

ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND COMMON TERMS

Acronyms and Abbreviations

2001 Solid Waste Plan	<i>Final 2001 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan</i>
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
C&D	construction and demolition debris
CAC	Citizens Advisory Committee
CERP	Capital Equipment Recovery Program
Conversion Technology Report	<i>Comparative Evaluation of Waste Export and Conversion Technologies Disposal Options</i>
CRT	cathode ray tube
dBA	decibel
DNRP	Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
EIS	environmental impact statement
EECBG	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GBB	Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc.
GHG	greenhouse gas
HDPE plastic	high-density polyethylene plastic
Health Department	Public Health – Seattle and King County
HHW	household hazardous waste
ILA	Interlocal Agreement
ITSG	Interjurisdictional Technical Staff Group
KCBOHC	King County Board of Health Code
KCC	King County Code
LDPE plastic	low-density polyethylene plastic
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
LHWMP	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program
LRF	Landfill Reserve Fund
MFS	Minimum Functional Standards for Solid Waste Handling
MRF	material recovery facility
MSWMAC	Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
NWPSC	Northwest Product Stewardship Council
PET plastic	polyethylene terephthalate plastic
PSCAA	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
PSRC	Puget Sound Regional Council
PVC plastic	polyvinyl chloride plastic
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
SEPA	State Environmental Protection Act

Site Development Plan	Cedar Hills Regional Landfill Site Development Plan
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
SWIF	Solid Waste Interlocal Forum
Transfer Plan	<i>2006 Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan</i>
UAC	Unincorporated Area Council
UASI	Urban Area Security Initiative
WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WPR	waste prevention and recycling
WUTC	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

Common Terms

basic fee – the per-ton fee charged to customers disposing of municipal solid waste at transfer facilities.

beneficial use – the use of solid waste as an ingredient in a manufacturing process, or as an effective substitute for natural or commercial products, in a manner that does not pose a threat to human health or the environment (WAC 173-350).

clean wood –unpainted and untreated wood that can be recycled or salvaged for reuse.

commercial collection company – a private-sector company that collects garbage, recyclables, and organics from residents and businesses.

compost – the product resulting from the controlled biological decomposition of organic waste, which is beneficial to plant growth when used as a soil amendment.

construction and demolition debris (C&D) – debris from the construction, remodeling, repair, or demolition of buildings, other structures, and roads, including clean wood, painted and treated wood, gypsum wallboard, roofing, siding, structural metal, wire, insulation, packaging materials, and concrete, asphalt, and other aggregates.

conversion technology – a process which converts solid waste from a waste product to a useful form of energy and/or useable byproduct, generally with some residual, unusable component that must be sent for disposal (R.W. Beck 2007).

climate change – changes in the long-term trends in average weather patterns of a region, including the frequency, duration, and intensity of wind and snow storms, cold weather and heat waves, drought, and flooding; climate change is attributed primarily to the emission of greenhouse gases, including such compounds as carbon dioxide and methane.

debris management site – temporary site where debris can be taken after a major emergency, such as flood, windstorm, or earthquake, until it can be sorted for recycling or proper disposal.

diversion –any practice or program that diverts solid waste from disposal in the landfill.

drop box – scaled-down facilities, designed to provide cost-effective, convenient drop-off services for garbage and recycling primarily for self-haulers in the rural areas of the county.

equity – when all people have an equal opportunity to attain their full potential. Inequity occurs when there are differences in well-being between and within communities that are systematic, patterned, unfair, and can be changed; they are not random, as they are caused by our past and current decisions, systems of power and privilege, policies, and the implementation of those policies.

garbage –municipal solid waste that is disposed of in the landfill.

green building – the practice of creating and using healthier and more resource-efficient methods of construction, renovation, operation, maintenance, and demolition of buildings and other structures.

greenhouse gas – any gas that contributes to the “greenhouse effect” such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, chlorofluorocarbons, chlorodifluoromethane, perfluoroethane, and sulfur hexafluoride.

Interlocal Agreement – an agreement between a city and the county for use of the King County transfer and disposal system for solid waste generated or collected within that city (KCC 10.04.020).

landfill gas – gas generated through the decomposition of waste buried in the landfill, which consists of about 50 to 60 percent methane and about 40 to 50 percent carbon dioxide, with less than 1 percent hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and other trace gases.

leachate – water that percolates through garbage at the landfill and requires collection and treatment before being set to a wastewater treatment plant.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) – the recognized standard for measuring building sustainability: the rating system evaluates buildings in six areas: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and resources selection, indoor environmental quality, and innovation and design.

non-residential generator – businesses, institutions, and government entities that generate solid waste.

organics – yard waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper.

product stewardship – a management strategy used to encourage the environmentally friendly design of products and to shift the responsibility for managing a product at its end of life from government to product manufacturers.

regional direct fee – the fee charge to commercial collection companies that haul solid waste directly to the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill for disposal instead of to a transfer facility.

self-hauler – both residential and non-residential customers that bring garbage, recyclables, and/or yard waste to division transfer facilities.

social justice – encompasses all aspects of justice, including legal, political, and economic; it demands fair distribution of public goods, institutional resources, and life opportunities.

solid waste – all materials discarded including garbage, recyclables, and organics.

special waste – wastes that require special handling and waste clearance before disposal because of legal, environmental, public health, or operational concerns, such as industrial wastes, asbestos-containing materials, contaminated soil, treated biomedical wastes, treatment plant grit and vector wastes, and other miscellaneous materials.

standard curbside recyclables – glass and plastic containers, tin and aluminum cans, mixed waste paper, newspaper, and cardboard.

tipping fee – the per-ton fee charged to the commercial collection companies that collect garbage curbside and to residential and non-residential self-haulers who bring wastes to the transfer facilities themselves.

waste generation – waste disposed + materials recycled.

waste prevention – the practice of creating less waste, which saves the resources needed to recycle or dispose of it.

waste-to-energy technology – a thermal technology, also known as incineration, that uses a high-temperature combustion system to convert refuse to energy in a controlled environment, such as mass burn waste-to-energy, refuse derived fuel, and advanced thermal recycling.

Zero Waste of Resources – a principle designed to eliminate the disposal of materials with economic value. Zero waste does not mean that no waste will be disposed; it proposes that maximum feasible and cost-effective efforts be made to prevent, reuse, and reduce waste.