

Solid Waste and Recycling:

Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Planning Unit 2021 Report

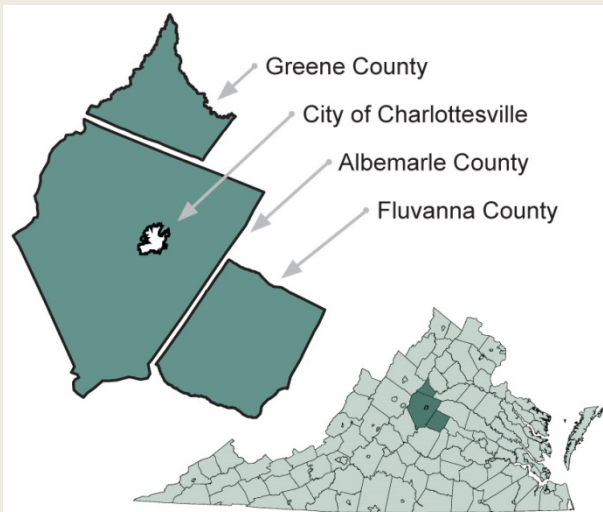




Introduction:

Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Planning Unit

- Albemarle, Charlottesville, Fluvanna and Greene are members of the SWPU.
- Nelson works with Region 2000 SWPU
- Louisa manages their own landfill and reports individually
- Under the State solid waste regulations SWPUs are responsible for solid waste planning and reporting activities within the area they support.



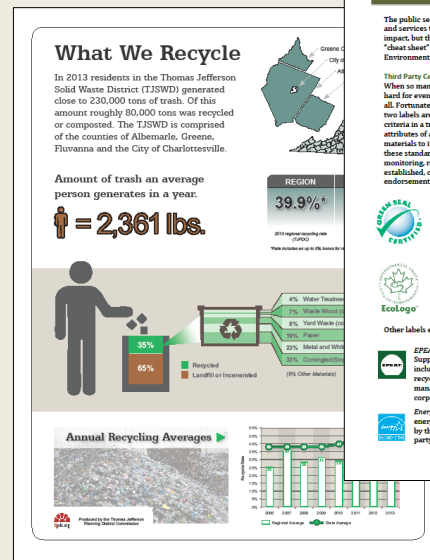
2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Plan Update:

- Representatives from the region's Solid Waste Planning Unit (SWPU) have been meeting since March 2021
- Members include representatives from the City of Charlottesville, the Counties of Albemarle and Fluvanna, and the University of Virginia
- The plan aims to address regional collaboration on how the region reduces, reuses, and recycles (the three R's)*
- The plan also encourages education around the three R's and sought out partners who are experts in composting and reuse to take part in promoting their classes and webinars on the TJPDC homepage*
- The plan is due to VDEQ by mid-October

*Please refer to goal worksheet

Activities of the SWPU:

1. Conducting an annual census of solid waste and recycling activities in the Solid Waste Planning Unit.
 - ☐ Report submitted annually to DEQ
2. Solid waste management plan.
 - ☐ Maintain and update the regional solid waste plan every 5 years
 - ☐ Track progress towards meeting goals laid out in plan
3. Regional coordination and education
 - ☐ Support regional cooperation



Buying Green

A Guide to Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Principles

The public sector, from the federal level down to local jurisdictions, has plans and services that minimize adverse effects to the environment. In doing so, impact, but they use their purchasing power to help generate a local market "cheat sheet" is intended to assist localities, school boards, and other interested parties in incorporating EPP principles into their procurement process.

Third Party Certifiers

When so many advertisements make unfounded "green" claims, it's hard for even the most well-intentioned consumer to sort through it all. Fortunately, there are third party certifiers to help. The following two labels are recommended for a few reasons. They use objective criteria in a transparent process to judge the "greenness" of all attributes of a product over its entire lifecycle, from extraction of raw materials to its fate at the end of its usable life. Compliance with these standards is typically enforced by audits and ongoing monitoring, rather than being self-reported. Finally, they are well established, comprehensive sources with numerous product endorsements to offer.

Green Seal is a non-profit certification organization in operation since 1989. They are used widely by government agencies and other major institutions. Their standards for different product classes, as well as a searchable database of qualified providers, is available on their website: www.greenseal.org

EcoLogo is another certifier that originated in a 1988 program of the Government of Canada. It is currently North America's largest certifier and shares a good reputation with Green Seal. Their process is equally transparent and easy to use. www.ecologo.com

Other labels exist to certify specific product types or a single attribute of a product.

EPEAT is a lifecycle certification for electronics. Supported by the EPA, EPEAT's criteria includes toxics reduction, recycled content and recyclability, product longevity, end-of-life management, energy efficiency, packaging and corporate responsibility.

Energy Star is a self-reporting certification for energy efficiency of products. Standards are set by the EPA and the DOE, but there is no third party certifier for increased transparency.

Solid Waste Management Plan
 September 18, 2011

Produced by:
 Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission
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Logos for various certifiers and organizations are shown at the bottom.

Solid Waste Planning Timeline:

- 1983- First regional solid waste plan is undertaken by TJPDC (Developed in response to VA's solid and hazardous waste management act of 1979)
- 1989- Follow-up plan adopted by all member governments
- 1990- Department of Waste Management publishes regulations for the development of Solid Waste Management Plans
- 1991- TJPDC adopts first plan under the new (1990) regulations for solid waste management plans
- 2004- Updated plan is required due to amendments to the 1990 Solid Waste Regulation
- 2006- Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Planning Units plan is considered final in 2006 (at the time of this update the TJPDC was designated as the "region" for the purposes of solid waste planning and reporting)
- 2011- Plan rewritten and updated (plan must be revisited every 5 years)
- 2016- Revised and update plan submitted to accepted by DEQ
- 2021- 5-year plan update due to DEQ

Recycle Rate Reports Summary:

Locality	2017	2018	2019	2020**
*Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA)	35.6%	45.2%	27.8%	34.3%
Fluvanna	100%	55.1%	~	100%
Greene	29.8%	16.6%	27.2%	11.1%
Regional base rate	25%	25%	25%	25%
DEQ Approved Rate^	26.68%	30.8%	33.8%	***n/a
Statewide Rate	59%	58.7%	59.1%	n/a
Region- Total Recycled Material	61,788	56,029	13,946	76,469
Region- Total MWS Disposed	169,824	180,841	51,391	95,476

~ Fluvanna County did not provide TJPDC with individual numbers for 2010. Fluvanna County data is captured and reflected in the regional totals as it was captured in data reported by regional haulers.

*Albemarle, Charlottesville, and Scottsville are reported together by RSWA

**TJPDC estimates the 2019 tonnages to be approximately 25% underreported, and the actual 2010 regional rate to be underreported due to the onset of the pandemic

*** DEQ is evaluating results

Next Steps:

- Present the 5-year update of the plan in two public webinars
- Incorporate comments and updates from working group and public
- Re-establish the quarterly Regional Solid Waste Committee
- Identify community needs through workshops outreach and community surveys
- Continue to track recycling rates for the annual report
- Redesign and refresh the SWPU recycling page to provide more information for consumers
- Partner with other groups