

2013

Larimer County Solid Waste Department Annual Report

LANDFILL | HAZ WASTE | EDUCATION | ENVIRONMENTAL CARE | TRANSFER STATIONS



LARIMER
COUNTY

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION

Notes from the Director

2013 was a banner year for Solid Waste. In August we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the landfill! This facility is jointly owned by the City of Fort Collins (50%), the City of Loveland (25%) and Larimer County (25%). Larimer County has been the operator of the facility since 1975. The landfill still has over ten years of air space remaining, but the flood of 2013 will certainly impact its useful life.

This year our facility and staff have played a key role in the flood recovery efforts. We continue to assist with monitoring, removal and the disposal of flood debris. Our department is working with FEMA, CDR Maguire, and TFR to facilitate the clean up efforts. We continue to provide the staff for the additional responsibilities of disposal of flood debris.

As we serve the recovery effort, the additional trucks add to the wait time in the lines for our regular customers. We are accommodating this issue by adding staff at our alternate 3rd gate.

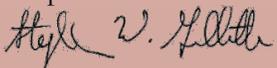
The Solid Waste department is proud to be a partner with the Northern Colorado Bomb Squad. They use a portion of the landfill property for detonation and training. This year the Northern Colorado Bomb Squad and the Larimer County Solid Waste Department purchased an ammunition burner for the destruction of old and unused explosives. This unit is housed here at the landfill.

On July 1, 2013 a new E-waste bill became state law. This law mandates electronics must be recycled. Recycling of electronics has always been available at the landfill but with condensed hours. Due to the new mandates, we approached our on site com-

pany, Waste Management, Inc., to expand their electronic hours to match the landfill hours of operation. This modification allows our customers to drive here less frequently, and use our expanded facility departments more efficiently. The fee for recycling electronics is \$.40 cents per lb.

We want to thank you for choosing us for your disposal, recycling, household hazardous waste, and educational needs here at your Larimer County landfill. We provide you these services without your tax dollars. We do appreciate your business.



Stephen Gillette

 Solid Waste Director

Employees Make us great!

- We celebrated the 2013 Longevity Employees, Rose, Jeff, and Matt at our summer pot luck BBQ
- We welcomed new gate staff: Ryan, James, Elaina, and Therease
- We are proud to be working with the new flood monitoring staff: Tammie, Cameron, Erik, Jay, and Ben

- We appreciate our unsung heroes, our temps: Doug, Amy for their versatility.
- We are grateful for our Environmental Educator, Rose and all her volunteer hours at the Flood Distribution Center and her continued assistance with media updates on the recovery efforts.



Our Employee Pot Luck BBQ and longevity awards



Monitoring landfill gas



A team meeting

New in 2013

2 new culverts~ These reduce the environmental impact of drainage and erosion.



Improved communication~

Also new in 2013 is a cell phone antenna booster at the business office. We rely heavily on our smart phones as a communication tool for staff and also our customers. We are now able to send and receive a signal from all carriers.

ATTENTION

Under Colorado law, this facility may NOT accept the following e-wastes:

- TELEVISION SETS**
televisores
- CENTRAL PROCESSING UNITS**
unidades centrales de proceso
- COMPUTER MONITORS**
monitores de computadora
- PRINTERS OR FAX MACHINES**
impresoras o máquinas de fax
- LAPTOPS OR TABLETS**
computadoras portátiles o tabletas
- DVD PLAYERS OR VCRs**
lectores de DVDs o reproductores de video
- VIDEO DISPLAY DEVICES**
(with a screen greater than four inches)
dispositivo de visualización de video
(con pantalla mayor de 4 pulgadas)
- RADIOS OR STEREO EQUIPMENT**
transmisores de radio o equipo reproductor de música
- VIDEO GAME CONSOLES**
equipos de videojuego

www.colorado.gov/icdph/e-waste

Power backup~

In an effort to keep the landfill open and operational in the event of a power failure, (which happens), we purchased and installed a back up generator. This helps us serve our customers better, and improves the traffic flow and safety on Taft Hill Road during power failure events. This newly installed unit has already gotten some use in 2013.



New regulations~

July 2013, the regulations regarding disposal of electronics had some more restrictive requirements added to the list. This is a new Colorado law requiring greater responsibility to consumers on electronic purchases in an effort to keep hazardous electronic contaminants out of the landfills. We are partnering with Waste Management to enforce these new regulations and recycling requirements.

Flood Recovery Assistance



Larimer County
impacted AGAIN
by Mother Nature!!



Hazardous Waste Handling

2013 was another year of challenges for our county government and residents alike. The September flood placed a tremendous stress on Larimer county departments; many employees have worked hard to restore a sense of order to residents impacted by the flood. The Hazardous Waste Program here at the landfill has been preparing for the spring clean up of homes as residents begin to work on restoring their homes and properties those cleaning up your property or helping to clean up a property were urged to be cautious handling household hazardous waste that has been caught in the flood.

First, and foremost we recommend that you use personal protective gear such as good gloves, safety glasses and clothing that covers your arms as well as pants and work boots.



When picking up chemicals watch for rusted cans, be aware that plastic containers may have become brittle. Have some boxes lined with garbage bags on hand to place containers in so if they leak they will not be released into your vehicle or elsewhere.



Only place “like” chemicals together and be careful with various cleaners that could mix together and cause problems. Don’t close up bags or toss chemicals together in garbage bags. This could lead to an exposure risk to those who may have to sort it out later. If you have items that are compromised and sure to leak, place those alone in a clear plastic bag.

And when you are ready to dispose of those chemicals, as long as they are typical household hazardous waste, you are a Larimer County resident, the containers are 5 gallons or smaller, you can visit the hazardous waste building, located at the Larimer County Landfill on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday between 9:00 and 4:00.



If you have more than 30 gallons according to the size of the container, we ask you to give us a call before bringing your items in, so we can make arrangements to better serve your needs.



***E** nvironmentally speaking*

Landfill facilities were upgraded in 2013 to help us withstand severe weather, but the September flood showed there is still room for improvement. New concrete culverts were installed in the spring to significantly improve stormwater management for the site. The culverts stood up very well to the flooding rains, helping to safely route heavy runoff away from the landfill. The installation of an emergency generator in August also helped the landfill maintain core operations during the storm.



The flood caused no significant damage to the closed landfill area or the perimeter of the site, but it did create some problems within the open, active portion of the landfill. The interior of the landfill was saturated as the mid-September storm system brought nearly six inches of rain in eight days. This

excessive moisture percolated down through buried trash and leached out liquids, producing contaminated water called leachate. Soon after the flood, leachate started seeping out the eastern edge of the landfill. Facilities have since been constructed to collect the leachate and keep it from running off site.

We are also working on improvements to direct more stormwater away from the interior of the landfill to prevent leachate seepage in the future. The 2013 Front Range Flood helps to remind us that there is always room for improvement in landfill operations.

***P** artnerships & Community*

We partner with 3 law enforcement agencies in northern Colorado; the Larimer County Sheriff's department, together with the Fort Collins and Loveland Police departments, to assist the Northern Colorado Bomb Squad team with safe disposal of explosives, fireworks and ammunition. The landfill and the three agencies purchased a ammunition burner as



The Larimer County Landfill is the proud host once again to the Citizens educational program called Larimer County 101. The landfill staff together with our sibling departments of Public Works host this annual event for 30+ citizens who are interested in learning more about County Government, and at our location specifically, they will learn about the different operations of Public Works.



a way to safely destroy old and unused bullets, fireworks, and other potential explosives.

The bomb squad hosted a demonstration at the Larimer County Landfill, of the new burner, to the staff of the District Attorneys office. It was described as sounding like a giant popcorn popper!

Summary of Finances

Larimer County Solid Waste
The Larimer County Solid Waste Department is an enterprise fund department.

Total revenues for the department were \$5.9 million.

Revenues by Major Program:

Landfill - \$5,282,877

Recycling - \$393,174

Education - \$24,663

HHW - \$40,280

Transfer Stations - \$113,783

Interest/Sale of Assets - \$142,082

Expenses for 2013 were \$4.0 million.

Expenses by Major Category:

Personnel - \$1,594,054

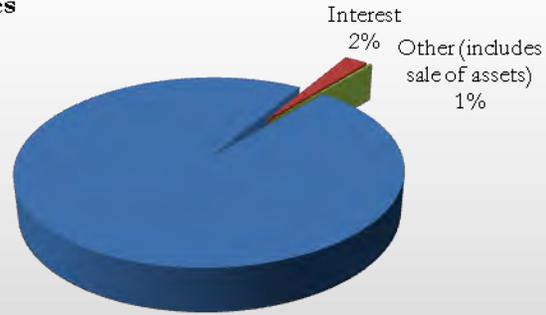
Operating - \$2,262,887

Capital - \$139,705

These figures are unaudited.
The audit is to be complete mid 2014

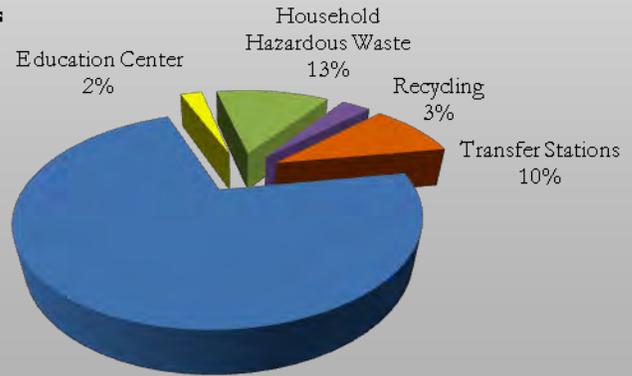
2013 Revenues \$5,997,214

Fees
97%
\$5.8M



2013 Expenses \$3,996,645

Landfill
72%
\$2.8M



Wildlife Encounters

The Estes Park Transfer station hosts an occasional critter as they pass through the property.



Bears are very attracted to trash so our staff is vigilant about keeping our containers tight and the areas clean so the local wildlife is safe.

This American Kestrel hawk was temporarily in rehab after being found on the ground at the landfill. He was taken by the Rocky Mountain Raptor rescue group, and later released after demonstrating good health.





Solid Waste Department FAST Facts

We receive ZERO tax dollars !!



- We have 7 major service areas:
- Sanitary Landfill * Hazardous Waste
 - * Environmental Compliance
 - * Education * Transfer Stations
 - * Recycling * Support Services

Larimer County Vision Statement

Larimer County will add value to the lives of its citizens by:

- Building Partnerships
- Being Customer Driven
- Empowering People to Take Responsibility
- Being a Fulfilling and Enjoyable Place to Work
- Being a Good Steward of Public Resources

This publication
printed on
recycled paper



A recent landfill customer at our door!

Contact Information

Address

Administrative Office
5887 S. Taft Hill Rd.
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Phone

(970) 498-5760
(970) 498-5780 Fax

Office Hours

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

On the Web at:

www.larimer.org/solidwaste

Public Works Division

Engineering

Fleet

Natural Resources

Road and Bridge

Solid Waste

The Ranch



Solid Waste Facilities

Landfill

5887 S. Taft Hill Rd.
Ft Collins, CO 80526
970-498-5760

Hazardous Waste

5887 S. Taft Hill Rd.
Ft Collins, CO 80624
970-498-5771

Education Center

5887 S. Taft Hill Rd
Ft Collins, CO 80526
970-498-5772

Berthoud Transfer

Hwy.56 & County Line
Berthoud, CO 80513
970-498-5760

Wellington Transfer

Owl Canyon Rd.
Wellington, CO 80549
970-498-5760

Red Feather Transfer

West of Parvin Lake
Red Feather, CO 80565
970-498-5760