Frequently Asked Questions – Convenience Center Sites
December, 2013

Why has the County decided to open three convenience centers?
The Board of Supervisors’ decision to construct three staffed convenience centers around the County will provide clean, safe, well managed and convenient locations to dispose of solid waste and trash in a way that is more accessible and cost effective than current services. The Board came to this decision following a very comprehensive analysis of operations and associated costs at Ivy, including the following major factors:

- Current services at the Ivy Materials Utilization Center (MUC) operated by the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority are requiring more County tax support each year while quantities of materials are dropping. The City of Charlottesville has chosen not to continue participating in the Ivy MUC which impacts the cost effectiveness of the arrangements and eliminates the regional nature of the operation.
- The Ivy MUC will require a significant capital investment to continue operating and revenues will not justify this cost.
- The three convenience centers spread geographically around the County will be much closer to a significant majority of residents than the single Ivy facility.
- Van der Linde Recycling was selected following a competitive bid process, and while we have not completely finalized the negotiation process we have every reason to believe that this approach will be significantly more cost effective for county taxpayers.

How will the new convenience centers impact the Ivy Materials Utilization Center and the McIntire Recycling Center?
The McIntire Recycling Center will remain open, but the Ivy Materials Utilization Center (MUC) will close once the first convenience center is opened. The three convenience centers will be strategically placed to reach more residents, although residents who currently are close to Ivy will be impacted.

What sites are currently under consideration?
Currently the County is evaluating two sites for a center to serve the southern portion of Albemarle:

1. Keene Site:
   County-owned property located off of Route 20 (Scottsville Rd.) and Esmont Rd., just down the road from the US Post Office.
2. Mill Creek Site:
   County-owned property located off of Mill Creek Dr. and Avon St. Extended, next to the Monticello Fire Station.

What criteria are being used to evaluate these sites?
The board adopted a set of criteria to evaluate sites during their November 13, 2013 meeting. The selection criteria include:

- Convenience / Location – The Board has indicated an interest in locating the facilities to maximize convenience to the largest geographic areas and distance from a primary highway for easy access.
- Size / Shape – Determine the parcel has adequate room for a convenience center.
• County Owned – A parcel that is already owned by the County eliminates the time and expense of purchasing a property.
• Entrance Corridors – While convenience to a primary highway is important, the County’s expressed interest in the Entrance Corridor Design Guidelines provides a challenge for this type of use.
• Number of residences within 1,000 feet of facility – The County is working to design the convenience centers so that they have minimal impacts on nearby residents. In an effort to reduce impacts further, parcels with fewer residences nearby are evaluated higher than those in densely populated areas.
• Utilities – Primarily related to availability of electricity, noting there can be a significant cost in bringing electricity to a site.
• Topography – The closer the property is to a “pad ready” site, the lower the development costs will be and the less time it will take to prepare the site.
• Improvements needed – This includes consideration of entrance improvements required by VDOT, screening and fencing required, as well as other possible considerations (e.g. utility relocation).

**What kinds of materials will be accepted at the convenience centers?**
Convenience centers will only accept residential waste. The County anticipates offering the following services at convenience centers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal solid waste (MSW)</td>
<td>Bagged or boxed items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulky waste</td>
<td>Furniture, household debris, vegetative waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appliances</td>
<td>Stoves, refrigerators, water heaters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>Corrugated or pasteboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>Newspaper, white paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling rigid containers</td>
<td>Glass, plastic containers, metal cans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics</td>
<td>TVs, computers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tires</td>
<td>Old tires with or without rims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluorescent bulbs</td>
<td>CFLs, rod bulbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batteries</td>
<td>Old car batteries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paints</td>
<td>Left over paint</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Additional services may be provided

**What will be the noise impacts of the convenience centers?**
The convenience centers will have minimal noise impacts. Only residential vehicles will be permitted to enter the facility, and the trash compacter itself makes very little noise. Furthermore, the center will be open during daylight hours only and will be closed overnight.

Potential noise impacts will come from:
• Waste collection trucks, though these will come only once per day to remove the bins
• Back-up beeping sounds on recycling contractor vehicles as they remove containers
• Infrequent noise as materials are emptied into bins

The new convenience center’s operations will be comparable to those at the McIntire Convenience Center. We encourage those residents interested in getting a sense of the potential noise impacts to visit the McIntire center.
How will the centers be kept clean and secure?
The County is committed to keeping the convenience centers clean and safe. Our contract with Van der Linde Recycling includes a set of housekeeping standards that will be maintained at the center. In terms of security, the Center will be physically fenced outfitted with security cameras. Furthermore, the center will be staffed during operating hours.

What environmental safeguards will be in place?
We have an environmental compliance plan for the convenience centers, which will be monitored by the County’s Environmental Compliance Manager. The site will be designed in a way to limit potential runoff, and all stored materials will be kept in enclosed containers. At this point, we do not anticipate storing household hazardous waste on site.

What will be the visual impacts of the centers, how will they be buffered/landscaped?
The County is very focused on insuring that the convenience centers are unobtrusive and not visually impactful on the surrounding environment. We will have ample vegetative buffers and landscaping to shield the operations as part of the plan. The landscape plans will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to implementation.

What will be the hours of operation?
While the specific days and times are yet to be set by the Board of Supervisors, we expect the centers to operate during daylight hours only and to remain closed overnight. Schedules may vary depending on the season.

How will other impacts of the center be mitigated/controlled?
Any waste that could potentially spoil will be put in compactors and hauled on a regular basis. Items without objectionable odors, such as tires and boxes, will be the only materials stored outside and overnight. Our housekeeping contract with Van der Linde Recycling will ensure that the area is kept clean and maintained, and the property will be fenced, staffed, and equipped with cameras to maintain security.

What is the timeline for constructing the convenience center?
The preliminary completion goal is June 30, 2014. Once the Board approves a site for the convenience center, the project plan will enter the County’s approval process. At the earliest, construction on the site will begin April 2014.

Questions?
Contact the General Services department at (434) 296-5816.