



SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY RECYCLE



Recycling: Small Steps, Big Impact!

As we move into the heart of 2025, it's the perfect time to focus on sustainability and the positive changes we can make in our community. With exciting developments on the horizon - including the upcoming openings of the MRF and WRAC- we are eager to share our process.

We have completed staff training on our equipment in the MRF, and during this period, we began processing material. Over the past month, we have created 319 bales of material.

The Waste and Recycling Adventure Center is finally complete. Whirlwind Creative has just finished installing all of the exhibits. We were thrilled to host our first school field trip at the WRAC on February 6th, and can't wait to welcome more groups to our facility!

Just a friendly reminder: SWDA's "FREE DAY" will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2024! The event will run from 7 am to 3 pm. Don't miss out! For more details, please visit our website at baldwincountyswda.org.

With the end of February quickly approaching, the SWDA wanted to provide some eco-friendly tips for Mardi Gras. Mardi Gras is a great time to spend with friends and family in the community, but make sure to recycle items when you can, and remember to take home everything you brought with you.

As mentioned previously, we had the pleasure of welcoming our first school field trip to the WRAC. The 6th grade from Snook Christian Academy had the opportunity to learn about waste and recycling and how we process our material.

As the weather gets warmer and you're looking for something to do outside, maybe try to participate in the Alabama PALS Spring Cleanup. For more information visit

<https://www.alpals.org/>



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MRF Update

Over the past month, the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) has been collecting materials from several sources, including the City of Foley, the City of Fairhope, Republic Services (which services our beach areas), and our own recycling locations throughout the county.

As a result of these efforts, we have successfully processed enough material to produce 319 bales from the truckloads delivered to the MRF.



Waste and Recycling Adventure Center

The Waste and Recycling Adventure Center is now complete, thanks to Whirlwind Creative, who designed the entire facility and handled the installation. With their help, we were able to create an incredible educational facility that will be available for tours starting April 7th. There are 20 stations throughout the facility, ranging from the origins of materials to an interactive display showing how the Green Machine works, as well as an explanation of how methane gas from our landfill is scrubbed and used to supplement natural gas.

FREE DAY!!

REMEMBER!! The Solid Waste Disposal Authority is hosting a Free Day at each of our landfill locations and the new MRF on March 1st 2025!

This event will be for Baldwin County residents only, and residents will be required to show ID. Residents can bring the following materials:



Mardi Gras & Sustainability

While in the midst of Mardi Gras season, we wanted to give you some tips to make sure that while you enjoy the celebrations you are also taking care of the environment. Here are some tips to have a Eco-friendly Mardi Gras:

- **Eco-friendly Beads:** Instead of traditional plastic beads, consider using beads made from sustainable materials like, wood, bamboo, or recycled glass.
- **Eco-conscious Food and Drink:** Serve food and drinks using compostable plates, cups, and utensils made from bamboo or recycled materials.
- **Eco-friendly Mardi Gras Decor:** Use upcycled materials to create festive decorations, and opt for eco-friendly glitter made from plant-based materials.
- **Promote Carpooling:** When traveling to parades, promote carpooling to reduce the environmental impact of travel to and from.
- **Sustainable Outfits:** Donate or sell previously worn Mardi Gras ball gowns, and purchase second hand Mardi Gras ball gowns to reduce the amount of textiles that would be thrown away.

Sustainability Shout-Out

Snook Christian Academy



We had the pleasure of hosting Snook Christian Academy's 6th-grade class as the first school group to tour the Baldwin County Waste and Recycling Adventure Center. They were able to play all the games, complete the puzzles, learn how the sort line works, watch the line in operation in real time, and view videos on recycling end markets in the Southeast. We are grateful that they took the time to visit and provide us with feedback to help improve future tours and field trips.

Alabama PALS

As the weather warms up and you're looking for more outdoor activities, consider participating in the Alabama PALS (People Against A Littered State) Spring Cleanup.

Participants will have the opportunity to pick up litter and separate aluminum cans and plastic bottles for recycling.

For more information about the Alabama PALS cleanup, visit their website, where you can find a cleanup flyer, participation sign-up forms, and more.

<https://www.alpals.org/>

SWDA Community Engagement

Elberta Elementary

Amy Galemore and Jennifer Doan volunteered with the Master Environmental Educators to teach multiple recycling lessons to Elberta Elementary's 6th-grade class.



SERC

Susan Kilby-Aaron and Jennifer Doan attended the Southeastern Recycling Conference in Destin to learn more about the waste and recycling industries and to continue building and creating new partnerships within the industry.

City of Daphne Tour

On February 5th, we had the pleasure of inviting Mayor Robin LeJeune to tour the new MRF and Educational Facility to learn about the Solid Waste Disposal Authority and our recycling initiatives.



"Reduce, reuse, recycle: a formula for a greener, cleaner future." - Pete Seeger

What to Recycle and Where

What Can You Recycle in Baldwin County and Where?

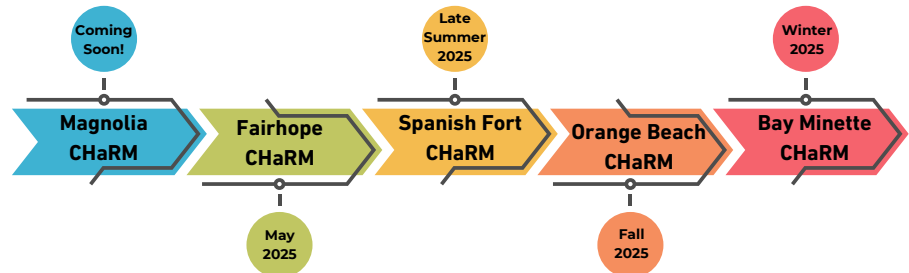
The following items are materials that the Solid Waste Disposal Authority will be recycling at our MRF. You can drop these items off at one of our current recycling drop-off locations, at one of our future CHaRMs, or through current and future curbside recycling programs throughout the county.



The following items will be accepted by the Solid Waste Disposal Authority at the CHaRMs.



CHaRM Timeline



Contact Us!

Main Office:
251.972.6878

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Thanks for Reading!

This is a monthly publication so be on the lookout for the next edition in March 2025!

If you would like to be added to the newsletter list please email Jennifer Doan at Jennifer.Doan@baldwincountyswda.org

For more waste and recycling information please visit: baldwincountyswda.org