

2001 Solid Waste End of the Year Report

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To: Clallam County Board of Health

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Solid Waste Authority

Clallam County Environmental Health Division (CCEHD) has regulatory jurisdiction on solid waste activities in the County. The rules that govern solid waste activities in Washington State are WAC 173-304 (Minimum Functional Standards for Solid Waste Handling) and WAC 173-351 (Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills). We also work with WAC 173-303 (Dangerous Waste Regulations) and WAC 173-308 (Biosolids Management). Clallam County Chapter 2 “Rules and Regulations of the Clallam County Board of Health Governing Solid Waste Handling” is the local code governing solid waste activities in the County.

For most of the solid waste activities in Clallam County, CCEHD works closely with Washington State Department of Ecology. We work specifically with the Southwest Regional Office in Lacey with the Solid Waste and Financial Assurance Program.

Funding of the Solid Waste Program in Clallam County

The solid waste program at CCEHD is partially funded by Washington State Department of Ecology Coordinated Prevention Grant (CPG). The grant runs in two year cycles. In 2000-2001 there was a 60/40 match for the grant. The grant money comes from the Local Toxics Control Account (LTCA); it is money that is collected from a tax on chemicals at a wholesale level. Each local health jurisdiction in the state has access to \$100,000 each from the Solid Waste Enforcement of the CPG. The solid waste enforcement grant is solely for local health jurisdictions to work on solid waste activities.

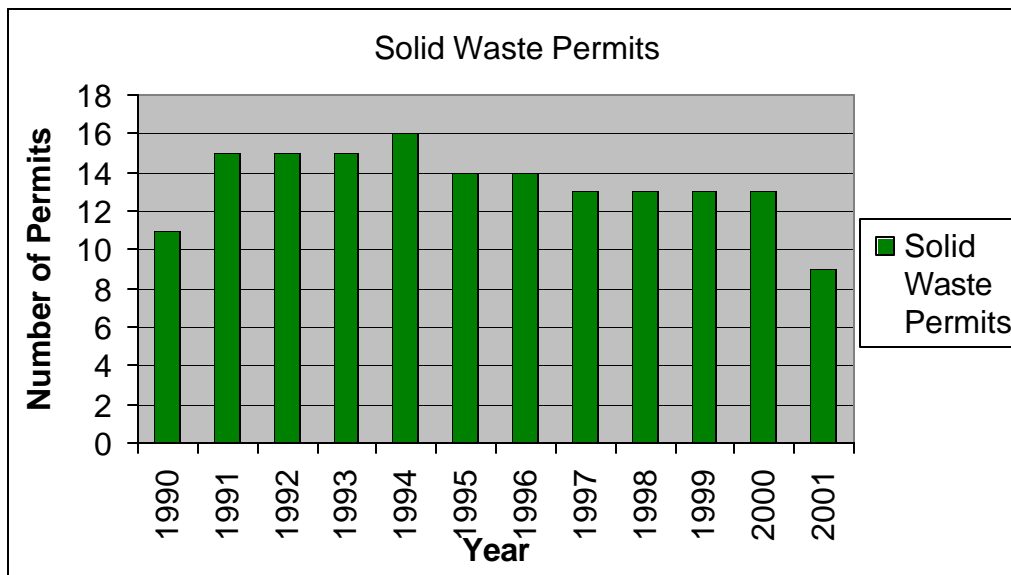
Solid Waste Activities in Clallam County

Solid waste activities in Clallam County include permitting solid waste sites, inspecting permitted solid waste sites, reviewing environmental monitoring data from solid waste sites, investigating solid waste complaints, staff training on solid waste issues, and solid waste program development.

Permitting Solid Waste Facilities

In 2001, Clallam County permitted 10 solid waste facilities. There are two active landfills, the City of Port Angeles Municipal Solid Waste Landfill and Daishowa’s Lawson ash landfill. There are three transfer stations: Blue Mountain, Lake Creek, and West Waste. The Lake Creek Transfer Station, however, discontinued operations in February 2001. The site will not be permitted in 2002. Rayonier’s Mt. Pleasant landfill has a closure permit. There are three landfills in post closure: Lake Creek, Rayonier 13th and M Street, and Merrill & Ring’s 13th and M Street landfills. There is one recycling permit for Jonathan Shotwell’s Eclipse facility.

Nine solid waste permits were issued in 2001. The tenth permit was issued for Mt. Pleasant landfill on December 15, 2000. The graph below depicts the numbers of solid waste permits issued since 1990.



Solid Waste Inspections

Environmental Health is required to inspect the permitted solid waste sites in Clallam County. The inspections check general sanitation and compliance with their solid waste permit. The frequency of inspection depends on the type of facility. Here is a table showing the type of facility and the frequency of inspection.

Type of Facility	Frequency of Inspection
Active Landfill	Quarterly
Landfills in Closure Operations	As Needed, Quarterly
Landfills in Post Closure	Semi-annually
Transfer Stations	Annually
Recycling Facilities	Annually

For landfills in closure operations, inspections are conducted during key closure operations, and at least quarterly. For example, when MPLF hauled ash from the mill site to the landfill, a representative from CCEHD was on site during the entire ash hauling process. CCEHD also inspected the active and closed landfills after heavy storms to ensure all stormwater monitoring systems were operating properly.

In 2002, CCEHD will be required to inspect transfer stations on a semi-annual basis. This will affect the two permitted transfer stations in Clallam County at Blue Mountain in Sequim and at West Waste in Forks.

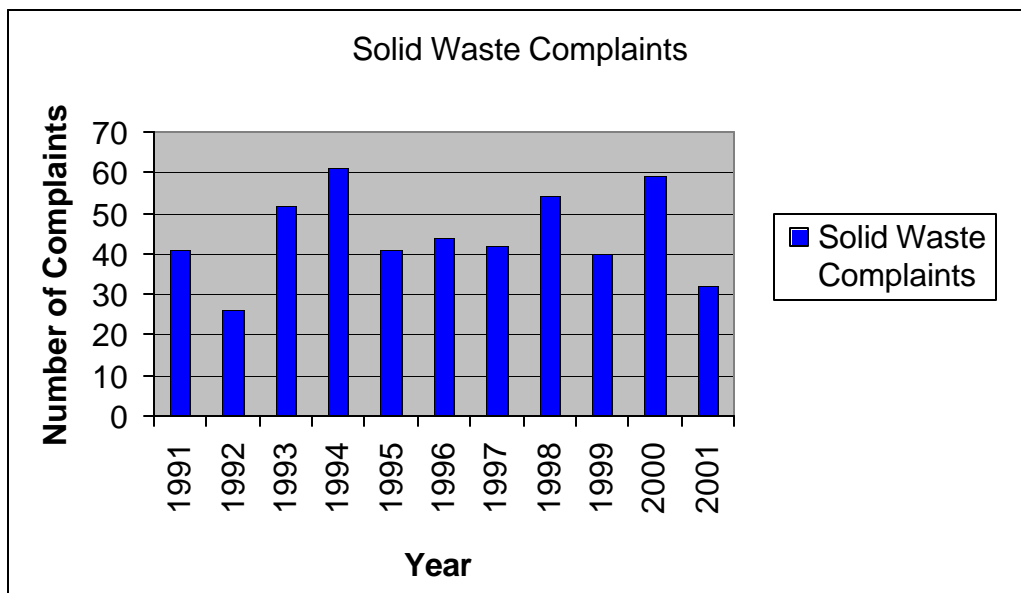
Review of Monitoring Requirements

Each solid waste facility has monitoring requirements. For active and closed landfills, this includes environmental monitoring for groundwater, leachate, stormwater, and/or gas. The monitoring occurs at different time intervals such as quarterly or semi-annually depending on the site. CCEHD reviews the environmental monitoring reports as they are submitted.

Transfer stations and recycling facilities have waste quantity reporting requirements. They are required to report the type and amount of waste collected in a year.

Solid Waste Enforcement

CCEHD is responsible for enforcement of solid waste enforcement issues. This includes enforcement on permitted solid waste sites and solid waste complaints. CCEHD receives approximately 45 solid waste complaints per year. Once a complaint is received, it is logged on a solid waste complaint form. The form is given to the EHS and a site visit is conducted. If a complaint is determined to be a violation, a letter is written to the property owner and the property occupant. The letter gives 30 days to clean up the property and asks for receipts or other means of verification that the waste was disposed of properly. If there is no response from the letter a second letter is sent to the property owner and occupant. The graph below shows the number of solid waste complaints CCEHD has received since 1991. Since Spring 2001, the complaints have been logged into Permit Plan for data tracking.



CCEHD received 36 solid waste complaints in 2001, this is less than the average of 45 complaints received. The lower number of complaints received may be attributed to the hiring of the two Code Enforcement Officers by Department of Community Development. Many of the complaints we received prior to 2000 were regarding junk vehicles and burning garbage. Between 1996-2000, CCEHD received 29 junk vehicle complaints. Junk vehicle complaints are now referred to the Code Enforcement Officers and burning garbage complaints are referred to Olympic Air Pollution Control Authority.

Solid Waste Training

CCEHD staff attended training on environmental monitoring on subjects including groundwater and leachate. This includes Groundwater Pollution and Hydrology, and Subsurface Transport and Fate.

Staff has also attended training for environmental investigations sponsored by Washington State Department of Ecology. The training discussed scope of authority and ethics, complaint analysis and investigative planning, evidence gathering, interviewing techniques, investigator safety, preparing and writing investigative reports, investigator testimony, and respecting constitutional law.

In July Jennifer Barnhill had the opportunity to attend training at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmittsburg, Maryland. She attended the Integrated Emergency Management Course-All Hazards: Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation. The training was useful in teaching incident command system (ICS). It showed all of the many agencies involved in a disaster and how best for all of the agencies to work together.

Solid Waste Program Development

The solid waste program has been involved in numerous activities with program development. The activities include CPG administration, participation on the solid waste advisory committee (SWAC), involvement with emergency planning on issues such as bioterrorism, and review of the local solid waste code.

Each quarter, the County submits a report to DOE regarding their CPG funding. The report includes information on number of complaints received, number of inspections conducted, appeals, new permits, technical assistance visits, and general informational phone calls for the particular quarter.

CCEHD is a non-voting member of SWAC. Once a month SWAC meets to discuss various solid waste issues. We are there because we are involved in solid waste regulatory issues, for technical assistance, and any other solid waste issues.

CCEHD has been involved with emergency planning activities. We are a participant on the PREP (Peninsula Regional Emergency Program) and LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee). We participated in the hazardous materials exercise on June 23, 2001 at Fairview

Elementary School. CCEHD is involved in investigating suspected anthrax or other bioterrorism agents such as the suspected anthrax case at the Port Angeles Post Office in November. We participated in the development of the “Clallam County First Responder Guidelines for Suspicious Envelopes, Packages, Powder”.

In June 2001, CCEHD hired a contractor to review the current local solid waste regulation *Chapter 2 “Rules and Regulations of the Clallam County Board of Health Governing Solid Waste Handling”*. In fourth quarter 2001, the contractor started a needs assessment; he met with local representatives with an interest in solid waste activities. He will deliver a general needs assessment report early 2002.

Rayonier Mt. Pleasant Landfill Appeal

A large portion of time spent in the 1st Quarter of 2001 with solid waste activities was the Rayonier Mt. Pleasant Landfill Appeal. On December 20, 2000, Olympic Environmental Council (OEC) appealed eleven points of the Mt. Pleasant landfill solid waste closure permit issued in December 15, 2000. At the January 16, 2001, Board of Health meeting there was discussion on the scheduling of the Rayonier Mt. Pleasant Landfill Appeal Hearing. It was decided to hold the hearing on February 20, 2001, at 1:30 p.m. There was opposition from OEC in having a day meeting, they preferred an evening meeting. On February 5, 2001, Clallam County Board of Health (CCBOH) held a special meeting to reschedule the appeal hearing. The appeal was rescheduled to February 27, 2001, at 6:00 p.m., official notice was in the *Peninsula Daily News* and a notice was sent out to all interested parties.

On February 27, 2001, CCBOH held the appeal hearing of the Mt. Pleasant Landfill Closure Permit SLW89-0006. OEC, Rayonier, and Clallam County Environmental Health were the three parties involved with the appeal hearing. A thorough notebook outlining the eleven appeal points was prepared by Tania Busch-Weak for the participants at the appeal. Tania summarized the appeal points into four major topics of toxicity, slope stability, SEPA, and liner integrity and efficacy of protective features. Each party was represented by legal council and each party presented their perspective sides to the CCBOH. Representatives from OEC included Peter deFur, their technical advisor, and Kenneth Neal, a geologist; representatives from Rayonier included Jack Anderson, the site manager, Brian Butler, a hydrologist, Mark Edens, a representative of CH2M Hill, and John Kawalski, from Geo Engineers; and representatives from CCEHD included Tania Busch-Weak, Director of Environmental Health, Dr. Tom Locke, Health Officer, Bob Martin, Director of Community Development, Cris Matthews, hydrogeologist with Department of Ecology, and Rob Duff, with Department of Health, site assessment section. Public testimony was taken. At the end of the meeting, public testimony was closed and a deadline was set for March 6, 2001 for any other written testimony.

On March 20, 2001, the CCBOH reviewed the eleven appeal points. Each appeal point was rejected. After deliberations, the Board of Health announced its oral ruling and entered Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. The BOH affirmed the decision of the Clallam County Health Officer to issue the solid waste closure permit.

On March 26, 2001, the CCBOH held a meeting to discuss the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law. The Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law were signed and entered into the record on March 30, 2001.