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The Newsletter of the SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter

Fall/Winter 2013

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Letter from the President

December 2013

Great year! Great chapter! I'm so proud of what our chapter has accomplished in 2013.

- We remain the largest SWANA chapter in the U.S. with over 530 members and 21 new members this year.

- Our Managing Recycling Systems training was a success with 19 individuals completing the course and exam. We hope to bring more training opportunities to Florida in the future.

- Florida had a great showing at the International Road-E-O in Denton, TX, with six individuals placing in the top three in their division.

- The Summer Conference in Sarasota attracted 155 attendees.

- We heard from our membership loud and clear that there's a huge desire to bring in more young professionals. We created a new subcommittee to move in that direction and help broaden our reach.

- You'll notice a lot of new faces, as more members are getting involved on committees and stepping up as chairs. Let's keep this energy in 2014!

- The chapter is fiscally sound and leadership is continuing to look for ways to invest in our members.

- As always, your input is important and most welcomed!

The annual SWANA/RFT Joint Summit is just around the corner. If you haven't already, I encourage you to make plans to participate in this one-day educational and networking event. It will take place on January 23 at the Sheraton Lake Buena Vista in Orlando. More information can be found on page 9.



I'm excited to share that the location has been confirmed for the 2014 SWANA

FL Summer Conference. We will be heading southeast this year and meeting at the beautiful Bonaventure Resort & Spa in Weston. The conference will take place July 27-29. More details will be announced in the coming months.

I wish you and your families a very happy and healthy holiday season ... and much success and happiness in the coming year! Looking forward to seeing you in Orlando in January!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitch Kessler".

Mitch Kessler
President, SWANA FL

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Managing Leachate Seeps Below Final Cover

Written by Ali Khatami, Ph.D., P.E.,
SCS Globex Engineering

Leachate seeping out of landfill slopes is a common occurrence at landfills. Landfill operators struggle to address leachate seeps and manage liquids reaching the landfill boundary. During the dry season, leachate seeps are normally more manageable, and less effort must be spent by the operator to control liquids on the surface; however, during the wet season with frequent storm events and high precipitation in Florida, landfill operators constantly work on the slope trying to stop seeps or devise means to control liquids reaching the surface.

Generally, after closure of a portion of the landfill slope, the issue of leachate seeps that was problematic and bothersome prior to the closure is completely forgotten because leachate seeps are no longer visible. The assumption is that the seeps automatically disappear because the closure prevents rainwater from entering into the landfill. This assumption may be true if the source of water leading to the seep is in the closed area; but if the source is in a different area (i.e., an area that is not yet closed) the seep underneath the final cover geomembrane continues for a much longer period of time until the actual source is covered by geomembrane at a later date.

To manage leachate seeps below the final cover geomembrane, the author developed a leachate toe drain system (LTDS). The first LTDS was designed and permitted in 2001, and implemented in 2002 at an extremely wet landfill located in south Florida. Severe leachate seeps from slopes had previously caused significant problems for a closed portion of the landfill slope and caused potential compliance issues for the facility operator. It was very obvious that the source of the seeps was the large open top area of the landfill that was going to remain open for a long time. Prior to construction, the author modified the final cover design to incorporate

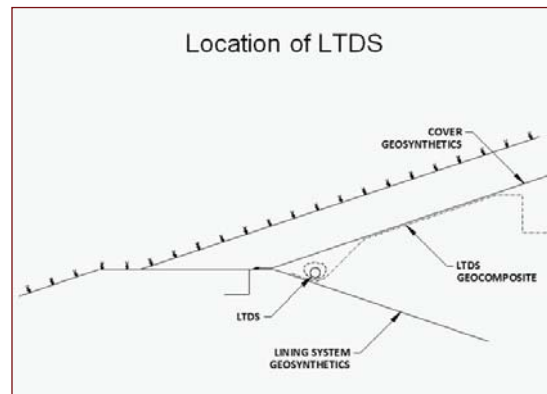
the LTDS for collection and disposal of liquids flowing down the slope underneath the cover geomembrane. The LTDS was designed to be connected to the nearby leachate collection pipe cleanouts and/or nearby primary system riser from the sump. These connections conveyed the collected liquids in the LTDS to the leachate collection system for removal through the leachate collection sumps. The success of the project was the reason for including a LTDS in all future final cover designs by the author.

The LTDS is simply a collection and removal system constructed below the final cover geomembrane at the

and the geocomposite becomes the sole conduit for liquids below the cover geomembrane flowing to the bottom of the slope. Since the LTDS geocomposite provides a preferential path for the flow of liquids, the liquids directly flow through the geocomposite to the LTDS burrito instead of entering soils at the bottom of the slope where by it would have created a soft and saturated condition at the toe of the slope below the cover geomembrane. The perforated pipe in the LTDS burrito is connected to a cleanout pipe or a specifically designed piping system to convey liquids to a nearby leachate collection sump.

If specific leachate seep locations are identified on the slope above the LTDS geocomposite boundary, the seep locations are surveyed prior to disturbing the slope for construction of the final cover. After the slope was prepared and before installation of the cover geomembrane, the surveyed locations are staked for identification on the prepared slope and the LTDS geocomposite panel directly below each seep location is extended up the slope to cover the seep location and is anchored above the seep. The extended geocomposite panel provides a preferential path for liquids coming out of the seep underneath the cover geomembrane to the LTDS burrito. Even if the seep remains active for many years after closure of the slope, the LTDS geocomposite will continue directing liquids coming out of the seep to the LTDS at the toe of the landfill slope for collection and disposal.

The author has been involved in construction of numerous partial closures at very to relatively wet landfills and the LTDS included in the closure system has proven to be an important component for keeping the final cover intact and stable on the slope. Since 2002, author's clients have adopted the LTDS feature as a standard component of their landfills' final cover systems. Typically, the cost of the LTDS is approximately \$27 to \$35 per lineal foot.



perimeter of the landfill. The system involves a short-length geocomposite (LTDS geocomposite) over the lower portion of the slope, and a perforated pipe encased in gravel and wrapped in geotextile (LTDS burrito) at the perimeter berm within the lined area of the footprint. The burrito is placed inside a depression near the top of the lined slope of the perimeter berm, but below the anchor trench shoulder. The depression is created near the top of the slope within the protective cover sand. The end of the LTDS geocomposite is placed at the bottom of the depression and the LTDS burrito is constructed directly above the LTDS geocomposite inside the depression. The LTDS geocomposite is anchored on the slope approximately 10 to 15 ft vertical distance above the perimeter berm. After installation, the cover geomembrane comes in contact with the LTDS geocomposite,

College Scholarships Available

Struggling with college expenses? The SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter now offers two scholarships per year for college students worth \$2,000 each (\$1,000 per semester). These scholarships will be awarded directly to the students to assist with tuition, books, fees and/or living expenses. So if you work in the solid waste industry (and why else would you be reading this newsletter), graduated or are a senior in a State of Florida High School – or have a child who fits this bill – with at least a 3.0 GPA, what are you waiting for?

Go to our website, www.swanafl.org, and download the application – click on Committees, then Awards and Scholarships. Applications are due by May 1 for the following school semester. Please share this information with your colleagues and others in your organization who can use some help paying for college, and who couldn't these days? Helping someone pay for college also helps SWANA achieve one of its main goals – to educate. And education helps to provide a better future for all of us. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at info@swanafl.org.



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- Waste Composition Studies
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Initial Transfer Station & Materials Recovery Fac \$550	1/28-29	3/4-5	3/25-26	5/6-7	6/21-22	7/22-23		9/5-6	10/14-15	11/18-19
Initial Spotter \$295	1/28	3/4	3/25	4/9 5/6	6/21	7/22	8/14	9/5	10/14	11/18
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Refresher-Operators 16 hours - 8 hours \$495, \$295	1/28-29	3/4-5	3/25-26	5/6-7	6/21	7/22-23	8/14	9/5-6	10/14-15	11/18-19
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Heavy Equipment Safety \$195, \$150										10/29 am
Confined Space Awareness \$195, \$150										10/29 pm

► **Information:** 352/392-9570
Dawn Jenkins [ext.227] • djenkins@treeo.ufl.edu

► **Registration:** Deadline 5 working days prior
Randy Foli [ext.212] • rfoli@treeo.ufl.edu

► **Check for updates**
www.treeo.ufl.edu/solid-waste

Assessing Our Department's Financial Health - A Recent Tipping Fee and Assessment Cost of Service Study

Written by Marc Rogoff, SCS Engineers, Richard Allen, Solid Waste Manager and Roger Lescrynski, Project Manager, Charlotte County

Charlotte County was one of the first communities in the state to implement a non ad valorem, special assessment to fund solid waste management operations. Over the past 30 years, this program has expanded well beyond solid waste disposal by inclusion of solid waste collection and recycling services within the overall customer special assessment. Not unlike other communities statewide, Charlotte has been faced in recent years with responding to issues of reduced waste tonnages to its landfill and greatly reduced operational budgets.

In light of these issues, an extensive capital improvements plan, and a possible change in franchise collection operations within the next five years, County managers wanted a fresh look at the Department's cost

of service to help analyze long-term financial health. A final report was submitted to the Board of County Commissioners in July as part of the overall County budget process. This article provides a brief summary of the study, which should be of interest of other communities and agencies statewide facing similar financial issues.

Briefly, the overall objective of a cost of service and rate study design study is to determine the solid waste

fees and assessments required to adequately recover the costs of providing those services to the customers. Based on its solid waste industry experience, SCS worked with County through a series of eight critical tasks (Exhibit 1) that provided a foundation for the conduct of the Study.

In accordance with Florida state law, the solid waste assessment rate developed in this study would be assessed as a non-ad valorem special assessment for solid waste within the Charlotte Sanitation Unit. Therefore, the customer classes included in this rate analysis include the following: Unincorporated Charlotte County, Don Pedro and Knight Islands, and Boca Grande.

Three different options were developed for consideration by the BOCC:

- Option 1, "No Change Option" – This option assumes that the estimated deficits in anticipated revenues would

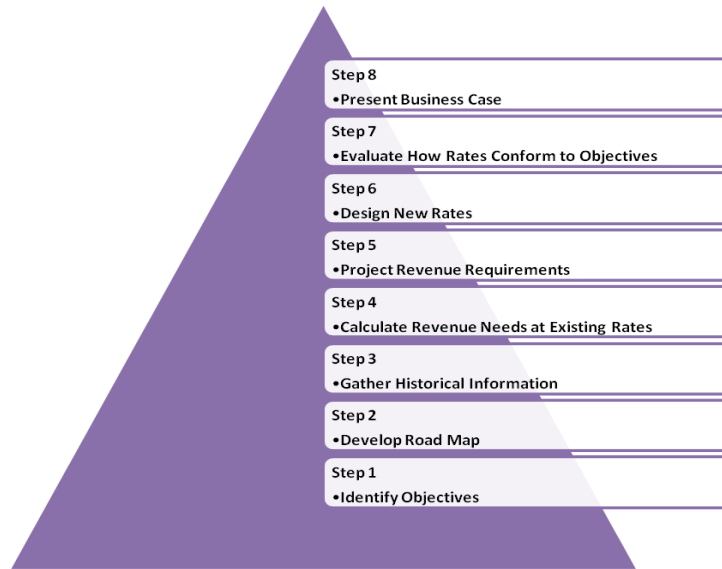


Exhibit 1. Cost of Solid Waste Service Planning Steps
Using both historical and current Department budget information from its six cost centers, a Pro Forma financial model (Model) was developed, which enabled development of projections of revenue needs of solid waste collection, recycling, and disposal for the upcoming planning period (FY 2014-2018) as well as to model different possible rate structures.

Cost Center	FY 13/14	FY 14/15	FY 15/16	FY 16/17	FY 17/18
Landfill	4,134,848	4,223,256	4,313,660	4,406,110	4,500,656
Illegal Dumping	179,589	182,555	186,297	190,119	218,019
Resources	270,512	273,785	279,358	284,589	290,386
Mid County	449,722	459,269	468,454	477,862	487,379
West County	405,631	414,009	423,190	431,960	441,554
CIP	1,877,000	1,673,000	800,000	302,000	720,000
Total Revenue Requirement	\$7,317,302	\$7,225,874	\$6,470,959	\$6,092,639	\$6,657,994

Exhibit 2. Revenue Requirement by Cost Center

be met by using existing available funds in the Department’s reserves.

- Option 2, “Full Recovery Option” – This option assumed a full recovery of estimated landfill revenue needs.
- Option 3, “CPI Adjustment Option” – This option assumed that an annual estimated 2 percent CPI adjustment would be made in the landfill tipping fee for a partial recovery of the estimated landfill revenue needs.

In discussions with the BOCC, it was believed that the Department’s adequate fund reserves at this time could be utilized over the next three years to cover any potential shortfalls in landfill tipping fee revenues and solid waste collection assessments. The current contract with the County’s franchise hauler includes a provision for stable collection and recycling rates during this time period. The Pro Forma Model will be used by the County to estimate potential escalation costs when the County enters into contract renegotiation in three years. Exhibits 3 and 4 graphically illustrate a comparison of the proposed assessment and tipping fee rates with those of neighboring communities.

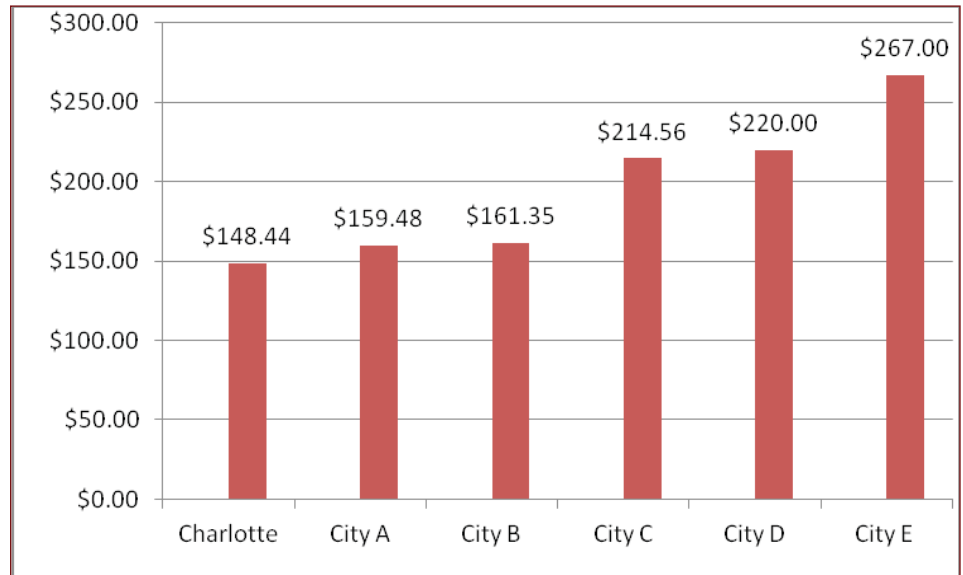


Exhibit 3. Assessment Rate Comparison

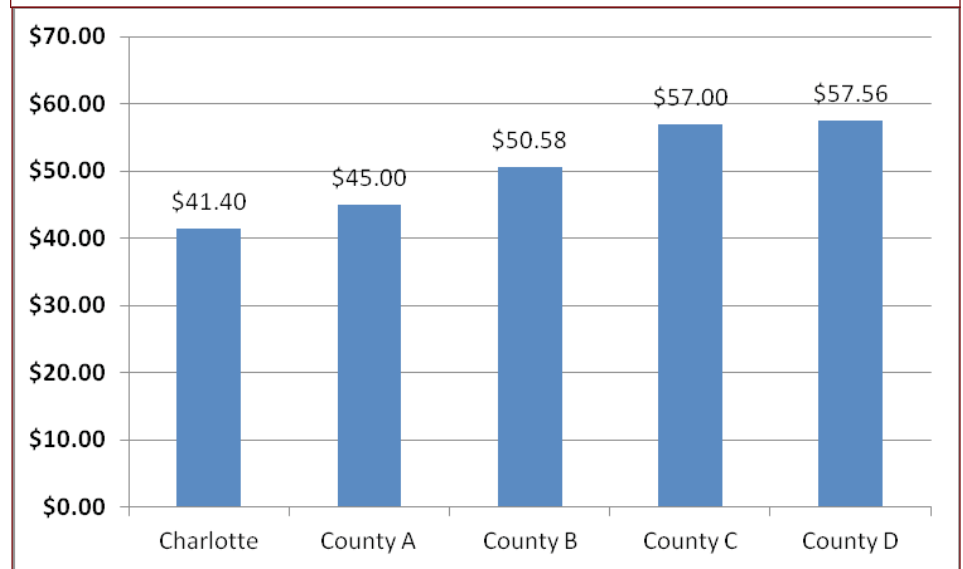


Exhibit 4. Solid Waste Tipping Fee Comparison



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2014 Joint Summit Taking It to the Next Level January 23, 2014

About the event:

Start 2014 off right by being a part of Florida's premier education forum—held jointly by Recycle Florida Today and the SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter. Through your sponsorship, you will have the opportunity to showcase your business to the two top recycling and solid waste professional organizations in Florida.

This is a rare and special opportunity, that had massive success last year. Don't miss the chance! The format of the meeting will be as follows:

Wednesday, January 22th: Board of Directors meetings for both organizations
Followed by an evening mixer

Thursday, January 23rd: Joint continental breakfast
Joint general and break-out sessions
Joint luncheon

To keep it affordable to all members, the registration fee for this joint event is \$125 and group room rates are available for \$125 (standard + taxes) for those who want to stay. Room rate available until Friday, January 3, 2014.

Event Location: Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Resort Address: 12205 S. Apopka Vineland Road, Orlando, FL 32836 Phone: (407) 239-0444

Sponsorship Levels:

The following joint sponsorships are being offered:

_____ **Continental Breakfast Sponsor: \$250**

Includes signage during the breakfast, your logo on all promotional materials and on the RFT and SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter websites, and special recognition during the technical sessions.

_____ **AM and PM Break Sponsor: \$400**

Includes signage during am and pm breaks, your logo on all promotional materials and on the RFT and SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter websites, and special recognition during the technical sessions.

_____ **Evening Mixer Sponsor: \$500**

Includes signage during the evening mixer, your logo on all promotional materials and on the RFT and SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter websites, special recognition during the technical sessions, and an opportunity to display your literature and/or promotional items at RFT's and SWANA's registration tables throughout the event.

_____ **Premier Luncheon Sponsor: \$2,000** **Only one exclusive package available for entire event.*

Includes your company logo on all luncheon tables, one (1) table at the luncheon for you to host your employees and clients, as well as a 3-minute key address to address the audience at the luncheon! Includes your logo on all promotional materials and on the RFT and SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter websites, and special recognition during the technical sessions. Lunch table sponsorship includes two (2) registrations.

Sponsorship Registration Information:

Select your level of sponsorship:

You may register for more than one event sponsorship.

Continental Breakfast Sponsor: \$250

Evening Mixer Sponsor: \$500

AM and PM Break Sponsor: \$400

Premier Luncheon Sponsor: \$2,000

**Only one (1) exclusive luncheon sponsorship available.*

Yes, Please include (_____) number of event registration(s) in this sponsorship at the current registration rate each. If more than (4) four, please use a secondary page.

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Cancellation Policy:

Once promotion of your sponsorship begins cancellations are not granted. Event sponsorships, unless noted, do not include conference registration. To receive the maximum benefit of your sponsorship please submit a 300 dpi logo for usage via email to info@swanafl.org. In order to be inserted in the conference brochure all materials must be received by December 31, 2013 by 5:00 (EST). In the event that the conference is cancelled, event organizers are not responsible for nonrefundable travel fares or lodging deposits.

Congratulations International Road-E-O Winners

Tim Jones

City of Clearwater
1st Place - Side Load

Jason Slaughter

City of Clearwater
3rd Place - Transfer Trailer

Dennis Rigby

Escambia County Solid Waste
3rd Place - Landfill Mechanic

Mark Grove

Brevard County Solid Waste
1st Place - Rubber Tire Loader

Jamie Hoffman

City of Lakeland
1st Place - Dozer and Top Gun

Joseph Howell

Brevard County
2nd Place - Compactor

Member News

New Recycling and Processing Book Published By SWANA Florida Member

Marc Rogoff has published a book titled "Solid Waste Recycling and Processing, Second Edition." The book provides detailed coverage and insight on all aspects of solid waste processing, volume reduction, and recycling, encompassing typical recyclable materials (paper, plastics, cans, and organics), construction and demolition debris, electronics, and more.



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Upcoming Chapter Events

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Joint Summit

January 23, 2014

Sheraton Lake

Buena Vista

Orlando, FL

Chapter Road-E-O

May 30-31, 2014

Holiday Inn Express

and Suites

Cocoa, FL

Summer Conference

July 27-29, 2014

Bonaventure Resort

Weston, FL

Committee Updates

Membership Contest

The Sunshine Chapter Membership Committee is offering cash prizes to the Chapter members bringing the most new members into the Chapter between October 1, 2013 and September 1, 2014. Renewal memberships do not count towards the total, and a minimum of 5 new members must be added by the contestant to qualify. Each new member claimed towards the prize will be asked to verify the individual most responsible for their decision to join. As a bonus, each new member added under the age of 35 on their join date will count as 1.5 new members.

First Place Prize	\$1,000
Second Place Prize	\$500
Third Place Prize	\$250

Contestants should email to Sam Levin the names of each new member that joins the Florida Sunshine Chapter of SWANA, aided by the contestant's referral. Please contact Sam Levin (Slevin@S2Li.com) or Mark Hammond (mhammond@swa.org) if you have any questions concerning this contest. And good luck!

We're on the Move!

The SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter's offices have moved. Please make note of our new mailing address and phone number and share it with anyone at your office that may need it.

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It's not too late to reserve a space in the Spring issue of Talking Trash.

Job Openings

Post an employment notice on the SWANA FL website for just \$100!

Email
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or visit
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for more information.

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