



Private/Public Partnership: Prince George's County & Waste Management Recycle America

Prince George's County Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)



Overview



- The County has provided curbside recycling for more than 16 years, collecting over 700,000 tons of recyclable material
- Over 167,000 households participate in the curbside recycling program
- The County owns the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) located in Capitol Heights, Maryland
- New England CRINC constructed and operated the MRF for the County in 1993
- The original contract included revenue sharing with building maintenance being the County's responsibility.

Overview cont.

- The initial contract and extensions spanned an 11 year period
- A 1995 budget crisis necessitated a change in the financial aspects of the existing MRF Contract
- WMRA bought out New England CRINC and became the new facility operator
- The County & WMRA negotiated a better financial structure for the County

Time Line/Process

- In 2003 A Proposal Analysis Group (PAG) was created & a Request for Proposals (RFP) to operate our facility was developed
- Upon recommendation of the Recycling Section the Single Stream conversion was made a part of the RFP
- The RFP was sent out in December 2004
- April 2005 the 12 respondents' proposals were reviewed

Time Line/Process cont.

• The successful contractor was WMRA

- Renovations began in March 2007
- WMRA converted the processing operation to single stream without interruption to the curbside recycling collections

Grand Reopening



 The Grand Re-Opening was held November 15, 2007 in recognition of America Recycles Day

Paper & Cardboard sorting lines



12/27/2007

View from the Catwalk/Platform



Newspaper Bunkers



Project Goals

- Create a more efficient process overall
- Rejuvenate the current curbside program
- Increase the efficiency of the sorting process
- Reduce the cost of collections
- Increase the recycling rate

Project Goals

What did we do?



- Added a greater variety of materials including, aluminum pie plates, cardboard boxes, paper board, hard & soft covered books, kraft paper, file folders, & shredded paper
- 2. We are providing new 65 gallon wheeled carts/toters to each household in the program
- 3. Collections may now be made using compactor trucks

Education



Outreach Materials

- Disseminating brochures, flyers, door hangers, book marks and new carts
- Displays in local libraries
- Community meetings
- Support from HOA & Civic groups
- Internet/County website
- Budget
 - approximately \$80,000
 - (printing, mailing, advertising)

Lessons Learned



You can never do too much education and outreach

- We will continue the education and outreach process throughout the next three years as we transition to carts.
- Initial reactions to the new 65 gallon wheeled cart have been primarily positive
- *You can't please everyone*

Too early to judge the results of single stream

More Information



Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources

> Recycling Section 301-883-5045



www.goprincegeorges.org