

INTRODUCTION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this Solid Waste Management Plan is two-fold. One purpose is to provide the citizens of Garrett County with a description of the current and future solid waste management system. The second purpose is to comply with the Maryland regulations. Current regulations (COMAR 26.03.03) governing preparation of this Solid Waste Management Plan require that the Plan address solid waste management needs for at least the succeeding 10 year period. While a 10 year planning horizon is required for regulatory compliance, the Plan is also required to be reviewed and amended as necessary at a minimum frequency of every three years.

This Solid Waste Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with current state planning regulations and covers the planning period from 2014 to 2024. The Plan is divided into five chapters. The first chapter presents the legal and institutional framework, including County goals and objectives. Chapter 2 presents County demographics and land use. Chapter 3 presents estimates for waste generation and characterization, a description of current waste/recyclable collection, disposal, and processing systems, as well as current materials markets. Chapter 4 details the evaluation of current and future alternative programs for solid waste management in the County. Chapter 5 presents the chosen implementation plan for programs and facilities.

PLAN APPROVAL PROCESS

The Plan was prepared by Garrett County Department of Solid Waste and Recycling. A draft version of the Plan was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for its preliminary review. A final draft Plan was then prepared and submitted to the Board of County Commissioners. A public hearing was conducted on December 9, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's meeting room in the Garrett County Courthouse to accept comments.

A final Plan was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on December 9, 2014. The approval resolution is provided on page i-2.

CERTIFICATION

This Plan is certified to be prepared in accordance with state solid waste management regulations (COMAR 26.03.04) and officially adopted by the governing body of the County.

MDE Approval Letter

(to be inserted)