

ISLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE

October 20, 2025

Members Present:

George Place, Andrew Riggs, Rhianne Janovich, Janusz Bajsarowicz, Sarah Bergquist, Dar Christopherson, and Joan Green.

Staff Present:

Jeff Hegedus (Public Works), James Sylvester (Public Works), and Gynon Nash (Public Works)

Others Present:

Katie Jerauld (Dept of Ecology), Ruth Hamler, Heather Vitiaz (WSU Waste Wise), and members of the Whidbey Compost Collective

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Island County SWAC was called to order on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 10:03 a.m. via Microsoft Teams meeting, by Sarah Bergquist, Chairperson.

Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Approval of Minutes:

Roll call determined the correct amount of a quorum. The minutes for the July 21, 2025, SWAC meeting was approved as written. The motion for approval was made by George Place and 2nd by Sarah Bergquist. Motion approved - all in favor.

Public Comment Period:

- Joan Green was introduced as the newest member of SWAC, she gave a brief background of her work and interests to with committee.
- Ruth Haler, a recent arrival to Island County, introduced herself.
- Megan and Don Kraft introduced themselves and briefed the committee about the Whidbey Compost Collective.
- Katie Jerauld (Dept of Ecology) informed the committee of a webinar regarding the Recycling Reform Act that is available to watch, DOE and DOH videos regarding the Single-Use Serviceware Law and organics management, and the statewide color-code and labels for waste containers that starts in 2028. Katie will email Jeff Hegedus related links.

Operations Update:

Jeff Hegedus updated the committee on operations:

- Solid Waste tonnage increased by 2%, compared to the previous year.
- Construction is now scheduled for next month to install the Coupeville compactor hydraulic power unit roof.
- Container storage area at Camano is being surveyed for leveling to increase safety
- A pad for the new container office at the North Whidbey site is being designed and permitted.
- Moderate Risk Waste grant from the Department of Ecology for \$433,000 has been completed and approved.
- Clean Harbors has been retained under the new state contract as the service provider for MRW disposal.

- Staff recommends low bidder DGT Recycling for recycle contract on Whidbey Island.
- A member asked Jeff about a repurpose/thrift store at the Freeland location. He briefed the committee on the challenges, cost, and current alternatives available. The County has no plans to operate a repurpose/thrift stores at this time.

2020 Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan:

Jeff Hegedus informed the committee that the RFP for the update to the Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan has been completed. Five proposals from bidders were evaluated and the low bidder, SCS Engineers is being recommend for service provision. In preparation to participate and contribute to the development of the plan Jeff recommends that SWAC members read Task 1 through Task 6.3 found in the agenda packet to familiarize themselves with the process. It's anticipated that a rep from SCS Engineers will be at the January SWAC meeting.

Island Disposal, Inc. Curbside Recycling Customer Survey:

Andrew Riggs from Island Disposal, Inc. presented a power point presentation regarding the results of their curbside recycling survey and answered questions from SWAC members.

WSU Waste Wise Program:

Sarah Bergquist updated the committee on the Waste Wise program:

- WSU was awarded 63K for the Community Litter Pick-up Program
- Working with community group to purchase densifier machine
- 2026 focusing on composting

Open Session, Announcements, Agenda Items:

Joan Green briefed the committee on the rePurpose Repair Cafe, the Repair Cafe will be a monthly event, the next one will be November 15th.

Adjournment:

Sarah Bergquist adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____ 2025

Sarah Bergquist, SWAC Chair