

WDO ROUND ONE PROJECTS FINAL REPORT Permanent HSW Depot - HSW 01 13

INTRODUCTION

With financial assistance from the Waste Diversion Organization, the City of Owen Sound has established a permanent Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Depot to serve the 33,300 residents of the municipalities within the City of Owen Sound Landfill Site service area. The Depot is located in Owen Sound and will be open to the public one Saturday per month from March to November this year.

This is a historically under-serviced area for HHW disposal opportunities, with only four previous one-day events, one in 1995, the second in 1999 and two in 2000. All of these efforts were promoted and managed by the City of Owen Sound.

The City of Owen Sound has taken the next step in providing cost-effective HHW disposal services to our residents: a permanent depot that is open to receive HHW one day per month from March to November. As with the previous one-day programs, the permanent depot is open to all residents of those municipalities that share the Owen Sound landfill site. Landfill tipping fees are used for operational and capital funding for this program.

The City is utilizing it's own staff to unload vehicles and sort and pack the collected hazardous materials. Hotz Environmental Services of Hamilton Ontario has been contracted for two years to remove and dispose of the HHW.

City staff store propane tanks and lead acid batteries for local recycling. The existing waste oil and antifreeze storage tanks at the Public Works facility are being used and a licensed contractor removes this waste.

1. METHODOLOGY

The City of Owen Sound had an existing Ministry of Environment (MOE) Certificate of Approval (COA) to hold one-day HHW events at the Public Works Facility. A detailed application was submitted to amend this COA to expand the program to include a permanent storage facility and increased frequency of HHW days. A copy of this application is appended.

Funding from the WDO assisted the City of Owen Sound in purchasing a storage building and associated material handling equipment and supplies.

The storage building and equipment was not purchased until after approval for the facility design and operation plans had received MOE approval.

2. RESULTS

The City has successfully established a Permanent Depot for the diversion of HHW from improper disposal in the City landfill or sewer system.

Early indications are that the depot will be popular, with approximately 150 vehicles arriving during each of the first two days in March and April, and 200 vehicles in May 2001.

The City is still in the process of collecting and analyzing data from the on-going HHW Depot days. Following an initial training period, staff levels for the events are being adjusted to balance costs and service levels.

Early indications are that operating expenditures will be well below the cost of having a contractor operate the HHW Depot, while greatly increasing service levels to our clients.

Data analysis will yield an average cost-per-vehicle that will allow us to extend this service to surrounding municipalities that do not use the City landfill site on a fee-for-service basis.

Project Capital Cost:

Capital cost for establishing the Permanent HHW Depot totaled \$55,400 to date. A detailed breakdown of capital costs is attached as Table 1. Small incidental costs continue to accrue as modifications are made to streamline the program.

Project Operational Costs:

Operational costs include staff time for designing the facility and applying for MOE approval as well as training and initial program delivery. No disposal costs are included. Operational costs to the end of 2001 are expected to total \$15,700 and are detailed on Table 2.

Advertising costs are described in Table 3, and are expected to total \$9,400 by the end of 2001.

3. TRANSFERABILITY TO OTHER REGIONS/MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO

The attached design and operating plan may be used as an example for other municipalities in Ontario wishing to establish HSW facilities.

The City was successful in receiving approval from the MOE for the use of a storage building without permanent internal dividers separating different waste types. This has greatly increased the capacity of the storage building.

All materials must be placed in steel drums as a primary containment system. Aisles 0.6 meter wide must be maintained between drums of incompatible materials. This allows us to minimize the space required to store corrosives, which accumulate in very small amounts at a HHW depot, but would require a disproportionate space in a storage depot with permanent interior divisions.

Chris Hughes
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