Sanitation Department

Refuse Collection Services

The City of Wilmington operates residential and commercial solid waste collection services. The city refuse collection crews put in a lot of effort to provide reliable and cost-effective trash removal service for the residents and businesses. This is a daily service which covers over 4000 residential and over 400 commercial customers each week.

For 2016, the Department implemented a large change in the methods used to collect residential waste, using a robotic, one man truck to collect all residential waste in specialized waste receptacles. The implementation of automation was launched on October 3, 2016, with the benefits being realized in 2017. The results are immense in terms of safety, cleanliness, uniformity, and aesthetics for the City. The reduction in labor is a significant savings to the Department as the replaced workers were relocated to other City positions.

This service is provided five days a week, 52 weeks a year with a very slight interruption due to holidays and weather. The Sanitation Department also collects yard waste and tree branches, along with large item pick up. The refuse crews assist in many other daily functions of the Sanitation Department such as facilities maintenance, equipment maintenance, landfill operations and customer service requests.

The Collections Department consists of the following equipment:
- One (1) 27-yard high compaction (Roto-Pac) automated refuse truck
- Two (2) 25-yard high-compaction refuse trucks
- Two (2) 20-yard high compaction recycling trucks
- One (1) 31-yard high compaction (Loadmaster) automated recycle truck
- Two (2) single axle dump trucks
- Three (3) service pickup trucks
- One (1) sport utility vehicle
- One (1) mechanic tool truck

Composting

The Sanitation Department operates an OEPA-approved Class 4 compost facility for the area residents. The compost collection service is provided to City of Wilmington residents using the city approved yard waste bags. Bags can be purchased from the Utility Billing office, Ace Hardware, or the landfill for $1.50/bag. There is a cubic yardage charge for Wilmington and all Clinton County residents who wish to bring bulk compost to the facility for tipping. We also accept commercial contractors’ yard waste.

Each day the route truck collects the yard waste bags or residents may bring in their yard waste. It is then placed in the composting area. Accumulated brush, leaves, grass clippings and tree branches are ground into mulch. Over 4,000 cubic yards of mulch was generated this past year. M&R Department also uses this compost facility for disposal of their yearly leaf collection.
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Dumpster Rental

The Sanitation Department continues a very successful dumpster rental program for our commercial customers. The department now rents over 300 commercial dumpsters that provide a high quality and convenient service. This department also services and maintains these dumpsters in-house. In addition, our welding shop provides dumpster repair, replacement for private owners, and other special fabricating.

The department has been renting out large dumpsters to individuals for clean-ups. This service has been well-received and provides another source of revenue to the department. Our welding shop can be used by all the city departments and is very well-equipped to handle almost any project.

Curbside Recycling

The City’s recycling program continues to evolve. From the “blue bag” program in 2005 to the curbside bins grant in 2010, the program and participation has grown. To this date, our residential participation has gone from 8% to 46%. We have now delivered almost 1,800 bins to the residents of Wilmington and our program continues to increase.

In 2017, the City again applied for a $250,000 Ohio EPA Community Development Grant and was awarded. The funds are being used to purchase an automated recycling truck, a trailer for recycling metal, and 65-gallon carts with lids for Wilmington residents. The program is scheduled to roll out in March 2018.

Currently the recycling program does not create revenue for the Sanitation department, but is a much needed resource to preserve our landfill, and protect the environment for future generations. The department will continue looking for avenues to balance the program.

Cardboard Recycling

In the early summer of 2015 the department adopted a bulk corrugated cardboard drop-off site. This was an effort to capture excess cardboard from going into the landfill as a result of the Clinton County Solid Waste Management District shutting down their cardboard drop-off.

There is a slight revenue stream with the material, as it can be sold on the open market for a per ton amount. Cardboard prices are now $115 per ton and most brokers are now able to handle collection 100% on site.

The City has two drop off sites for its residents, (City Hall parking lot and Landfill parking lot); additionally we are building cardboard dumpsters to rent to Wilmington businesses. We have rented two as test plots and are preparing to make them available to more businesses soon. We recycled 19 tons or 40 bales of cardboard in 2017.
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Landfill Department

In 2016, the City started cell construction of the final phase in the vertical expansion. Construction was completed in October and filling began in November. This last cell, Phase 5, has approximately two years of air space left. In February 2016, a proposed West Expansion report was presented to Council, including drawings, siting criteria, and financial planning. We are now nearing completion of the designing stages of a 24-acre expansion, adding an additional 30 years of air space. We anticipate receiving the permit to install in September of 2018 and begin construction in spring of 2019.

Landfill Operations

The City Landfill is licensed by the Ohio EPA to accept up to 195 tons of waste per day. The city-operated collection service generates an average 30 tons per day. Other miscellaneous daily waste generates approximately 86 tons, for an average total daily disposal of 116-150 tons.

The Landfill Department has 9 pieces of heavy equipment:

1 (one) CAT D5K bulldozer
1 (one) CAT 963C track loader
1 (one) CAT DC3 bulldozer
2 (two) BOMAG compactors
1 (one) Kobelco 250LC excavator
1 (one) Case backhoe
1 (one) John Deere tractor & mower
1 (one) Volvo A-30F off-road dump truck

This department currently operates with fifteen fulltime employees, 52 weeks a year, five days a week, including holidays. Employees are cross trained on all equipment and able to perform all duties in both collections and Landfill operations. In August 2017 we hired a Chief Operator of the Landfill; he is a working supervisor, working in cooperation with the superintendent to ensure the landfill is operating in compliance with all EPA regulations at all times.

Occasionally we use the W.E.P. program (Work Experience Program) through Job and Family Services for litter control, recycling work, and other duties as needed. We also work in conjunction with the court systems and use people who are required to do community service.

Other Miscellaneous Information

In 2017 the Sanitation Department began giving the landfill a facelift. We redesigned the entire surface water runoff system. We dug all new ditches, built headwalls, repaired and replaced bad pipes, and added devices like berms, membrane liners, and check dams to prevent erosion and protect Lytle Creek.

Additionally, the access road was widened and paved with asphalt chips to reduce mud and dust. We also began construction of a preliminary cap around the perimeter slope of the landfill. The cap consists of 2 inches of compacted clay and top soil, then grass seed and straw blankets. We hope to complete this project and have a nice stand of grass in spring 2018, giving the facility a much nicer appearance for our residents.

Submitted by:
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Sanitation Department