

CFSC TOUR QUESTIONS

The Community Facilities Study Committee toured the Arlington County Trades Center on June 10, 2015. County and APS staff have provided the following answers to questions asked during the tour.

1. What impact will year-round yard waste collection have on the operations of the Earth Products and Recycling Yard?

Material collected in the proposed year-round yard waste program will be brought to the Earth Products Recycling Yard (EPRY) for processing (leaves, brush, bedding material, trimmings, etc.) This material will be processed into a soil amendment for use by our Department of Parks and Recreation, as well as the Department of Environmental Services. During grass mowing season (May-October) the yard waste will be taken to Loudon Composting for processing. The impact of this change will be that more material will be processed and managed at the EPRY.

2. Why is the shortage of salt storage now being addressed by County staff?

The County has been without sufficient salt storage for a number of years. We've used approximately 13,000 tons of salt last year and only have 8000 tons of storage available. Our actual inventory should be much closer to our annual usage to prevent possible shortages. The ability to restock in the winter season can be a challenge as it was this past year due to salt shortages in the region. The use of deicing chemicals for pre-treatment and actual deicing has increased overtime as the level of service on the collector and local roadways in the County has increased.

3. Does the County have an incinerator?

No, the County does not currently own the waste-to-energy facility located in Alexandria, Va. Arlington County, in partnership with the City of Alexandria, have a long-term contract (through year 2038) with Covanta Alexandria/Arlington, Inc. to provide disposal for the County's residential waste at their waste-to-energy facility, located at 5301 Eisenhower Avenue in Alexandria. After the year 2038, the County and the City regain ownership of the facility.

4. Where does our trash go?

The County's residential trash goes to the Covanta Alexandria/Arlington facility where it is converted into electricity for sale to Dominion Virginia Power Company. Commercial trash collected in the County is taken by contractor to a variety of facilities to include the Covanta Alexandria/Arlington facility.

5. Is there an Arlington County dump?

Arlington County does not have a dump. Prior to the construction of the Covanta, Waste-to-Energy facility in the late 1980's, Arlington County's solid waste was taken to a transfer station located on the current site of the County's Water Pollution Control Plant. The trash was then transferred to the I-95 landfill located in Lorton, VA, which is now closed.

6. Do any other Fire Departments use the Fire Training Academy?

The Fire Training Academy is used by other local Fire Departments in the Northern Virginia regional area to fulfill some of their specialty training requirements, such as confined space and live burn training. Sharing the use of facilities is customary among local fire departments as a cost saving measure.

7. Could seasonal (snow) equipment be located elsewhere (in or outside of the County), when not in use?

Seasonal snow equipment could be located elsewhere when not in use. However, the preference is for equipment to be kept in appropriately zoned and community-supported locations that are secure and easily accessible for seasonal use and periodic maintenance. Staff is unaware of a single location that can accommodate our complete inventory of seasonal equipment.