

2007 AMENDMENTS TO  
THE 2000 UPDATE OF THE  
ST. CLAIR COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

July 2007 – Municipal Approval

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

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**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:**

1. What is a solid waste plan?

*In accordance with the State of Michigan's Solid Waste Management Act (Part 115) every county in the State of Michigan is required to have a management Plan to assure that all the non-hazardous solid waste generated in the county is collected and recovered, processed, or disposed of for a ten-year period at facilities which comply with state laws and rules.*

2. How often are solid waste plans updated?

*Plans are to be updated every five years.*

3. How does a solid waste plan affect me as a citizen?

*While solid waste plans deal directly with the collection, recovery, processing or disposal of solid waste they also address the issues of recycling, composting, inter-county waste flow and household hazardous materials collection.*

4. How does a solid waste plan affect my community?

*The Plan must identify specific disposal sites with capacity for all the waste in the county needing disposal for at least five years. Additionally, if specific sites cannot be identified for the remainder of the ten-year planning period, the Plan update must include specific criteria that will guarantee siting of necessary solid waste disposal areas for the subsequent ten-year period.*

5. What are the proposed amendments to the 2000 Update of the St. Clair County Solid Waste Management Plan?

*Currently the St. Clair County Solid Waste Management Plan does not authorize the import of solid waste into St. Clair County (with a few minor exceptions). In order to allow for septage hauled from adjacent counties to the Septage Bioreactor Project at Smiths Creek Landfill, the Solid Waste Management Plan must explicitly authorize the import of this waste (as a special waste) for use as part of the treatment process of the Bioreactor Project at Smiths Creek Landfill. Furthermore, any authorizations for septage importation provided for in this plan amendment, have special conditions attached which clearly state that any imported septage is limited to disposal at the Research, Development and Demonstration Bioreactor Project established at Smiths Creek Landfill.*