



# Solid Waste Management Program Assessment and Facility Consolidation Study

Department of Sustainability & Solid Waste Management  
20 Ontario St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Canandaigua, New York 14424  
585-393-3090

4 Executive Blvd.  
Suite 303  
Suffern, New York 10901  
(845) 357-1510

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Objective

This Study was prepared to develop an asset inventory as well as recommendations for changes for the system of 14 transfer stations used for residential solid waste, recyclables, and yard waste collection in Ontario County. Findings were based on document review, site visits, staff interviews, data analysis, and other information synthesis activities performed by SCS on behalf of the County.

### Facility Inventory Findings

SCS inventoried and evaluated the infrastructure and programs at all 14 transfer station facilities in the County and also conducted site visits at the County Landfill, Ontario County MRF, and Monroe County ecopark for additional context in the development of Study findings. Results are presented in Section 2.0 of this report and summarized in Table 4. Facility evaluations were also conducted in the context of facility-specific strengths and weakness considerations, which included the following:

- Good Location and Site Configuration
- Good Compaction
- Good Yard Waste Management
- System User Fees and Net Costs
- Good Utilization/ Operating Hours
- Good Waste Reduction and Diversion
- Unit Costs
- Low Program Risk
- Service Lines
- Municipal Tax Base

Eight transfer stations were selected for inclusion in Section 3.2 of this report due generally based on possession of the positive qualities listed above. Further site evaluation information by facility is presented in Appendix C. Appendix E includes findings regarding the other six facilities not included in Section 3.2.

### Facility Consolidation Evaluation Findings

As discussed in Section 3.0 of this report, SCS recommends that the County work with municipalities to consider consolidating services provided by the transfer stations. SCS proposes a “hub and spoke” system with facility consolidation, reducing from 14 to 7 locations. Proposed facilities would provide unique regional needs, with the central “hub” developed for special waste collections which might include household hazardous waste (HHW) and other materials similar to the Monroe County ecopark in Rochester. The new central facility could also be constructed in phases with infrastructure necessary for future desired service lines to be implemented at a later date.

The proposed system of waste collection facilities is based on existing facility strengths as well as future potential efficiencies and effectiveness of service delivery to residents. The proposed system changes, organized by region within the County, is summarized in the following table:

Proposed Region	Type/No. Proposed Converted Facilities	Facilities for Conversion		No. Sites Closed	Programs to Consolidate into Hub/Spoke Facility
		Solid Waste/ Recycling	Yard Waste Processing		
Southwest	Spoke (1)	South Bristol	South Bristol	(2)	<b>Naples and Richmond</b>
Northwest	Spoke (2)	Victor	Farmington	(1)	<b>West Bloomfield;</b> Victor (yard waste only); and Farmington (solid waste only)
Central	Hub (1)	Town of	Town of	(1)	<b>Bristol</b>

Proposed Region	Type/No. Proposed Converted Facilities	Facilities for Conversion		No. Sites Closed	Programs to Consolidate into Hub/Spoke Facility
		Solid Waste/ Recycling	Yard Waste Processing		
		Canandaigua	Canandaigua		
Northeast	Spoke (2)	Manchester	Phelps	(1)	<b>Hopewell</b> ; Manchester (yard waste only); and Phelps (solid waste only)
Southeast	Spoke (1)	Landfill, Seneca or Gorham	Landfill, Seneca or Gorham	(1-3)	<b>Geneva</b> ; Seneca and/or Gorham

Note: Proposed central regional hub at City of Canandaigua would have potential to include HHW collection drop-off services in addition to drop-off of special wastes requiring economies of scale for efficient collections.

Section 3.4 of this report provides analysis of impacts from consolidation. These include cost estimates for upfront site improvements, operations changes, and impacts to current constituents.

## Collection Event Evaluation Findings

County and municipal HHW and special waste collection events currently provide an opportunity for residents to discard certain materials. Such events include two categories of materials: 1) materials not normally accepted at facilities, but accepted at other municipal programs within the County; and, 2) materials only accepted at special County collection events, such as HHW. Currently, these programs provide a valuable service to residents. The need for these special collection events could be reduced or eliminated under the proposed hub-and-spoke consolidated system through development of permanent special waste/HHW materials collections infrastructure at the new or modified drop-off facilities. The Collection Events review and potential consolidation evaluation are presented in Sections 4.0 and 5.0 of this report, respectively.

## Overall Recommendations

Overall recommendations are presented in Section 7.0 of this report. They include the following:

### Municipal Facility Consolidation

As discussed in Section 3.0 of this report, we recommend that the County work with municipalities to consider consolidating solid and yard waste operations. There will be significant capital costs associated with upgrading these facilities to handle increased traffic and/or provide consistent services. However, these facility consolidations would improve waste collection service quality while minimizing impacts to costs and constituent convenience.

### Centralized Special Waste Collection Facilities

As discussed in Section 5.0 of the report, a centralized facility could be developed for special waste and HHW streams which could supplement or replace HHW Collection Events. Development of the central facility would likely come at significant cost, but this facility will provide a consistent source for disposal of HHW, thus minimizing the amount of HHW improperly disposed in the MSW or recyclable streams, or illegally dumped.

### New York State Grants

We recommend that the County pursue a NYSDEC Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Program Grant for the solid waste facility consolidations and the HHW facility development, as well as hiring a Recycling Coordinator for the County. If the County decided to pursue food waste composting at the yard waste facilities, it could also apply for Food Waste Reduction and Diversion

Reimbursement grants and/or Community Grants from NYS2PI. Information regarding the details and availability of New York State Grants is presented in Section 6.0 of this report.