

ADEQ's Solid Waste Program

- Program Overview
- New and Revised Fees for FY 2013
- Recycling Fund

Solid Waste Program Description

- reviews and approves design and operation plans for landfills, special waste facilities and medical waste facilities
- issues licenses and permits to other solid waste facilities and transporters
- conducts periodic inspections of facilities
- investigates complaints
- maintains compliance data for regulated entities
- provides compliance assistance
- pursues enforcement actions for significant non-compliance
- advocates solid waste reduction, reuse, and recycling

Solid Waste Program Description continued

- regulates over 460 facilities and over 1600 activities and entities
- conducts approximately 260 inspections annually
- investigates approximately 120 complaints annually
- has two plan reviewers
- has seven inspections and compliance officer positions, four of which are vacant
- the Department has no plans to “grow the program” for the foreseeable future

Solid Waste Program Funding

- Solid Waste Program historically funded largely by the General Fund and limited fees from regulated facilities
- Arizona began to experience a budget shortfall in 2007 which resulted in lump sum budget reductions and fund transfers
- FY 2009 – authorization for one-year increase for three solid waste fees implemented
- FY 2011 – authorization to increase fees through exempt rules implemented
- FY 2012 – ADEQ given authority to continue increased fees for another year

Solid Waste Fees

- ADEQ given authority to establish new and revised fees for the Solid Waste Program (for FY 2013 and beyond) in an effort to make the Program self-sufficient
- ADEQ given authority to use monies in the Recycling Fund for other Solid Waste Program activities
- Following extensive stakeholder involvement, fee rules were drafted and formally proposed in September 2011
- Final fee rules will be considered by GRRC on May 1, 2012
- Fee rules expected to be effective July 1, 2012 (FY 2013)

What fees will be assessed?

- New waste tire collection site registration fee (new)
- Used tire storage site registration fee (new)
- Septage hauler vehicles license fee (new)
- Solid waste general permit fees (new)
- Solid waste landfill registration fee (revised)
- Biohazardous medical waste transporter license fee (new)
- Solid waste plan review fee (revised)
- Self-certification fees (revised)
- Special waste management/handling fee (revised)

New Waste Tire Collection Site Registration Fee

- sites where waste tires are collected before being offered for recycling or reuse and where more than 500 tires are kept on site on any day
- began operation after July 20, 2011
- initial registration fee is \$500
- annual registration fee of \$75 thereafter

Used Tire Storage Site Registration Fee

- sites where 100 or more used motor vehicles tires are stored outside
- initial registration fee is \$500
- annual registration of \$75 thereafter

Septage Hauler Vehicle License Fee

- vehicles which transport human excreta from privies, septic tanks, or other on-site wastewater treatment processes
- previously licensed by ADEQ at no charge
- vehicles newly licensed after June 30, 2012 pay initial registration fee of \$250, and annual renewal fee of \$75
- vehicles licensed before July 1, 2012 pay initial registration fee of \$75, and annual renewal fee of \$75

Solid Waste General Permit Fees

- use of general permit is new to the Solid Waste Program
- fees established although no general permits have been developed or are in use
- general permit fees are based on categories of solid waste facilities
 - standard collection, storage and/or transfer facilities pay \$750 initial fee and \$100 annual fee thereafter
 - complex collection, storage and/or transfer facilities pay \$7,500 initial fee and \$1,000 annual fee thereafter
 - standard treatment facilities pay \$1,000 initial fee and \$100 annual fee thereafter
 - complex treatment facilities pay \$10,000 initial fee and \$1,00 annual fee thereafter
 - disposal facilities pay \$15,000 initial fee and no annual fee

Solid Waste Landfill Registration Fee

- fee paid annually
- for municipal solid waste landfills, fee based on annual tonnage of waste received at the landfill
 - <12,000 tons pay \$1,250
 - 12,000 to <60,000 tons pay \$2,500
 - 60,000 to <225,000 tons pay \$7,500
 - \geq 225,000 pay \$12,500
- non-municipal solid waste landfills pay \$3,750
- landfills closed to the public and accept nonhazardous waste pay \$3,750

Biohazardous Medical Waste Transporter License Fee

- transporter license is valid for 5 years
- licensing year fee is calculated using a rate of \$122/hour for ADEQ staff time associated with inspecting vehicles, evaluating the application, and approving the permit
- required application fee of \$2,000 applies toward licensing year fee
- maximum licensing year fee of \$20,000
- annual fee of \$750

Solid Waste Plan Review Fee

- hourly rate of \$122
- initial and maximum fees are set in rule and based on type of facility plan review performed
- initial fees range from \$500 to \$15,000
- maximum fees range from \$50,000 to \$150,000
- annual review fee for financial responsibility plans for solid waste landfills is \$600
- \$122/hour rate applies to review of financial responsibility plans for solid waste facilities other than landfills, with an initial fee of \$200 and a maximum fee of \$5,000

Self-Certification Fees

- 3 categories of self-certification facilities defined
 - a transfer facility with a throughput of >180 cubic yards/day
 - a facility storing $\geq 5,000$ waste tires on any day and not required to obtain plan approval
 - a waste tire shredding facility
- transfer facility has an initial registration of \$1,000 and \$500 annual registration fee thereafter
- both types of tire facilities have an initial registration fee of \$1,000 and \$250 annual registration fee thereafter

Special Waste Management/Handling Fee

- fee paid for special waste that is transported to an AZ facility for treatment, storage or disposal
 - \$4.50/ton; or
 - \$1.49/cubic yard of uncompacted shredder residue; or
 - \$3.38/cubic yard of compacted shredder residue
- fee collected from the facility that first receives the waste
- cap of \$45,000 per generator site per year

Goal of Solid Waste Program Fee Rules

- To make ADEQ's Solid Waste Regulatory Program self sufficient through a fee-based program that is not reliant on General Funds.

However, it is important to understand that the fees that will be implemented in July 2012 are not sufficient to sustain the program. The fees were calculated assuming a significant contribution from the Recycling Fund (~\$1.2 million). The annual budget necessary to operate ADEQ's Solid Waste Program is approximately \$2.3 million. The estimated revenue from the new and revised fees is approximately \$1.1 million.

Recycling Fund

- funded by disposal fee of 25¢/ton on solid waste received at regulated landfills
- historically monies in the Fund used primarily for recycling and source reduction grants and contracts; and for recycling and source reduction public education
- in recent years, the Fund was “swept” to help balance the State’s budget
- use of Fund has been expanded to include funding solid waste program activities
- ADEQ is looking for input on the future of the Recycling Program.

Questions?

Contact Information:

Veronica Garcia, Deputy Director
Waste Programs Division
(602)771-4422
garcia.veronica@azdeq.gov