REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PLANNING

By regulation (Act 101, 1988) all Pennsylvania counties are required to regularly update their plan for the management of municipal waste and special handling municipal wastes that are generated in the county. The primary purposes of a solid waste plan are to:

1. Ensure sufficient processing and disposal capacity for at least 10 years.
2. Ensure a full, fair and open discussion of alternative methods of processing or disposal.
3. Ensure maximum feasible waste reduction and recycling.

The six counties for which LCRMS has historically served as the primary disposal site, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union, are beginning to revise/update their plans. To maximize planning efforts, Lycoming County has proposed combining resources in the development of a Regional Solid Waste Plan that would include all 6 counties. All six counties have agreed to participate in the plan or are considering it.

The proposed structure of the Regional Plan uses the concept of “waste sheds” naming in the plan disposal sites where the waste naturally flows based upon geography, terrain, and traffic patterns. It is not the intent of the plan to name LCRMS as the sole disposal site for the entire region.

Public participation in the form of a planning committee is required. The committee is made up of representatives from municipalities, citizens, industry, private haulers, recycling coordinators. The Regional Plan would include among others a stakeholder group made up of 4 Private Hauling companies representing each of the 6 participating counties (24 hauler representatives).

All affected parties will have an opportunity for a voice in the planning process as it goes forward.

REVISED WASTE REGULATORY PACKAGE RELEASED TO ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

After a delay of a year (to allow time for further clarification and revision), on March 19th the Solid Waste Advisory Committee voted to release DEP’s package of revised Waste Regulations to the Environmental Quality Board for review. The long-pending revisions combine the Municipal and Residual Waste regulations into one package. The package provides for commodity bans of all ACT 101 recyclables with adoption of the regs. Future bans of additional commodities are also provided for. (See section 273.204 of the proposed regs.)

The public comment period will not begin until after the EQB has reviewed the package and ruled on whether or not to move forward. DEP hopes to move the proposed package to the EQB this summer. If you would like to review more information regarding the proposed revisions you can access the Solid Waste Advisory page in the DEP website at: http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/subject/advcoun/solidwst/swac.htm

We’ll keep you up to date and let you know when the public comment period begins.
Great American Cleanup of PA!

Once again, this spring Pennsylvanians across the state will join others across the nation by participating in the Great American Cleanup. Saturday April 25 to Saturday, May 9, 2009 have been established as “Pick It Up PA Days”.

This event allows volunteer organizations to register to cleanup an area in their neighborhood. For more information or to find a registered event, visit the website at: www.greatpacleanup.org

To encourage participation in this effort, DEP, Brady Township, and the Lycoming County Commissioners have granted a waiver of all disposal fees for waste collected from registered events delivered to the landfill* during the designated time frame (4/25/09 - 5/9/09).

To qualify for the free disposal, a Great American Cleanup PA registration number must be presented to the weighmaster upon arrival at the landfill.

OVERWEIGHT VEHICLE NOTIFICATION

As the operator of a DEP permitted landfill, one of the responsibilities of LCRMS is to mitigate the threats to the environment and population resulting from the presence of the landfill. One such nuisance where the landfill operator has to rely on the hauling community is the impact to the local roadway infrastructure created by overweight vehicles.

To help our customers be more aware of overweight situations and assist us in compliance, we will be notifying haulers by letter on a monthly basis about loads that were overweight on arrival at the landfill. Letters will contain the following information:

- Truck Type
- License Plate Number
- Registered GVW
- Date and Time of load
- Actual Gross Weight

We are required to provide this information to DEP during monthly inspections. Repeated instances of violations may result in extra scrutiny of the hauling company by DEP.

Your every effort to ensure loads are not overweight will be appreciated.

Don’t forget: DEP recommends that you apply for your Waste Authorization renewal at least 90 days prior to the expiration date.

*Note: Waste delivered to the transfer station is not eligible for free disposal.

LCRMS EMPLOYEE NEWS

Joann Glunk Retires: The staff of LCRMS wishes Joann Glunk (pictured at right) the best of health and happiness in honor of her retirement. Joann was a county employee for 19 years. Here at RMS she served in the business office as Accounts Payable and then Accounts Receivable Clerk. We all wish Joann health, happiness, and the best of luck!

New Accounts Receivable Clerk: As of January 11, 2009 Stephanie Messner took over the position of Accounts Receivable Clerk. Stephanie formerly held the position of part time weighmaster at the Transfer Station in Williamsport.

New Part Time Weighmaster: On February 23, 2009, LCRMS welcomed a new part time weighmaster to our staff; she is Paula Temple (pictured at left). Paula is a soon-to-be college graduate, majoring in Business Management at Lock Haven University. In her free time, she is a volunteer firefighter in South Williamsport.

Please welcome her to our staff.

Professional Achievements: In March, Brett Meckley and Mark Hecknauer, LCRMS Recycling Division supervisors completed additional PROP training and have received recognition as PA Recycling Professionals with a specialization in Processing of Recycling Materials.