

Does Davis County Recycle?

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Layton – More than 50 percent of the waste generated in Davis and Morgan Counties during 2006 was recycled and diverted from the landfill. During the Calendar year 2006 District facilities received a total of 273,551 tons of municipal solid waste. Of that waste we recycled the following amounts (2003, 2004, and 2005 numbers are also provided for comparison):

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Total Waste	245,284 tons	258,438 tons	258,799 tons	273,551 tons
Waste Landfilled	120,117 tons	125,256 tons	135,059 tons	137,723 tons
Energy Recovery	118,690 tons	124,100 tons	116,252 tons	127,415 tons
Carpet Pads	39 tons	43 tons	42 tons	62 tons
Used Oil	2 tons	14 tons	11 tons	14 tons
Metals	896 tons	834 tons	883 tons	1,222 tons
Tires	151 tons	152 tons	477 tons	97 tons
Green Waste	5,470 tons	8,158 tons	6,486 tons	7,056 tons
Recycling Bins	104 tons	216 tons	270 tons	466 tons
Refrigerators	21 units	256 units	257 units	382 units
Total Recycled	125,350 tons	133,518 tons	124,678 tons	136,332 tons
Landfill Diversion Rate	52 %	52 %	48 %	50 %

Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District is a special service district responsible for disposal of all solid waste generated in Davis and Morgan Counties, with the exception of the City of Bountiful. The District operates an integrated solid waste management system which includes; recycling, composting, waste to energy, and landfill. The Davis Energy Recovery Facility recovers energy from the garbage in the form of heat which is used to generate steam and electricity. The steam is purchased by Hill Air Force Base, thereby reducing consumption of natural gas. The District also operates the Davis Landfill and Davis Green Waste Recycling Facility.

A recently released national survey conducted by BioCycle Magazine titled *The State of Garbage in America* reports the average landfill diversion rate in the Rocky Mountain region at 10 percent. The State of Utah is currently diverting about 10 percent of their waste from landfills (the Davis Energy Recovery Facility accounts for 5 percent of the entire Utah landfill diversion tonnage). The New England states reported the highest landfill diversion rate of 61 percent with

all other regions reporting less than 42 percent of the waste stream being diverted away from a landfill. The State of California currently requires all municipalities to achieve a landfill diversion rate of at least 50 percent.

The integrated approach to solid waste management being used by Wasatch Integrated is an extremely cost efficient method of recycling. Typical curbside recycling programs cost about \$3 per month per household and collect, on average, about 40 pounds per month. The result is a cost of approximately \$150 per ton of recyclables diverted from the landfill. Curbside programs typically result in diversion rates in the range of 10 to 20 percent overall. Waste to energy costs substantially less per ton than curbside recycling, and virtually 100 percent of the waste picked up at Davis and Morgan County residences is recycled. Waste from households is reduced by 90 percent by volume while recovering energy, and ash from the facility is further recycled as daily cover at the landfill.

“I am often asked why we don’t have curbside recycling in Davis and Morgan Counties” said Nathan Rich, Executive Director of Wasatch Energy Systems. “Curbside recycling systems simply can not match the performance and cost effectiveness of the integrated waste management system which we already have in place”. Rich also pointed out the expansion in other recycling programs the District provides. “In the past few years we have added a green waste recycling and composting program, a community based recycling bin program, and most recently a household hazardous waste drop-off facility. We have also recently commissioned a project with Hill Air Force Base which uses waste methane gas being produced at the landfill to produce electricity”.

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Updated	2007
Total Waste Generated	289,968 tons
Waste Landfilled	155,034 tons
Total Recycled	138,095 tons
Energy Recovery	123,240 tons
Carpet Pads	101 tons
Used Oil	23 tons
Metals	4,510 tons
Tires	118 tons
Green Waste	8,916 tons
Recycling Bins	728 tons
Refrigerators	459 units
Landfill Diversion Rate	48%