

Memorandum

To: Board of Commissioners
 From: Amanda Kain, Utilities and Engineering
 Date: December 30, 2010
 Subject: Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics One-Day Collection Report

Date of Event: November 6th, 2010
 Time of Event: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 Location of Event: LP Frans Stadium, Hickory

Number of vehicles participating: 792
 Number of households represented: 1,276

Expenses

HHW collection: \$34,485.64
 Electronic collection: \$ 00.00
 Advertising: \$ 2,111.24
 Misc: \$ 239.34
Total Expenses: \$36,836.22

Revenue (12,500.00)

Funding from GDS
 GDS provides \$25,000 annually,
 \$12,500 for each event.

Cost for Catawba County

Solid Waste Enterprise: \$24,336.22

In-kind services provided by City of Hickory
 Manpower: \$ 1,232.00
 Equipment: \$ 392.00
 Facility and parking lot rental: \$ 54.00
 Misc: \$ 125.00
 Total: \$ 1,803.00

(No County taxes were employed in this event)



Cost Comparison for Catawba County Solid Waste Enterprise

Fall 10	Spring 10	Fall 09	Spring 09	Fall 08	Spring 08
\$24,336.22	\$28,369.97	\$29,337.11	\$24,345.18	\$17,298.34	\$23,952.03

Average cost
 \$24,606.48

Staff/Volunteers:

City of Hickory staff

Dave Hardin, Catawba County

Amanda Kain, Catawba County

To provide citizens with a means to dispose of general household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronics, Catawba County recently held its 19th one-day collection event. It was the 8th combined event together with the City of Hickory.

The HHW collection accepts materials such as oil and latex paint, aerosols, used motor oil, antifreeze, mercury, etc. The electronics collection includes computers/laptops, keyboards, printers, televisions, telephones, fax machines, copiers, stereo equipment, VCR's, camcorders, etc. County and City staff implemented the event. Garbage Disposal Service (GDS) provides bi-annual funding for the event as outlined in the current Solid Waste Management Franchise agreement, in the amount of \$12,500.00.

The City of Hickory provided roll off dumpsters for cardboard and non-recyclable solid waste that is a by-product of the event.

This event was very successful with 792 vehicles passing through the drive-up collection representing 1,276 households. The cost to Catawba County Solid Waste was \$24,336.22. The cost of the event is driven by the type and quantity of waste handled during the event. The amount of HHW collected by weight increased by 6.7% over the 2010 spring event held at the County Government Center, and increased by 9.1% over the 2009 fall event held at LP Frans Stadium. We have experienced continued growth in HHW collected by weight per event since fall of 2008. We have removed 1,298,559 pounds of HHW from our waste stream since 2000.

The parking area of the LP Frans Stadium in Hickory was utilized again this year providing ample space for another well-organized event which included two collection lanes to better serve the citizens. Participants had little to no wait time with traffic running smoothly through the area.

How was the event promoted?

Dave Hardin, Public Information Officer advertised the fall event by placing ads in the Newton Observer News Enterprise, Hickory Daily Record, Charlotte Observer-Catawba Valley Neighbors, News at Norman, WNNC Radio, and WHKY Radio and TV. Along with internal notifications by e-mail and publication in the "Spirit" newsletter, e-newsletter, and brochures were distributed to the County Libraries, county buildings, inter-departments, and both Permit Center locations. Mandy Pitts, City of Hickory Public Information Officer advertised the event through the City Council Circular newsletter and utility bills. Also, local municipalities were given information about the event to distribute throughout their buildings and in newsletters.

What kind of waste was collected?**General Household Hazardous Waste**

Contractor: Clean Harbors, Reidsville, NC

Total HHW collected = 49,706 lbs

Pesticide Waste

Contractor: NC Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services

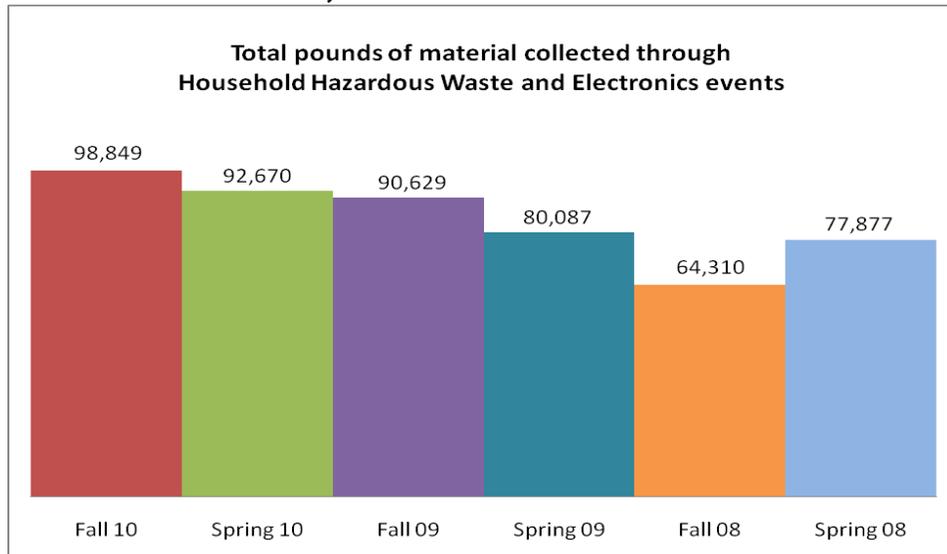
Total Pesticides collected = 875 lbs

Electronics and Computer Waste

Contractor: eCycleSecure, Charlotte, NC

Total electronic waste collected = 48,268 lbs

Grand total collected = 98,849 lbs

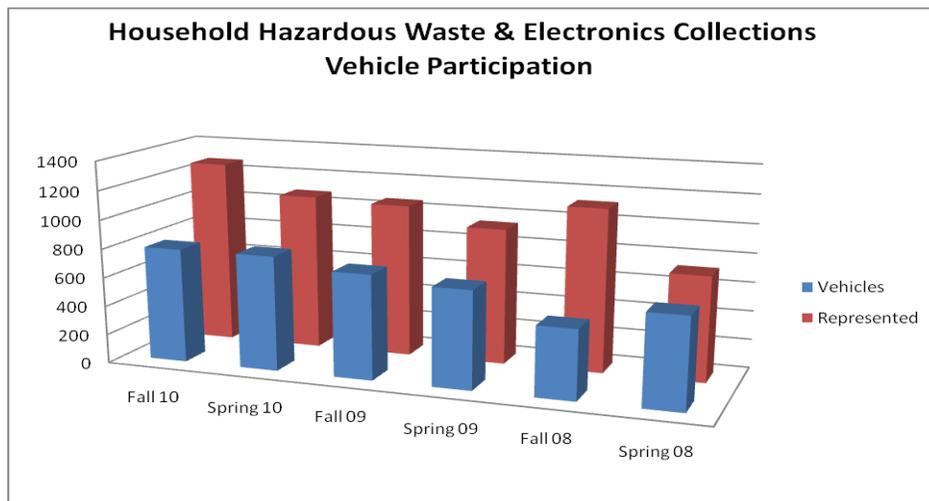


Materials collected at no cost to Catawba County:

- ✓ Pesticides - NC Department of Agriculture
- ✓ Used oil – Clean Harbors
- ✓ All Electronic Waste - eCycleSecure

What about this year's survey?

Citizens were surveyed as they proceeded through the disposal line indicating once again that the newspaper was the most effective means of advertising by reaching 481 participants followed by newsletters, then website. One of the survey questions was an attempt to locate the participants' household to learn if all areas of the County were represented. Responses indicated that 532 participants were from Hickory, 110 from Conover, 59 from Newton, 30 from Claremont and 16 from Maiden. The remaining 45 participants were well spread throughout the County. Survey responses are used for future County Solid Waste planning.



Where Do We Go After The Event?

Having two events at different locations has proven to be an economical and feasible method of household hazardous waste collection, disposal and reduction. While the County has an obligation to be frugal with funds, we are also charged with being good stewards of the environment. Indeed, the County has made an attempt to fulfill this role. The County currently provides recycling for cell phones and ink jet cartridges at all five Solidwaste Convenience Centers, used motor oil and filters at four Centers, used anti-freeze collection at Bethany Church Rd and Blackburn Centers and paint collection at the Blackburn Center, all free of charge. The County has, partnered and will continue to partner, with the State to dispose of empty pesticide containers free of charge for county farmers at our Bethany Church Rd, Blackburn, and Oxford Solidwaste Convenience Centers. The City of Hickory Solid Waste Transfer Station also accepts used motor oil and antifreeze at no charge throughout the year.

Catawba County residents and businesses have access to ReConnect, a computer recycling program that is offered by Goodwill Industries and Dell Computers in partnership with the County. Catawba County has four Goodwill drop off locations that will accept unwanted computers and computer related materials from residents and businesses, free of charge.

We will continue to utilize various outlets for waste reduction and education through the waste reduction coordinator/educator's outreach to schools, businesses and general public, local and state committees, websites, etc.

In closing, staff recommends continuing the two events next year, one in the spring at the Government Center and one in the fall within the City of Hickory.

Please feel free to contact me at 828-465-8217 with any specific questions you have concerning HHW or electronics collection recommendations.

