



**SOLID WASTE
AUTHORITY**
RECYCLE



Red, White, and Green - Celebrating a Sustainable Summer

July is in full swing, bringing warm weather, summer vacations, and backyard BBQs. As we soak up the season, it's also the perfect time to stay mindful of our impact on the environment. This month's newsletter features tips for a sustainable summer, an update on the Baldwin County MRF, an announcement about the Fairhope CHaRM Grand Opening, and more!

The Baldwin County MRF (Materials Recovery Facility) has officially been operating for six months. As we reach this exciting milestone, take a look at the amount of material we've been able to process and successfully sell to end markets.

The Fairhope CHaRM is in its final stages of completion, and we're excited to announce the official opening date later in the newsletter!

As the weather heats up and families head out for one last vacation or weekend getaway before school starts, it's a great reminder that recycling doesn't take a break. Check out our tips below for making your summer both fun and sustainable.

With the Grand Opening of the CHaRM coming up, SWDA would like to share pricing information for certain items that may carry a small fee when dropped off at the facility.

Since opening its doors on April 7, 2025, the Waste and Recycling Adventure Center has proudly conducted over 50 educational tours through July 31, 2025. These tours have welcomed school groups, community organizations, and curious residents eager to learn more about sustainable practices, recycling processes, and the importance of reducing waste.

In July, the City of Mobile officially began bringing materials to the Baldwin County MRF—an exciting step forward in regional recycling efforts!

On July 16, members of the SWDA administrative team attended the North Baldwin Chamber's Annual Ladies Leadership Luncheon in Bay Minette. Be sure to check out how the team decorated their table for the event later in the newsletter!



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MRF Update



In June, the Baldwin County MRF processed 188.79 tons of material and shipped out 217.77 tons. This included 153.62 tons of Old Corrugated Cardboard and 64.15 tons of mixed paper.

These materials were sent to Midland Davis and Pratt Industries for recycling into new products—helping reduce landfill waste and support a circular economy.

CHaRM Update



The Fairhope CHaRM is officially opening! We are excited to announce that the Grand Opening will be on August 7th at 12:00 PM. If you live in the Fairhope area or anywhere in Baldwin County and have recycling materials you've been holding onto, you're welcome to come out on August 7th to check out the first CHaRM (Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials). We're thrilled to introduce Michael Allo and Stacy Evans a team dedicated to sustainability.

Sustainable Summer Tips

Summer fun doesn't have to come at the planet's expense. Here are 6 easy ways to make your summer more sustainable:

Choose Durable Pool Gear

Ditch the flimsy inflatables—opt for reusable or long-lasting alternatives.

Eco-Friendly Grilling

Use propane or electric grills instead of charcoal. They produce fewer emissions and are more energy-efficient.

Recycle On the Go

Keep a small recycling bag in your car or picnic basket so you don't toss recyclables into the trash while traveling.

Eco-Prep for Back-to-School

Shop for reusable lunch boxes, refillable pens, and recycled notebooks before the school year starts.

Reuse Shipping Materials

Ordering online? Save bubble wrap, boxes, or tissue paper for reuse—offer them to someone moving or donate them to moving companies!

Recycle Right at Events

Label bins clearly if you're hosting a summer party. Avoid wishcycling—when in doubt, throw it out (or check local guidelines).

CHaRM Recycling Rates

Have you been wondering if any items at the CHaRM come with a fee? Wonder no more! Below is a list of items and their associated drop-off prices at the CHaRM.

Item	Cost
Residential Paint	\$2.00/gallon
Commercial Paint	\$15.00/gallon
Household Hazardous Waste	\$2.00/gallon
Car Batteries	\$2.00/ battery
Tanks	\$4.00/ tank
Small Electronics	\$5.00/ unit
Large Electronics	\$10.00/ unit

Waste and Recycling Adventure Center



From April 7 to July 31, the Waste and Recycling Adventure Center welcomed over 50 tour groups and that's not even counting our Business Partners and Vendor Tours! As summer winds down and the pace of tours eases, we're already looking ahead with excitement. The upcoming school year promises fresh faces, curious minds, and plenty more adventures in waste and recycling!

Sustainability Shout-Out



In July, the City of Mobile officially began bringing their recyclables to the Baldwin County MRF (Materials Recovery Facility). This partnership marks a significant step forward in regional collaboration and waste diversion efforts along the Gulf Coast.

We're excited to welcome Mobile into our growing network of communities committed to improving recycling access and efficiency. By working together, we're able to increase the volume of materials processed and help ensure that more recyclables are successfully sorted and sent to end markets—keeping valuable resources out of landfills.

Community Engagement



On July 16th, members of the SWDA Admin team attended the North Baldwin Chamber Annual Ladies Leadership Luncheon in Bay Minette. For the event, each group was asked to design a themed table, and SWDA chose recycled materials as our theme. With help from team members who crafted flowers out of magazines, we created a unique and eye-catching centerpiece—which earned us the award for Most Unusual Table!

What to Recycle and Where

What Can You Recycle in Baldwin County and Where?

The Solid Waste Disposal Authority is committed to promoting environmental sustainability through our comprehensive recycling efforts. As part of our ongoing initiative, we are now accepting the following materials for recycling at our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Residents can conveniently recycle these items in several ways:

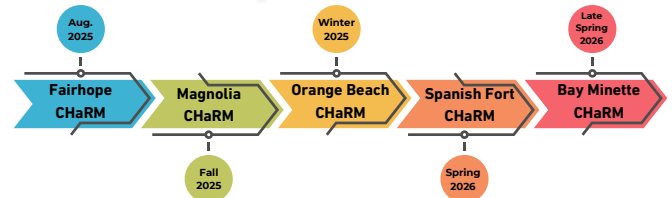
- **At any of our existing recycling drop-off locations** throughout the community
 - **At one of our upcoming CHaRM (Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials) sites**, which will be opening soon to expand recycling options
 - **And through future curbside programs** that will be launched in additional areas across the county
- By utilizing these services, you are helping to save space in the landfill, conserve resources, and protect our environment for future generations. Stay tuned for updates on new locations and expanded services as we continue to grow our recycling efforts.



The following items will be accepted at the Solid Waste Disposal Authority CHaRM (Center Hard to Recycle Materials) Facilities.



CHaRM Timeline



Contact Us!

Main Office:
251.972.6878

Susan Kilby-Aaron
Director of Recycling Services
Skilby@baldwincountyswda.org

Jennifer Doan
Recycling Outreach Coordinator
Jennifer.Doan@baldwincountyswda.org

Craig Jackson
MRF Manager
Craig.Jackson@baldwincountyswda.org

Thanks for Reading!

This is a monthly publication so be on the lookout for the next edition in August 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