

SWAC Summary

July 9, 2009

Quorum present: Janet O'Connor, Wendy Ervin, Scott Wilson, Rik Fredrickson, Don Stacy, David Baker

Updates: There was a workshop for the Coordinated Prevention Grants involving the source of funds, new guidelines and requirements and billing and application processes. This training was provided by the Department of Ecology, the agency which distributes funding to local governments to support new and existing waste reduction and recycling efforts.

There was some discussion about biofuels, and how various technologies could be successfully implemented locally. Ideas included partnering with the PUD, bacteria to convert waste to fuel and digesters.

There was also discussion about property clean ups and incentive strategies.

Could some form of voucher be granted to individuals who use proper disposal, specifically for hazardous wastes, appliances or tires? The PUD is offering credits for proper disposal of refrigerators, for example. Could the County offer a credit on tax assessments?

The topic of tires was explored, with the regulations and status of grants to be identified by next meeting.

Hazardous Waste Plan (in draft form) will be available for review in an upcoming meeting. At that time, the next subcommittee meeting will be set to try and finalize the documents for Ecology review.

Field trips will be held in lieu of the August meeting. A tour of the Mason County Wood recyclers on Johns Prairie will precede a tour of Wilson Recycling. The committee will meet at the wood recycling facility at 4 PM.

County Recycling has been a hot topic in the community. Residents who subscribe to garbage collection services received notification this week about the addition of recycling collection and the associated rate. Many people are excited, but many are angry. The details of the program were reviewed, along with the fate of the ordinance, which is up for Public Hearing next week to consider amendments. The proposed amendments are not related to rates set by the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

Next meeting will be on September 10, 2009 in Building 1 at 6:00 PM