

May 10, 2011

Art Gravenstein, Solid Waste Supervisor
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
901 South Stewart Avenue, Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249

Dear Mr. Gravenstein,

The 2010 Clark County Recycling Report is now complete. For calendar year 2010, 475,235 tons were recycled, up 18,991 tons, or 4.16%, from 2009. The recycling rate (tons recycled/tons generated) is up 0.58 percentage points or 3.35%. Factors affecting the recycling rate include (1) commodity and energy prices, which influence commercial participation, and (2) collection convenience and public attitude, which influence residential participation.

The reported recycling rate is lower than actual, due to difficulties in the collection of data from the myriad of retail establishments that recycle through out-of-state shipping hubs and intra-company shipping networks rather than local recycling centers or materials recovery facilities. Additionally, off-book recycling to California by unlicensed, unpermitted recyclers of aluminum and plastic beverage containers is also unreported. Although, it is difficult to determine how much recycling is not being reported, a range of one to two percentage points is likely.

Residential recycling has in the past made up only about 1.5% of all MSW recycling in Clark County. However the data suggests that this rate may have increased to as high as 5-6% in 2009 and 2010. This is likely due to several pilot recycling studies being conducted in a number of areas in metropolitan Clark County. In 2007, the Clark County Board of Commissioners requested Republic Services, the franchised curbside waste collector, to institute these pilot projects based on recommendations from the Nevada Recycling Advisory Committee. Since then the cities of Henderson, Las Vegas, and North Las Vegas have followed suit. Pilot study results found residential recycling rates ranging from 20-30%. In response, the cities of Henderson and North Las Vegas have instituted single-container recycling collection at all single family homes.

Commercial recycling has historically constituted the bulk (~95+%) of recycling activities by weight although as stated this may have declined. Nevertheless, the recycling rate depends in large part on commodity prices and transportation and landfilling costs, as these are the factors which most influence commercial waste handling decision making. Landfilling costs are relatively stable and quite low as compared nationally and commodity prices over the near-term are less predictable. Our recycling rate will likely rise or fall with fluctuations in commodity prices and transportations costs.

Year-to-Year Changes by Category

Recyclable	Total Tons	Change from 2009	... from 2008	... from 2007
Glass	12,260	+120.63%	+276%	+264%
Metals	203,063	-1.61%	-31.37%	-39%
Organics	59,100	+1.35%	-15.23%	-39%
Paper	161,551	+8.98%	-0.64%	+2%
Plastic	12,231	-26.41%	-19.95%	-34.67%
Special Waste	9,153	+145.44%	+123%	+167%
Textiles	2,118	-25.78%	+15.98%	+19%

Notable Notes:

- 2010 Recycling Rate: 17.88% (2009: 17.19%, 2008: 18.92%, 2007: 19.95%)
- 2010 Total Tons Recycled: 475,235 (2009: 452,944, 2008: 571,716, 2007: 622,072)
- 2010 Waste Generated: 2.2 million tons (2009: 2.6 million. 2008: 3.0 million, 2007: 3.1 million)ⁱ
- 2010 Waste Generated per person per day: 7.15 pounds (2009: 7.39, 2008: 8.34. 2007: 8.56)ⁱⁱ

It has been our pleasure to prepare this report. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Dennis Campbell, RS
Environmental Health Manager

Glenn Savage, REHS
Environmental Health Director

Enclosure 1. 2010 Clark County Recycling Report

Cc: 1. Kathryn Fergus, Southern Nevada Recycling Program Coordinator,
NDEP, 2030 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

ⁱ Based on data made available by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

ⁱⁱ Based on population data from the Clark County, Comprehensive Planning, accessed 5/4/11 at http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/comprehensive_planning/demographics/Documents/PlacePopulation.pdf.

FORM A

2010 MSW RECYCLING RATE

County Name: Clark County

17.88%

17.30%

REPORTING PERIOD: 1/1/10 - 12/31/10

RECYCLED MSW	# OF TONS	2009	% Change
Paper			
Corrugated cardboard	114,890.01	106,170.48	
Newspaper	24,218.53	29,208.21	
Office paper	18,759.66	16,491.22	
Magazines	816.92	1,231.31	
Telephone books	405.74	694.06	
Mixed paper	16,964.36	7,755.78	
Other paper		0	
Paper Total	176,055.22	161,551.06	8.98%
Metals			
Aluminum containers	1,145.38	1,454.19	
Tin/steel containers	26,941.07	5,667.19	
Ferrous scrap metals	151,673.86	180,264.54	
Non-ferrous scrap metals	19,012.38	12,024.75	
Appliances (white goods)	4,290.00	6,985.09	
Mixed metal	0.00	0	
Metals Total	203,062.70	206,395.76	-1.61%
Plastic			
Plastic (PET)	3,687.04	2,899.41	
Plastic (HDPE)	2,799.51	3,397.38	
Mixed plastic	2,168.31	2,567.60	
Plastic film	1,419.19	2,475.92	
Polystyrene	56.20	103.89	
Other (PVC, LDPE, PP)	2,100.42	5,175.84	
Plastic Total	12,230.67	16,620.04	-26.41%
Glass			
Clear	552.97	1,278.33	
Green	427.19	1,229.64	
Amber/Brown	1,245.12	2,316.89	
Mixed glass	10,034.68	731.84	
Other glass	0.00	0.00	
Glass Total	12,259.96	5,556.70	120.63%
Organic Material			
Yard debris	19,849.79	13,197.41	
Food waste	25,357.62	26,292.43	
BioSolids	3,039.00	3,300.00	
Restaurant grease	8,151.96	7,439.85	
Rendered animal matter	314.12	22.50	
Pallets/Wood	2387.08	8,060.54	
Organic Material Total	59,099.57	58,312.73	1.35%
Special Waste			
Used tires	8,203.44	3,682.59	
Paint	891.40	24.00	
Fluorescent Bulbs	34.41	22.59	
Lamp Ballasts	0.00	0.09	
Mercury Devices and Waste	0.00	0.00	
Household Hazardous Waste	23.70	0.00	
Special Waste Total	9,152.95	3,729.27	145.44%
Textiles			
Textiles	243.74	236.00	
Carpet/Carpet Pad	1,873.94	2,617.42	
Textiles Total	2,117.68	2,853.42	-25.78%
Other Recycled MSW			
Toner Cartridges	0.00	1.87	
Cell Phones	3.00	0.79	
Filters	68.00	228.15	
Computer E-Waste	1,185.77	994.31	
Other Rec. Materials Total	1,256.77	1,225.12	2.58%
TOTAL RECYCLED MSW	475,235.51	456,244.10	4.16%

FORM A

2010 RECYCLING RATE W/ C&D

County Name: Clark County

18.22%

17.32%

REPORTING PERIOD: 1/1/10 - 12/31/10

CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS (C & D)	# OF TONS	2009
Asphalt	1.43	0.00
Concrete	2.27	0.00
Carpet	0.00	0.00
Carpet padding	0.00	0.00
Drywall	6,865.00	135.00
Wood	4,050.01	603.81
Plastic buckets	0.00	52.45
Other (specify)	0.00	0.00
Other (specify)	0.00	0.00
Other (specify)	0.00	0.00
Other (specify)	0.00	0.00
CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS TOTAL	10,918.71	791.26
RECYCLED MSW AND C & D GRAND TOTAL	486,154.22	457,035.36

1280%

Total MSW disposed of in the municipality: * 2,182,537 2,181,722 0.04%

Total MSW generated in municipality: ** 2,657,773 2,637,966 0.75%

* This number can be found in the spreadsheet at the following link: <http://nevadarecycles.gov/main/forms.htm>

** Total MSW generated is the sum of recycled MSW (tabulated above) plus the quantity of MSW disposed of in a landfill, which was reported as generated in the municipality.