type of school recycling service is described under **Public Information and Education**.



Construction Waste Management

In 2011, the Board of Supervisors adopted California's Green Building Code (aka CalGreen). This code currently requires a minimum of 65 percent of all construction waste to be recycled. All development projects in the County must include a solid waste management plan (SWMP) to comply with this recycling requirement. RR&WMD works with the Planning & Development Department in reviewing SWMPs for large projects that have potentially significant impacts on the community. In addition, companies that haul construction waste material are required to have a permit to operate in the County unincorporated areas and as a condition of this permit must recycle the majority of any material that they collect (including construction waste) when feasible. Staff works regularly with the County Planning & Development Department to maintain these two construction waste management programs, as well as the statewide mandatory CalGreen Standards.

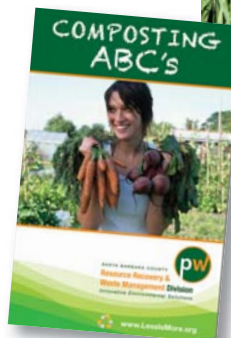


Backyard Composting

The County purchases composting bins that are made available to the public year-round at a reduced cost of \$45 versus over \$100 at retail stores. The RR&WMD sold **150 discounted composting bins to South Coast residents and 20 to North County residents** in FY 2016-17.

To educate residents regarding backyard composting, the County:

- Includes extensive information on its waste reduction/reuse/ recycling website, **LessIsMore.org**;
- Distributes a composting booklet, entitled **Composting ABC's**, and handouts (e.g. flyers, copies of **Santa Barbara County's Recycling Guide**) at events (e.g. Earth Day events and farmers' markets);

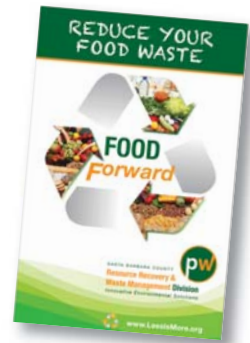


- Holds educational workshops. During the spring and summer of 2017, six public workshops on composting were held (four on the South Coast and two in the North County) with a total of 139 residents attending;
- Places print ads and online ads;
- Conducts outreach through e-mails;
- Places notices in newsletters of franchise waste haulers;
- In addition, approximately 1,977 members of the public received information on waste reduction, reuse, and recycling by visiting the RR&WMD's booth at the South Coast Earth Day event (750), participating on tours of the Tajiguas Landfill (675) and South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station (177), and listening to presentations (375 students) from RR&WMD staff at various schools.



Food Forward Food Waste Reduction

Launched in FY 2014-15, the RR&WMD has continued to implement the Food Forward program to encourage and educate households and businesses to prevent and reduce the generation of food waste and to recycle or reuse the food scraps that they do generate. As part of this effort, the Division makes available in hard copy and online at LessIsMore.org a booklet entitled **Food Forward**, which contains the following components:



- Identifies simple ways households can reduce their food waste;
- Explains food expiration phrases used on products to discourage the premature disposal of food;
- Provides the general criteria and incentives for donating prepared and unprepared food;
- Lists places in Santa Barbara County that accept donations of prepared and/or unprepared food;
- References organizations in Santa Barbara County that accept food scraps to feed animals;
- Provides the criteria for participating in a collection program for commercial food scraps; and
- Encourages the continued practice of backyard composting.

During FY 2014-15, the RR&WMD participated in workshops cosponsored by the Community Environmental Council, the FoodBank of Santa Barbara County, and the Santa Barbara and Orfalea foundations to develop a Santa Barbara County Food Action Plan (Plan). In FY 2015-16, former County 1st District Supervisor, Salud Carbajal and 5th District Supervisor, Steve Lavagnino, co-chairs of the Advisory Board that developed the Plan, issued a final report in conjunction with these partner agencies. The final report identifies four areas of opportunity moving forward:

- Invest in our Food Economy;
- Invest in our Health and Wellness;
- Invest in our Community; and
- Invest in our Foodshed.

The report, which can be accessed at www.sbcfoodaction.org, provides a definition and describes assets, concerns, and opportunities for each of these areas.

Commercial Food Waste Collection (South Coast)

As a component of its Food Forward Program, the County began a pilot food scrap collection route in 2014 for commercial customers in Goleta and the South Coast unincorporated areas in order to have that material repurposed for a beneficial reuse in the community rather than being buried in the landfill. **During FY 2016-17, 150 tons of food waste were collected from 14 customers (7 in the unincorporated areas and 7 in the city of Goleta) and diverted from the Tajiguas Landfill.** This diversion is equivalent to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the removal of 28 vehicles from the road per year and saving 15,000 gallons of gasoline. Commercial customers continue to be added to the program.



Manure and Bedding Material Collection (North County)

The County has worked with Waste Management to expand a commercial horse manure/bedding collection program to include more customers and also more green waste material from North County unincorporated areas that have large numbers of horses on site. During FY 2016-17, 1,314 tons of material were collected, resulting in the greenhouse reduction equivalent of removing 200 vehicles from the road for a year.



Mulch Program

A majority of the yard waste that is collected through the County's curbside green waste recycling program is processed into mulch that is then made available for reuse by the community, including commercial as well as residential customers. Over 3,200 customers receive mulch through this program, including 634 who joined in FY 2016-17. In addition to households, customers include schools, nonprofit organizations, churches, and businesses.



Households in the South Coast area of Santa Barbara County may obtain free mulch for their homes and gardens by accessing a pile that is maintained at the South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station (SCRTS) during its normal operating hours. Similarly, households in northern Santa Barbara County may obtain free mulch by accessing a pile that is maintained at the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Station (SYVRTS) during its normal operating hours. For a fee, qualified trucks (no pickup trucks or trailers) may also be loaded with large amounts of mulch.

RR&WMD will also deliver mulch for a fee in a dump truck, a roll-off truck, or a semi-truck, after a Purchase Agreement/Liability Waiver form has been signed. During FY 2016-17, 4,732 tons of mulch were delivered from the SYVRTS, while 13,154 tons of mulch were delivered from the SCRTS. And through a cooperative arrangement with the Goleta Water District and the city of Santa Barbara, the County will deliver mulch for free to their customers. The city of Santa Barbara will pay for two deliveries to its residential and commercial customers of 8 to 10 cubic yards of unscreened mulch per site every 12 months by a dump truck. And the Goleta Water District now offers a 100 percent rebate for up to two deliveries of screened or unscreened mulch (approximately 7 to 10 cubic yards) per year. The program is limited to \$80 per delivery or an annual maximum of \$160 per fiscal year (July 1 through June 30).





Hazardous Waste Collection

More and more materials are prohibited from being disposed in a landfill due to their toxicity, corrosiveness, and reactivity. Some materials are highly toxic and are generated on a more limited basis, while other materials such as batteries, are widely generated by the community. The RR&WMD provides numerous opportunities for the public to manage their hazardous waste in an appropriate manner.

Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center

The RR&WMD leases the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center (CHWCC) from the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) for the collection of hazardous waste from households and businesses. Countywide participation continues to be strong. In FY 2016-17, **8,394 participants (8,059 residents and 335 businesses) disposed of a total of 624,267 pounds of hazardous waste at the CHWCC.** The table below shows the breakdown of residential participation:

JURISDICTION / UNINCORPORATED AREAS AND OTHER COMMUNITIES	NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL PARTICIPANTS	PERCENTAGE
Goleta	2,201	27%
Santa Barbara	2,868	36%
Unincorporated Areas	2,940	36%
Solvang/Other Communities	50	1%
TOTALS	8,059	100%

Community Hazardous Waste Collection Events

Due to the remoteness of some areas of the County, the RR&WMD holds hazardous waste collection events to ensure that all parts of the community have easy access to appropriate methods of disposing of hazardous waste. RR&WMD held two hazardous waste collection events at the **Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station with 496 residents and businesses participating and collected a total of 43,520 pounds of hazardous waste.** The Division also held one collection event in **New Cuyama with 22 residents and businesses participating and collected 2,557 pounds of hazardous materials.**

Electronics Recycling

Since 2005, the County has been an authorized collector of Covered Electronic Devices under the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery's (CalRecycle's) statewide electronics recycling program. Under this program, the County collects both covered and non-covered electronic devices at its transfer stations and community collection events and contracts with an approved recycler to safely dismantle the devices and recycle the components. The table below shows a breakdown of the total pounds of electronics collected for recycling during FY 2016-17:



FACILITY / COLLECTION EVENT	POUNDS OF ELECTRONICS COLLECTED
South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station	343,532
Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station	74,617
Santa Ynez Valley Collection Events	18,056
TOTAL	436,205

Sharps Collection

RR&WMD partners with the County Public Health Department (PHD) to operate a used sharps (needles) collection program for the region. RR&WMD purchases sharps containers that are distributed, free of charge, at the PHD's five clinics. Community members can pick up a free container and return it when full to one of the clinics. Participation in the sharps collection program has remained steady. Countywide, **a total of 2,370 sharps five-quart containers were distributed to the public and 4,147 pounds of sharps were collected at the five County clinics** during FY 2016-17. Also, sharps disposal flyers/brochures continued to be distributed at medical facilities, pharmacies, solid waste transfer stations, hazardous waste collection facilities, and at public events.

In addition, since July 2011, under its franchise collection agreements, the waste haulers serving the unincorporated areas of the county have provided postage paid sharps collection containers to their customers upon request. In FY 2016-17, **240 customers requested sharps containers** from the franchised service providers (75 in North County and 165 in South County).



Pharmaceuticals Collection (Operation Medicine Cabinet)

Since FY 2009-10, in coordination with the County Sheriff's Department, the County Public Works Department has implemented a countywide pharmaceutical collection program called Operation Medicine Cabinet. Collection containers are located at all nine Sheriff's substations to enable residents to drop off pharmaceuticals of any kind. In addition, educational materials have been developed to make the public aware of the program. During FY 2016-17, **9,352 pounds of pharmaceuticals were collected** through this program.



On June 21, 2016, the County Board of Supervisors passed an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Ordinance for the Collection and Disposal of Unwanted Drugs. The ordinance requires manufacturers that sell their products within the County to design, fund, and operate a program to safely collect and dispose of their unwanted products. It encompasses the entire County and includes both prescription and over-the-counter medications.

Manufacturers must either independently or as part of a stewardship group submit a plan to the County by July 21, 2017. Implementation of the plan is expected to begin in the fall 2017, which will include collection receptacles at pharmacies and free mail-back envelopes.

Used Motor Oil Collection

The County serves as the regional coordinator for a used motor oil collection program funded by CalRecycle for the cities of Buellton, Goleta, Solvang, and the County unincorporated areas. In addition to the area's hazardous waste collection facilities, this program supports nine certified used oil collection centers that accept motor oil and oil filters from the public for proper recycling. **A total of 12,876 gallons of used motor oil and 2,083 used motor oil filters were collected** from these centers in FY 2016-17. Motor oil and oil filter collection containers were also purchased and distributed under this program. RR&WMD also conducted a countywide media campaign in spring 2017 to promote the recycling of used motor oil and to raise the public's awareness regarding the availability of these collection centers.

RR&WMD also continued to implement a program targeting those members of the community who are newer to the United States and that surveys have indicated are the most likely to change their own motor oil rather than use an automotive service. Through this program, Santa Barbara City College and Allan Hancock Community College train teachers of English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) students on a used motor oil curriculum, and the teachers then convey this information to their students. **A total of 869 students received instruction in this curriculum** and benefited from learning how to recycle used motor oil in our county.

The Agricultural Oil Collection Program serves the agricultural community in the Santa Ynez and Santa Maria valleys. Two collection sites are available, one in Buellton and one in Santa Maria. Farmers and



Public Information and Education

LessIsMore.org



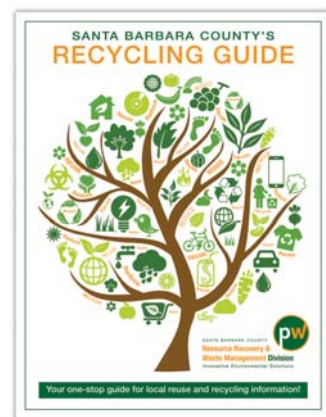
www.LessIsMore.org

- Identifying materials accepted for recycling in Santa Barbara County;
- Listing locations where households can take used motor oil and all types of hazardous materials for recycling or proper disposal;
- Giving tips to prevent or reduce waste and to reuse materials;
- Providing descriptions of the County's various waste reduction and recycling programs; and
- Making electronic versions of ***Santa Barbara County's Recycling Guide*** available in English and Spanish.

The site includes the ability to search by key words and to translate the information into Spanish. In FY 2016-17, the Division had a total of **211,382 LesslsMore.org visits from 185,154 unique visitors with 331,974 page views.**

Recycling Guide

The County RR&WMD continues to annually update and distribute its ***Santa Barbara County's Recycling Guide (Guide)*** throughout the County. The Guide is printed in English one year and in Spanish the following year. Enough copies of the Guide are produced to allow for distribution of a specific version for two years until the next update. In FY 2016-17, County staff **updated the English version of the Guide and distributed 2,356 copies** in the community. Additionally, **235 copies of the FY 2015-16**



Spanish version of the Guide were also distributed. Area libraries, governmental offices, and community organizations receive copies of the guide annually and contact our office for replenishment. Other copies were distributed during tours of the Tajiguas Landfill and South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station, at composting workshops, at public events, such as farmers' markets and Earth Day events, and in response to individual requests. Also, updates to the Guide are posted on LessIsMore.org on an ongoing basis for easy access.

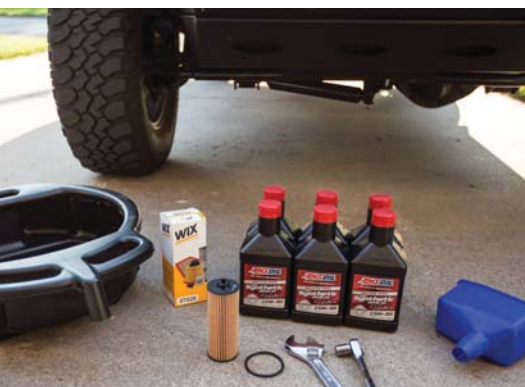
Information Campaigns

The Division uses various methods to publicize upcoming events, new developments, and reminders about existing programs and services to the community. Our comprehensive outreach plan includes the use of news releases, social media, articles on the Division and LessIsMore.org websites, bill inserts, videos, paid advertisements across all media platforms, and waste hauler newsletters. Efforts are made to target the Spanish-speaking population by distributing materials in Spanish at various events and venues (e.g. Earth Day events), running spots on Spanish-speaking television and radio stations, and providing a Spanish translation device on LessIsMore.org.

In FY 2016-17, RR&WMD conducted the following campaigns that typically changed monthly:

- **Christmas Tree Recycling** to encourage residents to recycle their Christmas trees, donate unwanted items to thrift stores, and to remind residents that they can put extra recyclables next to their containers immediately following the holidays. This campaign included a press release, print advertising, radio and television spots (in English and Spanish), and information posted on the Division's website and LessIsMore.org;
- **Santa Ynez Valley** (Fall and Spring) **and New Cuyama** (Fall) **Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collection Events** to make residents aware of the collection days held for hazardous and electronic waste generated in the Santa Ynez Valley and New Cuyama areas. A press release, print ads, radio spots, social media, and information posted on LessIsMore.org and the Division's website were used to promote these events;
- **Backyard Composting** to advertise the Division's backyard composting workshops held in Santa Barbara, Solvang, and Santa Maria in the spring and summer of 2017, as well as the year-round availability of composting bins for sale at a discounted rate. Composting workshops were promoted through print ads, radio spots, social media, and the Division's website and LessIsMore.org.





- **Used Motor Oil Recycling** to increase the public's awareness of the need to recycle their used motor oil, to not pour it down a storm drain, and to publicize the countywide availability of collection sites. Newspaper, television, radio and online ads, as well as a press release and social media were used to promote this program.
- **Electronics Recycling** to make the public aware of the numerous locations available to collect their electronic equipment for recycling or reuse. The County aired radio and newspaper ads and posted a video on LessIsMore.org and social media.
- **America Recycles Day** was commemorated with ads, a news release, and articles on websites to highlight LessIsMore.org as the "ultimate recycling resource."
- **Battery Recycling** to increase awareness among the public regarding the availability of free curbside collection of household batteries for recycling. The County produced a video, which was posted on LessIsMore.org and social media. Online newspaper and social media ads were also used.

Facility Tours

In FY 2016-17, RR&WMD staff continued to provide solid waste management facility tours to interested members of the community. Tours of the Tajiguas Landfill and the South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station (SCRTS) were promoted on LessIsMore.org, and outreach materials were prepared and distributed at community events and through our educational contractors. Also, educational posters and handouts were prepared for use during the tours.

For the Tajiguas Landfill, **12 tours were provided to approximately 675 students/community members.** RR&WMD staff explained how waste is managed in our community, the technical aspects of the facility, and provided tips and guidance on waste prevention and reduction, recycling, and reuse. Due to ongoing construction at the Tajiguas Landfill, the number of tours conducted during FY 2016-17 declined by just over 50 percent. For the South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station (SCRTS), **3 tours were conducted to 177 people.** During the SCRTS tours, RR&WMD staff showed the various types of materials collected for recycling, described the process of collecting, transporting, and sorting the recyclables for sale, and provided tips and guidance on waste prevention and reduction, recycling, and reuse. In addition, at the end of these tours, outreach materials for the County's waste reduction/recycling programs were distributed.

School Recycling

The County has several programs to educate students about source reduction, recycling, and composting. These services are provided by Explore Ecology, by Waste Management through an educational mobile trailer, and by the County through facility tours described above and



presentations. During FY 2016-17, County staff gave presentations on composting and waste reduction to 225 students.

Explore Ecology provides the following services:

- Brings students to their facility to learn the basics of integrated waste management and to participate in making art from waste materials;
- Visits schools to make in-class presentations;
- As part of its South Coast education contract with the County, Explore Ecology works with schools in the Goleta Union School District (GUSD) to collect food scraps and green waste to be composted on site. During FY 2016-17, six schools in the GUSD collected their food scraps and composted 1,433 pounds.

Under a separate contract, Waste Management sites a mobile trailer at interested schools to enable students to learn about source reduction, recycling, and composting. **Below is a table showing the results of these programs:**

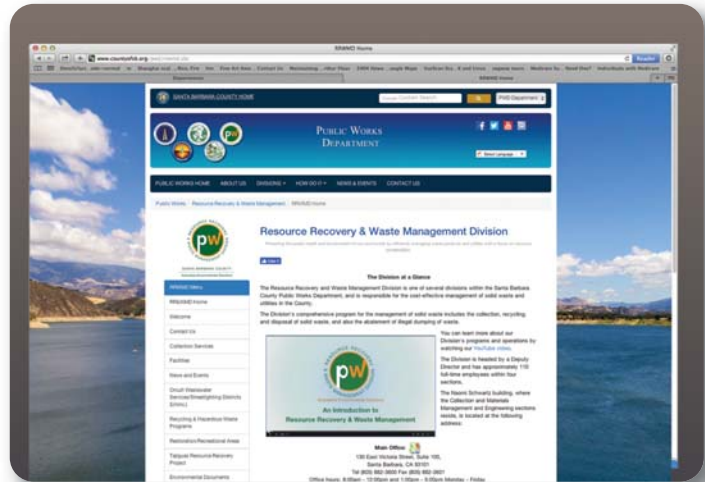
PROGRAM	AREA	# OF SCHOOLS OR CAMPS	# OF STUDENTS	# OF CLASSES
Explore Ecology	Unincorporated South Coast/ City of Goleta	25	2,147	70
Explore Ecology	Unincorporated North County	26	3,884	159
Waste Management	Unincorporated North County	4	4,854	3 events
TOTAL		55	10,885	229 + 3 events

Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division Website

RR&WMD staff maintains the Division's website that provides the following information:

- Collection services (trash and recycling) and corresponding rates for single-family residential service provided by the franchised waste haulers in the five service zones of the unincorporated areas;
- Descriptions and notices of upcoming activities and events;

- Descriptions of County facilities, including the types of materials accepted and corresponding fees;
- Link to County's website for information on waste prevention and reduction, recycling, and reuse, LessIsMore.org;
- Link to the County's Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project;
- Information on the Baron Ranch Restoration and other recreational areas;
- Descriptions of the Orcutt Wastewater Services/ Streetlighting Districts; and
- Environmental documents for current and past projects.



Community Clean Up

Litter and illegally dumped materials represent blight on our communities. The RR&WMD provides several programs that focus on the elimination or removal of waste materials found on roadsides and on private property.

Code Enforcement

The Division is responsible for enforcing Chapters 17 (solid waste) and 23 (abandoned vehicles) of the Santa Barbara County Code for the unincorporated areas of the County, as well as mitigating illegally dumped materials along County roadsides. **Here are the results of those efforts for FY 2016-17:**

UNINCORPORATED AREA	CODE VIOLATIONS IN ISLA VISTA (IV)	CODE VIOLATIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF COUNTY	ILLEGAL DUMPING	ABANDONED/ INOPERABLE VEHICLES	TOTAL
North County	Not applicable	82	119	38	239
South County	73*	46	57	4	180
Countywide	73	128	176	42	419

*Includes 42 couch violations and 31 collection container violations.



At the end of every school year in June, students from the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) discard tons of materials as they move out from their residences. During this two-week period, they leave an estimated 1.1 million pounds of trash along streets in Isla Vista (IV) and in past years, dozens of burned pieces of furniture (couches), thereby causing tens of thousands of dollars of damage to streets and properties. In 2001 all of these move-out materials were hauled to the Tajiguas Landfill, and there were 150 documented instances of arson. In contrast, during move-out in 2017, over half of the materials collected were diverted for either reuse or recycling and there were no reported arsons. This dramatic improvement can be attributed to the establishment and enforcement of new state and local laws, meetings with property owners and management companies, and the issuance of warnings and citations.

In an effort to capture as much of this material as possible for reuse and to prevent it from ending up at the Tajiguas Landfill, GIVE Isla Vista (IV), a campus organization, solicits donations of unwanted and reusable materials such as:

- Clothing
- Books
- Furniture
- Household furnishings
- Electronics
- Kitchenware
- Canned and packaged goods and
- Miscellaneous materials

UCSB students and community volunteers receive, organize and sort these donations for a weekend sale conducted by GIVE. All of the proceeds from this sale are distributed to IV organizations and projects. For the 2017 GIVE sale, 1,674 pounds of food were donated to the Associated Students Food Bank, and 55,043 pounds of material were sold or donated for reuse. RR&WMD donates heavy duty plastic bags to GIVE for use in sorting, storing, and cleaning the thousands of pieces of clothing collected. The Division also helps promote the sale by attaching a flyer and referencing the sale in the letter regarding move-out that is distributed to property owners, management companies, campus organizations, and community groups in Isla Vista.





Regional Coordination

The County RR&WMD administers a variety of regional waste-related programs that involve the participation of several different entities. These programs are either most efficiently administered on a regional basis or are required by the state to be managed by the County.

Green Business Program of Santa Barbara County

The County RR&WMD continues to administer the countywide Green Business Program of Santa Barbara County (GBPSBC) and contracts with a consultant to serve as the Program Director. Currently, 30 agencies and organizations provide financial support and/or in-kind contributions to the program.

Under the GBPSBC, businesses are offered positive incentives and assistance to implement actions that protect, preserve, and improve the environment above and beyond their compliance with applicable regulations. Upon completing certain mandatory and a minimum number of voluntary measures in the following areas, businesses will be certified as “green” businesses:

- Solid waste reduction and recycling;
- Environmentally preferable purchasing;
- Energy conservation;
- Water conservation; and
- Pollution prevention, which includes storm water runoff and using alternative forms of transportation.



Businesses achieving certification are subsequently given a sticker for display at their business, a certificate recognizing their achievement, and are honored at the annual GBPSBC Luncheon. They also receive free advertising by being listed in the directory of certified businesses on the GBPSBC website, recognition on chamber of commerce websites, and being highlighted through free print and online ads. **During FY 2016-17, eight businesses/agencies achieved certification and six were recertified. A total of 148 businesses have been certified (120) and recertified (28), since the program began in December 2008.**

Recycling Market Development Zone

As part of the renewal of the Santa Barbara Regional Recycling Market Development Zone (SBRRMDZ) during FY 2015-16, the cities of Buellton and Goleta joined the existing member jurisdictions, the County of Santa Barbara and the cities of Lompoc, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria. In conjunction with the renewal, the County contracted with the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce (SMVCC) to serve as the Zone Administrator for the SBRRMDZ.

During FY 2016-17, the Zone Administrator convened quarterly meetings of the member jurisdictions and discussed the following topics:

- A summary of activities conducted by the Zone Administrator;
- Updates from the member jurisdictions on RMDZ-related activities;
- Strategy for:
 - a) Marketing and promoting the SBRRMDZ;
 - b) Identifying and contacting prospective candidates for RMDZ assistance;
 - c) Using events of member jurisdictions to promote the RMDZ program; and
 - d) Coordinating with other agencies to cross promote programs and identify potential candidates for RMDZ assistance.

The purpose of the RMDZ program is to offer low interest loans and incentives to manufacturers in California that:

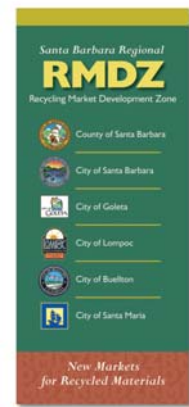
- Change the way products are made or packaged to prevent or reduce waste;
- Repair, recondition, wash, or treat a worn or used product to enable the product to be used again for its original purpose;
- Use recycled materials to make a feedstock for use by other manufacturers or to make a new product; or
- Use conversion technologies to convert waste materials that cannot be recycled or composted into high value products such as energy, fuels, and citric acid.

Local Solid Waste Task Force

The County RR&WMD continued to administer the Santa Barbara County Solid Waste Local Task Force (LTF), a group mandated by CalRecycle and comprised of representatives from each of the nine jurisdictions, as well as Vandenberg Air Force Base and the water districts. The LTF discusses and comments on proposed facilities, regulations, and local programs.

During FY 2016-17, the County held three LTF meetings to review and discuss:

- Fee structures for organics programs;
- Adoption of the Safe Drug Disposal Extended Producer Responsibility Ordinance;
- Product stewardship updates;
- Legislative and regulatory matters; and
- Jurisdictional updates.



State Document Preparation

In FY 2016-17, the County RR&WMD staff continued to prepare several regional reports for submittal to state agencies:

- Quarterly disposal reports for all jurisdictions in the County were submitted to CalRecycle;
- Annual Reports for the cities of Solvang and Goleta and County unincorporated areas were submitted to CalRecycle; and
- The annual Hazardous Waste Report (Form 303), encompassing the cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, Solvang and the unincorporated areas was submitted to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control.

Notably, the City of Goleta and the County of Santa Barbara have formed a Regional Reporting Authority. CalRecycle has calculated that the quantity of material sent to the Tajiguas Landfill for 2016 to be 4.2 pounds per capita, **equivalent to a diversion rate of 72 percent.**

In addition, RR&WMD:

- Provided hazardous waste information to Goleta and Santa Barbara for their storm water reports;
- Provided disposal information for Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District reports;
- Gathered information from other facilities in Santa Barbara County for the Quarterly Station Notification Reports and Annual Permitted Facility Reports and prepared the same reports for County-owned facilities; and
- Prepared and submitted an Amendment to the Multi-Jurisdictional Non-Disposal Facility Element for Santa Barbara County.

Open Space / Restoration Areas

In addition to offering solid waste management services, the RR&WMD has created the opportunity for the public to enjoy new open spaces and has established restoration areas in many sensitive habitats in our community. These projects have been done in partnership and coordination with many other local, state, and federal agencies, as well as local nonprofit organizations.

Baron Ranch Trail and Natural Area

Located in a coastal valley along the Gaviota Coast, approximately 25 miles west of Santa Barbara, Baron Ranch (Ranch) is comprised of 1,083 acres and is managed by the County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division (RR&WMD). Portions of the Ranch have historically been developed with avocado orchards, however, due to the age of the orchards and their declining productivity, agricultural activities were recently suspended. The Ranch contains a six-mile loop trail with a trailhead at the Calle Real frontage road that parallels the north side of Highway 101. The Baron Ranch Trail (Trail) is generally located east of Arroyo Quemado Creek (Creek) and extends to the West Camino Cielo jeepway at the crest of the Santa Ynez mountains. It is currently open only to hikers Saturday through Monday of each week, from dawn to dusk.

To expand the recreational use of the Trail, the Public Works Department, in consultation with the County Parks Division and trail user groups, is working to move the lower/southern portion of the trail to the western side of the creek. This trail realignment will separate the recreational uses from potential future agricultural operations and enhance the recreational experience by routing trail users through areas recently restored with native plant communities, as part of the Baron Ranch Restoration. With the cessation of the agricultural operations, the County will be exploring options on the future use of that portion of Baron Ranch during FY 2017-18.

Baron Ranch Restoration

Since July 2009, the RR&WMD has restored over 50 acres of barren, disturbed and former orchard areas on Baron Ranch. The restoration has been implemented in seven phases and has involved:

- Restoring native communities such as coastal live oak riparian forest, freshwater marsh, chaparral, Southern Willow Scrub, Venturan Coastal Sage Scrub, and Southern Coastal Live Oak Woodland; and
- Planting over 39,000 native plants, shrubs, and trees, including over 5,000 oak trees.





The restored areas provide valuable habitat to a wide variety of wildlife, including American black bear, bobcat, mountain lion, coyote, grey fox, California mule deer, numerous bird species, reptiles, such as the western pond turtle, and amphibians, such as the threatened California red-legged frog. All seven phases of the restoration efforts have been completed with the last three phases continuing to be monitored and maintained. It is anticipated that these last phases will be finished by January 2021.

Foothill Open Space/Natural Area

The Foothill Open Space Area is located between the cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta. Once a regional landfill that served the south coast of Santa Barbara County before the Tajiguas Landfill opened in 1967, the site is now a valuable urban open space resource that houses HEARTS, a therapeutic riding program for children and adults with disabilities. Using grants and County matching funds, the RR&WMD sponsored over 30 community planting-days, and with the help of neighbors and other community members, restored the former landfill site with native plants, enhanced the system of on-site trails, and installed educational signs along the trails.



Carpinteria Bluff Natural Area

The RR&WMD repaired the cover and seeded new vegetation at an abandoned burn dump near the City of Carpinteria in 2005. Used for decades by local residents and nearby oil extraction facilities as a place to burn garbage, this seaside property is now successfully restored and contributes aesthetically and biologically to the City of Carpinteria's bluff open space and trails, providing access to community beaches and offering panoramic views of the Santa Barbara Channel.

Solid Waste Management & Waste Water Treatment Facilities

Excellence Award for Solid Waste Management

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) recently announced that RR&WMD had won the Silver Excellence Award in the Integrated Solid Waste Management System (ISWMS) category. The ISWMS Excellence Award recognizes excellence in the management and operations of integrated solid waste management systems. An ISWMS is defined as one that uses complementary facilities and programs to manage specific components of the municipal solid waste stream.

Waste Management Services

Waste management services are provided by the County RR&WMD to the cities of Buellton, Solvang, Goleta and Santa Barbara in addition to the unincorporated areas of the County. Waste management services consist of:

- Transferring and burying trash;
- Sorting material for recyclables, such as metals, wood, green waste, tires, dirt, drywall, electronics, cardboard, mattresses, etc. at its transfer stations;
- Processing and marketing green waste at its transfer stations; and
- Contracting for and transporting commingled recyclables to be processed and marketed.

Additionally, the County accepts self-haul trash from the general public originating from all communities in the County. In addition to waste management facilities, RR&WMD operates the Laguna Sanitation Waste Water Treatment Plant, which services waste water generated by the Orcutt community.

The following highlights the quantity of the material managed at these facilities during FY 2016-17, as well as a breakdown of certain material types. Notably, RR&WMD is continuing a multi-year procurement for a state-of-the-art processing facility to sort all waste currently being buried at the Tajiguas Landfill.

Waste Burial — Tajiguas Landfill

Waste generated by the cities of Buellton, Goleta, Santa Barbara, Solvang and some parts of the unincorporated areas of the County are disposed at the County operated Tajiguas





Landfill. In addition to receiving waste directly delivered by the public and private hauling companies, the landfill receives waste collected from the South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station, the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station, and the New Cuyama and Ventucopa Transfer Stations.

In FY 2016-17:

- 206,065 tons of material were buried at the landfill;
- 26,264 tons of green waste were ground and distributed regionally as a mulch product; and
- 24,999 tons of material from MarBorg Industries' construction waste facility were used as alternative daily cover.

Over the past 15 years, methane gas has been collected at the Tajiguas Landfill and used as fuel to power an engine-driven turbine to produce 2.8 megawatts of electricity for approximately 2,500 homes. In addition to generating energy, capturing this methane gas reduces greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to planting over 44,800 acres of trees per year or removing the annual emissions of over 33,800 vehicles.

Recycling & Transfer Stations

The RR&WMD operates four recycling and waste transfer stations in the County. The County owned and operated facilities work to remove items from the waste stream that can be reused, recycled, and also serve as revenue streams.

In FY 2016-17:

- 20,692 tons of commingled recyclable materials collected curbside were delivered to a County facility and then were subsequently sent to processors for sorting into marketable commodities;
- 34,439 tons of green waste were delivered to County facilities and subsequently cleaned to remove contaminants and ground into mulch. This mulch was either sold to small and large scale customers or made available for free pick-up by the public.
- 1,935 tons of construction waste were recycled;
- 436,205 pounds of electronic equipment were collected and sent for processing to recover recyclable and reusable components; and

- 1,371 tons of miscellaneous materials, such as tires, mattresses, and metals were recovered and sent to recycling facilities.

South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station

The South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station received 72,419 tons of material in FY 2016-17. Of that material:

- 25,212 tons were transferred to the Tajiguas Landfill for burial;
- 21,731 tons of commingled recyclables were transferred to Gold Coast Recycling for processing;
- 23,964 tons of green waste were either processed on-site or transferred to another County facility for processing and marketing; and
- The remaining 1,512 tons of material were recovered for recycling.



Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station

The Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station received 26,292 tons of material in FY 2016-17. Of that material:

- 13,598 tons were transferred to the Tajiguas Landfill for burial;
- 12,475 tons of green waste were either processed on-site or transferred to another County facility for processing and marketing; and
- The remaining 219 tons of material were recovered for recycling.



New Cuyama and Ventucopa Transfer Stations

The New Cuyama and Ventucopa Transfer Stations are located in a remote area of northeastern Santa Barbara County. In FY 2016-17, 1,058 tons of material were received at the New Cuyama facility, and 38 tons of material were received at the Ventucopa facility. The material collected at these facilities is collected once per week by MarBorg Industries in a semi-trailer and taken to the SCRTS. Recyclables and green waste are sorted, while the remaining material is hauled to the Tajiguas Landfill.



Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project

Over the past 10 years, the County RR&WMD, in collaboration with the cities of Buellton, Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Solvang, has been working on the potential development of the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project (TRRP), a financially and environmentally responsible long-term solution to managing our community's waste. The TRRP will process municipal solid waste currently disposed at the County owned and operated Tajiguas Landfill, as well as source-separated material currently collected under the area's waste collection programs, such as recyclables and organics. The proposed TRRP is a public/private joint venture that may be publicly owned but designed, built, and operated by a private company (MSB Investors, LLC). The TRRP consists of a materials recovery facility to process mixed municipal solid waste, as well as source-separated recyclables and an anaerobic digester to process both mixed and source-separated organics. The end products of these processes will be the recovery and sale of additional recyclables, green energy, compost, and soil amendments. It is anticipated that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with this project is equivalent to removing over 24,000 vehicles from local roadways. Residue from the facility will continue to be disposed at the Tajiguas Landfill.

In July 2016, the County Board of Supervisors (Board) approved a contract with MSB Investors, LLC to build and operate the TRRP and certified the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR). Also, during the past year, waste delivery agreements were signed between the cities currently served by the Tajiguas Landfill and the County.

Waste Water Treatment — Laguna County Sanitation Waste Water Treatment Plant

The Laguna County Sanitation District (District) is a dependent special district of the County and provides waste water management services to residential and business customers in the Orcutt and unincorporated Santa Maria areas. The District currently owns and operates approximately 125 miles of sewer lines and one lift station, as well as a plant capable of treating up to 3.7 million gallons of waste water per day. Waste water is treated to disinfected tertiary levels capable of reuse as recycled water for agricultural and industrial uses. In 2012, the District installed a solar facility that generates one megawatt of electricity to power portions of the treatment plant facility along with a natural gas and biogas system. Biogas generated from the anaerobic digester is used to power the boiler that heats the digester. Digested biosolids are trucked to a commercial composting facility.



Recent Legislative and Regulatory Changes

As both federal and state agencies grapple with climate change, there have been an increasing number of policies and laws implemented to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by eliminating the disposal of organics in our landfills.

Assembly Bill (AB) 32 , Global Warming Solutions Act and Senate Bill (SB) 32 Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006

Passed in 2006, AB 32 requires that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions be reduced to pre-1990 levels by 2020. AB 32's "Scoping Plan" adopted by the California Air Resources Board specifically identifies the need to divert 22 million tons of organic material from landfills. This Plan, which has been amended in recent years, has included specifics related to diverting organics from our waste stream and has identified the need to expand the State's ability to compost diverted organics, specifically through anaerobic digestion and composting, as is proposed in the TRRP. SB 32 extends and expands the State's commitment to reduce the GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

Assembly Bill (AB) 341, Mandatory Commercial Recycling

AB 341, which became effective in 2011, requires that at least 75 percent of the State's waste be reduced, recycled, or composted by 2020. It requires businesses, defined as commercial and public entities that generate four or more cubic yards of commercial solid waste per week and multi-family residential dwellings of five or more units, to establish a recycling program on or after July 1, 2012.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1826, Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling

AB 1826 requires businesses that generate a specified amount of organic waste per week to divert it from disposal, beginning in April 1, 2016 for larger generators and extending to smaller generators through 2019. Also, jurisdictions must establish and implement a recycling program for this organic waste, which encompasses green waste, wood materials, food scraps, and food soiled cardboard and paper products.

Senate Bill (SB) 1383, Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reductions

Signed by Governor Brown in 2016, SB 1383 establishes targets to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75 percent reduction by 2025. Also, no less than 20 percent of currently disposed edible food must be recovered for human consumption by 2025.

In addition, the California Air Resources Board, in conjunction with CalRecycle, is currently considering additional regulations to be passed in 2018 that would effectively eliminate all organics from disposal in landfills by 2025. More recently, on October 8, 2015, Governor Brown signed into law two more bills directly targeting organic waste: AB 876 requires local

governments to plan for 15 years of organic waste recycling infrastructure; and AB 1045 requires state agencies to work together to support the diversion of organic waste from landfills.

The federal government has followed California's lead in establishing policies to remove organics from landfills. On September 15, 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, announced the first ever national food waste reduction goal of 50 percent by 2030.

It is clear that managing organic waste is a rapidly expanding area of policy and law that will require local jurisdictions to develop needed infrastructure and will most likely add more cost to waste management systems. Santa Barbara County is not alone in addressing these policies by proposing to establish an anaerobic digesting (AD) facility. As of 2014, CalRecycle identified 12 AD facilities that process organic waste, one under construction, and an additional eight proceeding through the permitting process. Even if the County chooses not to develop the TRRP, similar facilities will need to be developed locally in order to comply with existing and future state and federal mandates.

Future New Programs and Facilities

While the RR&WMD has already implemented a wide range of programs, due to regulatory changes as well as changes in community needs, several additional programs and facilities have been identified to be pursued in future years. These additional programs include:

- **Expansion of local waste processing capability and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions** related to waste management through completion of the TRRP in order to comply with Public Resources Code Section 41721, AB 32, AB 341, AB 1826, SB 1383, and AB 876;
- **Expansion of the commercial food waste collection program** to a permanent and larger program in order to comply with AB 1826;
- **Increased opportunities to appropriately dispose of pharmaceuticals**, including participation in the County's efforts led by the Public Health Department to implement a pharmaceutical take-back ordinance;
- **Expansion of the County's recycled-content and environmentally preferable purchasing practices** through participation in the County's Sustainability Team; and
- Working with the Parks Division in the Community Services Department to **expand the existing public trail on Baron Ranch**.







For more information please visit:
LessIsMore.org



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