

SWAC Summary

January 8, 2009

Present: Janet O'Connor, Wendy Ervin, Vicki Rice, Rik Fredrickson, Don Stacy, Rose Swier, David Baker

Updates: Recycling for televisions, computers & monitors as well as laptops begins this month, and has been tested by the Chair. The topic was discussed further later in the meeting.

Winter weather has created some problems with the garbage system. Pickups were missed, sites were closed, and export containers were scarce as the rail yard and rail itself experienced flooding and mudslides.

The topic of leachate removal from export containers was brought up for consideration, as garbage is charged by weight and things everywhere were very wet.

The Ecology grant for Alternatives to Burning will allow the County to purchase a roll off truck, which could be available in February.

Rose mentioned that she was a department of one, due to budget cuts.

Also victim to budget cuts, the bluebox recycling program will be scaled back in 2009.

On the plus side, the curbside ordinance was passed by the Board; curbside recycling will be available to about half the County in 2009, with everyone having access by 2011.

The second hand market topic was discussed in detail. This idea involves networking the various thrift stores, antique dealers and repair shops to promote a tourist destination around the reuse concept.

One of the reusable items mentioned was electronics, leading into a discussion of the State plan to recover TVs and computers. In the first two weeks of the program, 1.4 million pounds of "ewaste" was collected in Washington. Shelton has two collection points: Goodwill and Wilson's Recycling. A handout will be available for next meeting with the locations and hours of operation, as well as more details about the program.

Hazardous Waste Plan was discussed. It was recommended that at least one workshop be scheduled for those who wish to participate. Members would look at a draft if available prior to the meeting. Table of contents and introduction seem fine.

Topics for next meeting include: ReStore-Second hand "Market" and the Hazardous Waste Plan, as well as an update on the bluebox program for the County and the updated collection program in the City.

The Chair will not be in attendance in February.

Next meeting will be February 12th at 6 PM, Building 1, Commissioners Chambers