

Larimer County SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT



2006 Annual Report

From the Director's Chair

Larimer County's vision statement (next page) continues to be the Solid Waste Department's guiding light in our day-to-day operations and in planning for the future. To best serve our citizens and their waste management needs, in February the department purchased property north of Wellington for possible solid waste management use many years from now. The acquisition does not stop us from looking at other alternatives for handling solid waste but reinforces the notion that we must continue to plan for the future. Information about the property and its potential uses is available on our Web site at www.larimer.org/solidwaste.

The Larimer County Recycling Center completed its first full year of operation that included the acceptance of both dual-stream (presorted) and single-stream (unsorted) recyclables. (Previously, only dual-stream recyclables were accepted.) The change has resulted in a 20 percent increase in recycling volumes for 2006. The single-stream option has given recyclers more choices and has made recycling easier for both customers and haulers.

The change at the recycling center prompted us to update a Garbage Garage Education Center display. As education is an important part of our solid waste management plans, we make sure to have the resources necessary to keep the program up-to-date.

The household hazardous waste program also remains at the leading edge of hazardous waste management. Customers wanted a cheap and easy way to correctly dispose of used hypodermic needles ("sharps"). Our hazardous waste staff researched this opportunity, and in 2006 we began collecting sharps from the public.

You may remember that a few years ago we had to close our waste transfer station in Red Feather Lakes due to the expiration of a land lease agreement. We are pleased to make available a new site in the area, which opened in November. This was an exciting project that partnered the Solid Waste Department with the U.S. Forest Service and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Due to the cooperation of all involved, we are once again able to service the Red Feather area.

Another exciting event of 2006 was the completion of the hands-on portion of a waste characterization study—basically a "trash sort"—at the landfill. The last time we categorized the content of our landfill waste was in 1998. The recent study will provide us with data on what's being buried in the landfill that could be recycled. The actual trash sort was finished in December, and we are now waiting for the results. The contractor hired to do the study is one that visits many landfills throughout the United States. One of the contractor's staff commented that our landfill roads were in great shape. Comments like that are, of course, appreciated, because our landfill staff works hard to keep the landfill and the roads used by customers in top condition.

Our commercial customers also had good things to say about the landfill, as we found out from their completion of a survey the department sent out. We were excited to learn that, based on the survey results, the majority of our customers are pleased with our fees and services.

Late in 2006, the Board of County Commissioners approved the building of administration offices at the landfill, so that all Solid



Waste Department employees can be situated at one location. (Currently, several employees work out of an office in downtown Fort Collins and must drive back and forth between the office and the landfill.) This will save resources and enable us to better serve our customers.

As you can see, 2006 has been a busy and productive year for us, and we look forward to many more years of providing for the solid waste needs of county residents and businesses. We will accomplish this by keeping the county vision in mind and by periodically asking our customers how we're doing and how we can do better. Solid waste management is all about making the right choices—reduce, reuse, recycle, and then if you must, landfill. We are here to help people understand their options and make the best decisions for them and for our resources.

Stephen Gillette
Director

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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

Recycling

The adage in recycling is that one person *can* make a difference. The addition of single-stream recycling (allowing the Larimer County Recycling Center to accept unsorted recyclables) and the effect this has had on amounts of recyclables processed illustrates this adage. Before 2006, the recycling center accepted source-separated materials (those that are presorted by material type; for instance, a load of only office paper) and dual-stream materials (typically collected curbside, this is sorted into two streams: paper products and commingled containers). Now with single-stream collection available—allowing recyclers to mix together all recyclable materials in one container—businesses and curbside recyclers can make the decision to recycle more easily.

Recycling tonnages were almost flat for the last five years. But in 2006, the amount of material

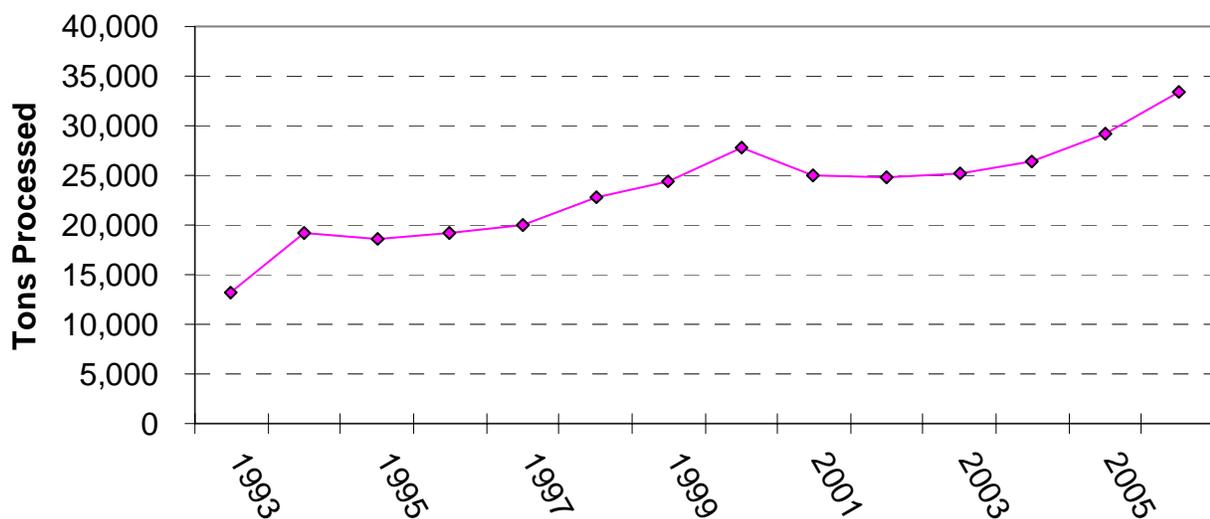
processed at our recycling center increased 20 percent from the previous year. This includes recyclables brought in from areas outside of Larimer County. Based on only materials collected within Larimer County, the amount still increased by 14 percent. We believe that this is a result of making recycling easier and more convenient for both the user and the hauler. Single-stream collection is also available to commercial customers.

So what does this mean? Each person, family, home, business, apartment house, contractor, neighborhood, town, city, and county must make decisions regarding the management of their waste stream. Each can decide whether to change a habit of throwing everything away and make new efforts to reduce waste, reuse materials, or recycle items. For example, a business produces a lot of excess cardboard.

The owner has a choice to make: put all the cardboard in the trash bin; get a Dumpster for cardboard-only recycling; or get a Dumpster for single-stream recycling and recycle newspapers, commingled containers, paperboard, and more, all in one container. The latter option may also allow for the reduction of the business's trash bill. The same idea applies to anyone throwing away materials.

In 2007, we'll review the results of the waste characterization study done at the landfill (that measures and categorizes waste buried there) to determine what we've been doing right and what more we can do to divert waste from the landfill. The Solid Waste Department encourages everyone to make a difference by considering the 3 Rs—reduce, reuse and recycle—when managing their trash.

ANNUAL RECYCLING TONNAGE



*As reported by recycling center operator (Recycle America Alliance).
Includes only recyclable materials from sources within Larimer County.*

Recycling



Larimer County works in close partnership with Recycle America Alliance, the contracted operator of the Larimer County Recycling Center. Myron Coffin, right, is the recycling center manager. Mickey Bailey is the site coordinator.



Single-stream recyclables collected in Larimer County are sent to Recycle America Alliance's materials recovery facility in Denver to be processed by a state-of-the-art sorting machine.

Recycling in County Buildings

The internal county recycling committee that was formed in 2005 to promote more efficient and effective recycling practices within county buildings continued its important work in 2006. The committee conducted "recycling walk-throughs" of each department to determine the state of recycling in the department and what additional needs could be met. This led to the placement of more recycling bins with instructional labels, including new single-stream containers to allow easier recycling of more materials. Volunteer recycling coordinators were recruited from each department to spread recycling information and assist em-

ployees in their areas with recycling needs and questions. We provide educational emails about recycling to the coordinators to pass along, and we recently had a contest to recognize efforts of those employees who go above and beyond when it comes to reducing, reusing, and recycling. In addition, the committee encourages the use of recycled products when feasible, and the default paper used at the county's print shop is recycled paper. We also promote the use of the double-sided option in printers and copiers when possible, by placing reminder labels on many of the printers and copiers, and making sure employees know how to set

their computers to default to double-sided printing. Overall in 2006, county employees recycled more than 159,000 pounds of typically recycled materials (the same items one would recycle at home). In addition, most offices have bins for recycling printer cartridges; the county has a resource for recycling rechargeable batteries; and we're currently working on putting into place an alkaline battery recycling program. Also in 2006, a recycling presentation was added to the New Employee Orientation (a monthly event for new-hires), to be sure new staff members realize that recycling is an important part of working for Larimer County.

Hazardous Waste

The big news of 2006 for the Larimer County Household Hazardous Waste Program was the addition of a residential “sharps” collection program, begun in May. The program offers the safe disposal of hypodermic needles for individuals who self-medicate. While it has been slow getting started, as word gets out we anticipate that this will be a popular program for county residents. In the first seven months, we had 30 participants. Initially, we only accepted sharps on Tuesdays, but in early 2007 we added Thursdays and Fridays as well. The program is intended to help keep landfill and HHW staff and trash haulers safe from exposure to needles. Participants must bring their sharps to the facility in OSHA-approved crush-proof containers that can be cheaply purchased from many local drug stores.

Along with the new program, a new face and a new look appeared at the HHW facility in 2006. Employees painted and installed new shelving, brightening up the place and making it more customer friendly. The new face may be a familiar one to many landfill customers—Rhonda Lauden, who previously worked as a landfill gate attendant for several years and more recently as the education center attendant, is now a hazardous waste technician. She joins Jeff Leleszi, Juan Felix and Linda Hayden (formerly Linda Case, hazardous waste manager).

The hazardous waste program hosted rural collection events in Berthoud and Estes Park this year. The Berthoud event, held in May

at a local middle school, served 123 customers over the course of five hours. The Estes Park event was atypical, with only 51 participants (compared with 229 participants in 2005). While the number of participants was disappointing, the support from the Town of Estes Park was encouraging, with several town employees helping. All of them were willing to jump right in and assist with all aspects of the event. The hard work of this incredible crew was very much appreciated.

The hazardous waste program experienced slight decreases this year in a few areas. We had about 1,000 fewer residential customers than in 2005. The collected amount of regulated waste, such as flammables and poisons, was also down slightly. However, the amount of non-regulated wastes, like latex paint, was up somewhat. In all, the program collected about the same amount of waste as in the previous year. (See charts on next page.)

The hazardous waste building and Drop ‘n’ Swap received some updating with new paint and shelving.

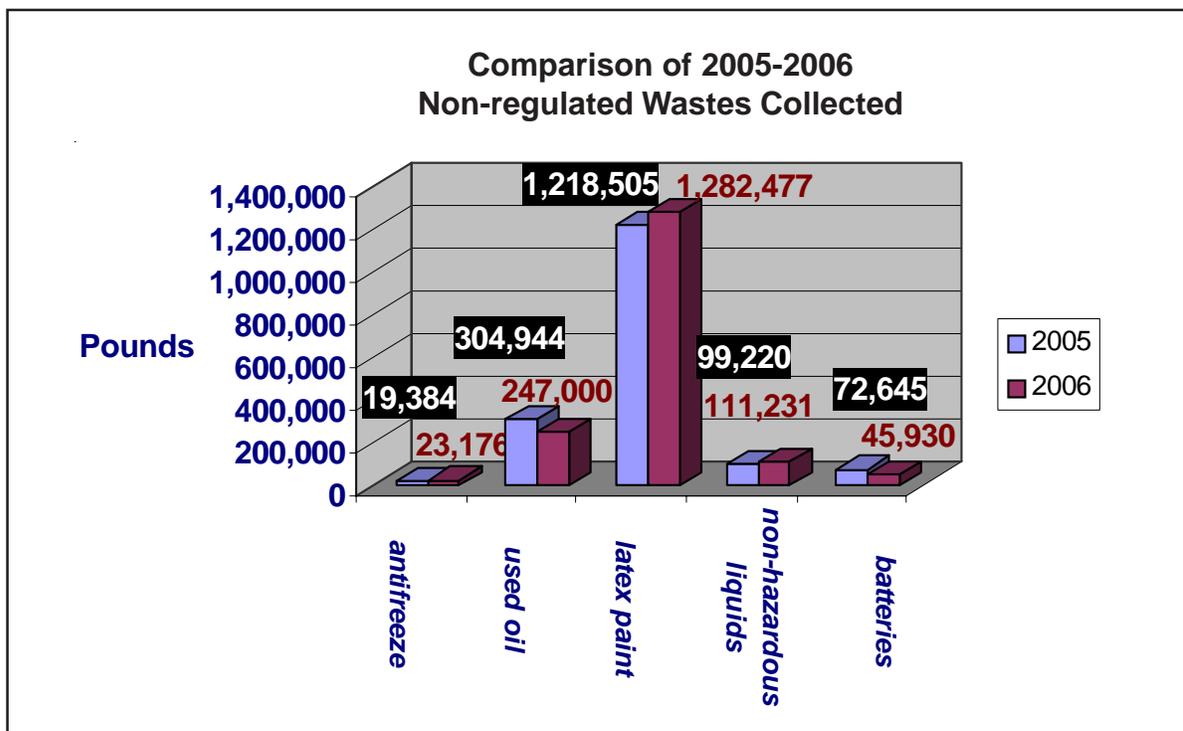
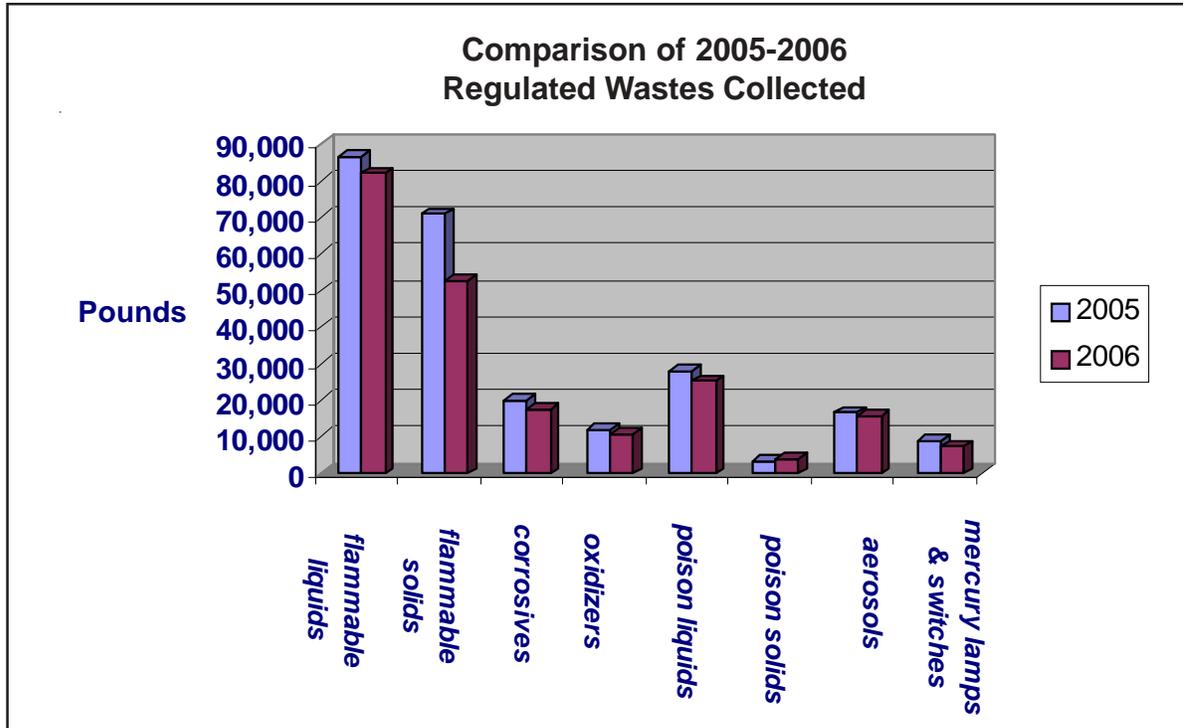


The hazardous waste staff includes, from left, Juan Felix, Rhonda Lauden, and Jeff Leleszi. Not pictured: Linda Hayden (hazardous waste manager).

Business Program

The Business Hazardous Waste Assistance Program and Education (BHAPE) has steadily grown since it began serving commercial customers in 1997. That first year, 73 appointments were scheduled to dispose of waste through BHAPE, compared with 2006's 211 appointments. However, these days we have more repeat customers and fewer new ones. While many different types of businesses are serviced by our program, the most common include government entities, manufacturers, property managers, and churches. In the coming year, we will be working toward better serving our commercial customers by enhancing our Web site, making it a more useful tool in aiding business owners with the proper handling of their hazardous wastes.

Hazardous Waste



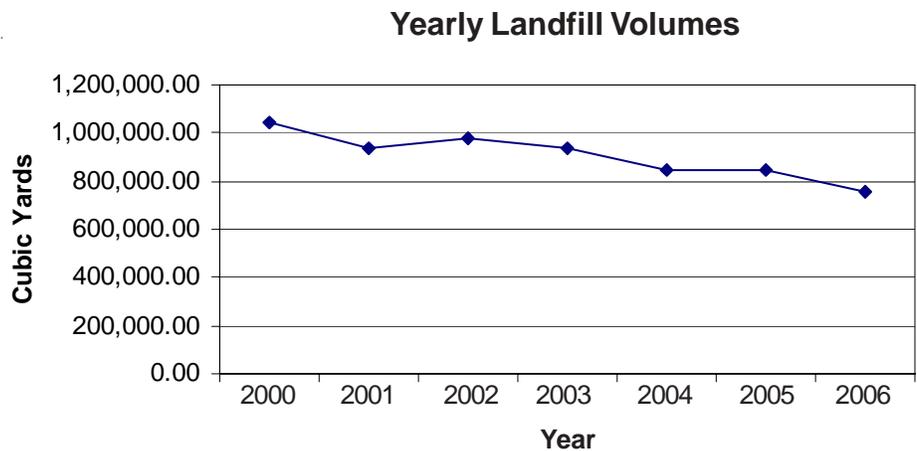
Landfill I

The landfill again saw a decrease in volume this year, with only 759,921 cubic yards buried compared to 849,887 cubic yards in 2005. This is not only due to more recycling, but also to some trash haulers diverting waste to other landfills. With the lower volumes, the estimated remaining life of the landfill has increased; it should be usable until at least 2029 based on current fill rates.

In 2006, we ground up 2,392 cubic yards of tree limbs



Concrete rubble is collected and crushed, and the resulting material is used to stabilize the landfill roads.



and Christmas trees that had been kept separate from regular trash, and then offered the resulting mulch back to the public free of charge, as we do every year. In addition, 4,817 tons of concrete rubble was crushed for use on the landfill roads. Landfill staff seeded about 15 acres of the north-central area of the landfill with temporary seed, and six acres were permanently seeded on the south portion

of the property (where our daily cover soil comes from). Two retention ponds were built on the south property to help with soil erosion in that area.

Also this year, we welcomed the addition of a new full-time employee, Chris Jones, and two new temporary gate attendants, Trish Storm and Kristine "Ryan" Peters. Landfill staff now includes 15 employees.

New Property

The Solid Waste Department acquired a 626-acre parcel located north of Wellington for future use. During 2006, we lightly researched options for developing the property. Below, we present a variety of potential uses; however, a decision about the future use of the land is many years away. It's even possible that the property will not be used for solid waste management activities at all. Rest assured, decisions will not be made without public input. Until then, the property is being managed by the Larimer County Parks and Open Lands Department.

Potential uses include:

- a landfill gas generator, which could replace the use of some fossil fuels and create electricity for the community;
- a transfer station to sort waste for recycling and to divert organic waste to composting sites;
- a bale facility, at which waste would be compacted, baled, and sent elsewhere to a final destination;
- an incineration facility that burns trash and creates energy;
- a biodigester, which produces biogas from agricultural and possibly human waste;
- a composting facility to accept yard waste, grind it, and then cure the product to make compost;
- a bioreactor landfill, which adds liquid and air to enhance microbial processes to help rapidly degrade organic waste;
- an ethanol facility that would change large volumes of waste material into fuel, while leaving a very small amount of benign material behind; or
- a leachate treatment plant, which would ensure that no leachate is emitted to pollute local streams or groundwater.

Landfill I

Customer Survey

As part of the Solid Waste Department's desire to be customer driven, employees representing each sector of our business formed a survey committee.

The committee's first task was to develop a survey for commercial customers designed to gauge their satisfaction with our services. We received 159 responses; results were mostly positive and are summarized below.

When asked about the fees charged at the Larimer County Landfill compared with other landfills, 76 percent of the respondents reported that they were satisfied or very satisfied; 16 percent said they were neutral or had no opinion; and only 8 percent said they were not

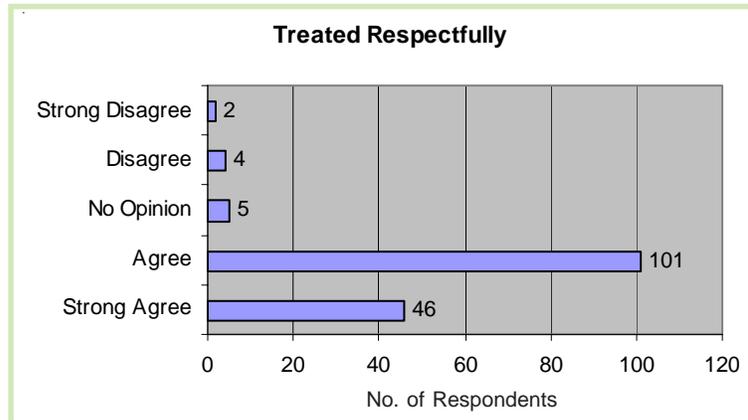
very satisfied or were dissatisfied.

When asked if issues that arise are resolved satisfactorily, 86 percent said they agreed or

strongly agreed; 3 percent were neutral or had no opinion; and 4 percent said they disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Survey respondents indicated that the best way for them to get information about the landfill (such as closures due to wind) was by way of a recorded telephone information line (our current primary method of disseminating such information), rather than via the

internet or radio. They also indicated that the most important factor in choosing a landfill was location. Well behind location, other factors included fees, hours of operation, and customer service.



strongly agreed; 14 percent were neutral or had no opinion; and only one respondent said they strongly disagreed.

When asked if they were treated respectfully by landfill em-

Landfill staff, including gate attendants and heavy equipment operators, are proud to offer great customer service. They have even gone so far as to stop operations for a couple of hours so a landfill neighbor's guests wouldn't hear the backup beepers of the equipment during a wedding ceremony at the house.



Landfill staff, left to right: Mark Clutter, Chuck Hansis, Chris Jones, Dave Stebbins, Bob "Dane" Nielsen (landfill manager), Jeff Boltz, Doug Hoff. Not pictured: Bob Turner, Tony Kear.



Gate attendants Rocky Sanks and Trish Storm. Not pictured: Donna Climer, Nancy Fleischhaker, Levi Goedl, Kristine "Ryan" Peters.

Waste Transfer Stations

The Solid Waste Department owns four rural waste transfer stations—one each in Berthoud, Wellington, Estes Park, and Red Feather Lakes. The transfer stations provide a convenient way for residents in outlying areas to dispose of their household trash. The trash collected at these sites is periodically trucked to the county landfill.

The Red Feather Lakes transfer station is new, having opened on November 4. (We had to close the previous Red Feather site in 2004.) With the help of fellow staff members Rita Trostel and Linda Oatney, Ann Lujan (manager of the transfer station program) worked hard to have the station opened on time and under budget. The transfer station is a partnership among Larimer County, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and the U.S. Forest Service. The entrance is located on U.S. Forest Service land and ends on Colorado Division of Wildlife property. Nestled among the pines and aspen, it's equipped with a totally enclosed 40-cubic-yard compactor. It is the only transfer sta-

tion that accepts checks and credit cards in addition to cash. The site is a welcome addition to the area for local residents. To celebrate, we held an open house November 2. Nancy Fleischhacker is the new Red Feather transfer station attendant (she also works as a gate attendant at the landfill). We are planning to add a recycling container on the premises in 2007.

The Estes Park transfer station has been in operation since 1983. During this time, a third party operator, Waste Management, Inc., has managed it. Estes Park residents and visitors can take their household trash as well as recyclables to the transfer station. The site also provides a drop-off for household hazardous wastes.

Larimer County also manages the Berthoud and Wellington transfer stations. Bob Adams, the Berthoud transfer station attendant, retired in December. Lois Schwindt runs the Wellington transfer station.



Nancy Fleischhacker, transfer station attendant, at the new Red Feather Lakes transfer station.

Transfer Station Stats

- The Estes Park transfer station delivered more than 60,000 cubic yards of waste to the landfill, or 650 tractor-trailer loads.
- In 2006, the Solid Waste Department subsidized the Berthoud and Wellington transfer stations \$11,917.
- It cost the department approximately \$200,000 to open the new Red Feather Lakes transfer station.
- The Berthoud transfer station served 1,052 customers in 2006; Wellington served 1,276; and Red Feather served 24 customers during its two days of operation this year. (Estes Park figures are not available.)

Not pictured: transfer station attendants Lois Schwindt (Wellington) and Bob Adams (Berthoud).



Left to right: Ann Lujan, administrative services manager and transfer station manager; Rita Trostel, administrative assistant; and Linda Oatney, senior accounting technician. All of them helped the opening of the Red Feather Lakes transfer station go smoothly.

Education

The Department's education program remained strong in 2006, reaching out to thousands of Larimer County residents and helping them become aware of their waste management options (including, of course, the 3 Rs—reducing, reusing, and recycling).

The Garbage Garage Education Center welcomed about 2,400 visitors, including 318 drop-ins (not part of a tour group) and 93 summer class participants. Although the total number of visitors increased only slightly from 2005, the Garbage Garage appears to have gained more recognition in the community, based on conversations with visitors and others familiar with the center. The annual April open house and the "reusable art" contest associated with it were once again great successes. We also hosted a fall open house in September targeted toward teachers. Unfortunately, turnout was not as high as expected, but several teachers did enter our drawing for free bus money for field trips to the Garbage Garage, with three of them chosen as winners.

This was the second year we hosted summer classes for kids at the education center. The classes—including "Edible Landfills," "Where Does Garbage Go?" and "What Lurks Under Landfills"—were both fun and educational, and many kids attended more than one class. Rhonda Lauden, education center attendant, taught the classes.

In October, Rhonda left the Garbage Garage to be-

come a full-time hazardous waste technician for the Department. Rose Watson was hired in November to take over education center duties, and she has jumped right in to make the center the best it can be. Rose works closely with four Garbage Garage volunteers who help make our education program a success. Wanda Mayberry and Wally Jacobsen have been with us since 2003, and Dick Rush and Carol Sarchet since 2005. Together they put in 135 hours of volunteer time in 2006, and their enthusiasm and dedication are greatly appreciated.

With the county's switch to single-stream recycling, we replaced a display at the Garbage Garage that focused on presorting recyclables with one that depicts the life of a recyclable item. Visitors

learn how a product is processed from the grocery store to the sorting facility in Denver to the remanufacturing plant.

Although the Garbage Garage is our most popular educational tool, it is certainly not the only one. Cheryl Kolus, environmental educator for the Solid Waste Department, occasionally presents recycling information to schools and other community groups. In addition, we hosted educational booths at five community fairs throughout 2006; continued production of our two popular newsletters, *The Recyclone Times* (in cooperation with the City of Fort Collins) and *The Landfill Update*; distributed several press releases on a variety of solid waste topics; and updated our "Talking Trash" video that overviews all of our facilities and is run on the local cable channel.

Cheryl has also appeared on local radio shows to promote recycling, and in 2006 she began a partnership with a Colorado State University science writing class to mentor one student per semester as the student writes material for use by the Solid Waste Department. We continue to partner with colleagues at the Cities of Fort Collins and Loveland to help promote awareness of waste issues. This year, we teamed up with the City of Fort Collins to produce a four-page ad in the 2007 Dex phone book entitled, "The Garbage and Recycling Guide." This will allow Fort Collins residents to have year-round, convenient access to landfill and recycling information at their fingertips.



Back row from left: volunteers Dick Rush, Wally Jacobsen, and Wanda Mayberry, with Rose Watson (education center attendant) kneeling. Not pictured: volunteer Carol Sarchet and environmental educator Cheryl Kolus.

Environmental Compliance

Efforts in 2006 to minimize the landfill's environmental impact and comply with environmental regulations were mostly routine, but unusual weather presented a few challenges. Air emissions, erosion control, and groundwater conditions were affected by above average winds, summer heat, and well below average precipitation, punctuated by a few heavy storms. It was so dry through the spring and summer that 2006 seemed destined to be the driest year on record. But heavy snowfall in December added nearly three inches to the total annual precipitation. The combination of drought and heat created poor growing conditions, making erosion control difficult, and kept local aquifers depleted. High winds forced the landfill to close 22 times to reduce blowing litter and dust.

Air Quality

Landfill operations were kept in compliance with air quality regulations this year by monitoring and controlling emissions, record-keeping, and reporting to regulatory agencies. Also, extra work was done to renew permit documents. Air pollutants of concern at the landfill include particulates in fugitive dust; ozone-depleting compounds like Freon; and various components of landfill gas, including non-methane organic compounds (NMOCs), volatile organic compounds

(VOCs), and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs). Landfill operators applied 1.7 million gallons of water to unpaved roads this year to control dust from vehicle traffic, the most significant source of particulate emissions.

With a drop in the number of customers, total annual particulate emissions were lower than in 2005. To

June. These documents, which must be renewed every five years, provide emissions information that the state agency uses to set permit limits and assess fees. The new APENs show that fugitive particulate (dust) emissions are expected to remain at the same levels over the next five years, but landfill gas emissions are projected to increase as more trash is buried in the landfill.

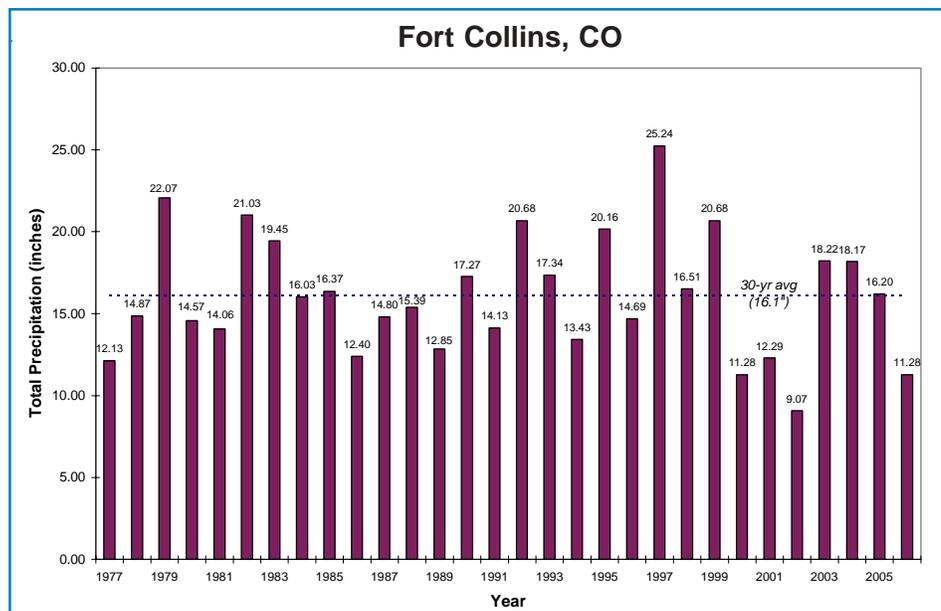
The landfill's Title V operating permit, which also has a five-year term, is set to expire in 2007, so a renewal application was submitted to the state in August. CDPHE's Air Pollution Control Division has 18 months to review the application and take public comment

before issuing a new permit in September 2007. An official with the division inspected the landfill in September 2006 and found the facility to be in compliance with air quality regulations.

Water Quality

The two shallow aquifers around the landfill were monitored throughout 2006 to track groundwater movement, evaluate water quality changes, and detect any new leakage from buried waste. With little precipitation to recharge the shallow aquifers, the water table dropped steadily throughout the year, and seepage velocities were even slower than usual.

At the northeast corner of the



prevent the release of ozone-depleting compounds, refrigerant was recovered from 1,492 air conditioners, refrigerators, and freezers disposed of at the landfill in 2006. The landfill's gas emissions are currently below regulatory limits, so control—such as by flaring—is not required, but emissions levels must be tracked using EPA-approved methods. As reported to state and federal agencies, 2006 emissions of NMOCs were estimated to be 11.6 megagrams (Mg), well below the 50 Mg/yr regulatory threshold.

New Air Pollutant Emission Notices (APENs) were filed with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) in

Environmental Compliance

landfill, where VOC contamination was detected 20 years ago, water quality continued to show slight improvement over time. However, testing results obtained late in the year revealed a need for closer scrutiny in 2007. Assessment monitoring—an extensive level of water quality analysis that is performed once every other year—was completed in October. Analyses for 229 chemical parameters showed no detectable levels of sulfide, tin, mercury, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), or herbicides in the water

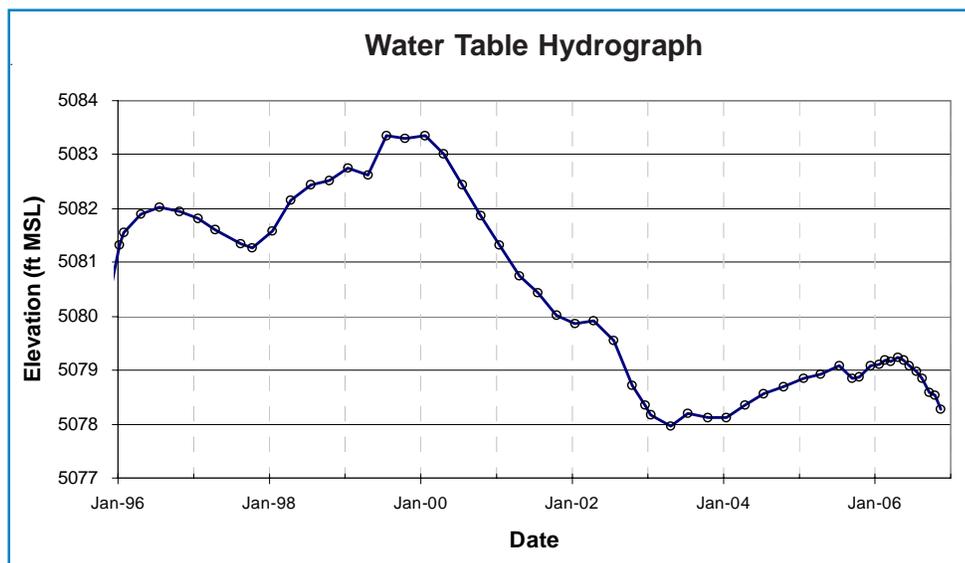
samples. Traces of cyanide and one pesticide, however, were detected for the first time since assessment monitoring began in 1994. Additional analyses will be conducted throughout 2007 to determine whether further action is necessary.

In the south aquifer, meanwhile, detection monitoring continued to show no evidence of contamination from the landfill.

Spill prevention measures and stormwater management practices were used throughout the year to prevent surface water pollution. In addition to regular inspections and maintenance of fuel and oil storage facilities to prevent spills, the landfill's above-ground storage tanks were subjected to special integrity testing this year to ensure their soundness. No spill incidents occurred in 2006.

Landfill personnel used various

erosion control strategies to prevent silt from being flushed into area surface waters, but results were mixed due to weather conditions. With the lack of moisture and excessive summer heat, revegetation—the most effective method of controlling erosion—was not successful. A heavy



downpour in late August dumped one inch of rain on the landfill in a short time, causing significant erosion in the southern drainage area. Drainage improvements, including construction of a new sedimentation pond in one area, have since been made, so stormwater management should be better in the future.

Closed Areas

The Solid Waste Department continues to care for the two closed areas on the north side of the landfill, in accordance with state and federal regulations. As the regulations also require adequate funding for closure and post-closure costs, the Department currently has \$3.1 million set aside to assure that each phase of the landfill is properly capped, maintained, and monitored for 30 years after closure. The closed areas were inspected

quarterly in 2006, and regular testing was conducted around each area to monitor methane gas and groundwater chemistry. Vegetative cover, a mixture of native grasses and shrubs maintained on the closed areas, was stressed by the drought and summer heat, but it remained in good enough shape to prevent erosion. In February, erosion control blankets were installed at a few locations to help protect some steep areas where vegetation has been slow to reestablish. An inspection of the cover and drainage structures conducted af-

ter the August deluge showed that stormwater was handled effectively without any erosion problems.

Steve Harem, environmental scientist, collects a groundwater sample.



A Look Ahead

New opportunities await the Solid Waste staff in 2007. We look forward to working more on building partnerships, responding to our customers' needs, empowering people to take responsibility, being good stewards of our resources, and making our department a fulfilling and enjoyable place to work.

The largest upcoming project will be the development of our new office and training building at the landfill. A committee is currently determining ways we can implement green building practices during this project and still remain within our budget. We've been examining many innovative ideas that we hope to incorporate in the new building. Having offices on site at the landfill will allow us to provide better customer service to

the public, as well as offer a training room for our staff and bring the Solid Waste team together at one location.

Our recycling customers are always asking us what more they can recycle. The results of the 2006 waste characterization study will help us provide an answer, as we look at what materials are impacting our landfill. We hope to divert more from the landfill in the near future.

A new landfill compactor will be purchased in 2007 to help operators compact the waste more efficiently and use less air space. Colorado has passed legislation banning lead acid batteries, motor oil, and passenger tires from all landfills in the state beginning July 1. As a result, the Larimer County Landfill will become a collection

center for tires and begin to send these unwanted tires to a recycler.

The household hazardous waste program will continue to empower county residents to do the right thing with their hazardous wastes so that these materials do not get into our groundwater. And the education program, including the Garbage Garage, will introduce new minds—young and old—to the concept of waste reduction.

The Solid Waste Department reminds everyone that each one of us can make a difference and help preserve our resources by learning about solid waste management options and making informed decisions. Thank you, Larimer County residents and businesses, for your continued support.

Solid Waste Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Larimer County Solid Waste Department is to supply integrated waste management in an environmentally sound manner to the citizens of Larimer County. Our primary emphasis is on quality customer service superior to that normally found in the public sector.

We are committed to providing excellence in the services we deliver to the citizens of Larimer County. We will provide these services in a professional, simple, and cost-effective manner, always maintaining a high standard of ethics and foresight and never compromising long-range needs for short-term benefits.



Larimer County Solid Waste Department
PO Box 1190
200 W. Oak St., Suite 4000
Fort Collins, CO 80522
(970) 498-5760
www.larimer.org/solidwaste



Printed March 2007 on recycled paper.