

May 8, 2018

As you all know the county's new recycle center is open and has been a great success with our citizens. We have had numerous positive comments from people bringing their recycle material to us but the one complaint that we hear over and over is that the county only has one site and it is too far for them to drive, some have even stopped coming because of this. We have had such a constant flow of traffic that we have started tracking the number of people that visit our site and we average 140-180 every day that we are open.

This site was badly needed for our county and was intended to be the first of others depending on the usage and response from the public. We were visited two weeks ago by TDEC, division of solid waste who inspected our facility and were so impressed that it was referred to as "one of the best in the state".

TDEC requested to come back for a meeting with us yesterday where we were informed of a grant through them called "waste reduction" that would allow us an opportunity to replicate our existing recycle facility in another location in the county. This grant is for \$500,000 and it would be a 50/50 match, it would pay for the site prep, utilities and the equipment to get us up and running. The grant application deadline is the end of May and through due diligence we will just be able to process all the information requested in order to apply. We were strongly encouraged to pursue this grant and they are excited with the positive steps that we have made in recycling. They would like to help us become a model county in recycling for the rest of the state to follow.

Once the site is complete we will also be able to apply for smaller grants that are coming in October to fund additional equipment and services such as the "education grant" which would allow training for the public through multi-media, signage and literature, the "equipment grant" used for additional equipment or another "used oil grant" for the collection of fluids from citizens in that part of the county.

We feel this is a great opportunity for the county considering the tremendous response we have had with our recycle facility.

Respectfully,



Jeff Headrick
Highway Superintendent



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