

## **APPENDIX D                    1989/1992 PLAN GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

These include the recommendations from the 1989 plan which were also adopted in the 1992 Plan with the exception of the waste reduction and recycling recommendations. The 1992 Plan waste reduction and recycling (WRR) recommendations are included.

### **CHAPTER 1                    INTRODUCTION**

**Goal:** In recognition of the priorities set forth by the Washington State Legislature in RCW 70.95.010, it shall be the goal of the Pierce County Solid Waste Management Plan to implement, to the fullest extent possible and in descending order of priority, solid waste management processes that reduce the waste stream, promote recycling, and provide for the separation of waste prior to incineration or landfilling.

**Goal:** Develop a solid waste program that promotes and maintains a high level of public health and safety, and which protects the natural and human environment of Pierce County.

**Goal:** Promote input and ensure the representation of the public in the planning process.

**Goal:** Promote the conservation of energy.

**Goal:** Develop economically responsible means of solid waste management that recognizes the cost and need for environmental protection and services to the citizens of the County.

**Goal:** Promote the use of private industry expertise to carry out the components of the Solid Waste Management Plan. This does not mandate the use of private industry, nor does it preclude the involvement of Pierce County in implementing the Plan.

**Goal:** Be consistent with all existing resource management plans.

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### **CHAPTER 3                    WASTE REDUCTION**

**Goal:** To promote waste reduction through the use of strong, coordinated educational and public outreach programs which can be used for models by the cities and towns of Pierce County.

**Goal:** To continue implementing programs to reduce the amount of waste material discarded by the County and other municipal governments, either by reusing materials or avoiding their generation.

**Goal:** To support state and national waste reduction measures by promoting them locally.

**Goal:** To reduce Pierce County's solid waste stream and achieve a 50% recycling rate by 1995.

**Recommendation 3-1.** Pierce County and its municipalities should plan to achieve or exceed the Washington State goal of a 50% recycling rate by 1995 through waste reduction and recycling measures prescribed in this Plan.

**Recommendation 3-2.** The County should continue to implement the existing and developing programs, as well as new waste reduction programs. Pierce County Utilities Solid Waste Division should coordinate waste reduction and recycling activities in Pierce County. Municipalities that develop independent waste reduction and recycling programs should coordinate their efforts and explore areas of mutual concern with the County, whenever possible. The Pierce County waste reduction program should include the projects described in this Plan.

**Recommendation 3-3.** Pierce County should continue and expand its Data Collection Program. The program should be used to measure waste reduction to the extent it is possible. Pierce County should develop data gathering projects as part of its waste reduction programs designed specifically to measure waste reduction and its indicators. This information should be designed for incorporation into the Data Collection Program, if possible. Results should be used to modify programs to achieve the greatest practical impacts and provide more accurate estimates of the impact waste reduction has on the waste stream.

**Recommendation 3-4.** Pierce County and its municipalities should coordinate the continued development of its public waste reduction education and outreach programs. Pierce County should continue to use its defined methodology for designing and evaluating its education and outreach programs, including setting clear, obtainable program objectives and establishing mechanisms for measuring program success. Program emphasis should include waste reduction options that individuals can use and should also stress the economic and environmental benefits of waste reduction. Public outreach components currently include the following:

- Curbside recycling education
- School programs
- Environmental Education Exhibit
- Speakers bureau
- Solid waste videos
- Articles for newspapers and magazines
- Newspaper tabloids
- Locally developed brochures
- Pierce County in-house waste reduction and recycling program
- Pierce County Procurement Policy.

New informational methods should be developed as the program matures, while existing messages and effective methods should continue to be sent and used. Public education for both waste reduction and recycling should be expanded with new messages, especially about pre-cycling (consumer awareness regarding excess packaging) and yard waste management, and the benefits of reuse and refillables. Other topics should include backyard composting, multi-family recycling, and household hazardous waste management. Informational programs should be coordinated with the original recycling programs to provide a comprehensive waste management message to the public.

**Recommendation 3-5.** Pierce County should continue and expand its school education curriculum program and place new emphasis on middle and high school programs rather than only on K-6. The County should develop the ability to give more presentations and should examine the need, periodically, to develop expanded presentations for students who have previously seen the current presentation. Pierce County should work with public and private schools in the County to help them design and implement school waste management plans. The County's goal is to help establish waste management programs in 50% of the schools in Pierce County by 1995. Pierce County should also continue to keep abreast of developments in waste reduction education so this information can be incorporated in presentations or otherwise passed onto school administrators, teachers and students.

**Recommendation 3-6.** Pierce County should continue its in-house waste reduction program to show the benefits of waste reduction and set an example and provide a model for cities and towns, residents and businesses. The program should continue to look for opportunities to expand by implementing more waste reduction and recycling strategies. Publicly owned buildings and governmental operations in Pierce County should undergo waste audits to determine additional opportunities for waste reduction and recycling beyond the established in-house measures. Practical, easy-to-use, cost-effective programs should be established to address waste reduction and recycling opportunities identified in the audits. The evaluation should address the needs of particular governmental operations as well as economies of scale that might exist for the County overall. For example, a County in-house materials bank may be able to take advantage of such economy of scale.

**Recommendation 3-7.** Pierce County should continue to expand the Procurement Policy to include purchasing of manufactured products with recycled content and fully implement the Policy in all departments. This would include the purchasing of not only paper products but also other products such as yard waste compost for park programs, office equipment, and other items identified by the State in its procurement policy contracts. The current procurement policy sets recycled paper purchasing goals of 10% by 1991, 20% by 1992, and 60% by 1993 for all County departments. The Solid Waste Division will work with the County's Purchasing Agent to identify additional methods for modifying County purchasing activities to encourage waste reduction, recycling, and the use of recycled products. The County's procurement policy should be evaluated and grow over time to respond to County needs and to meet state procurement program requirements developed in the future.

**Recommendation 3-8.** Pierce County should continue to develop its commercial and industrial business waste reduction and recycling education program in coordination with other County and local government officials as well as Ecology's Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling. Initially, the program may include the development and distribution of locally applicable materials, the establishment of a resource library, and an awards and incentive program for recognizing and rewarding local businesses that achieve significant waste reduction and recycling goals. The County may use the Recycling Roundtable and other business and industry representatives to advise Pierce County on educational and outreach activities. The Roundtable will help the County to target educational efforts at businesses that may be considering a move away from reusable, recyclable, or durable goods, or at businesses that could significantly benefit themselves and the community through increased waste reduction and recycling. In addition, the Roundtable

may assist the County in reviewing the need for other services such as waste audits, additional technical assistance, and facilitating waste exchange or materials banks activities.

**Recommendation 3-9.** Pierce County should encourage home composting of yard waste and examine the feasibility of establishing a Master Composter program in cooperation with the WSU Extension Services Master Gardener Program. The project could be used to train residents to teach home composting techniques and to provide public education and outreach services to other residents in coordination with other yard waste composting alternatives. The County should ask the cities and towns to become direct supporters of this program.

**Recommendation 3-10.** Pierce County should consider disposal bans once appropriate and adequate waste management alternatives are available in the County. For example, when the yard waste composting facility has been built and is capable of running at the necessary capacity, then the County should consider banning the disposal of yard waste at County and private solid waste disposal facilities. In conjunction, the educational activities outlined in Recommendation 3-3 should inform residents about disposal bans and alternatives. In the example, education could identify the County composting facility and home composting as alternatives for complying with the ban, giving information about how to use each option.

**Recommendation 3-11.** The County should track state and federal waste reduction and recycling legislation and programs. Local government officials should lobby state and federal governments in support of waste reduction and recycling laws that are consistent with this Plan. Pierce County and its municipalities should consider, after July 1993, adopting local waste reduction and recycling ordinances such as beverage container deposit or packaging legislation consistent with this Plan. The County should examine unilateral actions with surrounding counties, particularly if state or national legislation is not adopted by 1993.

**Recommendation 3-12.** Pierce County should continue to pursue the use of rate-based incentives in promoting waste reduction and recycling. The County should work closely with private collection companies serving the County to identify equitable, implementable rate strategies that will be acceptable to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. Pierce County should also continue to work directly with the Commission to identify and implement these types of alternatives.

**Recommendation 3-13.** Private sector waste reduction activities should be encouraged to continue and expand in Pierce County. The County should examine its existing and new programs to evaluate their impacts on private reduction activities.

**Recommendation 3-14.** Pierce County should continue to provide adequate funding to support waste reduction programs, especially public and school education.

## CHAPTER 4

## RECYCLING

**Goal:** To reduce Pierce County's solid waste stream and achieve a 50% recycling rate by 1995.

**Goal:** To provide appropriate levels of collection and recycling opportunities so that the greatest number of citizens can participate and the fullest practical recycling potential for each material can be realized.

**Goal:** To continue existing recycling activities and expand the local recycling program.

**Goal:** To establish model programs for Pierce County communities to adopt or modify to suit their needs and to support the communities in this effort.

**Goal:** To maintain a data collection program as a service to the County and its municipalities, which will aid in tracking and evaluating the waste stream and recycling program impacts.

**Goal:** To foster a sense of personal responsibility among residents for solid waste management, particularly in accomplishing waste reduction and recycling goals.

To support these goals, Pierce County has identified the following policies:

**#1.** Source separation of waste should become a fundamental strategy of solid waste management pursuant to RCW 70.95.010.

**#2.** Each recycling effort should be ranked based on consideration of waste stream contribution, maximum diversion potential, market opportunities, and environmental impacts.

**#3.** Avoided cost of disposal and appropriate environmental cost savings should be factors in evaluating the success of recycling programs.

**#4.** Governments and industries should cooperate to carry out recommended recycling programs. Private firms are encouraged to participate in the development and implementation of these programs through contractual arrangements, shared services, grants, and promotion and education.

**#5.** The County should use financial subsidies equal to the avoided cost of transportation and disposal to encourage a higher level of participation.

**Recommendation 4-1.** Pierce County and its municipalities should continue to plan to achieve or exceed the Washington State goal of a 50% recycling rate by 1995.

**Recommendation 4-2.** The Solid Waste Division of the Pierce County Utilities Department should serve as a focus for waste reduction and recycling activities, educational efforts and outreach, technical assistance, and program evaluation. Efforts among Pierce County and its municipalities should be coordinated through the Solid Waste Division.

**Recommendation 4-3.** Pierce County and the franchised collection companies should continue the single-family curbside collection program and the drop-off collection program for urban and rural residents. The County and the collection companies should continue to implement strategies for keeping participation rates high, which includes continuing to promote a recycling rate incentive with a lower rate for those who recycle and higher rate for those who do not recycle. Opportunities for collecting other types of waste should be examined for their technical and economic feasibility. Also, the County and the collection companies should examine other opportunities to make collection services even more convenient. In conjunction with the single-family curbside collection program, Pierce County should continue its buy-back center sticker program to provide additional opportunities and incentives for residents to participate. Multi-material drop-off sites should also continue to be conveniently located, such as at solid waste facilities serving the public. The County should review program activities annually to ensure that recycling goals are being met and implement new programs that are feasible.

**Recommendation 4-4.** Pierce County, the franchised collection companies, and the cities and towns should continue to implement the multi-family residence collection program. A variety of options should be utilized including, but not limited to, curbside collection for smaller buildings, multiple container and/or multi-material collection, and special collection days at complexes. The County should continue to support differential and higher tipping fees for non-participating complexes, recycling design requirements for new complexes, including parking and container space that should adequately allow for recycling, and other incentives or mandates that encourage multi-family residence recycling. The County should review program activities annually to ensure recycling goals are being met. The cities and towns should consider using or adapting the County's model ordinance for multi-family recycling for their communities.

**Recommendation 4-5.** Pierce County collection companies should continue to give a price preference to processing facilities located in the County for the processing and marketing of recyclables. County government should also continue to explore ways of encouraging the expansion of in-county processing capabilities by encouraging support and expansion of the buy-back centers and non-profit organizations. Existing and new recycling programs should be evaluated by Pierce County for their impacts on private sector recycling and the County should continue to provide information to the public about the private recycling services.

**Recommendation 4-6.** City, town and County governments should continue to work together to develop and implement a public education program for residents about recycling opportunities. Current public education and outreach activities sponsored by Pierce County should continue and expand where appropriate. These activities include curbside recycling education, recycling education in schools, displays and advertising, speakers bureau, news and article distribution, the use of outside resources, and in-house waste reduction and recycling programs. Pierce County should also continue to implement new public education and outreach programs including, but not limited to, topics such as pre-cycling, yard waste disposal, backyard composting, multi-family recycling, and household hazardous waste management. The County should continue to investigate ways to measure the effects of education on public attitudes and behaviors.

**Recommendation 4-7.** City, town and County governments should continue to work together with other local governments and the private sector to educate business and industry and facilitate their waste reduction and recycling. Pierce County's plans to develop a commercial and industrial education program should be pursued. Planned educational and outreach activities may include developing and distributing locally developed educational information, promotional materials, news letters and fact sheets, holding workshops for local businesses, establishing a resource library, and instituting an award and incentive program. The County should evaluate the usefulness of these programs as they are implemented as well as investigate opportunities for other business education services, such as waste audits.

**Recommendation 4-8.** Pierce County should establish a comprehensive yard waste management program which would include drop-off site opportunities, curbside collection, and support for home composting, at a minimum. Each year, as the program is evaluated, additional or modified opportunities for increasing the convenience of the program and the quantity of yard waste should be explored. Cities and towns should complete the development of their comprehensive yard waste collection systems and all municipalities should support permitting facilities consistent with this program.

**Recommendation 4-9.** County government should continue to explore ways to promote the use of recycled materials to expand the market potential in the County. One method to do this is for County and municipal governments to promote the use of recycled products.

**Recommendation 4-10.** Pierce County should continue to use the Data Collection Program to monitor the quantities and types of wastes that are being collected and recycled throughout the County. Efforts to improve the quantification of commercial, single-family, and multi-family recycling rates should continue. The County should additionally organize such data collection by cities and towns, if feasible, and make that information available on a regular basis so that the cities and towns can evaluate progress on their recycling programs and plan future needs. All recycling programs should be designed to include data gathering for program evaluation. Evaluation of programs should be ongoing. By 1993, the cities, towns and County should conduct a comprehensive examination of recycling and adjust programs to meet the 1995 goal of a 50% recycling rate.

**Recommendation 4-11.** Pierce County and the haulers and recyclers should continue to examine ways to make recyclables more marketable, such as improving the purity of collected materials and implementing all feasible methods.

**Recommendation 4-12.** Pierce County should work to develop and implement incentives or controls that encourage in-county processing of recyclables collected in Pierce County. Examples of processing activities include, but are not limited to, bailing, sorting, crushing, packaging or other such processing as necessary to properly prepare material for market or use.

**Recommendation 4-13.** County government should continue to investigate and encourage throughout the planing area the design of equitable variable collection rate structures and disposal rates that encourage maximum waste reduction and recycling. In developing new rate structures, consideration should be given to the possible impacts of illegal dumping and littering. Pierce County, franchised collection companies, recyclers, and the WUTC should work together to

develop specific recycling rate proposals. These rate proposals should address both residential and commercial waste sources.

**Recommendation 4-14.** Pierce County should continue to provide adequate funding to ensure a continued high level of participation and the diversion of significant quantities of solid waste away from landfill disposal.

**Recommendation 4-15.** City, town and County governments should cooperate to lobby state and federal governments in support of recycling laws, regulations, and practices that are consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. In particular, lobbying efforts should emphasize the need for state and federal leadership in developing markets for recyclables, packaging legislation, labeling of plastics, and a bottle deposit option.

**Recommendation 4-16.** The County should provide adequate funding and staffing to assist cities and towns in implementation of the actions mandated in the Plan. City, town, and County governments should continue to audit waste handling and disposal practices, where feasible, to determine possible recycling strategies in publicly owned buildings and in those commercial buildings where the service is mandated.

**Recommendation 4-17.** The municipal and County governments should pursue the development or modification of state regulations concerning the flow control and rate structure for collecting recyclables produced by business and industry. Methods should be developed to give municipal and County governments some incentive options for directly promoting commercial recycling in their jurisdictions.

**Recommendation 4-18.** Pierce County should continue and expand, where appropriate, its in-house waste reduction and recycling programs. The County should continue to set an example for other jurisdictions and the private sector of the successes that can be achieved through in-house programs.

**Recommendation 4-19.** The urban and rural boundaries should be reviewed periodically and revised as necessary to reflect changes in demographics, community needs, Department of Ecology requirements, and land-use urban boundaries adopted under the County's growth management planning process to meet the requirements of RCW 36.70A.

**Recommendation 4-20.** The list of designated recyclables should be expanded, as appropriate, to include additional items as new programs come on line, or existing programs are modified, or when new markets appear. Pierce County is now considering including household batteries, plastics, and magazines. Other special wastes such as Christmas trees and used oil should be continued to be included in recycling management programs.

**Recommendation 4-21.** Pierce County should continue to use its defined methodology for designing and revising programs. This methodology includes 1) scoping the project, 2) researching similar programs, 3) developing a comprehensive plan that sets clear objectives, 4) establishing methods to measure success, and 5) assessing the performance of the program. Programs should be designed to use and report to the Data Collection Program, if possible.

**Recommendation 4-22.** As County and municipal governments and private entities work to design recycling programs, they should coordinate their programs and public messages to every extent possible, so that the public is not confused by conflicting information and program instructions.

**Recommendation 4-23.** The Utilities' Solid Waste Division should work closely with the Planning and Land Services Department to adopt development standards for composting facilities and to expedite the permitting of composting facilities/sites by removing barriers in existing codes.

**Recommendation 4-24.** Pierce County should work with local and state economic development groups to promote enhanced markets through efforts to site new re-manufacturing facilities.

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## CHAPTER 5                      REFUSE COLLECTION

**Goal:** Ensure that all residents of Pierce County have access to refuse collection services.

**Goal:** Ensure the compatibility of collection service levels with the other elements of the solid waste system established by the Plan.

**Recommendation 5-1:** Records of the complaints received from Pierce County residents regarding lack of collection service should be reviewed to evaluate the need for mandatory collection or County intervention in refuse collection at the time of 5-year updates to the Plan.

**Recommendation 5-2:** Transfer station and disposal site locations are currently meeting the needs of self-haul residents. Any changes in these locations, replacement facilities or closures should be evaluated in terms of the effect on self-haul residents, which could impact the refuse collection system.

**Recommendation 5-3:** Minimum service levels for both urban and rural areas shall be adopted by the County by July 1, 1991. After minimum service levels are set, the County government shall decide whether to take authority over collection of recyclables based on an evaluation of administrative costs and control of rates and program.

**Recommendation 5-4:** The County and involved local Governments should support efforts by the haulers to receive rate approval from the WUTC for the development of recycling programs and acquisition of equipment.

**Recommendation 5-5:** The City of Tacoma will continue to provide solid waste collection and disposal services within its corporate city limits. The City shall retain the right to determine all minimum service levels and collection and disposal rates as adopted by the Tacoma City Council, pursuant to RCW 35.21.120.

## CHAPTER 6

## SOLID WASTE PROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES

**Goal:** Consider statewide priorities, particularly recycling goals and programs and their effect on alternative processes and landfill development in the County.

**Goal:** Provide an environmentally safe and reliable disposal system(s) that protect human health and reduces dependency on landfills.

**Goal:** Develop a mixed waste processing, and/or WTE program that will be cost effective for county residents.

**Goal:** Recover resources that are otherwise not available with conventional municipal solid waste disposal methods.

**Recommendation No. 6-1.** County government should include a waste-to-energy (WTE) facility as part of the integrated Pierce County solid waste management system, as well as alternative technologies. The County should study alternate technologies that they determine to be worth consideration within the comprehensive solid waste management system. All technologies should be designed to complement the recycling and waste reduction efforts in the County. A front end material recycling facility(s) (MRF) should be considered with all technologies. Recycling and waste reduction have been evaluated as to the size and BTU value of the waste stream (Appendices D and E). The County should consider that data in selecting and sizing facilities. A thorough environmental review, according to SEPA guidelines, and a technical review, through the independent engineering assessment (Recommendation No. 6-3), is necessary to determine that the technology meets environmental standards, is efficient and dependable as a method of solid waste management. The first step in the environmental review process was completed with the issuance of the programmatic FEIS in July, 1989.

In addition to these technological options, Pierce County and/or private companies should proceed with siting:

1. Landfills that meet all legal and environmental requirements and that are capable of disposing of whatever waste requires disposal (separated municipal solid waste, ash, demolition waste, etc.)
2. Yardwaste composting facilities.

**Recommendation No. 6-2.** County government should pursue development of information gathering for alternative processing technologies in order to provide performance data and economic data roughly comparable to that which is currently available on the WTE project. The purpose of this recommendation is to ensure equivalent information is available to provide a basis for future decisions.

**Recommendation No. 6-3.** County Government should complete negotiations with a WTE vendor to establish the cost and risk associated with proceeding with the project. An independent engineering assessment should then assess how contract commitments affect the waste stream, particularly in regard to size of the facility. County waste reduction and recycling programs (including composting programs), and other solid waste management methods the County is

considering. A WTE facility shall not be operated prior to the completion of a project specific environmental impact statement.

**Recommendation No. 6-4.** County government should continue to study alternate solid waste processing technologies for consideration within the County's integrated solid waste management system. A front end material recycling facility(s) (MRF) should be considered in conjunction with all technologies. In selecting and sizing technologies, the County should consider the data contained in Appendices D and E, which evaluate the effects of recycling and waste reduction on the size and BTU value of the waste stream. A thorough environmental review will be conducted consistent with the requirements of SEPA. The first step in the environmental review process was completed with the issuance of the programmatic FEIS in July 1989.

In addition to these technological options, Pierce County and/or private companies should proceed with siting:

1. Landfills that meet all legal and environmental requirements and that are capable of disposing of whatever waste requires disposal (separated municipal solid waste, ash, demolition waste, etc.)
2. Yardwaste composting facilities.

**Recommendation No. 6-5.** All future County government procurement processes to select qualified solid waste systems vendors should be constructed to encourage input from the SWAC on the scope and criteria for evaluation of said vendors.

City of Tacoma:

**Recommendation No. 6-6.** The City of Tacoma should continue with the planned development of WTE facilities as part of its comprehensive solid waste management plan. The City should continue to expand its existing waste reduction and recycling programs to limit the amount of waste that must be processed through these facilities. The City shall operate all solid waste processing and disposal facilities consistent with existing and future regulatory requirements.

General Recommendations:

**Recommendation No. 6-7.** All future City procurement processes to select qualified solid waste systems' vendors will be determined by each City Council.

**Recommendation No. 6-8.** Based on the 1987 energy market survey, WTE facilities for cities, towns, and County government should consider electricity generation a primary source of energy sales revenue to the facility.

**Recommendation No. 6-9.** Any WTE plant or ash landfill should be sited in such a way as to provide protection against air and water pollution, and to maintain the existing quality of life in and around any neighboring County residents. The operating plan shall ensure the same high standards through regular monitoring and staff training.



**Recommendation 7-3:** If a countywide waste-to-energy facility is implemented, transfer facilities should be utilized as an initial separation point for non-processible and processible waste. This processing could also take place at the WTE facility.

**Recommendation 7-4:** Pierce County government, either through public agencies or through contracting with private parties, should construct or obtain the use of a transshipment facility(s) and as an interim measure or as a backup, contract for disposal of Pierce County waste at out-of-county facilities. To implement this option, vendors should be selected on a competitive basis, should be required to provide cost-effective service to Pierce County residents and should demonstrate that their facilities have been designed, constructed and are operated to meet applicable local, state and federal regulations.

**Recommendation 7-5:** The City of Tacoma should continue to evaluate the need for transfer facilities, along with export of waste options, both as primary and supplementary solid waste disposal option for the City. The City may implement any of these options in order to meet its solid waste disposal needs.

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## **CHAPTER 8                      LANDFILLING AND VOLUME REDUCTION**

**Goal:** Provide a strategy for procuring landfill capacity (including possible ash fill capacity) through the planning period. The strategy should promote efficient use of landfill capacity and minimize disposal costs.

**Goal:** Upgrade existing landfills and construct new landfills to be in full compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations concerning solid waste disposal.

**Goal:** Provide for maximum protection of the environment and support cleanup activities for facilities with existing environmental problems.

**Recommendation 8-1:** Continued landfill improvements at the City of Tacoma Landfill are recommended. The City should continue to evaluate all available options to obtain additional landfill space. The City must coordinate with Pierce County if the disposal site is located within Pierce County.

### **Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base**

**Recommendation 8-2:** Continued landfill improvements and expansion of the Fort Lewis Landfill as planned by U.S. Army officials is recommended.

### **Pierce County**

**Recommendation 8-3:** Continued landfill improvements at the Hidden Valley Landfill are recommended.

**Recommendation 8-4:** Private parties' efforts to site, develop and operate new regional landfills in Pierce County should be encouraged and continue so that the County's residents are assured of landfill capacity of waste generated in Pierce County throughout the planning period. A regional landfill would have the capacity to serve the entire County.

**Recommendation 8-5:** If there is a lack of landfill capacity in Pierce County for solid waste generated in Pierce County in the future, and if out-of-county disposal options are cost effective, then the County Government should contract for the use of a landfill sited out-of-county and should design and construct, or otherwise obtain from public or private sources, a transshipment point for movement of solid waste to out-of-county disposal sites.

**Recommendation 8-6:** County Government should immediately begin the public siting process for a landfill.

**Recommendation 8-7:** Current plans to construct a transfer station at the Purdy Landfill and divert waste to a regional landfill or waste-to-energy facility should be continued.

### **McNeil Island Landfill**

**Recommendation 8-8:** The Department of Correction's current plan to install a drop box facility and divert waste to a Pierce County landfill should be incorporated into this Plan.

**Recommendation 8-9:** Solid waste haulers currently providing service in Pierce County through certificates issued by the Utilities and Transportation Commission under RCW 81.77, or by contract with any city or town other than the City of Tacoma, are required to haul solid waste collected in Pierce County to the Hidden Valley and Purdy landfills or transfer stations as appropriate until Pierce County adopts an ordinance directing solid waste to another designated facility.

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## **CHAPTER 9                      ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Goal:** Ensure that the Health Department's permitting, monitoring and enforcement programs for solid waste are adequately funded, staffed, and managed in a cost-effective manner.

**Goal:** Ensure that disposal service levels are maintained consistent with the Plan and that rates charged are equitable and reflect cost effective management and operation practices.

**Goal:** Ensure that the organizational structure facilitates interjurisdictional cooperation and the orderly, cost effective, and environmentally sound management of the solid waste system.

**Goal:** Ensure thorough public discussion on proposed waste management projects including waste-to-energy facilities, by providing balanced information, review, and comparison of alternatives, and analysis of potential environmental impacts and benefits, in accordance with state and local statutory guidelines.

**Recommendation 9-1:** The County should establish a working group of waste managers which includes managers from both public and private solid waste programs who meet on a regular basis to keep each other informed, share new discoveries, and brainstorm on problem issues.

**Recommendation 9-2:** The current funding mechanism used to support the TPCHD and the County's solid waste programs should continue to be used. Increased program costs resulting from implementation of Plan recommendations should be factored into the flat fee received from the landfill operators.

**Recommendation 9-3:** The household hazardous waste program initiated by TPCHD should be continued until new recommendations are developed in the 1990 hazardous waste management planning process.

**Recommendation 9-4:** A general public education program should be developed to coordinate with all project specific public relations efforts (e.g., waste reduction, waste-to-energy, landfill siting, etc.) and to coordinate with other related solid waste issues such as litter, illegal dumping and increased disposal fees.

**Recommendation 9-5:** The County must establish minimum service levels for recyclables, and determine whether to a) by ordinance award a contract to collect source separated recyclable materials from residences within unincorporated areas, or b) notify the WUTC in writing to carry out and implement the provisions of the waste reduction and recycling element of the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

**Recommendation 9-6:** Under this Solid Waste Management Plan, the City of Tacoma will retain control over all aspects of solid waste management within its corporate city limits, such as collection and disposal rates, minimum service levels, and waste management programs.

**Recommendation 9-7:** Pierce County should limit the importation of out-of-county solid waste to the extent that there is an established short term need for additional solid waste for processing system efficiencies and/or to provide waste quantities necessary for financial guarantees of put-or-pay provisions of operating contracts.

**Recommendation 9-8:** Municipalities should utilize the authority under RCW 36.58 and 39.34 to adopt a countywide flow control ordinance to implement the recommendations of this plan. Municipalities in Pierce County should also utilize their flow control authority to adopt ordinances and/or enter interlocal agreements to implement the recommendations of this plan.

**Recommendation 9-9:** The Pierce County Planning Commission is responsible for addressing all land use concerns related to solid waste facilities. The SWAC should submit the proposed Zoning Code amendments to the Council so that the Council can forward them to the Pierce County Planning Commission.

## CHAPTER 10                      SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

**Recommendation 10-1:** The County should begin preliminary siting efforts to identify locations in the county that may be suitable for a landfill. A landfill site will be required in any solid waste management strategy the County chooses.

**Recommendation 10-2:** The County should seek an expedient determination on whether or not Hidden Valley site life can be expanded to 1998.

**Recommendation 10-3:** The County should ascertain the costs and implementation details of the out-of-country landfill alternatives.

**Recommendation 10-4:** The County should continue negotiations with Wheelabrator, evaluating the compatibility of arrangements for the “put-or-pay” commitments with WRR goals. The advantage of continuing negotiations is that the project would be able to proceed directly to site evaluation, environmental review, and permitting, if the Wheelabrator proposal is acceptable to the County and all applicable recommendations in the plan have been followed.

**Recommendation 10-5:** If recycling levels are falling below anticipated goals and if markets are favorable, the County should consider implementing some level of mixed waste processing to recover marketable materials, depending on the effectiveness of the source separation programs.

**Recommendation 10-6:** Tacoma and Fort Lewis should proceed to implement their current solid waste management programs.

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## CHAPTER 11                      SPECIAL WASTE STREAMS

**Goal:** Provide guidelines and strategies for disposal of all special waste types.

**Goal:** Ensure that special wastes are disposed in a manner that complies with all local, state, and federal regulations applicable to the specific waste type.

**Goal:** Ensure that management strategies for special wastes follow the state best management strategies as well as state priorities of waste reduction, recycling incineration or landfilling of separated wastes before incineration or landfilling of mixed wastes.

**Recommendations:**

- Pierce County should actively proceed with a public awareness and education program for sludge utilization in land application.
- Pierce County should actively endorse the development of a disposal/application site for sludge in Pierce County. If a permit application for such a facility has not been received by January 1989, Pierce County in cooperation with and supported by the jurisdictions operating treatment plants, should initiate a siting, permitting and development process.

- Pierce County should endorse the development of disposal or treatment facilities for the management of septage wastes. The County Recycling/Solid Waste Coordinator should work with septage haulers to investigate possible disposal alternatives and provide support during the siting and permitting process.
- Pierce County should support the active development of at least one demolition and inert waste landfill in Pierce County. The County should cooperate with other jurisdictions or private entities in the siting, permitting and development process.
- If the wood products industry experiences a revitalization, the permitting and enforcement programs which are the responsibility of the Health Department should be in place to handle this special waste stream. In addition, the County Recycling/Solid Waste Coordinator should develop a program to inform woodwaste generators of their disposal options and permitting responsibilities.
- The County should develop a program to inform industrial waste generators of their options for disposal/treatment of their liquid wastes in the event that new secondary treatment facilities increase industrial pretreatment requirements.
- Continued prosecution of illegal tire haulers and illegal disposal site operators.
- Investigate incineration of tires and encourage the development of a tire shredding/ recycling operation in the County. State grant programs should be investigated.
- Pursue state grants for the cleanup and recycling of existing tire piles, and for the enforcement of disposal restrictions.
- The County should evaluate the recommendations of Ecology's Multiuser Confined Disposal Sites Program Study, and then proceed to develop a dredge disposal program for the County.
- A facility to dispose of ash from operating WTE Facilities should be sited, constructed and operated in Pierce County to accept ash from WTE facilities located in Pierce County.
- Any ash monofill or treatment facilities shall be sited and designed in such a way as to provide protection against air and water pollution, and to maintain the existing quality of life in and around the facility, for the protection of all of Pierce County and neighboring County residents. The operating plan shall ensure the same high standards through regular monitoring and staff training.