

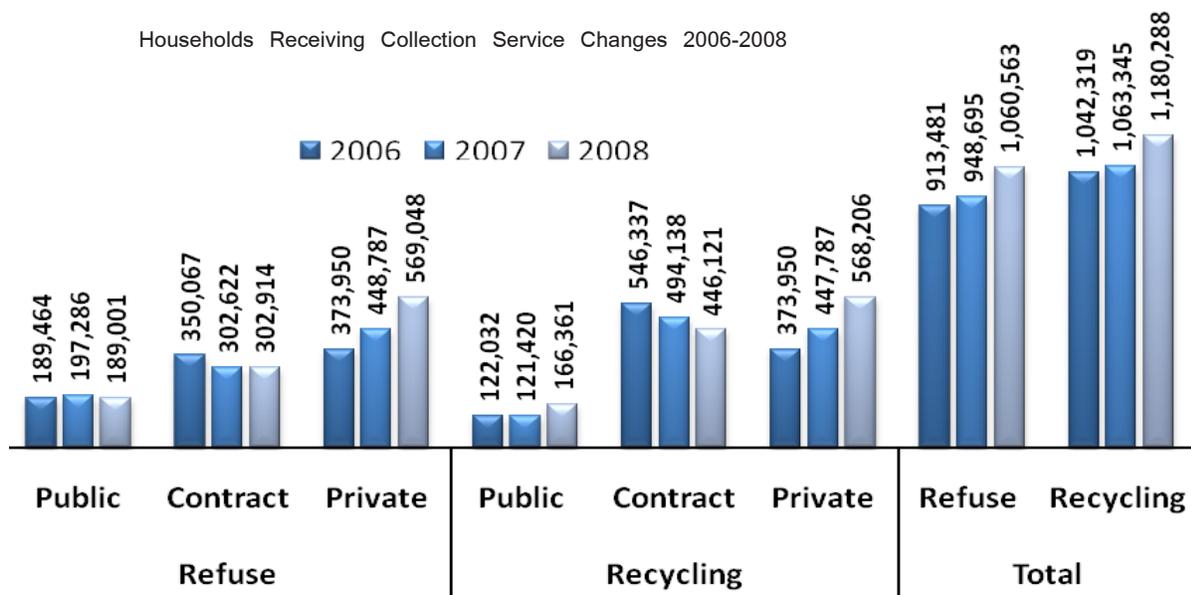


Public Solid Waste Services in the  
Washington Metropolitan Region  
Eleventh Annual Report  
Executive Summary

Northern Virginia continued to improve solid waste services as reported in Northern Virginia Regional Commission's recently completed Public Solid Waste Services in the Washington Metropolitan Region Eleventh Annual Report. The report, a service to the Northern Virginia Waste Management Board, collects data from the region's 15 jurisdictions' local waste management programs.

The 2009 report revealed a high level of recycling and disposal service to over 1 million households in the region. Local programs continue to offer extensive recovery programs that divert electronic, compostable, recyclable and hazardous materials from trash collection. The region generated 3.9 million tons of waste. Of the 3.9 million tons of waste generated regionally, 2.5 million was disposed. Sixty percent of the disposed waste was burned to generate electricity in one of three regional waste-to-energy plants. Northern Virginia residents recycled 1.36 million tons of containers, brush, appliances, metals, and other materials. The recycling rate in 2007 was 38.4 percent, and climbed one percent to 39.4 percent in 2008. Eight local jurisdictions reported recycling rates at or above 40 percent of the total solid waste stream.

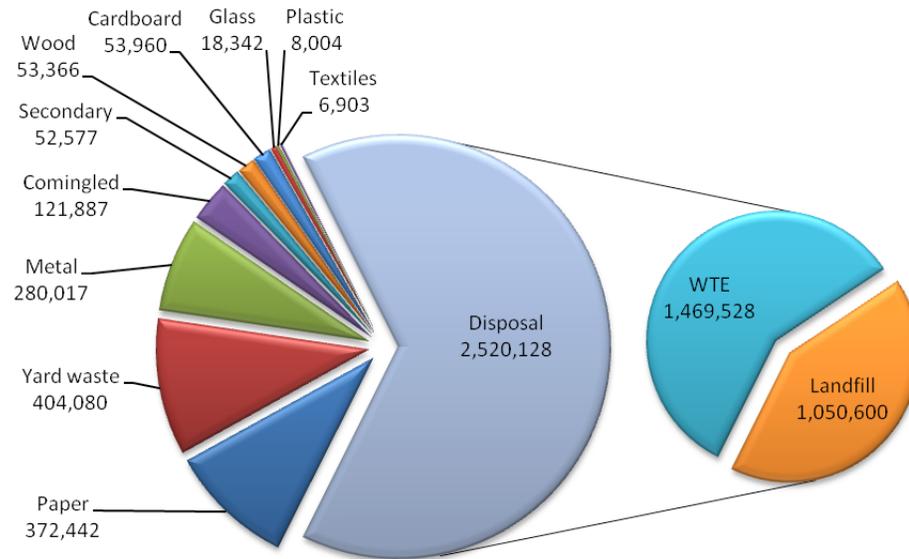
Local programs continue to improve the diversion of waste from landfills and incinerators. Recycling programs have consistently improved collection, and offer more opportunities to reduce hazardous or recyclable materials from entering landfills or incinerators at special events and pick-ups.



In 2008 local solid waste programs collected 3,289 tons of electronics, an increase of over 100 tons from 2007. Over all, electronic, used oil, batteries and other special “secondary material” collection amounts increased by 1.6 percent. Waste programs continued the trend of transition from dual-stream collection to single-stream collection, which does not require the user to separate the materials collected. Three jurisdictions converted to single stream in 2008, therefore raising the number of local jurisdictions using this method to 12 of the 13 offering collection services. The jurisdictions reported similar challenges with low recycling participation among commercial

and multifamily buildings. Though regulations exist, coordinating building owners, managers and tenants remains an impediment to compliance.

Proportion of Materials Recycled and Disposed (Tons) \*Less Prince George’s County



The report is designed for local solid waste managers to help guide upcoming Solid Waste Management Plan updates. It details solid waste management practices and trends in each jurisdiction, and compares the data with respect to state and national trends. NVRC assembles the waste report.

Data is self-reported, voluntary, and provides a qualitative overview of municipal solid waste programs. A subcommittee of solid waste managers steer report development; clarifying dates, requirements, and facilities used by participating governments. This year’s report includes information on program funding, staffing, services, collection systems, waste generated, materials recycled and the waste facilities available to local governments.

EIGHT LOCAL JURISDICTIONS REPORTED RECYCLING RATES AT OR ABOVE 40 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL SOLID WASTE STREAM. IN 2008 LOCAL SOLID WASTE PROGRAMS COLLECTED 3,289 TONS OF ELECTRONICS, WHICH WAS AN INCREASE IN OVER 100 TONS FROM 2007.

The 2009 Participating Jurisdictions

Arlington County	Fairfax County	Loudoun County	Prince William County	City of Fairfax
City of Falls Church	City of Manassas	City of Manassas Park	Town of Herndon	City of Alexandria
Town of Vienna	Town of Leesburg	Prince Georges County	Montgomery County	District of Columbia

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