

Regional Implementation Plan

Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Planning Unit · 2026 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan

The following table presents implementation framework for the Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Planning Unit and establishes the goals and objectives that will guide solid waste management activities within the planning unit over the next 20 years. The implementation framework was developed by the Solid Waste Technical Advisory Committee to satisfy the requirements of Virginia solid waste planning regulations and is organized pursuant to the solid waste management hierarchy contained in 9VAC20-130- 30, giving preference to source reduction, reuse, recycling, resource recovery, incineration and landfilling, in that order. Objectives are provided by jurisdiction below each goal heading. Lead parties, timeframes, and cost estimates are indicated where available.

The implementation plan identifies:

- Solid waste management goals and objectives for the planning unit;
- Incremental stages of progress and implementation schedules, including short-, medium-, and long-term actions designed to achieve the plan's objectives over the planning period;
- Funding and resources needed to support implementation;
- Public education, outreach, and information strategies that encourage source reduction, reuse, recycling, and responsible materials management; and
- Public and private partnerships that support execution of the plan.

Timeframe: Short = 0–2 years; Mid = 3–5 years; Long = 6–20 years; Ongoing = recurring activity.

Lead party. The lead party is the agency, department, locality, authority, institution, or partner responsible for coordinating the action. Supporting partners may include other localities, RSWA, UVA, private haulers, facility operators, community organizations, businesses, state agencies, and regional partners.

Cost. Low-cost actions generally rely on existing staff time or communication tools. Medium-cost actions may require consultant support, new program materials, limited equipment, or expanded outreach. High-cost actions may require capital investment, new facilities, major contracts, or long-term dedicated funding.

Data & Information Sharing Goal 1: Provide residents and businesses with clear, accessible information to support waste reduction, reuse, and recycling efforts.

Jurisdiction	Local Objective	Timeframe	Lead / Responsible Party	Stakeholders, Partners & Other Resources	Cost
Albemarle County	Create educational and marketing programs that reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling.	Ongoing	CAPE	FES, RSWA, PSA	\$
Albemarle County	Increase information available on sustainable materials management and climate change for the community, residents, and businesses.	Short term	FES	CAPE, RSWA, PSA	\$
Charlottesville	Increase waste management information transparency and availability.	Short term	PWD/CSO		\$

Fluvanna	Provide convenience center customers literature onsite about reuse and recycling options they may have access to.	Short term	Convenience Center Manager	Public Works	\$
Fluvanna	Improve our efforts on accuracy of collecting and recording data.	Mid term	Convenience Center Manager		\$\$\$
Greene	Develop a centralized system for tracking solid waste generation, recycling, and diversion metrics across all facilities and service providers.	0–12 months; ongoing quarterly reporting	Planning and Zoning / Public Works	Waste haulers, landfill operators, Information Technology Department, State environmental agency	\$\$ – \$10,000 – \$25,000 plus staff time
Greene	Publish an annual Solid Waste Report Card summarizing disposal trends, recycling performance, and program outcomes for elected officials and the public.	Within 1 year; annual updates	Planning Department	County Administration, Communications Office	\$\$ – \$1,000–\$3,000 annually
TJPDC	Maintain and regularly update a regional online resource hub that provides residents and businesses with information on local reuse, recycling, composting, household hazardous waste, and disposal options.	Short Term	Planning Staff		\$
TJPDC	Develop and maintain an interactive map of waste diversion and disposal resources throughout the region, including recycling centers, convenience sites, donation locations, repair services, food recovery organizations, and special collection programs.	Mid Term	Planning Staff		\$
TJPDC	Implement an annual outreach and education plan utilizing low-cost communication channels such as local government websites, newsletters, social media, partner organizations, fairs, and community events.	Short Term	Planning Staff		\$

Data & Information Sharing Goal 2: Develop best practices to enhance the collection, verification, and sharing of local waste and recycling data.

Jurisdiction	Local Objective	Timeframe	Lead / Responsible Party	Stakeholders, Partners & Other Resources	Cost
Albemarle County	Establish a standardized data reporting protocol for County divisions and RSWA/haulers, including data submission and verification steps.	Short term	FES	CDD, PSA, RSWA	\$
Albemarle County	Share data collected above on County's website and through public communications.	Short term	CAPE	FES	\$
Charlottesville	Incorporate enhanced reporting metrics in waste collection contracts.	Ongoing	PWD	Contracted service provider	\$

Charlottesville	Expand data collection beyond City-controlled waste streams.	Mid or long term	PWD/Legal	Vendors operating in the City	\$
Charlottesville	Conduct evaluation of contamination rate impacts on quality and volume of materials actually recycled in order to implement best practices.	Mid	PWD/Sustainability	Contracted service provider	\$
Fluvanna	Expand convenience center manager's role into data collection, recording, and sharing.	Short Term	Director of Public Works		\$\$
Greene	Establish formal reporting requirements for private waste haulers to ensure consistent, accurate, and complete tonnage and recycling data.	6–12 months	Public Works	Private haulers, County Attorney	\$ – administrative
Greene	Implement a sustained public education campaign focused on recycling practices, contamination reduction, and ways residents can reduce disposal costs under the revised fee structure.	Initial rollout within 12 months; ongoing	Planning and Zoning / Communications	Schools, community groups, local businesses	\$\$ – \$5,000–\$15,000 annually
TJPDC	Coordinate the annual collection and compilation of recycling and waste diversion data from local governments and regional partners for reporting to DEQ.	Ongoing	Planning Staff	Private haulers, Public and Private Waste Managers and Facilities	\$
TJPDC	Maintain a centralized archive of regional solid waste and recycling data, annual reports, contracts, and supporting documentation to improve institutional knowledge and reporting continuity.	Short Term; Ongoing	Planning Staff		\$
TJPDC	Prepare and distribute an annual regional recycling and waste diversion summary highlighting trends, challenges, and opportunities.	Short Term; Ongoing	Planning Staff		\$
TJPDC	Develop and periodically refine standardized reporting templates and guidance documents to improve consistency and accuracy in local data collection efforts.	Short Term; Ongoing	Planning Staff		\$

Planning Goal 1: Maintain an accessible, efficient, and effective solid waste management system.

Jurisdiction	Local Objective	Timeframe	Lead / Responsible Party	Stakeholders, Partners & Other Resources	Cost
Albemarle County	Conduct periodic regular Countywide assessments of solid waste management system capacity, operational efficiency, customer access, and future needs.	Short term	FES	RSWA, PSA	\$\$\$

Albemarle County	Develop a long-term capital strategy for additional or expanded waste and recycling services, informed by growth patterns and feedback from underserved areas.	Short term	FES	RSWA, PSA	\$\$\$
Charlottesville	Coordinate and facilitate efficient and fiscally sound solid waste management contracts.	Ongoing	PWD	City Procurement	\$
Fluvanna	Educate employees on the recycling process and plan monthly meetings on how the process can be better utilized.	Short term	Convenience Center Manager	Public Works	\$
Fluvanna	Locate local, reliable, and accessible outsourcing for all recyclable items.	Mid term	Convenience Center Manager	SWANA, Virginia Recycling Association, DEQ	\$
Greene	Update the County Solid Waste Management Plan to incorporate phased pricing adjustments, improved data systems, and a long-term diversion strategy.	1–2 years	Planning and Zoning	State environmental agency, consultants, elected officials	\$\$\$ – \$40,000–\$100,000
Greene	Work with TJPDC on shared regional solid waste coordination to support data management, contracting, and coordination across jurisdictions as a later-phase improvement.	3–5 years	Planning and Zoning / TJPDC	Member counties, State environmental agency, regional partners	Member cost share
TJPDC	Convene the Regional Solid Waste Technical Advisory Committee at least annually to review emerging issues, monitor implementation progress, and inform future plan updates.	Ongoing	Planning Staff		\$
TJPDC	Maintain communication with local governments regarding changes in contracts, facilities, regulations, and operational practices that may affect regional solid waste planning.	Ongoing	Planning Staff		\$
TJPDC	Support regional coordination by serving as a liaison to relevant advisory bodies and stakeholder groups involved in solid waste planning and policy discussions.	Ongoing	Planning Staff		\$

Planning Goal 2: Reduce the quantity of waste generated through source reduction, reuse, and other techniques.

Jurisdiction	Local Objective	Timeframe	Lead / Responsible Party	Stakeholders, Partners & Other Resources	Cost
Albemarle County	Create educational and marketing programs on consumption reduction and climate change for the community, residents, and businesses.	Short term	CAPE	FES, PSA	\$

Albemarle County	Create educational and marketing programs on material reuse and climate change for the community, residents, and businesses.	Short term	CAPE	FES, PSA, EDO	\$
Charlottesville	Use sustainable waste management principles to shift from a linear to a circular economy.	Ongoing	PWD/OS	Multiple	\$\$
Fluvanna	Expand the footprint of recycling motor oil, antifreeze, batteries, hazardous materials, etc. Streamline the construction debris process.	Long term	Convenience Center Manager	Public Works	\$\$\$
Fluvanna	Expand the footprint for plastic, cardboard, glass, metal, etc. recycling area to be more fluid and accessible.	Long term	Convenience Center Manager	Public Works	\$\$\$
Greene	Evaluate targeted improvements to convenience centers, including layout, signage, and material separation, rather than focusing on expansion of new facilities.	2–3 years	Public Works	Board of Supervisors, residents, engineers	\$\$\$ – \$50,000–\$250,000 or more depending on scope
Greene	Update waste-related ordinances and enforcement provisions to support revised fee structures, discourage illegal dumping, and improve compliance.	12–18 months	Planning and Zoning / County Attorney	Code Enforcement, Sheriff's Office	\$ – staff time
TJPDC	Identify and share best practices, model policies, and funding opportunities that support source reduction initiatives among local governments and community partners.	Short term	Planning Staff		\$ – staff time

Waste Diversion Goal 1: Utilize improved data systems to establish a measurable baseline and continually increase local waste diversion.

Jurisdiction	Local Objective	Timeframe	Lead / Responsible Party	Stakeholders, Partners & Other Resources	Cost
Albemarle County	Develop data to identify priority diversion categories (e.g., food waste, cardboard, textiles, C&D) and implement targeted programs to increase diversion of those materials.	Mid term	FES	RSWA, PSA, EDO, CDD	\$
Albemarle County	Identify priority diversion categories (e.g., food waste, cardboard, textiles, C&D) and implement targeted programs to increase diversion of those materials.	Mid term	CDD	FES, PSA, EDO	\$
Charlottesville	Track annual generation and diversion data against a 2022 baseline.	Ongoing	PWD		\$
Fluvanna	Provide a collected list to customers on upcycling, thrift, and donation centers locally.	Short term	Convenience Center Manager	Public Works	\$

Fluvanna	Reaffirm through education with customers that upcycling and recycling will save their household cost for waste removal.	Mid term	Convenience Center Manager	Local businesses, library, county events, etc.	\$
Greene	Implement a phased adjustment to solid waste disposal fees to better align costs with the amount of waste generated, beginning with a modest increase and evaluating future adjustments based on observed results.	0–12 months	Public Works / Finance Department	Residents, Planning District Commission, Board of Supervisors	\$\$ – \$3,000–\$17,000
Greene	Establish measures to protect affordability, including reduced minimum charges, discounted rates for qualifying households, and continued low-cost or free recycling options.	Concurrent with pricing changes	County Administration	Social Services, residents	\$- \$\$
Greene	Conduct a targeted outreach campaign explaining fee changes, available cost-saving behaviors, and how additional revenue will be reinvested in local services.	Prior to and during rollout	Communications Office / Public Works	Community organizations, residents	Included in outreach costs

Waste Diversion Goal 2: Stimulate demand for a circular economy, collaborate to expand markets for recovered materials, and expand sustainable business practices.

Jurisdiction	Local Objective	Timeframe	Lead / Responsible Party	Stakeholders, Partners & Other Resources	Cost
Albemarle County	Establish partnership programs to promote circular practices, including reuse of materials, environmentally preferable purchasing, and local recycling markets.	Short term	CAPE	FES, PSA	\$
Albemarle County	Support regional efforts to attract or expand recycling processors, composting capacity, and reuse enterprises by coordinating with RSWA, EDO, and private operators.	Short term	FES	RSWA	\$
Charlottesville	Implement High Performance Building Standards for municipal projects and share best practices with the community.	Short	OS/NDS	Development community; building portfolio owners	\$
Charlottesville	Encourage the collection of clean recyclable commodities.	Ongoing	PWD/OS		
Fluvanna	Have convenience center employees on the lookout for upcycle/recycle items such as plastics and metals being tossed into household waste containers.	Mid term	Convenience Center Manager		\$

Greene	Develop a subsidized household composting program that provides residents with compost bins and educational materials to reduce food and yard waste at the source.	1–3 years	Public Works	Parks Department, agricultural extension services, local farms	\$\$\$ – \$75,000–\$200,000
Greene	Expand household hazardous waste collection events to improve safe disposal of materials not suitable for landfills.	Begin within 1 year; ongoing	Public Works	Environmental contractors, State environmental agency	\$\$ \$10,000–\$30,000 per event
TJPDC	Facilitate information sharing among local governments, institutions, businesses, and nonprofit organizations regarding opportunities to strengthen regional reuse and recycling markets.	Begin within 1 year; ongoing	Planning Staff	Community organizations, residents, businesses, and local governments	\$
TJPDC	Monitor emerging trends, technologies, grant opportunities, and state initiatives related to circular economy development and communicate relevant opportunities to regional partners.	Begin within 1 year; ongoing	Planning Staff		\$

Waste Diversion Goal 3: Provide environmentally sound solid waste collection facilities that are equitably distributed for residents.

Jurisdiction	Local Objective	Timeframe	Lead / Responsible Party	Stakeholders, Partners & Other Resources	Cost
Albemarle County	Identify service gaps in underserved or distant parts of the County and develop recommendations for improved access (e.g., new dropoff sites, expanded hours).	Long term	FES	RSWA, PSA	\$\$
Albemarle County	Collaborate with RSWA to evaluate facility layout, safety, signage, and ADA accessibility and develop a phased improvement plan.	Long term	FES	RSWA, PSA	\$\$
Charlottesville	Maintain lines of communication with neighborhood and business associations, major employers, and representatives of high-density housing districts so that solid waste management services are adaptably delivered.	Long	PWD	Property Management firms	\$\$\$
Charlottesville	Increase diversion of yard waste and food scraps from the landfill.	Long	PWD		\$\$
Charlottesville	Support McIntire Recycling Center operations.	Ongoing	City	RSWA	\$\$
Greene	Implement construction and demolition debris recycling requirements for large development projects to reduce landfill disposal from building activities.	2–3 years	Planning and Zoning	Developers, contractors, inspectors	\$- \$\$

Greene	Support the development of local markets for recycled materials through incentives, procurement policies, and partnerships with manufacturers.	Begin within 2 years; ongoing	Economic Development / Planning	Local manufacturers, Chamber of Commerce	Variable
TJPDC	Support coordination among jurisdictions to explore opportunities for shared services, expanded access, and improved convenience for residents where feasible.	Ongoing	Planning Staff		\$- \$\$