

Flagstaff Regional Solid Waste Management Association (FRSWMA)
Creative Sentencing Project
Household Hazardous Waste Storage & Disposal
Report to Dec 31, 2014 (Final)

BACKGROUND:

FRSWMA is a not-for-profit association of municipalities in E. Central Alberta providing:

- solid waste collection (11 Towns & Villages),
- waste consolidation and transportation from 11 transfer sites,
- bin rental services for 790 rural, commercial and industrial customers, and
- Class IIC Sanitary Landfill will full scale recycle/diversion programs.

In cooperation with the Alberta Recycling Management Authority and our 12 community partners, FRSWMA has traditionally conducted an annual Fall Toxic Round-up for household hazardous waste (HHW). This annual event has been limited to two days which amounts to 2.5 hours in each of 6 communities. If residents of these communities miss this annual 2.5 hour window, they must store materials for another year, or transport those materials to the Flagstaff Waste Sanitary landfill which is not located centrally to the majority of residents of Flagstaff County. The annual cost of the toxic roundup to the partnership was approximately \$8,000 annually.

PROPOSAL:

An alternative method of collecting these hazardous household wastes became available to FRSWMA through a Creative Sentencing Project opportunity under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act by way of the Provincial Court of Alberta. This project contained the following elements:

- purchase and securement of plastic containers and secondary containment trays to be placed at 11 transfer sites within Flagstaff County to service 8500 residents in the collection area.
- allow collection of wet & dry cell batteries, partially used & empty paint cans and oil filters throughout the year at each transfer site.
- install a lift mechanism on existing FRSWMA 1 ton truck to facilitate collection, transportation and disposal of all collected materials to the regional landfill.
- promote the program through signage and newspaper articles.

This proposal was approved in December 2011. Funds from the court were forwarded to FRSWMA in January 2012 (The genesis of this funding was the conviction of Smith's Service (Lougheed) Ltd for an incident that occurred July 22, 2010). Containers and secondary containment trays were acquired in March, 2012 and distributed to 12 transfer sites by April. Signage promoting the program was erected by May of 2012. The lift mechanism for the 1 ton truck was ordered in 2012, however was not received until 2013.

OUTCOMES:

Collection of HHW at 11 transfer sites throughout the 2014 resulted in much positive feedback from customers and partners. Residents championed the new collection methodology as a very

positive change. An efficient collection methodology was established in 2013 which allowed all materials collected through 4 collection events. We estimate 3400 kg of paint recycled due to this program in 2014. An additional 900 kgs of batteries and an undocumented amount of dirty oil filters were also collected.

A summary of benefits include the following:

- additional 4 - 5 tonnes of undesirable material diverted from the Class II regional landfill annually because of the Creative Sentencing project.
- year round collection at 11 sites throughout the region, instead of a single collection event once per year.
- As residents became aware of the program there was a large increase in volumes collected through 2012 & 2013. In 2014, volumes leveled off at the 2013 level. This is supported by data and anecdotal reporting from transfer site operators.

FINANCIAL:

The table to the right indicates the original proposal and an annual summary of expenditures related to the activity. Since this proposal was primarily capital investment, the funds were expensed to the project in 2012 and 2013.

There was some incidental fees associated with closing the bank account, which amounts were paid by FRSWMA. This account is now considered completed.

There are ongoing cost to collect the materials from each of the transfer sites, which cost is borne by FRSWMA. These costs include manpower and equipment operation estimated at \$9000 for the 4 collection circuits conducted in 2014.

Original Proposal			
Description	Number	Price	Extension
Transfer Site Personnel	75 HRs	\$20/hr	\$ 1,500.00
1 Ton truck	18 Hrs	\$95/hr	\$ 1,710.00
Small Bins With Lids	28	\$53.71	\$ 1,504.00
Large Bins with Lids	16	\$547.70	\$ 8,764.00
Spill Trays	11	\$255	\$ 2,805.00
Hoist/Winch for 1 Ton	1	\$4,000	\$ 4,000.00
Sub-Total			\$ 20,282.00
FRSWMA share			\$ (4,000.00)
Award Total			\$ 16,282.00
Summary of Expenditures			
Expenditures reported in 2012			\$(13,807.97)
Expenditures reported in 2013			\$ (2,474.83)
Expenditures - 2014 (Acct closed)			\$ 0.80
Balance in Trust			\$ 0.00

Going forward, this successful program will be continued, with the annual collection fees paid by FRSWMA. This project was successful from several perspectives:

- More effective collection of materials due to there being 11 collection sites available year round instead of the Toxic Roundup weekend which was only two days at only 6 sites.
- Higher volumes of materials collected as per actual tonnage measurements recorded by FRSWMA.
- Increased public awareness due to the signage and the unique nature of the funding source.

FRSWMA thanks the court and Alberta Environment for funding of this very effective project.