



Phone: (352) 374-5245

Solid Waste and Resource Recovery

The Alachua County Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department provides a variety of solid waste management services, including receiving, collecting and transporting solid waste; and recycling and various methods of promoting waste reduction. The goal of the Department is to transition to a resource recovery based facility as the focus of the business model. The Department also provides disaster debris management in the event of a natural or man-made disaster in Alachua County.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Alachua County Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department is to provide clean, efficient, safe, cost-effective and environmentally sound management of solid waste resources in Alachua County.

VISION STATEMENT

Focus on transitioning the current disposal and transfer system to a resource recovery based system to maximize the efficient and cost effective use of our resources. With a Department focus to "Strive for 75% Recycling", the Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department will identify, develop and seek to implement and utilize new and existing system technologies while developing new public/private partnerships and maximizing current ones, to accomplish this goal.

The Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department will:

- Be a benchmark leader in efficient, cost effective and integrated resource recovery
- Use the latest, viable and cost-effective technology in the industry
- Be recognized locally and nationally as a model for programs and customer service
- Be networked with other providers of resource recovery

Services Provided by the Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department

Alachua County is ranked #7 in Traditional Recycling for the State of Florida by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

For 2016, staff will continue analyzing our solid waste system to develop a pro forma to evaluate technologies applicable to our industry, to recommend to our BoCC methodologies for increased resource recovery. Additionally, based on BoCC recommendations for 2014, a final development plan & construction for transforming the current Leveda Brown transfer station to a mixed waste processing facility will begin. This comes from a recommendation by the BoCC to obtain legislative flow control of the solid waste generated in Alachua County.

Within the Solid Waste and Resource Recovery are the following programs:

LEVEDA BROWN ENVIRONMENTAL PARK AND TRANSFER STATION (LBEP)



5115 N.E. 63rd AVENUE, GAINESVILLE, Florida 32609

(352) 334 – 0172



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The Leveda Brown Environmental Park and Transfer Station (LBEP) officially opened in January 1999 & is the hub of the solid waste management system in Alachua County. This facility is responsible for the safe and efficient management of all municipal solid waste generated within Alachua County. The facility also hosts on site, the Alachua County Environmental Protection Hazardous Waste Facility and the Alachua County Materials Recovery Facility. There are various recycling opportunities for many commodities in our community as well as educational tours. Waste disposed at the facility is screened and then loaded into long haul trailers to be disposed of at the New River Landfill which is located 35 miles north in Raiford, Union County. Alachua County maintains an inter-local agreement for disposal at the New River Solid Waste Association through 2016. Approximately 500-600 tons per day (163,000 tons per year) of household & commercial waste generated in Alachua County is hauled to the New River Landfill.

The Leveda Brown Environmental Park and Transfer Station provide the following services:

- Operates a solid waste transfer station in accordance with Federal, State and Local regulations
- Screens waste for prohibited items prior to transporting the waste to the New River Regional Landfill for disposal
- Recycles vegetative wood waste, pallets, waste tires, scrap metal, clothing, and appliances
 - Approximately 750 tons of tires are collected and hauled off site to be recycled each year
 - Recycled tires are made into rubber mulch and asphalt additives



- Provides Household Hazardous Waste management through the Household Hazardous Waste Center operated by the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department (EPD)
 - Household Hazardous Waste Facility, under the operation of the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department, opened at the end of 1999
 - Since May 2009, EPD has operated a new 11 kilowatt Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System on the roof of Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HWCC)
 - 2nd Solar PV system was added to Alachua County's renewable power generation inventory
 - Generates on average 1415 kWh per month of electricity from 54 panels



- Poisons, flammable liquids, corrosives, used motor oil and filters, brake fluid, transmission fluid, automotive batteries, antifreeze, stale gas, paints and other surface coatings, aerosol containers, dry cell batteries, fluorescent lamps, end of life electronics (E-Scrap or E-Waste), un-repairable or obsolete TV's, computers, computer monitors, stereo equipment and VCR's



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Cleaners, pool and
spa chemicals



Garden chemicals like
pesticides, fertilizers



Fluorescent light bulbs,
batteries



Gasoline, used motor
oil and antifreeze



Butane, propane, gas



Oil based paints,
stains, strippers



- Address: 5125 N.E. 63rd Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32609
2 miles north of N.E. 39th Avenue, on the East side of N.E. Waldo Rd (State Road 24)
- Hours: Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m. – noon
- Phone: (352) 334 – 0440
- Alachua County began operating the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in January 2015



- The MRF is a 22,000 square feet recycling facility for the community
- Alachua County recycles 54% of its waste. That's one of the highest recycling rates in the entire State of Florida!
- The facility cost \$1.1 million to construct and houses equipment for sorting the materials from the Big Blue and Big Orange bin Curbside Collection Program, Rural Collection Centers, Gilchrist County and Commercial Recycling





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▪ Big Blue



- ❑ Plastic Bottles & Jars (*yogurt cups & butter tubs*)
- ❑ Metal Cans, including aerosol cans (***Empty first please!***)
- ❑ Glass Bottles & Jars
- ❑ Beverage cartons (*New item*)

▪ Big Orange



- ❑ Brown Paper Bags & Newspapers
- ❑ Magazines, Catalogs, Telephone Books
- ❑ Corrugated Cardboard & Pasteboard (*NO larger than 3X3*)
- ❑ Office Paper & Junk Mail
- ❑ Paperback books, workbooks & soft-back textbooks (*New item*)
- Address: 5121 N.E. 63rd Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32609
2 miles north of N.E. 39th Avenue, on the East side of N.E. Waldo Rd (State Road 24)
- Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Phone: (352) 548 – 1341
- Contracts for wood waste to be ground into mulch, & then the mulch is given away **FREE** to Alachua County citizens



- More than 1,000 tons of tree debris and pallets are chipped into mulch and given free to Alachua County residents each year
- Alachua County citizens are allowed as much mulch as is available at the time of their request on a first-come first-serve basis. *****Citizens must load their own mulch*****
 - Phone: (352) 334 – 0172
- Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) does offer delivery of recycled wood chips
 - Visit GRU Wood Chip Recycling Program for more information





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- Maintains 25 kilowatt Solar Array and feed-in-tariff
 - The solar array at the Leveda Brown Environmental Park became operational on March 3, 2009
 - This solar array was the 1st array to be part of GRU Feed-in Tariff program
 - Expected energy output of the array is 150 kilowatts per day
 - This represents 15% of the total energy usage of the Transfer Station



- Environmentally sound disposal sites for rural residents to drop off solid waste, recycling & Household Hazardous Waste
 - Address: 5115 N.E. 63rd Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32609
2 miles north of N.E. 39th Avenue, on the East side of N.E. Waldo Rd (State Road 24)
 - Hours: Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 - Phone: (352) 334 – 0172
- Prevents Household Hazardous Waste from being disposed in an unsafe manner
- The Environmental Park offers **FREE** tours to individuals and community groups



WASTE COLLECTION

Waste Collection staff manages the curbside collection contract, provides enforcement for compliance to the curbside contract & manages and/or assists other departments with non-ad valorem assessments. Citizens living within the Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) are part of a universal curbside collection program. These residents have volume based curbside collection for solid waste with the option of participating in curbside recycling & yard waste recycling. The residential collection contract is bid jointly with the City of Gainesville. This contract directs the flow of the residential waste stream to the Leveda Brown Environmental Park & Transfer Station.





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Residents residing outside of the MSBU may either subscribe for garbage and recycling collection through the contracted hauler or use one of the five rural recycling and solid waste collection centers. All residents of the County may use the collection centers. Non-county residents may also use the centers but they must purchase a non-resident permit.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide courteous and effective waste collection services to citizens of Alachua County, and to help those citizens manage and reduce their household waste.

The Office of Waste Collection provides the following services:

- Special Assessments
 - Residential Curbside Collection
 - Cart sizes available: mini-can, 35 gallon, 64 gallon or 96 gallon
 - Special Pickup for “Bulk Items”
 - Couches, tables, appliances
 - Rural Collection Centers
 - **NOTICE** – Construction & demolition debris will no longer be accepted at the Rural Collection Centers or the Leveda Brown Environmental Park
 - Hours: Monday – Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday – Saturday, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
CLOSED: Wednesdays & Thursdays
 - Locations:
 - **Alachua-High Springs** 16929 N.W. U.S. Hwy 441, High Springs, FL 32643
Phone: (386) 454 – 2563 **Midway between Alachua & High Springs, on U.S. 441*
 - **Archer** 19401 S.W. Archer Road, Archer, FL 32618
Phone: (352) 495 – 3257 **2 miles West of Archer on State Rd 24 (Archer Rd)*
 - **Fairbanks** 9920 N.E. Waldo Road, Gainesville, FL 32609
Phone: (352) 334 – 3873 **6 miles North of Gainesville on State Rd 24 (Waldo Rd)*
 - **North Central Rural** 10714 N State Road 121, Gainesville, FL 32653
Phone: (352) 334 – 3875 **2 miles North of FL Highway Patrol Station on State Rd 121 N*
 - **Phifer** 11700 S.E. Hawthorne Road, Gainesville, FL 32640
Phone: (352) 334 – 3874 **0.2 miles East of County Rd 234, on State Rd 20 (Hawthorne Rd)*
 - Solid Waste Management
 - Special paving projects
 - Neighborhood preservation & enhancement
- Hours: Monday – Thursday 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Phone: (352) 338 – 3233
- Email: wastecollection@alachuacounty.us

WASTE ALTERNATIVES

Waste Alternatives manages a variety of programs for the division related to source reduction and recycling. The Office of Waste Alternatives focuses on public education and public relations for the division including a school board approved curriculum for preK-12, a multi-media education and promotions campaign, tours of waste management facilities and general education workshops and events.

Embrace Zero Waste



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Waste Alternatives manages mandatory commercial recycling. Mandatory commercial recycling regulated through the Alachua County Code of Ordinances requires all businesses, including commercially collected residential properties (multi-family housing) to offer and maintain recycling programs. Additionally, Waste Alternatives manages special events recycling, parks recycling, the County office recycling program, Tools for Schools and the Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department websites.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide quality waste alternatives public education and services to our community in Alachua County.

The Office of Waste Alternatives provides the following services:

- Monitors & reports to Florida Department of Environmental Protection on recycling & waste reduction in Alachua County, as required by Chapter 403, Florida Statutes & Florida Administrative Code, Chapter 62-770
- Educates the community on ways to increase recycling, reduce disposal costs & save landfill space, as required by the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan
 - Waste Alternatives offers a complimentary waste survey to help businesses learn how to produce less waste & possibly save money on their solid waste disposal costs
- Instills in the next generation, through educational programs, a strong ethic for preserving natural resources through recycling, waste reduction, & reuse
- Manages a web-based Alachua Exchange program, at www.alachuaexchange.com, facilitates reuse of surplus materials & products that would otherwise be thrown away
 - Donate used goods
 - Find something you need
 - Help the environment in the process
- Manages the Tools for Schools program, a reusable resource center for teachers, providing the opportunity for businesses, institutions, & individuals to donate surplus materials & overstocked supplies to public school teachers



TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS - a reusable resource center where teachers can shop for free!



MISSION STATEMENT: *Tools for Schools serves students and teachers in Alachua County by providing a free store for classroom supplies and creative learning materials.*

- Tools for Schools is a partnership of the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners & the Alachua County Public Schools that offers a place for teachers to shop for learning materials at no cost
 - One goal is to help alleviate some economic pressure teachers face every school year
 - These materials not only benefit the teachers but the students, parents, businesses, our community and the environment
 - A lack of materials infringes upon a student's potential for learning & creativity



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- Tools for Schools aims to educate the community in recognizing the value of these materials & getting them into Alachua County Classrooms
 - Every year, in Alachua County, we throw away more than 160,000 tons of garbage
- Tools for Schools is part of a national network of Reusable Resource Centers
 - As a member of the Reusable Resources Association, Inc., our staff received training to establish & maintain our center
 - We are able to offer workshops for teachers to show them how to get the most out of the supplies
- Visit our website for information on the program, locations, volunteering or needed supplies
 - www.ToolsForSchools.alachua.fl.us
- Address: 1147 S.E. 7th Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32641
- Hours: Wednesday – Thursday 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
 - Summer Break Hours: Wednesday ONLY 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Phone: (352) 374 – 5213
- Encourages innovations in reuse and recycling through the annual Trashformations Art Competition for high school and college students



- Trashformations 2016 will be the 18th annual student recycled art competition sponsored by Alachua County Board of County Commissioners, Office of Waste Alternatives and the Florida Museum of Natural History
 - Competition Location: Museum of Natural History
 - Date/Time: Friday, November 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.
 - For details, visit www.trashformations.alachuacounty.us
- Promotes special events to remind the public of the value of alternatives to waste disposal, including distribution of compost bins, telephone book recycling, waste tire recycling & various public information forums
- In 1989, Waste Watchers public education campaign began



- Thousands of people are reached through mass media, FREE school, community and commercial presentations, and personal services such as providing compost bins
- Help students, residents and business people of Alachua County, Florida understand the need to reTHINK, reduce, reuse and recycle
- Phone: (352) 374 – 5213
- www.Thewastewatcher.com





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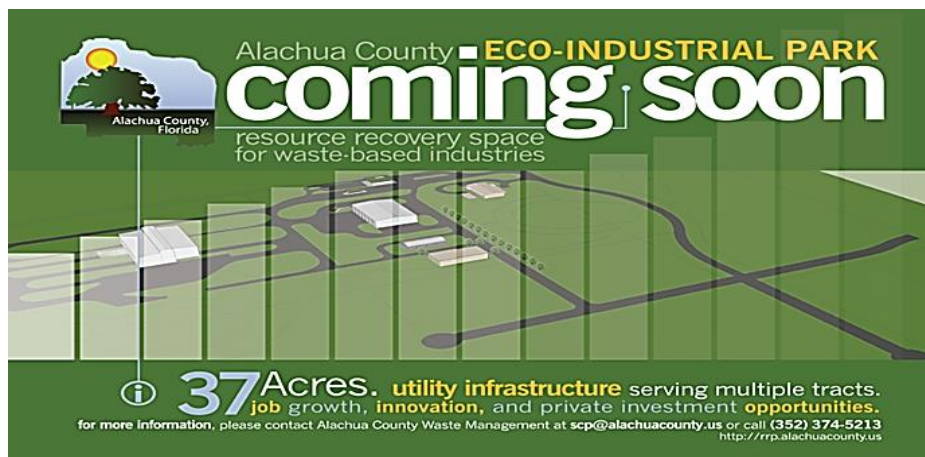
- Strive for 75



- In 2010, Florida Statute 403.7032, creating the 75% recycling goal for the State of Florida, went into effect
 - Each County must calculate and report their recycling rate to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by April 1 each year
 - Recycling rate is based on the percentage of municipal solid waste created in the County which is diverted from a waste disposal facility for the purpose of recycling
 - The goal is to achieve 75% recycling by the year 2020 and the following benchmarks were set to help achieve this goal:
 - December 31, 2012 – 40% recycling rate **2015 rate achieved - 61%!**
 - December 31, 2014 – 50% recycling rate
 - December 31, 2016 – 60% recycling rate
 - December 31, 2018 – 70% recycling rate
 - December 31, 2020 – 75% recycling rate
 - While in Alachua County, businesses make up a majority of our waste stream and play a pivotal role in helping us achieve the 75% recycling rate, they can't do it alone. We will also need help from residents and public agencies/entities.
- For more information visit: www.StriveFor75.org
- Phone: (352) 374 – 5213

RESOURCE RECOVERY PARK (RRP)

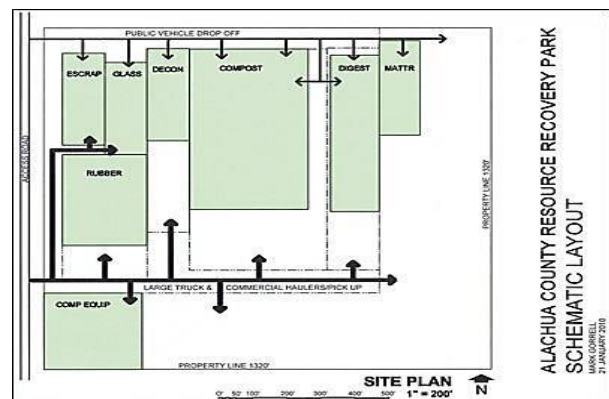
A resource recovery park is an industrial park reserved for companies and/or government facilities that process discarded materials & create new products. It diverts hundreds of thousands of tons of materials that would otherwise go to landfill. A RRP also attracts new companies in the recycling, composting, & manufacturing sectors; & allows local companies in these sectors to expand. Jobs are created & the local tax base is expanded.





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The next phase in the development of the Leveda Brown Environmental Park is the development of the adjacent 35 acres as a Resource Recovery Park. This County Park will partner with private industry to bring light industrial businesses that will utilize the recycling commodities from our community & the region for remanufacturing into new products. This year, the County will move forward with developing the basic infrastructure to include, utilities, roads, fiber optics, storm water & conservation areas. There is a consulting firm currently working on infrastructure costs, development plans & a business marketing plan. Our staff is working with stake holders throughout the community including the Chamber of Commerce, Innovation Hub, Plum Creek, the Airport Advisory council, the CRA & others to ensure the success of this project. Additionally, the relocation of the Fairbanks Collection Center, warehouse storage space & a small warehouse space for rental to start up incubator waste based businesses as well as entrepreneurial opportunities are also proposed.



- Benefits of a Resource Recovery Park
 - Reduces flow of discarded materials to landfill, and extends life of landfill
 - Keeps dollars at home through local jobs and businesses
 - Reduces ecological footprint of Alachua County by reducing greenhouse gases, energy use, water use & resource use
- Ideal infrastructure for Alachua County
 - Reuse
 - Recycle
 - Compost
 - Special discards
 - Manufacturing
 - Resource Recovery Park
- Economic incentives for a Zero Waste Economy
 - The goal of new incentive mechanisms is to motivate market forces in favor of prevention, reuse, recycling & composting
- State & County solid waste management plans compliance
 - Conforms with Alachua County Comprehensive Plan
 - Conforms to anticipated state mandate of 75% diversion from landfill
- Multiplier Impacts on Economy
 - Direct jobs 200-300
 - Indirect jobs 200-300
 - For more details on this project, visit www.alachuacounty.us



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ENGINEERING AND COMPLIANCE

The County Solid Waste Engineer provides oversight & technical expertise on solid waste management activities, programs & processes. The Engineer is responsible for capital improvement projects in the Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department and ensures that all Solid Waste Facilities and Operations comply with all State & Federal regulations for Solid Waste Management facilities & operations.

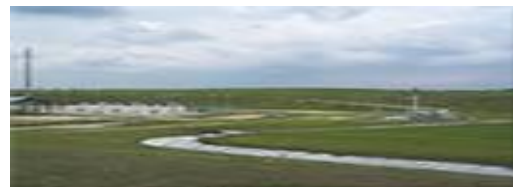


MISSION STATEMENT

To provide innovative solutions to challenges facing the Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department and to ensure that the Department's facilities operate in compliance with Federal, State and Local rules and regulations.

The Office of Solid Waste Engineer provides the following services:

- Provides permit compliance at the County-operated waste management facilities
- Annually updates long-term solid waste management planning options to reflect changes in technology regulations & economics
- Manages current & future capital projects and contracts
- Manages all permitting for all solid waste facilities
- Provides cost effective compliance monitoring at five closed landfills in accordance with Florida Department of Environmental Protection permits



- Annual sampling of gas probes
 - Oversee remediation of contaminated areas when necessary
 - Oversee routine sampling of monitoring wells & stormwater outfalls for contaminants & water quality
- Provides management of the closure/post closure fund for the Alachua County Southwest Landfill in accordance with Florida DEP long-term care regulations in a manner that will maintain the escrow account balance for 30 years post-closure
- Utilize available technology to accelerate stabilization of the waste at the County's closed Southwest Landfill

