

**Pennsylvania FFA  
Environmental/Natural Resources  
Career Development Event: Waste Management**

**2005 Team Scenario**

The County Commissioners of Congenial County have come to the realization that the county landfill will reach capacity in five more years, and have recently applied for a permit to expand the landfill on land adjacent to the current landfill. The state regulatory agency has told the County that before issuing the permit, the Commissioners will need to develop a county-wide comprehensive waste management plan to prevent and reduce solid waste as much as possible so that the landfill expansion can serve the county's future waste disposal needs for many years. The plan must address all significant waste sources that are now contributing waste to the landfill. In addition, the regulatory agency is requiring the County to address the proper handling and disposal of agricultural animal waste as part of the comprehensive plan.

Congenial County encompasses 400 square miles, with about 50% in agricultural land (cropland and pasture) supporting dairy and beef cattle operations, 25 % in forested land, and 25% consists of Congenial City (population: 100,000 people) and residential land surrounding the city.

Your team has been hired to study the situation and develop a waste management plan for Congenial County that addresses the county's waste management issues and will help the Commissioners obtain their permit from the state regulatory agency. You must present your study and solution(s) at the County Commissioners' next meeting.

As part of your written management plan and presentation, you must assess how solid waste is currently being disposed, and how the county can, in the future, prevent and reduce as much solid waste as is possible from going to the present landfill and proposed landfill expansion. The state regulatory agency wants *all sources of waste* to be considered, including waste from all the major land uses in the county. In addition, the town has a modern wastewater treatment plant that generates significant biosolids (sludge); currently these biosolids must be sent to the landfill because a local metal plating plant contributes high levels of chromium to the wastewater treatment plant. Minor amounts of household generated hazardous waste must also be addressed in the plan, to prevent disposal in the current and proposed landfill.

See the back for important components of the written management plan.

## **Components of the Written Management Plan:**

- Introduction
- Statement of Problem
- Analysis of Scenario
- Possible Solutions identified
- Recommendations
  - short-term goals
  - long term goals
- Are goals measurable?
- Check Grammar and Spelling
- Summary