Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Solid Waste Management Plan
2007

Developed with Assistance from the:
Lower Chattahoochee
Regional Development Center

Adopted April 2007
# Table of Contents

**Introduction** ........................................................................................................................... 3  
Legal Mandate .............................................................................................................................. 3  
Methodology .................................................................................................................................. 3  
Historic Development .................................................................................................................. 3  
Economic History .......................................................................................................................... 4  
Population ...................................................................................................................................... 4  
Economy ........................................................................................................................................ 5  
Housing ......................................................................................................................................... 6  
Land Use ....................................................................................................................................... 7  
**Waste Disposal Stream Analysis** ............................................................................................ 8  
**Waste Reduction** ..................................................................................................................... 12  
**Waste Collection** ................................................................................................................... 14  
**Waste Disposal** ....................................................................................................................... 17  
**Environmental Limitations** ................................................................................................... 19  
**Education and Public Involvement** ......................................................................................... 29  
**Short Term Work Plan**  
Report of Accomplishments ........................................................................................................ 30  
Implementation Strategy ............................................................................................................. 32  
**Maps**  
Watershed ................................................................................................................................. 37  
NWI Wetland Classification ......................................................................................................... 38  
Groundwater Recharge Area ....................................................................................................... 39  
Soil Classification ......................................................................................................................... 40  
Slope Classification ..................................................................................................................... 41  
Existing Land Use ....................................................................................................................... 42  
**Capacity Letters**  
Allied Waste Industries; Southern States Environmental Services, Taylor County Landfill ..... 43  
Public Works Department; Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia ........... 4  
**Public Hearing Notices**  
The Tri-County Journal & Chattahoochee Chronicle; Wednesday, October 11, 2006.............45  
The Tri-County Journal & Chattahoochee Chronicle; Wednesday, November 29, 2006.........46  
**Resolutions** .............................................................................................................................. 47
Introduction

Legal Mandate

In 1990, the Georgia General Assembly passed and the Governor signed into law the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act. This Act consolidated existing solid waste management laws, created a statewide goal for reducing waste on a per capita basis and laid the foundation for comprehensive solid waste management planning by requiring a Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan and local solid waste management planning.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is one of four unified governments in the State of Georgia. The County government consists of one Unified Government manager and elected officials to include the Board of County Commissioners, a County Sheriff, a Tax Commissioner, and the Clerk of the Court. The Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County worked with the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center to develop and adopt a Solid Waste Management Plan that will meet the Georgia Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management.

The Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center must insure that the "draft" solid waste plan has been (1) "approved for submission" by the local government body(s) involved in the development of the plan; (2) meets the minimum public hearing requirements; and (3) is in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. After a process of state and regional reviews, the local government may officially adopt the plan. No state permits nor grants may be provided to a local government for plans that are not in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards.

Methodology

Methodology for preparation of the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Solid Waste Management Plan includes a review of the general background and characteristics of the county that impact all solid waste functions. The items to be addressed in the plan will be a Disposal Stream Analysis, Waste Reduction, Waste Collection, Waste Disposal, Land Limitations, Education and Public Involvement, and an Implementation Strategy. The Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Board of Commissioners, local citizens and other officials were involved in the plan development.

The purpose of the following sections is to review the general characteristics of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County that will have an impact on the development of a reasonable solid waste management plan for the planning jurisdiction.

Historic Development

 Chattahoochee County was established on February 13, 1854 by combining parts of Marion and Muscogee Counties. It was named for the Chattahoochee River that forms the county’s western boundary. Chattahoochee County has a total area of 248.8 square miles. Prior to 2003, the county consisted of one incorporated city, Cusseta, which was incorporate on December 22, 1855 and was the
in the State of Georgia. The county is home to the Fort Benning Military Reservation. Founded during
World War I, Fort Benning covers an estimated eighty percent (80%) of the county’s 248.8 square miles.
Fort Benning was named for General Henry Lewis Benning; a Confederate general and native of
Columbus, Georgia. Fort Benning is the world’s largest infantry base and its’ county’s largest employer.

Economic History

Chattahoochee County and Cusseta have had limited economic growth or expansion over the past few
decades. However, with the imminent expansion at the Fort Benning Military Installation the potential
for growth, both residential and commercial has increased tremendously. Chattahoochee County will
continue to rely heavily on the federal military and civil service sectors for employment opportunities
however, there is a tremendous potential for business growth in the service industry.

Historically, the unemployment rate of Chattahoochee County is higher than that of the State of Georgia
and the United States. In fact, in February 2006 the county had the highest unemployment rate in the
State of Georgia. Its February 2006 unemployment rate was 10.7% compared to the State’s average
5.1%. Overall, Chattahoochee County's economy is characterized by a high unemployment rate and
limited job opportunities.

The county’s top employers for 1999 include American Service Contractors, Building Service International

Population

Chattahoochee County’s population figures are misleading; an estimated ninety percent (90%) of the
county’s population base is located on the Fort Benning Military Reservation. This fact causes significant
fluctuations in the county’s population.

Collectively, Chattahoochee County has a 2000 population of 14,882 residents; however 12,153, nearly
82% of these residents reside in the Fort Benning Division.

The following tables show historic and projected future population data for Chattahoochee County.

Table 1: Total Population 1980-2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1980</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>21,732</td>
<td>16,934</td>
<td>14,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td>1,404</td>
<td>1,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Cusseta</td>
<td>1,218</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>1,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Benning Division</td>
<td>19,485</td>
<td>14,423</td>
<td>12,153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Georgia</td>
<td>5,486,90</td>
<td>6,478,14</td>
<td>8,186,45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Projected Population 2005-2030

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>19,628</td>
<td>32,202</td>
<td>39,523</td>
<td>41,025</td>
<td>42,584</td>
<td>44,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>2,808</td>
<td>10,293</td>
<td>14,458</td>
<td>15,072</td>
<td>15,712</td>
<td>16,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Benning Division</td>
<td>16,820</td>
<td>21,909</td>
<td>25,365</td>
<td>25,953</td>
<td>26,872</td>
<td>28,423</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Economy

The following tables illustrate the dire economic situation that has and will continue to plague Cusseta-Chattahoochee County.

Table 3: Per Capita Income Chattahoochee County and the State of Georgia 1980-2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1980</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$4,818</td>
<td>$8,466</td>
<td>$8,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Georgia</td>
<td>$15,353</td>
<td>$20,715</td>
<td>$25,433</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table 4: Projected Per Capita Income for Cusseta Chattahoochee County 2005-2030

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Income</td>
<td>$17,036</td>
<td>$20,023</td>
<td>$23,010</td>
<td>$25,997</td>
<td>$28,984</td>
<td>$31,971</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC Staff, 2006

The data presented in the following Tables were taken from “Profiling Chattahoochee County, a Local Perspective” written by Douglas C. Bachtel, Professor of the College of Family and Consumer Sciences at the University of Georgia.

The following data is included in order to illustrate the discrepancy among the Income level found in Chattahoochee County as a result of the presence of a major Military Installation. The data provides the Chattahoochee County Median Income by Census Tracts. Tract 201 represents the non-military Chattahoochee County; furthermore tract 201 is broken into two Block Groups, Block Group 1 and Block Group 2. Tract 202 represents the Fort Benning Division of Chattahoochee County.

As shown in the Median Household Income table Tract 202, the Fort Benning Division had a 2000 median household income of $41,928 which was slightly lower than the State average, although significantly higher than that of the non-military population in Chattahoochee County. Tract 201, the non-military Chattahoochee County, had a 2000 median household income of $30,112.

Most available funding sources include the Fort Benning Division when reviewing grant eligibility for
Cusseta-Chattahoochee County. Just as the population reported for Chattahoochee County including the Fort Benning Division is not a true indication of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County neither is the income reported.

Table 5: Median Household Income 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Median Household Income: 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of Georgia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Benning (Tract 202)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tract 201 (Block Group 1 and 2 compose Tract 201)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block Group 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block Group 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Profiling Chattahoochee County; Douglas C. Bachtel.

All these factors indicate, along with a small total population base, a limited financial capacity to fund anything but essential solid waste activities.

Housing

The following tables illustrate both historic and projected data for the number of households and household size in Chattahoochee County. The data includes the non-military portion of Chattahoochee County as well as the Fort Benning Division.

Table 6: Total Number of Households and Average Household Size 1980-2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1980</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Households</td>
<td>3,012</td>
<td>2,884</td>
<td>2,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Household Size</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>3.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


According to the U.S. Census Bureau in 2000 a total of 1,060 households were in Census Tract 201, the non-military area of Chattahoochee County. Therefore more than 63% of the households in Chattahoochee County were located in Tract 202, the Fort Benning Division. Furthermore, the average household size among the non-military population in Chattahoochee County in 2000 was 2.67. The average household size in the Fort Benning Division was 3.83.

Table 7: Projected Number of Households and Average Household Size 2005-2030

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


Land Use

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is located in the Lower Chattahoochee region, approximately fifteen (15) miles south of the City of Columbus, Georgia and 136 miles southwest of the State’s capital Atlanta, Georgia. Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is a rural community, possessing large tracts of open land. The land area of the County is 248.8 square miles, with 2.4 square miles covered by water. The total area of Chattahoochee County is 251.2 square miles.

The dominate land use in Chattahoochee County is classified as Agriculture/Forestry; which consist of almost 33,012 acres of land. Resident uses comprise the second largest land classification in the county, to include approximately 4,528 acres. Commercial development in the county is primarily located on or near Broad Street and Highway 520. The presence of the Fort Benning Military Installation prohibits future expansion and development into the northern section of the county.

Vacant and undeveloped land is scattered throughout the county, approximately 441 acres within the county are currently considered vacant or undeveloped. The county has ample land suitable for development. Majority of the future development in the county includes residential uses along with retail and services establishments.

Existing and Future land use patterns are presented in the following charts.

Table 8: Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Existing Land Use Acreage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use</th>
<th>Total Parcels</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/ Forestry</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>33,011.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>64.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>88.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park/ Recreation/ Conservation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>151.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public/ Institutional</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>791.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>1,474</td>
<td>4,528.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation/ Communication/ Utility</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant/ Undeveloped</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>441.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC Staff, 2006
Solid Waste Disposal Stream Analysis

Solid waste in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is mainly generated by residential sources and can be primarily characterized as household garbage and yard waste. However, the county also provides solid waste collection for the local businesses. The County’s Solid Waste and Recycling Department collects from over 1,270 homes and businesses. The charts and tables below reflect the amounts collected from both residential and businesses.

The following charts and tables will further analyze these types of waste and the volume produced in the local jurisdiction.

Table 9: Previous Years Projected Waste Volumes 1980-2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Daily Estimate in Pounds</th>
<th>Yearly Estimate in Pounds</th>
<th>Yearly Estimate in Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>10,900.44</td>
<td>3,978,662.12</td>
<td>1,989.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>12,181.14</td>
<td>4,446,115.08</td>
<td>2,223.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>13,238.68</td>
<td>4,832,117.90</td>
<td>2,416.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>13,621.92</td>
<td>4,971,999.66</td>
<td>2,486.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC, 2006

Table 10: Current and Projected Waste Volumes 2010-2030

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Daily Estimate in Pounds</th>
<th>Yearly Estimate in Pounds</th>
<th>Yearly Estimate in Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>50,847.42</td>
<td>18,559,308.30</td>
<td>9,279.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>74,024.96</td>
<td>27,019,110.40</td>
<td>13,509.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>78,525.12</td>
<td>28,661,668.80</td>
<td>14,330.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>83,273.60</td>
<td>30,394,864.00</td>
<td>15,197.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>88,282.81</td>
<td>32,223,225.65</td>
<td>16,111.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following graphs illustrate current and projected solid waste volumes.

**Graph 1: Current and Projected Yearly Solid Waste Collection in Tons 2005-2030**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Solid Waste Collection (Tons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>2,486.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>9,279.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13,509.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>14,330.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>15,197.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>16,111.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Graph 2: Current and Projected Daily Solid Waste Collection in Pounds 2005-2030**
Table 11: Current Composition of Waste Stream Percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C &amp; D</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inorganic</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC Staff, 2006

Graph 3: Current Composition of Waste Stream by Percentages
By weight, over 50% of the solid waste disposed of in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is Paper or Organic matter. Paper matter makes up the largest portion of the county’s waste stream (38% of the total). Organic matter is the second most common material disposed of in the county, it accounts for 28% of the total.

Tonnage wise, Paper matter accounts for nearly 945 tons, Organic almost 670 tons. Plastic is the third largest matter of solid waste composition in the county, it accounts for almost 400 tons (16% of the total). The less of the Solid Waste Composition in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County includes Inorganic accounting for less than 75 tons yearly (3% of the total), C & D and Metals each accounting for 99.5 tons yearly (4% of the total) and Glass which makes up another 174 tons (7% of the total).
Solid Waste Reduction

Solid Waste reduction can be defined as the process of reducing the amount of solid waste generated by a planning jurisdiction. It may include practices such as product reuse, increased product life, decreased product consumption, and mulching and composting of yard waste. Solid Waste reduction activities are the most efficient and cost effective way to manage the solid waste stream, but these activities are the most difficult to accomplish since they require voluntary changes to be made by the consumer.

The following section will inventory and assess the waste reduction activities performed by Cusseta-Chattahoochee County while identifying and establishing waste reduction needs and goals for this jurisdiction.

Inventory

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County encourages and supports the recycling of scrap metal and waste oils. The county operates a drop off location for citizens to dispose of their scrape metals and waste oils. In addition, the County’s Solid Waste and Recycling Department operates a tire, card board, clothing, toys, and furniture recycling program. Cusseta-Chattahoochee County supports the Keep Georgia Beautiful campaign. In addition, the Kasihta Garden Club; a local non-governmental organization, offers gardening programs at the Neighborhood Service Center in an effort to stimulate a love of gardening and pride in the community.

Assessment

Due to the small non-military population base and limited financial capabilities of the county, the aforementioned waste reduction activities performed are adequate for the current population. However, county officials should investigate the possibility of expanding public awareness of the importance of recycling and waste reduction programs. Civic organizations within the community could play a larger role in these programs and encourage all citizens to become more conscience of solid waste reduction and its benefits to the county as a whole.

Needs and Goals

I. NEED: ENCOURAGE SOLID WASTE REDUCTION

GOALS:
A. Increase public awareness about solid waste programs and how both volume and cost of solid waste activities can be reduced.

B. Create a committee to include Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Department of Public Works personnel, county officials and citizens to analysis the amount of solid waste generated and disposed of on a quarterly basis and to research ways to reduce volume of waste.
C. Incorporate beautification classes and workshops on home composting and mulching activities offered through the University of Georgia Extension Services

II. NEED: PROMOTE RECYCLING PROGRAMS

GOALS:
A. Increase public awareness about available recycling programs and location of local recycling centers.
B. Continue to conducting seasonal recycling events and drives (Christmas trees, phone books, etc).
C. Maintain an awareness of state and federal recycling programs and assistance to local government recycling programs and efforts.
D. Continue to encourage recycling programs in the elementary and middle/high school (drink cans, paper, plastic bottles, and milk cartons).

III. NEED: PROMOTE COMPOSTING

GOALS:
A. Partner with the Georgia Extension Services, local schools, churches, and civic groups to better educate the public on the benefits of home composting.
B. Support the establishment of “neighborhood composting sites” in high intensity residential developments.
C. Continue to offer demonstrations of proper home composting methods while encouraging homeowners to engage in home composting.
Solid Waste Collection

The following section will inventory and assess the solid waste collection activities performed by Cusseta-Chattahoochee County while, identifying and establishing waste collection needs and goals for the county.

Inventory

The Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Solid Waste and Recycling Department is responsible for the pick up of local household solid waste and yard debris. The department also provides solid waste collection for local businesses. Residential and business solid waste collection is executed once a week. Examples of solid waste collected by the department includes but is not limited to; white goods, clothing, building materials, used tires, yard waste, household garbage, concrete asphalt, rock brick, yard trimmings, land clearing debris such as stumps and leaves, corrugated cardboard, and waste oil. Once the solid waste is collected the County’s Solid Waste and Recycling Department transports the majority of the waste to the City of Columbus, Georgia’s Transfer Station it is then transferred to the Taylor County Landfill operated by Southern States Environmental Services for proper sorting and disposal.

The County operates and maintains an Inert Landfill where it disposes of the county’s yard trimmings and debris. The County’s Solid Waste and Recycling Department owns and operates a wood chipper. The county provides wood chips to residents free of cost to encourage composting.

The County’s Recycling Center accepts and recycles the following items but is not limited to the following; waste oil, cardboard, used tires, white goods, scrape metal, aluminum, building materials and concrete. The waste oil is picked up at the Recycling Center by Texpar Oil. The Recycling Center maintains a 250 gallon tank for the purpose of disposing of waste oil. Watkins Scrape Metal of Alabama collects the scrape metal from the county.

Similarly, Tire Services of Georgia, Inc. in Albany. collects the used tires from the Recycling Center for proper disposal. The County collects and recycles approximately 80 tons which equates to 8,000 tires yearly. Tires are either brought to the Recycling Center by citizens or are collected by the county from illegal dump sites. Tire Services of Georgia, Inc. in Albany sorts the tires and disassembles the different components, such as rims and tubes.

Currently, the County has two forty-yard open top roll off containers and one forty-yard compacter container site. The county also operates two wash wagons. All of the county’s equipment is located at the recycling center located off Highway 137.

The total service area for solid waste collection is approximately 50 square miles and serves approximately 1,270 households and businesses.

The Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Public Works Department has the capability and resources to maintain its own solid waste collection.
Contingency Plan

If the Taylor County Landfills were to become unavailable to Cusseta-Chattahoochee County the county would then contract with the City of Columbus, Georgia for disposal of solid waste. The contingency plan for disposal could be enacted immediately in the event of a crisis.

Assessment

Due to the small population base the current collection methods are adequate to meet the needs of the current and expected future population growth in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County.

Should Cusseta-Chattahoochee County experience substantial population growth, the collection of solid waste may be required on two days a week compared to the present system which collects once a week. In addition new and/or larger equipment and an increased number of personnel may be required to efficiently and effectively address the increase in demand.

Inventory of Illegal Dumping/ Littering

Illegal dumping of solid waste is a significant problem in many rural counties, and Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is no exception. Illegal dumping and/or littering is the disposal of waste in any un-permitted area. Illegally dumped wastes are generally non-hazardous materials that are dumped to avoid disposal fees or the time and effort that would be involved in proper disposal.

Items illegally dumped often consist of scrap tires, yard waste, furniture and other bulky items. Sites used for illegal dumping vary, but include abandoned buildings, vacant lots, wooded areas and roadways that are not frequently traveled. Illegal dumping can occur at any time of the day but occurs most often late in the night or in the early morning. If not properly addressed and dealt with illegal dumps will attract more waste which could include hazardous wastes such as asbestos, household chemicals, automotive fluids, and industrial waste.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Department collects all illegally dumped waste such as tires, furniture, washing machines and other large items. In addition, the department picks up trash, such as paper and drink cans that are thrown out of car windows. The trash and illegally dumped items are collected and taken to the Columbus Transfer Station and then transferred to the Taylor County Landfill.

Currently Cusseta-Chattahoochee County does not have an Illegal Dumping/ Littering Ordinance to allow the county to legally reprimand or fine offenders.

The county should develop, implement and enforce an Illegal Dumping/ Littering Ordinance which; in the event that the county can produce evidence, a name or address, will allow the county to charge and prosecute offenders.
needs and goals

I. NEED: PROVIDE EFFICIENT AND RELIABLE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION

GOALS:

A. The Solid Waste and Recycling Department will continue to monitor the effectiveness of current collection functions and will make changes when applicable.

B. Maintain an awareness of state and federal programs to assist in solid waste collection.

C. Continue to coordinate with the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Sheriff’s Department to monitor and investigate illegal dumping and/or littering.
Solid Waste Disposal

Inventory

The Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Solid Waste and Recycling Department is responsible for the pick up of local household solid waste and yard debris. The department also provides solid waste collection for local businesses. Residential and business solid waste collection is executed once a week. The department collects white goods, clothing, building materials, used tires, yard waste, household garbage, concrete asphalt, rock brick, yard trimmings, land clearing debris such as stumps, corrugated cardboard, waste oil and leaves. Once the solid waste is collected the County’s Solid Waste and Recycling Department transports the waste to the City of Columbus, Georgia’s Transfer Station it is then transferred to the Taylor County Landfill operated by Southern States Environmental Services for proper sorting and disposal. Yard trimmings are disposed of at the Chattahoochee County Inert Landfill.

The Southern States Environmental Services Taylor County Landfill assures landfill capacity for Cusseta-Chattahoochee County’s non-hazardous solid waste for approximately ten (10) years (capacity assurance letter; Jerry White 2007).

Disposal Contingency Plan

If the Taylor County Landfills were to become unavailable to Cusseta-Chattahoochee County the county would then contract with the Columbus, Georgia Landfill for disposal of solid waste. The contingency plan for disposal could be enacted immediately in the event of a crisis.

Disaster Materials Plan

In the event of a disaster, debris and materials will be collected by the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Public Works Department and transported to the Columbus Transfer Station and then transferred to the Taylor County Landfill to be sorted and disposed of.

Assessment

The current disposal methods are adequate to meet the needs of the current and future population of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County. The County’s Public Works Department collects white goods, clothing, building materials, used tires, yard waste, household garbage, concrete asphalt, rock brick, yard trimmings, land clearing debris such as stumps, corrugated cardboard, waste oil and leaves.

Needs and Goals

I. NEED: PROVIDE RELIABLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

GOALS:
A. Encourage citizens to decrease disposal amounts through recycling and home composting programs.
B. Investigate reliability of the disposal options prior to entering into a disposal agreement.

C. Maintain an awareness of state and federal programs relating to solid waste disposal.
Environmental Limitations

The purpose of this section is to review environmental limitations of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County as relating to solid waste management. The goal of the Environmental Limitation Element is to insure that potential solid waste handling facilities including, but not limited to, transfer stations, landfills, bio-hazard, or sludge handling facilities are located on sites in areas suitable for such development and not in areas identified as having significant land limitations.

Water Supply Watersheds

The entire Chattahoochee County is covered by several water supply watersheds. The watersheds impact the water quality for all of Chattahoochee County including the Fort Benning Military Installation.

The Upatoi Creek-upper watershed covers the northeastern section of the county which lies solely within the Fort Benning Military Installation. The Upatoi Creek-lower watershed lies in the central section of the county. The majority of this watershed exists within the Fort Benning Military Installation with less than twenty-five percent of it lying in non-military portion of Chattahoochee County. In the west section of the county lays the Chattahoochee River-Bull Creek watershed. This watershed lies solely in Fort Benning Division. The south Fort Benning Boundary is covered by the Chattahoochee River-Hichitee Creek watershed. Approximately forty percent (40%) of this watershed lies in non-military area of Chattahoochee County.

The following two water supply watersheds lie solely in the non-military area of Chattahoochee County, Kinchafoonee Creek-Slaughter Creek and the Hannahatchee Creek. These water supply watersheds provide drinking water for all of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County and the Fort Benning Division.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is not required to adopt the water supply watershed protection ordinance as required by the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

Assessment

No solid waste handling facility may lie within Cusseta-Chattahoochee County’s water supply watershed; solid waste handling facilities pose a threat to the county’s environmentally sensitive areas.

Groundwater Recharge Area

Chattahoochee County is above a significant groundwater recharge area that is highly susceptible to pollution. Chattahoochee County has abundant groundwater and surface water supplies. The Chattahoochee River, the Hichitee Creek, Slaughter Creek and Ochillee Creeks and several other smaller creeks provide a rich supply of surface water. Located in the Sand Hill and Coastal Plain Province along the Fall Line, approximately ninety-five percent (95%) of Chattahoochee County is underlain by the Cretaceous-Tertiary Aquifer System.

Due to procedural changes on the State level Cusseta-Chattahoochee County has not been required to
adopt the Groundwater Recharge Area Protection Ordinance by the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

**Assessment**

In order to preserve the existing level of water quality in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County and therefore, continue to provide the citizens with an adequate quantity and quality of potable water supply no solid waste handling facility or landfill shall be located within two (2) miles of any aquifer recharge area in Chattahoochee County.

**Wetlands**

Wetlands are areas inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration to support, under normal conditions, vegetation adapted for life in saturated soil. Many of these areas are adjacent to river corridors. Additionally, man-made lakes and reservoirs created as part of hydroelectric activity along river corridors also provide open water wetland habitat.

Wetlands can be broken into four distinct categories: Open Water Wetlands, Scrub/Shrub Wetlands, Forested Wetlands, and Non-Forested Emergent Wetlands. They serve vital ecological purposes in providing habitat and natural control measures for stormwater runoff. In general, wetlands enhance water resources by detaining overflows during flood periods and acting as water storage basins during dry seasons. Wetlands replenish both surface water and groundwater systems and naturally filter sediments and non-point source pollutants from water supplies (Georgia Department of Natural Resources).

The National Wetlands Inventory conducted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service indicates the presence of wetlands scattered throughout Chattahoochee County, as shown on the NWI Wetland Classification Map. Chattahoochee County has approximately 4,296 total acres of wetlands. Due to procedural changes at the State level Cusseta-Chattahoochee County has not been required to adopt a wetland protection ordinance by the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

Acceptable uses of Wetlands include:
1. Timber production and harvesting
2. Wildlife and fisheries management
3. Wastewater treatment
4. Recreation
5. Natural water quality treatment or purification
6. Other uses permitted under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

Unacceptable uses of Wetlands include:
1. Receiving areas for toxic or hazardous waste or other contaminants
2. Hazardous or sanitary waste landfills
**Assessment**

To insure that no threat to the integrity of wetland areas occurs, no solid waste handling facility in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County may lie within a freshwater wetland area.

**Flood Prone Areas**

Flooding is defined as the temporary covering of soil with water from overflowing streams and by run-off from adjacent slopes. Water left standing after a rainfall, however is not considered flooding, nor is water in swamps. Flooding is characterized in terms which describe the frequency and duration of the flood and the time of the year that the flood occurs.

Development within floodplain areas is discouraged with the exception of very low impact such as recreational facilities (i.e. trails, open fields, etc.). With this type of land use, the floodplains are utilized without disturbing the natural cycles of the floodplains. These areas are not suitable for solid waste handling facilities.

Floodplains serve three (3) major purposes: Natural water storage and conveyance, water quality maintenance and groundwater recharge. These three purposes are greatly inhibited when floodplains are misused or abused through improper and unsuitable land development. For example, if floodplains are filled in order to construct a building, then valuable water storage areas and recharge areas are lost thus causing unnecessary flooding in previously dry areas.

Flood prone areas in Chattahoochee County are primarily located along the major creek basins and the Chattahoochee River Basin. Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is mapped under the Federal Emergency Management Agency and participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The county also has adopted a Flood Prevention Ordinance to fulfill the federal insurance requirements. Flood Insurance Rate Maps are on file at the county courthouse for further identification of these areas.

Areas of floodplains should be free of developments which would increase flooding downstream during periods of periodic inundation of flood waters and which would create health and safety hazards.

Acceptable uses of Flood Prone Areas include:
1. Timber production and harvesting
2. Wildlife and fisheries management
3. Wastewater treatment
4. Recreation
5. Natural water quality treatment or purification
6. Other uses permitted under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

Unacceptable uses of Flood Prone Areas include:
1. Receiving areas for toxic or hazardous waste or other contaminants
2. Hazardous or sanitary waste landfills

Assessment

Development shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment. Therefore no solid waste handling facility in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County may lie within an area designated as the 100-year floodplain or within areas susceptible to flooding.

Climate

Chattahoochee County has an average temperature of 65 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures vary from an average 48 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter months, 65 degrees in the spring of the year, 81 in the summer months and 66 degrees Fahrenheit during the fall. The area’s growing season extends from March to November; on average the last spring freeze occurs on March 16 with the first fall freeze occurring on November 13. There is approximately 275 days in the growing season. Average annual rainfall is 52 inches.

Geology/Physical Characteristics

Soil Types

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County lies in the Upper Coastal Plain. It is in the Sand Hill Province commonly referred to as the fall line which separates the Piedmont Plateau and the Coastal Plain. This province consists of gently sloping to steep soils derived from marine sands, loams and clays that were deposited on acid crystal-line and metamorphic rocks.

The soil configuration of Chattahoochee County possesses some constraints and limitations on land uses. The general soil classifications for Chattahoochee County include broad areas that have a distinctive pattern of soils, relief, and drainage. The soil classifications in Chattahoochee County consist of combinations of major soils and minor soils. The soils differ from one place to another in slope, depth, drainage and many other characteristics. It is these various characteristics that affect the management and in return the suitability of the land for development.
Table 12: Chattahoochee County Soil Suitability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soil Classification</th>
<th>Dominant Slope %</th>
<th>Drainage</th>
<th>Permeability</th>
<th>Use and Vegetation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bibb</td>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>Poor Slow Runoff</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>A few areas have been cleared, drained, and used for pasture. Dominantly native woodland of sweet gum, loblolly pine, red maple, water oak, willow oak, green ash, bald cypress, swamp tupelo, and black willow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakeland</td>
<td>0-12</td>
<td>Excessively Drained Slow Runoff</td>
<td>Rapid</td>
<td>Many areas are cleared and used for peanuts, watermelons, peaches, corn, tobacco, and improved pasture. The natural vegetation consists of blackjack oak, turkey oak, post oak; scattered long leaf pine; and an under story of creeping bluestem, sandy bluestem, lopsided Indian grass, hairy panicum, fringe leaf paspalum, and native annual forbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norfolk</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>Well-drained Negligible to Medium Runoff</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Mostly cleared and used for general farm crops. Where cultivated-- corn, cotton, peanuts, tobacco, and soybeans. Where wooded-- pines and mixed hardwoods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagram</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>Well-drained Negligible to Medium Runoff</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Cropland. Where cultivated-- tobacco, cotton, corn, and small grains. Where wooded-- loblolly and longleaf pine, white oak, red oak, turkey oak, and post oak; hickory, holly, and dogwood.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC Staff, 2006

Assessment

Solid waste handling facilities are not allowed in areas of soils that are poorly suited for said activities.
Steep Slopes

Chattahoochee County is characterized by relatively steep rolling hills with broad valleys. Elevations in the county vary from 230 to 695 feet above sea level. As illustrated on the Slope Map, the steeper slopes (greater than 25%) are located along a diagonal stretching from the southwestern portion to the upper northeastern portion of the county. Erosion and sedimentation control measures should be taken on any slopes that are deemed suitable for development in order to minimize adverse impacts.

Steep Slopes are most prevalent in the eastern and southern portions of Chattahoochee County.

Assessment

Solid waste handling facilities are not allowed in areas of steep slopes.

Protected Mountains

There are no State designated Protected Mountains in Chattahoochee County.

Protected Rivers

There are no State designated Protected Rivers in Chattahoochee County.

Coastal Resources

There are no Coastal Resources in Chattahoochee County.

Land Use Consideration

Existing use of land is normally the primary determining factor on how the land will be used in the future. The existing land use pattern is presented in an attached map.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is located in the west section of the State of Georgia. Chattahoochee County is a rural community, possessing large tracts of open land. The county is 251.2 square miles. The land area is 248.8 square miles and less than 1% (.95) of the total land in Chattahoochee County is covered by water. The County contains many natural and scenic assets, which include large forested areas, and notable historic properties.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County has zoning or land use intensity ordinances that control development. The ordinance does not allow for the placement of solid waste handling facilities in neither the unincorporated areas of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, nor the incorporated areas, where more heavily developed and higher density developments exist.

Areas Poorly Suited for Landfills

24
Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Solid Waste Management Plan 2007

All of Chattahoochee County is within an area that the Georgia Department of Natural Resources considers poorly suited for operation of a sanitary landfill. Chattahoochee County lies above a Significant Groundwater Recharge Area (the Cretaceous-Tertiary Aquifer System) or within floodplains. Furthermore, areas of the County have been determined by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to be geotechnically poorly suited for the construction and/or operation of a sanitary landfill or solid waste handling facility.

The existing Fort Benning Landfills are located in areas which are poorly suited, however; these landfills use liners fulfilling the requirements of the Subtitle (D) landfill to avoid groundwater pollution problems.

Chattahoochee County is not a suitable location for operation of a sanitary landfill or solid waste handling facility as a method of solid waste disposal. No solid waste handling facility or sanitary landfill should be allowed that shall jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a critical habitat protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1972.

Air Quality

The current air quality of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County is good. The construction and operation of any solid waste handling facility shall not violate any applicable toxic effluent standard or prohibition under Section-307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or any hazardous air pollutant emission standard under the Federal Clean Air Act.

Endangered Species

There are several endangered and threatened plant and animal species present in Chattahoochee County. Majority of these endangered species are native to floodplain and forested areas in Chattahoochee County.

Some federally recognized endangered animal species include the Indiana bat, the bald eagle, the wood stork and red-cockaded woodpecker. Federally endangered plants include the relict trillium.

Some of the endangered animal species recognized by the State of Georgia include the gopher tortoise, the alligator snapping turtle, and the bluestripe shiner. State recognized endangered plants include the croomio, and the plumleaf azalea.

Projects undertaken in areas known to be habitats to endangered species must be prudent to minimize project impacts on the lives and surroundings of the endangered species.
Procedures for Location of a Solid Waste Handling Facility

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County does not allow a Solid Waste Handling Facility to locate within its jurisdiction. The county has Zoning and Land Use Intensity ordinances that regulate the location of such facilities.

Similar types of industry have not been allowed to locate in Chattahoochee County.

Although Cusseta-Chattahoochee County’s zoning ordinance does not allow for solid waste handling facilities, it is recommended that Cusseta-Chattahoochee County follow the procedures for locating solid waste handling facilities as stated below.

Procedures for Locating Solid Waste Handling Facilities/ Consistency Requirements

Any entity requesting a renewal or issuance of a solid waste handling permit from EPD must demonstrate that the facility or facility expansion is consistent with the local government’s solid waste management plan. Chapter 391-3-4 of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources’ Environmental Protection Division relates to Solid Waste Management in Georgia. Chapters 391-3-4.05 deals specifically with the criteria associated with solid waste handling facilities. In addition to the criteria set forth under DNR’s regulations all future sites must adhere to all city and county ordinances. No proposed facility or facility expansion will be sited in the planning area without a letter from Cusseta-Chattahoochee County stating that the facility is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan, to determine if a proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the Plan, an owner/operator of the facility shall:

A. At least sixty (60) days prior to filing for a solid waste handling permit, or notifying EPD in the case of a solid waste handling facility that is permitted by rule, submit to the local governing authority a written statement documenting the following:

1. How the proposed facility or facility expansion will meet the specific goals and/or needs identified in the SWM Plan, specifically what will be
   a. The impact upon the collection capability within the planning area;
   b. The impact upon disposal capacity identified in the planning area; and
   c. The impact to the waste reduction and recycling efforts within the planning area; and

2. How the proposed facility or facility expansion and its operation will impact the community; specifically what will be
   a. The impact to vehicle traffic and public safety around the proposed facility and throughout the planning area;
b. The impact to the financial viability of the existing solid waste management system within the planning area;

c. The impact to individual and business solid waste management rates;

d. The impact of the proposed facility or facility expansion to other natural or culture resources within the planning area; and

e. The impact of the proposed facility or facility expansion to the current solid waste management infrastructure within the planning area; both public and private.

3. How the owner/operator of the proposed facility (and any subsequent owner/operators if sold) will satisfy the financial assurance provisions of the plan and local ordinance; and

4. That the proper public notification process was followed; and

5. That the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed suitable according to the criteria listed in the plan; and

6. That the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with local zoning ordinances.

B. The governing Authority shall review the “Written Statement of Consistency” and shall determine if the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan. Within thirty (30) days of making their determination the Board shall notify the developer whether or not the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the Plan. If the proposed facility is not consistent with the Plan, the developer may address the inconsistencies and resubmit their request for another review.

Sixty (60) days prior to any permit request, the developer must notify Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, the county must hold at least one public hearing at the expense of the Developer, on the proposed solid waste handling facility site.

A. The Developer shall give adequate notice of the hearing to citizens by:

1. Publishing the notice in the legal organ of the county/city which includes information on the purpose, time and location of the hearing;

2. Informing the Chairman of the County Commission;

3. Posting notices of the certified mail, all of the adjacent landowners to the prospective site; and

4. By posting a sign on the proposed site, to include information on the purpose, time, and location of the hearing.
B. The Developer shall hold the hearing at a time and location convenient to citizens and with accommodation for persons with disabilities to attempt to maximize the participation of interested citizens.

C. In the case where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate, the Developer will provide a qualified interpreter at the public hearing to accommodate the needs of these residents.

D. The Developer will accept comments on the proposed facility from citizens and local government officials for a period of not less than thirty (30) days.

E. The Developer will consider any comments or views of citizens and local government officials received in writing or orally at the public hearing. A summary of the comments or views shall be provided to the County Commission.

Needs and Goals

**NEED:** INSURE THAT ANY PROPOSED SOLID WASTE FACILITY IS LOCATED IN AREAS SUITABLE FOR SUCH DEVELOPMENT.

**GOALS:**

A. Prohibit location of any facility in areas identified as having related land use limitations.

B. Only allow potential facilities in areas with compatible land uses.

C. Identify environmentally sensitive areas not appropriate for solid waste handling facilities.

D. Adopt, implement and enforce policies for the protection of sensitive areas.
Education and Public Involvement

The purpose of this section is to review education and public involvement activities of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County relating to solid waste management. The goal of this element is to inventory and assess these activities and the impact they have on waste disposal and reduction.

Inventory

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County supports the Keep Georgia Beautiful campaign. In addition, the Kasihta Garden Club; a local non-governmental organization, offers gardening programs at the Neighborhood Service Center in an effort to stimulate a love of gardening and pride in the community.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County offers composting demonstrations of proper methods and equipment for home composting. Demonstrations are held at the Recycling Center.

Assessment

Options available for continued solid waste reductions are (1) minimizing the amount of waste generated; (2) reusing materials that would otherwise enter the waste stream; (3) recycling materials; and (4) composting organic material/chipping. The best opportunities for waste reduction in Cusseta-Chattahoochee County include encouraging and implementing recycling programs and composting yard and wood waste.

Activities such as composting should be more vigorously promoted throughout the county. The local school system should implement programs by providing incentives to students and parents who participate. Partnerships with the UGA Extension Services and Columbus State University should be aggressively pursued, and local civic and church organizations should become more involved in waste reduction and recycling functions. With a county so financially burdened, public-private partnerships are the key to establishing an effective waste reduction and public involvement initiative.

Needs and Goals

I. NEED: ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE THE EXPANSION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT THROUGHOUT CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY.

GOALS:
A. Establish a committee to evaluate current public education and involvement programs.

B. Provide information to citizens regarding the location and operation of recycling facilities.

C. Encourage citizen to participate in recycling efforts.

D. Incorporate beautification classes and workshops on home composting and mulching activities offered through the University of Georgia Extension Services.
E. Provide informational packets at governmental offices on activities such as home composting, statewide recycling programs, anti-littering campaigns, and Keep Georgia Beautiful.

F. Encourage local civic groups, churches, and schools to promote and support waste reduction and beautification programs such as Adopt-A-Mile.
## Short Term Work Plan
### Report of Accomplishments 1999-2003
#### Cusseta-Chattahoochee County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project or Activity from Previous Short Term Work Plan (SWTP)</th>
<th>Status of Project or Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Solid Waste Disposal</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County and Cusseta will maintain agreements to assure five year capacity.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County will contract with DPI thru 1999 for disposal in Southern States Landfill in Taylor County.</td>
<td>Currently Underway/On-Going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County will contract with Columbus for Solid Waste Disposal in 2000.</td>
<td>Postponed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>City of Cusseta will take solid waste to Southern States Landfill in Taylor County for disposal.</strong></td>
<td>Not Accomplished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Solid Waste Collection</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County and the City of Cusseta will continue to provide weekly curbside solid waste collection.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New collection vehicles will be provided for Chattahoochee County in Year 2000 (Replace 20 ton Packer/2.5 ton Truck-Wagon Transport).</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Solid Waste Reduction</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County will continue to operate the manned 10 acre County Recycling Center to recycle solid waste.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattahoochee County will continue to provide and develop speakers’ bureau in coordination with the Recycling Committee to educate the public on recycling, composting, and waste reduction methods.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Note:** Uncompleted activities from previous SWTP are marked with an "X".
### 3. Solid Waste Reduction – continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project or Activity from Previous Short Term Work Plan (SWTP)</th>
<th>Status of Project or Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The County Recycling Center will be maintained by the County for Recycling:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Newspapers</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Corrugate Board</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Clear Glass</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Amber Glass</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Mixed Glass</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Ferrous Metals</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Aluminum</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Plastics</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Tires</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Oil</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. White Goods</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Batteries</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backyard composting will continue to be promoted in Chattahoochee County.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A school educational curriculum program developed by Keep America Beautiful Foundation's recycling/environmental curriculum guide will be promoted in the Chattahoochee County educational system.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Christmas tree recycling program will be promoted each January to make wood chips at the landfill/recycling center for use on public grounds.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The County will continue to promote anti-litter and Adopt-A-Mile Programs along major roads in Chattahoochee County.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee contracted with the Columbus Consolidated Government for disposal services on November 23, 2003**
## Short Term Work Plan
### Implementation Strategy
#### Five Year Work Plan 2007-2012
Cusseta-Chattahoochee County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Element</th>
<th>Time Period 2007-2012</th>
<th>Who's Responsible</th>
<th>Estimated Annual Cost</th>
<th>Possible Funding Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Waste Reduction</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase public awareness about solid waste programs and how both volume and cost of solid waste activities can be reduced.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a committee of Department of Public Works personnel, county officials and citizens to analyze the amount of solid waste generated and disposed of on a quarterly basis and to research ways to reduce volume of waste.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incorporate beautification classes and workshops on home composting and mulching activities offered through the University of Georgia Extension Services.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to operate the County's Recycling Center; expand on items that can be recycled locally. (Newspapers, Corrugate Board, Glass, Metals, Aluminum, Clothing, Tire, Oil, White Goods, Toys, Furniture)</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 1. Waste Reduction - continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Element</th>
<th>Time Period 2007-2012</th>
<th>Who's Responsible</th>
<th>Estimated Annual Cost</th>
<th>Possible Funding Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase public awareness about available recycling programs and location of local recycling centers.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct seasonal recycling events and drives (Christmas tree, phone books, etc.)</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain an awareness of state and federal recycling programs and assistance to local government recycling programs and efforts.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage recycling initiatives in the elementary and Middle/High schools (drinks cans, paper, plastic bottles, milk cartons).</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner with the Georgia Extension Services, local school, churches, and civic groups to better educate the public on the benefits of home composting.</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>UGA, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support the establishment of &quot;neighborhood composting sites&quot; in high intensity residential developments.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td></td>
<td>X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage homeowners to engage in home composting.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>UGA, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2. Waste Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Element</th>
<th>Time Period 2007-2012</th>
<th>Who's Responsible</th>
<th>Estimated Annual Cost</th>
<th>Possible Funding Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continue to provide weekly curbside solid waste collection.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Element</td>
<td>Time Period 2007-2012</td>
<td>Who's Responsible</td>
<td>Estimated Annual Cost</td>
<td>Possible Funding Sources</td>
</tr>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>County</td>
<td>State and/or Fed.</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Waste Collection - continued</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a committee of Depart of Public Works personnel, county officials and citizens to examine the efficiency and effectiveness of current collection functions.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain an awareness of state and federal programs to assist in solid waste collection.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinate with the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Sheriff's Department to monitor and investigate illegal dumping and/or littering.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Waste Disposal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage citizens to decrease disposal amounts through recycling and home composting programs.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain agreements to assure five year capacity.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigate reliability of the disposal options prior to entering into a disposal agreement.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain an awareness of state and federal programs relating to solid waste disposal.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Element</td>
<td>Time Period 2007-2012</td>
<td>Who's Responsible</td>
<td>Estimated Annual Cost</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4. Environmental Limitations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Prohibit location of any facility in areas identified as having related land use limitations.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Only allow potential facilities in areas with compatible land uses.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Identify environmentally sensitive areas not appropriate for solid waste handling facilities.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Adopt, implement and enforce policies for the protection of sensitive areas.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Education and Public Involvement</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish a committee to evaluate current public education and involvement programs.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide information to citizens regarding the location and operation of recycling facilities.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage citizens to participate in recycling efforts.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incorporate beautification classes and workshops on home composting and mulching activities offered through the University of Georgia Extension Services.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>UGA, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 5. Education and Public Involvement - continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide informational packets at governmental offices on activities such as home composting, statewide recycling programs, anti-littering campaigns, and Keep Georgia Beautiful.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage local civic groups, churches and schools to promote and support waste reduction and beautification programs such as Adopt-A-Mile.</td>
<td>2007-2012</td>
<td>Cusseta-Chattahoochee County</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The Zoning Ordinance of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County does not allow solid waste handling facilities.
January 24, 2007

Mr. David George
Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
P.O. Box 299
Cusseta, Georgia 31805

Dear Mr. David George,

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by Cusseta-Chattahoochee County from 2007 to 2017. The Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 133-003D(SL). This assurance is based upon Cusseta-Chattahoochee County disposing of approximately 13,500 tons of waste at this facility on an annual basis. (Tonnage estimate based on 2015 projection of yearly waste estimates)

We thank the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County for this business partnership and look forward to providing environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Respectfully,

Jerry White, Controller
South Georgia Operations
Allied Waste Industries
Shannon N. Buckner
Regional Planner
Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center
1428 Second Ave.
PO Box 1908
Columbus, GA 31902-1908

September 18, 2006

Dear Ms. Buckner,

You have requested verification that the county Solid Waste and Recycling Department has adequate collection capability to provide services in the county for the next 10 years.

Our Solid Waste and Recycling Department does have the capability to continue collecting waste and recyclable items over the next 10 years with the expected growth of the county over time. To include new homes, businesses, schools, etc.

Sincerely,

Ed Hanson
Public Works Director
Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Wraps up 2006

Applicant must be able to meet with Zoning Board as necessary.

Salary is Negotiable.

Applications may be picked up at City Hall in Buena Vista. If you have any questions please call our office at 1-(229)-649-7888.

Deadline for all applications is November 3, 2006. The City of Buena Vista is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Chattahoochee TAG field trip

no one! Make this vote count.

Janet Jones,

Buena Vista

Public Notice

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County will hold a public meeting on Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. at the County Planning Commission Office. This meeting will be the first of two public hearings for the update Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The purpose of this meeting is to brief the community on the contents of the draft plan, to provide an opportunity for residents to make suggestions, additions or revisions.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend this hearing and provide input into the SWMP update. Your thoughts and opinions are welcomed and appreciated.

If anyone needs assistance due to handicap or foreign language barriers, please contact the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Clerk at 706-989-3602 before October 16, 2006. For more information, please contact Rick Morris with the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center at 706-256-2910.

Thornton's Fine Touch Detailing

• Full Detailing
• Hand Waxing
• Steam Cleaning
• Speed Buffing
• Removal of Upper Scratches
• Small Tire Repairs
• Basic Tuneups
• Basic Brake Jobs
• A/C Services
• Oil Change and Lube
starting from $26.00-$28.19

24 Hour Towing!

Have a Great Day.
LADY EAGLES:
Continued from Page 7A

* Robin Redding, senior, guard: An experienced player who can do a lot of things offensively and is showing a great deal of leadership.
* Akiel Henry, junior, guard: Has shown dramatic improvement and may be the most improved player on this year’s team.
* Nicole Lemons, junior, post: She is working extremely hard and has a strong desire to be a major contributor to the team both rebounding and scoring.
* Jennifer Whitaker, junior, guard: This propane bunker is exciting to watch.
* Managers: Brandon Gibson, Justin Randall, Broderick Minion, Jedarell Dismuke, and Omar Maxwell.
* Cameraman: Chris Nealy.

Astrion (above/lef) and Chloe (above/right) with bracelets

Chattahoochee students learn about Thanksgiving with special bracelets

Chattahoochee County over the ocean

Public Notice

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County will hold a public meeting on Monday, December 11, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. at the County Planning Commission Office. This meeting will be the second public hearing for the Update Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The purpose of this meeting is to brief the community on the contents of the draft plan, review the Implementation Strategy and the Report of Accomplishments and to provide an opportunity for residents to make suggestions, additions or revisions.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend this hearing and provide input into the SWMP update. Your thoughts and opinions are welcomed and appreciated.

If anyone needs assistance due to handicap or foreign language barriers, please contact the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Planning Commission at 706-989-3421 before Friday, December 8, 2006. For more information, please contact Shannon Buckner with the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center at 706-256-2910.
A Resolution to Transmit

WHEREAS, The Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990 enacted by the Georgia General Assembly mandated that each of Georgia’s counties and cities prepare a Solid Waste Management Plan every ten years; and update the Solid Waste Management Short Term Work Program every five; and

WHEREAS, The Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County has completed an update to the Solid Waste Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County has complied with the Rules of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management (Chapter 110-4-3) including public participation requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Board of Commissioners that the document entitled Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Solid Waste Management Plan, which includes the updated Short Term Work Program may be sent to the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center and the Department of Community Affairs for review and approval.

SO RESOLVED THIS 12th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2006

Larry Dillard, Chairman
Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County

ATTEST:

Janice K. Mueller
(Witness) Secretary to the Board of Commissioners
Adoption Resolution

WHEREAS, The Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County has prepared a Solid Waste Management Plan and completed its Short Term Work Program for the years 2007-2012; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans as established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act; and

WHEREAS, two public hearings were held in conformance with the Minimum Procedural Standards for Solid Waste Management Planning, one prior to the planning process and one at the conclusion of the planning process; and

WHEREAS, by this resolution, the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County certifies that the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center solicited for local, regional and state comments; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Plan was reviewed by the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and found to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Board of Commissioners, acting on behalf of the County, do hereby adopt the approved Solid Waste Management Plan for the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County for the years of 2007-2012.

SO RESOLVED THIS 3rd DAY OF APRIL, 2007

[Signature]
Wade Coleman, Chairman
Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County

ATTEST:

[Signature]
David George, Interim Manager

Seal: