



**SOLID WASTE
AUTHORITY**
RECYCLE



Shift Into Fall- Recycle More, Waste Less

As fall begins and the weather starts to shift, it's the perfect time to refresh your recycling habits. Seasonal changes often bring new routines—like back-to-school schedules, holiday planning, and yard cleanups—which also mean new types of waste. From lunchbox packaging to piles of leaves, this is a great opportunity to rethink how we manage our materials at home and in the community.

The MRF continues to make progress in processing and selling materials to recycling end markets. Look for a full update later in this newsletter.

With the Fairhope CHaRM now complete, the next CHaRM facility is set to open adjacent to the Baldwin County MRF, next to the Magnolia Landfill. Construction of the Magnolia CHaRM is finished, and we're currently preparing the site for residents to begin dropping off their materials.

As fall settles in, it's a great time to adjust your habits for a more sustainable season. Inside, you'll find simple tips to help you reduce waste and recycle smarter this autumn.

Members of the SWDA recently had the opportunity to attend several events across the state of Alabama and in Atlanta to talk about recycling efforts in Baldwin County. These outreach efforts help raise awareness about the work we're doing locally to improve sustainability and reduce waste.

As the MRF begins accepting and processing materials from new areas, SWDA team members will continue engaging with the community to spread the word about recycling. Be sure to check later in the newsletter to see where we'll be appearing next!

On September 20th, the Alabama Coastal Cleanup was held in both Mobile and Baldwin Counties. This annual event plays a vital role in protecting and preserving our coastal environment, and we're proud to support it.

Looking ahead, the SWDA has a major event coming up! On November 15th, we'll be celebrating America Recycles Day right here at the MRF. Join us for a fun-filled day with face painting, arts and crafts, guided tours, food trucks, and more. Mark your calendar—we can't wait to see you at our first America Recycles Day celebration!

In This Newsletter Issue:

MRF Update

CHaRM Update

Tips for a Sustainable Fall

Community Engagement

Where to Find Us in the Community

**Sustainability Shout-Out
Alabama Coastal Cleanup**

America Recycles Day!



MRF Update



In August, the Baldwin County Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) received a total of 369.74 tons of recyclable materials from residential, commercial, and municipal sources across the region. Of this total, 207.34 tons were successfully exported to certified recycling end markets such as Greif, International Paper, and Midland Davis. These materials are now on track to be transformed into new products, supporting the circular economy and helping reduce the demand for virgin resources.

CHaRM Update



As of September 7th, the Fairhope CHaRM (Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials) had officially been open for one month. In its first month of operation, the site has served over 600 customers—an encouraging start for a new facility.

We're also excited to announce that the Magnolia CHaRM is now complete and set to open by mid October. If you live in the Magnolia Springs, Silverhill, or Summerdale area and curbside recycling isn't yet available to you, you're welcome to bring your recyclable materials to the new Magnolia CHaRM.

Tips for a Sustainable Fall

Shift Into Sustainable Fall Habits

As the leaves change, it's the perfect time to adopt sustainable habits that reduce waste and support a healthier planet. Here are a few simple ways to make your fall a little greener:

Compost Your Leaves

Instead of bagging yard waste, compost leaves and small branches—or use them as mulch for your garden.

Celebrate Halloween the Eco-Friendly Way

- Reuse or DIY costumes and decorations
- Avoid single-use plastic décor and candy wrappers
- Use reusable treat bags and containers

Shop Secondhand for Fall Fashion

Refresh your wardrobe with thrifted sweaters, coats, and boots—it's budget-friendly and better for the planet.

Rethink Fall Cleaning

Switch to reusable cloths instead of paper towels and choose non-toxic, biodegradable cleaners for a healthier home.

Community Engagement

In September, the SWDA participated in multiple events throughout the state of Alabama. Our CEO, Terri Graham, spoke at the Alabama Recycling Coalition Conference and Expo from September 10th to 12th. She also presented at PEP Mobile on September 18th and at Infraday in Atlanta on September 23rd.

These speaking opportunities help raise awareness about our facility and the recycling efforts taking place here in Baldwin County.



At the ARC Conference, the SWDA accepted a recycling fund grant check to support Curotto-can conversions kits for 2 trucks and an education trailer.

Art for Heart

Terri Graham, our CEO, was nominated as a Leader of Impact for the American Heart Association this year. She is helping to raise donations to provide life-saving heart devices in public buildings and schools for use in emergencies.

We are honored to have several members of the SWDA on Terri's team as she works toward our goal of raising \$10,000.

If you would like to support Terri or anyone else on her team, please visit:

<http://www2.heart.org/goto/swdaterrri>



Where To Find Us in the Community

The SWDA is excited to strengthen our connection with the community by sharing helpful tips on recycling, waste reduction, and sustainability. This October, we're stepping up our outreach with events across Baldwin County to engage with residents, businesses, and local organizations.

Come meet our team, ask questions, and learn easy ways to reduce waste at home and at work.

Whether you're new to recycling or a long-time pro, these events have something for everyone.

Here's where you can find us this month:

- October 4th: Gulf Coast Nature Expo at Weeks Bay Plantation
- October 9th: Central Baldwin Networking Event, Café Acadiana, Silverhill
- October 13th: Lillian Civic and Legislative Committee Meeting
- October 18th: South Baldwin Chamber Trivia Night at Waffles R Wild in Foley

Fairhope CHaRM Team Members

As mentioned above, the Fairhope CHaRM has been open for just over a month, and we'd like to take a moment to introduce the fantastic team working there. Meet Sydney and Stacy, our amazing CHaRM Technician and CHaRM Attendant! They'll be the friendly faces ready to assist you when you visit or drop off your materials.

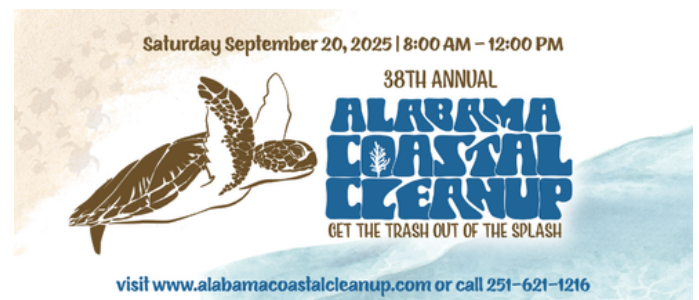


Sydney



Stacy

Sustainability Shout-Out



On September 20th, the 38th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup took place across Mobile and Baldwin Counties, with volunteers cleaning up litter from waterways and shorelines in 28 designated zones. The SWDA proudly supported the effort by providing containers at each location to ensure proper disposal and recycling.

Volunteers were able to collect 4.68 tons (9,360 pounds) of materials from just 9 of the 28 locations where SWDA containers were placed—demonstrating the community's strong commitment to protecting our coastal environment.

Want to get involved next year? Follow the Alabama Coastal Cleanup on Facebook or visit their website for updates and volunteer opportunities.

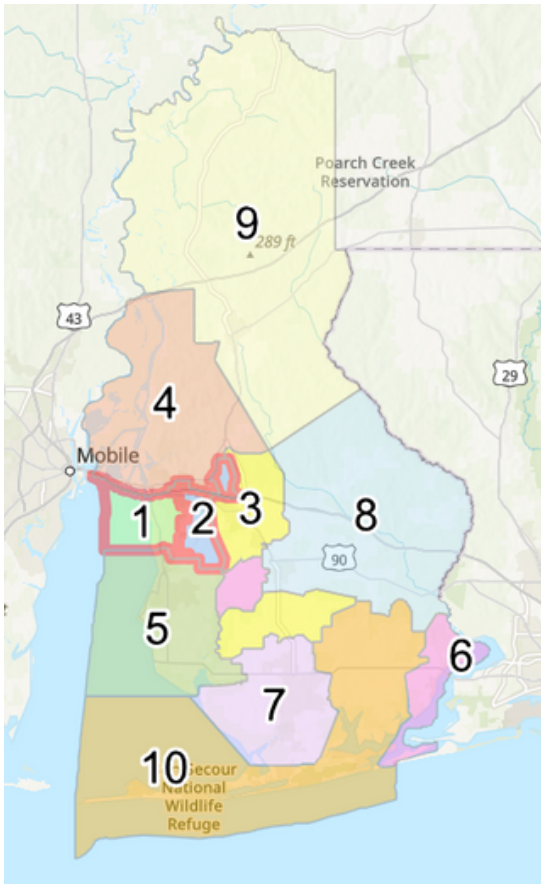
America Recycles Day



On November 15th, the SWDA will host a special event in celebration of America Recycles Day. This fall festival-themed event will feature tours of the Waste and Recycling Adventure Center and the MRF, along with arts and crafts, food trucks, face painting, live music, a photo booth, and more!

If you're interested in attending, be sure to mark your calendar—you won't want to miss it!

Curbside Recycling



Want curbside recycling but not sure if it's available in your area? Check out this map to see when service will start near you.

Curbside recycling makes it easy to reduce waste and protect the environment—sign up today and start recycling right at your doorstep!

1. Daphne (inside/outside city limits, west of 181 and south of I-10) **Active**
2. Belforest, Daphne (inside/outside city limits, east of 181 and north I-10), Malbis, and Spanish Forts Stonebridge **Active**
3. Loxley and Summerdale (inside/outside of city limits) **Starts October 6th, 2025**
4. Bromley, Carpenter, Crossroads, Hurricane, Spanish Fort (inside/outside city limits) Stapleton, Steelwood, Pine Haven, Whitehouse Forks **Starts December 1st, 2025**
5. Barnwell, Clay City, Fairhope (outside city limits), Marlow, and Magnolia Springs (inside/outside city limits) **Starts February 2nd, 2026**
6. Lillian, Silverhill (inside/outside city limits), and Ono Island **Starts April 6th, 2026**
7. Bon Secour and Foley (outside city limits), Gulf Shores (outside city limits) **Starts June 1st, 2026**
8. Elsanor, Gateswood, Robertsedale (inside/outside city limits), Rosinton, Seminole **Starts August 3rd, 2026**
9. Bay Minette (inside/outside city limits), Blacksher, Georgetown, Gopher Hill, Latham, Little River, Lottie, Phillipsville, Rabun, Redtown, Stockton, Tensaw, and Vangordon **Starts October 5th, 2026**
10. Elberta (inside/outside city limits), Fort Morgan, Josephine, Mifflin, Perdido Beach **Starts December 7th, 2026**

What to Recycle and Where

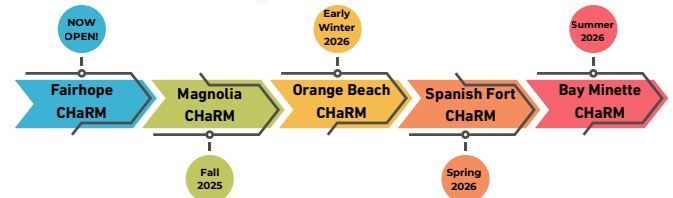
What Can You Recycle in Baldwin County and Where?

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 October 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