

## SWAC Summary

February 10, 2011

**Present:** Vicki Rice, Scott Wilson, Thai Batchelor, Sunny Richwald, Wendy Ervin, Rik Fredrickson, David Thomas, Rick Hlavka, Mike Drumright, Pat Carpenter, Sheena Kaas, Jason Dose, David Baker

**Minutes** from January approved

**Updates:** The glass presentation will be rescheduled to next month. However, since the presenter for the March meeting was able to shuffle her schedule, she will present this evening. Mr. Dose passed out copies of the City of Shelton's new flyer on recycling. It reflects changes in processing and material acceptance. The flyer will be mailed out to all City residents and is available on line. Wilson Recycling will begin accepting film/sheet plastics from the public.

**Product Stewardship:** Terri Thomas, with Thurston County Solid Waste and the Northwest Product Stewardship Council, began with an overview of the topic. As supported in the Beyond Waste Plan, product stewardship places the responsibility for end of life management on producers. This responsibility is currently provided by and funded by local government. By shifting the responsibility, manufacturers redesign their products for recycling and recovery, instead of disposal. This model is common in 28 other countries, and is gaining momentum here in the US. For example, more than 11 states have some take-back legislation today, up from only 3 five years ago. Successful examples already in place include auto batteries and the recent e-waste programs. Ms. Thomas provided handouts and a slideshow with detailed information. The current product category for a take back strategy is pharmaceuticals. Legislation is being considered in the next weeks in the House and Senate.

**Waste Characterization:** Rick Hlavka with Green Solutions provided handouts and detailed information about the topic. Mr. Hlavka has done this type of data gathering and analysis for more than 15 years, and is one of, if not the, leading experts in Washington. In summary, the scientific approach to waste stream analysis can be used to measure baselines, trends, evaluate programs, and recommend strategies for planning purposes and program development. This data is gathered by cities, counties, states and on a national level for these reasons. The evaluation process uses random sampling techniques from different sectors to provide the most comprehensive and unbiased results. Additional methodology includes seasonal variation and numerous samples from each type of generator. While certain variables (urban/rural, East/West, rich/poor) account for variations, overall residential and business generation is fairly consistent by sector.

**Next meeting will be March 10, 2011 in Building One at 6 PM**