Solid Waste Convenience Center (SWCC) Policies and Procedures

The center operator on duty has the authority and discretion to ensure all users abide with policies, procedures and ordinances related to Solid Waste Convenience Center (SWCC) operations.

The center operator shall be the final arbiter of rules and regulations.

Orange County residents only are eligible to use a Solid Waste Convenience Center for waste disposal. No commercial waste accepted. Vehicle registration, driver’s license or other proof of County residency must be presented when requested by the center operator. If a person is unable to present proof of residency they may be denied access to the SWCC.

Center operators are not required to assist with heavy or bulky materials, though they may choose to do so. Center operators are not to place themselves in risk of injury. Should a resident have heavy or bulky items, the center operator may suggest the resident return to the center with someone else to assist them.

Residents entering the center displaying a handicapped placard will receive assistance from the center operator with the disposal of general waste if the resident requests it.

Orange County is not responsible for accidents that may occur as a result of residents unloading their materials or depositing them at the SWCC.

No scavenging. Materials can only be retrieved from the Salvage Shed. Unauthorized removal of material from any container or recycling trailer may result in criminal prosecution, revocation of site privileges or other actions. Climbing on or into containers to retrieve items is strictly prohibited.

No loitering or solicitation is permitted.

Profane or vulgar language by County employees or residents is not acceptable.

No weapons, concealed or otherwise, are permitted within the center.

Pets must remain within the vehicle.

Children must be closely supervised by parent or other adult.

Solid Waste Convenience Center telephone numbers will not be disclosed to the public. Home telephone numbers of Solid Waste Management staff will not be disclosed to the public.

Complaints, questions and comments should be directed to the Orange County Solid Waste Management administrative office, (919) 968-2885 or email recycling@orangecountync.gov.

Traffic

County-owned collection vehicles have the right of way when working within the SWCC property. Residents must be alert to county-owned collection vehicles.

Speed limit is 3 miles per hour within the facility. Speeding within the facility may result in the revocation of privileges to use the Centers.

Effective June 2, 2008.
Revised July 27, 2009; October 14, 2009; October 3, 2011; December 31, 2012; January 10, 2013; October 1, 2013; July 1, 2014
Load and Visit Limits of Materials Other Than Household Bagged Waste and Traditional Recyclables

- Limit one load per operational week day.
- Limit one per weekend period (Saturday/Sunday).

Loads in pickup trucks with capacity extenders (side boards) must not exceed the top of the original bed level in order to be accepted at a solid waste convenience center.

Acceptable Vehicles and Trailers
- Passenger cars and vans
- Trucks whose volume of materials does not exceed 4.5 cubic yards or 120 cubic feet. For example, a load filling a standard eight (8) foot long, five (5) foot wide and three (3) foot high bed would be the maximum volume of 4.5 cubic yards or 120 cubic feet.
- Trailers, 10’ in length or less whose volume of materials does not exceed 4.5 cubic yards or 120 cubic feet. For example, a load filling a standard eight (8) foot long, five (5) foot wide and three (3) foot high bed would be the maximum volume of 4.5 cubic yards or 120 cubic feet.

Non-Acceptable Vehicles and Trailers
- Trucks whose volume exceeds 4.5 cubic yards or 120 cubic feet.
- Trailers greater than 10’ in length whose volume exceeds 4.5 cubic yards or 120 cubic feet.
- Commercial vehicles transporting waste related to their business

Household Waste Containers (green open top dumpsters or stationary compactors)
The following waste materials or recyclables may NOT be placed in household waste containers (dumpsters or compactors):

- **Aluminum Cans** – Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.
- **Animal parts and carcasses** – call Orange County Landfill, (919) 968-2885 to arrange for disposal.
- **Ashes** – burning garbage is against North Carolina State Law. NO trash or ashes contained in burn barrels are accepted. Wood ashes cannot be brought to the SWCC though they can be spread on soils and used as a soil amendment.
- **Automotive batteries** – Recycle in designated area at SWCC.
- **Corrugated Cardboard** (excluding pizza boxes and wax coated boxes) - Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.
- **Electronics** - Recycle in labeled trailer located at SWCC.
- **Fluorescent lights** – Recycle at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center located at the Orange County Landfill or Walnut Grove Church Road SWCC or home improvement stores accepting these items.
- **Rigid Plastics** - Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.
- **Scrap Metal** - Recycle in designated area at SWCC.
- **Large Appliances** (white goods) - Recycle in designated area at SWCC.
- **Magazines** – Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.
- **Miscellaneous Bulky Waste** - Place in designated area at SWCC. Limit one load per week day. Limit one load per weekend period (Saturday/Sunday).
- **Mixed Paper** – Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.
- **Motor oil and oil filters** - Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.
- **Newspaper** – Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.
- **Plastic bottles** – Recycle in appropriate container located at SWCC.

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• **Yard Waste** - Place in appropriate container located at SWCC. Limit one (1) load per week day. Limit one (1) load per weekend period (Saturday/Sunday).

• **Clean Wood** (non-painted, non-stained, non-treated wood) - Recycle in designated area at SWCC.

• **Tires** - Recycle in designated area at SWCC. Limit 5 passenger and/or pickup truck tires per month of original size or any aftermarket tire that fits on a vehicle with a Gross Vehicle Weight of less than 9000 pounds. A resident of Orange County may deliver up to five over-sized tires (over 18” in diameter) at the Orange County Landfill per month. Residents with more than 5 tires per month may obtain a hauling permit from the State of North Carolina in order to deliver the tires to the Orange County Landfill. For more information, contact (919) 508-8400.

**Orange County Regulated Recyclables Materials Ordinance**
Orange County requires the recycling of corrugated cardboard, clean wood (wood that has not been painted, stained, or treated) and scrap metal. These materials must be recycled separately in the proper containers at the SWCC’s. The County may be subject to financial penalties if regulated recyclable materials are placed in the improper container.

**Clean Wood** includes:
- Scrap lumber (dimensional lumber such as 2x4’s)
- Mill ends
- Oriented Strand Board (OSB)
- Plywood
- Wood concrete forms with low amounts of plaster or concrete
- Regular construction nails, bolts, screws are okay

Clean Wood does **not** include:
- Crossties
- Landscaping timbers
- Painted or stained wood
- Treated wood
- Telephone poles
- Wood with tar or other roofing materials

The above list is considered construction and demolition waste.

**State Regulated Materials**
The State of North Carolina bans yard waste, white goods, oyster shells, motor oil, oil filters, automotive batteries, tires, plastic beverage bottles and aluminum cans from landfill disposal.

**Burning**
Burning of garbage is against North Carolina State Law. Burning of materials that contain clean wood, cardboard, or metal is against County regulations.

**Miscellaneous Bulky Materials**
Materials within this category include carpet and carpet padding, sheetrock, furniture, stained, treated and painted wood, crossties, landscape timbers, large toys, plastic swimming pools, small plastic appliances, plastic fans, mirrors, brooms and quilts/bedspreads. Bed mattresses or box springs are not accepted at Centers. Futon mattresses and sofa couches with mattresses in place are accepted. Limit one load per operational week day. Limit one load per weekend period (Saturday/Sunday).
Shingles
Limit of one (1) one cubic yard bundle (3’ x 3’ x 3’) per week. This is less than ½ pickup load of a compact truck bed.

Barrels
Metal Barrels to be disposed of must be empty and have both ends removed prior to disposal. No trash or ashes contained in burn barrels will be accepted.

All materials brought into the SWCC contained in barrels must be free of restricted materials (see above list). Recyclable materials in barrels must be sorted into proper recycling containers once at the center.

Hazardous Household Waste
SWCCs accept
- Batteries of all types – Automotive batteries, or wet-cell batteries, should be stacked on pallets located at each center.
- Dry cell batteries of all types such as for flashlights, hearing aids, cameras, rechargeable tools and toys can be placed in red, labeled, igloo shaped containers.
- Motor oil and oil filters.
- Antifreeze.
- Kerosene, diesel fuel, gear oil, and transmission fluid are also accepted in the motor oil-recycling tank in amounts of one gallon or less.

No electric motor oil, gasoline, solvents, parts cleaner or mixed gas.
These and all other types of hazardous household waste (HHW) can be brought to the HHW collection facility at the Orange County Landfill on Eubanks Rd. or the Walnut Grove Church Road SWCC.

HHW collection hours at the Eubanks Road Landfill are Monday through Friday from 10 am- 6 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am – 12 noon. HHW collection hours at the Walnut Grove Church Road SWCC are same as center operating hours. Check the County Solid Waste Management web site, http://www.orangecountync.gov/recycling/hhw.asp, the operating hours posted at center or call 919-968-2885.

Bring items in their original containers with original labels intact whenever possible. Do not mix wastes. Do not bring explosives, infectious wastes, medications, or radioactive materials (such as smoke detectors).

Residents bringing HHW while the Landfill is open should be prepared to stop at the scale house first. Weekdays 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm after the Landfill is closed, the gate will be open for residents to go directly to the HHW collection facility only. No other landfill services are available during this time.

The HHW collection is for residents only and for businesses that produce less than 220 pounds of hazardous materials per month. Businesses will be asked to fill out an affidavit to verify they are a conditionally exempt small quantity generator of hazardous waste.

Electronics
Electronic recycling trailers are located at each of the five SWCC’s and at the Orange County Landfill. Any data-carrying electronics such as computers, computer peripherals, televisions, telephones, CD and DVD players, radio and stereo receivers, fax machines and VCR’s are accepted. Televisions and computers are banned from landfills in North Carolina. No scavenging is permitted. Limit two (2) computer systems per visit. Large loads of
electronics should be scheduled in advance and delivered to the HHW collection site at the Eubanks Road Landfill (919-968-2885). Working electronics can be placed in the Salvage Shed for reuse.

**Appliances**
Large appliances shall be placed in the designated roll-off container or designated area. Freezers and refrigerators must be empty. Limit two (2) large appliances per week day or weekend period.

Small appliances which are primarily metal should be recycled with scrap metal. Small appliances, which are primarily plastic, should be disposed of in the electronics trailer or regular waste containers.

**Cooking Oil**
May be recycled at the Walnut Grove Church Road SWCC or Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center located at the Orange County Landfill.

**Food Waste**
May be recycled at the Walnut Grove Church Road SWCC. No bags or other plastics.

**Mattresses**
Only futon mattresses and sofa couches with mattresses in place are accepted at SWCCs.

Mattresses and box springs are not accepted at Centers. Residents may transport mattresses and box springs to the Orange County Landfill and pay associated disposal fees. All loads going to the landfill must be covered with a tarp prior to using any public roads. Town of Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Hillsborough residents should contact their Public Works Department for curbside disposal options.

**Metal**
Items made up of 95% metal or more should be placed in the scrap metal container or designated area. Lawn mowers should be placed within the metal container. The battery and any fuel and oil must be removed prior to disposal.

**Plastic Bags and Film**
May be recycled at the Walnut Grove Church Road SWCC. Plastic film includes grocery bags, retail bags, paper towel and toilet paper plastic wrap, plastic newspaper bags and plastic dry cleaning bags. All plastic bags and film must be clean, dry and empty.

**Yard Waste**
Yard waste is accepted all solid waste convenience centers, with the exception of the Bradshaw Quarry Center. Yard waste must be removed from plastic bags. Only 100% Kraft Paper yard waste bags can be placed in the yard waste container. These bags are available at home improvement stores such as Lowes, Home Depot and Ace Hardware. No paper grocery bags. Limit one (1) load per week day. Limit one load per weekend period (Saturday/Sunday).

**Textiles/Shoes**
Used clothing and shoes are accepted for recycling at the Walnut Grove Convenience Center.

**Salvage Sheds**
Salvage sheds are for Orange County residents only, and to provide them with an opportunity to re-use items in good condition.
Citizens are limited to 10 minutes once per day.

Users must wait for items to be placed into the Salvage Shed and not go to another user’s vehicle and attempt to take items prior to placement in the Shed.

Salvage Sheds are not to be used for scrap metal recovery, and disassembly of items for scrap metal is not allowed. Center Operator has the authority to prohibit users from taking items if scrap metal recovery is suspected.

Only items in good condition may be placed within the Shed, with the following exceptions:
No mattresses or sleeper couches with mattress still in place allowed.
No clothing. Residents are encouraged to take used but usable clothing to local Thrift Shops or to utilize the used clothing/shoes receptacle at the Walnut Grove Church Road SWCC.
No broken glass, mirrors, or lumber.
No toilets. Residents are encouraged to utilize the Habitat for Humanity ReStore located at 5501 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd. in Durham (919-403-8668).
No hazardous household waste.
No building materials, with the exception below *

*Walnut Grove Church Road Center salvage shed accepts dimensional lumber and plywood or OSB. Dimensional lumber refers to the wood used in construction the wall, floor and roof framing of a house. Pieces must be a minimum of 4 feet long (as free of nails/fasteners as possible; no rotten, painted or stained wood; plywood or OSB must be minimum 3 feet by 2 feet.

**Center Operator has the authority to deem what is considered an acceptable item for the Shed.**