



# Orange County Solid Waste Advisory Board

## **Report to Chapel Hill Town Council**

December 6, 2004  
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# Report to Chapel Hill Town Council

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- SWAB Assigned Charge and Responsibilities
- SWAB Composition
- Current Year Activities and Accomplishments
- Activities Planned for 2005
- Issues
- Input from Council

# SWAB Assigned Charge and Responsibility

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**“... to advise the County’s Governing Board on matters related to the [solid waste] System and the Solid Waste Management Plan and Policies.” (Section 7, page 10, Interlocal Agreement for Solid Waste Management, August 7, 1999)**

# SWAB Composition

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- Two Representatives each from Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and Hillsborough
- Two County-wide Representatives
- Presently non-voting Representative from UNC
- BOCC Liaison

# Current Year Activities and Accomplishments

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- Briefed BOCC on Solid Waste Issues from SWAB Perspective
- Reviewed Plans/Programs for Solid Waste Enterprise
  - Revised Solid Waste Management Plan
  - Plans for Additional Services
- Approved County Wide “Waste Reduction, Reuse, Recycling Fee” – 3-R Fee
- Reviewed Options for Further Revisions to County Solid Waste Plan

# SWAB Conclusionary Statement to BOCC – January 31, 2004

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- Continued development of Orange County and recently announced plans for Carolina North re-enforces the need to focus on waste reduction and recycling to support the sustainable development of our County and communities.
- We continue to see the essential need for a materials recycling facility as called for in the [previous] ten year plan.
- Principles of sustainable development call into question the future plans for sending solid waste out of Orange County once the current landfill is closed. Given the level of development anticipated over the next 50 years by UNC at Carolina North and Orange County in general, we should rethink our disposal options, and perhaps consider other options, such as a regional landfill over which we would share control.
- We need to work towards inclusion of UNC in the Inter-Local Agreement.

# Activities Planned for 2005



- Revision of County Solid Waste Management Plan
  - Review Preliminary SW Staff Analysis of Means to Accomplish 61% Recycling Goals and Concerns Expressed by Chapel Hill
  - Initiate Process for Increased Involvement of a Wider Array of Stakeholders in the Planning Process
    - Elected Officials
    - Staff
- Continue to Deal with long-term Issues
  - Disposal/transfer of Solid Waste
  - Increasing Recycling Efficiency and Efficacy
  - Maintaining Fiscal Viability of the Enterprise

# SWAB Issues and Concerns



- SWAB issues and concerns continue to be those expressed in our presentation to the BOCC in January of this year
  - Need to focus on waste reduction and recycling to support the sustainable development of our County and communities.
  - Identify means to achieve 61% (a materials recycling facility was called for in the previous ten year plan).
  - Need to rethink the issue of landfills – possibly work towards a regional landfill in which we have some control.
  - Need to work towards inclusion of UNC in the Inter-Local Agreement.
- The SWAB is also concerned that the apparent low priority of solid waste issues on the part of county-wide elected officials must be expeditiously addressed



# Questions and Council Input

