GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY

Aeration: Providing air and oxygen to aid aerobic decomposition.

Aerobic: Characterized by the presence of oxygen.

Aerobic Composting: Decomposition of organic wastes by microorganisms in the presence of oxygen. See composting.

Amber Glass: Term used by container industry for brown glass.

Anaerobic: Characterized by the absence of oxygen.

Anaerobic Digestion: Decomposition of organic wastes in the absence of oxygen.

Aquifer: A geologic formation, group of formations, or part of a formation capable of yielding a significant amount of groundwater to wells or springs.

Ash Residue: All solid residue resulting from combustion of solid waste at a municipal incinerator and solid residues of any air pollution control device used at a solid waste incinerator.

Avoided Cost: Solid waste management cost savings resulting from waste reduction and recycling measures, for example, avoided waste disposal costs or avoided garbage collection costs.

Baler: A machine in which waste materials are compacted to reduce volume, usually into rectangular bundles.

Bi-Metal Can: A can made form two or more metals, usually a steel body and an aluminum lid.

Biodegradable Materials: Waste materials which are capable of being broken down by bacteria into basic elements. Most organic waste such as paper and food remains are biodegradable.

Biodegradation: The transformation by microorganisms of dead organic materials, such as fallen leaves, into stable humus. See decomposition.

Bottom Ash: The non-airborne combustion residue from burning pulverized coal or municipal solid waste. The material falls to the bottom of the boiler and is removed mechanically.

Boxboard: Paper used in manufacturing of cartons and rigid boxes.

Bulking Agent: Relatively large particle materials such as wood chips which create air space within compost.

Bulky Waste: Large items of waste materials, such as appliances, furniture, large auto parts, trees, branches, stumps, etc.

GLOSSARY

Buy-Back Programs: Programs to purchase recyclable materials from the public.

CRA: Chemung County Comprehensive Recycling Analysis.

CCSWDD: Chemung County Solid Waste Disposal District - Former title of CCSWMD.

CCSWMD: Chemung County Solid Waste Management District.

CSWMP/FGEA: Chemung County Solid Waste Management Plan/Full Generic Environmental Assessment.

Classification: To arrange or sort waste materials into uniform categories or classes, usually by size, weight, color, organic/inorganic, etc.

CONEG: Coalition of Northeast Governors.

Collection Center: A facility designed to accept materials from individuals, usually for recycling.

Color Sorting of Glass: A technique for sorting by color glass reclaimed from solid waste. Two experimental methods have been developed:

1) Optical sorting which compares light reflected from each piece with light reflected from a background standard. Successive passes, with different light source filters and standards, could be color selective.

2) Magnetic sorting which utilizes high-intensity magnetic forces on small glass pieces to sort the clear glass from the colored glass (which contains iron compounds).

Combustibles: Various materials in the waste stream which are burnable, such as paper, plastics, lawn clippings, leaves, and other light, organic materials.

Commercial Waste: Waste material which originates in wholesale, retail or service establishments such as office buildings, stores, hotels, universities and warehouses.

Compactor: Any power-driven mechanical equipment designed to compress and reduce the volume of waste materials.

Compactor Truck: A large truck with an enclosed body having special power-driven equipment for loading and compressing waste materials.

Composite Liner: A synthetic liner combined with a layer of low permeability soil.

GLOSSARY

Compost: Decomposed, humus-like organic matter produced through composting. Depending on the waste source, compost may have some nutrient value and generally improves soil characteristics.

Composting: A solid waste management technique which utilizes natural processes to convert most organic materials to humus by micro-organism activity. Two common composting processes include aerated windrow composting and static pile composting.

C & D: Construction and Demolition Debris or waste.

Construction and Demolition Waste: Waste building materials, dredging materials, grubbing waste, and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair and demolition operations on houses, commercial buildings and other structures and pavements.

Contaminant: Foreign material that makes a primary material impure. For instance, food waste on paper products.

Corrugated Paper: Heavy paperboard, molded into parallel ridges and grooves (called linerboard and medium).

Cullet: Scrap glass, usually ground and/or crushed into small uniform pieces.

Curbside Recycling: The generic term for scheduled recycling collection service to households and/or businesses.

Decomposition: The breaking down of dead organic material, such as fallen leaves, by microorganisms. This process turns small biologically active molecules, such as starches, into large, very complex and stable molecules that make up humus.

Deinking: A processing in which most of the ink, filler and other extraneous materials is removed from printed waste paper. This produces pulp which can be used along with varying percentages of virgin paper in the manufacture of new paper, including high quality printing, writing and office paper as well as tissue and toweling.

Detinning: The chemical separation of tin plated steel, including scrap tin cans, into recyclable tin and steel.

DEIS: Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Drop-Off Center: A collection location where citizens or businesses can deliver separated secondary materials, such as newspapers, glass containers and leaves.

Durable Goods: Products designed for long-term use, such as furniture, rugs, mattresses, appliances, and tires. (Durable goods do not include cars and other motor vehicles).

GLOSSARY

End User: The final consumer of collected recyclable materials, where these materials are remanufactured into finished products.

ECL: Environmental Conservation Law.

EMC: Chemung County Environmental Management Council.

EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency.

FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Ferrous: Metals which are predominantly composed of iron. Most common ferrous metals are magnetic. In the waste materials stream, these usually include steel or "tin" cans, automobiles, old refrigerators, stoves, etc.

FEIS: Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Flint Glass: Term used by container industry for colorless glass.

Flow Control: A practice by which state or local officials seek to guarantee the flow of all waste to the waste-to-energy plant. This practice stems from officials' need to assure an adequate supply of waste to keep the waste-to-energy facility (see Resource Recovery Facility) operating efficiently. A flow control ordinance can prohibit or even obstruct the free market access to recyclable materials which can be utilized as raw materials for the manufacture of new products.

Fly Ash: The airborne combustion residue from burning coal or other fuels. Consists mainly of various oxides and silicates.

Garbage: Waste materials which are likely to decompose or putrefy. Usually contains food waste from a kitchen, restaurant, slaughterhouse, or food processing plant.

Geomembrane: A synthetic, relatively impermeable membrane used with foundation materials, soil, rock and earth to limit liquid or gas movement in a landfill.

Geosynthetic: All synthetic materials used in geotechnical engineering applications, including geotextiles, geomembranes and geocomposites.

Glasphalt: A trade name for a highway paving material in which recovered ground glass replaces some of the gravel normally used in asphalt.

Hammermill: A type of crusher used to break up materials into smaller pieces or particles, which operates by using rotating and flailing heavy hammers.

GLOSSARY

Heavy Metals: Metallic elements with high molecular weights. Some elements present human health risks at certain concentrations; some may be phytotoxic to plants, and others may adversely affect livestock. While high concentrations can be harmful, low concentrations of some heavy metals such as copper and zinc are essential trace elements for life processes.

HDPE: An acronym for high-density polyethylene plastic, a common geosynthetic material chemically inert to most wastes.

High Grade Deinking: A paper industry term that refers to recyclable paper that is of a high grade and printed grade that has been deinked.

High Grade Waste: Waste paper that is of the most value in the market place. High grade waste paper includes trimmings and cuttings from converting plants, computer printouts, tabulating cards and desk top paper. High grade waste paper is often collected in offices. In the paper industry, high grade waste paper is referred to as pulp substitutes and high grade deinking.

Humus: The more or less stable fraction of the soil organic matter remaining after the major portion of added plant and animal residues have decomposed. Usually it is dark in color.

Hydrogeology: The study of the movement of water or fluids through soil.

Impervious Material: A material which inhibits or prevents movement of liquid.

Impoundment: A man-made, lined structure, constructed to contain liquids.

In-Vessel Composting: A method of composting organic wastes including a variety of systems involving mechanical agitation, and/or forced aeration, that is normally enclosed within a building.

Incinerator: Any structure or furnace in which combustion takes place and refuse such as paper, wood, and animal and vegetable matter from restaurants is used as fuel, along or with fossil fuel.

Industrial Wastes: Unwanted materials produced in or eliminated from an industrial operation. They may be categorized under a variety of headings, such as liquid wastes, sludge wastes, solid wastes.

IDA: Chemung County Industrial Development Agency

IDB: Industrial Development Bond.

GLOSSARY

Infectious Waste: All surgical, obstetrical, pathological or biological wastes.

Inorganic: Chemical compounds composed of elements other than carbon and hydrogen. Many inorganic materials are called minerals.

IGP: Intermediate Glass Processors. Businesses or organizations who purchase cullet from smaller suppliers, process the glass, and sell the contaminant-free cullet to glass plants.

Intermediate Processor: A company that purchases source-separated materials from municipalities and private sanitation companies, processes the materials and sells them to a broker or manufacturer for reuse or recycling.

Integrated Solid Waste Management: A solid waste management strategy that incorporates source reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, energy recovery and landfilling.

Intermediate Processor: A company that purchases source-separated materials from municipalities and private sanitation companies, processes the materials, and sells them to an industrial market, where the materials are used as a feedstock in manufacturing.

Landspreading Facility: A site where sludge or septage is applied to the soil surface or injected into the upper layer of the soil to improve soil quality or provide plant nutrients.

Landfills: A conventional landfill is "a land disposal site employing an engineered method of disposing of solid wastes on land in a manner that minimizes environmental hazards by spreading solid wastes in thin layers, compacting volume, and applying cover materials at the end of each operating day".

Leachate: The fluid which issues from a pile or cell of solid waste and which contains water, dissolved solid and decomposition products of the solid waste. Leachate can enter and mix with the groundwater and contaminate drinking water supplies.

Liner: A continuous layer of natural or man-made materials, beneath or on the sides of a surface impoundment, landfill or landfill cell, which restricts the downward or lateral escape of solid waste or leachate.

LDPE: An acronym for low-density polyethylene, a common geosynthetic material.

Magnetic Separator: Equipment usually consisting of a conveyor belt, drum or pulley with a magnet used to attract and remove magnetic materials from other materials.

GLOSSARY

Mass Burn: Combustion of municipal solid waste without any pre-processing of the waste except for removal of bulky waste.

MRF: An acronym for materials recycling facility. A facility that recovers materials from the waste stream for recycling by separation or processing utilizing manual or automated means.

Mixed Office Papers: Mixed waste paper which is generated in the office and is of high recycling value. This waste paper is of various kinds and quality of high grade waste paper. (See High Grade Waste Paper).

Mixed Paper: Waste paper of various kinds and quality, usually collected from stores, offices and schools.

Molded Pulp Products: Contoured fiber products molded from pulp for such uses as egg packaging, trays for fresh meat and plates.

Monofill: A landfill or landfill cell where only one type of waste is placed.

MSW: Municipal Solid Waste.

Municipal Solid Wastes: The combined residential and commercial waste materials generated in a given municipal area. The collection and disposal of these wastes are usually the responsibility of local government.

Municipal Solid Waste Incineration Facility: A facility owned, operated or used by, or under contract with, a municipality or political subdivision, which uses high temperature thermal destruction technologies, including combustion, for the recovery of thermal value or for disposal of municipal solid waste.

NYSDEC: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

NYSDOT: New York State Department of Transportation.

NYSEG: New York State Electric and Gas Company.

Newsprint: The kind or type of paper generally used for printing newspaper.

Nonferrous: Metals which contain no iron. In waste materials these are usually aluminum, copper wire, brass, bronze, etc.

Open Dump: A solid waste disposal area which does not comply with required public health and environmental control practices. Unfortunately, the term sanitary landfill is commonly misused to describe what is actually an open dump.

GLOSSARY

Organic: Chemical compounds containing carbon and hydrogen, often in combination with other elements. Many organics are formed by living creatures; thousands of others have been synthesized by chemists. Many synthetic organics, such as pesticides and gasoline, are biologically active, often toxic.

Organic Refuse: Waste materials from substances composed of chemical compounds of carbon and generally manufactured in the life processes of plants and animals. These materials include paper, wood, food wastes, plastic and yard wastes.

Packaging Materials: Any of a variety of papers, cardboards, metals, wood, paperboard and plastics used in the manufacture of containers for food, household, commercial and industrial products.

Paper: In a general sense, the name of all kinds of matted or felted sheets of fiber formed on a fine screen from a water suspension. More specifically, paper is one of two broad subdivisions (the other being paperboard) of the general term paper. Paper usually lighter in basis weight, thinner and more flexible than paperboard, is used largely for printing, writing, wrapping and sanitary purposes.

Paperboard: Relatively heavier in base weight, thicker and more rigid than paper. There are three broad classes of paperboard:

1) Container Board

2) Boxboard

3) Special types such as automobile board, building board, tube board, etc.

Paperstock: A general term used to designate waste papers which have been sorted or segregated at the source into various recognized grades. It is a principal ingredient in the manufacture of certain types of paperboard.

Pathogen: Any organism capable of producing disease or infection; often found in waste material. High temperatures (above 131°F or 55°C) over a consecutive period (3 days) have been shown to effectively kill pathogens.

Permeable Material: Material which allows easy movement of liquid.

PET: An acronym for polyethylene terephthalate (more commonly called polyester), one of the members of the family of plastic barrier resins.

GLOSSARY

Plastics: Man-made materials consisting of large molecules called "polymers" containing primarily carbon and hydrogen with lesser amounts of oxygen or nitrogen, frequently compounded with various organic and inorganic compounds as stabilizers, colorants, fillers and other ingredients.

Private Solid Waste Incineration Facility: Any facility, other than a municipal solid waste facility, that burns municipal solid waste, or any fuels derived from municipal solid waste using thermal destruction technologies, with or without energy recovery.

PSA: Radio or television Public Service Announcement.

PURPA: Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Acts.

Pulp: Fiber material that is produced by chemical or mechanical means from fibrous cellulose raw materials and from which paper and paperboard is made.

Pulp Substitutes: A paper industry term that refers to a grade of recyclable paper that is print free. (See High Grade Paper and Mixed Office Papers).

Putrescrible: Subject to decomposition or decay. Usually used in reference to food wastes and other organic wastes.

PVC: An acronym for polyvinyl chloride.

Pyrolysis: The process of chemically decomposing an organic substance by heating it in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere. The major products from pyrolysis of solid waste are water, carbon monoxide and hydrogen. Applied to solid waste, pyrolysis has the features of effecting major volume reduction while producing storable fuels.

EQBA: Environmental Quality Bond Act.

Reclamation: The restoration to usefulness or productivity of materials found in the waste stream. These reclaimed materials may be used for purposes which are different from their original use.

Recovered Materials: All types of materials handled by dealers and brokers that have fulfilled their useful function and materials that occur as waste from the manufacturing or conversion of products.

Recycling: The reuse or reprocessing of source separated materials from the municipal solid waste stream such that the volume of the waste stream requiring disposal is reduced.

Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF): A solid fuel obtained from municipal solid waste as a result of a mechanical process, or sequence of operations, which improves the physical, mechanical or combustion characteristics compared to the original unsegregated feed product or unprocessed solid waste.

Reprocessing: Any process, method or technique, short of re-refining, that removes physical or chemical contaminants from waste oil so that such oil is suitable for use.

Rerefining: Any process, method or technique that removes the physical and chemical contaminants from waste oil so that such oil is suitable for use a lube stock or fuel oil and, when used by itself or when mixed with new oil or additives, is substantially equivalent or superior to new oil intended for the same purpose. Lube stock shall meet the standards as specified in the American Petroleum Institute's engine service classifications.

R & D: Research and Development.

Residential Waste: Waste materials generated in houses and apartments. The materials include appear, cardboard, beverage and food wastes, glass containers, old clothes, garden wastes, etc.

Residue: Solid or semisolid materials such as, but not limited to, ash, ceramics, glass, metal and organic substances remaining after incineration or processing.

Resource Recovery: A term used to describe the extraction of economically useful materials and/or energy from solid waste. Often refers to the burning of waste for energy.

Resource Recovery Facility: Facilities that convert materials from the waste stream into some form of fuel or energy source. Also referred to as waste-to-energy plants.

Roll-Off Container: Used primarily by the solid waste industry for collection and storage, the containers come in various sizes, are moved via a special truck, and can be placed and left on the ground.

Sanitary Landfill: A land disposal system by which solid wastes are deposited and compacted before burial in a specially prepared area which provides for leachate collection, treatment and environmental monitoring.

Secondary Containment System: A redundant containment system that is activated if the initial containment system fails.

Secondary Materials: All types of materials handled by dealers and brokers that have fulfilled their useful function and usually cannot be used further in their present location, and materials that occur as waste from the manufacturing or conversion of products.

Separate Collection: A system in which a specific portion or portions of the waste stream are collected separately from the bulk of the waste in order to facilitate recycling. Many communities have a specific once-a-month newspaper collection. In conjunction with a community source separation program, a separate collection program can recover such diverse materials as paper, glass and metals.

Separation: To divide waste into groups of similar materials, such as paper products, glass, food waste and metals. Also used to describe the further sorting of materials into more specific categories such as clear glass and dark glass. Separation may be done manually or with specialized equipment.

Septage: The contents of septic-tanks, cesspools or other individual sewage treatment facilities that receive domestic sewage wastes.

Sewage Sludge: The semi-solids accumulated during sewage treatment.

Shredder: A mechanical device used to break up waste materials into smaller pieces, usually in the form of irregularly shaped strips. Shredding devices include tub mill grinders, hammermills, shears, drum pulverizers, wet pulpers and rasp mills.

Side-Loaders: A refuse truck or trailer in which solid waste is loaded into the side of the vehicle.

Sludge: The solids, semi-solids or liquids generated from wastewater treatment plants, water supply treatment plants or air pollution control facilities.

Soil, Daily Cover: Soil material used to cover the working face of a landfill at the close of each working day or at the completion of a cell.

Soil, Final Cover: Soil material placed on completed landfill section and revegetated.

Soil, Intermediate Cover: Soil material placed on completed filled sections in areas where there is clear intention to place another section on top within one year.

GLOSSARY

Solid Waste: Any garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility and other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining and agricultural operations and from community activities. It does not include solid or dissolved materials in domestic sewage, or solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return, flows or industrial discharges which are point sources subject to permits under Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Source Separation: The segregation and collection of individual recyclable components before they become mixed into the solid waste stream (e.g. bottles, cans, newspapers, corrugated containers or office papers).

SEQR: New York State Environmental Quality Review.

Static Pile Composting: A method of composting in which oxygen and temperature levels are mechanically controlled by blowing air through a large stationary pile.

Tin Can: Essentially a steel can with a tin (approximately .0015 inch) coating. This tin represents one-third of the recycled value of the can while comprising only .25 to .4 percent by weight.

Tipping Fee: The charge assessed for unloading solid waste at a disposal or transfer site.

TPD: Tons Per Day.

Transfer Station: A facility which receives deliveries of solid waste by local collection vehicles and provides for transfer to larger vehicles which deliver wastes more economically to resource recovery or landfill facilities.

USDA: United State Department of Agriculture.

USEPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Used Motor Oil: Any oil previously used in any machinery. Its' main markets are as an industrial fuel or in re-refining.

Vectors: Carriers (e.g., flies, insects, rodents, birds and vermin) of pathogens from one organism to another.

Virgin Materials: Any basic materials for industrial processes which have not previously been used (e.g. trees, iron ore, silica sand, crude oil, bauxite).

GLOSSARY

Volume Reduction: The processing of waste materials so as to decrease the amount of space the materials occupy, usually by either:

1) Mechanical (Crushing or Shredding);

2) Thermal (Incineration or Pyrolysis); or

3) Biological (Composting) Processing.

Voluntary Separation: The separation of glass bottles, food and beverage cans or paper by hand by individuals or groups of individuals.

Waste Oil: Used engine lubricating oil and any other oil, including fuel oil, motor oil, gear oil, cutting oil, transmission fluid, hydraulic fluid, dielectric fluid, oil storage tank residues, animal oil and vegetable oil, which has been contaminated by physical or chemical impurities, through use or accident, and has not subsequently been rerefined.

Waste Paper: Paper that has been discarded. This paper can be used again as a recyclable material, if the grade of paper is acceptable and if the paper is separated before it enters the waste stream.

Waste Reduction: Preventing and/or decreasing the amount of waste at its source by changing societal patterns or design, production or consumption.

Waste Stream: A general term used to denote the waste material output of an area, location, or facility.

WTE: Waste To Energy.

White Goods: Generic term used to describe major appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers, etc.

Windrow Composting: A method of composting leaves in elongated piles. The piles or "wind-rows" are turned periodically to aerate and mix the leaves, speeding up the decomposition process and reducing odors.

Wood Pulp: The primary materials from which most papers are made. It is made of small, loose wood fibers mixed with water.

Yard Wastes: Grass clippings, pruning and other discarded organic material from yards and gardens.