



SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY RECYCLE



Jump Into Summer with Green Habits

Summer is officially here! As you spend more time outdoors with friends and family, we're sharing some tips and tricks for having a sustainable summer. In this issue, you'll also find updates on the Baldwin County MRF, the CHaRM facilities, our new SWDA interns, and more.

The Baldwin County MRF (Materials Recovery Facility) has been operational for five months. During that time, we've increased both the volume of materials received and the amount of material sold. Learn more about these exciting developments later in the newsletter.

Construction on the Fairhope CHaRM is nearing completion, and work has officially begun on the Magnolia CHaRM.

Ever wonder what you can recycle at the beach?

Don't let your summer fun turn into ocean junk! Check out our "Recycle or Not? – Beach Edition" to find out which beachside items belong in the recycling bin and which should stay out.

Let's keep our shores sparkling and sustainable!

With summer beginning and the weather heating up, it's the perfect time to explore ways to make your summer more sustainable. Check out our tips and tricks below!

In June, we were thrilled to host several summer camps from Gulf Shores at the Waste and Recycling Adventure Center (WRAC)!

Want to know what the campers explored and learned? Be sure to read more about their visit later in the newsletter — and find out how to schedule your own tour!

The SWDA Marketing team also took a field trip to the Gulf State Park Nature Center and Interpretive Center to learn more about the educational resources available right here in Baldwin County.

From June 16–20, 2025, SWDA celebrated Waste and Recycling Workers Week — and we were in full swing all week long!

Check out how we honored the hardworking heroes who help keep our communities clean, green, and thriving.

In This Newsletter Issue:

MRF Update

CHaRM Update

Sustainable Summer Tips

Recycle or Not?
Beach Edition

Sustainability Shout-Out
Gulf Coast Center for
Ecotourism

Community Engagement
Eastern Shore Chamber

**Waste and Recycling
Workers Week**





MRF Update

In May and June the Baldwin County MRF was able to process 567.96 tons of material.

We were able to ship out 341.63 tons of cardboard, 92.57 tons of mixed paper, 77.21 tons of plastics, totaling in 511.41 tons. That's 1,022,820 pounds of material that was sold!

With curbside recycling coming online we have been able to process more material and ship out more recycling to end markets in Alabama.

CHaRM Update



With the mid-July opening on the horizon, we're excited to announce that the Fairhope CHaRM has secured staffing — including a CHaRM Attendant and CHaRM Technician — who will be on site to assist and educate residents on proper recycling practices.

Construction at the Magnolia CHaRM site is also progressing well and remains on track for completion by late summer. We can't wait to welcome the community to both locations soon!

Sustainable Summer Tips

Summer fun doesn't have to come at the planet's expense. Here are 7 easy ways to make your summer more sustainable:

- ☀️ Use Reef-Safe Sunscreen – Protect your skin and the ocean.
- 💧 Bring Your Own Reusables – Carry a refillable water bottle, cutlery, and containers wherever you go.
- 🍷 Pack Waste-Free Picnics – Skip single-use plastics and opt for reusable wraps and containers.
- 🍉 Shop Local & Seasonal – Visit farmers markets for fresh, low-impact produce.
- 🏖️ Leave No Trace at the Beach – Pack out what you pack in—and pick up a few extras if you can.
- 💨 Cool Your Home Naturally – Use fans, close blinds during the day, and unplug devices when not in use.
- 🚲 Choose Greener Travel – Walk, bike, or take public transit when exploring your town or city.

Recycle or Not?

Heading to the Beach? Let's Keep Our Coasts Clean and Recycle Right!

Test your knowledge: which of these items belong in the recycling bin, and which should go in the trash?



Plastic Water Bottle



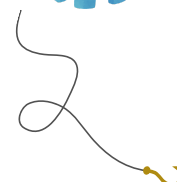
Fruit Peels



Aluminum Cans



Beach Toys



Fishing Gear



Sustainability Shout-Out



On June 4th and 5th, SWDA had the pleasure of hosting the Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism and Sustainability's summer camp.

Campers explored the Waste and Recycling Adventure Center, observed the Green Machine from the mezzanine, and some even had the opportunity to visit our Learning Lab.

Interested in scheduling a tour? Visit: baldwincountyswda.org/recycling

Community Engagement

This month, the SWDA marketing team welcomed three summer interns. We are excited to have them on board and can't wait to see all that they learn and accomplish over the summer.



This month, SWDA joined the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance and the Baldwin County Commission for a strategic international trip to Germany and France, focused on strengthening economic development efforts and positioning our community for future investment.

The visit included a tour of Novelis' Aluminium Norf GmbH - Alunorf, the world's largest fully integrated aluminum plant.

Waste and Recycling Workers Week



From June 16 to 20, we celebrated Waste and Recycling Workers Week by showing appreciation for our hardworking SWDA employees.

On Tuesday, June 17, we gathered for donuts, juice, and coffee as a small thank-you for the important work our team does every day. From collecting trash and recycling to keeping our community clean and safe, your efforts truly make a difference.

Thank you to all our waste and recycling workers — we appreciate you!

"Recycling is a change to transform the world for the better, one item at a time." - Anonymous

What to Recycle and Where

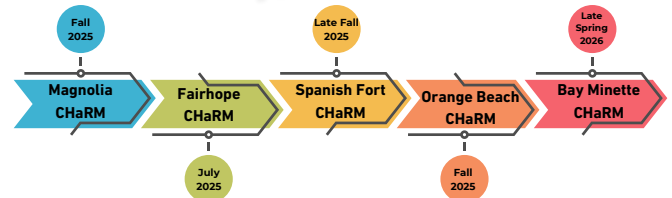
What Can You Recycle in Baldwin County and Where?

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.



CHaRM Timeline



Contact Us!

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Thanks for Reading!

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