



Boards and Commissions Annual Report - 2022

Board, Commission, Agency, Authority, or Committee Name:

Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee

Meeting Frequency:

Provide the committee's date, time, and location for meetings.

Day(s)	Time	Location
2nd Thursday of the month	4-5:30 pm	Virtual

Committee Members Meeting Attendance (Albemarle County Board of Supervisors Appointed Representatives Only):

P=Present / A=Absent

Member	Meeting Dates											
	7/8	8/12	9/9	10/14	11/11	12/9	1/13	2/10	3/10	4/14	5/12	6/9
Christine Putnam	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P
Peggy Gilges	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P
Anne Johnson	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jesse Warren	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Margaret Eldridge	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	A	P	P
Teri Kent	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Monty Harris	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Navarre Bartz	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Sage Bradburn*					A	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
Victoria Walsh*					P	P	P	A	P	P	A	P
Betsey Soulsby*							P	P	P	P	P	P

*New members this year

Summary:

Provide a summary of the past years key activities that support the mission to include milestones, accomplishments, and challenges.

Education and Outreach:

- Updated and redesigned the Albemarle Co. quick reference guide on reuse, recycling and safe HHW disposal
- Anti-litter radio PSAs were prepared and sent to community radio stations
- Created an updated recycling blog for the Community Climate Collaborative which outlined recycling options in Albemarle County and best practices for recycling and composting
- Updated Recycling FAQs for County website
- Prepared a recycling tip that the County could use as a PSA on plastic bags as a contaminant in recycling.
- Updated the quick recycling guide on Lithium-ion battery recycling and local pharmacy take-back programs
- Created a contact list of the County's HOAs for future outreach about recycling best practices and drafted an outreach letter to HOA representatives.
- Members gave a presentation to the local chapter of the Sierra Club on recycling best practices.
- Created content about waste reduction and recycling for the County's Environmental Stewardship Hub
- Wrote information about how to report litter and illegal dumping to be posted on the RSWA or County website
- Members continue to participate in the Recycling Ambassadors Program at the McIntire Recycling Center (MRC) contributing 197 volunteer hours from 7/2021-6/2022. The purpose of this program is to help promote sound recycling practices and to reassure the public that the material collected at MRC is being diverted from the landfill and being used to create a new product.

Planning and Vision:

- Followed the Virginia Dept. of Taxation guidelines for the plastic bag tax and proposed state measures relating to waste and recycling
- Researched incentives for deconstruction to increase recycling and reuse of C&D waste

Operations

- Glass recycling-
 - Members met with Owens Illinois (OI) about glass recycling.
 - Engaged Nelson County as a partner in glass recycling-Worked with Scott DeFife from the Glass Packaging Institute to provide a grant for Nelson Co. roll off containers for glass
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- Composting in the schools:
 - Members talked with Lindsay Snoddy about back of house composting, and prepared signs for staff in schools about how to compost and why it is important
 - Worked with the Community Climate Collaborative to promote composting in the private schools
 - Met with John Coles to discuss ways to improve recycling and expand composting in schools
- Worked with TJPDC to review and help with tables and graphics for the Solid Waste Planning update
- Created a list of local haulers with contact information and information about where they take waste and recycling.

Litter Events:

- Members participated in the "Love Albemarle" litter awareness campaign being developed by a cross-department group that includes community development, environmental facilities, parks, and rec, schools, communications, and equity and inclusion offices. The pilot program included events during the fall which took place in different quadrants of the County and had a different litter focus (roadways, furniture, and appliances, trails, waterways, and stormwater).
- Members helped to plan and participated in the spring litter events at five Albemarle Co. Public Schools

Guest Speakers:

- Lindsay Snoddy, Deputy Director, Building Management, Albemarle Co. Schools
- UVA's Sustainability Director, Andrea Trimble - Executive Order 77 implementation on the UVA campus
- Chuck Riegle, Senior Vice-President of Government Affairs and Deposit Refund Systems (DRS) Compliance for TOMRA Systems ASA
- Jay Zook of GFL Environmental, and colleagues William Dalrymple and John Childress.
- John Coles, Environmental Project Coordinator ACPS- Building Services
- SWAAC member, Victoria Walsh presented on Cradle to Cradle certification
- Anne Johnson is one of four citizens on the Governor's Plastic Waste Prevention Advisory Council, created to facilitate the Governor's Executive Order 77, and served as Chair. Anne provides regular updates to the SWAAC on the progress made by the council.

Field Trips:

- Members visited the Trex facility in Winchester to learn more about plastic film recycling.

Feedback to the BOS:

- Helped to draft Plastic Bag Fee FAQs for the BOS.
- Wrote a letter to the BOS in support of the Plastic Bag Tax
- Provided research on the solid waste impact of artificial turf in a letter to the BOS

Feedback to the staff:

- Members attended the Southern Convenience Center Public meeting and provided feedback
- Suggestions were made about leaf collection in the urban ring
- Paper Sort facility-siting of new facility and upgrades to equipment
- Hauler requirements- in preparation for amendments to the Chapter 13 Code to establish requirements for waste haulers operating in the County.
 - Reviewed the GBB study
 - Researched and reviewed hauler requirements in Loudoun and Arlington County
- Expressed concerns about the disposal of artificial turf playing fields at County highschoools in FY23 and 24
- Need for better metrics on MSW generation and recycling in Albemarle County

Planning and Goal Setting:

- Reviewed priorities from 2015 Long Range Plan and established new priorities

Challenges:

- Confusion and mixed messaging about meeting requirements has hampered working groups
- Quantifying successes
- Concerns about member participation for future in-person meetings. Many members travel for work making it difficult to participate in person. Having the ability to call in or a virtual option for participation is needed.

