

GLOSSARY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT TERMS

Animal Waste - includes contaminated animal carcasses, body parts, and bedding materials of animals that were known to have been exposed to infectious agents during research [including research in veterinary hospitals], production of biologicals or testing of pharmaceuticals.

Ad Valorem Taxes – means "in proportion to the value" and is used especially as a tax or duty, fixed at a percentage of the value of property or goods being taxed.

Alley Collection - the collection of solid waste, recyclables, or other materials where the generator places solid waste, recyclables and other materials in some type of container in the alley, at the side, or back of the property. The collection vehicle traverses the alley and collects the materials.

Automated Collection - the use of mechanical devices to lift and empty solid waste containers into solid waste collection vehicles. Automated collection consists of semi-automated and fully-automated collection of residential solid wastes and recyclables and front-end loader collection.

Backdoor Collection (Side of the House Collection) - the collection of solid waste, recyclables, or other materials from the back door or side of the house by a collector who either empties the containers into a larger container, or other means of storage such as a large burlap blanket which is taken directly to a collection vehicle, or carries the container(s) to the collection vehicle, empties the container(s) and returns them to the back door or side of the house.

Bag System - a co-collection (see Co-collection below) design where recyclables are placed in a plastic bag and taken at the curb with solid waste, and both are collected in one packer collection vehicle. Frequently referred to as the "blue bag system" due to the common use of blue plastic bags. Also applied to a Variable Rate system where the costs of solid waste management are collected by selling special bags or stickers for commercial bags.

Bans - in integrated solid waste management, a term used to describe an act, normally by legislation or regulation that forbids certain materials from being received and processed by a solid waste management facility.

Bin or Container - common terms for storage containers for residential, commercial, institutional or industrial solid waste and recyclables (see also - Cart and Dumpster).

Box - common term used for roll-off containers.

Bulky Waste (Bulky Items) - large items of solid waste, other than white goods which, because of their bulk/size, require special collection and management. Examples include stumps, furniture, large auto parts, hot water heaters, furnaces, and remodeling materials from residential sources. Bulky wastes are normally generated by residential sources.

Cab - an enclosure mounted on a truck frame for housing an operator that normally includes seats, operating controls, and environmental systems. Cabs can be constructed of steel, aluminum or fiberglass. Cabs come in three basic designs:

- **Cab-over Engine (COE)** - the cab is mounted over the engine compartment resulting in an elevated enclosure with clear frontal visibility for the operator.
- **Conventional Cab (CC)** - the cab is mounted behind the engine compartment.

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- **Low-entry Cab (LEC)** - the cab is usually mounted in front of the engine to provide good operating visibility and close to the ground for ease of entry and exit.

Capital Financing - financing used to pay for the development of capital assets; e.g., in solid waste management, fixed assets would be solid waste management facilities and, in some cases, equipment. Local governments raise capital primarily by bonds (general obligation, project, or revenue bonds), and private for-profit organizations use loans, stock issues or industrial bonds.

Cart - a common term for storage containers used in semi-automated and fully-automated residential solid waste and recyclables collection systems. Carts are equipped with lids and wheels to enable them to be rolled to the curb to be emptied and are available in sizes ranging from 30 to 300 gallons. Also referred to as a Toter after one of the major cart suppliers.

Cart Dumper - a mechanical device used in semi-automated and fully-automated collection to lift and empty carts. Also called Flippers and Tipper.

Chassis - the assembly of the cab, frame, drive train, wheels and other standard chassis components on which a collection body is installed.

Co-Collection/Dual Collection - simultaneous collection of two solid wastes, e.g., residential solid waste and residential recyclables; residential solid wastes and green (yard) wastes; residential recyclables and green wastes; or two recyclables.

Collection - the act of removing accumulated solid waste from the point of collection and transporting it to a solid waste management facility. Collection may also occur at centralized points where generators deliver their solid waste.

Collection Body - an enclosed or open body that receives solid waste or recyclables during collection. Collection bodies are of two types:

- **Compaction Body** - an enclosed body commonly known as a packer body which compacts the solid waste in the collection body and is always enclosed and almost always used for the collection of solid waste.
- **Non-compaction or Low-compaction Body** - used for the collection of recyclables to avoid over compaction of recyclables; it may be either an enclosed or open collection body.

Collection Frequency - the number of times, generally referred to as times "per week," that collection service is provided.

Collection/Service Stop - a unique address that is a point of collection and requires collection services, i.e., a geographical point within a service area that requires the collection vehicle to stop and collect solid waste and/or recyclables, or other materials.

Collection System - a combination of the various components that are necessary to provide a collection service, including the system design, equipment and human resources, point of collection, frequency, system costs, and method of financing.

Commercial Collection - the collection of solid waste and recyclables from a business or industrial complex (generators of commercial, institutional and industrial, non-processible, non-hazardous solid waste) generally using specialized containers and collection vehicles.

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Commercial Solid Waste - solid waste generated by businesses, institutions; general health care wastes from health care facilities and health care providers; and solid waste from industries, that is similar in characteristics to that generated by businesses.

Compost - an organic soil conditioner that has been stabilized to a humus-like product that is free of viable human and plant pathogens and plant seeds, does not attract insects or other vectors (organisms that transmit pathogens), can be handled and stored without nuisance, and is beneficial to the growth of plants.

Construction & Demolition Wastes (C&D Wastes) - solid waste materials resulting from the construction, remodeling, repair, or demolition of buildings, bridges, pavements, and similar structures. Normally, construction and demolition materials from residential sources are not included in the definition of C&D wastes.

Contractors - see Service Providers and Haulers.

Controlled Area - for self-delivery collection systems, a controlled area is one established by an integrated solid waste management system where non-containerized materials such as green wastes or white goods are deposited in a specially-designated and controlled area at a drop-off center or some other solid waste management facility.

Convenience Center - see Drop-Off Center.

Curbside Collection - the collection of solid waste, recyclables, or other materials placed in front of the property (curbside) by the generator who then returns the container to its normal location at the curb after it has been emptied. Curbside collection is generally used in the collection of residential solid wastes and recyclables or other materials. It is not normally used in commercial, institutional, or industrial solid waste collection.

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) – a department of the Commonwealth of Virginia that protects and improves the environment and the wellbeing of all Virginians by administering state and federal laws and regulations for air quality, water quality, water supply and waste management. In addition, DEQ's other programs cover a variety of environmental activities, such as improving the ability of businesses and local governments to protect the environment, and offering technical and financial assistance for air and water quality improvements. Through its seven regional offices, DEQ issues permits, conducts inspections and monitoring, and enforces regulations and permits

Direct Costs - direct costs are all expenditures which are directly attributable to providing a solid waste management service(s) that would be eliminated if the service(s) were discontinued.

Direct Haul - the hauling of collected solid waste in the collection vehicle from its point of collection to a solid waste management facility (materials recovery, mulching, composting, waste-to-energy or landfill facility).

District(s) - geographical area within a solid waste collection service area that divides the service area into a number of routes to equalize the number of stops served, the hours necessary to provide service to all stops, or the amount of solid waste to be collected. Frequently, physical characteristics of a service area, such as traffic corridors, rivers, or other physical barriers also help define districts.

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Diversion - the act of drawing off one or more designated materials from a solid waste stream. Diversion typically occurs at the point of generation. Normally, diversion is used to divert recyclables for separate collection, but it may also be used to prevent certain materials from being managed with the rest of a solid waste stream.

Diversion Rate - amount of material being diverted for recycling, compared to the total amount that was previously generated prior to diversion.

Door-to-door Collection - one of the two basic designs for a residential solid waste collection system where the collection vehicle travels from door to door to collect solid wastes, recyclables, or other materials that are placed in containers by the generator at some point on their property (see Point of Collection).

Drop-Off Centers (also called Convenience Centers) - one of the two basic designs for a residential collection system. A drop-off center is a site where solid wastes, recyclables, or other materials are taken by generators and deposited into designated containers. Drop-off Centers are frequently used in rural areas and for the collection of special wastes. Drop-off centers may be staffed with solid waste personnel or not staffed.

Dual-stream Recycling - a method of storage and collection of recyclable materials where recyclable materials are source-separated into two categories and each placed in a single container by the generator. The two streams utilized in residential curbside collection are generally: (1) mixed paper and (2) commingled containers (glass, plastic and metal).

Dumpster - a common term used to describe storage bins (containers) for commercial, institutional, and industrial solid waste. Originally developed by the Dempster Co. as the Dempster Dumpster.

Enterprise Funds – a technique for municipal accounting where a fund for a specific purpose is established, such as solid waste management. The fund is self-supporting from the revenues collected, which cover all expenses including annualized capital costs.

Fleet - a term commonly used to denote a large group of collection vehicles belonging to a particular solid waste collection service provider.

Flipper - a hydraulic-powered device used in semi-automated collection to lift and empty a wheeled cart into a hopper.

Franchise - an exclusive right granted by a governing political body to a public - or more often - a private service provider to collect and/or manage solid waste for a local government.

Front-end Loader Collection Vehicle - a collection vehicle with two forks on the front arms to lift a container to empty the solid waste into a hopper at the top of the compaction body. Compaction of solid waste is from the front to the rear of the compaction body. This body type is used primarily for the collection of commercial, institutional and industrial solid wastes; however, it has been adapted for the collection of residential solid waste and recyclables.

Front-end Loader Container - a solid waste storage container specially designed for use with a front-end loader collection vehicle. Frequently referred to as a "bin."

Fully-automated Collection - a method of collecting solid waste where the generator places the storage container at the point of collection, and collection is done without the operator

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exiting the collection vehicle. The collection vehicle is equipped with special mechanical devices that are hydraulically extended to grasp, lift, empty and then replace the storage container back to the point of collection.

Full-cost Accounting – a technique for municipal accounting of all costs related to a solid waste management service, or unit, operation. Services, including direct, indirect, outside contractor costs, internal agency transfers and capital costs are captured.

Future Value of Money - the value of money at some future time based on an assigned or assumed interest rate.

General Fund - in local government financial management, those funds raised by jurisdictionwide taxes, e.g., property and sales taxes.

General Health Care Waste - solid waste from health care facilities and service providers [human and animal] which are not hazardous, infectious, or potentially dangerous and should not require special management approaches after collection. These solid wastes are generated in all areas of health care facilities and by health care service providers and homes. They can be managed in integrated solid waste management systems.

General Obligation Bonds - general obligation (GO) bonds are secured by a government's taxing powers and are often used to finance capital projects.

Generator Fee – see Utility Fee.

Grabber - a hydraulic-powered device used in fully-automated collection to lift and empty a wheeled cart into a hopper.

Green Wastes (Yard Wastes) - organic wastes from lawn, tree, horticultural and landscaping services, including leaves, grass clippings, tree prunings, large cut waste timber and stumps, and other materials which are generated by commercial or nonresidential activities, as well as similar materials generated by homeowners from their lawns and gardens.

Hauler - in North America, any organization (publicly or privately owned and operated) that collects solid waste. Most often used, however, to describe a privately-owned organization.

Home Health Care Wastes - solid wastes generated as a result of the provision of health care in the home. These solid wastes will not present the same array of solid waste components as health care facilities, but will include general health care and medical wastes such as sharps, soiled dressings, human blood products, disposable bedding, and gloves - to mention the more predominant possibilities.

Hopper – a contained area receiving material before being conveyed/compacted and processed.

Household Hazardous Wastes - solid waste generated by residential generators that exhibit the characteristics of a hazardous waste as established by USEPA hazardous waste regulations. These wastes are exempt from the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste regulatory requirements but may be included in state regulations.

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Igloo Container - a storage container, which draws its name from its shape, resembling an ice igloo, frequently used for storing recyclables at drop-off centers.

Incineration – see waste-to-energy.

Infectious Agent - any organism (such as a virus or bacteria) that is capable of being communicated by invasion and multiplication in body tissue and causing disease or adverse health impacts in humans.

Indirect Costs - independent of direct costs, indirect costs relate to support services such as general administration, human resources, accounting, etc. Often, these services are provided by other governmental departments to a solid waste management service organization.

Industrial Solid Waste - solid waste, which is similar in physical, chemical and biological characteristics to commercial and residential solid waste, is non-hazardous, non-process-related, and would normally be generated by offices, warehouses, cafeterias and shipping activities in industrial operations. Frequently referred to as "light industrial" solid waste.

Institutional Solid Waste - solid waste generated by social, charitable and educational activities.

Integrated Solid Waste Management - integrated solid waste management is defined as a management system composed of all the actions, steps, methods, processes and facilities necessary to manage solid waste, including:

- planning,
- financing,
- regulation,
- operation,
- management;

and one or more of the following actions, services, operations, systems, methods or facilities:

- reduction of solid waste generation (source reduction),
- collection,
- transfer,
- materials recycling,
- composting,
- combustion (incineration or waste-to-energy), and
- disposal.

Invitation for Bid (IFB) - a document used to solicit competitive bids for a service or work to be done that requests firm, nonnegotiable, fixed prices.

License - see Permits.

Local Government - an incorporated or unincorporated jurisdiction below the state or provincial level of government, including cities, municipalities, towns, townships, boroughs, districts, special purpose districts, authorities, counties or similar local government entities, which has been established by state, provincial, or local government law for the purposes of

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servicing a designated segment of population within a state or province or interstate/inter-provincial areas.

Managed Competition - the process of competitive selection of solid waste service providers where local government service providers compete against private service providers.

Manual Collection - a method of collecting solid waste where the operator and/or collector(s) exit the collection vehicle and manually empty the container(s). Storage containers may be brought to the point of collection by the generator or a member of the collection crew.

Materials Recovery Facility - a specialized processing facility that receives, separates and prepares recyclable materials for marketing to end-user manufacturers. Generally, there are two types - clean and dirty MRFs. A *clean MRF* accepts recyclable materials that have been collected in source-separated containers from either residential or commercial sources. They can be designed for either dual-stream materials, single-stream materials, or both. A *dirty MRF* accepts a mixed solid waste stream and then proceeds to separate out designated recyclable materials through a combination of manual and mechanical sorting. The sorted recyclable materials may undergo further processing required to meet technical specifications established by end-markets while the balance of the mixed waste stream is sent to a disposal facility such as a landfill.

Materials Quantity Database - a system that tracks the amount and type of waste materials in a specific area.

Mega Fills - a term used to describe large (2,000+ tons per day) regional landfills established normally by private owners to provide landfill capacity from very large geographical areas. The vast majority of the solid waste received is transported by transfer systems.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) - a solid waste stream composed of the following distinct solid waste streams:

- **Residential Solid Waste** - solid wastes generated by single and multifamily residences/dwellings/households (residence is a place, esp. the house in which a person lives or resides, a dwelling place, or home; residential is characterized by private homes; and a household consists of the people of a house, collectively).
- **Commercial Solid Waste** - solid wastes generated by commercial enterprises (offices, stores, retail and wholesale outlets, office buildings, markets, theaters, hospitals [non-infectious solid waste]) and other commercial enterprises that would generate solid wastes similar in characteristics as the enterprises listed. (Commerce is an interchange of goods; commercial is the production and marketing of goods and services with the emphasis on salability and profit).
- **Industrial Solid Waste** - solid waste, which is similar in physical, chemical and biological characteristics to commercial and residential solid waste, is non-hazardous, and non-process-related and would normally be generated by offices, warehouses, cafeterias and shipping activities in industrial operations. Frequently referred to as "light industrial" solid waste. (Industry is trade or manufacturing in general; and industrial is of, or pertaining to, a type of the nature of, or resulting from industry, typified by enterprises that manufacture goods and products or non-manufacturing enterprises not considered to be commercial).
- **Institutional Solid Waste** - solid wastes generated by social, charitable, and educational activities. Institution is an organization or establishment devoted to the promotion of a cause or social activity.
- **Combustion** - the combustion of solid waste for the purposes of volume reduction and energy recovery or volume reduction only.

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- **Landfilling** - the disposal of solid waste by the sanitary landfilling process.

There are many other solid wastes that may appear within a municipal solid waste management system and may be included in the definition of municipal solid waste on a state-by-state basis, including:

- biomedical wastes;
- street sweeping and catchment basin wastes;
- sludge from wastewater treatment plants;
- construction and demolition wastes;
- residues from recycling, composting, and waste-to-energy facilities; and
- automobile hulks, chassis, and parts.

Operational Funding - funding for the direct and indirect operational costs for a solid waste collection and/or transfer system.

Participation Rate - the percentage of generators on a residential collection route who *participate* in a residential recyclables collection service by providing (setting out) recyclables for collection. Participation rates vary since generators may not set out recyclables every time collection is provided. To establish a participation rate, some time frequency must be established, i.e., once per month, etc.

Pay As You Throw – see Variable Rate.

Permits - formal authorization issued by a local government to a for-profit business venture to provide a service within the legal jurisdiction of that local government, also called licenses. Permits may be as simple as authorization to do business, to very complex with many conditions governing how the permitted business operates. In most instances, there is a fee for issuing a permit.

Point of Collection - a geographical point on a generator's property where storage containers are placed for collection service.

Rear-loader Collection Vehicle - a solid waste collection body where the hopper for loading the solid waste is at the rear of the compaction body. Compaction of solid waste is from the rear to the front of the compaction body. This body type is used primarily for residential solid waste collection; however, it has been adapted for the collection of commercial, institutional, and light industrial solid wastes.

Residential Recyclable Materials – include cardboard, newspaper, junk mail, glass bottles, metal cans, plastic containers, etc., that are in the residential solid waste stream designated to be diverted for the purposes of recycling.

Residential Solid Waste - solid waste generated from single and multifamily sources; frequently called household solid waste or household wastes.

Residential Storage Container - a container used to store residential solid waste and/or residential recyclables. These containers may be constructed of metal, plastic, or paper and are either of hard, or soft, side construction (see Cart).

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Recycling of Materials from Solid Waste - recycling is the diversion or removal of materials from a solid waste stream and the use of those materials in one of the following ways:

- for the same purpose as it was originally designed, or
- for use in its original form, but for another purpose, or
- the return of production line process wastes into main stream production line feedstock, or
- the treatment and reconstitution of the materials from one product to produce secondary raw materials for other products, and/or
- other productive uses.

Refuse-derived Fuel – the result of mechanically processing solid waste to improve its handling, storage and combustion characteristics. The processing may include size reduction (shredding), screening, magnetic separation, and other steps to remove noncombustible materials and tailor the fuel to specific boilers. The resulting refuse-derived fuel (RDF) can be burned in a dedicated boiler or co-fired with other solid fuels in an independent boiler. It can also be densified to aid in its handling and storage properties to enhance its use.

Request for Proposals (RFP) - a document used to solicit technical and cost proposals from potential service providers.

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) - a document used to obtain statements of qualifications (including experience, references, financial stability and condition, and availability of equipment) from bidders prior to issuance of a final solicitation.

Revenue Bonds - bonds used to finance capital projects which are secured only by the revenues generated by the funded project.

Route - a round of stops to collect solid waste developed into a path regularly visited by a collection vehicle.

Routing - the process which physically defines the route a collection vehicle follows as it goes stop-by-stop collecting solid waste or recyclables.

Roll-off Container - container used for the storage, collection and transport of commercial, institutional or industrial solid waste. The container is pulled onto the tilt-frame of the collection vehicle with a cable by winch, reeving cylinders, or by hooks and taken to a solid waste management facility for emptying. Normally, an empty roll-off container is delivered to a customer at the time of collection, rolled off and left for future use. Frequently referred to as a "box."

Roll-Off Service - a system for storing and collecting solid waste. The container used for storage is transported to the point of collection by a special collection vehicle. The roll-off container is then "rolled off" the collection vehicle and left for filling. When it is ready to be serviced, an empty container is delivered to the point of collection, rolled off and the full container is loaded onto the collection vehicle and taken to a solid waste or recyclables management facility.

Sanitary Landfill/Landfilling - a sanitary landfill is as a land area where solid waste is disposed in a manner that protects human health and the environment. Sanitary landfilling is an engineering method of disposing of solid waste on land in a manner that protects human

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health and the environment by spreading the solid waste in layers, compacting those layers into the smallest practical volume, and covering the compacted solid waste with soil. In addition to the qualities listed above, operation of a solid waste sanitary landfill includes:

- monitoring of surface waters, groundwater, and landfill gas during the time the facility is open and operational;
- waste screening to prevent the receipt and disposal of banned solid and liquid wastes;
- control of:
 - surface water runoff/runoff,
 - leachate, and
 - landfill gas;
- closure and postclosure management of the cover;
- postclosure management of:
 - surface water runoff/runoff,
 - leachate, and
 - landfill gas.

Semi-Automated Collection - a method of collecting solid waste where the generator places the storage container at the point of collection, and the collection is done by a collection vehicle which requires the operator or collector to exit the collection vehicle and manually connect the container(s) to a hydraulic lifting device (flipper or tipper) fastened to the mainframe or hopper of the collection vehicle. Normally, the point of collection for semi-automated collection is curbside, or alley.

Service Area - see District(s).

Set-out Rate - the percentage of generators on a residential collection route who provide (or *set out*) solid waste and/or recyclables for collection. Normally, the set-out rate is calculated based on the frequency of collection. As an example, if the collection frequency is once per week, the set-out rate is calculated by dividing the number of generators on the route that set out their containers by the total number of service stops on that route. If twice-per-week service is provided, each service has its own set-out rate; separate set-out rates are determined for the second service.

Sharps - items used in animal or human patient care or treatment or in medical research or industrial laboratories, including hypodermic needles, syringes (with or without the needles), Pasteur pipettes, scalpel blades, blood vials, needles with attached tubing, lancets, and culture dishes (regardless of presence of infectious agents). Also included are other types of broken or unbroken glassware that were in contact with infectious agents, such as used slides and cover slips.

Side-loader Collection Vehicle - a solid waste collection body where the hopper for loading the solid waste is at the side of the collection vehicle toward the front of the compaction body. Compaction of solid waste is from the front to the rear of the compaction body. This body type is used primarily for one-person, semi-automated and fully-automated collection of residential solid wastes. It is also used for the collection of commercial solid waste, residential recyclables, and residential green wastes (yard wastes).

Single-stream Recycling – a method of storage and collection of recyclable materials where all recyclable materials are placed in a single container by the generator. This can include materials as dissimilar as cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic jugs, mixed paper, newspapers and metal containers.

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Solid Waste - see Municipal Solid Waste.

Source separated – the segregation of specific materials at the point of generation for separate collection.

Solid Waste Management - solid waste management is defined as the systematic organization and administration of activities which provide for the planning, financing, and operational processes for managing solid waste. Operational processes include storage, separation, collection, transport, treatment, separation, diversion for other management purposes, recycling, composting, combustion, and landfilling of solid waste. The generation of solid waste is not a part of solid waste management.

Solid Waste Management Facility - transfer stations, composting and mulching facilities, materials recovery facilities, combustion facilities and landfills that receive solid waste and/or recyclables for management.

Solid Waste Management Infrastructure - infrastructure is the basic, underlying framework or features of a system or organization. Therefore, the solid waste management infrastructure is the basic framework of a system to manage solid waste, including institutional, financial, regulatory, operational, and organizational processes.

Source Reduction - source reduction is any action that reduces the amount of solid waste to be collected and managed. It includes:

- reducing the amount of solid wastes generated at the source;
- redesigning of products or packaging so that less material is used, resulting in fewer discarded materials;
- voluntary or imposed behavioral changes in the use of materials which results in the selection of products and materials which last longer or reduce the amount of materials discarded; or
- increasing the durability and reusability of materials which results in longer lasting products.

The USEPA defines source reduction to also include the design, manufacture, purchase, or use of materials to reduce their quantity or toxicity before they reach the solid waste stream.

Source Separation – preparation of materials by the source or waste generator where individual materials are separated into categories prior to collection. Examples include: cardboard, mixed paper, commingled container, glass containers, wood, scrap metal, etc.

Special Use Taxes - taxes assessed for a specific use, such as public education (schools).

Special Wastes - specific materials, generated primarily by residential sources (other generators, too), that may require special collection and management approaches. Also, referred to as universal waste.

Stationary Compactor - powered machine that remains stationary when in operation and designed to compact solid waste into a container. Smaller stationary compactors are used in apartment complexes or institutions. Larger stationary compactors are used in commercial, industrial and solid waste facilities, including drop-off centers.

Storage Container - see Bin or Container.

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Tipper - a hydraulic-powered device used in semi-automated collection to lift and empty a wheeled cart into a hopper. The tipper places a container on its wheels at the beginning and end of the lifting cycle to eliminate wear along the container bottom.

Tip Fee – fee charged at a sanitary landfill or other solid waste facility for deposition of materials. Tip fees are charged by quantity, tons or cubic yards.

Transfer Supplemental Transportation Systems - employed to reduce hauling costs by using semi-trailers, railroad cars, or barges to haul from a central point(s) within a jurisdiction to one or more distant solid waste management facilities. The act of transfer includes unloading collection vehicles at the transfer station, loading solid waste from the transfer station to the transfer vehicles, and hauling the solid waste to distant solid waste management facilities.

Transfer Station - a facility where the transfer of collected solid wastes from collection vehicles, which are small and designed for local travel, to transfer vehicles takes place.

Transfer Vehicle - a large transportation unit which is used for the long haul of solid waste from a transfer station to a distant solid waste management facility.

User Fees – see Utility Fee.

Utility Fee – fees directly billed to individual generators (home and business owners) for solid waste management services.

Variable Rate – a method of setting the solid waste management rate on a fee-for-service basis where the solid waste generator, or customer, pays based on the level of service that the customer uses. The fee can be collected by means of special bags or stickers that the customer buys, which have been priced to include the full cost of service. An alternate method using central billing is to provide different size containers for different monthly prices, i.e., a 96-gallon cart costs more than a 64-gallon cart, and so forth. Also referred to as “pay as you throw.”

Waste-to-Energy (WTE) - an incineration process in which the organic fraction of solid waste is combusted, and the released heat is utilized to generate hot water, steam, and electric power, leaving the inorganic fraction (ash) as a residue.

Waste Reduction Waste - see Source Reduction.

White Goods - large household appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, ranges, air conditioners, dryers, and washing machines.

Yard Wastes - see Green Wastes.