

GLOSSARY

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TERMS AS THEY APPLY TO THIS DOCUMENT

The following terms are used in the Carroll County Solid Master Plan as defined herein:

Aeration - The process of exposing waste material, such as compost, to air to promote aerobic decomposition. *Forced aeration* refers to the use of blowers in compost piles.

Aerobic - A biochemical process or condition occurring in the presence of oxygen.

Agricultural Waste - A “Domestic animal manure or residuals in liquid or solid form generated in the production of poultry, livestock, fur-bearing animals and their products. Agricultural waste includes residuals generated in the production and harvesting, but not of subsequent processing of all agricultural, horticultural, or aquacultural commodities. Agricultural waste does not include land clearing debris unless the cleared land is intended solely for agricultural purposes.” (COMAR 26.04.07.02)

Air Classification - A process in which a stream of air is used to separate mixed material according to the size, density and aerodynamic drag of the pieces.

Anaerobic - A biochemical process or condition occurring in the absence of oxygen.

Asbestos - Any of a number of naturally occurring mineral fibers of the serpentine and amphibole series including actinolite, amosite, anthophyllite, chrysolite, crocidolite and tremolite.

Biohazard - Posing a clear environmental problem which may cause disease or infections.

Bioreactor Landfill - The recirculation of leachate to encourage and accelerate the natural decomposition of solid waste.

Board - The duly elected Board of County Commissioners for Carroll County.

Bulky Waste - Large items of refuse including, but not limited to, appliances, furniture, large auto parts, non-hazardous construction, demolition materials, trees, branches and stumps which cannot be handled by normal solid waste processing, collection and disposal methods.

Buy-Back Center - A facility where individuals bring recyclables in exchange for payment.

Cell - The permitted area of compacted wastes in a landfill that is confined in an area lined by either natural soil, clay or a synthetic material.

Closed-Ended Collection System - A solid waste collection system, organized by a public or private body,

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wherein one vendor or a collection team operates in a service area and collection service is regulated and controlled.

Closure - The physical act of securing, covering, and otherwise closing a terminated solid waste site/facility in accordance with all applicable State and/or Federal regulations.

Commercial Waste - Waste materials originating in wholesale, retail, institutional or service establishment, such as office building, stores, markets, theaters, hotels or warehouses.

Commingled Recyclables - A mixture of several types of recyclables.

Composting - “The process in which organic solid waste is biologically decomposed under controlled conditions to yield a nuisance-free humus-like product.” (COMAR 26.07.02)

Construction and Demolition Waste - Materials resulting from the construction, remodeling, repair or demolition of buildings, bridges, pavements and other structures, including concrete, blacktop, bricks, concrete block, stucco, glass, and wood from demolished structures and other inert waste materials as may be approved by Carroll County.

County Plan/Solid Waste Management Plan - The County’s planning document representing the comprehensive plan, and all subsequent revisions, developed to provide solid waste management services for County residents and business.

Curbside Collection - Programs where waste or recyclable materials are collected at the curb, often from special containers, to be brought to various processing facilities.

Drop-Off Site - A central site serving an area for the safe and convenient deposit of a specifically designated waste.

Dump – An unimproved land site at which solid waste is disposed of in an uncontrolled manner that does not protect the environment, is susceptible to open burning, or is exposed to the elements, vectors and scavengers.

Electronics – Computers and monitors, televisions, central processing units, cell phones, printers and other computer-related accessories.

Enterprise Fund/The Solid Waste Management Enterprise Fund - The authorized proprietary fund managed by Carroll County Comptroller’s Office for the sole purpose of providing for solid waste management in Carroll County. The fund utilizes an accounting method and funding mechanism for ventures providing goods and services to the public on a continuing basis. It is financed by revenues produced and user charges, and all assets and liabilities are reflected on the balance sheet.

Fines - Small diameter residue resultant from a variety of processing that intend to refine materials for further processing of volume reduction.

Hazardous Waste - Any refuse, sewage sludge, or other waste material or combination of refuse, sewage sludge, or other waste materials in solid, semi-solid, liquid or gaseous form which, because of its quantity,

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concentrations, or chemical, physical or infectious characteristics may pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed. Categories of hazardous waste materials include, but are not limited to, explosives, flammables, oxidizers, poisons, irritants and corrosives. Hazardous waste does not include source, special nuclear, or by-product material as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Household Hazardous Waste - Waste generated in residential households that contains relatively small quantities of hazardous materials, such as paint, pesticides or solvents.

Humus - A product produced by the biodegradation of organic materials including solid waste.

Incinerator - A facility with one or more furnaces in which wastes are burned (EPA 40 CRF Ch. 1 240-101).

Industrial Waste - Any liquid, gaseous solid, or other waste substance, or combination thereof, resulting from process of industry, manufacturing, trade or business; or the development of any natural resource, including agriculture. (COMAR 26.08.01.01)

Infectious Waste - Any waste that originates from a hospital, clinic, or laboratory and that is known or suspected to be contaminated with organisms capable of producing disease or infection in humans. Infectious waste includes disposable equipment, instruments, utensils; contaminated needles, scalpels, and razor blades; human tissue and organs that result from surgery, obstetrics, or autopsy; feces, urine, vomitus, and suctionings; live vaccines for human use; blood and blood products; laboratory specimens such as tissue, blood elements, excreta, and secretions. (COMAR 26.04.07.02)

Institutional Waste - Waste materials originating in schools, hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, research institutions and other public or private institutional settings.

Integrated Solid Waste Management - A waste management strategy of combining several different waste management methods to manage and dispose of the solid waste stream. An integrated solid waste management approach includes source reduction, reuse and recycling including composting and resource recovery, incineration with recovery of energy and landfilling of residuals.

Intermediate Disposal - "The preliminary or incomplete disposal of solid waste including, but not limited to, transfer stations, incineration, or processing." (COMAR 26.04.07.02)

Land Clearing Debris - Any trees, stumps, logs, branches, brush, shrubs, downed timber, rotten wood, root mat, duff, leaf litter, soil material, rocks, etc., that remain after the clearing and/or grubbing of an area for the purpose of, but not necessarily limited to, land development, grading, residential or commercial/industrial construction, agricultural clearing, maintenance clearing, and utility easement maintenance.

Leachate - Any liquid that has percolated through solid waste or another medium and has extracted, dissolved, or suspended materials from it, which may include potentially harmful materials. *Leachate* collection and treatment is of primary concern at municipal waste landfills.

Leachate Recirculation - A method used to recirculate leachate onto, into and through waste materials in the landfill cell to enhance natural degradation.

MDE - An acronym for the Maryland Department of the Environment.

Mass Burn Combustion - The burning of untreated, unprocessed mixed municipal solid waste in a resource recovery plant or an incinerator.

Material Recycling Facility (MRF) - A facility that is designed, operated and authorized to receive and process recyclables by utilizing manual or mechanical methods to separate, process and classify materials for recycling purposes.

Methane - An odorless, colorless, flammable and explosive gas produced by municipal solid waste undergoing anaerobic decomposition. *Methane* is emitted from municipal solid waste landfills.

Mining - In this Plan, it refers to excavating and screening of previously landfilled waste for the purpose of recovering recyclables and potentially reusing volume.

Monitoring Well – “Any physical penetration made in the ground to examine ground water.” (COMAR 26.04.07.02)

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) - Includes non-hazardous waste generated in households, commercial and business establishments.

MSW Composting - *Municipal Solid Waste Composting* is the controlled bio-degradation of municipal solid waste including some form of processing to remove inorganic materials.

Offal – The parts of a butchered animal that are considered inedible by human beings. Refuse in general; rubbish; garbage.

Open Dump - An illegal land disposal site that is not designed or operated in accordance with the requirements for a sanitary landfill as defined in COMAR 26.04.07.

Organic Waste - Waste material containing organic or naturally occurring carbon. The organic fraction of municipal solid waste includes paper, wood, food wastes, and yard trim.

Post-Closure/Post-Closure Care - The physical act of long-term monitoring and maintenance by the owner or operator of a solid waste site/facility for a specified number of years after approval of the Closure Plan by the MDE and release of the performance bond or other approved financial surety after completion of the post-closure monitoring period.

Post-Closure Period - The time period of post-closure care by the owner or operator of a solid waste site/facility as set forth in the approved closure/post-closure plan.

Processed Mixed Municipal Solid Waste - Waste which has been collected and transported to a facility where it is subject to one or more processes included, but not limited to: separation, clarification, classification, densification, size reduction, incineration and biological.

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Processing Facility - A combination of structures, machinery, or devices used to reduce or alter the volume, chemical, or physical characteristics of solid waste.

Putrescible Waste - Any waste that may decay to enter into a state of putrefaction, the typically anaerobic splitting of proteins by bacteria and fungi with the formation of foul-smelling incompletely oxidized products.

Recyclable Materials - Those found in the waste stream that can readily be separated and reused in their present form or can be converted into raw materials from which new products can be manufactured.

Recycling - Any lawful method, technique, or process used to collect, store, separate, process, modify, convert, treat, or otherwise prepare any non-hazardous solid waste in a manner such that its component materials or substances will be beneficially used or reused.

Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) - A processed fuel product, the majority content of which is mixed municipal solid waste, which can be combusted in energy recovery facilities or other facilities, and contains approximately 12 million BTU's per ton.

Residential Waste - Waste materials generated in single and multiple-family homes.

Residue - Materials remaining after processing, incineration, composting, or recycling have been completed. *Residues* are usually disposed of in landfills.

Resource Recovery - Reclaiming, through the processing of solid waste materials, substances, energy, or other products contained within or derived from the solid waste for sale or reuse.

Resource Recovery Facility - Any place, equipment, device or plan designed and/or operated to separate or process solid or liquid wastes into usable secondary materials, including fuel, steam and energy.

Reuse - The use of a product more than once in its same form for the same purpose, i.e., a soft-drink bottle is reused when it is returned to the bottling company for refilling.

Sanitary Landfill - A municipal solid waste acceptance facility, at which solid waste is deposited on or into the land as fill for the purpose of permanent disposal. Construction is in accordance with current federal/State regulators.

Slagging - The more or less completely fused and vitrified matter separated during the reduction of a metal from its ore.

Sewage Sludge - Any solid, semi-solid or liquid residue consisting of solids, combined with water and dissolved materials in varying amounts generated from a municipal, commercial, or industrial water or wastewater treatment plant or flue gas scrubber.

Solid Waste - "Any garbage, refuse, sewage sludge, or liquid from industrial, commercial, mining, or agricultural operations, and from community activities, but does not include solid or dissolved material in domestic sewage or in irrigation return flows." (COMAR 26.03.03.01)

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Solid Waste Acceptance Facility – “Any sanitary landfill, combustion plant (i.e., incinerator), transfer station or material recovery facility (MRF), whose primary purpose is to dispose of, treat, or process solid waste.” (COMAR 26.04.07.02)

Solid Waste Management - “The systematic administration of activities which provide for the collection, source separation, storage, transportation, transfer, processing, treatment, re-use, or disposal of solid waste.” (COMAR 26.03.03.01)

Source Reduction - The design, manufacture, acquisition and reuse of materials so as to minimize the quantity and/or toxicity of waste produced. *Source reduction* prevents waste either by redesigning products or by otherwise changing societal patterns of consumption, use and waste generation.

Source Separation - The segregation of specific materials at the point of generation for separate collection. Residences source separate recyclables as part of a curbside recycling program.

Special Waste - Items that require special or separate handling, such as household hazardous wastes, bulky wastes, scrap tires and used oil.

Subtitle C - The section of the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) which defines and prescribes the management and disposal of hazardous waste.

Subtitle D - The section of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) which defines and prescribes the management and disposal of non-hazardous solid waste.

Tipping Fee - A fee for the unloading or dumping of waste at a landfill, transfer station, recycling center, or waste-to-energy facility, usually stated in dollars per ton; also called a disposal or service fee.

Transfer Station - A place or facility where waste materials are taken from one collection vehicle (i.e., compactor trucks) and placed in another transportation unit (i.e., over-the-road tractor-trailers, railroad gondola cars, barges or ships) for movement to other solid waste acceptance facilities. Collection points serving rural residential areas are not considered to be transfer stations, provided that solid waste is not transferred from a collection vehicle to another transportation unit. The movement or consolidation of a single generator’s solid waste at the site of generation may not be considered to be a transfer station.

Tub Grinder - A machine to grind yard and wood wastes for mulching, composting or size reduction.

Vector - An organism, including insects, other arthropods or rodents, which are capable of transmitting pathogens from one organism to another.

Volume Reduction - The processing of waste materials so as to decrease the amount of space the materials occupy usually by compacting or shredding (mechanical), incineration (thermal), or composting (biological).

Waste Stream - A term describing the process flow of waste materials from homes or businesses that must be recycled, burned or disposed of in landfills; or any segment thereof, such as the “residential waste stream” or the “recyclable waste stream”.

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Waste-to-Energy -The conversion of solid waste to energy, generally through the combustion of processed or raw refuse to produce steam and electricity.

White Goods - Large household appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, hot water heaters, air conditioners and washing machines.

Windrow - A large, elongated pile of composting material.

Yard Trimmings - Any leaves, grass clippings, brush, prunings, and other natural organic matter discarded from yards and gardens.