

# Solid Waste UPDATE



Vol. 17 No. 1

June 2012



## Garden City's New Household Hazardous Waste Facility

by Joe Cronin, Bureau of Waste Management

The newest Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility is in Garden City. The HHW is owned and operated by the city and is located at the former Garden City Animal Shelter. Through a grant from BWM, the City was able to remodel an existing building, raze an attached metal structure, and replace it with a new metal building. The new structure was designed by the City's Public Works/Engineering Department and a local architect to meet all applicable building codes for storage and processing of household hazardous wastes. The addition has a flammable storage room and adequate storage capacity for household chemicals.

The HHW facility will allow residents of Garden City and Finney County an opportunity to deliver household chemicals that are no longer wanted. Items in non-leaking containers with original labeling may be placed on re-use shelves for

distribution to the public. All other HHW items will be disposed as hazardous wastes which diverts these potential groundwater contaminants from local landfills.

In addition to receiving HHW from homes, this facility may also accept hazardous waste from some businesses.

BWM policy and pending HHW regulations allow this facility to accept hazardous waste from conditionally

exempt small quantity generators (CESQG) and



*(continued on page 5)*

### In This Issue . . .

- Garden City's New HHW .....1
- Kansas Medication Disposal Program.....1
- MSW Landfill Liquids Additions .....2
- Closed Landfill Program Transfers to BWM .....2
- Harveyville and Wichita Tornadoes .....3
- Old City Dump Corrective Action Program.....3
- Termination of PCC for MSWLFs .....4
- Top Tips for Reducing Waste .....4
- Evaluating Adequacy of Waste Reduction Efforts .....5
- Proposed C&D Regs .....5
- Unlawful Dumping .....6
- Natural Disaster Debris Reporting and Fee Waiver ...6
- Go Green/Save Paper/ Save Trees/ .....7
- Calendar Items .....8

**Get Caught** 

## Kansas Medication Disposal Program

by Jessica Willard, Bureau of Waste Management

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Board of Pharmacy have launched a new program aimed at providing information and safer disposal options for pharmaceuticals.

The Kansas Medication Disposal Program offers

consumers a way to locate pharmaceutical take back locations through an interactive map on the Bureau of Waste

Management's website. The map shows the locations of all the pharmacies, household hazardous waste facilities, and law

enforcement agencies in the state that are currently accepting uncontrolled medications. The website also has

proper disposal information for individuals. Resources, posters, and application forms can be found on the website as well for

*(continued on page 7)*



Receive future editions of this newsletter electronically

Sign up at [www.kdheks.gov/waste](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste)

# MSW Landfill Liquids Additions

by Sam Sunderraj, Bureau of Waste Management

A Subtitle-D municipal solid waste landfill (MSWLF) that is constructed in accordance with a good Construction Quality Assurance Plan and is operated in accordance with a good Facility Operation Plan includes a containment system that is protective of ground water beneath the landfill. The landfill's composite liner provides assurance that leachate carrying contaminants will not migrate into ground water. As of November 3, 2009, KDHE received authority from the U.S. EPA to permit the addition of liquids into such landfills. Requests to process liquid additions are processed as variances to the bulk liquid disposal prohibition.

Several of Kansas' 17 active Subtitle-D MSWLFs have expressed an interest in pursuing liquids disposal. Since December 2010, three facilities have availed of this opportunity to enhance waste stabilization. Deffenbaugh in Johnson County, Seward County, and Plumb Thicket in Harper County are the three landfills. Two issues appear to be key in successful implementation. The first is the ability of the landfill to secure the liquid waste streams for disposal. The second is the ability to efficiently incorporate the liquid waste stream into the waste mass. It is encouraging to see the landfill directors working closely with their consultants and operational staffs to explore the best way to incorporate the liquids into the solid waste. Injection wells, infiltration trenches and direct incorporation at the working face are all being used. Site conditions, weather conditions, proportion of liquid to solid waste received, characteristics of the liquid waste stream, and equipment availability are factors being considered in choosing disposal methods. Data to evaluate the long term environmental benefits is being gathered for evaluation.

This initiative should result in significant environmental benefits in the form of minimized post-closure care for future generations of Kansans. However, there are immediate benefits to landfills including increased revenue at the gate, better compaction, increased gas production and increased teamwork.



# Closed Landfill Program Transfers from BER to BWM

by Juan Sexton, Bureau of Waste Management

Since the inception of the federal Subtitle D landfill regulations in the early 1990s, the responsibility to implement the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfill Program within KDHE has been shared. The responsibility to oversee the permitting program (including groundwater monitoring) as well as compliance and enforcement activities has been under the direction of the Bureau of Waste Management (BWM). The Bureau of Remediation (BER) was given the responsibility for oversight of the long-term maintenance at closed MSW landfills, including groundwater monitoring and corrective action measures that were being considered or implemented. These shared responsibilities between BER and BWM remained in place until late 2011 when senior management decided to consolidate all solid waste activities into one bureau. The solid waste duties performed by BER were transferred

to BWM along with three BER staff members. This was done to reduce the number of staff assigned to the solid waste program to improve efficiency, and to reduce confusion among landfill owners regarding KDHE's regulatory oversight. The majority of the cost savings will occur through the reduction of the supervision, fiscal support and administrative support.

Tim Wilson and Kathleen Bleach are two of the staff transferred from BER to BWM. The third transferred position was vacant and has since been filled by Maureen Ruhlman. Kathleen and Maureen both work in the Hydrogeologic Unit and are involved with groundwater sampling and cap inspections at the closed landfills. They are also responsible for the oversight of administrative orders and consent agreements under which the closed facilities are managed and they make recommendations as needed for updates and improvements at the closed

facilities. In addition to the duties already listed, they will coordinate with the bureau permit engineers in the review of engineering plans submitted by licensed professional engineers.

Tim has teamed up with Bob Medina to administer the city dump and illegal dump program, and the and Closed Landfill Inspection Program. Tim assumed the duties of coordinator of the city dump repair program and he will maintain the inventory of sites which qualify for financial assistance. He also provides cap inspections at low risk closed MSW landfills. Tim coordinates with the permit engineers of the permitting section whenever city dump remediation plans are submitted by professional engineers.

The transfer of responsibilities and staff began on December 12 and was substantially completed by January 1. All of the transferred duties are now being performed by BWM staff.

# Tornadoes Strike Harveyville and Wichita

by Bill Bider, Director, Bureau of Waste Management

A rare winter EF-3 tornado struck the small town of Harveyville on February 28 destroying dozens of homes and a church while resulting in numerous injuries and one fatality. On April 14, more than 90 tornadoes touched down in Kansas, but thankfully only one struck a city. An EF-3 tornado struck a mobile home park and a nearby neighborhood in southeast Wichita before moving on to cause significant damage at the nearby Spirit Air and Boeing aerospace facilities and then major tree and fence damage in a residential area further to the northeast.

The Harveyville tornado response was a model of how local and state governments can work together to quickly respond to a major natural disaster in a small community which was unlikely to receive any federal aid. Within 15 hours, KDHE worked with city and county



Harveyville Tornado Damage



Wichita Tornado Damage



officials to develop a debris management plan on property owned by the city including a debris disposal area, a tree and brush site (for burning or processing), and storage areas for recyclable metal, HHW, waste tires, and appliances. Excellent waste segregation occurred based upon KDHE's widely distributed guide, a good site access road was constructed by county road and bridge personnel using available oversized rock, and a shallow debris disposal pit was dug by some local volunteers. Within 24 hours the first loads of debris began to arrive at the site. The efficiency of developing a debris plan and its implementation was largely because of the excellent cooperation of various government units and volunteers. The on-site disposal area has been closed and the vegetative pile is drying and hopefully going to be processed to become fuel for the Frito-Lay plant in Topeka.

The Wichita tornado caused serious damage but could have been much worse if it stayed on the ground longer as it traveled northeast of the Boeing and Spirit facilities. KDHE met with the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County within 24 hours and plans were made to utilize city and county staff to collect debris. Most debris was hauled to the Cornejo construction and

(continued on page 7)

# Old City Dump Corrective Action Program

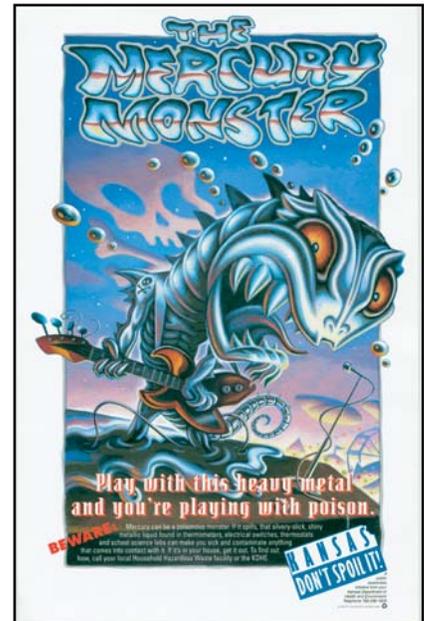
by Jim Rudeen, Bureau of Waste Management

The Old City Dump Corrective Action program is a voluntary program administered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to clean up or stabilize old city, county or township dump sites across the state. When a dump site is identified, KDHE will inspect the site and determine if the site poses a substantial risk to public health or safety or the environment. For sites that pose the greatest risk, KDHE will contact the local government to coordinate remediation of the site. Local governments may also contact KDHE to discuss potential clean-up of old dump sites.

If local government funds are not sufficient to clean up the site, the local government should state this in a letter to KDHE. If the site is eligible for state assistance, the amount of funding will be based on the population of the local government entity according to the following table:

<u>Population</u>	<u>State Funding</u>
Under 500.....	100 %
500 – 1,500.....	90 %
1,500 – 5,000.....	85 %
5,000 – 10,000.....	80 %
10,000 and above .....	75 %

(continued on page 7)



# Termination of Post-Closure Care for Subtitle D Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

by Dr. Carl Burkhead and  
Dennis Degner, Bureau of Waste Management

Progress is being made toward the development of a policy statement, guidance and regulations for the determination of post closure care (PCC) termination. An all day meeting was held in Topeka with stakeholders on March 7 for the purpose of discussing various views related to these objectives. The meeting was attended by nine landfill representatives, five consultants, six Bureau of Waste Management staff and one member of the Kansas Landfill Association. A subsequent meeting was held on April 24 with Waste Management, Inc. (WM) personnel to discuss pilot study opportunities at their Topeka facility. To date, several documents have been prepared to aid in the completion of the stated objectives. The pilot study will utilize information and assistance provided by WM personnel to validate the proposed methodology for predicting the termination of PCC. A similar effort may be undertaken with the help of Deffenbaugh Industries, Inc. at their Johnson County facility. Subsequent meetings are planned for the stakeholders work group to keep them abreast of progress being made and to enlist their support in preparing the mentioned documents. Questions about these activities can be sent to Dr. Carl Burkhead at [cburkhead@kdheks.gov](mailto:cburkhead@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-6898, or Dennis Degner at [ddegner@kdheks.gov](mailto:ddegner@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-1601.

## Top Tips for Reducing Waste

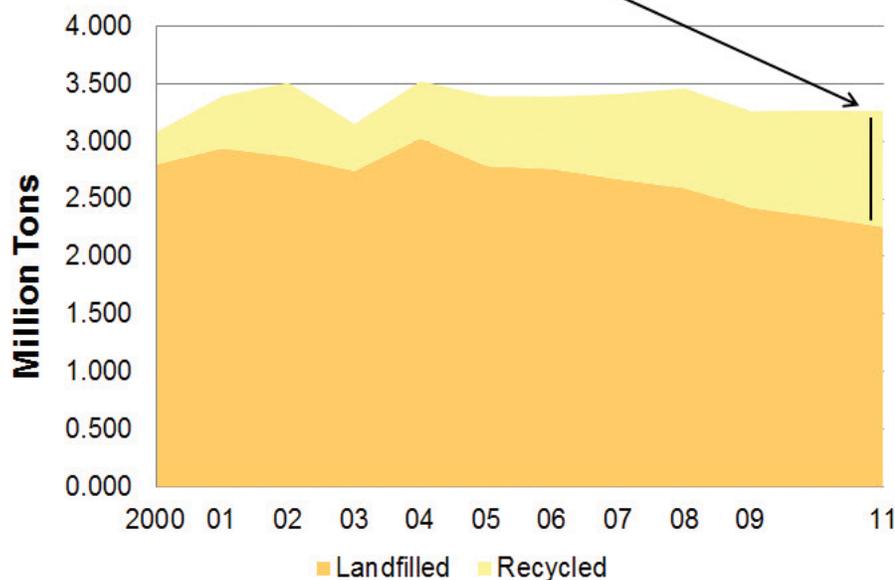
by Megan MacPherson,  
Bureau of Waste Management

A good portion of what you throw in the garbage each day is paper. Much of the paper generated in our homes comes in the mail. The average American household receives more than 500 pieces of advertising mail each year. Take action to reduce the amount of unwanted mail you receive.

- The Direct Marketing Association's (DMA) Mail Preference Service lets you opt out of receiving unsolicited commercial mail from many national companies for five years. When you register with this service (for a \$1 fee), your name will be put on a "delete" file and made available to direct-mail marketers. However, your registration will not stop mailings from organizations that do not use the DMA's Mail Preference Service. To register with DMA's Mail Preference Service, go to [www.dmachoice.org](http://www.dmachoice.org).
- If you just want to stop certain catalogs, you can contact individual mailers and ask them to remove your name from their mailing lists; call them or send your request by mail or e-mail.
- The credit bureaus offer a toll-free number that enables you to "opt-out" of having pre-approved credit offers sent to you for five

(continued on page 6)

Recycled waste passes  
million tons  
1,005,924



## KDHE to Evaluate Adequacy of Waste Reduction Efforts in Kansas

by *Bill Bider, Director  
Bureau of Waste Management*

The Kansas Legislature has directed KDHE to carry out a study in 2012 to evaluate waste reduction activities across Kansas and determine whether changes to state laws or regulations are warranted to improve current practices. A report will be submitted to the Legislature in January 2013 summarizing findings and presenting recommendations.

KDHE will develop a scope of work for this study in May and early June. A group of stakeholders representing private waste management companies and recyclers as well as local governments involved in all aspects of waste management will be assembled to help carry out the study and report preparation. Input from stakeholders is needed to accurately define current waste disposal and reduction practices such as recycling and composting as well as the existence of local ordinances or regulations designed to reduce waste disposal. KDHE will also utilize all available data reported by facility operators to quantify waste generation, disposal, and recovery trends.

The information for the report will be gathered over the summer and the final report will be prepared before the end of calendar year 2012.

If you are interested in participating in this study and report preparation, please contact Bill Bider at (785) 296-1612 or [wbider@kdheks.gov](mailto:wbider@kdheks.gov).



## Proposed Regulations for C&D Landfills

by *Christine Mennicke, Bureau of Waste Management*

Earlier this year, KDHE proposed regulations concerning the control of hazardous and explosive gases at construction and demolition (C&D) landfills. The public hearing for these regulations was held on April 17, and the comment period closed on April 19. The regulations, as they were proposed, would have imposed additional design, operational and gas monitoring requirements on certain new C&D disposal units, additional operational and monitoring requirements on some existing C&D landfills, and gas monitoring requirements on a few closed C&D landfills.

Based on comments received, KDHE is narrowing the applicability of the regulations and reducing or eliminating some of the requirements. Additional design and/or operational requirements will apply only to new large disposal located in areas that are likely to remain wet for extended periods, resulting in the potential generation of dangerous gases. No monitoring or post-closure care will be required at C&D landfills unless a problem is discovered.

As in the originally proposed regulations, any landfill at which a gas problem is discovered will have to implement corrective action measures.

If you have any questions, please contact Christine Mennicke at 785-296-0724 or [cmennicke@kdheks.gov](mailto:cmennicke@kdheks.gov).

## Garden City's New HHW Facility

*(continued from page 1)*

Kansas small quantity generators (KSQG), businesses which generate less than 220 pound per month. HHW, CESGQ, and KSQG wastes, when received, are segregated by hazardous class and stored for proper disposal or recycling.

In the future, this HHW facility may also serve as a host facility for surrounding counties that do not currently have HHW disposal service. The City of Garden City's HHW facility was especially welcome for this previously unserved area. KDHE's BWM appreciates the dedication and commitment of Garden City in providing this facility for their community and possibly surrounding areas in the future. We want to recognize the City staff that made this facility possible: Sam Curran, Public Works Dir.; Steve Cottrell, City Engineer; Alex Mestdaugh, Project Engineer; and Steve Jones, Facility Mgr.



# Unlawful Dumping of Solid Waste

by Rebecca Wenner, Bureau of Waste Management

Unlawful dumping of solid waste applies to individuals and businesses. This violation is cited when solid waste has been dumped or, in some cases, placed on the ground, rather than in a container. Kansas law allows individuals and farmers to dispose of waste generated by normal residential or agricultural activities on the property where the waste is generated as long as the disposal practice does not create a public nuisance. This does not include the disposal of building demolition waste which is subject to a special KDHE approval process for “disposal without a permit.”

Unlawful dumping of solid waste is usually cited on individuals as the result of a complaint investigation. Citations often involve the transfer of waste generated in one location to another unpermitted location for disposal. An example would be an individual cleaning out an old shed or eliminating old furniture and taking it to the property of a neighbor for disposal. Since the waste was not generated on the property where it was disposed, it is a violation. In most cases, if the individual cleans up and properly disposes of the waste as instructed by the KDHE inspector, there will be no penalty, but the disposal cost is generally higher because of double handling and added soil and debris.

Small businesses such as roofers and property management companies are most commonly cited for unlawful dumping as a result of complaints. In some cases, hazardous waste inspectors may find a company dumping solid waste such as sand blast media or mud trap waste on the ground. If the activity is associated with a business, then there is generally a penalty calculated using our Solid Waste Penalty Matrix. Factors such as the type of waste, amount of waste, location of disposal, and use of burning are considered in calculating penalty amounts. If the business is a solid waste company whose primary business is transporting and disposing of solid waste, penalties are typically higher.

Penalties for solid waste dumping generally average between \$350 and \$1,500 for individuals who were non-responsive to clean-up directives and \$550 to \$2,500 for a business. Penalties can be substantially higher if the person or business has been operating as a Solid Waste Landfill over a period of time. In 2011, KDHE issued around 20 Administrative Orders to individuals and businesses for unlawful dumping.

## Natural Disaster Debris Reporting and Fee Waiver

by Christine Mennicke, Bureau of Waste Management

Natural disasters such as tornadoes, storms, floods and fire can produce large quantities of debris. KDHE has the authority to waive the state solid waste tonnage fee of \$1 per ton in these situations (KSA 65-3415b). Each landfill that will be accepting disaster debris should request a waiver by submitting the form “Request for Waiver of the State Solid Waste Tonnage Fee” to the Bureau of Waste Management (BWM). The form can be found on the BWM website under “Solid Waste Tonnage Reporting.”

The waiver is granted for a limited time period based on the severity of the specific disaster. The facility must not charge the customer the tonnage fee for any waste for which a waiver has been granted. In addition to normal record-keeping, the landfill must maintain a log of disaster debris that is brought in. The hauler will sign the log, certifying that the waste was generated by that specific disaster, and acknowledging that they have not been charged the tonnage fee.

Disaster debris for which a waiver has been granted should be reported in the “Disaster” category on the Tonnage Report that is regularly submitted to BWM. Solid waste consisting solely of vegetation from storm-related clean-up is exempt from the tonnage fee without a specific waiver from KDHE, and should be reported on the Tonnage Report as construction and demolition (C/D) waste.

If you have any questions, please contact Christine Mennicke at 785-296-0724 or [cmennicke@kdheks.gov](mailto:cmennicke@kdheks.gov).

## Tips for Reducing Waste

(continued from page 4)

years. Call 1-888-5-OP-TOUT (567-8688) or visit [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com) for more information. When you call, you’ll be asked for personal information, including your home telephone number, your name, and your Social Security number. The information you provide is confidential and will be used only to process your request to opt out of receiving pre-screened offers of credit.

**Benefits:** Recycling junk mail is great, but reducing the flow of junk mail will conserve our natural resources.



# Kansas Medication Disposal Program

(continued from page 1)



pharmacies to join the program.

KDHE does not recommend flushing medications into the sanitary sewer system due to their unknown and potentially harmful environmental impacts. Also, saving and storing unwanted or expired medications is unsafe due to possible prescription drug abuse, misuse and diversion. In response to this issue, the medication disposal program was launched as a way for consumers, pharmacies and household hazardous waste facilities to work together for safer disposal of this growing waste stream.



# Old City Dump Corrective Action

(continued from page 3)

Employee hourly rates and use of local government equipment are reimbursable expenses under the clean-up and can also be used as matching funds. Communities are encouraged, but not required, to use their own personnel, services and equipment to meet their part of the clean-up expense if they are not eligible for full funding. For more information on the City Dump Corrective Action program contact Tim Wilson at 785-296-1757 or [twwilson@kdheks.gov](mailto:twwilson@kdheks.gov).



# Tornadoes

(continued from page 3)

demolition (C&D) landfill on the northwest side of the city although some went to the Brooks C&D landfill owned by the city. Most trees and brush were taken to a staging area at the city wastewater treatment plant on the southeast side of the city. The biggest challenge was how to deal with the devastation at the mobile home park where nearly a hundred homes were totally destroyed or damaged beyond repair. The entire mobile home park is on private property so neither the city nor county was able to collect debris from the "right-of-way." Ultimately, clean-up efforts began under privately arranged services. The Wichita clean-up is also mostly complete.

**Go Green  
Save Paper  
Save Trees**



**Receive the  
Solid Waste Update  
via email**

[www.kdheks.gov/waste](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste)



Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Waste Management

[www.kdheks.gov/waste](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste)  
[www.kansasdontspoilit.com](http://www.kansasdontspoilit.com)

[www.getcaughtrecycling.org](http://www.getcaughtrecycling.org)  
[www.kansasgreenteams.org](http://www.kansasgreenteams.org)



**Kansas Department of Health & Environment  
Bureau of Waste Management  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 320  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1366**

**PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TOPEKA, KS  
PERMIT NO. 157**

**264-21**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



## Calendar Items

August 13	Kansas Don't Spoil It! calendar contest begins
September 28	Postmark deadline for calendar contest entries
November 7-8	SWANA/KDHE Operators' Training Workshop, Salina



Solid Waste Update

Kansas Department of  
Health & Environment

Prepared & Distributed by  
The Bureau of Waste Management

Direct inquires and opinions to:  
KDHE - BWM  
Solid Waste Update  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 320  
Topeka, KS 66612-1366

For subscription information:  
Call: (785) 296-1600  
Fax: (785) 296-8909  
E-mail: [bwmweb@kdheks.gov](mailto:bwmweb@kdheks.gov)