

ANNUAL REPORT

2017-2018

Integrated Waste Management Services



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Innovative Environmental Solutions



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Fiscal Year 2017-18

(July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018)

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) 2017-18 (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018). 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 Buellton, 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 households 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. Responsibilities include the 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 2017-18:

- **Sharps Collection Containers:** 139 customers in the North County and 126 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 3,000 pounds of batteries were collected curbside in the North County and 7,002 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 increasingly large portion of these collected items, and they are properly handled and recycled. A total of 2,617 curbside collections of bulky items were made in the North County and 3,491 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 2017-18:

AREA SERVED	TRASH	RECYCLING	GREEN WASTE	RECOVERY RATE
North County	60%	20%	20%	40%
South Coast	45%	25%	30%	55%
Countywide	51%	23%	26%	49%

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. This 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. Of the approximately 1,500 commercial customers subject to this ordinance, 99 percent are in compliance.

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. In addition, County staff posted information on AB 1826 on the County's website for waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, LessIsMore.org.

The County has achieved compliance with Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling legislation in several key ways:



- **Green Waste Recycling:** The County has had a robust recycling program for green waste for many years that continues to divert significant amounts of this material from the Tajiguas Landfill. Approximately 92 percent of households have green waste recycling service with over 1,000 customers having multiple containers. In addition, as described below, the County grinds the green waste for conversion into mulch, which is then distributed for local beneficial reuse for agriculture, landscaping, and gardens. The tons of mulch delivered from the South Coast and Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Stations are referenced below under the Mulch Program.



- **Commercial Food Scrap Collection Program:** As a component of the Food Forward Program launched in FY 2014-15, the County began a pilot food scraps collection program in 2014 for commercial customers in the South Coast unincorporated areas and Goleta to have that material repurposed for a beneficial reuse rather than being landfilled. The County has continued to enhance the program by working with our franchised haulers to identify potential customers, develop educational materials and establish routes for food scraps collection. During FY 2017-18, over 150 tons of food scraps were collected by MarBorg Industries from 30 commercial customers in the South Coast. During FY 2017-18, the County expanded the program to the North County unincorporated areas, Solvang, and the Santa Ynez Indian Reservation (Chumash Casino Resort). Over 250 tons of food scraps were collected from 25 customers.



- **Collection of Manure and Bedding Material and Other Organics:** 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 2017-18, 1,100 tons of material were collected, resulting in the greenhouse reduction equivalent of removing 200 vehicles from the road for a year.



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 2017-18, **11 such containers were provided to two County departments.**



28 Quart



41 Quart



35 Gallon



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 2017-18, 70 recycling containers were delivered to two schools. 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 **222 discounted composting bins** Countywide in FY 2017-18 from the South Coast and Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Stations and the North County Public Works building.

To educate residents regarding backyard composting, the County:

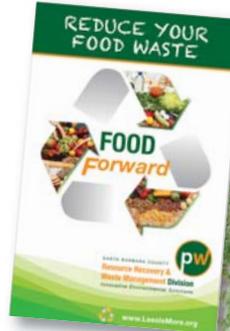
- Includes extensive information on its waste reduction/reuse/ recycling website, **LessIsMore.org**;
- Distributed 1,900 English versions and 500 Spanish versions of its composting booklet, entitled **Composting ABC's**, and handouts (e.g. flyers, copies of **Santa Barbara County's Recycling Guide**) at events (e.g. Earth Day events and farmers' markets);

- Conducted a campaign focused on North County, which included mailers and advertising that promoted the discounted composting bins, the workshops, and other composting resources.
- Held 11 educational workshops for the public during the spring and summer of 2018 (9 on the South Coast and 2 in the North County) with a total of 445 residents attending;
- Placed print ads and online ads;
- Conducted outreach through e-mails;
- Placed notices in newsletters of franchise waste haulers;
- In addition, approximately 1,420 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 (650), participated on tours of the Tajiguas Landfill (115) and South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station (140), and listened to presentations (515 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.

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. 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 2017-18, 6,908 tons of mulch were delivered from the SYVRTS, while 10,181 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 2017-18, **8,300 participants (8,017 residents and 283 businesses) disposed of a total of 583,425 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	2,191	27%
Santa Barbara	2,821	35%
Unincorporated Areas	2,967	37%
Solvang/Other Communities	38	1%
TOTALS	8,017	100%

In October 2012, California passed a law requiring the paint and coatings industry to develop a product stewardship program for paint. Under the “PaintCare” program, a fee is added to the purchase price of new paint, and this fee enables PaintCare to pay for storage containers, transportation and the recycling and proper disposal of paint and other “program products” that are delivered to facilities that contract with PaintCare. In February 2014, the County of Santa Barbara signed an agreement with PaintCare for the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center (Center) to serve as a collection site. Paint and other program products are collected, transported, and disposed at no cost to the County and its participating jurisdictions, resulting in cost savings to rate payers. During FY 2017-18, **157,206 pounds of paint were collected at the Center that resulted in cost savings of \$55,531.** Since the County joined the PaintCare program in 2014, it has achieved cost savings of \$278,513.

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 498 residents and businesses participating and collected a total of 55,016 pounds of hazardous waste** (not including electronics). The Division also held one collection event in **New Cuyama with 26 residents and businesses participating and collected 2,634 pounds of hazardous materials** (not including electronics).

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 2017-18:



FACILITY / COLLECTION EVENT	POUNDS OF ELECTRONICS COLLECTED
South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station	279,401
Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station	56,528
Santa Ynez Valley and Cuyama Valley Collection Events	20,017
TOTAL	355,946

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 during FY 2017-18 increased 30 percent over FY 2016-17. Countywide, **a total of 3,090 five-quart containers were distributed to the public, and approximately 5,407 pounds of sharps were collected** at the five County clinics during FY 2017-18. 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 their 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 2017-18, **265 customers requested sharps containers** from the franchised service providers (139 in North County and 126 in South County).



Pharmaceuticals Collection

In 2009, in coordination with the County Sheriff's Department, the County Public Works Department established a countywide pharmaceutical collection program called Operation Medicine Cabinet. Medication collection containers were located at all nine Sheriff's substations, and educational materials were developed for the public. The program quickly became a success, as it provided a much needed and requested opportunity for residents to safely dispose of their unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications.



With increasing amounts of medications collected, the program began putting increased demands on the Sheriff's Department. In an effort to reduce costs and shift the responsibility of managing unwanted medications to the producers of those medications, 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.

During FY 2017-18, MED-Project, the organization administering the County's medication stewardship program on behalf of the pharmaceuticals industry, recruited local collection sites and installed kiosks. The County now has 31 collection locations at pharmacies, County health clinics, and law enforcement facilities. In FY 2017-18, the program collected 3,669 pounds of medications. Before transitioning into the new stewardship program, Operation Medicine Cabinet collected an additional 4,149 pounds of pharmaceuticals for a **total of 7,818 pounds of medications collected** in FY 2017-18. Over the next year, MED-Project will continue to recruit new sites and work on promoting existing locations.

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 eight certified used oil collection centers that accept motor oil and oil filters from the public for proper recycling. **A total of 13,299 gallons of used motor oil and 2,238 used motor oil filters were collected** from these centers in FY 2017-18. 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 2018 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 837 students received instruction** in this curriculum and benefited from learning how to recycle used motor oil in our county during FY 2017-18.



The Agricultural Oil Collection Program serves the agricultural communities in the Santa Ynez and Santa Maria valleys. Two collection sites are available, one in Buellton and one in Santa Maria. Farmers and ranchers can bring up to 55-gallons of used motor oil, along with associated oil filters, per trip at no charge. Special pump-out equipment is available for those delivering oil in large containers, such as 55-gallon drums. During FY 2017-18, 16,305 gallons of used motor oil and 3,628 oil filters were collected.

Public Information and Education

The Division uses a variety of means to communicate with the public, including outreach to the Spanish speaking community, regarding the different solid waste management programs and services that are available. The following means were used to provide information to the public during FY 2017-18:

LessIsMore.org

LessIsMore.org is the region's primary online source for information on waste reduction, reuse, and recycling in the County. The Division's website provides a wide variety of information including:

- 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 2017-18, the Division had a total of **239,301 LessIsMore.org visits from 201,168 unique visitors with 367,764 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 725 copies** in the community. Additionally,

975 copies of the FY 2017-18 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

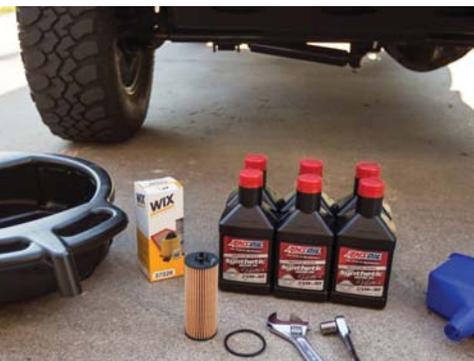
The Division uses various methods to publicize upcoming events, new developments, and reminders about existing programs and services to the community. Our comprehensive annual outreach plan includes the use of news releases, social media, articles on the Division and LessIsMore.org websites, bill inserts, videos, paid advertisements across all media platforms, and waste hauler newsletters. Typically the Division covers one topic per month using these tools in coordination with other jurisdictions within the County and occasionally, other governmental agencies. Some coordinated campaigns, such as the summer long battery recycling campaign, have lasted several months and have included the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Solvang.

The Division has written and produced over a dozen videos the last couple of years with the help of the Public Works Department's Public Engagement Specialist. This focus on video production has arisen as campaigns incorporate social media and paid video advertisements on the websites of local news media. 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 2017-18, 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 both 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 of 2018, 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 both 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.
- **America Recycles Day** was commemorated with ads, a news release, and website postings 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. This campaign ran from June 2017 through October 2017 in coordination with the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Solvang. The County produced two videos, which were promoted extensively through local government TV, as well as paid social media ads. These cities used the same graphics and message developed by the County for advertising on local public transit and local media outlets. The County also gave public presentations on this topic and promoted the campaign through

press releases and on LessIsMore.org.

Facility Tours

In FY 2017-18, 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, **5 tours were provided to approximately 115 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. The low number of tours conducted stemmed from the ongoing construction activities occurring at the Landfill. For the South Coast Recycling & Transfer Station (SCRTS), **4 tours were conducted to 140 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 2017-18, County staff also gave five presentations on composting and waste reduction to 515 students at two high schools.

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 (Art from Scrap);
- Visits schools to make in-class presentations;
- As part of its education contract with the County, Explore Ecology works with schools in the South Coast unincorporated areas and the Goleta Union School District (GUSD) to collect food scraps and green waste to be composted on site. During FY 2017-18, six schools in the GUSD collected their food scraps and composted 1,311 pounds.
- Similarly, Explore Ecology works with schools in the North County unincorporated areas to collect food scraps and green waste to be composed on-site.

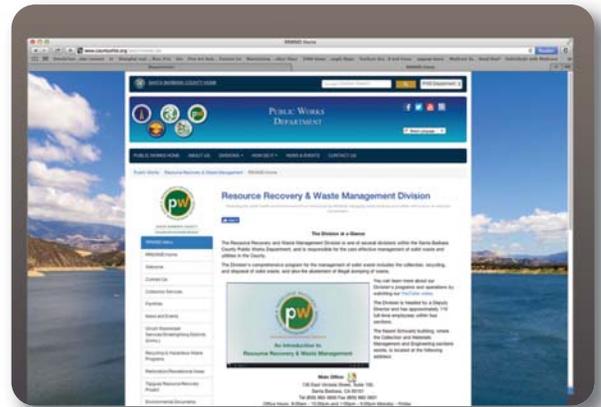
Under a separate contract, Waste Management sites a mobile trailer at interested schools to

PROGRAM	AREA	# OF SCHOOLS OR CAMPS	# OF STUDENTS	# OF CLASSES
Explore Ecology	Unincorporated South Coast/ City of Goleta	9	2,232	104
Explore Ecology	Unincorporated North County	17	4,448	203
Waste Management	Unincorporated North County	7	2,596	4 events
TOTAL		33	9,276	307 classes + 4 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 2017-18:**

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	45	155	30	230
South County	63*	77	43	2	185
Countywide	63	122	198	32	415

*Includes 32 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 June 2018, 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. For the 2018 event, 164 volunteers donated 1,252 hours, while paid staff worked 1,907 hours. For the 2018 GIVE sale, 1,674 pounds of food were donated to the Associated Students Food Bank, and 57,007 pounds of material were sold or donated for reuse. All of the proceeds from this sale are distributed to IV organizations and projects.

RR&WMD donates heavy duty plastic bags to GIVE for use in sorting and storing 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.





Montecito Debris Flow Event of January 9, 2018

Following the Montecito Debris Flow event that occurred on January 9, 2018, the RR&WMD mobilized immediately and conducted the following actions over the next several months:

- Procured and distributed **clean drinking water** to members of the Summerland community whose water service had been disrupted or potentially contaminated;
- **Assisted the California Highway Patrol (CHP)** in towing from public roadways and beaches over 125 vehicles that had been displaced; in addition, RR&WMD staff coordinated with other Public Works Divisions and County departments to identify areas where the vehicles could be moved;
- Assisted private property owners with **removing vehicles** from their properties and referred them to the CHP to determine if their vehicles had been towed and where they were stored;
- **Provided information to several insurance companies** unfamiliar with the South Coast regarding the locations of vehicles to avoid having them send towing companies from outside the area or sending trucks that would not be able to maneuver the impacted roads to retrieve the vehicles;
- Along with other County, State, and Federal agencies, RR&WMD personnel staffed a **Local Recovery and Assistance Center** to provide information to impacted homeowners on private property debris management, removal, and disposal;
- Worked with California Office of Emergency Services and Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop and implement **cleanup events** on two separate weekends of disaster debris originating from 55 private properties in the Montecito Oaks and Lower Olive Mill neighborhoods that was collected in the roadway, resulting in the removal of over 2,300 tons of mud and debris;



- On an ongoing basis, developed and updated a document providing **guidelines for waste removal** by material type as well as best management practices to ensure materials were managed safely and made the information available to the public in hard copy and on the Division's LessIsMore.org website;
- Researched and developed **criteria for identifying temporary sites for the disposal of mud and debris removed from private properties**; in particular, worked with the County of Ventura Natural Resources Agency to identify mining operations that would be suitable for accepting disaster debris from private properties in Santa Barbara County and therefore, could qualify for an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA); and
- Established and updated a **Materials Exchange website** (www.sbcountymaterialexchange.com) to enable Montecito residents who had materials on their properties, such as boulders, rocks, and soil, to connect with homeowners and contractors wanting such materials; sixty-four users registered on the site and posted ads, and the site received 4,833 visits. This effort sought to foster the sharing of usable materials and to reduce the amount of material disposed at area landfills and other sites.
- **Received and processed debris** delivered by the County Transportation Division during their efforts to clear County roadways for public safety and to allow access in the impacted areas for Search and Rescue. The tons received are referenced in the facility portion of the report.



Regional Coordination

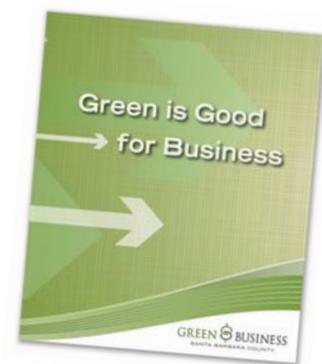
The County RR&WMD administers a variety of regional waste-related programs that involve the participation of several different entities. These programs are either most efficiently administered on a regional basis or are required by the state to be managed by the County.

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:

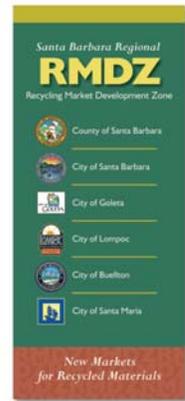
- Solid waste reduction and recycling;
- Environmentally preferable purchasing;
- Energy conservation;
- Water conservation; and
- Pollution prevention, which includes storm water runoff and using alternative forms of transportation.



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 and California Green Business Network websites, recognition on chamber of commerce websites, and being highlighted through free print and online ads. **During FY 2017-18, 16 businesses/agencies achieved certification and 6 were recertified. A total of 170 businesses have been certified (136) and recertified (34), 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 (SBRMDZ) 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 SBRMDZ.



During FY 2017-18, the Zone Administrator:

- Distributed updates and outreach materials to member jurisdictions;
- Attended events and workshops in Buellton, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria and regional events to promote the RMDZ program;
- Distributed a survey through Chambers of Commerce in member jurisdictions to identify businesses as potential candidates for assistance under the RMDZ program;
- Met with existing and new businesses in the SBRMDZ as potential candidates for assistance; and
- Attended Zone Works Training Workshops during which industry professionals gave presentations, Zone Administrators exchanged information on their RMDZ programs, and CalRecycle staff provided updates on state legislation.

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 2017-18, the County held three LTF meetings to review and discuss:

- The development of a Countywide Disaster Debris Management Plan;
- A Five-Year Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan;

- Recyclables market;
- Product stewardship updates;
- Legislative and regulatory updates;
- Organics updates; and
- Jurisdictional updates.

State Document Preparation

In FY 2017-18, the County RR&WMD staff continued to prepare **several regional reports** for submittal to CalRecycle:

- Quarterly disposal reports for all jurisdictions in the County;
- Annual Reports for the cities of Solvang and Goleta and County unincorporated areas; and
- The annual Hazardous Waste Report (Form 303), encompassing the cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, Solvang, and the unincorporated areas.

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**. A preliminary review of 2017 data indicates that the diversion rate will remain the same for that year.

In addition, RR&WMD:

- Prepared the Five-Year Review of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan for all jurisdictions in Santa Barbara County;
- 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; and
- 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.

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 suspended in June 2016. 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 upwards into the ranch canyon. 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 conjunction 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.

During FY 2017-18, RR&WMD staff prepared and submitted an application to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for a Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) grant to fund the following activities:

- Construct a 1.35 mile realignment of the existing Trail from the eastern side of the Arroyo Quemado Creek to its western side via a bridge ultimately reconnecting with the existing trail at an at-grade crossing;
- Construct a graded and paved 65-foot diameter vehicle turnaround area (approximately 3,320 square feet) along an existing residential access road with a County right-of-way to accommodate all trail users; and
- Construct and install four gates and 1,475 feet of fencing, a kiosk, benches, and directional and interpretive signs.

While RR&WMD did not receive the grant, these improvements will be completed using other funds. It is anticipated that the expanded trail will be completed in FY 2018-19 and will improve recreational opportunities and increase accessibility by the public from three to seven days a week and expand the use of the trail to bicyclists, equestrians, and others in addition to hikers.





To determine other potential future uses of Baron Ranch, the RR&WMD will be hiring a consultant during FY 2018-19 to develop a Master Plan.

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

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 County 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 2017-18, 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 2017-18:

- 228,665 tons of material were buried at the landfill;
- 25,097 tons of green waste were ground and distributed regionally as a mulch product; and
- 30,910 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 2017-18:

- 19,316 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;
- 35,578 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.
- 2,009 tons of construction waste were recycled;
- 329,020 pounds of electronic equipment were collected and sent for processing to recover recyclable and reusable components; and
- 1,827 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 72,883 tons of material in FY 2017-18. Of that material:

- 29,076 tons were transferred to the Tajiguas Landfill for burial;
- 19,065 tons of commingled recyclables were transferred to Gold Coast Recycling for processing;

- 21,471 tons of green waste were either processed on-site or transferred to another County facility for processing and marketing;
- The remaining 3,271 tons of material were recovered for recycling; and
- Over 44 tons of soil and rocks were accepted by the County Transportation Division as a result of their efforts to quickly clear County roadways from disaster debris after the January 9 Montecito Debris Flow.



Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station

The Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station received 28,849 tons of material in FY 2017-18. Of that material:

- 14,159 tons were transferred to the Tajiguas Landfill for burial;
- 14,107 tons of green waste were either processed on-site or transferred to another County facility for processing and marketing; and
- The remaining 583 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 2017-18, 1,064 tons of material were received at the New Cuyama facility, and 34 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 design, build and operate the TRRP, as well as certified the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR) for the project. Subsequent amendments were made to the contract in December 2016 and February 2017. In December 2016, the Board also approved the contracts between the County and each of the participating cities (Buellton, Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Solvang) to provide waste management services over the next 22 years. In early 2017, a permitting issue related to the Coastal Zone boundary line on the site was identified and the County requested that MSB prepare a design and costs for a revised project to ensure all facility components were outside of the coastal zone. In November 2017, the Board approved an amendment to the construction agreement that included a relocation and design for the anaerobic digester and the inclusion of two new engines to combust landfill gas. With the inclusion of the energy from the landfill gas (as well as the solar panels on the material recovery facility), the operations of the TRRP will be largely energy self-sufficient. In addition, the Board approved an addendum to the FSEIR, which was subsequently challenged through litigation. The litigation ended through the Board approval of a Settlement Agreement in June 2018. The County is moving forward with seeking financing to construct the facility, which would become operational in late 2020.

Waste Water Treatment Facility/Sewer District/ Streetlighting Districts

Laguna County Sanitation District 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.

The District has begun the process to replace the aged, deficient, and outdated treatment equipment at its plant. During FY 2018-19, it will be soliciting proposals from firms to design and install the equipment and to obtain financing.

Mission Canyon Sewer District

The Mission Canyon Sewer District provides wastewater collection to the Mission Canyon area. The system consists of approximately 12 miles of pipeline and two lift stations. The District is regulated by the Regional Water Quality Control Board in San Luis Obispo. Wastewater is further collected, treated, and disposed of by the City of Santa Barbara at the El Estero wastewater treatment plant pursuant to a 2015 Joint Powers Agreement. A user fee is levied each fiscal year to fund maintenance. The City of Santa Barbara issues a separate bill to these customers for water and sewer services.

Streetlighting Districts

The RR&WMD also administers all streetlighting functions in the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County. The streetlighting infrastructure is owned and maintained by Pacific Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Edison. Energy and maintenance costs are financed by the streetlighting districts or County service areas.

These districts include the following:

- Mission Canyon Lighting District (serving the unincorporated area of Mission Canyon);
- North County Lighting District (serving Casmalia, Los Alamos, Orcutt, unincorporated Lompoc, and unincorporated Santa Maria);
- County Service Area 3 (serving unincorporated Goleta and unincorporated Santa Barbara);
- County Service Area 31 (serving Isla Vista); and
- County Service Area 11 (serving Summerland and unincorporated Carpinteria)



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.

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.

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.

Since food scraps comprise a significant portion of organics, several pieces of legislation targeting food were passed during the 2017-18 California legislative session.

AB 1219, Food Donations

This bill, the California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, expands the liability protection provisions to people who donate food. The law requires health inspectors to provide education and outreach on food donor protection laws in order to end the myth that businesses can be sued for donating food. It also explicitly provides protection for the donation of food that is past its food date label, and extends liability protection to donations made directly to people in need.

SB 557, Food Donations

This bill permits a local educational agency to provide sharing tables where faculty, staff, and students can place prepackaged, non-potentially hazardous food items, uncut produce, unopened bags of sliced fruit, and unopened containers of milk that are maintained at 41 degrees Fahrenheit or below, which can be donated to students, a food bank, or other nonprofit charitable organization.

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 digestion (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 comply with AB 1826;
- **Working with the Parks Division in the Community Services Department** to expand the existing public trail on Baron Ranch; and
- **Preparing a Master Plan for Baron Ranch** that will include long-term use options.







For more information please visit:
LessIsMore.org



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

**Resource Recovery &
Waste Management Division**

Innovative Environmental Solutions



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