

A. INTRODUCTORY COMPONENTS

Acknowledgements

This Solid Waste Management Plan for Lamar County was prepared by Douglas M. Wimberly, PS/PE Reg. No. 11733 of Jordan, Kaiser & Sessions, LLC, 279 Lower Woodville Road, Natchez, MS under contract from Lamar County. Information utilized in the development of this document was obtained from the following individuals and their time and contributions are sincerely appreciated:

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Sheila Speights, Purvis City Clerk
Jo Ann Robbins, Sumrall City Clerk
Buford Clark, Waste Management
Jimmy Bounds, Enviro
Frank McCabey, Allied Waste

Executive Summary

Lamar County is located in south Mississippi and encompasses approximately 500 square miles. The towns of Lumberton, Sumrall and Purvis are located within Lamar County and a portion of Hattiesburg (West Hattiesburg), which is primarily located in neighboring Forrest County, is located in the northeast portion of the county.

Lamar County has been operating under a solid waste management plan developed in 1996 which has remained static and unchanged since that time. The towns of Lumberton, Sumrall and Purvis were included in the 1996 plan and each of these municipalities has opted to be included in this new solid waste management plan.

Lamar County is one of the fastest growing counties in the state with regard to population, posting a 28 percent gain over the last 20 years. Lamar County's net population as of the 2000 Census, exclusive of all municipalities including West Hattiesburg, was 25,064. As part of this plan, Lamar County's net population was projected in five year increments from 2010 to 2030 with the 2030 net population estimated to reach 68,256. Likewise the municipal populations were projected in five year increments from 2010 to 2030 resulting in Lumberton's population being projected to reach 2,365 by 2030; Purvis' population being projected to reach 2,065 by 2030; and, Sumrall's population being projected to reach 1,327 by 2030.

Within Lamar County, exclusive of the towns, residential waste is picked up weekly by the County Sanitation Department. All of this waste is taken to the Trashhunter's Transfer Station in Oak Grove for ultimate disposal at the Clearview Landfill in Scott County, MS. Utilizing GPS location information collected by the Sanitation Department during their routes, the Lamar County Road Department collects rubbish and yard waste in separate trucks. Rubbish is delivered to the Oak Grove Rubbish Facility operated by Trashhunters. Yard waste is delivered to a processing facility in the Oak Grove community operated by Tim Goggins where the waste is chipped/ground for use as a fuel feed stock for pulp/paper and lumber mills. Additionally, a number of commercial waste

haulers provide dumpsters for waste collection at businesses and construction sites throughout Lamar County, including the municipalities, with the waste collected being dumped at either the Trashhunter's Transfer Station (commercial and business dumpsters) or the Oak Grove Rubbish Facility (construction dumpsters) as appropriate. In 2009, a total of 14,089 tons of residential waste, 3,866 tons of commercial waste, 4,951 tons of rubbish and 4,025 tons of yard waste were collected and disposed of as described above in Lamar County.

Residential waste in Purvis is picked up once per week by a commercial waste company and delivered to the Trashhunter's Transfer Station. Rubbish and yard waste are picked up on an as needed basis by the Purvis Street Department. Yard waste is separated from the general rubbish and is hauled to the Lamar County South Barn to be included with the Lamar County yard waste which is hauled to Goggins facility for processing as described in the previous section. The rubbish is placed in a dumpster which is collected by a commercial waste company and hauled to the Oak Grove Rubbish Facility for disposal. White goods and tires are also picked up on an as needed basis by the Street Department with white goods being taken to a metal recycler and the tires taken to the Lamar County Road Department barn for disposal with the waste tires collected in the remainder of Lamar County. In 2009, Purvis generated 633 tons of residential waste. No quantity information is available for the rubbish, white goods or tires collected in Purvis. The yard waste collected in Purvis is included in the total shown for Lamar County.

Residential waste in Sumrall is picked up once per week by a commercial waste company and delivered to the Trashhunter's Transfer Station. Sumrall pays the Lamar County Road Department to come in once per month to collect rubbish and yard waste. The Lamar County Road Department then handles this material as it does the remainder of the rubbish and yard waste collected in Lamar County. Thus the quantities of rubbish and yard waste generated in Sumrall in 2009 are included in the respective values reported for Lamar County. In 2009, a total of 354 tons of residential waste was collected in the Town of Sumrall.

Residential waste in Lumberton is picked up once per week by the Lumberton Sanitation Department and is disposed of at the Central Landfill operated by Waste Management in Millard, MS. The Lumberton Road Department picks up rubbish and yard waste on an as needed basis and delivers this material to the Lamar County Road Department South Barn where it is separated into rubbish and yard waste and is handled as described above for the rubbish and yard waste collected in the remainder of Lamar County. Thus the volumes of rubbish and yard waste collected in Lumberton in 2009 are included in those totals reported for Lamar County. In 2009, Lumberton collected 840 tons of residential waste.

Additionally, waste volumes were determined for the Lamar County School System and the Lumberton School System. The total amount of waste generated by the school systems in Lamar County in 2009 was 950 tons.

Based on these waste quantities for 2009 as well as the 2010 population estimations made for Lamar County and its municipalities, the following annual unit waste generation rates were calculated:

Residential Waste = 0.51 tons/person

Rubbish Waste = 0.14 tons/person

Yard Waste = 0.10 tons/person

A separate annual unit waste generation rate of 0.36 tons/person was determined for Lumberton since its residential waste is disposed of in a different landfill from the remainder of Lamar County.

A waste characterization study was performed on the wastes collected in Lamar County by the Lamar County Solid Waste Department, in Purvis by Allied and in Lumberton by the Lumberton Sanitation Department. Most notable from this waste characterization was that no rubbish or yard wastes appeared to be disposed of as residential wastes and that as much as 62% of the waste stream has the potential for recycling.

The residential and commercial wastes collected in Lamar County, Purvis and Sumrall ultimately end up at the Clearview Environmental Control Facility in Scott County, MS for final disposal. In 2008, this landfill reported having an available life of 39 years. The residential wastes in Lumberton are disposed of at the Central Landfill in Pearl River County, MS. In 2008, this landfill reported having an available life of 28 years. Based on these reported operational life figures, there is no need for Lamar County or any of its municipalities to pursue additional residential waste disposal options within the next 20 years.

All of the rubbish waste collected in Lamar County is disposed of at the Oak Grove Rubbish Facility located in northeast Lamar County. In 2008, this facility reported having an available life of 13 years. While this does not provide for capacity for the next 20 years, Lamar County and the municipalities located therein do not anticipate permitting or operating a publically owned rubbish disposal facility. Rather, commercial rubbish disposal facilities will continue to be utilized with those companies providing the most economical disposal options being considered for future needs.

All of the yard waste collected in Lamar County is processed by Tim Goggins for use as a fuel feed stock for pulp/paper and lumber mills. In 2009, this reduced the amount of yard waste being landfilled by 4,025 tons or 14% of the total waste being collected in Lamar County.

Lamar County has done an excellent job in developing systems for the proper disposal of all types of wastes generated in Lamar County. Specifically:

- Waste tire disposal is provided for residents and small quantity generators via five collection sites throughout the county which are operated from 7 a.m. to 12 noon on alternating Saturdays, the schedule for which is published. In 2009, approximately 2,200 waste tires were collected and delivered to Fairley's Tire and Rubber Company in Lumberton for disposal.

- Lamar County sponsors a “Right to Throw Away Day” annually for the collection and proper disposal of household hazardous wastes. This event is advertised in the local media with significant numbers of residents depositing materials for disposal.
- In conjunction with waste tires, white goods are also collected at the same five sites in Lamar County on the published schedule. White goods collected are delivered to Shemper’s Metals in Hattiesburg and sold as scrap metal. In 2009, 167 tons of white goods were delivered to Shemper’s for recycling.
- As a result of Hurricane Katrina, Lamar County has purchased a number of knuckle boom trucks which the Road Department uses to pick up rubbish and yard waste throughout the county. These trucks will be able to be utilized for the clearing and disposal of disaster debris. Additionally, after Katrina, Lamar County temporarily permitted several disaster debris disposal sites throughout the county. While these sites have subsequently been cleaned up and closed per MDEQ requirements, they remain available for use as disaster debris disposal sites under temporary permits in the future. The County Administrator acts as the primary contact, with support from the Road and Solid Waste Department Supervisors, for disaster debris handling within Lamar County.
- Lamar County has enacted a Zoning Ordinance and a Storm Water Run-off, Illicit Discharges and Illegal Connections Ordinance which provide for the monitoring, reporting, penalization and clean-up for illegal dumping and the improper discharge of liquids and wastes. These ordinances along with provisions for public reporting of incidences are provided on the County’s web site.

Lamar County has done an excellent job in working to minimize the amount of waste which is simply hauled to a landfill for eternal disposal. Specifically the things which Lamar County is doing to reduce waste are:

- All public offices associated with Lamar County government as well as the libraries are recycling paper, plastic, cardboard and aluminum through an agreement with Advanced Disposal Services of Sumrall.
- The Lamar County School System is recycling paper, plastic and aluminum in the same manner as the County offices. Additionally, all cafeterias associated with the school system are recycling all cardboard boxes and No. 6 tin cans through Advanced Disposal Services of Sumrall.
- In 2009, Lamar County began taking all yard waste to the facility operated by Mr. Tim Goggins where it is subsequently ground and chipped for sale as a fuel source for industries. This represents a 14% reduction in the amount of solid waste being landfilled by Lamar County.
- All white goods disposed of in the county are taken to Shemper's Metals in Hattiesburg for recycling. In 2009, a total of 167 tons of white goods were recycled by Lamar County through Shemper's.

Solid waste handling in Lamar County, exclusive of the municipalities, is funded via property taxes. In Lumberton, Purvis and Sumrall, monthly fees ranging from \$13.25/month to \$14.00/month per house are collected to finance solid waste collection and disposal. Neither Lamar County nor any of its municipalities own or operate any landfills and do not have any debt associated with the past operation and closure of any landfills. Lamar County and its associated municipalities will adjust taxes and rates as necessary to cover the costs of solid waste handling and disposal in order to provide a pay-as-you-go system, i.e. no long term debt will be incurred for solid waste handling.

Four opportunities exist within Lamar County for the improvement and reduction of solid waste disposal. These opportunities along with the proposed timeline for their implementation are:

1. Rubbish Waste: Currently, the facility receiving rubbish waste for Lamar County has useful remaining life of only 13 years. Within the 20 year planning period associated with this plan, Lamar County will have to plan for continued disposal

of the rubbish collected in the county. Because providing rubbish disposal for Lamar County represents a significant business opportunity, it is anticipated that either the current handler, Trashhunter's or another waste disposal company will develop additional rubbish disposal capacity to serve Lamar County. However, this is not a given and it is recommended that Lamar County evaluate the existing and proposed rubbish disposal capacity available to the county by the end of 2015 and submit a written report to MDEQ at that time detailing the findings and developing a plan to ensure continued future rubbish disposal capacity.

2. Special Waste Handling: Lamar County should explore the feasibility of utilizing a commercial tire hauler/recycler in lieu of the waste tire landfill contractor it is currently utilizing. Based on preliminary cost information, the recycling option may not cost any more than the landfilling option and will be much more environmentally friendly. Based on the number of tires currently being disposed of by Lamar County, this could represent a reduction of 30 to 40 tons of tires which are currently being landfilled. It is recommended that Lamar County solicit bids from commercial tire haulers/recyclers in the first quarter of 2011 and make a determination based on the cost information received whether to continue with the current tire disposal method.

3. Recycling and Waste Reduction: Lamar County has already done an excellent job in reducing the amount of waste being landfilled by implementing a beneficial use program for yard wastes and a recycling program within the County offices. The presence of a large recycling company, Advanced Disposal (Formerly Sumrall Recycling) in Lamar County presents opportunities for increased household recycling. Based on the waste characterizations determined for this plan, it is seen that as much of 62% of the County's current residential waste stream has the potential for recycling. Lamar County along with Lumberton, Purvis and Sumrall should explore the feasibility of allowing a recycling company to implement a once per month curb side recycling program within their jurisdictions. These

contacts should be made within the first half of 2011 with a final decision by the end of 2011 regarding the feasibility of implementing such a program.

4. **Illegal Dumping:** Lamar County has established a set of ordinances with adequate personnel dedicated to enforce the ordinances along with penalties for not complying with the ordinances and generally does not have a problem with illegal dumping. To ensure that this trend continues and to better educate the public regarding the consequences of illegal dumping and the alternatives available within the county, it is recommended that the Lamar County Planning Department place an add twice yearly in the local paper stating that illegal dumping is a crime with the penalties stated along with a listing of the waste handling opportunities available within the county (rubbish and yard waste disposal, waste tire disposal, white goods disposal, household hazardous waste disposal) with the dates and times of operation of these opportunities listed. It is recommended that this practice begin immediately in 2011.

At the end of 2011, the County Administrator will present a letter to MDEQ communicating its conclusions regarding the feasibility and or implementation of the four opportunities listed.

This entire plan was submitted for public review and comment per MDEQ requirements with all comments and concerns being addressed herein and made part of this document.

This solid waste management plan will be reviewed annually and updated and revised as necessary by the County Administrator. The results of this review along with any revisions made will be communicated to MDEQ via letter no later than December 31 for the year in question.